DIGITAL LIBRARIES - AN OVERVIEW

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ABSTRACT

Digital Libraries are being created today for diverse communities and in different fields e.g. education, science, culture, development, health, governance and so on. This new phenomenon is designed to bring a paradigm shift in the ways we create access and use digital content. The design antidevelopment of digital libraries depend on computer, communication and other technical skills and the dream of successful digital libraries leading to a global divital environment can only be fulfilled when sufficient practitioners have the skills to design, build and manage them it is also essential reading for students, staff and researchers who need to get a good gaps of issues and development in their fields digital library facilities are in academic libraries to keep their users abreast of global development.

KEYWORDS

digital library, facilities, digital content, global development, environment

RESEARCH PAPER

Digital libraries differ significantly from the traditional libraries because the allow users to gain an on-line access to and work with the electronic versions of full text documents and their associated images many digital libraries also provide an access to other multimedia content like audio and video.

What is digital library :

According to Deegan and Tanner, definition of digital library is -

- *A digital library is managed collection of digital objects.*

- *The digital objects are created or collected according to the principles of services necessary to allow users to retrieve and exploit the resources just as in the case of other.*

- *The digital objects are treated as long term stable resources and appropriate process are applied to them to ensure their quality and survivability.*

Smith (2001) defined a digital library as an organized and focused collection of digital objects, including texts, images, video and audio, with the methods of access and retrieval and for the selection, creation, organization, maintenance and sharing of collection.

Though the focus of this definition is on the documents collection, it stresses the fact that the digital libraries are much more than a random assembly of digital objects. They retain the several qualities of traditional libraries such as a defined community of users, focused collection long term availability and possibility of selecting organizing, preservation and sharing resources.

Digital library a global virtual library is a library of thousand of network electronic libraries. There will be a vast population of users scattered around the globe, who are able to access, easily and conveniently, the complete contents of thousands of repositioneries containing texts, images, sound recording, videos, maps, scientific and business data, as well as hyper media combination of these elements the library must have a networked based distributed system with local servers responsible for maintain individual collection digital documents. Digital libraries are bringing a paradigm shift in the ways we as for use and create information.

Objectives of Digital Library :

- *To improve and make quality of library services.*

- *To collect, store organizes and access information in digital from via*

communication channels.

- *To have large digitalized databases.*

- *To reduce cost involved in varies library activities.*

Need of Digital Library :

- *Information explosion.*

- *High information demand*

- *Save time and solve space problem*

- *Low cost of technology*

- *Searching problem in traditional libraries environmental factor.*

Digital Library of India :

It is digital library of books, which are free to read, searchable predominantly in Indian languages available to everyone over the internet. Very soon it is expected that this portal would provide a getaway to Indian digital libraries in science, Arts, culture, music, movies traditional medicine, palm, leaves and many more.

Features of digital Libraries :

A digital library is popularly viewed as an electronic version of a library where storage output is digital form. The materious can be obtained through direct combination permits coying from the master version without proper education, no one is able to exploit the information available on the network. If users satisfaction is the fore most duty and ultimate challenge before us, we need to work cooperatively and collectively. No library has sufficient fund to purchase all materials published in the world.

Therefore there should be greater emphasis on resource sharing among library and information centers. A number library information networks have been developed since 1980s to provide effective and efficient library and information services to the users. Before 1924, publication were digitized by Indian institute of science and made available on their server globally. Recents development in this fields have taken see change both a national and international scenario.

Advantage of Digital Library :

- *Easy to manipulate*

- *Easy to preserve content (Audio, Video, Text, Picture, Animation)*

- *Documents delivery and make it available on the network.*

- *Easy to provide information services on the web.*

Conclusion :

Present day digital libraries key development from 1965 in computer and information science online publishing, archives and other professional communities not to mention the internet and web prepared ground for an ambitious digital library research and development agenda. The vision for digital libraries was grand, and it attracted top research and professional tolent. Day by day the cast of digitization is also decreasing, the online publication is increasing the need of users shifting towards a different environment. So it is the pick time to all library and informational science professional to gear them in building digital library and taking it is a challenges especially in academic libraries

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