

BIBLIOGRAPHIC CONTROL OF MANUSCRIPTS: A CASE STUDY OF NATIONAL MISSION FOR MANUSCRIPTS OF INDIA

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ABSTRACT

The National Mission for Manuscripts (NMM) is the first consolidated national effort for reclaiming India's inheritance of knowledge contained in the vast treasure of manuscripts. The present paper aims to study the all round activities of NMM since inception in 2003 to 2012 regards to inclusion of Manuscript Resource Centres (MRC), bibliographic control, conservation, preservation and digitization of Indian manuscripts, survey, and documentation. It also highlights the contents of kritisampada database of manuscripts and digitization status of NMM and publication programme by NMM.

KEYWORDS: *Manuscript, National Mission for Manuscripts (NMM), Digitization, Preservation, Conservation, Cataloguing, Outreach activities.*

1. INTRODUCTION

India perhaps has more manuscript collections than any other country in the world. These manuscripts are in various languages and format; and they are written in different scripts, such as, Devanagari, Sharada, Grantha, Kannada, Telugu, etc. on a variety of materials : birch-bark, palm leaf, paper, leather, copper-plate, textile, stone, clay-tablet, wooden board, and what not. They deal with the socio-cultural history, language and literature, science and technology, art and crafts of India. In other words, they reflect the growth and development of human knowledge in the Indian sub-continent over the past few centuries. (Biswas & Prajapati, 1998).

The glorious past of Indian culture lies in the ancient manuscripts. These are the basic historical evidences having great research value. It is estimated that India possesses more than five million manuscripts making it as the largest manuscript repository wealth in the world. Though there are several efforts to preserve these manuscripts, thousands of such valued unpublished Indian manuscripts on varied subjects are lying scattered or fragmented in India and in foreign collections. It must be noted that some of them are no longer accessible to research scholars. Protection of this invaluable and unique pool of knowledge is a need of the hour. Bibliographic control of these manuscripts through cataloguing, preservation, conservation and digitization are the issues of concern.

The huge amount of manuscripts available in different institutions and other places of the state give ample evidences of the proud literary and rich cultural heritage of Maharashtra. These manuscripts are considered as one of the most valuable sources of information. Manuscripts need special care and attention as regards to the retrieval of relevant information from these documents and also from the preservation point of view because they are mostly organic in nature. Commonly the manuscripts are handwritten and the materials used for writing are mostly palm leaves and paper. It is now possible to keep these documents in a digitalized format. Therefore, the present work has been taken up with the basic purpose investigation on the actual condition of these documents as well as to suggest an improved system of organization and preservation of manuscript collections available in the libraries.

2. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

The Reviews have been thematically arranged dealing with various aspects of the subject viz. Manuscript: An ancient source of information, Organization and management of Manuscripts, Preservation Method/Policies, Digitization of manuscripts.

2.1 MANUSCRIPT: AN ANCIENT SOURCE OF INFORMATION

History for theory building that considered the context of art production, symbolism, meaning, historical analysis, and iconographic themes (Pacht, The Practice of Art History:

Reflections on Method, 1999). Weitzman (1904-1993) developed a similar methodological positivistic approach and proposed a theory of the evolution of illustrated manuscripts from the Egyptian "papyrus style" through the Greek "continuous narrative" style (Weitzmann, 1947). Hamel in 2001 explained about a history of medieval manuscripts provided the treasure map (De Hamel, 2001). The interplay of color and gold on the images illuminated my soul. De Hamel's history should live in every manuscript and art library, as a slave living abroad (Ranta, 2001).

The opening article by Cloonan and Berger (1999), "What are so rare issues in rare books and special collections" discusses the primary concerns of rare books and manuscript librarians. (Cloonan & Berger, 1999). A Survey of manuscripts of the Suleymaniye Library by (Memory of the world Programme, 2009) reveals that the library houses over 67,000 manuscripts, from the 8th to the early 20th century which include rare items relating to Islam, laws of the Ottoman times, Ottoman foreign policy, Science and Medicine, Literature and Culture, among others. The majority of the manuscripts are in Arabic, Turkish and Persian (Memory of the World, 2009).

Syed Mohammad Amir (2007) focused on Dr. Zakir Hussain Library New Delhi having about 2000 invaluable manuscripts in various languages including Arabic (457), Persian(1107), Urdu (397), Pashto (3), and Hindi (13) these belong to different intellectual realms. There is also a very rich collection of Urdu and English newspaper in the library. In

this article the author also described conservation and restoration of the Manuscripts. (Amir, 2007 Aug-Feb).

2.2 ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT OF MANUSCRIPTS

Roegiers compares the difference between description methods used by archivists and librarians for manuscript cataloguing. Approaches to archival collection; description of catalogues and inventories; Implementation of standards for the electronic cataloguing of manuscripts (Roegiers, 2003). Stockdale in his project explained computerized cataloguing which was first introduced into the Department of Manuscripts in 1986 (Stockdale, 2000). The book by Siddiqui provides information about 500 Arabic manuscripts on the subjects . (Siddiqui, Catalogue of Arabic Manuscripts in Aligarh Muslim University in India (Volume I), 2000) and (Bakarsic, 2000).

2.3 PRESERVATION METHOD/POLICIES

According to Champa Kumari and Alahakoon The method of preservation of palm-leaf manuscripts, acquisition, collection management, customer service, reference service and proposed preservation policy statements of the University of Peradeniya were pointed out.

2.4 DIGITIZATION OF MANUSCRIPTS

People like Koganuramath and Angadi and Srivastava and Kanungo have examined various types of preservation of traditional documents, as well as preservation of digitized forms of

documents, using related technologies. The authors describe various steps involved in the digitization process (Koganuramath & Angadi, 2010) and (Srivastava & Kanungo, 2010)

Uhlř, Zdeněk deals with the link between the digital processing of historical documents, especially manuscripts and the manuscript studies, codicology and bibliopoly and cultural as well. The greatest part of the paper applies to the case study about the Manuscriptorium digital library which is provided by the National Library of the Czech Republic (Uhlř Z. Z., 2008).

2.5 CHALLENGES FACED BY LIBRARIES

Ben Goldman in his article “Bridging the Gap: Taking practical steps toward managing born-digital Collections in manuscript repositories” reported that this article will not aim to provide any across-the-board solutions to the problem of born-digital materials but instead will seek to make some basic recommendations to begin (Goldman, 2011).

3. OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the present paper are

- To discuss the importance of Manuscripts for updating the knowledge to the next generation.
- To highlight the role of National Mission for Manuscripts in India in achieving Bibliographic Control of manuscripts.

- To study the growth and contribution of MRCs and MCCs under NMM and show the establishment of MRCs.
- To depict the zone wise distribution of MRCs and Manuscript Conservation Centers (MCCs)
- To trace subject wise, Language wise, Script wise and Material wise Database of Manuscripts in Maharashtra through Namami database.
- To make an exclusive review of the Role of National Mission for Manuscripts in respect of the following aspects:
 - National Survey and Yearwise growth of Documentation
 - Conservation of Manuscripts and Digitization status of manuscripts
 - Publication activities of the Mission

4. RESEARCH METHOD

For the present study, a 'descriptive' type of research methodology is used, with a 'survey' as the research technique. The survey method followed here has helped the researcher to come in direct contact with the phenomena under the study. A survey of existing and accessible NMM website and its database related to manuscripts is carried out followed by a detailed analysis and interpretation of facts observed.

The data for this paper has been collected from the search facility of the database accessed from the official websites of Kritisampada, the National Mission for Manuscripts up to 2013 and the Annual Reports Published so far by the mission. The paper is largely based on the review of online and print literature.

4. KRITISAMPADA: NATIONAL MISSION FOR MANUSCRIPTS

Kritisampada, National Mission for Manuscripts is the biggest and the most ambitious project to create a database of all Indian manuscripts in the country and abroad. The database contains information of various kinds on Indian manuscripts titles, themes, authors, commentaries, scripts, languages, conservation status and much more. The mission endeavours to provide complete and valid information about each manuscript. The National Database of Manuscripts, Kriti Sampada, is available on Internet through the Mission's website. The aim of this endeavour is the documentation of each manuscript, whether they are in the museums, libraries, temples, madrassa or in a form of private collection.

Figure-1: Web Page of National Mission for Manuscripts (Namami)



The National Mission for Manuscripts is the first consolidated national effort for reclaiming India’s inheritance of knowledge contained in the vast treasure of manuscripts. The Mission for Manuscripts of India was established in 7 February 2003, by the Ministry of Tourism and Culture, Government of India with Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts as its nodal agency. It aims to locate, document, preserve, digitize and make the Indian manuscripts globally accessible and to connect India's past with its future, its memory with its aspirations.

6. OBSERVATIONS

Analysis has been drafted on the basis of two sections. Section-1: Status Quo National Mission for Manuscripts (NMM); Section-2: Analysis of Manuscripts in Maharashtra based

on Kritisampada, National Mission for Manuscripts (NMM). A total twenty five districts from Maharashtra were traced during the study.

Section-1: Status Quo National Mission for Manuscripts (NMM)

6.1 Growth of Different Types of MRCs and MCCs under NMM

The National Mission for Manuscripts is responsible for creation of National bibliographic database of Indian manuscripts (Kritisampada); facilitating conservation, preservation and digitization of the country’s valuable manuscripts. There are 57 Manuscript Resource Centres (MRCs), 50 Manuscript Conservation Centres (MCCs), 42 Manuscript Partner Centres (MPCs), and more than 300 Manuscript Conservation Partner Centres (MCPCs) working under this mission.

Table-1: Growth of Different Types of MRCs and MCCs under NMM

Types of Centres	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2009	2010	2011	Total
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2010	2011	2012	
MRCs	24 (8.11)	27 (9.12)	41 (14.19)	46 (15.54)	--	46 (15.54)	54 (18.24)	57 (19.26)	296
MCCs	15 (6.73)	20 (8.97)	26 (11.66)	30 (13.45)	--	33 (14.80)	49 (21.97)	50 (22.42)	223
MPCs	--	--	--	--	--	42	42	42	
MCPCs	--	--	--	270	--	300	300	300	

Note: Figures in bracket denotes percentage
(Source: National Mission for Manuscripts, 2010-2011)

6.2 ZONE WISE DISTRIBUTION OF MANUSCRIPTS

Zone wise distribution of manuscripts as well as States and Union territories included in each zone i.e. North, South, East, West and Central. It shows that highest number of manuscripts are available in north zone that are 421409 (30.53%), whereas second highest number of manuscripts are available in south zone that are 374307 (27.12%), then third highest number of manuscripts are in east zone i.e. 250124 (18.12%), then the number of manuscripts available in west zone are 255555 (18.52%) and lastly the lowest number of manuscripts available in central zone i.e. 78810 (5.71%) respectively along with the number of MRCs covered under different zones are 17 (29.82%), 15 (26.32%), 13 (22.81%), 9 (15.79%) and 3 (5.26%) respectively.

Table-2: Distribution of Manuscripts & MRCs across various Zones

Zones	Number of States & UTS Included	No. of MRCs	% of MRCs	No. of Manuscripts	% of Manuscripts
North	8 (6 States & 2 UTs)	17	29.82	4,21,409	30.53
South	5 (4 states & 1UT)	15	26.32	3,74,307	27.12
East	8	13	22.81	2,50,124	18.12
West	4	9	15.79	2,55,555	18.52
Central	1	3	5.26	78,810	5.71
Total	23	57	100.00	13,80,205	100.00

6.3 Achievement of the National Mission for Manuscripts														
Table-4: Achievement of the National Mission for Manuscripts during the year 2005-2013.														
Sl. No.	Nature of workshop	2003 - 2007			2007 - 2012								2012 - 2013	
		2005	2006 - 2007		2007	2008	2009- 2010		2010 - 2011		2011 - 2012			
		2006	Work done	Work done	Work targeted	Work done	Work done	Work targeted	Work done	Work targeted	Work done	Work targeted	Work done	Work targeted
1	Preventive Conservation & Awareness workshop	2				3	6	6	8	11	10	10	12	8
2	Workshop on Rare Support material		4	4	1		2	2	2	1	1	1	1	
3	Workshop on Reserve Pool of Conservators		6	6		1	1	1	2	1	--	--	--	--
4	MCPC Regional workshops on Preventive Conservation		9	9										
5	Workshop on illustrated manuscripts						1	1	1	1	1		1	1

6	Workshop on Bio-Deterioration						--	--	--	--	1	1		
7	Preventive Conservation & Awareness workshop (NE)						1	1	3	3	4	3	3	3
8	Workshop on curative conservation	5	5	5	--	--	1	1	4	3	3	2	3	2
9	Workshop on curative conservation (NE)						--	--	1	1	1	1	1	
10	Follow up of Research project on traditional methods of conservation at RCL Mysore						1	--	1	--	1	--		
Total		7	24	24	1	4	13	12	22	21	22	18	21	14

Table-5: Contribution of the MRCs in Maharashtra under NMM

Sr. No.	Name of the MRCs	Total data Up to 31-03-2013	No. of Data received in 2013-2014	Total data received up to 31- 03- 2012
1	Anandashram Sanstha, Pune	56,147	11	56,158
2	Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute, Pune	71,544	276	71,820
3	Shivaji University, Kolhapur,	6,517	1,111	7,628
4	Institute for Oriental Studies Thane	2,800	0	2,800
5	Kavikulaguru Kalidas Sanskrit University Ramtek	12,306	0	12,306

(Source-Eleventh Annual Report 2013–2014)

It has been observed from table 5 that highest numbers of manuscripts are available in Maharashtra at Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute, Pune holding 68,877 manuscripts up to 31st March 2012 and the lowest number of manuscripts available in Institute for Oriental Studies, Thane received 2800 manuscripts till 31st March 2012.

6.4 Year wise growth of Documentation of Manuscripts under NMM

Table-6: Year wise growth of Documentation of Manuscripts

Sr. No.	Year	No. of Data Documented	Cumulative Data	Percent of Data
1	2003-2004	88,569	88,569	2.30
2	2004-2005	2,02,563	2,91,132	7.57
3	2005-2006	7,70,111	10,61,243	27.60
4	2006-2007	7,03,196	17,64,439	45.88
5	2007-2008	8,13,151	25,77,590	67.02
6	2008-2009	2,76,271	28,53,861	74.20
7	2009-2010	2,14,114	30,67,975	79.77
8	2010-2011	2,11,053	32,79,028	85.26
9	2011-2012	2,15,492	34,94,520	90.86
10	2012-2013	1,94,749	36,89,269	95.22
11	2013-2014	1,56,779	38,46,048	100
Total		38,46,048	38,46,048	--

(Source: Eleventh Annual Report 2013-2014)

NMM is engaged in detailed documentation of manuscripts in India for creating a National Catalogue of Manuscripts. Development of an electronic database of manuscripts by documenting the manuscripts available in different institutions is one of the important activities of the Mission. Under this scheme it is observed that, highest number of manuscripts have been documented during the year 2007-08 (8,13,151) and the total number of manuscripts received for documentation are 38,46,048.

6.5 National Survey: The National Survey is the first step towards creating a National Electronic Catalogue of Manuscripts. National Survey is an intensive state-wide programme with the aim to locate every manuscript in the country. All institutions, new and old, private collections of manuscripts, in every district, town and village are brought under the purview of the National Survey.

Table-7: National Survey conducted by NMM

Year	States	Total District Covered	No. of Manuscripts Documented
2004- 05	3 states Orissa, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh	53 districts	6, 50, 000 manuscripts and 35,000 repositories
2005-06	Delhi, Manipur, Karnataka and Assam	--	85,000 manuscripts from Delhi, 42,000 from Assam and 1,50,000 from Karnataka
2006-07	Himachal Pradesh, Haryana and Tamil Nadu	33	20, 000 from Himachal Pradesh, 7, 50,001 from
2007-08	Chhattisgarh and Arunachal Pradesh	18+16	Not maintain
April 2012	Uttrakhand, Sikkim and Mizoram	13	Not maintain

Post Survey has been completed in Orissa, Bihar (10 districts), Tamil Nadu, Manipur and Karnataka. One hundred and eight districts in these five States have passed through the Post Survey exercise. Now the Mission is all set to implement the Post Survey program in the

state of Andhra Pradesh, Tripura and Rajasthan. As per the survey report around nine lac manuscripts will be taken up for documentation in these states. Details are given in Table-8.

Table-8: Situation of the Post Survey

Districts	State	No. of Manuscripts Documented
--	Manipur	23000 manuscripts
--	Orissa	199081 manuscripts
10 districts.	Bihar	72581 manuscripts
--	Tamil Nadu	74097 manuscripts
29 districts	Karnataka	100000 manuscripts
13 districts	Uttar Pradesh	99556 manuscripts
12 districts	Himachal Pradesh	15000 manuscript
--	Delhi	1500 datasheets

Regular training is imparted to the staff of Manuscript Conservation Centres (MCC) to establish basic minimum standards for conservation in each partner centre and also to keep the personnel updated with the latest in this field are Curative conservation training for MCC staff and Workshops on Rare Support Materials. The Conservation report is described in Table 9.

Table-9: Conservation of Manuscripts-Report of NMM

Year Range	Preventive Conservation		Curative Conservation	
	No. of MSS	No. of Folio	No. of MSS	No. of Folio
Feb 2003-March 07	1,84,350	95,77,601	14,743	10,91,859
April 2007-March 12	3,01,448	3,01,448	1,29,201	22,46,994
April 2012–March 13	10,622	6,57,916	808	87,593
Total	4,96,522	1,12,13,057	1,44,762	34,27,546

Note: MSS indicates manuscripts (Source-Namami, 2013)

6.6 Different types of Digitization Phases:

In First Phase of Digitization, i.e. till 31st March, 2010 the digitization of 56,661 Manuscripts (74, 25,661 pages) has been completed. There are 45,324 DVDs containing the digital images of the Manuscripts in the possession of the NMM. The detailed status of digitization of Manuscripts stands as follows:

Table-10: Status of Digitization Initiated under Phase-I (2005-2007)

Agency	Institution	No. of Manuscripts	No. of Pages	State	Status
IGNCA	ORI, Srinagar	10,591	21,00,000	J &K	Complete
NIC	OSM, BBSR	1,749	3,50,000	Odisha	Complete
INTACH	Jain Manuscripts, Lucknow	180	42,951	U.P.	Complete
CIDIT	Kutiyattam	340	38,260	Kerlaa	Complete
MSP	Siddha Manuscripts	1,938	78,435	Tamil Nadu	Continuing
TOTAL		14,798	26,09,646		

(Source- Namami, Seventh Annual Report, 2009-2010)

The Mission has completed digitizing Manuscripts under the second phase of the digitization project. Under this project around 60000 Manuscripts were targeted for digitization. The digitization has been done in several repositories and all the manuscripts available in their collection were digitized. Following Table shows the institutions under different zones (North, South, East, West and Central) where manuscript digitization work has been completed. It is observed that, NMM has taken up digitization work under each zone. Total numbers of institutions covered are eleven whereas number of manuscripts digitized are 55,255 and 67, 87,776 pages. Around 11 institutions are covered all total under the five different zones in which the total numbers of manuscripts digitized are depicted along with its percentage. The details of the digitization going on under the Second Phase are provided in Table-11.

Table-11: Manuscript Digitization Status of various Institutions under different Zones

(Status of Digitization Initiated under Phase-II)

Zones	Sr. No.	Agency	Institution	No. MSS digitized	No. of Pages	%	Status
East	1	CBSL	Orissa State Museum, Bhubaneswar, Orissa	4,777	13,48,398	8.65	Continuing
	2	CBSL	Krishna Kanta Handique Library, Guwahati, Assam	2,091	1,56,170	3.78	Complete
Central	3	Sigma Tech	Dr. Hari Singh Gaur University, Sagar, Madhya Pradesh	1,010	1,17,603	1.83	Complete
	4	ACI Infocom	Kundakunda Jnanapeeth, Indore, Madhya Pradesh	8,622	11,60,453	15.60	Complete
	5	Sigma Tech	Bharat Itihas Samshodhan Mandal, Pune	3,523	6,60,730	6.38	Complete
North	6	--	Bhogilal Leherchand Institute of Indology	6,010	6,00,000	10.88	Complete
	7	Adea Infotec	Himachal Academy of Arts, Culture & Languages, Simla, Himachal Pradesh	225	55,751	0.41	Complete
	8	Adea	Vrindavan	20,075	15,61,86	36.3	Complete

		Infotec	Research Institute, Uttar Pradesh		4	3	
South	9	ACI Infocom	Institute of Asian Studies, Chennai, Tamil Nadu	481	34,505	0.87	Complete
	10	ACI Infocom	French Institute of Pondicherry, Pondicherry	502	1,70,629	0.91	Complete
West	11	Sigma Tech	Anandashram Sanstha, Pune, Maharashtra	7,939	9,21,673	14.37	Complete
Total				55,255	67,87,776	100	--

Note: MSS indicates manuscripts
(Source: National Mission for Manuscripts, 2010-2011)

Table-12: Status of Digitization Initiated under Phase-III (2012-2014)

Sr.No.	Institution	No. of Manuscripts	No. of Pages	State
1	Bharat Itihas Samshodhan Mandal, Pune	22,873	14,50,375	Maharashtra
2	Anandashram Sanstha, Pune,	6,734	3,27,484	Maharashtra
3	Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute, Pune	35	22.679	Maharashtra
4	Allahabad Sansrit Sansthan, Varanasi	35,020	25,76,879	U.P.
5	Jamia Hamdard, New Delhi	4,200	10,10,273	Delhi
6	VVBIS & IS Hoshiyarpur	1,500	1,14,376	Punjab
7	Orissa State Museum, Bhubaneswar,	3,175	6,03,950	Orissa
8	NMM Collection, New Delhi	562	1,21,329	Delhi
9	Rajasthan Oriental Research Institute,	28,813	17,92,864	Rajasthan
TOTAL		1,06,697	80,39,407	

(Source- Namami, Eleventh Annual Report, 2013-2014)

6.7 Seminars: The Mission organizes national level seminars at different period of time.

Scholars specializing in various fields are invited to represent research papers which are eventually published by the mission under the title Samikshika. The following Seminars have been organized by the Mission so far on different topics of interest.

Table-13: Seminars conducted at different Manuscripts Resource Centers

Years	No. of Seminars Conducted	% of Seminar Conducted	Cumulative No. of Seminars	Cumulative Percent
2005-2006	3	5.56	3	5.56
2006-2007	4	7.41	7	12.96
2007-2008	1	1.85	8	14.81
2008-2009	1	1.85	9	16.67
2009-2010	3	5.56	12	22.22
2010-2011	8	14.81	20	37.04
2011-2012	13	24.07	33	61.11
2012-2013	15	27.78	48	88.89
2013-2014	6	11.11	54	100
Total	54	100	54	100

(Source: http://www.namami.org/calender_of_events.htm)

6.8 Publications: Publication of Unpublished Manuscripts, Critical edition of Manuscripts, Seminar papers, Lectures etc. occupy a position of prime importance in the scheme of activities undertaken by the National Mission for Manuscripts. The following publications have been brought out by NMM in collaboration with other publishers of New Delhi during the period of study.

Table-14: List of Publications under NMM

Name of Publications	Fields of Specialization of Publications	Year of Publication of 1st Volume	No. of Vol. Published So Far	Publishers
Tattvabodha	Monthly Lecture Series	2005	4	NMM & MMP, New Delhi
Samraksika	Seminar Papers on Conservation	2006	7	NMM, New Delhi
Samikshika	Seminar Papers	2007	4	NMM & MMP, New Delhi
Kritibodha	Critical Edition of Rare & Unpublished texts	2007	4	NMM & D.K. Print World, New Delhi
Prakashika	Rare Texts	2011	1	NMM & Delhi Kitab Ghar, Delhi
Kriti Rakshana	Rare Texts	2005	22 (upto 4- 2013)	NMM, New Delhi

			upto 3-2014) Vol. 8, No. 5 , 6 & Vol. 9 No. 1-4	
The Word is Sacred. Sacred is the Word	The Indian MSS. Tradition	2006	1	NMM & Niyogi Offset, New Delhi
Vijnananidhi	Catalogue of Select MSS.	2007	1	NMM, New Delhi
Shabad Guru	Illustrated Catalogue of Rare Guru Granth Sahib MSS.	2007	1	NMM, & National Institute of Punjab Studies, New Delhi

7. Section-2: Analysis of Manuscripts in Maharashtra based on Kritisampada, National Mission for Manuscripts (NMM)

Maharashtra is a part of Western Coast of India. It is the third largest state in India on the basis of area and the second largest state on the basis of population. Maharashtra has a rich collection of manuscripts. Analysis of the database of Kritisampada has been carried out and the observations have been reported in following tables with special reference to Maharashtra. Table-15 depicts the Institute wise collection of manuscripts in the database in each district of Maharashtra.

7.1 District wise analysis of Manuscripts Collection

Table-15: District wise analysis of Manuscripts Collection in Maharashtra

Sr. No.	Name of District	No. of Institute	No. of Manuscripts	Percent
1	Ahmednagar	02	146	0.13
2	Akola	02	146	0.13
3	Amravati	08	1,356	1.25
4	Aurangabad	13	586	0.54
5	Beed	08	137	0.13
6	Buldhana	02	102	0.09
7	Dhule	04	420	0.39
8	Hingoli	01	06	0.01
9	Jalgaon	08	532	0.49
10	Jalna	03	97	0.09
11	Kolhapur	07	6,170	5.67
12	Latur	03	100	0.09
13	Mumbai	15	3,349	3.08
14	Nagpur	04	1,265	1.16
15	Nanded	02	32	0.03
16	Nashik	23	13,693	12.59
17	Parbhani	15	840	0.77
18	Pune	157	71,220	65.50
19	Sangli	01	40	0.04
20	Satara	06	1,637	1.51
21	Solapur	12	2,612	2.40
22	Usmanabad	01	150	0.14

23	Wardha	03	350	0.32
24	Washim	14	3,719	3.42
25	Yavatmal	01	34	0.03
Total			1,08,739	100

It can be observed from Table-15 that total 1,08,739 Manuscripts from Maharashtra state are reported by Kritisampada, the National Database of Manuscripts of India. The district-wise collection shows that the highest number of manuscripts is in Pune district forming 65.50% of the total collection of Maharashtra, followed by Nashik with 12.59%, and Kolhapur districts with 5.67%. However the district Hingoli has only six manuscripts. In Maharashtra, 25 districts have manuscripts collection and each district has their manuscript centres.

7.2 Language wise analysis of manuscripts collection

Table-16: Language wise analysis of manuscripts collection at Maharashtra State

Serial No.	District	Sanskrit	Marathi	Hindi	Prakrit	Kannada	Gujrati	Urdu	Persian	Arabic	Others	Language Not Known
1	Ahmednagar	61	17	57	10	--	--	--	--	--	--	1
2	Akola	96	24	21	3	--	2	--	--	--	--	
3	Amravati	586	55	613	70	--	23	--	--	--	--	9
4	Aurangabad	182	74	312	11	--	--	--	--	--	--	7
5	Beed	65	21	46	1	--	3	--	--	--	--	1
6	Buldhana	53	2	42	4	--	--	--	--	--	--	1
7	Dhule	195	185	38	--	--	--	--	--	--	2	--
8	Hingoli	2	1	3	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
9	Jalgaon	141	74	285	9	--	--	--	--	--	--	23
10	Jalna	67	24	5	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
11	Kolhapur	2,836	249	400	115	170	144	--	--	--	1	2,255
12	Latur	40	39	16	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	4
13	Mumbai	515	2	303	32	--	9	304	1,705	407	--	72
14	Nagpur	644	20	537	43	--	12	--	--	--	1	8
15	Nanded	19	11	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--

5												
16	Nashik	8,610	81	167	77	1	1	--	--	--	--	4,756
17	Parbhani	363	137	239	66	--	26	--	--	--	--	9
18	Pune	50,834	3,225	122	98	4	2,656	96	429	57	17	13,682
19	Sangli	39	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
20	Satara	1,283	53	264	18	1	5	--	--	--	--	13
21	Solapur	1,230	314	848	89	--	63	--	--	--	1	67
22	Usmanabad	50	10	80	9	--	1	--	--	--	--	--
23	Wardha	140	9	169	10	--	17	--	--	--	--	5
24	Washim	2,497	283	584	175	1	119	--	--	--	--	60
25	Yavatmal	15	16	3	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Total		70,563	4,927	5,155	842	177	3,081	400	2,134	464	23	20,973
Percent		64.89	4.53	4.74	0.77	0.16	2.83	0.37	1.96	0.43	0.02	100

The maximum number of manuscripts are in Sanskrit language 70,563 (64.89%) followed by Hindi 5155 (4.74%) and Marathi 4,927(4.53%). Among other languages, Kolhapur has one manuscript in Sajalong, Nagpur has one in Tamil, Nanded has one Bhojpuri; Solapur has one Konkani, Pune has one in Deori and Tamil, three each in Dogri, Sansi; Telgu, Sarhodi,

and Kashmiri, two in Bengali and Dhule has two in Hindustani language. It has been also observed that 20,988 (19.30%) manuscripts from Maharashtra and 13,682 (12.58%) manuscripts in Pune have not mentioned details of the manuscript language.

All the twenty five districts in Maharashtra have the collection of Sanskrit, Marathi, and Hindi language manuscripts. Except Dhule, Hingoli, Nanded, Sangli and Yavatmal, all other 20 districts have Prakrit manuscripts. Manuscripts in Kannada are available at Kolhapur, Nashik, Pune, Satara, and Washim. 14 districts preserve Gujarati Manuscripts. Urdu, Persian and Arabic language manuscripts are preserved at Pune and Mumbai only.

7.3 Script wise availability of Manuscripts in Maharashtra

The script has a character in which the manuscripts are written down. Writing system of a script is a system of using visual shapes in a row and orthography i.e. a system of spelling language forms as sounds, syllables, words or meanings.

Most of the manuscript are in Deonagari script i.e. 82,390 (75.77%) manuscripts out of total Deonagari script, 55588 (51.12%) is in Pune district which is at first position, 8,865 (8.15%) in Deonagari script at Nashik, 2,952 (2.71%) Deonagari scripts are at Kolhapur, 3,710 (3.41%) in Washim. In Vidharbha region consists of 1,356 (1.25%) and in Nagpur 1,256 (1.16%) manuscript are written in Deonagari Script. 1,480 (1.36%) Nastaliq scripts, 817 (0.75%) manuscript in Naskh scripts, 635(0.58%) Kannada script manuscript, 391 (0.36%) Bengali Scripts, 126 (0.12%) Sharada script, 84(0.08%) in Shikastah script, 47

(0.04%) in Gujarati and 35 (0.03%) manuscripts in Marathi are available. Around 22,696 (20.87%) manuscript do not provide the Script or the script is not known.

It is also observed that the highest number of Kannada script manuscripts are available at Kolhapur district; Gujarati at Parbhani; Bengali at Kolhapur; Naskh and Nastaliq at Mumbai; Shikasta at Pune. Manuscripts in Tibetan, Grantha, Tamil, Sharada, Kashmiri, Malayalam and Telugu script manuscripts are available only at Pune.

7.4 MATERIAL WISE AVAILABILITY OF MANUSCRIPTS IN MAHARASHTRA STATE

It has been observed that the analysis of material wise collection of manuscript reveals that most of the manuscript written on Paper i.e. 98357 (90.45%). Pune district has maximum collection of 66.62% manuscripts in Maharashtra state. Out of 25 districts, collections of Palm leaf manuscript are found only in three districts i.e. Kolhapur, Pune and Nashik. Kolhapur has highest number of Palm leaf manuscript (91) followed by Pune (24) and Nashik (4). Twenty three manuscripts are on Pamera leaves, six on Tamrapatra, Five manuscripts on both Parchments and Leather, Three manuscripts on Bhojpatra and one manuscript is on Bamboo leaves. Around 10,220 (9.40%) manuscript does not provide details of the script.

7.5 Subject wise Analysis of Manuscripts

The study on Subject wise distribution of manuscripts in different libraries shows that Jain manuscripts are common in all the libraries whether it is on palm-leaf or on paper. It is observed that highest percentage of manuscripts are available in the subject Jaina 3,202 (2.94%), followed by Dharma Shastra 2,674 (2.46%), 1617 (1.49%) manuscript in Jaina-Jaina-Puja, 1,523 (1.40%) manuscripts are in Jaina-Jaina-Stotra, 1,500 (1.38%) in Jyotisa, 1,363(1.25%) manuscripts belong to the subject 1127 (1.04%) manuscripts from the subject Veda, 1023 ((0.94%) manuscript in Purana.

8. CONCLUSIONS

The National Mission for Manuscripts (NMM) is the first consolidated national effort devoted towards the preservation of manuscripts. The NMM has taken up the digitization work and total numbers of institutions covered are eleven where as the number of manuscript digitized are 55, 255. MRCs and MCC plays a major role of collection, digitization and preservation of manuscripts and these centers are established throughout the country. There are total 13, 80,205 Manuscripts available in Manuscript Resource Centres under NMM. These manuscript resource centres are distributed over 5 different zones of India such as North, South, East, West and Central zone. From India 24 Universities involved in Digitization Project out of that 6 Universities are from Maharashtra State. Organisation of

seminars is one of the regular activities of the Mission and mission has conducted total 54 seminars on different topics till the year 2013-14.

9. REFERENCES

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