



Visva-Bharati

(Where the world makes its home in a single nest)

Library e-Newsletter

2014: Volume 1, Issue 9: Sept

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Islamic Studies Collection*

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New Arrivals

ARABIC, PERSIAN, URDU AND ISLAMIC STUDIES COLLECTION AT CENTRAL LIBRARY

It may be news for many that Visva- Bharati holds a rich collection of books in Arabic, Urdu and Persian literature. The present write-up intends to focus on such a precious collection and also highlight the important titles.

Genesis: Tagore's Visit to Iran and Iraq

In 1932, Rabindranath received an invitation he could not refuse. The King of Iran, Reza Shah Pehalvi, had invited to host him in Iran. A traveler to the core as he was, Tagore started his journey along with his daughter - in - law, Pratima Debi and his literary secretary, Amiya Chakravorty.

[It may be mentioned here that before his visit to Iran and Iraq in 1932, the *Dept. of Arabic, Persian, Urdu and Islamic Studies* was already in existence in Visva-Bharati, set up in 1927]

On 6 May 1932 Tagore's birthday was celebrated by many Persian admirers in Iran. Acknowledging a medallion and a scroll of honour sent by the Government, he wrote in his diary, *in my country...only my relations were there to rejoice and receive me. Today on the anniversary of my birth date, the recognition that you have given me in a foreign land has made me truly universal man.*

Establishment of Dept of Arabic, Persian, Urdu and Islamic Studies at Visva-Bharati

Rabindranath Tagore had a broad vision of the cultural unity of the Asian countries which he expressed at several occasions during his visit to Iraq and Iran. The idea of giving shape and form to a centre of learning of Arabic, Persian, Urdu and Islamic Studies was conceived and materialized by Tagore himself in the year 1927 with generous donation of Rs one lakh from the then Nizam of Hyderabad.

Note

Visva-Bharati Library e-Newsletter is published monthly and uploaded on the Library website:

<http://172.16.2.2/index1.html>

(Intranet)

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Julius Germanus, Ex-Professor of Islamic Studies, Oriental Institute of the Royal Hungarian University, was the first Nizam Professor of Islamic Studies and L. Bagaanov was the first Persian Teacher.

In the field of research special emphasis was given on comparative religious study like Sufism and Vedanta, Vaishnavism, Bhakti movement etc focusing on common elements in different religions, unity in diversity and religious tolerance with a view to promote religious harmony and national integration. The Department is currently catering the following courses:

Name of the course	Language	Duration
<i>Certificate</i>	Arabic ,Urdu, Persian	Two years
<i>Diploma</i>	Arabic ,Urdu, Persian	One year
<i>Honours</i>	Persian	Four Years
<i>PhD</i>	Persian	

Book Collection

Central Library houses more than one thousand and five hundred books in Arabic language, approximately two thousands in Urdu language and about four thousand fifty in Persian language. Four hundred and fifty more books in different subjects also enrich the collection.

Urdu: Among Urdu prose few noted titles are: Hayat Abul Kalam Azad (biography of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad), Masumah (novel) by Ismat Chughtai, and Mauj-e nor (novel) by Darshan Singh. Urdu poetry like Kulyate Iqbal, Kitabiyat-e –Iqbal, Kulyat-e-Premchand, Dewan-e- Ghalib, Masnaviyat-e –Ghalib, Ghalib nama, Nadir khutut etc occupy the place of pride in the collection. Five books on / by Tagore translated into Urdu by Urdu Dept., Jamia Milia Islamia University, New Delhi (under Tagore Research and Translation Scheme funded by Ministry of Culture, Govt of India) are also available in the collection. The titles are: 1. Rabindranath Tagore: Shair aur Danishwar, 2. Tagore Shanasi, 3. Rabindranath Tagore: Fikr-o-Fun, 4. Rabindranath Tagore: Fikr-o-Fun ke Hazar rang, and 5. Gitanjali.

Persian: The collection at Central Library consists of Persian Art, Persian correspondence, Persian dictionaries, Sufism, Persian prose, poetry, fiction, and drama. *Tuti -e-Hind Sui Chaman* is the Persian translation of Tagore's Bengali writing titled *Parosoyatri* detailing his journey to Persia in 1932. Other important titles are *Bandagi Raz-e Afrinish*, *Bazme- temoria*, *Diwan* by Araf Sherazi, *Chronology of Iran* (in two volumes), *Adbiyat -e -Farsi -Hind*, *Tazkara Shura-e -farsi*, *Rubayat-e Reza*, *Nafren Zamen* by Jalal Ahmed, *Shahr-ashob* published from Tehran, and *Jehad-e akbar* by Imam Khameni. The new unabridged English - Persian dictionary is another important reference book.

Arabic: *Az Diroz Ta Imrooz* is descriptive catalogue of Arabic, Persian and Urdu books published by Hazrat Pir Murshid Md Shah Dargah Sharif Library. Arabic grammar and languages, Hadith, Turkish epic, Islamic culture, women and Islam, Prophets, Quran and Science, Yazda majlis Mir Hasan, Qurani Sahur Inqalab, Arabic-English thematic lexicon, *Arabi Adab ki tarekh*, Grammar of Arabic etc have been added to the collection of Central Library in the month of July 2014. Another important title in Arabic is Functional Arabic Module 5-6.

Apart from the collection of Central Library on Arabic, Persian, Urdu and Islamic Studies the concerned Departmental Library also caters to the users.

Manuscripts

There is rich collection of valuable Arabic, Urdu and Persian manuscript housed in Rare Section of the Central Library, among which few notable titles are: *Gulistan -e- Sadi*, *Bustan e- sadi*, *Sharah Bustan* by Mullah Sad Hind, *Sharah Yusuf Zulekha*, *Ruqat Abul Fazal*, *Sarfaraz namah*, *Tuti namah* by Zia Naqshbi, *Tarkh Sindh*, *Tarikh Dawodi*, *Tarikh Khilji* and *Masnawi Rumi*.

Thus, the Visva-Bharati can boast of a very rich collection of books in Arabic, Urdu and Persian, born out of Gurudev's vision on universal humanism, which are spread between the Central Library and departmental library.

SOME RECENT LIBRARY ACTIVITIES /DEVELOPMENTS

- a. **Anti-plagiarism software:** VB has now access to two anti-plagiarism software viz., *iThenticate* and *Turnitin*. As per Visva-Bharati's MoU with UGC/INFLIBNET, these should be submitted plagiarism free. These software could also be used for checking any other publications, dissertations, reports.

iThenticate, compared to *Turnitin*, is easy to operate. Currently VB wish to promote usage of *iThenticate*. However, accounts could be created for any one of these as one prefers.

Accounts will be created for all members of the Faculty and Ph. D scholars. Applications may be made by e-mail to the University Librarian: vkthoma@gmail.com

b. **Library Orientation Programme:**

Central Library has organized several Library Orientation Programmes during the reporting month as under:

- Dept of Geography, Vidya Bhavana took part in Library orientation programme on 4 September at Conference Hall, where 4 faculty members and 76 students of MA were present.
- Centre for Journalism and Mass Communication (MA Sem-1), Vidya Bhavana took part in Library orientation programme, at Conference Hall, 5 September at 10 am. Dr Mausumi Bhattacharya, HoD and faculty member Ms Sanhita Chatterjee also took part. The programme was started with felicitation to Sk. Rupa Rahila, Ph. D scholar of the same Dept, as the Best Library User of the year.
- Dept of Geography, Vidya Bhavana took part in Library orientation programme on 6 September at Conference Hall, where faculty members and about 70 students of BA were present.

- About one hundred twenty students of DST INSPIRE visited different sections of Central Library and attended Library orientation programme at Conference Hall on 8 September from 10.30 am to 1.30 pm.
- Demonstration Program on two softwares namely Remote Access and Federated Search was organized where the members and invitees of software selection committee was present on 9 September 2014 at 10.30am.
- Ph. D scholars pursuing Course Work on Rural Development, Palli Sangathan Vibhag took part in Library orientation programme at Conference Hall, Central Library on 13 September at 11 am. Eight scholars attended.
- Students of MA Economics attended Library orientation programme at Central Library on 13 September at 4 pm. Thirty five students and two faculty members attended.
- Students of Sangit Bhavana attended Library orientation programme at Conference Hall, Central Library on 19 September 2014 at 10 am. Thirty five students and two faculty members attended.
- Students MA (Sem.1) of Rural Development took part in Library orientation programme on 25 September at the Conference Hall, Central Library. Nine students attended.

Trail Access: SAGE Research Methods Cases

Two months trial of *SAGE Research Methods Cases (SRM-C)* is now open for Visva-Bharati. You can access the SRM-C resources at the award winning platform of SAGE Research Method:

<http://srmo.sagepub.com/>

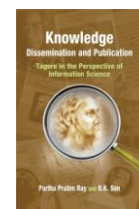
CONFERENCES / SEMINARS / WORKSHOPS IN LIBRARY & INFORMATION SCIENCE

- ETTLIS-2015: 4th International Symposium on *Emerging Trends and Technologies in Libraries and Information Services*, Jan 6-8, 2015, Noida, UP. For more details visit: <http://www.jiit.ac.in/lrcjiit/ettlis-2015>
- *Training Course on IT Application for Information Management in Medical Libraries* during 13 -17 October 2014 being organized at National Institute of Health and Family Welfare, New Delhi – 110067. For more details visit: http://www.nihfw.org/Upload/TrainingProgramme/NIHFWTrainingProgramme_8_20_2014_1_00_45_PM.pdf
- Special Training Course on *Preparing Libraries for the 2030: Inculcating Creativity, Innovation and Re-engineering* during 14-16 October 2014, being organized by DESIDOC and INMAS at Targeted Training Centre, Bangalore. For more details visit: <http://www.drdo.gov.in/drdo/whatsnew/inmas16092014.pdf>

BOOK REVIEW

Knowledge, Dissemination and Publication: Tagore in the Perspective of Information Science, Partha Pratim Ray and B. K. Sen, Concept, 2014, Rs. 500

Tagore's idea of knowledge is based on his educational philosophy of individual and social fullness. In the first segment of this book *Knowledge and Dissemination*, the vision of knowledge and methods Tagore adopted to disseminate it to the masses is discussed. The second segment is devoted to *Bibliometric Study of Rabindrasangit*, letters written by Tagore and Gitanjali. The copyright of Tagore's work expired in the year 2001 which provides an opportunity to publish the copyrighted works of Rabindranath by private publishers. An attempt has been made in the third segment of this book *Tagore in Print: An Assessment of Quality of Publications* to review and analyze post copyright publications of Tagoreana.



THE 'BEST LIBRARY USER' WRITES

Saikh Rupa Rahila (Junior Research Fellow, CJMC)

(Saikh Rupa Rahila was identified as 'Best Library User 2014', and felicitated on 5 Sept 14 by the Central Library)



Being a regular reader and user of the Central Library, it has given me the opportunity to encourage and inspire the new comers of this university to use the library resources and spend time here. Library can't be compared to any other services; it is like a holy place for the knowledge worshipper.

Many a time I felt there was need to do some promotional activities to bring the readers to the library. Library without its readers is of no use. Last two years library authority has taken initiative to do library orientation programmes for the students, which is very much appreciable and encouraging. Most of the students come from different places, and they are not so acquainted with the big library environment. For their academic purpose they don't know where to go, where to search, and how to search.

If students are not spending at least sometime in the library daily and learn the techniques of its usage, and when they go somewhere else for job or higher studies, definitely they will look like fish out of water. We students must have strong attachment to the library. It is our time to prepare ourselves to run our future smoothly by utilizing such facility to our full potential. As a student our obligatory duty is to read, understand and think, and if we are not aware of the sources, definitely we will end up at wrong searching and in wrong results.

We are what we are today is due to whatever thinking and actions we did in the past. If this law is inevitable, then why should we not nurture right practice in the present to get the better future. We will benefit from the great motivation within ourselves, because we spend our time constructively.

In our university, this Central Library is the heart. Enormous resources are available here, whenever I visit the reference room I feel thrilled in seeing the different varieties of books in the stack. Before seeing these books, I could not even imagine the varieties of topics that existed or ideas on which books could be written. The point is that, may be these are not required at present, but if we visit there and register all these information on books in our mind, definitely when they are required we don't have to break our head. We could just walk in and easily access them.

Whatever we do in our life information is required to access the knowledge. So, be a good reader of library. Here all the resources are free for our benefit. Here every library staff member is providing help and care to utilize the resources to the maximum and inspire us to become a good learned man. So, don't fail to utilize this opportunity. It is your time!!

New Arrivals (Books and Periodicals)

[Books](#) (click)

[Journals](#) (click)



Library Orientation: DST INSPIRE



Felicitation to Sk. Rupa Rahila



Library Orientation Programme