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WEB BASED LIBRARY SERVICES

DR. VAISHALI M. CHOUDHARI
LIBRARIAN
LAL BHADUR SHASTRI MAHAVIDYALYA,
PARTUR, JALNA

Abstract:

21st century library users are resorting to the internet to seek information thus relegating libraries which are key players in information provision and services. However libraries are evolving and rebranding their services to reestablish their worth in the information landscape using web based library services. The paper discusses various types of web based library services.

Keywords: web-based, library services, digital, Internet

Introduction:

The advent of information and communication technologies has posed challenges for libraries as well as created new opportunities. One significant challenge is the reduced users in academic libraries. Library usage has been decline, mostly because users are exploiting alternative sources like the internet, mobile device to meet their information need. This change in information seeking behavior has imposed on libraries to explore new means of providing information and interacting with their users.

The day by when the Internet is emerged, more specifically the World Wide Web which is one of its major services has completely revolutionized the way to communicate, studying, teaching, business, employment, education, healthcare and more. It has a major

impact on the publishing and information delivery system in 21st century (Arora2001). Traditionally, the library services were static. To access the library users needed to go to the library physically during library opening hours only. But in web era, library services have become dynamic. Now a day the users can access the library at anytime from anywhere. No need to go the library physically and no time restriction.

According to Anjana Bhatnagar from traditional online services to today, four generation of information retrieval tools has passed that assist users in searching the World Wide Web. The first generation provided access to reference to the end documents rather to the document themselves and indexing and searching were thus applied to document surrogates such a title or abstracts. A primary benefit of the first generation of tools is providing users with easy browsing capabilities.

The second generation of tools attempts to collect and index resources as automated functions. Automatic collection and indexing reduces the amount of human efforts. The ability to search through massive amount of information and locate the desired information for the users is the primary benefit of the second generation of tools. The third generation deals with World Wide Web Meta search engines such as Harvester and Meta crawler.

The fourth generation involves new ideas such as search agent technology currently being developed to search for information on web. Web based search engine are as a means of finding relevant pages on the internet. Different search engine, directory, Meta search engine, gateways, subject portals, electronics journals and on line database each type could be used in a different way, from simple keyword searching up to peer reviewed websites.

Web based Library Services are mainly provided through the library portal which is a special kind of gateway to web based library

resources. It provides integrate access to the metadata of a library's multiple databases. It gathers a variety of useful information resources into a single webpage that allows users to customize their information resources by selecting and viewing information they find personally useful (Jackson, 2002)

Some of the commonly used web library services are library webpage, web OPAC, Bulletin Board Service, Ask- a- librarian services, web forms, digital reference service, online document delivery, interlibrary loan, online help and information skills tutorials, online current awareness bulletin, e-mail based services, online reference services, electronic journal, online circulation services, electronics, SDI services, online acquisition, electronic articles alert services, etc

What is WEB?

WEB is popularly used as the synonymous term of World Wide Web or internet or online. The WWW are important components in communication process. The web is a client or server system used to access all kinds of information to anyone on the net. The information can be in the form of regular text, hypertext, pictures, sounds, Usenet news group and other types of data.(Kanaga,S 2012)

What is Web based library services?

A digital library services manages and develops electronics services, the library websites and library staff. According to white 2001, it can be defined broadly as, an information access service in which users ask question via electronics means e.g. email or web form.

Web -Based Library Services

On the internet and the World Wide Web, electronic library users information services range from bibliographic instruction, computerized library catalogs, digital libraries, distance learning services, e-databases, government document, instant messaging services, interlibrary loan and document delivery

services to ready reference, virtual class rooms and so on .(LiLi 2006)

The internet has encouraged decentralization, while at the same time it has provided the information professionals with the ability to reach out to users in ways that have not been possible before. Web Based library services put the technical control and development of resources right in the hands of the librarian in an unprecedented way. On the other hand, providing information and selective dissemination of information services are something that librarians have been doing for centuries. Electronic mail is also widely used by publishers and researchers.

According to Sangale, 2015 web based services are established due to following reasons:

- Ensuring the needs of users and the accessible information sources are suitable matched at all time
- Delivering those information sources to the users in a timely and appropriate fashion
- Ensuring the information provided is high quality, accurate and appropriate
- Assisting the users in interpreting the material if necessary
- Promoting users awareness of new services and information sources as they develop
- Providing users with individual's guidance and support as they build their information research and applications.

Following are some web based library services

- **The Library Webpage**

Information professional recognize that appropriate and credible resources and important for research. However, the 24/7 availability of the internet does not allow librarians to intercept, interpret and intervene for users, so instruction is not always possible. The library webpage is very much essential for any library. It is useful tool to keep informed about library activities and new services. It saves

time of the user, which is most important. Online web based journal open rich and variegated new vistas. Clearly, the library webpage easily allows the bridging of distances. The internet leaps over continents. All libraries whose aim is to support research must maintain a library webpage. Libraries may put services on the web such as library collection, library hours, library rules, new books, recent issue of journal, popular document based on circulation and reservations, the ability to place reservations on certain documents, a renewal facility option and procurement request for purchasing books. (Pathak, 2003)

- **Web OPAC**

Web OPAC is a library catalog on the web. Users can search the required information by connecting to Uniform Resource Locator (URL) of web OPAC at anytime from anywhere in the world. It facilitates the user to access the bibliographic details of holding in the collection of particular library. In this system the library books and other reading items are arranged according the subject content that is given a call number. Some of the major services available through Web OPAC are Library Catalogue, search facility on entire database, group wise restricted access for users and guest.

- **Virtual Library Tours**

Websites of libraries provides virtual guide to the physical facilities including collections, services and infrastructure available in the library. The combination of library maps and floor plans, library departments and photographic views are used for the tour. Virtual library tours are also using new technologies such as Quick Time movies etc and are beginning to replace image maps on main campus Web sites.

- **Weblogs**

Weblogs are often described as online diaries. They are a simple, very useful way to keep up-to-date with what is happening in a subject area, or with a particular individual or

organization and the associated resources. Weblogs or Blogs are often described as online dairies. Many weblogs are designed simply to act as a way of recording what an individual is doing or thinking at a particular subject moment in time. The best approach to take is to view the blogs where experts in particular subject area are able to share their knowledge, understanding and opinion with other people, often based on current events or specific or general interests. In the library, a weblog can list new additions such as new books and new subscriptions. It can be used very effectively to interest with users because they can post their own views and comments.

- **Bulletin Board**

A bulletin board is an electronic communications forum that hosts posted messages and articles connected to a common subject or theme or interest. It allows users to call in and either leaves or retrieves messages. The message may be directed to all users of the bulletin board or only to particular users. Several libraries are using bulletin boards for their web based library services. The bulletin board system is also used as an interactive interface to invite suggestions on activities and services of a library. It can also be used as an interface to distribute library services. (Sangle, 2015)

- **Ask -A-Librarian**

Ask -A-Librarian services are Internet based question and answer service that connect users with individuals who possess specialized subject knowledge and skill in conducting precision searches. Users ask question either through web form or by an e-mail address provided by the service. Once query is read by a service, it is assigned to an individual expert for answering who in turn responds to the query. The responses are either send to the users e-mail account or is posted on the web so that the user can access it after a certain period of time.

• **Web-Based Chat System for User Interaction**

Web-Based chat requires a different type of software and a more sophisticated setup. In a web based chat system, enquires go to a specific page on the library site and connect with the librarian to seek an answer to their information requirements. An advantage of this type of services is that libraries have been able to join together to provide a unified enquiry service, which can span a large geographic area.

• **Advantages of Web Based Services**

Following are the advantages of Web Based Services:

- ✓ Its saves the precious time of the users
- ✓ A large number of users can be helped simultaneously by using web based library services
- ✓ No need of library staff in large numbers to carryout library works and services
- ✓ Less dependent on library staff for getting the required information
- ✓ Availability of information in different places and also in different formats
- ✓ Cut in Library Budget
- ✓ Fulfill information required instantly
- ✓ Operating costs are minimal
- ✓ Cannot be stolen or miss shelved
- ✓ Saves considerable storage space
- ✓ Immediate receipt of issue
- ✓ Fast publication

• **Disadvantages of Web Based Services**

- ✓ A huge volume of information is generated every time
- ✓ No order or rules are imposed on the generation, distribution, access and use of this information
- ✓ No fully comprehensive record of the different documents is available at the moment
- ✓ Requires some training for users to use special equipment required
- ✓ Use is limited by copyright laws and licensing agreements
- ✓ Access is currently unreliable (URL problem, internet connection problems)

Format is in the early stages of development
Conclusion

In the present scenario, academic libraries act as information centers. Web based services have become an important tools for them. The standards for organizing web based resources are still in the early stages of development and librarians are forced to utilize standards for print resources that were not designed for electronic resources. Additionally web-based information resources are volatile in the sense that may be moved from one site to another or may be removed altogether from web.

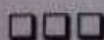
Web-based library services will become widespread and sophisticated as the web becomes common place throughout the world. Web services can empower libraries, offering more control and simpler system customization and integration. Once something new is suggested, be it the use of mail, creating a website or using the Internet to obtain information, several things will happen straightway. Success of an individual's use of an internet based socially networked instruction services is dependent on the skills and knowledge of users.

Despite of changes in communication technology and challenges the librarian may play a leadership role in better web based library services facilities to their current techno savvy users.

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A Theme of Disillusionment and Marginalization of Tribal and Dalit in Mainstream Literature – A study of Upmanyu Chatterjee’s “The English August and Arvind Adiga’s” The White Tiger”

Manoj Madavi
A. G. College,
B. Nagpur

Abstract:

Indian English fiction writing flourished after Indian Independence of India. Poverty, freedom struggle, post partition circumstances, social-political – historical and cultural milieu and consequences were checked through the novel writing of this postcolonial period. This new writing was checking the elite mentality of educated Indian classes of new India, the influence of westernized values and their role in the nation makig became a new trend in Indian English writing. Some of the most influential writers who broke the chain of stereotypes writing and secured their places on Global state of literary firmament are *Salman Rushdie, Amitav Ghosh, Vikram Seth, Rohington Mistry, Upmanyu Chatterjee, Nalinaksha BhattaChary, Bharti Mukharjee, Anita Desai, Meera Nair* and many brilliant novelist enriches Indian English fiction. In this literary fair, we hardly find space for subaltern and marginalized tribal community. We do not find the theme of indigenous ethos, centuries of disillusionment, genocide and deculturisation of tribals in the prestigious, heavy, pathbreaking Indian English novel writing. In the present research article, we one



MAH/MUL/03051/2012
ISSN-2319 9318



विद्येय वार्ता®

International Multilingual Research Journal
Issue-22, Vol-16 Jan to Mar.2018



Editor

Dr.Bapu G.Gholap