

Dr. R. S. P. Singh

The background of the page is dark and textured, featuring several vertical stripes of a slightly different shade of dark grey or black. Overlaid on this are irregular, white, crystalline or snow-like patterns that appear to be scattered across the surface. The overall effect is abstract and somewhat grainy.

GLIMPSES OF LIBRARIANSHIP

Glimpses of Librarianship

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DEDICATED

TO

My Friend

Mr. Jonathan Katz

Superintendent

Bodleian Library

OXFORD

PREFACE

The present work is dedicated to the field of Librarianship which includes nine articles on some important aspects of Library Science and Library movement. The primary aim in compiling this book was to provide practical information on Library Science and Library movement.

This book will be interesting to Librarians as well as to students and teachers of Library Science. Besides, this may be interesting to some others who love books and Libraries.

I feel indebted to those who helped in shaping my career as a Librarian. I am thankful to all those authors and publishers of the books which I have consulted with a view to make this book authoritative. I am sincerely thankful to Janaki Prakashan, Patna for taking a keen interest in printing and publishing this book.

I shall be amply rewarded if this book is proved useful to those for whom it has been written. Suggestions and comments in any form will be most welcomed and attempt will be made to incorporate them in forthcoming editions.

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Dr. R. S. P. SINGH

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ROLE OF LIBRARIES IN ADULT EDUCATION

By Adult Education we mean—(a) Organised activities with an educational purpose carried on by mature person on a part-time basis or (b) any voluntary, purposeful effort towards the self development of adults, conducted by public and private agencies.

To some, adult education means the teaching of reading to illiterates. To others, it signifies vocational training. But adult education goes far beyond all these. It is based on a recognition of the great truth that education is a life long process.

The adult education committee of Great Britain defines adult education to mean “all the deliberate efforts by which men and women attempt to satisfy their thirst for knowledge, to equip themselves for their responsibilities as citizens and members of society or to find opportunities for self expression.

Adult Education is a phrase originally meaning education of adults who have not been properly educated as children. In the United States the term Adult Education is used to denote an educational movement for men and women, young and old, who no longer are in contact with formalized education and whose primary interest lies in vocation but who possess a secondary interest in their own educational improvement as a sustained and continuing process. It is sometimes called “Continuing Education.”

In Western countries it implies the broadening of mind and outlook of both the illiterates and literates. In the West

LIBRARY SERVICES FOR A DEVELOPING SOCIETY

As far as development is concerned, there is a great controversy going on as to whether economic development should be preceded by social development or whether the latter should be left alone until the former progresses sufficiently. In any event this question does not fall within the ambit of our present discussion.

Development in all its forms and at all levels demands the use of information in all fields of knowledge and on all aspects of man's endeavours. This knowledge and these activities are recorded in various types of literature which is to be found in libraries of all kinds and information centres.

Library : an old and a new Concept

The library is an important social institution serving society in several ways. Its functions include, among others, educational, informative, economic, industrial and cultural aspects.

It serves as the centre for life-long self education for each and every member of society. It helps to fulfil the educational and cultural aspirations of society. The Library collects, preserves and organises recorded informations and serves the specific needs of the reader from its store-house of knowledge. The social pressure, itself the outcome of the evolutionary process, brought about by social changes, has in turn, brought about the metamorphosis in the content of library and its functions from a passive institution looked upon primarily as

FREE AND EASY USE OF LIBRARY RESOURCES

The Library is a social institution designed to serve the people with knowledge that will enable them to exercise and to continue exercising their sovereignty. It is a function of the Library to serve the democracy so that democracy may function effectively and may survive. Librarians are public servants; in a democracy they should loyally serve their masters; i.e. all the citizens. It should be our duty to serve our fellow citizens in accord with the principles of this country. It is a function of the librarian in democratic countries to serve and to promote democratic ideals and principles.

Site and Building

A Library should try to bring together books and readers, Now to bring the two elements i.e. the subject (Readers) and the object (Books) together, we have to consider all necessary factors with a view to select a proper place for their meeting. The object is dead load and therefore, must naturally find a permanent home. This permanent home should be so situated as to save the time of its readers for whom it is intended to serve. While selecting the site one must consider about quiet, ample surroundings, good light. As far as possible the congested place, be avoided. Whatever the position of the library it is essential that it should be widely known to the public.

If the site is bounded by roads carrying heavy traffic, it is very important that the actual building should be away from the edge of the road or roads so as to avoid noise and nuisance.

PRESERVATION PROBLEMS OF BOOKS AND NON-BOOK MATERIALS

Preservation of Library materials books and non-book materials in tropical and sub-tropical countries is one of the problems which has been engaging the attention of the Librarians and Record keepers for some time past. It is felt that those who are entrusted with the care and upkeep must be familiar with general aspects of record preservation in order to discharge their responsibilities efficiently.

In this article I would try to discuss some general preservation problems of books and non-book materials in tropical countries with special reference to India.

It is known to all that everything in this world decays in course of time. But science tries to keep them in good condition, at least for a reasonable space of time. The climatic condition of India are such that the places of it are infested with plenty of natural enemies. These enemies destroy the records of human knowledge put in form of books and non-book materials in various libraries, museums, archives and art galleries. Under the circumstances it is an onerous task to preserve these materials. Modern Scientific researches are finding out means of saving human records from the attack of hostile forces.

Causes of deterioration : Most of our libraries happen to be situated in crowded cities. The problem of the preservation of the contents of libraries, therefore, presents greater difficulties in urban areas. The urban atmosphere polluted by smoke and exhaust gases from automobiles, less exposed to purifying

LIBRARY LEGISLATION IN INDIA WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO BIHAR

Public Library System : A public Library is an institution which is established for the use of the community without any distinction of caste, creed, class or standard. In order to give an efficient and maximum service to the people, there should be an intergrated nation-wide network of public libraries, giving free book service to one and all. Therefore, the necessity for a Public Library system depend on the necessity of Library legislation.

According to Dr. Ranganathan "To run a public library means money, if it is to be free; who is going to pay for the purchase of books, salary of the staff, and various other expenses ? It is here that the need of Library legislation is felt.

Why the Library Legislation

- (1) The aim of Library legislation is to create the necessary Library agencies and to define clear cut powers and duties of each unit in a library system.
- (2) It provides for necessary financial support on stable and progressive basis.
- (3) Library legislation lays down the structure of libraries, ensures its establishment, development and maintenance on an approved and uniform pattern for the service of the community and prevents its haphazard growth.

PUBLIC LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT IN BIHAR

Bihar which is called the 'Heart of India' played very important role in the cultural, political and spiritual developments of Ancient India.

Historical Background

Bihar remained separate province of Moghal Empire till quarter of a century after the death of Aurangzeb in 1707. But in the period of anarchy that ensued subsequently, it was amalgamated in 1732 with Bengal for purely Administrative purposes by the then Governor of Bengal, from which year till 1912, i.e. for a long period of 180 years Bengal and Bihar continued to be under one Provincial Government, both under the Indian ruler and the English. After 1st April, 1912 Bihar and Orissa came into existence and continued to be administered as a joint administration until 31st March, 1936, Bihar continued to function as a separate province from the 1st April, 1936.

Geographical Background

The State of modern Bihar is situated in the Eastern zone of India lying between 31°98'10 and 27°31.15" North Latitude and 83°19'50" and 88°17'40" East Longitude, bound, on the north by the Kingdom of Nepal on the south by Orissa on east by West Bengal, and west by the Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh. The Holy river Ganga flows right across it from west to east dividing it into two unequal parts. Bihar is

SOME IMPORTANT LIBRARIES IN SWEDEN, DENMARK AND LONDON

I left for Calcutta on 9th June, 1980 on my way to Copenhagen (Denmark) to attend the Seminar on "Library Interior Layout and Design," Organised by IFLA (International Federations of Library Associations and Institutions). I left Damdam Airport for Copenhagen by SAS Flight No. 978 on 10th June, 1980 at 8 P.M. and reached Copenhagen in the morning of 11th June, 1980. As per programme the Seminar was to be held from 15th June to 20th June. Hence before commencement of the Seminar I visited Art Galleries, Park, Museums and Libraries in Copenhagen on 11th and 12th June, 1980. On 13th I left Copenhagen by Train for Sweden. Leaving the Train at Helsingor Station I went to Helsingborg (Sweden) by D.B.B. Steamer Service. Helsingborg is situated at other side of the sea.

During the period of my stay at Denmark, Sweden and London I visited some important and scientifically well organised Public Libraries and Academic Libraries. A brief report is placed below :

In Sweden I visited Helsingborg Public Library which is named as 'Helsingbores State Bibliotek'. It is situated near sea beach. Its building is very spacious and attractive. It has a good collection of books and other kind of reading materials on philosophy and psychology, History, Archaeology, Social Sciences, Economics, Mathematics, Medicine, Education, Literature, Technology, Military and Naval Science, Science, Music etc.

LIBRARY BUILDING : INTERIOR LAYOUT AND DESIGN

The efficient Functioning of the Library depends largely upon interior layout and design of the building. The architect as well as the Librarian must be acquainted with the general principles of planning library building.

New techniques of Librarianship, new developed methods of building construction, and modern theories of interior layout and design make library planning for the future a hazardous task. The efforts have been made before and are still being made to co-op with the requirements. The following nine points of Mr. Soule's are very pertinent in this regard:

- (1) A Library building should be planned for Library work.
- (2) Every Library building should be planned specially for the kind of work to be done, and the community to be served.
- (3) The interior arrangement ought to be planned before the exterior is considered.
- (4) No convenience of arrangement should ever be sacrificed for more architectural effect.
- (5) The plan should be adopted to probabilities and possibilities of growth and development.
- (6) Simplicity of decoration is essential in the working rooms and reading rooms.

CONCEPT OF LIBRARY SCIENCE

Before talking about the given subjects it is best to define the terms which are closely related.

At the very outset it is necessary to say something about even such common terms as 'Library' and 'book' for many of them are loosely used to cover quite widely different meanings.

The word 'Library' means a collection of books and other literary materials kept for reading, study and consultation 'or' a place building, room or rooms set apart for the keeping and use of a collection of books. When I want to be more specified I shall try to classify the Libraries into five groups namely; (a) Public Libraries intended for the use of the general public; (b) Academic Libraries i.e. University, College and School Libraries primarily intended for the student and teaching population; (c) Special libraries for those intended for a limited clientele with a special field of interest; (d) Government Departmental Libraries intended for the staff and officers of the department concerned; (e) private or personal libraries for those privately owned and not available to others except by direct invitation.

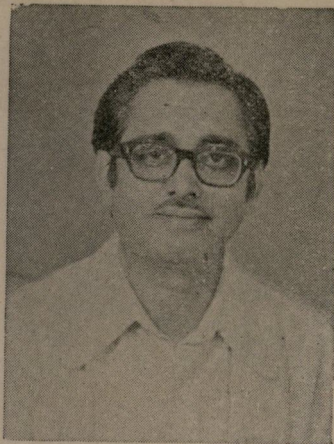
The contents of Libraries are also diverse, and most libraries today contain much more than books. The word "material" may include not only books but also pamphlets, journals, newspapers, documents, photo copies, musical scores, tapes, record and films.

The word 'book' means a set of blank sheets of paper bound along one edge and enclosed within protective covers to form a volume, specially a written or printed literary work, which is separately published and has as independent physical

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Dr. Ram Shobhit Prasad Singh, Librarian, Sinha Library (Bihar State Central Library), Patna got his M.A., Ph.D. degree from Magadh and Patna University respectively. He completed the Degree Course in Library Science from Calcutta University. He entered the library profession in August, 1955 as Librarian in B.S. College, Dinapore. Subsequently he joined Sinha Library as Asstt. Librarian in January, 1960, and was promoted to the post of Librarian in 1967. He was elected General Secretary of the Bihar State Library Association in 1977. Elected Asstt. Secretary of the Indian Library Association in 1964 and continued till 1966. Served as Chairman of the State Committee of the Indian Library Association. Editing the Journal "Pustakalaya" since 1975.

He is a popular author of Library Science and Hindi Literature and a pillar of Library movement in the State.

He also attended IFLA Seminar at Copenhagen (Denmark) in 1980 and visited important Libraries in Denmark, Sweden and London in order to acquire practical knowledge.

He has written eight books. Six published and two in process. Several articles published in English and Hindi.