



BANGALORE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY AND ITS BEST PRACTICES FOR USER COMMUNITY

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ABSTRACT

The papers define the concept and describes the strategy for application of best practices in an Bangalore University. It discusses importance of introducing best practices in a modern library and information centre (LIC) to enable it to improve its processes and activities, optimize resource utilization, and deliver high quality, value added services to its users.

KEYWORDS: Best Practices, User Community, Services.

BACKGROUND:

Bangalore University, or BU, is a public state university located in city of Bengaluru in the state of Karnataka, India.

Bangalore University offers Integrated Programmes, Bachelor's, Master's and Doctoral degrees apart from Diploma Courses and Certificates. The language of instruction for most courses is English. Bangalore University has 497 affiliated colleges.

The university is a part of The Association of Indian Universities (AIU), Association of Commonwealth Universities (ACU) and affiliated by University Grants Commission (UGC). Bangalore University is accredited by NAAC under the new grading system with a grade A. However, this expired in September, 2013 and has not been renewed.

BANGALORE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY:

Bangalore University Library the Bangalore University Library came into existence in the year 1966 by inheriting document collections of about 58000 books and several bound volumes of periodicals held by the Central College Library then affiliated to University of Mysore. The Main Library was set up in the year 1975 at JnanaBharathi Campus. However, the Central College Library continued to serve the Departments located there. The main aim of the Library is to acquire, organize, and provide access to various kinds of information sources including books, journals, theses, etc., both in print and electronic forms and provide excellent IT based information services and be partner in the pursuit of academic excellence by varsity students, researchers and faculty. And also to collaborate with other institutions at local, regional, national and international levels for mutually beneficial resource sharing and to maximise the efficiency of library staff, through continuous training, especially to provide IT based services and help in career development. Library is having rich collection about 3, 50,000 Text books & Reference books, 9000 Theses and Dissertations, 226 Current journals, 58000 Bound Volumes, 45 News Papers and 37 Magazines are available in libraries.

SECTIONS:

In order to achieve functional efficiency, the library is organized into 11 different sections. They are Circulation Section, Book Acquisitions Section, Periodicals Section, Technical Section, Binding Section, Stack Area (Science & Technology), Stack Area (Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences), Reference - cum - Documentation Section, Competitive Examinations Cell and Text Book Section, Data Processing Section and Administrative Section.

WORKING HOURS:

The library is kept open for readers between 8.00 AM and 7.00 PM on all the working days with the transactions at the circulation counter except on Sundays and holidays, on which days the library will function from 10-00 AM to 5.00 PM for study and consultation Purpose only. The library follows Open Access System in all the wings of the library.

SERVICES:

The library offers book lending service, Readers Advisory service, Inter-Library loan facility reference service and Photocopying service.

COMPETITIVE EXAMINATIONS CELL:

The novel feature of Bangalore University Library is the establishment of competitive Examinations cell in the year 2001 with the main objective of providing reading material for student community preparing for various competitive examinations. The cell provides books and journals relating to Civil Services, Karnataka State Public Service Commission, GATE, GE, GMAT, CAT, UGC-NET, SLET and other competitive examinations. The Bangalore University Library procured about 12000 documents relating to various competitive examinations.

LIBRARY AUTOMATION:

The Bangalore University Library is fully computerized using an Koha library management system. Bibliographic records of book collections, Periodicals, CDs/DVDs, Theses and Reports are available in library database and are accessible through Library OPAC.

BEST PRACTICES OF BANGALORE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY:

The best Practices followed by Bangalore University in order to provide efficient and effective information services to the users are given below.

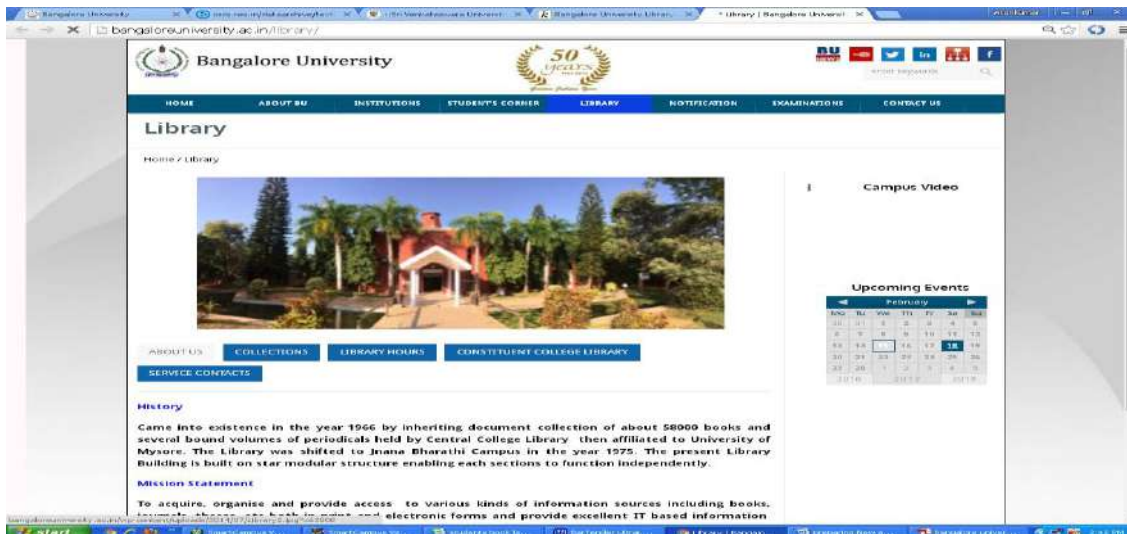
❖ BANGALORE UNIVERSITY DIGITAL LIBRARY:

Bangalore University has UGC-INFLIBNET regarding UGC INFONET Programme. Under this programme, the BU facility to have access to internet was installed in BU Computer Centre. The INFLIBNET has provided 10 mbps connectivity to Bangalore University. The computer centre has provided internet connectivity to all the Department/Institutions in the Campus. In order to provide access to full text e-journals available under UGC-INFONET Programme, Bangalore University Library it has the facility to accommodate 42 users at a time. at present, there are 32 computer systems for this purpose in this library. The time allocated for using the digital library for various categories of users is students one hour, Research scholars two and half hour and faculty members are no restriction.

❖ BANGALORE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY HOME PAGE

Bangalore University Library Created a Home page. It can accessed from anywhere over the Internet. It provides an overview of the library covering brief history, services provided, working hours, general rules, collection and different sections of the library and details of professional staff working. It also provides link to access E-Resources portal and online journals under UGC-INFONET programme, online open Access

journals, Digital Library of Ph.D. E-Prints, UGC INFONET Journal Publisher-wise, JGATE Plus and BU Library OPAC. The website address is <http://bangaloreuniversity.ac.in/library/>



❖ **ONLINE JOURNALS UNDER UGC-INFONET PROGRAMME**

Access is provided to about 9500+ full-text e-journals published across the globe covering 45 subject areas starting from A to Z under UGC-INFONET Programme.



❖ **ONLINE OPEN ACCESS JOURNALS:**

About 10,028 Open access journals are being published in electronic form over the Net by different societies and non-profit organizations. Anyone can access the full text at free of cost. It provides a link all these journals.



❖ **DIGITAL LIBRARY OF PH.D. THESES (E-THESES AND DISSERTATIONS):**

Bangalore University Library designed and developed a Digital Library Using E-prints Shodhganga for Ph.D theses and Dissertation submitted to the university. At present 1118 Ph.D theses were digitized.



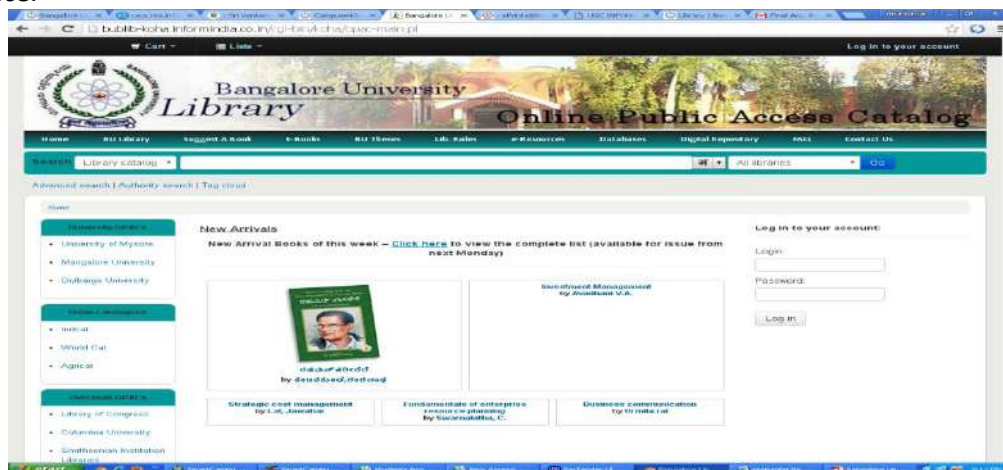
❖ **E-PRINTS:**

Bangalore University Library provided Every faculty is publishing journal articles, conference articles or etc.. on their area of interest. The University Library is collecting this publication and made available for everybody's use. These collections are available in E-prints portal link has been given from university library portal which helps the authors to refer their publications by wide audience.



❖ OPAC :(Online Public Access Catalog):

Bangalore University Library provided a link in its Home Page to BU library OPAC (Online Public Access Catalogue). It can be accessed from anywhere through Internet. Readers can sit in their respective libraries and departments and they can search the library Database to find out the availability of documents of their choice.



CONCLUSION:

Bangalore University Library serves the information needs of the students, Research Scholars, Teaching Faculty, Non-Teaching Staff and the Deposit Borrowers. The Bu Library total automated all the section like Acquisition section, Technical Section, Circulation Section, Periodical Section etc. and also digital library developed with CD-ROM database and electronic information resources to provide information to the research community. BU Library conducting ongoing training programmes about using OPAC facility, e-journals and databases, and Internet resources to their users.

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