

## Library Automation and its Software -An Overview

\* *Dr. SiddiquiErajAzeza*, Librarian, Dr. Rafiq Zakaria College for Women, Aurangabad. Maharashtra. India.

\*\* *Madan D. Zade*, Research Student, Dept. of Library and Info. Sci. Dr. B. A. M. University, Aurangabad.

---

### Introduction:

Library science software is typically used for internal data storage and the management of information. Some of the most common types of programs are those that can be used to organize where books are in the library, allowing librarians and others to more easily find ones they need. There are also a variety of search tools and utilities that interface with databases, making it easier to navigate the lists and directories of written works. Other library science software can be used to manage digital information or to organize and facilitate membership details for people who visit the library.

Different types of library science software are often developed to satisfy a variety of needs specific to the work and management of a library. Some of the most common programs, for example, are those that create digital catalogs used to organize and manage the books and other works that are on-hand in a library. This software typically includes an extensive database to which new works can be added and old ones removed, as necessary. Such library science software effectively replaces traditional card catalogs or other filing systems that could be used to categorize books based on subject matter, author, and other designations.

Search tools and programs are also popular forms of library science software, including those that are built into organizational programs and separate utilities. These tools allow people to more quickly and easily look through the database of works within a library to find whatever they need. While many programs that organize books can include search functions, tools designed specifically for this purpose can offer more powerful features and additional options. This type of library science software can also include functionality for searching through other systems, such as Internet sites or online databases, all within a single framework.

Other forms of library science software are used to organize and manage employees and staff at a library. These programs can be similar to scheduling and managerial software used in other businesses, though it can also include tools designed specifically for a library setting. Other types of library science software may be required to track information about the books held at a location and the members of that site. As books are checked out or transferred between libraries, the internal database is updated to show that, so that future searches indicate that it is no longer at that location. Programs are often created to add and track members of a library, which communicate with other software to indicate who may be in possession of a certain book at any one time.

### Library Automation

- Automation is a process of using themachineries for easily working and saving thehuman power and time.
- The main purpose of library automation is tofree the librarians and library staff and toallow them to contribute more meaningfully tospread of knowledge and Information.In the simple language “When we usemachineries for collection, processing, storageand retrieval of information and do an otherworks of library with the help of machineries that called library automation.”

### **Library Computerization**

- Computerization is the part of library automation. At present use of the computer technology for library keeping operation such as administrative work, acquisition, cataloguing, circulation, serial control, OPAC etc. known as library computerization.

### **Development of Library Automation**

- 1930s Punch card for circulation (IBM)
- 1950 Info & Docu. Center America
- 1961 Invention of IC by Robert Noyce (Intel) and Jack Kerby (Texas)
- 1961 KWIC H. P. Luhan IBM
- 1966 MARC-I and in 1968 it was converted in MARC-II by Henriette Avram
- 1965 Indian Science Abstract: author index by INSDOC
- 1970s Many library networks establish in India

### **Need of Library Automation**

- Information explosion
- Availability of information in various formats (Print, nonprint, graphical, audiovisual etc.)
- Different approaches and needs of user
- Limitation of library (time, space & human power)
- Duplication in housekeeping operation
- To well management and retrieval of information
- To search national and international database
- Impact of communication technology
- Increasing numbers of users To Obtain increased operational efficiencies
- To improve the quality, speed and effectiveness of services
- To improve the management of their physical and financial resources
- To facilitate wider dissemination of their information products and services
- Enable their participation in resource-sharing library networks

### **Objectives of Library Automation**

- Speedily disposal of library work
- Establishment of a well storage & retrieval system
- Time and human power saving with qualitative services
- Suitability for library cooperation & coordination development
- Simplicity in library management to meet the objectives
- Proper use of human resources
- Development of the new library services
- Preparation of reports and correspondence
- Suitability for resource sharing and networking
- Development of human resources

### **Special Features of Library Automation**

- It is an electronics based activity which is carried out by human beings
- It is helpful to providing library services

- Standardization in library work
- Accuracy in work
- Speedily communication of information
- Avoid duplication in the library work
- Trained staff
- Availability of information
- It is a time saving system
- User friendly system
- Networking

#### **Basic Requirements for Library Automation**

- Adequate collection
- Financial assistance
- Hardware
- Software
- Trained staff
- User training
- Maintenance & development

#### **Advantages of Library Automation**

- Easily searching of information
- Time saving
- Speedily communication
- Helpful in stock verification
- Easily working with the help of automation
- Helpful in resource sharing
- It motivate to library staff
- Development of human resource

#### **Disadvantages of Library Automation**

- It is long term and time consuming process
- Financial expenses
- Continuous staff training are required for it
- Security problems
- It is totally depended on the electricity
- Costly maintenance
- Untrained users

#### **Suggestions for Library Automation**

- Economical help should be provided by central, state, localgovt. and library authority according to library and information policy.
- Libraries should be conducted training program time to time for the development of library staff.
- Librarian should be selected best hardware and software for automation
- All the data or information should be secure with the help of different security tool such as use of Anti-virus, firewall and taking a backup of data time to time.

- Inverter should be used for power

### **Types of Library Software Packages**

The computer cannot do anything without some programme or instruction or software. Unlike the hardware, software cannot be touched but it instructs the computer what to do in a particular situation. Any type of computer programme designed to perform some kind of library activities is known as library software. It may be a simple programme to perform the job of acquisition or cataloguing or integrated library management software that will perform the job of acquisition, cataloguing, circulation, serial control and others. It may also be digital library management software which will manage the digital resources of the library or some other types, say a Learning Management System or Content Management System, etc.

There are different library software packages, and each of them has different functionability. The amalgamation of features adds a lot of difficulties in categorizing the library software packages. However for the purpose of our study, an attempt is made to categorize the library software packages into the following:

#### **A) Based on Function Performed**

- a) Database Creation Software (E.g CDS/ISIS)
- b) Library House Keeping / Management Software Packages (Koha, ABCD, Libsys, OASIS, Sanjay, SLIM, SOUL)
- c) Institutional Repository Software Packages (CDSWare, Dspace, E-prints, Fedora, Ganesha digital library, Greenstone)

#### **B) Based on Source Code Availability**

- a) Proprietary software (SOUL)
- b) Open Source Software Packages (Koha, Dspace)

#### **C) Based on Cost Factor**

- a) Completely Commercial (LibSys)
- b) In-house Developed;
- c) Shareware
- d) Freeware (Gratis / Libre software)
- e) Open Source Software

#### **References:-**

1. "Library Automation." *Library and Information Science*. Web. 18 Oct. 2014. <[www.clib.dauniv.ac.in/E-Lecture/Library%20Automation.pdf](http://www.clib.dauniv.ac.in/E-Lecture/Library%20Automation.pdf)>.
2. "Types of Library Software Packages - Free Online UGC NET / SET / SLET Guide in Library and Information Science." *Free Online UGC NET / SET / SLET Guide in Library and Information Science*. Badan Barman. Web. 15 Oct. 2014. <<http://www.netugc.com/types-of-library-software-packages>>.
3. Wiesen, G., and ShereenSkola. *WiseGeek*. Conjecture, 18 Sept. 2014. Web. 15 Oct. 2014. <<http://www.wisegeek.com/what-are-the-different-types-of-library-science-software.htm>>.