



Visva-Bharati

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

Library Network e-Newsletter

2024: Volume-11, Issue-6, June

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South Asia Archive (SAA)

<http://www.southasiarchive.com>

The South Asia Archive is an extensive resource for students and scholars across the humanities and social sciences. The historical documents within the Archive are truly interdisciplinary, reflecting the varied range of knowledge production in colonial and early post-colonial India and the wider sub-continent.

It contains more than 4.5 million pages spanning the period of 18th and mid-20th century from documents across the Indian subcontinent, including India, Pakistan, Burma, Afghanistan and Bangladesh.

The digitization of the original documents is non-destructive, and damaged pieces are restored as part of the digitization process before they are sent to storage. This digitization process enhances their usefulness in terms of portability, and also assures the conservation of this historically important material.



- ❖ Subject specialist editors from India have selected and catalogued the documents specifically for this archive.
- ❖ The archive comprises out-of-copyright material dating back to the start of the eighteenth century and up to the mid-twentieth century.
- ❖ The content originates mainly from the Bengal area of India, consisting of unique and rare documents from primary and secondary sources.
- ❖ A significant proportion of the collection is in English, but thirty percent of the documents are written in various vernacular languages of the period/region(s).
- ❖ Serial collections are (where possible) complete, consisting of all available editions/volumes.

In order to support a global audience, all document metadata has been translated into English where necessary.

Announcement

Special classes for the Research & Publication Ethics (RPE) – Paper – IV, as general paper for the entitled admitted candidates of PhD course work during the session 2023-24, is scheduled to be held on blended mode during 11-12 July 2024, from 2.30pm to 5.30pm on hybrid mode. For details please go through the link –

https://vblibrarynetwork.in/images/pdf/RPE_special_class_111272024.pdf

Editorial Board

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Library website: <https://vblibrarynetwork.in>

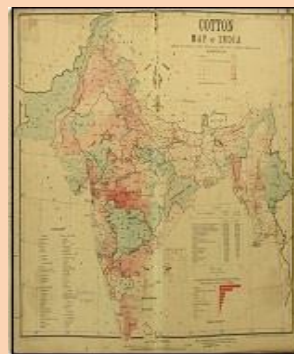
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<https://forms.gle/BPxZt9fgvdRPFcra8>

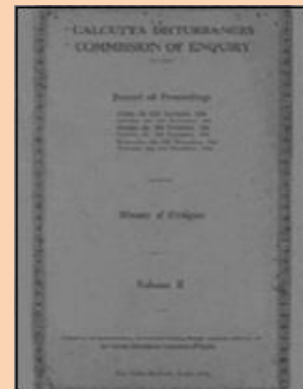
- ❖ Images, maps, and posters are digitized in color to match the originals.
- ❖ Content has been broken down into a number of top-level document types such as Maps, Reports, and Journals, to simplify locating a collection by document type.
- ❖ An underlying taxonomy has been assigned to all documents consistently and logically to ensure a superior level of searchability for end-users.
- ❖ Documents have been broken down into the smallest parts possible to support highly granular content discovery.



The Collection

The South Asia Archive is a specialist digital platform providing global electronic access to culturally and historically significant literary material produced from within - and about - the South Asian region. It is not merely a repository, but a vehicle for targeted research, and one which has been intelligently structured to ensure efficient content discovery.

- ❖ Documents have been selected and catalogued by subject specialist editors, with expert commentaries provided to guide users through serial content.
- ❖ The archive contains millions of pages of digitized primary and secondary material in a mix of English and vernacular languages dating back to the start of the eighteenth century, up to the mid-twentieth century.
- ❖ It is derived from original archive materials held by the “The South Asia Research Foundation”.
- ❖ It provides online access to previously unavailable resources in South Asian studies.
- ❖ It is a versatile resource with benefits for researchers, lecturers, and students across a diverse range of subject areas.



Publication Types

Documents included in the South Asian Archive can be divided into five main categories covering all available publication types:

- ❖ **Journals:** Substantial runs of more than two hundred journals in a range of subjects published from India and South Asia, including early journals such as Asiatic Researchers (first published in 1788), Indian Review, Modern Review, and Calcutta Gazette. There is also an array of vernacular journals such as: Bharatbarsha, Prabasi, Manasi, and Sachitra.
- ❖ **Reports:** A diverse collection of reports from colonial and post-colonial India, including volumes of the 1901, 1911, 1931, and 1951 Indian Census documents, and the near complete set of Calcutta Riots of 1946 Gazetteers from a range of Indian states such as Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, and Maharashtra are also available.
- ❖ **Books:** An extensive range of books consisting of series such as The Bibliotheca Indica, a collection of oriental works published by the Asiatic Society of Bengal. It includes translations of the Upanishads, commentaries on Sanskrit grammatical, philosophical, and legal treatises, and such works as the Suddhikaumudi, a Sanskrit treatise on Hindu laws of defilement and purification.
- ❖ **Legislations, Acts, regulations, law books/ cases:** A myriad collection of legislations, Acts, regulations, and case documents from the colonial period, invaluable for any work on colonial Indian history.
- ❖ **Indian film booklets, 1930–1949:** A collection of rare publicity booklets in a mixture of English, Hindi, Urdu, and Bengali, as sold outside India film theaters. Highlights from the collection include: Mukti, Street Singer, My Sister, Devdas and Sita. Each booklet includes lists of the film's cast and leading technical personnel, a plot summary, photographs of the lead actors or key moments in the film, and song lyrics.

Subject Classifications

Documents included in the South Asia Archive will be of interest to those studying in the following areas:

- ❖ Administration, Development, Industry, Economics and Law
- ❖ Art and Art History
- ❖ Civilization Studies, Religion, Philosophy and History
- ❖ Culture, Society, Cinema and Media Studies
- ❖ Education
- ❖ Indology, Ancient History, Anthropology and Archaeology
- ❖ Literature, Language and Linguistics
- ❖ Politics, Government and Public Policy
- ❖ Science, Technology, Agriculture and Environment
- ❖ Urban Planning, Medicine and Health

Recent activities:

- **Four-Day Summer Connect Programme on Academic Skill Development:** Visva-Bharati Library Network has successfully organized four-day International level **Summer Connect Programme on Academic Skill Development** in blended mode during 18-21 June 2024. The sessions have been arranged to enhance the research/publications skills for the quality of research output. During summer vacation most of the scholars are back to their residence and may slow-down their research activities when they have no connection with research facilities in physical mode. The main objectives of this summer connect program on academic skill development in blended mode to recharge the scholars on their work. The topics covered during the session: 1) Don't make Tandoori Momo out of your thesis: a J-gate Way by **Sri Mahendra Sarkar**, Training and Development Manager, Informatics Publishing Ltd. 2) Prof. Khan's Smart e-learning Frame Work: an Easy Journey by **Prof. Badrul Huda Khan**, Founder of e-learning and Former Professor on Educational Technology, George Washington University, USA. 3) Improving research and academic writing using **Grammarly** by Mr. Binoy Halam, Sales Manager and Product Specialist, Total Library Solution (India) Pvt. Ltd. 4) Similarity Checking Through DrillBit with New Guidelines and Added Features by Dr Nimai Chand Saha, Librarian, Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan. The number of participants was Forty Five (45), Forty Seven (47), Forty (40) and Fifty (50) respectively on the consecutive days. Participants were pleased to attend the sessions and expressed that the sessions were helpful for the research/publications work. The link for uploading of notice on the library website (https://vblibrarynetwork.in/images/pdf/Summer_Connect_Skill_Development_18-21_June_2024_14062024.pdf) and university website (https://visvabharati.ac.in/files/368140624_marge.pdf). all the recorded lectures have been uploaded on the VBLN YouTube Channel (<https://www.youtube.com/@visvabharatilibrarynetwork9081/videos>)
- **PhD. Scholars Lecture Series:** To strengthen the Research Support Service and to develop presentation skill of the Ph. D. Scholars as well as to emerge with inter-disciplinary culture, Visva-Bharati Library Network has successfully initiated the Visva-Bharati PhD. Scholars Lecture Series (VBPSLS) with a tag line "For the Scholars, By the Scholars, With the Scholars". The said VBPSLS was inaugurated by Prof. Narayan Chandra Mandal, Vice Chancellor (Acting) and Principal, Siksha Bhavana with the lighting of the lamp on 27 June 2024 at 3.30pm. Prof. Binoy Kumar Saren, Principal was grace the inaugural session as Chief Guest, while Dr (Ms.) Anindita saha, Head, Department of Agricultural Extension was grace the inaugural session as Guest of Honour and also Chair the first lecture. Dr Nimai Chand Saha, Librarian, VB has briefly explain the reasons behind starting such a lecture series during delivering welcome address. During their lecture all the dignitaries have appreciated the unique initiative of the VBLN for the first time in India and requests scholars to earn the benefit from the initiative and extend necessary support with the library for successful continuation of the said lecture series. After the inaugural session, the first lecture on "Mapping Research Methodology in Extension Research: A Kaleidoscopic Visualization" in the VBPSLS has been delivered by Saumyesh Acharya, Ph.D. Scholar, Department of Agricultural Extension, Palli Siksha Bhavana (Institute of Agriculture), Visva-Bharati, Sriniketan in blended mode. The deliberation was highly interesting and enjoyed by the scholars attended in both Physical at the Conference Hall, Central Library and virtual mode. The number of participants was Sixty Six (66). The entire even has been jointly coordinated by Ms. Gargi Ghosh, and ms. Umme Tania (Foreign Scholar from Bangladesh), Research scholars of Russian Language, (CMELLCs, Bhasha Bhavana) and History of Art (Kala Bhavana) respective in a befitting manner. The link for uploading of notice on the Library website (https://vblibrarynetwork.in/images/pdf/Scholars_Talk_1_27062024.pdf) university website (https://visvabharati.ac.in/files/807240624_VBCL.pdf). The lecture has been uploaded on the VBLN YouTube Channel (<https://www.youtube.com/@visvabharatilibrarynetwork9081/videos>)
- **Training Session on Yoga for the staff of Central Library:** Department of Yogic Art and Science (DYAS), Vinaya Bhavana, Visva-Bharati as part of its week long program on the occasion of International Day of Yoga, has arranged one training session for the staff of Central Library on 18 June 2024 at the Conference Hall, Central Library from 4.00pm. All the staff presented has been participated in the training session and stated their opinion after the session that it is very useful, appreciated the initiative by HOD, DYAS and authority may make necessary arrangements to organize this session on all the working days after 6.00pm for good health and wellbeing. Faculty members present in the hall was kind enough to accept the proposal and will communicate to the authority accordingly on getting formal proposal from the Librarian. Total twenty-three (23) staff was present.
- **World Environment Day:** on the occasion of World Environment day (05 June 2024), Central Library Visva-Bharati has taken an initiative to plant trees at the library premises where all the staff witnessed the event and enjoy the plantation event.
- **Third anniversary of New Education Policy-2020:** As communicated by the Secretary, MoE, Government of India and as instructed by the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Visva-Bharati; Faculty members, Officials, Staff, and Students of the University gathered at the Central Library Conference Hall on International Yoga Day, 21 June 2024 to witness the live webcast of "the Chetna online lecture series on "The Science and Practice of Yoga". Chairman UGC, Prof. M. Jagadesh Kumar, interacted with Prof. Tanuja Nesari, Director, All India Institute of Ayurveda; Saurabh Jain, Programme Coordinator, Isha Foundation; Saurabh Bothra, Co-founder, HABUILD & YouTube Influencer. Around twenty-six (26) have attended the session including, etc. etc.
- **Article Delivery Services:** During the month 26 no. of soft copies of the articles have been collected and delivered through mail as requested by the academics/scholars.

Recent activities:

- **Visitors:** Dr Rajesh Das, Assistant Professor and Teacher-in-Charge, Department of Library and Information Science, the University of Burdwan, has visited Central Library on 01 June 2024 and he was pleased to express his word of appreciation about the exposure of the library and the efforts initiated by the library authority and staff.
- **Exhibition and Celebration of Important Days at Reference Section, Central Library:** Organized two special exhibitions of books and allied materials including quotations and photographs to celebrate;
 - a) World Environment Day on 05 June 2024.
 - b) International Day of Yoga 21 June 2024, Books have been exhibited during 20-22 June 2024.
- **Similarity Checking through DrillBit Software:** total 344 units or 135 (total 1863 from October 2023 to 30 June 2024) files/ Theses/ articles/ have been checked through DrillBit during the month and on requirement, library has extended necessary assistance.
- **New Additions (Books) during the Month:** Central Library: Number of Books received as
 - Purchased – 02 (Accession No. 443393 – 443394) and
 - Gift – 24 (Accession No. G11239- G11262)
- **Introduction of MOPAC:** Users' no longer need a computer to search books/journals or to check library account. Now this may be done through smartphone (Android) of the individual user. MOPAC is an App providing access to Visva-Bharati Library OPAC. The App directly connects the device to library server for real time information retrieval. The smartly designed interface gives a joyful library experience. MOPAC App on mobile device provides a quick, efficient, portable and friendly way of remaining connected with the Visva-Bharati library. The same may be downloaded from the following options;
 - a) Avior MOPAC' App may be searched from Google 'Play store' to download for easy and quick installation it into the mobile.
 - b) Go to any computer within campus, click on <https://vbu-opac.kohacloud.in/>, put mouse point on QR available at the right hand side bottom with a heading ' MOPAC' Link →keep the camera of your phone in line of sight of QR code → touch on 'Scan QR Code to get started' at bottom of mobile → see the QR code turning green which signifies activation (a one-time process)
 - c) Through the given link one may install the MOPAC App to his/her android handset (https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.avior.avior_developer.mopac)
 - d) Finally, The QR code may be scanned directly from here by using the android



New Arrivals (Books and Periodicals)

[Books](#)(click)

[Journals](#) (click)

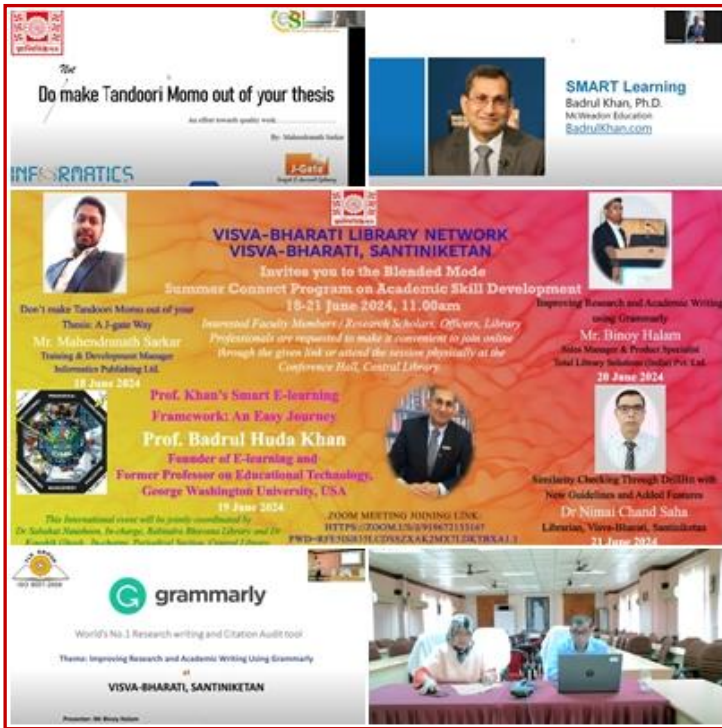
IMPORTANT LINKS:

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- **BASE** (Bielefeld Academic Search Engine <https://www.base-search.net/>): BASE is one of the world's most voluminous search engines especially for academic web resources. BASE provides more than 300 million documents from more than 10,000 content providers. You can access the full texts of about 60% of the indexed documents for free (Open Access). BASE is operated by Bielefeld University Library.
- **Story Place** (<https://www.storyplace.org>): For years children and their families have enjoyed attending storytimes, checking out materials and participating in a variety of other programs at the various Charlotte Mecklenburg Library locations. StoryPlace came about to provide children with the virtual experience of going to the Library and participating in the same types of activities the Library offers at its physical locations. First launched in 2000, StoryPlace has been newly redesigned to present favorite stories and activities in a format compatible with desktop and mobile devices. The site also now includes early literacy information for parents and caregivers.

CONFERENCES/SEMINARS:

- PLANNER 2024 is being organized by INFLIBNET Centre in collaboration with Rajiv Gandhi University, Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh at Rajiv Gandhi University, Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh during September 19, 2024 to September 21, 2024. For More details <https://planner.inflibnet.ac.in/index.php>
- Two Day National Seminar on Changing Role of Academic Libraries and Literature in the Light of NEP 2020 sponsored by ICSSR on 30-31 August 2024 organised by Department of Library and Information Science, HIMALAYIYA UNIVERSITY, Dehradun, Uttarakhand. For more details: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ohPo_t4NdYob_uUFYR8wpgXJCdqy8tKa/view?usp=sharing



Glimpses of Summer Connect Program



Moments of VB PhD Scholars Lecture Series



Glimpses of Tree Plantation on World Environment Day



Moments of Yoga Training Session by DYAS at CL