



Visva-Bharati

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

Library Network e-Newsletter



VBLN

2022: Volume-9, Issue-1, January

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Central Library

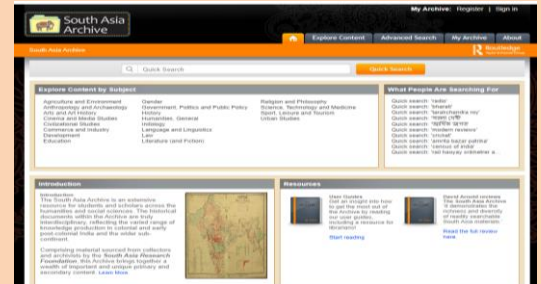
Seminar Libraries (30)

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 The historical documents within the Archive are truly interdisciplinary, reflecting the varied range of knowledge production in colonial and early post-colonial India and the wider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.
- ❖ Images, maps, and posters are digitized in color to match the originals.



Editorial Board

Editor:

Dr. Nimai Chand Saha, University Librarian (Acting)

Associate Editor:

Dr. Tapas Kumar Das, Dy. Librarian (Stage-III)

Assistant Editors:

Sri Ajay Kumar Sharma, Asst. Librarian (Stage-III)

Sri Debabrata Hazari, Asst. Librarian

Library website:

<http://visva-bharati-library.in>

<https://www.facebook.com/vbllibnet>

[YouTube Channel of VBLN:](#)



- ❖ 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.

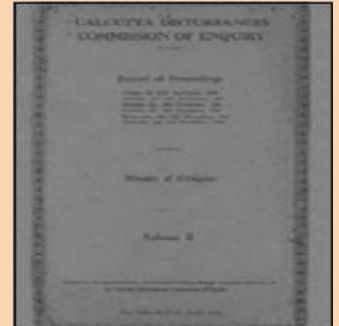


The Collection

The Archive is sourced from collectors and archivists in India by the South Asia Research Foundation. It contains both serials and non-serial materials, including reports, rare books, and journal runs from noteworthy rare publications, reflecting the varied knowledge production in colonial and early postcolonial India, including: culture and society; industry and economy; science, technology and medicine; urban planning and administration; and politics and the law.

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.

Explore Content by Subject

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

- ❖ Agriculture and Environment
- ❖ Anthropology and Archaeology
- ❖ Arts and Art History
- ❖ Cinema and Media Studies

- ❖ Civilization Studies
- ❖ Commerce and Industry
- ❖ Development
- ❖ Education
- ❖ Gender
- ❖ Government, Politics and Public Policy
- ❖ History
- ❖ Humanities, General
- ❖ Indology
- ❖ Language and Linguistics
- ❖ Law
- ❖ Literature (and Fiction)
- ❖ Religion and Philosophy
- ❖ Science, Technology and Medicine
- ❖ Sport, Leisure and Tourism
- ❖ Urban Studies

Teaching Resources

South Asia Archive provides a range of enhanced research tools, intended to facilitate detailed investigations of South Asian history, literature, culture, and much more. Users can:

- ❖ Conduct full-text searches of all typescript content across the resource and within the image viewer.
- ❖ Sort, filter, and search the collections through a wide array of bespoke metadata.
- ❖ Browse the collections through related and popular searches.
- ❖ Save searches and documents using the My Archive feature.
- ❖ Generate additional keywords for each file.

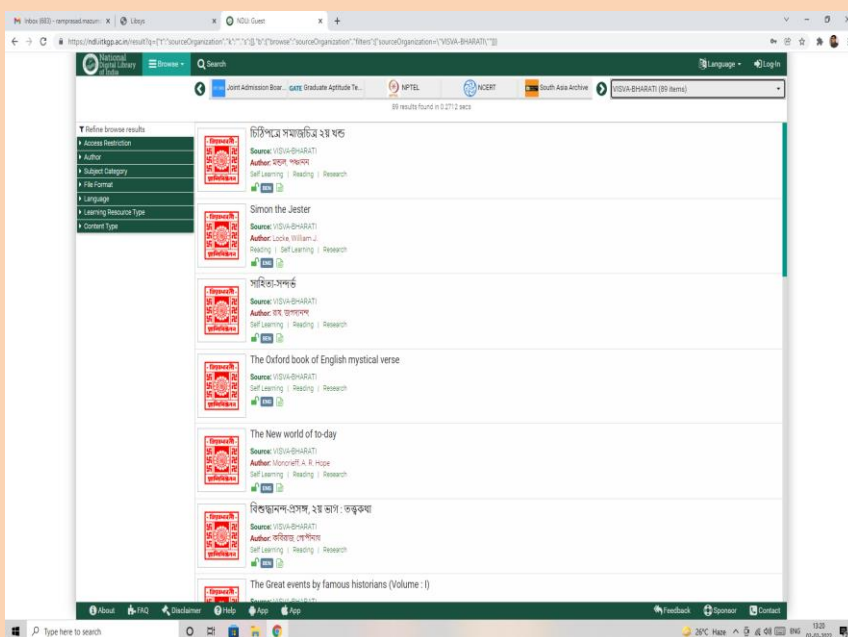
In addition, teachers and students are invited to explore a range of downloadable resources and teaching packs through which to discover, analyse, and discuss the content:

- ❖ Primary Source Reading Lists
- ❖ Document Based Essay Question - Women in India
- ❖ Seminar Topic - The Mutiny of 1857

RECENT ACTIVITIES:

- **Digitized Resources of VBLN is now accessible through NDLI:** After a long, finally the dream comes into reality. It is pleasure to mention that, after long processing the digitized books of the VBLN is now accessible through National Digital Library Portal

[https://ndl.iitkgp.ac.in/result?q={%22t%22:%22sourceOrganization%22,%22k%22:%22%22,%22s%22:\[%22b%22:%22browse%22:%22sourceOrganization%22,%22filters%22:%22sourceOrganization=%22VISVA-BHARATI%22%22\]}](https://ndl.iitkgp.ac.in/result?q={%22t%22:%22sourceOrganization%22,%22k%22:%22%22,%22s%22:[%22b%22:%22browse%22:%22sourceOrganization%22,%22filters%22:%22sourceOrganization=%22VISVA-BHARATI%22%22]}). The books have been digitized as part of the Mega Digital Library Project-2005 of Government of India. Gradually, all the books will be uploaded in this portal for wider accessibility. This uploading/Up-linking was possible only for the necessary administrative support from the VB authority and technical support from the NDLI team.



- **Library Orientation Program::** As part of week-long Library Orientation Program on “VB Library Resources, Services and Facilities” one on line session has been arranged for the students and scholars on 31 January 2022 at 3.30pm where eighty-three (83) participants have attended the session. Dr Koushik Ghosh, Assistant Librarian (Stage – II) and Incharge, Journal Section has demonstrate on the topic.

- **Similarity Checking Through URKUND Software:** On request from the academics 26 articles/ files have been checked through URKUND software and report has been forwarded through mail.
- **Online Ph.D. Open Viva Voce:** As discussed in a meeting and as instructed by the authority, VBLN has taken-up the initiative to offer necessary technical-support for arranging Online Ph.D. Open Viva Voce on different dates. Accordingly one online final viva for Ph.D. program of Sunayana Bhattacharya has been arranged by the Sangit Bhavana Library on 04 January 2022 at 4.00pm.
- **Documents / Article Delivery Services:** During the month 28 no. of soft copies of the articles have been collected and delivered through mail as requested by the academics/scholars.
- **Exhibition and Celebration of Important Days at Reference Section, Central Library:** Organized special exhibitions of books and allied materials including quotations and photographs to celebrate;
 - a) 128th Birth anniversary of Satyendra Bose on 1 January 2022.
 - b) 159th Birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda on 12 January 2022.
 - c) 125th Birth anniversary Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose on 23 January 2022.
 - d) 156th Birth anniversary Lala Lajpat Rai on 28 January 2022
- **Visitor:**
 - a) Dr. Vinay P. Sahasrabudhe, the President of Indian Council for Cultural Relation (ICCR), New Delhi-110002 and Chairperson of the Parliamentary Committee on Education, Women & Children and Sports & Youth Affairs, Govt. of India has visited Central Library, Visva-Bharati on 21 January 2022 during deliberation of a lecture in the VB Lecture Series. He has expressed his satisfaction and appreciates the endeavors of the library.
 - b) Dr. Naba Kumar Basu, a noted novelist and by profession, a Medical Officer has visited Central Library, Visva-Bharati on 25 January 2022 during deliberation of a lecture in the VB Lecture Series. He has expressed his satisfaction and intend to write on the current state of the Visva-Bharati to disseminate from his side.

[New Arrivals \(Books and Periodicals\)](#)

[Books](#)(click)

[Journals](#) (click)

IMPORTANT LINKS:

National Archives of India [<http://nationalarchives.nic.in/>]: The National Archives of India is the custodian of the records of enduring value of the Government of India. Established on 11 March, 1891 at Calcutta (Kolkata) as the Imperial Record Department, it is the biggest archival repository in South Asia. It has a vast corpus of records viz., public records, private papers, oriental records, cartographic records and microfilms, which constitute an invaluable source of information for scholars-administrators and users of archives. It was transferred to the New Capital to New Delhi in 1911. The Department functions as an Attached Office of the Ministry of Culture and has one Regional Office at Bhopal and three Records Centres at Bhubaneswar, Jaipur and Puducherry. Abhilekh Patal is a full-featured web-portal (<http://www.abhilekh-patal.in/jspui/>) to access the National Archives of India's reference media and its digitized collections through the internet. The National Archives of India is the repository of the non-current records of the Government of India and is holding them in trust for the use of records creators and general users.

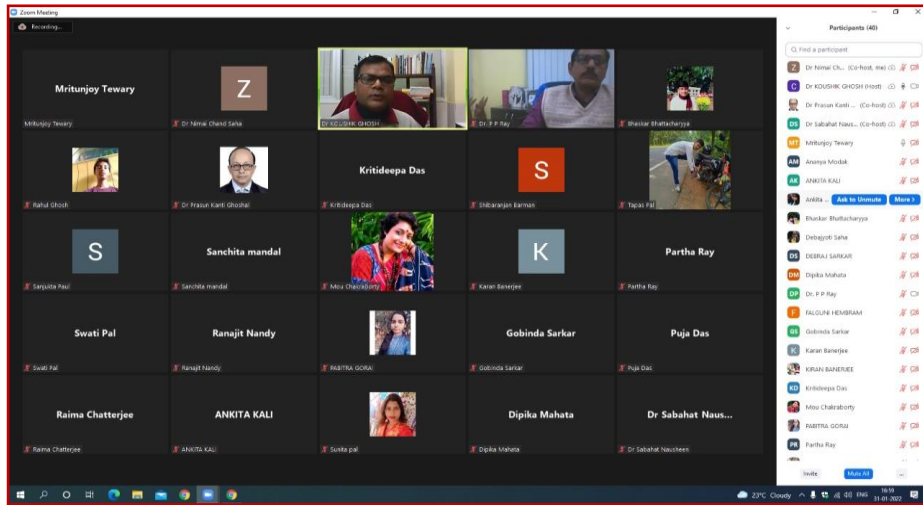
South Asia Open Archives [<https://www.jstor.org/site/saoa/>]: South Asia Open Archives (SAOA) is a free open-access resource for research and teaching - a rich and growing curated collection of key historical and contemporary sources in arts, humanities and social sciences, from and about South Asia, in English and other languages of the region. SAOA's collection currently contains hundreds of thousands of pages of books, journals, newspapers, census data, magazines, and documents, with particular focus on social & economic history, literature, women & gender, and caste & social structure. It is the product of a collaborative initiative of a broad consortium of 26 current member research libraries in South Asia and around the world. SAOA is presented online for open access with the advanced database functionalities and user-friendly features that result from our partnership with JSTOR.



visit by Dr Naba Kumar Basu on 25 Jan



visit by Dr. Vinay P. Sahashrabudde on 21 January



Online Library Orientation Program on 31 January 2022



Glimpses of Cricket Match after winning (Man of the Match Budi Kisku)