

# INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF RESEARCH IN COMMERCE, IT & MANAGEMENT

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**CONTRIBUTIONS TO BOOKS**

- Sharma T., Kwatra, G. (2008) Effectiveness of Social Advertising: A Study of Selected Campaigns, Corporate Social Responsibility, Edited by David Crowther & Nicholas Capaldi, Ashgate Research Companion to Corporate Social Responsibility, Chapter 15, pp 287-303.

**JOURNAL AND OTHER ARTICLES**

- Schemenner, R.W., Huber, J.C. and Cook, R.L. (1987), "Geographic Differences and the Location of New Manufacturing Facilities," Journal of Urban Economics, Vol. 21, No. 1, pp. 83-104.

**CONFERENCE PAPERS**

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**PRESERVATION AND MAINTENANCE OF THE COLLECTION OF SRI VENKATESWARA ORIENTAL RESEARCH  
INSTITUTE LIBRARY, TIRUPATI: A USER SURVEY**

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**ABSTRACT**

*Sri Venkateswara Oriental Research Institute (SVORI) was started in July 1939 by the management of Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (T.T.D) with a view that it should be a first-rate research and training centre with appropriate divisions for the study of Sanskrit and other languages of the Hindu religion and philosophy and of the Hindu culture generally. The users of the library consist of M.Phil and Ph.D. scholars and teaching staff members and P.G students of S.V. University. The present study is restricted to make the survey of users of M.Phil and Ph.D scholars and students only. Further, the paper suggests the affective measures for improving the techniques of preservation and organization of manuscripts in SVORI.*

**KEYWORDS**

Manuscripts, Oriental Journals, SVORI, Digitization.

**1. INTRODUCTION**

Andhra Pradesh, the land of temples and shrines, has the distinction of exquisite and priceless manuscript heritage of textual and illustrated diction. In Andhra Pradesh, there was a traditional practice of writing the scripts on Palm Leaves, which are popularly known as 'Thalapatra Grandhas' in olden days. Many of them were destroyed during the period of British Rule in India. However, our ancestors were able to protect some important Thalapatra Grandhas, which have high cultural and social values. The government of Andhra Pradesh and Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams are jointly instrumental in collecting and preserving these rare Thalapatra Grandhas in different Manuscript Libraries in Andhra Pradesh.

Books are the life-blood of great thinkers of the past and present. They represent the life-long labors and researches under taken by philosophers, sages, scientists and litterateurs. It is a very pleasant, though difficult, task of a librarian to preserve the treasure of knowledge which is found in the form of books and documents. It is rather his religious duty to conserve this knowledge in an appropriate manner.

Books like human beings have got a body and soul. Its body is represented by material of which the book is made. Paper, ink and binding are the physical construction of the book. The soul of the book consists of the actual thought content to be found in the written pages of the books. The soul can be freed from the mortal bandage only their message is conveyed to every living being.

**1.1 MANUSCRIPTS**

The term 'manuscript' derived from the Latin word 'Manuscriptus' is a combination of two words that is 'Manu means by hand and 'Scripts means to write. Etymologically manuscript means writing by hand.

**1.2.** In the context of library science, a manuscript is defined as "any hand written item in the collections of a Library or an archive; For example, a library's collection of the letters or a diary that some historical personage wrote".

**2. HISTORY OF SRI VENKATESWARA ORIENTAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE, TIRUPATI**

The Oriental Research Institute was established by Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (T.T.D) in the year 1939 and handed over it to Sri Venkateswara University in 1956 to achieve multifaceted development on modern lines in Indological research and to propagate correct ideas in Indian Culture and Heritage. Thus the Oriental Research Institute has become a nucleus and indispensable authority in the University campus with its richest collection of 50,000 palm leaf and paper manuscripts. Fully qualified research staff has been working in the institute, on editing of palm leaf and paper manuscripts. Further, they also guide M.Phil and Ph.D scholars in the fields of Sanskrit, Telugu, Philosophy and History. The official organ of the institute; Sri Venkateswara University Oriental Journal brought out 16 volumes and a new series of 46 volumes so far in its old series.

Right from its inception several learned Scholars of International repute have worked in the Oriental research Institute. To name a few Sri Manavalli Ramakrishna Kavi, popularly known as Sri M.R.Kavi a doyen of Indological research and Manuscriptologist who prepared Bhartakosa and brought out a critical edition of Bharat Bharata's Natya Sastra with Abhivanana Gupta's commentary "Abinava Bharti" for the first time. Likewise Sri Veturi Prabhakara Sastri a great Scholar in the field of Telugu literature and research Sri Rallapalli Anatha Krishna Sarma a unique scholar in the field of classical Music and Literature who edited Annamacharya Sankirthanas. In the field of Tamil Sri T.P. Palaniappa pillai and in Sanskrit Prof D.T. Tatcharya and in Agama Sastra, Rompicharla Parthasarathi Bhattacharya etc. The Institute has so far established 40 books both in critical Editions and Monographs.

**2.1. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF SRI VENKATESWARA ORIENTAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE, TIRUPATI**

Sri Venkateswara Oriental Research Institute, Tirupati has the following Aims and Objectives:

1. To prepare well-documented and authenticated reference works like historical dictionaries, encyclopedic indexes, anthologies and chrestomathies;
2. To prepare critical editions with notes to promote higher textual criticism;

- To publish Oriental journal with original research articles on topics of Indology relevant to modern society translations, monographs, and rare manuscripts.
- To promote inter- disciplinary research leading to M.Phil and Ph.D degrees;
- To maintain an up-to date library with important research journals and printed books mostly in Sanskrit, English and Telugu with all the modern facilities like a reading room, microfilm reader, Xerox copier, etc.;
- To maintain manuscript library with lists and descriptive catalogues;
- To prepare descriptive catalogues for the manuscripts collected in the ORI Library;
- To conduct diploma courses relevant to the Indological Studies; and organize Seminars and Summer Schools to spread correct ideas of Indian Culture.

TABLE-1: COLLECTION DETAILS IN SVORI LIBRARY

Sl.No	Type of material	Total	Percentage
1	Printed books	37,650	65.36
2	Ideological(oriental)journals	5000	8.68
3	Manuscripts	14,954	25.96
4	Total	57, 604	100

[Source: Official Records of Sri Venkateswara Oriental Research Institute, Tirupati, 2012]

It is evident from the table that among the library material printed books (65.36%) are more followed by back volumes of Ideological oriental journals (8.68%) and manuscripts (25.96%)

**2.2. PROCESSING**

The SVORI Library has been following its own scheme of Classification prepared by Sadhu Subramanyam Sastri in 1940 for printed books. It is not following the library classification scheme for journal and manuscripts.

**2.3. CARE AND MAINTENANCE OF SVORI LIBRARY MATERIAL**

The following preservation techniques are being used:

- Chemical treatment (Naphthalene balls, lemon gross oil and citronella oil) is used protecting manuscripts.
- Dusting, cleaning regular intervals is used for protecting the printed books, journals and manuscripts.
- Pest control is used for to protect the printed books, journals and manuscripts.
- Air conditioners are used for to protect from the manuscripts.

**2.4. SECURITY MANAGEMENT**

- SVORI library building is constructed with purpose of library and it is adequately roofed and it is adequate space outside for the library possible expansion and there is no security personal at the library exit.
- The library building consists of fire extinguisher and Air conditioner for disaster management.
- The SVORI library is not insured the library material.

**3. OBJECTIVES OF THE PAPER**

- To know the frequency of visit to SVORI library by the users.
- To know the satisfaction regarding arrangement of library material.
- To know the satisfaction of the physical facilities in the SVORI Library.
- To know the opinion about care and maintenance of the SVORI Library.

**4. HYPOTHESES**

- Majority of the respondents are visiting the library once in a week.
- Majority of the respondents are satisfied with the library materials.
- Majority of the users or not satisfied with the physical facilities of the library.
- Majority of the respondents are expressed that they are not satisfied with the care and maintenance of the library.

TABLE -2: FREQUENCY OF VISIT TO SVORI LIBRARY

Reply	No. of Visit			Percentage
	Students	R.S.	Total	
Every day	16	5	21	14.00
Once in two days	48	16	64	42.66
Weekly once	32	7	39	26.00
Once in two weeks	16	2	18	12.00
Occasionally	8	-	8	5.33
Total	120	30	150	100

It is evident from the above table that majority of the users 42.66% visit the SVORI library once in two days. It is also evident from the table that 14% of the users visit the SVORI library everyday, 26% of the users visits the library weekly once and 12% of the users visits the library once in two weeks and only 5.33% of the users visits the library occasionally.

TABLE -3: SATISFACTION REGARDING ARRANGEMENT OF LIBRARY MATERIAL

Response	Users of SVORI			Percentage
	Students	R.S	Total	
Yes	76	19	95	63.33
No	44	11	55	36.67
Total	120	30	150	100

It is evident from the above table that 63.33% of the users are satisfied with the arrangement of library material, remaining 36.67% of the users are not satisfied regarding the arrangement of the material.

TABLE -4: SATISFACTION WITH THE LIBRARY MATERIAL

Library material	Users of SVORI					
	Printed books		Back volumes of Ideological (Oriental) journals		Manuscripts	
	No	%	No	%	No	%
Highly Satisfied	81	54.00	72	48.00	57	38.00
Satisfied	62	41.33	73	48.67	82	54.67
Not Satisfied	7	4.67	5	3.33	11	7.33
Total	150	100	150	100	150	100



It is clear from the above table that most of the respondents (54.00%) are highly satisfied with the printed books, 48.67% of the users are satisfied with the back volumes of ideological journals and 54.67% of the users are satisfied with the manuscripts.

TABLE -5: PHYSICAL FACILITIES OF THE SVORI LIBRARY

Physical facilities	Users of SVORI									
	Building		Lighting/ventilation		Drinking water		Furniture		Toilets	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Highly satisfied	84	56.00	69	46.00	60	40.60	48	32.00	30	20.00
Satisfied	60	40	72	48.00	67	44.67	70	46.67	76	50.67
Not satisfied	6	4.00	9	6.00	23	15.33	32	21.33	44	29.33
Total	150	100	150	100	150	100	150	100	150	100

It is clear from the above table that most of the respondents (56.00%) are highly satisfied with the library building, 48.00% of the respondents are satisfied with the lighting and ventilation facility and 46.67% of the users are satisfied with the furniture, 50.67% of the respondents satisfied with the toilets facility in the library.

TABLE -6: OPINION ABOUT CARE AND MAINTENANCE OF THE SVORI LIBRARY

Reply	Users of SVORI			Percentage
	Students	R.S	Total	
Highly satisfied	16	8	24	16.00
Satisfied	76	18	94	62.67
Not satisfied	28	4	32	21.33
Total	120	30	150	100

It is evident from the above table that most of the respondents 62.67% are satisfied with the care and maintenance of the library material, 21.33% of the respondents are highly satisfied and 16.00% of the respondents are not satisfied with the care and maintenance of the library material.

## 5. PROBLEMS IN THE LIBRARY

The Library has the following problems:

1. Lack of adequate space for storage of Manuscripts;
2. The facilities for pest control measures are not available;
3. Lack of sufficient funds exclusively for conservation of Manuscripts;
4. Lack of adequate professional and supporting staff; and
5. Fumigation Chamber is not available to protect Manuscripts effectively.

## 6. CONCLUSIONS OF THE STUDY

The following are the major observations that can be derived from the study.

### 6.1. ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS

Storage rooms do not follow standard preservation practices. They possess no climate control, although the climate remains extremely stable at high humid levels. The wooden storage cabinets contain dust and insects but do provide a measure of locked security. The institution has no emergency planning or preservation policy due to lack of specialists and funding.

### 6.2. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF THE MANUSCRIPTS

The manuscripts and the early printed books show damage due to abuse, biological infestation, and moisture. Folders of ancient vintage protect only a fraction of the items. Some manuscripts need immediate restoration.

### 6.3. OTHER PRODUCTS

There is no proper electronic database produced for the preservation assessment that allows researcher-scholars to search and classify all manuscripts by origin, title, date of creation, language, medium, size, pagination, presence of black folder, damages and overall condition.

## 7. RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations have been proposed to modernize and update the techniques of preservation and organization of Manuscripts in SVORI.

### 7.1. FURTHER DIGITIZATION

Though no funding exists now for any of these recommendations, SVORI must purchase a digital camera, color printer, and CD-ROM burner. The staff must digitize the most endangered manuscripts, the most extraordinary examples of Indian Art, and those items mostly frequently used. The images must be stored on redundant copies of CD's at archival quality, without the use of compression algorithms that lose data.

### 7.2. WEB PRESENCE OF MANUSCRIPTS

A Web- site should be created featuring examples of Manuscripts and providing historical context to them. Some of those manuscripts will undergo computer processing, description, and SGML encoding under the auspices of the S.V. University and T.T.D. (Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams) Thus, the digital images of the manuscript pages and the decorative elements will link to a database to recreate the manuscript on the Web.

### 7.3. DISASTER PLANNING

SVORI must develop a detailed disaster plan and train its staff in disaster reaction. As funds accrue, SVORI must purchase smoke alarms and disaster items such as gloves, mops, buckets, paper towels, respirators, replacement filters, flashlights and batteries, sponges, and plastic bags, kept under lock and key.

### 7.4. RESTORATION AND CONSERVATION

Many manuscripts require emergency restoration, but all of them require cleaning and disinfection

### 7.5. RECOMMENDATIONS IN REGARD TO THE PLACE, READING ROOM, AND LIBRARY

The reading room must accommodate the researcher-scholars and the director should have his own office. The SVORI reference collection requires up dating to serve the research needs of the scholarly community, including subscription to specialized journals.

### 7.6. GAINING SUPPORT

Finally, SVORI must enhance its support from its parent organizations i.e., S.V. University and T.T. D., and also try to gain support from other governmental bodies in order to continue to fulfill its mission as primary research institution.

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