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DLC IMAGE: PRATIBIMBA

**AN INTERDISCIPLINARY PEER-REVIEWED HALF YEARLY JOURNAL
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DISPUR LAW COLLEGE**

Editor-in- Chief

Dr. Jintu Borah

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Thank you all.

ABOUT THE JOURNAL

'DLCIMAGE: প্রতিতিষ্ব' –is an multidisciplinary bilingual (English & Assamese) journal where the researchers can submit their articles of any discipline. This is the beginning issue of the journal. The research articles will be peer reviewed and after the review it will be applied for ISSN and UGC Care list. The researcher can choose the topic of their own related fields like English, Political Science, Sociology, History, Law, Economics, Public Policy and any other Social Science.

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EDITORIAL

It is a great thought of publishing an interdisciplinary research journal which our college authority thought a few months ago. The responsibility of publishing it is mainly vested upon me and upon the editors. So we invited papers from all. Although many persons called me over phone but we received only one 'book review' from a research scholar, one article on gender issues from Cotton University and a collaborative paper on Digital Library by Tinsukia and Moran College. The other research articles are provided by our faculty members and one by our librarian. As per guideline of ISSN we are able to collect the minimum necessary number of articles for a half-yearly journal. Hope in the second issue we will be able to receive more research articles.

As per UGC guideline for plagiarism for PhD research, which is up to 10 percent, here also we follow the same rule and allow only when we get a plagiarism certificate which is up to 10 percent. It is because we see many UGC-CARE listed journals where a research article with a plagiarism certificate up to 10 percent either from 'Turnitin' or 'Urkund' is accepted. We will also apply for UGC-CARE list. So we have allowed only such articles which are either checked by 'Turnitin' or 'Urkund' and up to 10 percent plagiarism is there.

For Peer Review our whole team has worked. I have to appreciate their activity for which we are able to get the ground-breaking issue of the journal.

It is really a great endeavour for a private college to publish a research journal. It needs financial support to exist and grow. However, the college authority wants to publish an e-journal first whose paperback may be published later. The editorial board planned to inaugurate the e-journal and accordingly the e-journal was inaugurated on 20th June, 2022 by respected ACP, Noonmati, Sri. Nilotpal Deka. For which we have to thank our Principal and Vice-Principal Madams who are also advisors of the journal. May be some reasonable fees will be charged from the research scholars in future to run the journal or any other steps will be taken for it only time will tell.

The importance of research article in the life of a faculty is immense. It is equally important for colleges as well as in universities. To get promotion or even to apply in the university associate faculty position one has to publish minimum six research articles. A college may be transformed to an autonomous body like a university or a deemed university if its faculties

work hard. Research activities will lead a college to a great height. So every faculty should try to indulge in research activity which will definitely improve the quality of the faculties and at the same time it will improve the intuition or college as well.

Thank you all for your great help.

Yours sincerely,



Dr Jintu Borah

Assistant Professor in English, Dispur Law College

and

Chief-Editor, DLC Image-Pratibimbo.

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Table of Contents

1. Acknowledgement	iv
2. About the Journal	v
3. Editorial	vi-vii
4. Pollution, Nature in the Selected Novels of NE India region by Dr Jintu Borah	9-12
5. Ethnicity, Cultural Identity and Social Change in India by Dr. Pallabi Baruah	13-16
6. Preservation and Conservation of Archival Documents in The Digital Era: A Study of the Archive Centers of Guwahati City by Pallavi Neog	17-29
7. Book Review of “Exploiting People for Profit” by Anwesha Hazarika	30-34
8. Digital Preservation in Libraries by Supriya Chutia and Deepsikha Sensua	35-38
9. Title of The Paper: Rituals, Law and Personhood: A Study from The Gendered Perspective By Ananya Kashyap	39-43



Pollution, Nature in the Selected Novels of NE India region

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Abstract:

In the English novels of NE region of India also we find ample descriptions of nature. If in a novel we find the description of a river, in another novel we find imaginative description of nature and in other human activities in nature. Some such novels are- Mitra Phukan's 'A Monsoon of Music', Jahnabi Barua's 'Rebirth', Siddarth Sarma's 'The Grasshopper's Run', Dhruva Hazarika's 'A Bowstring of Winter' and Easterine Kire's 'When the River Sleeps', in L.W. Bapu's 'Khanduma's Curse' and Siddartha Dev's 'Surface'. In Mitra Phukan's 'A Monsoon of Music' we find the mention of Red River for boating and entertainment. In Jahnabi Baruah's 'Rebirth' also we find the reference of the Brahmaputra River and Deepar Beel which is a lake, a natural habitat for aquatic animals and bird. The writer is concerned of the encroachment of the Beel and the aquatic environment which get polluted. In Easterine Kire's 'When the River Sleeps' we find about the mention of rain forest, many medicinal herbs, animals in this novels. In Dhruva Hazarika's 'A Bowstring of Winter' we find the description of the hills of Meghalaya. The people worship the Mountain as God. In Siddartha Dev's 'Surface' we find the description of the hills of Manipur and even Myanmar boarder. In spite of this the dwellers here have to face problem because of lack of connectivity.

Key Words- River, Forest, Lake, Herbs, Pollution.

Pollution, Nature in the Selected Novels from NE region

Nature is always one of the main sources of literature. In novels of NE region of India also we find ample description of nature. It is because in this region there are still many forest areas, hills, rivers lakes etc. If in a novel we find the description of historical war description, in some novels we find the description of a river, in another novel we find imaginative description of nature and in other we find human activities in nature. Some such novels where we find such descriptions are- Mitra Phukan's 'A Monsoon of Music' (2011) Jahnabi Barua's 'Rebirth'(2010), Siddarth Sarma's 'The Grasshopper's Run' (2009), Dhruva Hazarika's 'A Bowstring of Winter' (2006) and Easterine Kire's 'When the River Sleeps' (2014) in L.W. Bapu's 'Khanduma's Curse' (2012) and Siddartha Dev's 'Surface' (2005). In the NE English novels, we find the mention of rivers, lakes, hills, mountain, and forests of the region. The authors include them spontaneously; at so ease that everyone will accept them as integral part of the plot. If we see human society as the central point, then they are periphery. But without nature can we exist? So they are part and parcel of human society and in literature also



they are presented as inseparable way. But they are unlike the conscious propaganda or a motto type which we see among the conscious citizens for saving the environment or saving forests and forests' lives. They appear so naturally that anyone can find that the authors are grown up amidst such surroundings and so it seems that they are described without much effort on the part of the authors. The authors are consummate authors and they can well portrait their natural surroundings by pen. It is not that in the NE region the forest areas are not decreasing. They are decreasing than the earlier time and every year they are decreasing. However, the natural bounty of the region is naturally replenished also. In the English novels of the region we find the description of such forests, people's activities and their attachment with the environment.

In Mitra Phukan's 'A Monsoon of Music ' we find the mention of Red River in Tamulbari an imaginary place which may be the Brahmaputra River. The hero Rahul and heroine Nomita go to the river for boating and they spend time there. Although the heroine Nomita is a singer she is not indoor typed. She likes to spend time with friends and with her lover by the river. We find that they often go to the river for boat-ride. They like the fresh, clean air. They even

notice river dolphin. "There! We saw a river dolphin! Right there! " (AMOM, P-60) Although it is not mentioned in the novel but according to news we come to know that the numbers of river dolphins are decreasing due to pollution. So we should keep the river clean to let the aquatic lives live.

Their love scene is lively amidst nature. They could talk freely and open-up with each other without hesitation. The Red River offers entertain to the tourists as they can do boating there and can enjoy the beautiful scenery of the surroundings area. There are many boat restaurants run at the side of the river. The boat restaurants are big in size. One named as 'Jolporee'. At the evening time they look really attractive. It is a good business for the local people there and they offer the visitors or tourists best food and they can enjoy the setting of the sun or can unfold their minds.

In Jahnabi Baruah's 'Rebirth' also we find the reference of the Brahmaputra River which flows through Assam. There is the description of Deepor Beel which is a lake, a natural habitat for aquatic animals and bird. The writer is concerned of the encroachment of the Beel and the aquatic environment which get polluted. The heroine describes the Beel and the river when she comes from Bangalore to Guwahati. The heroine Kaveri is worried about the brick kilns near it. She thinks, "Brick kilns grow like cancerous growths ...one day it will surely give up and die, this wild wetland." (Rebirth, p-146)

In Siddarth Sarma's 'The Grasshopper's Run' we find about the description of hills of Nagaland at the time of pre-independence era. In TGR we find that the author writes about the forest of Nagaland as the habitat of the people. Both are inseparable. Everything happens amidst nature i.e. they take food from nature, take sheltering materials from nature etc. They hunt animals for food unlike the British. One old Naga told the teen hero Gojen like this, "People like you, like the Ingraz, hunt because it is fun". (TGHR, p-43)



The novel is based on the theme of revenge where the hero hides himself in the time of taking the revenge of his friend's death. Here we find folktale based on nature. The little of the novel is also based on the folk tale.

In Druba Hazarika's 'A Bowstring of Winter' we find the description of the hills of Meghalaya. There we find how the people live with nature. There is the description of the beauty of Umiam Lake. The beauty of the lake is compared in the following way- "Like a beautiful woman sleeping for centuries so that even the sky falls in love with her." (ABSW, p-40)

There is the description or mention of nature almost in every page, like- 'a shrill cry of a cicada', a valley, 'a clump of bamboo', 'sun-kissed hill' etc. They even worship the Mountain as God. The hero John Dkhar and his partner Kharkongor hide in forest when they fight with their counterparts James and Charley. However, the mentions of natural scenery or objects of nature are very brief and we do not find about pollution or anything about depletion of nature.

In Siddhartha Dev's 'Surface' we find the description of the hills of Meghalaya, Manipur and even Myanmar boarder. We find how the ultras are residing in forest, how they use forest for hiding and fight. The north-east region is full of natural objects like hills, rivers, lakes; forest with it's the pristine beauty. In spite of this the dwellers here have to face problem because of lack of connectivity. In the novel we find about ambush of the insurgent group, their camps in the forest at Myanmar boarder which the underground organizations choose because of hills and forest. Here we find the praise of the beauty of nature also. However, amidst the beauty of nature we see some other features of nature. There is the mention of bad road of watery ditches, and it is because of hills and forest. There is mention of frequent landslides in the roads. There is the description of the Moirang Lake of Manipur. The people live there in floating huts in the lake. They have "incredible environmental sense" and so they live "in complete harmony with the ecology." (Surface, p-34)

In L.W. Bapu's 'Khanduma's Curse' we find the description of the hills of Arunachal Pradesh which appears as one the plots of the novel. There we find some imaginary creatures. They are existed in the minds of the people there because of the thick forest. The forest not only provides the plot of imagination but the products of the forest are the source of their livelihood. However, the creative aura and green or colorful surroundings witches, Goddess etc. and imaginary plot are possible only because of hills, rivers and forest of the state. The life of the people is with nature. Even after death their dead bodies are thrown into river by cutting into pieces as a ritual to feed the aquatic beings. Here there is described such incident where Yontan, the hero had to offer the dead body of his mother to the aquatic beings. They worship the mountain, the peak as deity. For instance, there is the mention of Wangle peak, '...from time immemorial, the peak had been revered as their guarding deity.' (KC, P-267)

In Easterine Kire's 'When the River Sleeps' we find about the description of hills of Nagaland. Here we find the hero, Vilie he believes that the forest is his wife. He often tells, "The forest is my wife" (WTRS, P-9). His beloved died by saying that someone from the forest calls her. We find the mention of rain forest, many herbs some are medicinal, animals in this novels. Vilie guards the forest, looks



after the tragopans, (a kind colourful bird) and saves the forest from hunters. We find the names of various medicinal herbs in the novel, Ciena or bitter wormwood, Tierhutiepfu etc. When he was in search of the sleeping river, he finds the Rarhuria or unclean forest; the local people believe that spirits live there as people fall ill after entering the forest. The author writes in the authorial remark that actually it is a rain forest and as the village people fall ill and suffer from headache they label it as 'unclean area'. "People studiously avoided coming near the forest." (WTRS, p-51) However we find about the mention and of spirits in the forest also.

Thus in the description of the plots, characters and the development of the themes we see that the writers consciously or unconsciously use the background of nature. It may be the reason that when someone stays or lives beside a river of hill or sea or ocean or amidst then he/ she will definitely be influenced by the nature or the sounding. Nature makes us. Although God makes nature like rivers, ocean, hills it is our duty to protect and enrich the nature.

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ETHNICITY, CULTURAL IDENTITY AND SOCIAL CHANGE IN INDIA

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ABSTRACT:

The process of social change in Indian social culture and traditions has entered a new phase of transformation. The cultural change in India has its roots in consciousness of identity and self-awareness of the various groups. This consciousness of identity gives rise to many social problems and conflicts in Indian social structure and system. Ethnicity is one of them that lead to many ethnic conflicts in India. The ethnic conflicts due to ethnicity in India damage the social fabric of India. Ethnicity actually viewed as a threat for national integration. So this study mainly focuses on the consequences of Ethnicity in Indian culture and tradition.

KEY WORDS: Ethnicity, Ethnocentrism, Social change, Identity crisis, Self-awareness, National integration, Ethnic movement.

INTRODUCTION:

The phenomenon of social change in India is very vast and extensive and often used in the modification and change in Indian culture, traditions and practices. The notion of social change in the Indian culture and traditions has entered a new phase of qualitative change. In recent times many remarkable and significant socio-cultural changes have been seen in Indian social structure and system since independence.¹ Since then we notice significant changes of culture and traditions of Indian society across the regions and cultural boundaries. Factors may have varied for social change in these areas but they actually fuel self-consciousness

¹ Singh Yogendra, "*CULTURE CHANGE IN INDIA, IDENTITY AND GLOBALIZATION*", Rawat Publication, Jaipur, 2000, reprint 2002, page no-2

about their own ethnic group identity among some ethnic group. The consciousness and awareness of group identity strengthen the notion of ethnicity. So this study is an endeavor to examine the structural and cultural denial of the ethnic groups which actually fuels the Ethnicity by which an ethnic group starts some ethnic movement. The present study is based on the literature review doctrinal methodology.



OBJECTIVES: The following objectives have been framed for the present study-

1. To examine the emergence of the concept of Ethnicity.
2. To examine the consciousness of Ethnicity in Indian social system.

The very term ethnicity is derived from the Greek word 'Ethnikos' which means Alienate migrates. The word came to be widely used sometimes covering the nationalities of different countries of Europe, Middle East, South Africa, and South East Asia etc. The people of these countries migrated to USA during 1940 and early part of the 20th century and they faced identity crisis in the new country.

As a socio-cultural phenomenon Ethnicity simply refers to the socially created and culturally determined process by which a particular ethnic group conscious about their identity and cultural self-awareness. So Ethnicity means a social group that mainly shares a common and distinctive culture, tradition, usages, practices, religion, languages and so on. It is an ideology that provides a psychological formula which migrates the uncertainty of state-society relations.² Ethnicity is always viewed as one of the bases of social stratification. Ethnic group is a group whose members have some physical and cultural similarities. Physical means size of the nose, lips, color, size of the body, hair etc. Cultural means dressing patterns, food habits, religious beliefs and practices, languages, marriage system, family system etc. So Ethnic groups are like these. Bodos, Mishings, Karbis are the Ethnic groups. So the members of the group shared a common cultural traits such as- language, religion, values, beliefs, food habits, dressing pattern, traditions, practices etc. Actually

Ethnicity generally based on the cultural traits that reflects to which a nation, a group of people belong. So it is important to say that on the basis of such

^{2 2} <https://dictionary.cambridge.org>, assessed on 8th of June 2022 at 7.20pm.

commonly held cultural traits in heterogeneous nation the people have developed a sub culture within the larger society. This sub culture is recognized as being distinctive both by the members of the ethnic group or by the society at large. From the stratification point of view Ethnicity is a feeling of an ethnic group when they become aware of their identity. They feel that they lost their identity. The feeling of peoplehood or oneness shared by members of an ethnic group is rooted in a common national origin or historical tradition. It is maintained by a strong 'we' as against 'they' feeling of in-group loyalty against out-group encroachment. Sometimes ethnic conflicts are due to the distinction made between 'outside' and 'inside'.³ It actually implies a belief in a common destiny. So when they feel their identity is in trouble they get united and start some movement and this ethnic movement is known as Ethnicity. Until and unless if a particular ethnic group do not feel any identity crisis then Ethnicity will not develop among them. At the moment they start raised their voices and start revolt then the notion Ethnicity developed among them. So Ethnicity has its roots found in the level of consciousness of the various ethnic groups about their identity and cultural self-awareness of an ethnic community



who particularly share a common political and economic destiny.

In recent times Ethnicity is a burning question for all over the world. Many developed countries of the world have already experienced Ethnicity. The very term Ethnicity is not given rather it is socially created problem. So it is a product of the human society. It is known through two dimensions- 1. Ethnicity is the important base of social stratification, 2. How Ethnicity is developed or emerged in the human society.

It is a fact that inequality is the ever present phenomenon in human society. Inequality prevails in human society in terms of unequal distribution of power, prestige, privileges and property or wealth. In this inequality some groups get some privileges and some are not. The elite section of the society is considered as a privilege group or class and they are the mainstream of the society. Often it is observed that elites are more benefitted by Ethnicity. So it is a fact that the elite section of the society created ethnicity for their better interest. On the other hand, the ethnic groups feel that they are relatively or comparatively deprived from the

³ Sharma K.L., "INDIAN SOCIAL STRUCTURE AND CHANGE", Rawat Publication, Jaipur, 2007, reprint 2011, page no-11

elites or mainstream of the society. So Ethnicity is viewed as an ideology which emerged among some groups and often considered as one of the driving force for bringing any change in the cultural dimensions of Indian society. Ethnocentrism is important in Ethnicity. It is equally important to remember that Ethnocentrism is found in all human groups or all human society.

A by-product of the feeling of oneness shared by members of Ethnic groups are varying degrees of Ethnocentrism. It is the price a member of a particular ethnic group pays for the emotional satisfaction, an identity and a way of life such membership affords. Paul Brass in his famous work 'Ethnicity and Nationalism Theory and Comparison' also mentioned that Ethnicity is not given it is socially created. According to him Ethnicity and Nationalism are not given rather social and political construction. This Ethnicity is a threat for national integration. It gives rise to various ethnic movements. So the consequences of Ethnicity are that various ethnic movements have been developed. In India basically among the Hindus there is a caste system.

In this caste system there is Ethnicity. So in recent times it is viewed that Ethnicity is developed among the lower caste people and the consequences are that there are various backward caste movements started in India. In this main theme is deprivation not identity. But in some cases we find that Ethnicity is emerged among some groups as a result of identity crisis. The anthropologists observed that Bodos of Assam are one of the largest



ethnic groups living in Assam. They also observed that there are some small ethnic groups who have been living in Assam before Bodos and Ahoms. In recent times it is seen that now Ethnicity is developed among the Bodos of Assam and for that Bodo movement started in Assam. As a result of this movement 'Bodo Territorial Council (BTC)' has formed. In this context it is important to understand about the Kashmiri Pandits issue. Since late 1989, the Indian State of Jammu and Kashmir has been in the grip of a violent and brutal movement of Islamist extremist terrorism. In this conflict many lives have been lost. This movement is often viewed as a process of ethnic cleansing and as a result of which Kashmiri Pandits were harassed out of the Kashmir Valley.⁴ In this context we can also mention the Subaltern studies. Ranjit Guha has also discussed about the subaltern studies. Simply subaltern means the mass people and they challenge the elite section of the society. This new approach highlights the masses.

⁴ www.satp.org, assessed on 8th of June 2022 at 7.40pm.

CONCLUSION:

So Ethnicity is viewed as an instrument of social transformation or mobilization for realizing the facts of social, economic, political and cultural goals of a particular ethnic group. It is often used as a cultural phenomenon. Relative deprivation is the root cause of Ethnicity. In this Relative Deprivation theory, we find that some social groups may take undue advantage because of their superior social origins and on the other hand some groups may feel deprived by the privilege groups or by the mainstream of the society. This relative or comparative deprivation and identity crisis are the two main domains which actually fuel Ethnicity in Indian society and create threat for national integration. So it is important to discuss all these things. Government has to initiate some positive steps to decrease the feeling of Ethnicity.

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PRESERVATION AND CONSERVATION OF ARCHIVAL DOCUMENTS IN THE DIGITAL ERA: A STUDY OF THE ARCHIVE CENTRES of GUWAHATI CITY

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ABSTRACT:

Archive is a specific location or a place where the old relevant documents like records, books, files, reports etc., are preserved and conserved using variety of technologies. Preservation and conservation of archival materials has become very crucial to restore it from loss, decay, mutilation and theft and thereby increase their longevity for future use. However, it has become a great challenge to integrate the manual measures of preservation and the emerging new preservative technologies. This paper highlights the present status of the archives of Kamrup metro, the traditional and emerging approaches of preservation and conservation of archival documents, need of digital preservation of archives in this global digital information environment and their limitations.

KEYWORDS: Archive, preservation and conservation, digital preservation, digital library software.

- 1. INTRODUCTION:** The primary objective of archives is to preserve the important and unique old documents like records, books, files, reports, photographs, tapes, CDs etc., and thereby increase their longevity for use in research and other fields using the two methods namely preservation and conservation. Preservation and conservation are like the two sides of a coin where preservation deals with regular maintenance and conservation deals with remedial treatment and restoration of the mutilated specimen. In the present era, we are facing new challenges in maintaining and preserving the electronic and the rare fragile materials which are of much social importance. The fragile, rare and materials, documents artifacts etc., need to be protected from deterioration and mutilation with the help of the technical knowledge of trained staff.
- 2. OBJECTIVES:** The primary objective of the study is to focus on the status of the archives and their routine functions and services and to understand the problems and priorities. The specific objectives of the study are:
 - 2.1. To study the present state of preservation and conservation of libraries that maintains separate archive sections and that of Government archives.



- 2.2. To highlight the emerging approaches of preservation and conservation of archival documents.
- 2.3. To emphasize the necessity of digital preservation of archives in this global digital era.
- 2.4. To reflect the limitations of the same.

3. SCOPE: This study is concentrated to some of the archives of Guwahati city only. The author has selected, viz, Assam State Archive, Department of Historical and Antiquarian Studies Library (DHAS), Assam Administrative Staff College Library, District Library, Guwahati, Council of Baptist Churches in N.E India, Guwahati (CBCNEI), Doordarshan Kendra Tape Library, Guwahati, All India Radio Library, Guwahati, Assam Textile Institute Library.

Dr. Hiranya Chandra Bhuyan Memorial Reference Library (Directorate of Library Services, Assam), Archival Cell & Manuscript Section (K.K. Handique Library), Media Trust Library, Ananda Chandra Agarwala Library (Assam State Museum), Zonal Archive (Akashvani & Doordarshan), NER, Indian Council of Historical Research (ICHR), Guwahati. The author selected 14 Archives of Guwahati City of which only nine (09) responses were received from Libraries and Archives. The present study received 90% response from the Librarians/Directors/In-charges of the libraries which maintain archival cells.

4. METHODOLOGY: The author has collected primary information from questionnaire-based survey and personal interview of the librarians, archivists, directors of 14 Archives of Guwahati City. A short well-structured questionnaire was sent to each of these archives and was personally visited and little information was collected over telephonic interview. The data thus collected from the various selected sources has been carefully analyzed and presented in tabular form on which the information was sought and thus conclusions were drawn.

5. STATUS OF PRESERVATION AND CONSERVATION OF THE ARCHIVES OF GUWAHATI CITY:

Dr. S.R. Ranganathan, the father of Library Science, in his first Law of Library Science which says that books are for use, emphasizes on the greater dissemination of library materials. The application of this law is possible only when the documents are in good and legible condition. So to meet the continuous demand of the documents it is of utmost importance to preserve and conserve the old relevant specimens. The study which has been carried out within Guwahati city constitutes the primary data for analysis and interpretation. Table 1. Shows the list of the archives which were surveyed.



Table. 1. List of the Libraries/Archives surveyed

Sl.No	NAME OF THE LIBRARY/ARCHIVE CENTERS	YEAR OF ESTABLISHMENT
1.	Assam State Archive	1980
2.	Department of Historical and Antiquarian Studies Library(DHAS)	1928
3.	Assam Administrative Staff College Library	1961
4.	Directorate of Library Services , Guwahati	1974
5.	Council of Baptist Churches in N.E India(CBCNEI)	
6.	Doordarshan Kendra Tape Library	1985
7.	All India Radio	1948
8.	Assam Textile Institute	1920
9.	Archival Cell and Manuscript section, K.K. Handique Library	1954

5.1. **LIBRARY/ARCHIVE COLLECTION:** The most essential factor of any library is its collection. If the collection of a library or archive is efficient and satisfactory to the needs of the users, the image of the library or archive shall automatically reflect. The following Table 2 & Table 3 shows the variety of collections of the surveyed archives.

Table 2

Sl.No	Name of Library/Archive	Back Volumes	Reference Books	Manuscript	Government Records	Proceedings	Reports	Monographs
1.	Assam State Archive	400	0	75	0	363	7403	61
2.	Department of Historical and Antiquarian Studies Library(DHAS)	200	0	2800	0	0	110	0
3.	Assam Administrative Staff College Library	Data not provided	50000+	0	Data not provided	0	200+	0
4.	Directorate of Library Services , Guwahati	Data not provided	0	10	Data not provided	0	0	0
5.	Council of Baptist Churches in N.E India(CBCNEI)	40	30	17	129	132	46	12
6.	Doordarshan Kendra Tape Library	Data not provided	1691	0	0	0	0	0
7.	All India Radio	5000	9500	2000	4000	1500	3000	500
8.	Assam Textile Institute	154	2850	72	14	162	0	0



9.	Archival Cell and Manuscript section, K.K. Handique Library	Data not provided	Data not provided	4500	Data not provided	Data not provided	42351	Data not provided
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Table 3:

Sl. no	Name of Library/Archive	Gazettes	Historical Books	Acts	CDs/audio/video cassettes	Rare Books	Maps	Microform	Old Newspaper/magazine
1.	Assam State Archive	1800	479	1198	0	146	1735	0	1062
2.	Department of Historical and Antiquarian Studies Library (DHAS)	200	19500	0	154	1300	20	0	1200
3.	Assam Administrative Staff College Library	0	0	0	83	0	0	0	12/29
4.	Directorate of Services, Guwahati	0	2135	914	0	4575	0	0	756
5.	Council of Baptist Churches in N.E India (CBCNEI)	114	52	87	102	20	11	19	70
6.	Doordarshan Kendra Tape Library	0	0	0	24345	50	0	0	10 issues
7.	All India Radio	500	8000	0	40000	5000	50	0	2 issues
8.	Assam Textile Institute	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	64
9.	Archival Cell and Manuscript section, K.K. Handique Library	Data not provided	Data not provided	Data not provided	55	Data not provided	Data not provided	Data not provided	Data not provided

The above data shows non uniformity and inadequacy in collection development in all the surveyed libraries. Only All India Radio maintains a good collection.

5.2. MANPOWER STRUCTURE: A very crucial resource of any organization is its staff as it provides all possible aids to its users. A trained and dedicated staff is an invaluable asset of any library or archive. The following table.4 shows the manpower structure of the archives

Table. 4. Manpower Structure

Sl.No	Name of Library/Archive	Professional	Non-professional	Others
1.	Assam State Archive	10	19	10
2.	Department of Historical and Antiquarian Studies Library(DHAS)	1	1	2
3.	Assam Administrative Staff College Library	2	7	0
4.	Directorate of Library Services ,Guwahati	2	2	2
5.	Council of Baptist Churches in N.E India(CBCNEI)	0	1	3
6.	Doordarshan Kendra Tape Library	2	1	0
7.	All India Radio	2	2	0
8.	Assam Textile Institute	1	0	1
9.	Archival Cell and Manuscript section, K.K.Handique Library		2	1

The table above clearly depicts that there is a lack of proportionate and technically trained staff pattern in the libraries and archives surveyed.

5.3. FINANCIAL SOURCES: Though library is a non-profit organization yet it is supposed to be a growing organism. However, it cannot grow and develop without sufficient funds. Moreover, to keep pace with the latest technologies, adequate fund is a big need of every library and archive. Preservation and conservation methods need various equipment and technologies. Therefore, a well-structured budget and judicious selection of the specimen is very essential to accomplish this noble service. The table 5 below shows the financial position of the surveyed archives.

Table 5. Financial Status

Sl. No	Name of Library/Archive	Annual Budget Allocated (amount in lakhs)	Financial Sources (State/Central/Donation/Others)	Fund for Digitization
1.	Assam State Archive	Data Not provided	State and Central	0
2.	DHAS	2,00000lakhs-3,00000lakhs per year	Govt. of Assam	0
3.	Assam Administrative Staff College Library	Data not found	Data not found	0
4.	Directorate of Library Services	Data not provided	Govt. of Assam	0
5.	CBCNEI	1,20000	Mission Headquarter, Tangkhul	0
6.	Doordarshan Kendra Tape Library	Data not provided	Prasar Bharati	0
7.	All India Radio	Data not provided	Directorate AIR	<input type="checkbox"/>
8.	Assam Textile Institute	Data not provided	Govt of Assam	0
9.	Archival Cell and Manuscript section, KKH L	60,000	Govt of Assam	0

The above data indicates that there is dearth of financial aid for preservation and conservation of archival documents in the surveyed libraries which maintain archive centers. Most of them receive State Government aids but no extra funds are allocated.

for digitization except the All India Radio Library which gets a sound amount for digitization.

5.4 USE OF PRESERVATION AND CONSERVATION METHODS: The modern technology has developed a variety of measures to protect the physical forms of records and ensure their durability and security such as fumigation, *lamination*, *microfilming*, *binding*, *photocopying*, *enclosures*, *encapsulation*, *digitization etc.* Some of these measures can be manually undertaken while few others are expensive or time consuming. The measures which are easy to use do not require much training while there are certain methods which require special training under the supervision of a trained conservator. The table no.6 shows the use of various methods to preserve and conserve the valuable documents.

Table 6. Application of preservation methods

Sl. No	Name of Library/Archive	Fumigation	Lamination	Microfilming	Binding	Digital Photocopying machine	Enclosures & Boxes	Encapsulation	Digitization
1.	Assam State Archive	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.	DHAS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-	-	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.	Assam Administrative Staff College Library	Data not found	Data not found	Data not found	Data not found	Data not found	Data not found	Data not found	Data not found
4.	Directorate of Library Services	<input type="checkbox"/>	-	-	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-	-	-
5.	CBCNEI	<input type="checkbox"/>	-	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-	<input type="checkbox"/>	-	<input type="checkbox"/>
6.	Doordarshan Kendra Tape Library	<input type="checkbox"/>	-	-	-	-	-	-	<input type="checkbox"/>
7.	All India Radio	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-	-	<input type="checkbox"/>
8.	AssamTextile Institute	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-	-	-
9.	Archival Cell & Manuscript section,K.K.HL	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-	<input type="checkbox"/>	-	<input type="checkbox"/>	-

The table no.6 highlights the use of various preservative and conservative methods and technologies used in the surveyed libraries and archives.

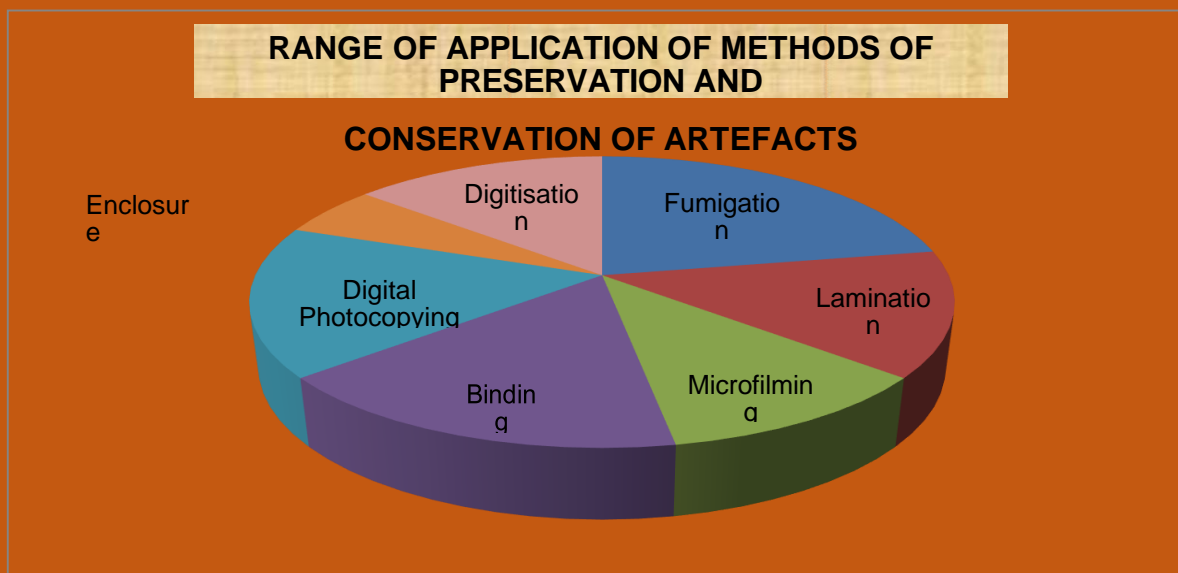


Figure 1: RANGE OF APPLICATION OF METHODS OF PRESERVATION AND CONSERVATION OF ARTEFACTS

The above figure shows the range of use of methods of preservation and conservation of valuable documents. The fig states that only 14% of the archive centers have been digitized while most of the archives use the traditional methods only.

6. EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES OF ARCHIVAL PRESERVATION:

With the change in society, the way of archiving also has changed from traditional to digital era. Application of information technology to Library and Information Science has provided wider opportunities in archiving and accessing knowledge in the digitized form besides conservation and preservation of the traditional knowledge. The author in this article has discussed mainly three emerging methods of preservation and conservation of archival documents

- 6.1. **ENCLOSURES:** The traditional method of storing manuscripts poses certain problems. Therefore, special types of devices called Enclosures are used to keep records. Enclosures are acid-free paper folders, boxes or plastic sleeves. They are specially used to store records and protect them from damage. Enclosures provide better physical protection, helps to absorb harmful gaseous emissions, keep the records free of noxious chemicals or products. Materials stored in enclosures can be easily stored and removed without any damage. Archives are required to make use of the highest quality of enclosures. According to table no.6 only Assam State Archive and CBCNEI uses this method to preserve manuscripts; old reports, rare books etc. Fig.2 & 3 are the images of enclosure folders and boxes for preservation of rare documents.



Fig.2: Enclosure Folder



Fig.3: Enclosure Boxes

6.2.ENCAPSULATION: Encapsulation is type of commercial ‘pockets’. This method of preservation is mainly used to preserve fragile or brittle materials and thereby

helps to reduce the chance of mutilation while handling of items. Unlike lamination, encapsulation can be easily reversed by cutting off the edge seal and holding the polyester sheets together and then removes the item. The edges are sealed by the use of a small polyester welding machine. Heat and ultrasonic sealing technique may also be used for encapsulation. However, one has to purchase these technologies and at the same time should also be trained for their maintenance.

Fig.4: The process of encapsulation





Fig.5: Tools used for Encapsulation: White cotton gloves, polyester encapsulation film, double-sided encapsulating tape, weights, bone folders and scissors.

1.1. DIGITIZATION: In the present era, libraries and archives have drifted their collections from print version to technological alternatives in the form of e-book, films, film-strips, microfilms, microfiches, optical discs, sound recordings, magnetic media, and so on. To supersede print version, a relatively new concept, digitization has been introduced to preserve the useful items for future. Digital libraries have the potential to store large information, simply because digital information requires very little physical space to contain it. The building and maintenance cost of a digital library is much less than a traditional library.

Table.7: Status of Digitization of the Nine Libraries and archives

Sl.no	Name of Library/Archive	Software Used	Total Records	Total records Digitized	Status of digitization
1.	Assam State Archive	N.A	6 lakhs	47107	Scanning is on process
2.	DHAS	IGNCA	23800	2800	Scanning is on process
3.	Assam Administrative Staff College Library	N.A	50000	N.A	Not yet
4.	Directorate of Library Services	N.A	36566	N.A	Under process

5.	CBCNEI	GSDL	1298	1088	Scanning is on process
6.	Doordarshan Kendra Tape Library	ARCLIB	22845	780	Partially
7.	All India Radio	NETIA	40000	25000	Partially
8.	Assam Textile Institute	N.A	3316	N.A	On process
9.	Archival Cell and Manuscript section, K.K.H.L	N.A	4500	1496	In CD form

The above table highlights the status digitization of the nine libraries and archive centers wherein it may be seen that only six (6) archive centers have started the process of digitizing their documents. Four libraries have installed digital library software and are under process. In this context, the author in this article has tried to highlight the steps of digitization, hardware and software requirements.

1.1.1. INFRASTRUCTURE: For creating a digital library we may use the following hardware and software:

1.1.1.1 Hardware: a) Scanner- (Book Scanner of superior quality)

b) Computer

c) Storage device-i) CPU

ii) USB external hard disk device (preferably 1TB or more)

6.3.1.2. Software: Right information, at the right time, and to the right person is only possible, if one chooses right technologies. In current digital era, open source software provides a solution for archiving digital documents for long-term preservation and access

6.3.1.3. Steps of digitization: Digitization is especially done to preserve rare documents that are out of print and rare and valuable resources like manuscripts, pictures and paintings, reports etc. Manuscripts are digitized by scanning an item and saving it to a digital format. The process of digitization includes the following steps:

- a) **Scanning:** Scanning is the process of transforming the selected resources into electronic format (image form). It is quite expensive and time consuming for the organizations to digitize their holdings again and again. Moreover, original documents may get damaged from the handling and exposure to bright light required for digitization. Keeping in view the above point, 'scan once' (of the original documents) and create a master document for future use may be the best solution.
- b) **Editing:** It includes the corrections of the document text and layout to avoid mistakes.
- c) **Encryption:** This step enables the owner to restrict reproduction of the contents and thereby provides security of the library.
- d) **Storage:** After editing the images and texts the backup of the scanned documents is to be taken in the USB external hard disk device (preferably 1TB) and also create PDF files of the



same.

- e) **Digitization Policy:** The library committee has to select suitable digital library software for the creation of a Digital library and also appoint proportionate and technically trained staff for the same.
- f) **Software selection:** Suitable and user friendly digital library software should be selected and installed as well. A well-structured digital library will provide greater benefit in remote access of the rare and valuable documents. It will also minimize the problem of space for physical storage of documents.

2 **SUGGESTIONS:** From the study the author have come to the following conclusion and forwards few suggestions for upliftment of the libraries and archival centers of Guwahati city.

2.1. It is the need of the hour for all types of organizations to spread the awareness, education, training policies and the treatment options available for preservation and conservation of archives.

2.2. The dearth of archives within the libraries needs to be resolved. It has become very crucial to preserve the rare documents which are found to be useful for the future.

7.3 The proper skill development and training of preservation is a pre-requisite of every organization. The field survey has revealed that majority of staff lacks proper training and knowledge of preservation and conservation. Moreover, they also lack knowledge about emerging technologies and as such reluctant to implement them.

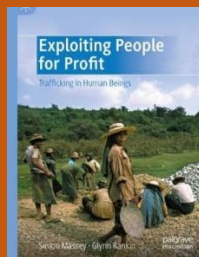
7.4. Proper policy is required to improve the conditions of the existing archives. As such the authorities should take steps to formulate policies and programmes for conservation and preservation of archives.

3 **CONCLUSION:** The study reveals that the libraries and archival centers of Guwahati city are yet to develop a lot in the field of preservation and conservation of documents for future use. Majority of the libraries are reluctant to use the emerging technologies of preservation and conservation of the artifacts as such they are in a very pathetic condition. Every library needs to maintain an archive section and serious attention is to be paid to preserve the rare collections and thereby protect them from loss and deterioration.



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BOOK REVIEW (EXPLOITING PEOPLE FOR PROFIT) FIRST EDITION

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Book Review

Simon Massey and Glynn Rankin, *Exploiting People for Profit: Trafficking in Human Beings* (Palgrave, Mc Millan, 2020), 139pp. Rs. 4,614, ISBN-978-1-137-43412-8

Human Trafficking is a global crime purportedly rising in today's time after the world has turned into a global village. The unlawful act of recruitment, transfer and harboring of people transnationally or within a nation through force, fraud or deception for exploitation of the trafficked physically, mentally, psychologically, sexually and emotionally for profit, covers the broader phenomenon of Human Trafficking. The jargon between Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery is referred to in the context of UK in the spectacular and empirical work of Massey and Rankin, *Exploiting People for Profit*, in a clear, synchronized and detailed manifestation of seamless Chapterization of 5, regarding what Human Trafficking demands, analyzing its conceptual philosophy, the loggerhead between smuggling and trafficking and most significantly the strength and loopholes in the international and national legal standards behind prosecution and prevention. Lastly as a reader it is appreciative how the authors have dedicated to transfer the readers mentally to a 'zone of darkness' where the victim's life undergoes through and also hindrances behind a life of rights and dignity.

The authors have followed a descriptive methodology to explain and proceed with the details of Human Trafficking widely prevalent in a First Class country like UK. They have taken efforts to differentiate between Human Trafficking and Modern slavery where the second has occupied a space



in the country's laws. Modern slavery is a new form of transfer of people where contemporary form of labor and sexual exploitation ostensibly resembled historical manifestation of slavery and the Modern Slavery Act of UK, has turned out to be useless to curb the dangerous and vindictive indicators of modern slavery. Because of the multi-stage criminal activity, Human trafficking and the difficulty behind investigation and prosecution and adoption of Anti- Trafficking measures by UK bear minimum fruits as politically it was under EU, where inter-state movement amongst the EU nations was Visa free. And permit free. Smuggling¹ is a term which the authors tried to clear when used synonymously with trafficking. Conceptual and contextual definitions of the terms are clarified by the authors to further enunciate situations of Human Trafficking and Smuggling. Consensus and autonomy is the prime juggernaut in such terminologies where smuggling dominates the crime scene of UK. This book has made impactful reference regarding the sanctity of the UK's legal obligations and its aftereffects of BREXIT in renouncing one of its overruling crime scene of Human Trafficking.

The **Introductory Chapter, *Human Trafficking in Context***, reflects about the underrated research and subsequent reporting of Human Trafficking as a most infamous crime. UN Trafficking Protocol does not mostly match with UK and its local phenomenology of Modern slavery. Action, Means and Purpose has been formulated by the CoE Convention on Human Trafficking which is irrelevant in the context of modern day trafficking and especially in UK. One pertinent reality behind trafficking and smuggling which sits fit in both the situation are the push factors and pull factors. The shift from loss in the place of origin to a destination of hope belies tragedy and sometimes even death for the trafficked who gets trapped in for profit of the exploiters. The several international legal efforts by the UN and other Conventions are exhorting the pull factors more than the push factors which sets the trap for a transferred individual as a trafficked or smuggled victim. The authors have taken efforts to distinguish between Smuggling of Migrants(SOM) and Human Trafficking widely, in the **Second Chapter, *Difference Between Smuggling and Trafficking***, which are two sides of the same coin. Smuggling unlike Human Trafficking is a voluntary initiation by the smuggled victims in lieu of payment to the smuggler, where the freedom to continue or exit from a smuggled situation is in the disposal of the victim. Here, address to a smuggled victim is a criminal in itself, who has trespassed an international border illegally and violating international laws. The nexus between Trafficking and Smuggling has two things in common –the push factors and the pull factors but the journey of transportation determine the contextual transfer. But the lack of identification as two different spectrum of Human Rights violation by UN Palermo Protocol on Human Trafficking.

The **Third Chapter, *Pursuing Human Traffickers***, provides a practical denudation on how the global crime of Human Trafficking needs to get a light for investigation and prosecution. However, this is not enough, because being a multi-stage crime, only with physical and human



resources cannot suffice, it also requires law enforcement by trained specialist to ensure justice through pro-active measures. Simultaneously, the Human Rights of the victims is often neglected in the investigation process. Emphasizing upon Feminist thinker's perspectives, has led them to turn an eye towards how Human Trafficking is a gender biased crime. Case Management comprises specialized processes or structures that ensures efficient progression of cases where proper and correct information is received without causing double jeopardy of the victims while adopting investigation technique like interview to ensure a peaceful behavior during the process. But in the context of UK, after BREXIT, it is not sure if UK will have influence on the EU's counter-trafficking strategy². The BREXIT, has left many uncertainties and unsurity regarding its independent approach towards breaking down the racket of Human Trafficking within its nation.

The **Chapter 4, *Protecting the Victims***, is an extension of the substance on which the previous chapter pondered upon the victim rights. Special discussion is made regarding the female victims who are prone to double jeopardy, one during being trafficked and other, after being rescued, during the investigation process in the court of law when the investigator's insensitive behavior towards the interviewee can subject the entire process in vain. By denoting Human Trafficking as 'global health crisis' the feminist thinkers meant the mentally, emotionally, cognitively, physically, sexually, retardation of the victims³.

The authors have convincingly made their points in order to put forward a clear picture regarding the Human Trafficking scene in UK. In England and Wales, survivors experience medium to long-term physical, sexual mental health problems, including injuries sexually transmitted infections a probable depression like PTSD⁴. The book has made suggestions even for other countries by presenting the UK Human Trafficking scenario to the authorizes of the states for restitution and reintegration into the society through social and community support. Article 26 of COE, 'non-punishment provision' means that victims must be not to be punished although involved in unlawful activities. Non-punishment of victims is very important to encourage the act of witness in criminal proceedings against the perpetrators. According to UNODC, SOP, Right to self-determination and empowerment of victims is important. National Referral Mechanism (NRM) is a cooperative framework to allow states to identify victims of Human Trafficking and ensure they receive proper protection and support. All such recommendations made are efforts of the authors to the UK government in pointing out their failure to combat the global crime scene from their nation.

In the **Chapter 5, *Preventing Human Trafficking***, an analysis has been made regarding the actual application and extent of success of the Preventive mechanisms of Human Trafficking in the context of UK. For each individual jurisdiction, efforts must be made to formulate lawful mechanisms for criminal justice operatives which are not unanimous. Outdated laws are not feasible for including the new form of Human Trafficking taking place in the recent times in the UK. Efforts to tackle human trafficking in Europe are relatively recent and have not, as yet, been subjected to rigorous impact evaluation⁵. There is only limited systematic research into the impacts of anti-



trafficking initiatives. Such research has been avoided due to its inherent expense and difficulty, and has been hindered by problems of methodological nationalism, the absence of a comparative dimension and difficulties in tracing impact. As with the other elements of an effective counter-trafficking strategy, prevention should be concentrated on the victim in the context of a Human Rights approach.

The authors argue that UK, considered as one of the most developed nations of the world, has a dark image of Human Trafficking at an intense rate. Illicit transnational transfer of people has caused most trafficked to be at loss in UK, after succumbing to an unknown, vulnerable situation different from the expectations. The endeavor to take the readers through the UK Anti-Trafficking measures and the extent of applicability of the UN and COE's programs and international conventions, broadly elucidate the underground crime of Human Trafficking and exploitation of people by enlisting dreamy pull factors. The consciousness of the readers is tired to be measured when the authors interrogated regarding the sanctity of criminality of smuggling and trafficking, by elaborately putting forward the differences in between the two terms in the context of UK.

Besides generating an awareness and persuasive thought process towards reporting, mitigation and stricter civil and criminal laws amongst the public and authorities through the book, it has also tried to put the readers into the shoes of the victims and their atrocious life when being trafficked or even after their rescue. The book has a qualitative orientation in its proceedings when the authors empathized with the victim's propensity for a conducive environment for their testimony. The book is in the form of a guide for the Prosecutors to be active, alert, responsible and friendly towards the victims in their investigation process. The authors limit themselves to UK in discussing about this form of exploitation of people mainly because a partnership effort to collectively squeeze out the menace of Human Trafficking. Moreover, UK is not transparent in formulating its independent laws after BREXIT, therefore, there is intimidation not only in UK but also amongst the other nations, on how efficiently and independently UK without EU can arrest the safe haven for Trafficking.

One of the spectacular remark of this book is that the authors have tried to cover the complex crime of Human Trafficking very concisely with details and have impinged the readers to re –consider about their respective state's position and lawful provision in ameliorating of the chain of Human Trafficking.

However, while the message and acclamation conveyed through the book will reach out to several audiences but it will be an eye-opener for the Ministry of Law and Order, Anti-Crime Bureau, Social Justice Organizations, Women Development Cells, Rehabilitation Centers, Inter-State Surveillance Bodies, police and most importantly the victims within the community from where they and the traffickers belong.



When pondered upon the content of the book from a critical lens, as readers, the validation of the references made in the context of Human Trafficking in UK is minimum and less convincing. If shown the statistical representations and graphs, after each UN and the respective UK Anti-Trafficking Conventions, it would have been more comprehensible for the readers to understand the scenario of Human Trafficking in quantitative context to assume as one of the notorious crime. Secondly, the book is simply an elaboration without any target audience, for which the gravity of the content has the possibility for being taken for granted during leisure reading by the readers. Most importantly, the authors have not made a very inductive reasoning, by confining the world-wide prevalent crime of Human Trafficking to only UK.

The book, *Exploiting People for Profit*, is however, a useful and informative text for someone who are naïve to the underpinnings of Transnational Human Trafficking and more conducive to further research regarding it in context of their nation and region.

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DIGITAL PRESERVATION IN LIBRARIES

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Abstract-

This paper mainly discussed about the several digital preservation strategies need of digital preservation and also explained that the benefits and challenges of digital preservation in libraries.

Keyword- Digital Preservation, Bit-Stream copying, Refreshing, Migration, Emulation.

Introduction

Presenting and archiving digital content is one of the most important concerns of libraries, whether they have acquired it through subscription, purchased it as digital media or covered it internally.

Preserving digital materials is an essential component of ensuring their accessibility for as long as possible. Digital preservation involves ensuring the permanence, usability, and intellectual integrity of the information it contains by preserving it digitally. Unlike printed publications, digital preservation is more complex as one has to take care of many aspects of the documents such as presentation, content, authenticity, functionality etc.

Definition

According to the American Library Association, digital preservation refers to strategies, actions, and policies that ensure the accessibility of digital content over time. Harrods Library Glossary defines digital preservation as keeping electronic resources alive even after technological advances make the original software and hardware specifications obsolete (Wikipedia).

A digital preservation facility is defined as one that preserves digital information long-term, error-free and easily retrievable and interpretable for the entire time period for which the data is required. Defining long term means taking into consideration the impact of changing technologies, including supporting new formats of media and data or accommodating a changing user base.



Strategy for digital preservation

- a) **Bit stream copy**- Bit stream is commonly known as ‘data backup’. It is not a method of long term archiving. Bit stream stores the binary code of digital resources. An original and duplicate are typically stored together in remote storage to prevent loss in the event of a catastrophe.
- b) **Refreshing**- Refreshing is the process of transferring digital information from one long term storage device to another. So that no changes or alterations to the data occur. This addresses the problem of degradation of the physical storage media.
- c) **Permanent or durable media**- This permanent or durable media reduces the need for refreshing and helps with losses due to media deterioration, which requires careful handling, temperature and humidity control and proper storage. For example- gold CD.
- d) **Migration**- Migration is a time consuming and costly process. It is the process of moving digital objects from one type of hardware or software to another or from one generation of computer to another. e.g. conversion from windows to Linux.
- e) **Replication** - This term refers to several digital preservation techniques. Bit stream is one form of replication. Emulation is the replication of the functionality of an old system.
- f) **Emulation**- Emulation is an opposite form of migration. Van der Hoeven explains that emulation is not focused on the digital resources, but rather on the software and hardware environment in which the object is reproduced. Emulation is a technology based strategy that requires a deep understanding of hardware and software.
- g) **Technology preservation**- Technology preservation is also referred to as “computer museum”. Technology preservation is very expensive, so small institutions cannot afford it.

Needs of digital preservation

- a) In the digital age, there are rapid technological changes that impact ongoing digital materials.
- b) Physical deterioration.
- c) It is essential that digital data is permanently accessible, usable, and intellectually intact.
- d) Huge amount of digital information, especially in the field of science and technology.
- e) Abundance of formats and standards.



Benefits of digital preservation

- a) Maintaining digital materials for long time.
- b) Migration of information.
- c) Restoration of documents to their original form.
- d) Connecting people worldwide through free online access.
- e) Making digital resources available for present and future use.

Challenges of digital preservation

Digital preservation refers to the process of actively preserving data that has been stored digitally. The formalization of library and archival science includes the development of digital preservation techniques for preserving information in the event of medium failures and hardware and software obsolescence.

Librarians and archivists must face many challenges when it comes to preserving digital resources. Content can be easily created and kept up-to-date using digital media, but preserving such content is both economically and technologically challenging.

In contrast to linear objects such as photographs or books, in which the user has direct access to the content, digital objects always require a software environment to operate. It is difficult to keep up with the rapid changes that occur in these environments, making continuity of access to content difficult. Storage media, hardware, software, and data formats become obsolete over time, posing a significant threat to content's survival. Digital obsolescence is the result of this process.

Digital preservation efforts face significant challenges due to the vast and growing amount of content created digitally. It is possible for outdated machinery or technology to hinder digital preservation working technologies because of rapidly changing technology. Digital archivists are constantly concerned about how to prepare for the future, which has become an everyday problem.

Conclusion

Digital preservation presents itself as an enormous challenge in the digital age. A legal environment that enables the preservation of digital information is essential if digital information is to be preserved. Furthermore, it means that organizations must take responsibility for preserving knowledge by developing new strategies and creating economic resources.



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TITLE OF THE PAPER: RITUALS, LAW AND PERSONHOOD: A STUDY FROM THE GENDERD PERSPECTIVE

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Abstract:

Women, most of the time are always treated as a marginalized section of the society, the violence towards women are comparatively more than man, although there are laws and regulation in the society but it's the mindset that need to be change towards a more balanced society. Rituals are a part of societal life but it has been seen that many sacred rituals are only performed by the male member of the society where as the women works as the helper in most of the domestic households only. The structured violence rate is also a threat towards the women in the society. Awareness should be created more in the rural and urban areas towards the law and women should be empowered from all aspects. This also includes the findings where in practicality the scene of the women has been depicted. This research is completely qualitative in nature using both primary and secondary data.

Key words: Rituals, women, Law, Violence

Introduction:

India is known for its diversified customs, cultures places etc. Although we are living in 21st century, a technological era but as we are societal being we have to accept some norms and customs of the society. The human right commission has cited that violation of basic human rights is threat to humanity. women are getting the 33% reservation keeping on the perspective that women of the society can come out but it has been observed that women are regarded as the weaker sections, most of the societal being have this belief. We have seen that in small villages the decision making power is directly or indirectly vested to the male members. Although where the decision is taken that place may be *naamghor* or *mandir* which have to take care by the female

members but when it comes to make a decision the male member get the voice unquestionably. The number of cases registered is 3.23 million (Under section 498 A of the Indian Penal Code 1860, report 2019)



Review of Literature:

Dr. Anuradha Sarma in her book '*Naari Porixor*' stated in Indian society Seeta Maa is being worshipped as an ideal woman. She is known because of her patience. This traditional society wants every girl to have patience and abide by the male members it may be husband father or son. In Assamese society in the day of *Lakshmi Purnima* the womenfolk keep the fast to be an ideal woman for her husband. In the Lakshmi Purana the qualities of a women are being described such as she should talk less and she should worship her husband. The funeral rituals are always performed by the son not by the daughter but the sacred thread ceremony (*upanayan*) included gayatri mantra is only the boys not for the girls. Also the menstrual taboo for girls is still relevant in our society. Although our constitution has provided equal rights but in social space we have seen that women's rights get violated. Women are a stronger section of society they claim their space and right. Also the unpaid household work is done by the maximum women there are some law such as domestic violence act 2005. The Indian govt has passed pre conception and pre-natal diagnostic technique act PNDT in 1994 to ban and punish prenatal sex screening female feticide. Dowry prohibition act 1961, for example in Assam the womenfolk is prohibited to enter in the Barpeta Kirtanghar, which was established by Madhavdeva.

Amartya Sen in his masterpiece *The Argumentative Indian* explores the unexplored side of women of being critical, questioning the men and showing their intellectual side often neglected by scholars. Here, he gives instances of Gargi questioning Yagyavalkya and even Yagyavalkya's wife Maitreyi questioning him on the immortality through wealth acquisition. There is also a reference to Draupadi's instigating Yudhistir to fight in the battle.

Beteille stated that rights and trust are both indispensable constituents of collective life and that "an excessive emphasis on trust may lead to the rights of some members being ignored and repeatedly violated." Laws in India are created based on the principles of equality whereas our customs are permeated by hierarchical ideas, beliefs and values. He also added the study of law is well established in societies that are complex and that have well defined institutions, whereas the study of custom is often the preserve of the anthropologist studying simple societies that are pre literate.

From Vandana Shiva's Perspective women's liberation cannot be achieved without a simultaneous struggle for the preservation and liberation of all life on this planet from the dominant patriarchal/capitalist worldview (Mies and Shiva, 16)

Navtej Singh Johar vs Union of India the. Secretary Ministry of Law and Justice: This is a landmark judgment of 2018 which have discriminated any kind of sex which is consensual between adults including homosexual by curbing section 377. The court not only found it violation of right to equality but apologized the entire community through its statement "History owes an apology".



Justice K.S. Puttaswamy (Retd.) and Anr.vs Union of India and Ors: In this landmark judgement the supreme court of India held that article 14, article 19 and article 20 protects right to privacy as fundamental constitutional right.

In the previous 12 months, 243 million women and girls (aged 15-49) across the world have been subjected to sexual or physical violence by an intimate partner (UN Report)

Research objectives:

1. How womenfolk are being treated from Vedic period to postmodern period in Assam.
1. To make people aware of the law and to prevent gender based discrimination in society for humankind.
2. To contribute to the society through this research also understanding and analyzing this issues.

Research questions:

1. Why the sacred rituals are being performed by the male but the customs taboos only for women.
2. Why in the grass root level womenfolk do not enjoy their law, different rights.

Methodology:

In this research I will use this methodology

1. Observation: The study is compelled through participant observation. Because it enables to record “natural behavior” of the respondents (W.J. Goode and P.K. Hatt, 1981). During my fieldwork, I will use observation method to record the community people’s viewpoint.
2. Group interview: Group interviews are especially productive, as the folk talk to each other. Memories can be triggered, facts can be verified, and more and more information and thoughts can be shared.
3. Personal interview: Interview is simply analytical conversation in nature (W.J. Goode and P.K. Hatt, 1981), because of the nature of unstructured interview the resource persons can share more information
4. Secondary data: Books that are related to rituals and

Culture and can be helpful in this regard.

Findings of the study: In doing research, we should always consider the factors of intersectionality, because every woman face different oppression, as betty frieden has rightly pointed it “the feminine mystique”, how women are just a commodity in male patriarchal hegemony, the



mystique is the problem that the psychological distressed of the women who had no vocational career aside of the domestic lives only. Rassundari Devi in her biography talks how she had gone through a vulnerable state being a upper caste Brahmin widow. In the male writing also it is sometimes seen that women characters are being “male gazed.” The environment and nature is considered as feminist issue by the eco feminist, in the time of displacement and post conflict situation also it is the pregnant women and children who faces the most difficult phases of life. Although India ratified the CEDAW convention on 9th July 1993 but National Crime Records Bureau reveals that in average it is the 87 rape cases every day. Women who are disable and belong to the poor family they are marginalized in triple layers, they are being victim of sexual abuse as there are many cases where landlord in the city sexually assault the disable housemaid and killed her brutally and there are also structured violence in our India like Mathura Rape Case. On the other hand, if a male do provide care to a disable person the so called male hegemony questioned on his male chauvinism, by taking it to a slave kind of mentality. It is seen that in the case of disable person it is always the female person of the household who always takes care. It can also be seen that the first world countries always consider the third world women as underdeveloped, voiceless, traditional while the first world feminist are seen in the writings as more affluent, educated and economically self-sufficient. Recently in Afghanistan we have seen the condition of women regarding their education and in their life style. In Iran also thousands of Iranian women took to the streets of Tehran to claim their rights to freedom and self-determination, most of them cutting their hair in public /posting their videos on the internet as a protest and as a support to the Mahsa Amini. The third world women issue varies from geographical localities. In the STEM areas that is in science, technology, engineering and mathematics also the career graph of women is very low, comparatively it is a little higher in the UAE, where more women have migrated there in search of good life opportunities and a balanced lifestyle. But traditionally in India today also most girls are not encouraged for higher education rather they are forced for marriage and reproduction of children only. Widows are not considered in many households to perform any sacred ritual but this has not seen in the case of a male, the women are always seen as a victim/survival of the patriarchal norms, feminization of poverty, feminization of labour of the society.

Conclusion:

As we have studied that Emile Durkheim that somehow society will grow and it never dies we have to create a balance society so that everyone can live with equal respect and liberty. Culture is about people. E.B. Taylor has defined culture as “that complex whole which includes knowledge, belief, art, law, morals, customs and any other capabilities and habits acquired by man as a member of society” (Taylor, 1873, 1). The Indian govt has passed Pre Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques Act (PCPNDT) in 1994 to ban and punish prenatal sex screening and female foeticide. Religion and rituals are interrelated but in the name of religion and ritual women should not be discriminalized as it has been seen in the society, As religion was at first formed to unite people. Saheli a Delhi based women organization analyzed the domestic violence cases. It was evident



that wife beating was common among all social classes as it is a reflection of the power relationship between a husband and wife. Homosexuality is also now legalized in India under section 377. But the societal taboos and perspective towards LGBT, women and widow should be change so that actual equality can take place in our society. The male gaze can be seen in the dominant patriarchal ideology. Virginia Wolf in her book “A Room of One’s Own” stated that women need a physical and mental space for her own development. When a person being judged and discriminate by society on the basis of race, colour and gender it also impacts on his/her psychological mindset. The so called stereotyped beauty standards have influenced the teenage girls. It can also be mentioned here that Roe V. Wade, 410 U.S. 113 (1973), was a landmark decision of the U.S. Supreme Court in which the Court ruled that the Constitution of the United States conferred the right to have an abortion. We have observed that laws have been implemented but in our societal life still the look of prejudice and taboo is relevant awareness should be created and along with the judgement of court it should be socially acceptable. India is progressing but this progress demands quick piquing for societal development.

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