



# REVAMPING LIBRARIES IN MODERN ERA

Proceedings of National  
Conference-2023



- Editors -

**Dr. Dhananjay B. Sutar** ■ **Dr. Sachinkumar B. Patil** ■ **Dr. Prakash B. Bilawar**  
**Dr. Yuvraj G. Jadhav** ■ **Dr. Shivraj V. Thorat**

**BARR. BALASAHEB KHARDEKAR KNOWLEDGE RESOURCE CENTRE  
AND  
DEPARTMENT OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE  
SHIVAJI UNIVERSITY, KOLHAPUR-416004, MS, (INDIA)**



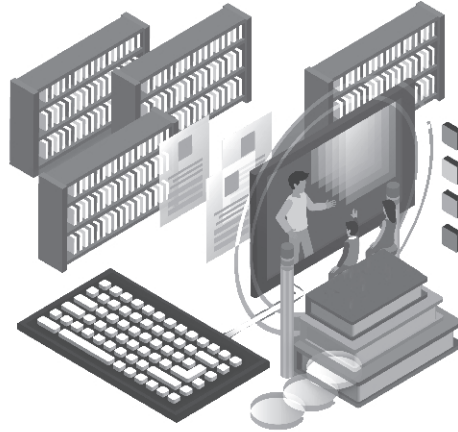


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**Barr. Balasaheb Khardekar Knowledge Resource Centre**  
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**Department of Library & information Science**  
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# IMPORTANT OF MANUSCRIPTS IN THE DIGITAL ERA

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## **Abstract –**

This research article discusses the importance of manuscripts in modern times. In this research, the researcher reviewed the Significance of manuscripts. The Significance of manuscripts depends on the field in which they are helpful. The researcher also studies the value of manuscripts from a research point of view. In this study, the researcher proposed that the manuscripts are the first information source. This study provides information about manuscripts availability in BBK KRC. The study aims to review the manuscripts, rare books section and reading materials in BBKKRC by discussing the types of manuscripts and who are its readers. Emphasis is placed on these research articles to highlight the importance of manuscripts.

**Keyword –** Manuscripts, Rare books, Primary Source etc.

## **Introduction –**

In today's modern era, there are many types of information available. This availability of information is known as the information environment. There are also many means available to get the said information available. Extracting the required information from the vast open data has become a research task. It is equally important to check whether the information received is genuine. When it comes to the authenticity of the information from this explosion of data and through various sources, authentic information can only be obtained if we try to go to the primary source. When approaching a primary source of information, one must go back as far as the original origin can be traced. When we get to the start of information, we find that information is primarily in manuscripts. Manuscripts are included among the primary sources of information only because it shows that the original and primary sources of information are manuscripts. Despite the vast amount of information available in modern times, manuscripts are of unique importance because they are the primary source of information. Manuscripts are mainly used by historians and

researchers in research work. Apart from this, these manuscripts are used as references while publishing government offices, court proceedings, geographical information of a region, and information about historical figures. In today's, the form of manuscripts is changing over time. Currently, in modern times, manuscripts are found to be digitized. Even if the manuscripts are available in digitized format, they require permission from the concerned institution to receive and use them only following their regulations. Manuscripts are being digitized in all places available today to preserve them for future generations.

The main places where manuscripts are available are an academic institution or a manuscript library. The government has created rare books departments or archival libraries to store manuscripts collectively. It contains manuscripts and other related written materials. In this, we can often see the work of collecting manuscripts in big government institutions and educational institutions. Shivaji Universities also work on conserving and preserving manuscripts through the Barr. Balasaheb Khardekar Knowledge Center.

For this reason, a section of rare books has developed under this Knowledge Center. The collection houses an extensive collection of rare manuscripts, religious texts, Modi scripts and other language materials, books donated by famous authors from their readers, and old books that are not currently published but are essential for research purposes. Rare coins and copper plates are also available in this place. Shivaji University has continuously taken the initiative to create and grow this collection. People with access to manuscripts, mythological objects, coins, reading material, and rare books have been approached and invited to keep the relevant reading material in the libraries. Shivaji University and Barr. Balasaheb Khardekar Knowledge Resource Center continuously strive to grow this collection.

### **Importance of Manuscripts –**

Considering the importance of manuscripts and the utilization of their information, the Government of India has created the National Manuscript Mission. The National Manuscript Mission is working to preserve and collate the available manuscripts in India. Manuscript Centers have been set up in many places in the country. Efforts are being made to protect rare materials not only in India but also in the region. These centers work to pass down the manuscript information from one generation to another. The written evidence we see today in the form of manuscripts provides comprehensive information about the type of culture, human way of life, living conditions, education system, and social system in the past. In every country in the world, we find these types of manuscripts or books in which we get complete information about the history of that place. Human life in the past is recorded using a specific script or material to preserve the data in memory for future reference. For example, papyrus was used for ancient writing. Papyrus is also a manuscript.

Along with this, copper plates and inscriptions are also tools of information. A material written in a particular language is called a manuscript. In the same way, data from ancient times is found in the form of manuscripts. Since the most basic and authentic information is available in manuscripts, Manuscripts are called primary sources and non-print documents.

There are many reasons why manuscripts are essential. References provide an author to a person seeking information about a specific work. Manuscripts also help to enhance an author's writing process and thinking and provide insight into a period. They can shed light on the historical context in which a work was written and provide valuable and vital information about it. The researcher can clearly understand what the original author intended.

Manuscripts are an essential source of information about the past and can be used as concrete evidence of history.

### **Manuscript Archival in Shivaji University Kolhapur**

#### **Total Manuscripts : 9163**

1. Manuscripts on Vedanta, Dharmashastra, Jotishya,
2. Nyayashastra, Vaidak Ayurveda History, Puran,
3. Yoga Literature, Kavya, Natak (Drama) etc.
4. The Oldest manuscripts named 'Abuprabandh' written in the year 1353
5. The oldest known version of "Dnyaneshwari" (Shake 1490/1569 A.D.) belongs to pre Ekanath period is preserved and published by the university.
6. "Rasaratnasamuchchay: published by the University (1970)
7. "Ayurved Saukhya : Nidan Chikitsa: (Shake1741) and "Ayurveda Saukhya : Paribhashay (Shake 1741 ) written by Todarmal on the Navratnas in Akbar's Darbar, are preserved in the Archival Cell.
8. The important manuscripts "Karveer Mahatmya" (1782 A. D.) Ed. By Dr. G. V. Tagare, published by University (1980)

#### **Activities and Services in Archival Cell -**

- Collection & Preservation of Rare Books, Manuscripts and other Archival Materials.
- Preservation and Maintenance by fumigation method.
- Preservation of University Records.
- Documentation work of Manuscripts by NMM.
- Reference Services to Students, Faculty, Researches and Scholars.



### **Other Archival Material -**

1. Pandurang Patil Tamrapata : (Copper Plate) of 516 A.D.
2. Stone Objects : Bramhapuri (Kolhapur) Excavation.
3. News Paper : Din-Bandhu, Hunter, Din-Mitra, Akhand Bharat, Vijayi Maratha, Reshtraveer etc.
4. Publication : Of Descriptive catalogue is under Process.
5. Projects : NMM, Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India. (2006-07) completed.
6. MRC : Manuscript Resources Center : Under Way.

### **Archival Cell Donated Collection -**

So far, 43 individuals in different subjects have donated 41839 books for collection in this department. These include social activists, famous writers, dignitaries, and ordinary people.

### **User of Manuscripts and Archival Collection -**

Manuscripts are most commonly used by people doing research in the academic field. There are also other users of manuscripts. These include historians, mythologists, spiritual practitioners, government offices, astronomical researchers, etc. One thing mainly observed in this is that the information in the manuscripts determines its user. Another factor determining the importance of manuscripts is the period in which the manuscript was composed or how old it is. The significance of manuscripts is also highlighted by the information contained in them.

To use manuscripts, the user must know the language in which the manuscript is written. For example, reading material in Modi script requires the Modi script to be fluent. Historians, researchers, linguists, writers, court proceedings, and government offices appear to be significant users of manuscripts. As per the requirements of their work, these persons are found using rare books and manuscripts for reference.

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