DIGITAL LIBRARY, DIGITIZATION AND PRESERVATION

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Abstract:-

Now a day's libraries are moving towards smaller and smaller with rich information technologies. So many technologies are being adopted to identify the technically emerging libraries, such as hybrid virtual library, digital library etc. In digital library, services are fully automated and all resources are in digital form. Digitization has helped to change the entire concept of R&D activities and the ways scholars, students, and a common user access and use scholarly information. It highlights the edge of digital material, need for digitization policy and criteria for selecting the documents for digitization. Today digital library is defined as the integrated access to available distributed information and is also not a uniform whole. Digital library is conceptualized as local view that would have the same design as the web-page of the library. Digital libraries are organized collections of information object in digital format.

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Introduction:-

Digital Library is a Library in which collections are stored in digital format (print microfilm, or other media) and accessible by computers. A digital Library may allow other online or offline access to the elements, it organizes and houses, and may include multimedia as well as multilingual data. Digital Library is a type of information retrieval system. Digital Library can produce more useful results, save time and effort in searching and best of cases browsers may directly access the text as multimedia content for which they executed their search.

There are several advantages of a digital Library over a social usage (conventional) Library. Digital Library may evolve into a complex system that makes information available in hard copy on magnetic tape and discs, CD–ROMs and videodiscs including those from online sources . The term Hybrid Library is sometime used for libraries that have both

physical collection and digital collection. Digital Library is also not merely an automated social usage Library, where the resources are electronically catalogued and are available only for browsing purpose. Some important Digital Libraries also serve as long term archives, for example, the E-Print and the Internet archive. A Digital Library can provide more equitable and widely distributed access at lower costs. Many Academic Libraries are actively involved in building institutional repositories of the institutions Books, Papers, Theses, and other works which can be digitized or were born digital. More-over, it may be most appropriate means of organizing intellectual artefacts that cannot be represented or distributed in printed formats, such as Audio/Video multimedia content.

Definition

Association for Research Libraries (ARL) points out that Digital Libraries can serve as a network of links to other Digital Libraries. Today Digital Library is defined as the integrated access to available distributed information and is also not a uniform whole. In this view, a digital Library no longer remains a single–point source but facilitates maximal resources extraction from partnering Institutions and Libraries.

It highlights the edge of digital material, need for digitization policy and criteria for selecting the documents for digitization. Digital Libraries have the potential to revolutionize methods of information access to meet the specific needs of their user communities. In this way by distributing responsibility for building and maintaining multi collection, digital libraries create an opportunity for collaboration between users.

Academic Repositories

Many academic libraries are actively involved in building institutional repositories of the Institutions Books, Paper, Theses and other works which can be digitized or born digital. Some of these repositories are made available to the general public with few restrictions, accordance with the goals of open access in contrast to the publication of scholar in trade journals, the publishers often limit access rights.

Technical Issues:-

(A) Meta-Data standards and protocols

Meta-data is a critical element for searching information through a database, especially when the information presence (available) in an invisible space like the internet, unlike a conventional Library. The function of meta data is to standardize the structure and content of indexing or cataloguing information. Meta data systems are

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those that describe a set of meta data elements such as title, author, rights, date and so forth for a given digitizable material.

(B) Software Issues

Digital Library software is used for building and distributing Digital Library collections, organizing information and publishing it on the internet or on CD-ROM. For example Greenstone which is an open-source software. Their are other developed software like SOUL, based on relational data base management language, which is used for cataloguing archiving as well as enabling online public access of resources.

(C) Digital rights management

Digital rights managements involves ways in which the Digital Library operators manage issues of IPR, those of ownership of material made available on the digital Library. Several methods of managing digital rights do exist nowadays from which one could choose to adopt the more convenient one for their purpose.

Searching

Most Digital Libraries provide a search interface which allows resources to be found. These resources are typically deep web (invisible web) resources since they frequently cannot be located by search engine crawlers. Many digital libraries create special pages or sitemaps to allow search engines to find all their resources.

Multiple access possibilities

One of the greatest challenges in the establishment of a Digital Library Network in a country like India is internet connectivity. The lack of network infrastructure and in appropriate pricing patterns can also prove significant hurdles for a fledgling ICT (Information Communication Technology) initiative. Several connectivity options now exist and it is helpful to understand their relative cost and benefits. Wireless – in –local –loop (WLL) system afford subscribers wireless access through a Base –Station, which is then connected to a Broadband backbone.

Digital resources

The libraries are now heading towards building digital collection. Digital resources are being procured and old collection is being digitized. The Libraries may digitize the content pages of the resources available on print media, to provide digital access to contents of the document, in case user finds the contents of his interest then he may go to access printed copy of the documents.

In this way all the digital information will be stored and retrieved with the help Document Management System (DMS), which controls and manage the database digital collection.

Managerial factor

(1) Hardware management - Libraries and information centres offering digital resources must ensure that users can get to the resources.

(2) Software management

(3) Collection management

(4) Preservation

(5) Financial management

Why to digitize?

- Digitization facilities to preserve and provide any time access to materials of all text book manuscript, photographs, audio, video etc. Thus the main purpose digitization is full exploitation of local and global resources.

- Improved accessibility, Digitization facilities improved access with very simple advanced searching techniques.

- Time Saving

- Increased display

- Speed and quality

- Ease to access and user friendly to utilize and facilitate.

Preservation

Preservation of materials is very important issue. Guideline for Preservation original must be clearly defined in the policy, it must also concept the important issue like long term maintenance, like digital files, migration of files to new hardware and software platforms/operating system, mainly Preservation of digital items must be categorised such as:-

- Kind of materials

- Type of media

- kind of format

Advantage

The advantage of digital libraries is easily and rapidly accessing books, archives and image of various types. These are now widely recognized by commercial interests and public bodies.

- Easily accessible
- No physical boundary
- Multiple access
- Information retrieval
- Preservation and conservation
- Time saving
- Rights & Authority Maintenance

Conclusion

Today's world is a world of Digital Library, as for demand and need of Information the technology has forced the Library to digitize information. The advent of internet has radically change the form of Library. To store, organize and retrieve the data on the web, we use the terms metadata for cataloguing and facet classification for classifying the information, while managing the digital libraries, due consideration should necessarily be focused on the issues like hardware management, Software management, Collection management, Financial management and also the access system keeping in view the ICT developments influencing the libraries of today

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