

Resource Sharing and Networking in Libraries of Pakistan: **The difficult beginnings**

Muhammad Jawwad

Lecturer, Dept. LIS-AIOU
Islamabad

Quratulain Amber

Lecturer, Dept. LIS-AIOU
Islamabad

Introduction

- The main aim/objective of library is to satisfy its clientele [No library is able to satisfy all needs]
- This gave rise to the concept of Library Cooperation
- The concept is known as Resource Sharing
- Library Cooperation remained confined to inter-library loan
- Even inter-library loan was not being practiced widely

Introduction

- The Resource sharing and networking between libraries has a long history and as old as libraries themselves.
- The **Library of Alexandria** shared its collection with the Pergamum library in 200 B.C.
- The **Library of Congress** began lending books to other libraries in 1902.
- In 1919 the **American Library Association** adopted the first United States Interlibrary Loan Code.
- Pakistan in 1955, **L. C. Key** was appointed as a library consultant.

Introduction

- The East Pakistan Library Association and the British Council organized a seminar on **Inter-Library Cooperation in March 1967**.
(F.G.B. Hutchings, President BLA)
- Ameen(2008)stated:
 - 1963-1972:** 07 cooperation
 - 1947-1997:** 07 resource sharing &
05 cooperation

What Literature Speaks?

- Decade 1961 - 1970
 - 06 attempts have been made
 - 02 practical
 - 04 descriptive
- Decade 1971 - 1980
 - 02 attempts have been made (descriptive)
- Decade 1981 - 1990
 - 05 attempts have been made
 - 01 practical
 - 04 descriptive

What Literature Speaks?

- Decade 1991 - 2000

 - 09 attempts have been made

 - 01 practical

 - 07 descriptive

 - 01 mailing group (PAKLAG)

- Decade 2001 - 2010

 - 20 attempts have been made

 - 02 practical

 - 16 descriptive

 - 02 mailing group (LIBCOP &
Librarianwelfare)

What Literature Speaks?

Sr. No.		Frequency
01	The need and importance of Resource Sharing	15
02	Conceptual Model / Network Proposed	21
03	Problems in Resource Sharing	09
04	Practical efforts in terms of resource Sharing	07
05	International cooperation	03
06	Literature based (descriptive)	06
07	Mailing Groups / List Serve	03

Recommendations

- Efforts should be made for practical implementation of Resource sharing concept in all kinds of libraries in Pakistan
- Focused activity should be initiated in cooperation with HEC (PERN, DL)
- Legislation for resource sharing among libraries should be formulated and implemented at national level
- Libraries on their own plan and implement continuous capacity building program especially in ICT

Recommendations

- contribution of mailing groups and list serve should be enhanced for resource sharing efforts. Moderators of the groups can play important role in this regard
- Library and Information Schools should compel their students to develop small scale resource sharing projects
- Realistic models of resource sharing needs to formulate as result of research and development

Recommendations

- It is revealed that the efforts initiated by Government and supported found successful so that Government support in shape of funding, policy making etc is necessary for resource sharing in libraries.
- Experts should formulate theoretical as well as practical foundation for resource sharing in libraries.
- Library professional organization such as PLA and other professional mailing group should initiate the debate and prepare the environment of resource sharing, setting aside their professional jealousy.

Conclusion



Thanks
