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Role of Library Management Software (LMS) and Its Importance in Management

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Abstract
Library management software plays a crucial role for the effective management of library. This paper highlighted the importance and various popular library management software and their specifications in the library. This purpose of this paper is to give a framework for the LMS and its importance. LMS has brought a new evolution for the establishment of the library in this present scenario. Without any technology the library cannot manage or full the demands of its users and the library will lose its main purpose. We have discussed about the importance of its functions as well as its challenges and disadvantages. There is no doubt regarding the importance of LMS but still if we look closely then we will realize that there are many libraries who are running their libraries without library management software due to the insufficient funds and lack of effective policies which results poor management that directly affects the user's satisfaction. This paper has highlighted the major areas of its limitations to implement the library management software which most libraries are facing in developing countries. The world is dynamic in nature so it's very important for any library to implement LMS in their library to meet with the changing scenario. Lack of technological advancement and improper management can lead any library into the valueless institution which results the dissatisfaction of the users. So it's very essential for any library to implement LMS or any other technologies which can maintain the workflow of the library functions so that it can survive in the era of information explosion.

Keywords: LMS, Library, KOHA, Management, Automation.

Introduction
'Library is a growing organism' is the fifth law of Library science. The libraries are transforming into information centers where new information's are evolving every day to meet the user satisfaction. As a result the responsibilities are increasing in the process of Library Management. Through modernizing the Library, the functions of the libraries can be done rapidly and accurately. Libraries are coming out from traditional system into modern technologies. Libraries are adopting modern library management software's to operate the library in a effective technologies are giving a fruitful path for the better development of the library. Library is a hub of collection of books, magazines, journals and other various materials which is helpful for users. Libraries are transforming traditional way of housekeeping operations into automated system. Library Management software helps the library in the process of collection and dissemination of information in a rapid and effective way and it is meeting the fourth law of Library science which is save the time of the reader. It's not easy for the library to perform its day to day tasks with the traditional way until it implements technologies in library. Library Management software is basically designed to operate major functions of any library. It can make the work of librarian more effective and efficient manner in the process of maintaining database of books and other materials. Software can make any library more organized which is helpful for students as well as researchers to find their correct information's. Using software for management of libraries can contribute to the nation building as it is a backbone of any institution. In the era of ICT it is very essential for any library to adopt technologies for the better establishment in the society. Without ICT a library can't survive with a huge collection of materials and it will not be able to satisfy the user's need in an effective and efficient way because it will take lot of efforts and hard work to manage and maintain the library functions.

Literature review

Mishra, V. K. (2016). The author describes in his work about library automation software and its implications in library. The author highlights about the KOHA library management software and its implementation in the library. It describes about the practical and theoretical knowledge of KOHA and it helps the students and researchers to do study on KOHA and its implementation on library management. This work helps to the vendors, workshop trainers and those people who want to implement KOHA in library.

Ahmad, H. (2016). The author describes about the pros and cons of library management system in Indian scenario.This book describes about the detailed explanation of library automation in college and university library in Indian scenario. This book highlights all the modules of library management systems and its user satisfaction through various library management systems. This book helps the librarians to adopt a proper library management system for their library. The author also describes about the issues that are mostly faced by many Indian librarians in the process of selecting a good library management systems for their library.

Sirohi, S., Gupta, A. (2010). The author in their book describes about the practical explanations of KOHA library management software in Linux operating system. It highlights step by step instructions about how to install KOHA in a library. This book contains screenshots and important codes which explains careful instructions about installation. This book is helpful for the administrators who want to install KOHA in their library and it is helpful for those administrators who want help for implementing KOHA in a easy way.

Parvin, S. (2013). The author in his book describes about the library automation and its importance for the functions of a library. Library automation is the use of hardware and software for the various functions of the library. It helps the library to operate it's housekeeping in a automated environment. Library automation improves the efficiency and removes defects of any library functions.

Riaz, M. (1992). The author in his book describes about the history of hardware, software and computer system and concepts of input output devices and various computer application to operate library and its functions like circulation, cataloguing, serial control, administration etc. The author describes about the conceptual functions of library automation and its importance in the field of library management. The author highlights an overall conceptual framework for library automation.

Importance of LMS in Modern Era

There are various aspects of LMS and it's importance for small and big libraries.In this technological era the libraries are transforming into information centers because of its area of information services .The importance of LMS are as follows-

- **Develops Efficiency of Works:** The LMS can solve the library's struggles and inefficiency of work. LMS can save the time which is mostly used in administrative functions such as checking in-out, searching for documents, and handling of various damaged or lost items in the library. Library is now able to avoid hard work and can do the smart work to satisfy the user's satisfaction by providing best services.
- **Multitasking:** The main function of LMS is to help the library to do various functions such as organizing and managing the library materials. The LMS has made the

library's work such as cataloguing, circulation, acquisition, RFID and other tasks fully automated and efficient.

- **Cost-effective:** The LMS has done a tremendous job in the process of cost-effectiveness by implementing automated system for the maintenance of library records. LMS has reduced the cost and time of library management by implementing automated system such as RFID and barcode which has made it easy to maintain or tracking of records and various library resources by removing paper based library records. LMS has reduced the staff count and the tasks are now being done with automated process which saves money and the time.
- **Eliminates Errors:** LMS has automated the various functions of the librarian which results less errors in management. LMS improves accuracy of data and has increased the workflow of the library staffs.It can eliminate the errors of traditional Way of management and can maintain errorless library operations.
- Security: LMS can provide data security tothe library database and ensures the user's confidential informations. Library Management software is upgraded regularly to ensure the data privacy so that it can handle more patrons efficiently.

Popular Library Management Software

1. **Software for University Libraries (Soul):** Soul was established by Inflibnet for university and college libraries. It has total 3 versions. Soul1.0 which was released in the year 2000 next is Soul 2.0 in the year 2009 and the latest version is soul3.0 released in the year 2021. Soul has all the features about how to manage or help in the automation or housekeeping operations like acquisition, cataloging, circulation, serial control etc. of a library. It is Unicode based software for the Indian and other foreign language. Creators made this by keeping an eye on the user's satisfaction .It also have OPAC facility by using these users can know the exact details of a material very efficiently. It obedient to international standards like AACR-2 and others like MARC21 bibliographic format. Soul software is very easy to install in any college or university library and its well-designed software so it's very easy to operate.

2. **Koha:** Koha is a web based open source integrated library system. Koha started it's journey in 1999, the katipo communications who are the creator of koha always developing this by user satisfaction. When koha started it used English language to operate but now it's operate with large number of worldwide languages. Koha also has OPAC where it uses standard compliant World Wide Web technologies .In the latest version 23.05 Koha gives more facilities to the users than the older versions. Koha uses library standard like MARC21, z39.50. UNIMARC and many more. Koha do every housekeeping job of a library like cataloging, acquisition, circulation, serial control etc. It's web based software but we can use it in offline also.

3. **Libsys:** Library automation system software (libsys) was developed by New Delhi based company Info-Tek consultants in 1984. It is one of the best trusts worthy library automation software's in India. It mostly uses RFID technology as a tool in circulation RFID technology helps so much. It's a really user friendly software but it's a costly one also because libsys uses expensive components to provide best facilities to its

users. Libsys is cloud based software so everything stored in the cloud with best security features. It also follows library standard like MARC21. Libsys do all the library housekeeping jobs like acquisition, circulation, cataloguing, serial controls, OPAC etc. Very efficiently and also it has a library network by that every library can share the information's with each other's.

4. **Evergreen:** The evergreen library management software is a open source software. It was created by Georgia public library in the year 2004 to help 252 public libraries. But in today's date 2000 plus libraries adopted Evergreen as their library management software. Evergreen also do all the housekeeping jobs of a library, and it runs on operating systems like Microsoft Windows, Linux etc. It has a special feature called self service. Evergreen also provides OPAC facility to its users for getting more Knowledge

5. **WMS:** World share management services (WMS) was developed by OCLC. The creators make it very cost effective library management software so every library can access WMS. Its cloud based software so there is no need to maintain server expenses. It is one of the most efficient cloud based library software's. WMS is very focused on user satisfaction user can found any materials within the library or groups without changing it's interface by OCLC because OCLC has a very powerful chains of libraries worldwide so it can provide any valuable resources to its users very efficiently .It also do all the library housekeeping operations very efficiently. WMS also have a feature like its optimized it's interface for mobiles for its users.

Challenges of Implementing LMS

1. 1. For using library management software's in library we need a to digitized the library first and also need good hardware devices for that library need good amount of capital but the administration of the institution doesn't provide the sufficient fund.

2. For using library management software's every library need good skilled work force but not every employee of library has good skills. There are so many staffs that also have fear of using new technologies. The software's keep updating always so it's a challenge to the employees of library to learn the new updates of software's.

3. Another challenge is at the time of automation library need to automate its user's details very carefully and correctly. Otherwise at the time of circulation and other housekeeping jobs it's going to show the error information of the user in the software.

4. Insufficient fund is also one of the problems to run a automated library because the administration have limited fund but need to focus on various fields of the institution so they can't give sufficient amount of money to library but for managing library software's and other housekeeping jobs we need good amount of money.

5. The next challenge is the users also need to have the good amount of knowledge about automated libraries without knowledge they can't use the benefits of library management software's provides. One of the examples is Open public access catalogue (OPAC).

Disadvantages of LMS

1. One of the main disadvantage is it is establishing fear amongst library employees. After automation a library need less man power than previous because after automation most of the house keeping jobs library management software's do more efficiently and consume less time than library employees. The employees have fear that in future the jobs will be limited because of these library management software's (LMS).

2. The next disadvantage is copy right. In today's modern digital libraries everything available in digital form and most of the libraries have their networks throw library management software's. So the materials are circulated without the permission of author in the name of fare use.

3. The third disadvantage is security issue. The LMS comes with a security system but still hackers can take private information they need by breaking the security of software's because everything is available in digital form and also they can take the user's personal details because users details also available in library management software's

4. In big libraries there will be high amount of money is needed because everything available in digital form and controlled by library management software's. So for that powerful hardware and software's will needed which is very costly with that library also need to maintain library infrastructure but libraries don't have sufficient funds to deal with these things.

Conclusion

In today's modern libraries library management software's managing everything very efficiently and also doing the entire house keeping jobs within less time. It helps the users of the library by providing various facilities like OPAC etc. and also library staffs can do the works very smoothly and effectively. In today's modern date libraries need to be upgraded to digital library but also they need to focus on some points like there need to be proper combination of man power and digital both because after digitization came in we see a downfall of hiring employees which is not good for libraries we need to have a combination of both human and machines. Also they need to have a good security in the software systems otherwise anyone can hack the devices and take the materials and also the valuable data of users. Government can give large amount of funds by that a library can build a good infrastructure and can buy good library management software's and hardware for the library. In today's modern date Libraries are not limited in a room it becomes information centers and also libraries have their own library networks by the help of library management software's and different consortium. So by all of that we can say institutions need to upgrade their libraries from manual to automation, digitize their library materials and give best facilities to its users.

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