



AN OVERVIEW ON DIGITAL LIBRARY

Dr. C. Muthurasu

Teaching Assistant, Dept. Of Library And Information Science, Alagappa University, Karaikudi – 630 003.

Dr. M. Suganthi*

Assistant Professor, Alagappa University College Of Education Alagappa University, Karaikudi – 630 003.*Corresponding Author

ABSTRACT

Today, libraries are much more than storehouses for books, journals, and newspapers, in print form. Present day libraries apart from print resources, acquire e-resources, audio/visual material, multimedia material and other resources depending upon the demands from the users. This change is evident in all kinds of libraries. However, one thing that has not changed is the universe of information or knowledge; it is forever expanding and is continuing to do so at ever increasing speeds. One of the best examples of a digital library is, Digital Library of India (DLI).

KEYWORDS : Digital Library, CD.ROM, Databases, WWW, Electronic Resources.**INTRODUCTION**

Libraries are playing vital role in the development of society and nation. They are supporting to education, research, and social development of any nation around the world. Academic organizations have been working toward the providing higher education and research development. The computerization of the library during past few decades have focused heavily on the creation of surrogate records of printed documents available in a library or for providing computerized services through secondary databases held locally on CD ROM or magnetic tapes. The scope and functions of integrated library packages, till recently, were essentially restricted to providing access to documents at bibliographic level. The new versions of, integrated library packages, however, tend to provide additional features and functionalities akin to digital libraries. Similarly, secondary information systems such as MEDLINE, INSPEC, COMPENDEX+ and CAS were essentially designed to serve as effective tools for bibliographic control of research information.

MEANING OF DIGITAL LIBRARY

Digital library is manage collection of information with associated services, where the information stored in digital format and accessible over a network.

Definition: Digital Library

Dr.A.P.J.Abdul Kalam the former president of India defines digital library as "Digital Library is where the past meets the present and creates the future".

Concept of Digital Library

Digital Library is collection of information that is both digitize beyond and which offer capabilities beyond those of the traditional Library. Digital library is a global virtual library the libraries of thousands of network electronic libraries.

The concept of a digital of a "Digital Library" is not merely equivalent to a digitized collection with information management tools. It is rather than environment to bring together collections services, and people in support of the full life cycle of creation, dissemination, use and preservation of data, information, and knowledge.

There are two terminologies namely

1. **Digitization:** Digitization is converting materials from formal that can be read by only by machine.
2. **Digitalization:** Digitalization is converting materials in various formats into digital formats to be electronically available.

Need of the Digital Library

- To provide perpetual access of digitized or digital objectives
- To eliminate geographical boarder, space, time, and barriers of information
- To cope with the increasing demand for the information services
- To improve efficiency in searching and indexing
- To enhance existing services and start new information services
- To save the time of users and staff in the creation and utilization of information services
- To provide better management of digitized resources.

Features of digital Library

1. Provide 24 hours 365 days perpetual access to vary large information.
2. It offers full text documents (i.e E-book e-journal, E-Thesis, and E-Dissertation etc...) not only surrogates or index.
3. Provide reference linking futures which help to includes multimedia or other related documents.
4. Enhance access and delivery of information in network environment with user-friendly interface.
5. Support long term archiving and preservation of human knowledge.
6. Offers variety of searching and browsing features.
7. Support traditional library mission of collection development organization, access and preservation.
8. Offers variety of opportunities such as e-learning, e-governance, new employment etc.

Components of digital library

MAN: It refers to information professionals and users of the digital libraries, which play an important role in the creation or building and user of it.

MATERIALS: It refers to the collection or digital objects of the digital libraries.

MACHINE: It refers to the hardware, software, media and other devices which are being user for the development of infrastructure.

MECHANISM: It refers to the techniques used for creation, acquisition, indexing, storage, security, access and delivery of digital objects.

MANDATE: It refers to adaptation of the guidelines, policies, standards, protocols for creation of digital libraries.

Collections of Digital Library

Collections are the basic building blocks for the digital library construction which refers to the digital typically e-books, e-journals, E-clippings, e-content pages, e-reports, conference paper, poem, painting song, journals article, lecture, etc.. it can categorized in two types.

1. Born digital
2. Converted or digital

Born Digital

Those documents or digital objects are created or generated in digital form is known as Born Digital. These documents or digital objects are available in the following form:-

- E-Database
- Software
- Movies
- Audio and Video
- E-Books
- E-Periodicals (E-Journals e-Newspaper, etc..)
- Art, Photographs
- Other born digital materials.

Converted or Digital

Those documents are captured or converted from the printed documents to digital documents or digital objects are known as converted or digitized. Those documents or digital objects are available in the following form.

- E-Books
- E-Periodicals
- Art, Photographs
- Other Born digital materials

Available in the following the file format

- Image formats :TIFF, GIF, JPEG
- Basic text formats: ASCII, UNICODE, RTF
- Presentation formats: Postscript, PDF
- Structural formats: HTML, SGML, XML
- Audio and Video formats: Wave, RealAudio, Mp3
- Video: AVIMPEG

Services of Digital Library

Digital library provides a wide array of service to assist members of the library with organizing collections of materials or making them more widely available. The following service offered by the digital libraries.

- Catalogue database
- Current Awareness Bulletins
- Externally purchased database
- CD-ROM Database
- Remote information services
- Internally published newsletters, reports and journals
- Internet information sources mirroring and cataloguing
- E-Mail
- Bulletin board services
- Netnews systems
- Audio and video communication
- Electronic Table of contents
- Electronic thesis and Dissertations
- Reference Services
- Electronic publishing
- Discussion group forums
- Tools for loading, storing, searching, and displaying digital objects

Advantages of Digital Library

1. Digital library brings the library or information to the user, at anytime and anywhere.
2. It allows you to access information on the desktop without any barriers such as place, time, etc.
3. Digital library can be access where there is a Personal Computer with a network connection.
4. Digital library enhanced access and delivery of

information through searching and browsing.

5. It supports full text searching with various options such as keywords phrases, Boolean, proximity etc.
6. Hypertext linking allows links various chapters, sections bibliographies, references and the of digital objects.(Text, image, audio, video etc.)
7. Networks compatibility facilities resources sharing more easily and storing digital information on a network makes it available to everybody.
8. The same electronic document or information can be access simultaneous more than users at a time and libraries can generate multiple copies of the documents to meet requirement of much longer population of users.
9. Reduce cost of conventional libraries like building, professional staff, and maintains and preservation of reading materials.
10. It promotes digital materials and enhanced preservation of knowledge for present and future generation.
11. Easier to update, keep information current and produce new forms of information.
12. Need not work about the stolen, misplaced and reserved or check – out of the documents.
13. Its support e-learning through global access of information collaboration and exchange or ides.
14. It is the foundation of a knowledge centre without walls, open 24 hours a day and accessible over a network.

CONCLUSION

Digital libraries are amongst the most complex and advanced form of information systems. Deployment of digital library requires integration of several information technologies because of many diverse requirements involving creation of digital contents, its organization, ontology, development of interactive interfaces for users, multiple accesses and listings, digital document imaging, OCR, distributed database management, web technology, hypertext, information storage and retrieval system, experts system, intellectual property rights, integration of multimedia information services, management of multilingual collection, data mining, electronic and real-time reference service, electronic document delivery and personalization. Due to these unique challenges and opportunities, the digital libraries are emerging as a growing interdisciplinary area of research and education for information science, computer science, library science and a number of other related disciplines.

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