

An Analysis of the Impact of the Digital Library on Students' Academic Performance at, Uttar Pradesh's Mahatma Gandhi Kashi Vidyapith State University

Dr Amrita Majumdar

Assitant Librarian, IMS-MGKVP

VARANASI

Abstract: With the development of Internet connection technologies, the traditional library environment gave way to an electronic or digital library. These days, digital libraries are getting more and more popular. ICT and networks are the two key tools that have impacted today's society. Its goal is to remove time-related barriers to information access while also making it simpler to distribute knowledge and resources in a methodical and efficient way. The impact of digital libraries on students' academic achievement at Varanasi's Mahatma Gandhi Kashi Vidyapith (MGKVP) State University is examined in this paper. Questionnaires are the instrument used for data collecting. Simple percentages are used to analyses the data and present it in tables. The findings demonstrate that using digital libraries positively affected students' academic achievement.

Introduction:

Since a library is seen as a crucial component of a university education, its position in higher education is far more significant than it is in elementary or secondary school. The library network is absolutely necessary for academic and research endeavors. Library services are crucial to the effectiveness of any educational activities. The Kothari Education Commission (1964-65) emphasized that it is more harmful to overlook libraries and give them poor priority. The crucial element that fosters teaching-learning and research activity is the academic library. It plays a crucial role in achieving the goals and objectives of higher education. The library scenario changed from traditional library to an electronic library or digital library with arrival of Internet communication technologies.

Digital libraries are becoming more and more well-liked these days. The two main tools that have influenced today's society are ICT and networks. Its purpose is to make it easier to share information and resources in a systematic and effective manner while also removing time-related obstacles to

information access. Multiple users may use the same resources simultaneously. They offer solutions to traditional libraries' primary problems, including space constraints and resource management. The only option for libraries that lack the space for extensions is digitisation. It assists with keeping digital assets in the proper repository in a networked environment for hosting on intranet, extranet, and the internet. With a few mouse clicks or screen touches, it enables students to access information at any time, from anywhere. E-libraries provide a plethora of information that can support students' academic success by enhancing their knowledge and research abilities. The current study looks at how much e-libraries contribute to improving the standard of education for MGKVP students. For this survey, a random sample was used to gather information.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

According to Houssein Assadi et al. in 2003 Digital libraries, far from being simple digital versions of library holdings, are now attracting a new type of public, bringing about new, unique and original ways for reading and understanding texts. They represent a new arena for reading and consultation of works alongside that of traditional libraries. Digital libraries have the potential to offer poor countries great chances for participation in international affairs and to raise the standard of life of people, according to Owusu-Ansah et al. (2019). It serves as a platform for learning, a learning environment, and an essential teaching tool. According to this viewpoint, digital libraries are important for distance learning and education. According to Indiramma and Sugunavathi (2019), society is moving towards a point where a vast amount of knowledge that is available based on printed and published resources can replace digital information. According to a blog post on Techmint(2022), digital libraries account for the various advantages they supply to the learning community. This gives you plenty of justification to start using this extensive knowledge source right immediately.

Objectives of the study:

The study's goal is to provide a thorough understanding of MGKVP University's Digital Library in Varanasi.

- To investigate how a digital library will affect their study
- To obtain insight into user attitudes and perceptions of digital libraries.

- Get aware of the fundamental framework and services offered by the digital library in changing scenario of technology.

Status of Digital library in MGKVP Varanasi

A digital library has been established on the grounds of the library with the express purpose of allowing users to access online journals and other e-resources. On LAN and Wi-Fi, e-resources are accessible at MGKVP. Access to the OPAC, e-Journals, e-books, e-databases, citation databases, etc., is provided through digital libraries.

Methodology:

To gather the information that has been distributed among the various types of digital library users, a structured questionnaire has been developed. The study's immense quantity of data was analysed in-depth and thoroughly to get to a result. Data has been analysed using a straightforward statistical technique and is presented in tabular and graphical form. There were 150 questions in the online survey about 130 retrieve back, divided into four sections: (1) General inquiries regarding the user's Internet and computer usage, as well as demographics (2) general inquiries about the user's usage of internet content (3). Using Digital library services for academic study and teaching (4)What effects do using digital library resources have on their academics.

DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

The key step in the research method is analysing the data. It is the connection between unfiltered data and conclusive results. This analysis method must be goal-oriented.

1.1) broad questions about the user's computer and Internet activity, as well as demographics A total of 130 users replied to the user survey. The gender, age, and area of interest profiles of the respondents are shown in Table 1.

Age group	Response	Percentage
18-25	65	50%
25-35	46	35%
35 above	19	15%
Gender		
Male	70	53%

female	60	46%
Area of interest		
humanities	40	30%
Social science	23	18%
Commerce and Management	55	42%
Science	12	9%

Table 1.0 Demographic information of users

According to Table 1, 50% of users were between the ages of 18 and 25, followed by 35% between the ages of 25 and 35 and 15% above the age of 35. In the next section, 53% of the male students and 46% of the female students replied; nevertheless, when it came to primary areas of interest, business and management (42%) and the humanities (30%) were the two largest groupings, followed by social science (18%) and science (9%).

(2) general inquiries about the user's usage of internet content

Use of internet	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Rarely
General information				
General	96%	4%	-----	-----
Social media	98%	2%	-----	-----
Academic purpose	25%	53%	26%	----
Educational website	15%	32%	55%	2%
University website	6.1%	28%	65%	-----
Library website	33%	65%	2%	-----
Digital library	62%	35%	%	

Table 1.0 general information about internet usage

96% of respondents reported regularly using the internet for general information. The majority of users browse social media sites everyday, while only 15% and 55% of respondents use the internet daily and weekly, respectively, for academic purposes. 60% more weekly visits to the library website. 62% of users utilize the digital library every day.

3. Using Digital library services for academic study and teaching

Reasons for utilizing Digital Library	Response Received	Percentage
For assignment	62	47%
For preparation of competitive exam to advance and build a career to stay updated on a topic of interest	38	29%
Above all	12	9%
None	10	8%
	8	6%
	-----	----

Table 3.1 Purpose for using Digital Library

The respondents were prompted to state why they used online resources. The analysis of the answers is shown in Table 3.1. As seen in Table 3.1, 29% use it to prepare for competitive tests, while 47% utilise it to complete their academic work. E-resources are also employed (12%) for professional advancement and expansion.

Types	Response Received	Percentage
E-journals	44	34%
E-books	30	23%
Bibliographic Databases	20	15%
UGC info-net journals	27	21%
Online databases	5	4%
Other form of digital resources	4	3%

Table 3.2 Types of E-Resources accessed

Information can now be retrieved more conveniently and easily thanks to e-resources, which have changed the way it was previously accessed. All the stakeholders in higher education are attempting to integrate the teaching, learning, and research processes in light of the growing use of e-resources in higher education. The respondent users were asked to indicate the types of e-resources. The responses are presented in Table 3.2. It is found that respondents (34%) explore electronic journals followed by 23% electronic Journals, 21% UGC infonet journals and least 4% used are online database and other digital resources.

4. What effects do using digital library resources have on their academics.

Effects	of	Strongly Agree	Agree	Somewhat agree	disagree	Strongly disagree
Virtual Library contains accurate current information I need to achieve well in academics	the and	46	40	29	10	5
It boosts my comprehension of lectures, which elevates my academic performance.	my	55	47	18	5	5
My academic performance is enhanced since it makes it easier for me to access educational information to complete tasks.	academic performance is enhanced since it makes it easier for me to access educational information to complete tasks.	72	50	6	1	1
My learning efficiency is enhanced since it helps me better prepare for exams.	learning efficiency is enhanced since it helps me better prepare for exams.	65	59	5	1	---

Due to internet advertisements and video pop-ups, it can occasionally divert my focus, which has a detrimental impact on my academic achievement.	55	48	17	5	5
---	----	----	----	---	---

Table 4 effects do using digital library resources have on their academics.

The vast majority of respondents to Table 4 believe that using a digital library has improved their academic achievement for each of the elements in the table. 46 respondents, according to the breakdown, concur that they receive reliable information to complete their work and tasks. 55 respondents agreed that their improved academic achievement was important. Gain in learning effectiveness, according to 65 respondents. However, the majority also concur that online advertisements and video popups can be distracting.

Discussion:

The results show that using digital libraries had a favorable impact on students' academic performance. It is well known that using online resources improved students' academic performance. Additionally, the research supports the notion that students' academic performance was negatively impacted by their relatively limited use of digital libraries. Users of electronic resources should be made aware of new methods such as controlled vocabulary and advanced search tactics that can speed up and simplify the electronic search process. The educational organization needs to develop new policies to allocate enough money for e-resource subscriptions. As users autonomously wish to search for a source to obtain electronic literature, libraries should offer user training for the sophisticated use of electronic resources.

Conclusion

The survey showed that MGKVP students and research scholars widely accept electronic resources. Additionally, the majority of students are relying more on these electronic tools to find knowledge they need. It is encouraging to see that the majority of users are aware of resources and services offered by the library, such as availability of computers, the internet, the OPAC and e resources. Infrastructure and training are also crucial for ensuring that the electronic resources are still useful across the entire campus.

Reference:

1. Ali, Naushad (2005). The use of electronic resources at IIT Delhi Library: a study of search behaviours. *The Electronic Library*, 23(6), 691 – 700
2. Madhusudhan, M. (2008). Use of UGC Infonet – Journals by the Research Scholars of University of Delhi. *Library Hi Tech*, 26(3), 369 – 386
3. Watson E, Library services to distance learners: The new professional paradigms, 2000, Available at: <http://col.org/forum/PCFpapers/watson.pdf> [Accessed October 11, 2014].
4. Rahman H K, Computer Networks: A Paradigm Shift to Library, *Library and Information Journal*, 22(1) (2002) 39–42
5. Duff, W. M., & Cherry, J. M. (2000). Use of historical documents in a digital world: comparisons with original materials and microfiche. *Information Research*, 6(1), Available at: <http://www.shef.ac.uk/uni/academic/I-M/is/publications/infres/paper86a.html> [Accessed 12 September 2001].
6. Hill, L. L., Carver, L., Larsgaard, M., Dolin, R., Smith, T. R., Frew, J., & Rae, M. A. (2000). Alexandria digital library: user evaluation studies and system design. *Journal of the American Society for Information Science*, 51(3), 246-259.