Librarianship in Digital Environment

(A collection of essays in Honour of Dr. A.P. Gakhar)

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Digital Library is Established! Have we reached our goal?

Dr. Neelam Thapa

Abstract

A Digital Library is need of the hour, it can fulfil the demands that traditional therapes are unable to meet. But, establishing a digital library is not the end all in fact it is the first step towards the larger goal of establishing a library that is effective and efficient. Digital libraries will have to periodically evaluate their performance and change accordingly, always keeping their central goal in sight.

Keywords: Digital Library, E-library, Digital Library Challenges.

1. Introduction

Digital Library can be defined as a 'system' providing user with a coherent access to a very large organized depository of information and knowledge. The American Digital Library Federation has defined the digital library as "Digital Libraries are organizations that provide the resources, including the specialized staff, to select, structure, offer intellectual access to interpret, distribute, preserve the integrity of, and ensure the persistence over time of collection of digital works so that they are readily and economically available for use by a defined community or set of communities".

Digital Library has many advantages over a manually run traditional library. Speed of functioning, better services and efficient management can be achieved by establishing a digital library. Moreover increased user demands can only be met traditional library. So, in today's information age establishing

• digital library is a necessity.

But, can our goal be met by just establishing a digital brary? We need to concentrate on the objectives of

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