

National Mission for Manuscripts



Report of the Eighth Year
2 0 1 0 - 2 0 1 1

Cover Image:

Part of a folio from *Aranyakanda* (AD1651), preserved at Rajasthan Oriental Research Institute, Jodhpur

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Director
National Mission for Manuscripts
11, Mansingh Road
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Tel.: +91 11 23383894
Fax: +91 11 23073340
Email: director.namami@nic.in
Website: www.namami.org

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National Mission for Manuscripts

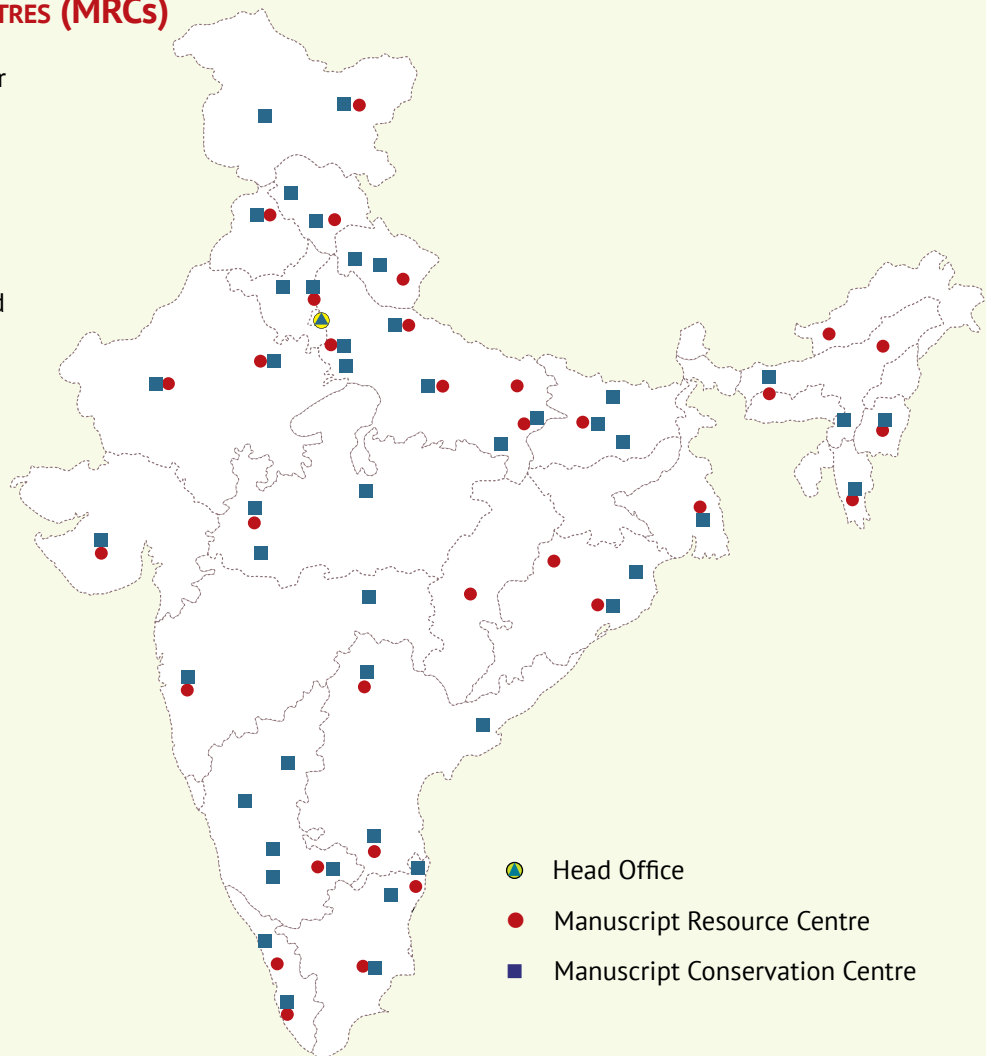


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National Mission for Manuscripts

MANUSCRIPT RESOURCE CENTRES (MRCs)

- Leh, Jammu & Kashmir
- Srinagar, Jammu & Kashmir
- Dharmshala, H.P.
- Simla, H.P.
- Agartala, Tripura
- Kurukshetra, Haryana
- Hoshiarpur, Punjab
- Haridwar, Uttarakhand
- Pauri Garhwal, Uttarakhand
- Rampur, U.P.
- Varanasi, U.P.
- Lucknow, U.P.
- Vrindavan, U.P.
- Agra, U.P.
- Ghazipur, U.P.
- New Delhi, Delhi
- Patna, Bihar
- Darbhanga, Bihar
- Nalanda, Bihar
- Arrah, Bihar
- Kolkata, West Bengal
- Bhubaneswar, Orissa
- Bhadrak, Orissa
- Guwahati, Assam
- Maranhat, Assam
- Silchar, Assam
- Imphal, Manipur
- Agartala, Tripura
- Ujjain, M.P.
- Sagar, M.P.
- Raipur, Chhattisgarh
- Indore, M.P.
- Jodhpur, Rajasthan
- Jaipur, Rajasthan
- Ahmedabad, Gujarat
- Dwarka, Gujarat
- Pune, Maharashtra
- Ramtek, Maharashtra
- Tirupati, A.P.
- Hyderabad, A.P.
- Pondicherry, Pondicherry
- Mysore, Karnataka
- Shravanabelagola, Karnataka
- Keladi, Karnataka
- Bengaluru, Karnataka
- Hampi, Karnataka
- Chennai, T.N.
- Kanchipuram, T.N.
- Thiruananthapuram, Kerala
- Thirur, Kerala
- Tripunithura, Kerala



- Head Office
- Manuscript Resource Centre
- Manuscript Conservation Centre

MANUSCRIPT CONSERVATION CENTRES (MCCs)

- | | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Leh, J&K | Hoshiarpur, Punjab | Pune, Maharashtra |
| Simla, H.P. | Patna, Bihar | Hyderabad, A.P. |
| Delhi | Arrah, Bihar | Tirupati, A.P. |
| Nainital, Uttarakhand | Kolkata, West Bengal | Bengaluru, Karnataka |
| Agartala, Tripura | Bhubaneswar, Orissa | Shravanabelagola, Karnataka |
| Silchar, Assam | Burla, Orissa | Hampi, Karnataka |
| Vrindavan, U.P. | Guwahati, Assam | Keladi, Karnataka |
| Rampur, U.P. | Imphal, Manipur | Udupi, Karnataka |
| Gorakhpur, U.P. | Tawang, Arunachal Pradesh | Mysore, Karnataka |
| Ghazipur, U.P. | Ujjain, M.P. | Chennai, T.N. |
| Lucknow, U.P. | Jodhpur, Rajasthan | Trivandrum, Kerala |
| Varanasi, U.P. | Kota, Rajasthan | Ernakulam, Kerala |
| Kurukshetra, Haryana | Jaipur, Rajasthan | Tirur, Kerala |
| Indore, Madhya Pradesh | Ahmedabad, Gujarat | |
| Raipur, Chhattisgarh | | |

Note: The map here is only notational and not up to the scale.

From the Director



The year under report has been one of resurrection of NMM from total inertia to an institution bubbling with life and rearing to go ahead. It has been a rewarding and fulfilling experience both at the institutional as well as personal level. It was indeed a challenging task to activate serious academic work in the field of manuscripts at an all India level. As it is we Indians have not been able to involve ourselves actively with our heritage whether it be in the form of manuscripts or in any other tangible form. There have been individuals who have worked tenaciously and with dedication in these fields but as a society we lack involvement both in preserving and furthering our heritage. We generally attribute this tendency to our colonial past and are wont to hope that time will correct this attitude. Sixtythree years of independence have passed and this is a fair enough time for any change in attitude to take place in a society. Unfortunately, we have not been able to connect ourselves either with our cultural heritage or with our knowledge heritage in a way in which we would be able to instill in the younger generation a sense of respect and pride for both. I do not blame the youth for being unaware of this vast and valuable heritage because they have not been provided opportunities of coming face to face with either. We need to provide exposure to the Indian knowledge system through making the content of different disciplines an integral part of the curriculum being taught in schools and colleges. We also need to introduce the immense possibilities of research in and practical application of the knowledge base in modern times, not only to the youth but also to policy makers.

India is geographically, culturally, historically, ecologically and linguistically a vast country with almost an unbroken tradition of intellectual pursuit over the past 5000 years. It has been a pursuit in quest of truth, spiritual knowledge as also material progress.

We are all aware that the decimal system originated in India and zero was a contribution of the Indian mind. Obviously these would not have been sporadic inventions but a culmination of consistent academic research! Let us take the case of chemistry which was known as *Rasashastra* in the Indian tradition. A person even remotely aware of the Ayurvedic system knows that this is the only system which can feed humans such elements that are totally inedible for human beings. This is done in a beneficial manner therapeutically as also for improving immunity. Metals like iron, silver, gold and items like pearl, corals and even mercury are processed in a way in which they can be fed to human beings in a beneficial manner. It would be naive to imagine or to propose that these chemical processes would have been developed without proper and rigorous experimentation at different levels!

The philosophy of the Indian intellectual tradition has been to include the common man in the progress of the society. This involvement came about through well thought out strategies adopted by the intellectuals in getting the participation of all sections of society. A strategy which worked well and effectively for developing healthy practices needed for preserving ecological balance and for living in harmony with nature. The principles of the above said were incorporated into the religious beliefs of the people. This proved to be a very effective strategy because it is not possible to educate each and every individual in the society about the intricacies of checks and balances in nature. But once these principles are ingrained in the religious beliefs people do not generally transgress, thus ensuring a life style which is healthy for the individual as well as beneficial for the society at large. Let us take the example of river pollution and felling of trees. Rivers have been referred to as mother and trees as *devata* in Indian tradition. A belief which ensured that the rivers would not be polluted and trees would not be cut. A belief

which sustained the ecological balance for hundreds and hundreds of years but which was erroneously labeled as blind faith by the modernist and which has led to severe ecological degradation in the country. The reason I mention all these things is to emphasize the need of connecting with the Indian knowledge system which had developed as a result of rigorous intellectual activity and growth and which has also connected well with the society. It had made the society an active participant in the application of knowledge thus ensuring a stable and prosperous existence.

We need to tap into this vast resource available to all who would care to look into it and make use of what is available for furthering intellectual growth as well as social prosperity and peace. This knowledge system is an integral part of Indian environment, culturally as well as physically and it contains the seeds of solutions to our problems. The NMM has during the year 2010-2011 tried to connect the past with the present in an effective way.

Emphasis was laid on bringing to light the hidden literature available in different disciplines through seminars. The following seminars were held during the period under review:

- i) Manuscript resources in North East Region: Problems of conservation and dissemination, at Dharamanagar, Tripura
- ii) Traditional Medicine system of India, at University of Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram
- iii) International conference on Persian and Arabic Manuscripts: National Heritage of Composite Culture, at University of Delhi
- iv) National seminar on Buddhist Sanskrit Texts and their Conservation at Nagarjuna Buddhist Foundation, Gorakhpur
- v) Manuscripts on Poetics in Southern Peninsula at A.P. Government Oriental Manuscript Library, Hyderabad
- vi) Manuscripts as alternative Textual Traditions at Central University of Gujarat, Gujarat
- vii) Mathematical Manuscripts in India at Kund Kund Jnanapitha, Indore

This programme will be continued in future also, to cover those areas which could not be covered during this financial year.

To involve and equip young scholars in manuscript studies courses on manuscriptology and palaeography were held in different parts of the country. It was heartening to see enthusiastic response from all sections of the academic world. Advanced level Manuscriptology courses were used as a platform to train young scholars in critically editing manuscripts. Experts were carefully

chosen and given a group of five to six young scholars. They gave them on hands training in critically editing manuscripts. At the end of these advanced level courses we had several manuscripts edited and ready for publication which are now being published by NMM. Response to our preventive conservation and curative conservation courses was also very encouraging and this effort has ensured better care of manuscripts in repositories and personal holdings.

Three Expert Committees were set up to shortlist manuscripts for publication: first for Persian Arabic and Urdu, another for Dravidian languages and third for Indo-Aryan languages. The experts gave us full support as a result of which several manuscripts were selected and allocated to scholars for editing, annotating and translation. We hope, due to these efforts, we will be able to publish several manuscripts next year.

Work in the field of digitization has gone on full steam and we have completed the second phase during which 70,000 manuscripts (approx. 44 lakhs folios) were digitized. This would help us in establishing a National Digital Manuscripts Library in the near future. In our enthusiasm of initiating new programmes we did not ignore the regular programmes that are part of NMM calendar i.e. Tattvabodha lecture. Instead of holding all the lectures at Delhi it was decided to hold them all over India and out of 24 lectures 20 were allocated to different centres in almost all the states. Public response to these lectures proved the desirability of this decision. Collection of these lectures will in due course be published as has been done previously.

We also paid special attention to the north-eastern region as a result of which we were able to actively involve the states of Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura and Assam in our activities. The richness of this tangible heritage in these states has to be seen to be believed. We hope to expand our activities in the other states in the coming year.

During all these activities the Mission did not forget its task of creating a database. During the year under review we achieved the target of information on more than 32 lakh manuscripts in our database, of which, approximately 20 lakhs have been uploaded on the web. The details of our activities and achievements are in the hands of discerning readers to see and evaluate.

It is my pleasant duty to thank the Ministry of Culture for its support, the staff at NMM for their dedicated work and partners all over India for their commitment, enthusiasm and support for Mission's venture which has made the year 2011 a memorable year.

Prof. Dipti S. Tripathi

Director, National Mission for Manuscripts

National Mission for Manuscripts

ANNUAL REPORT 2010–2011

The National Mission for Manuscripts (NMM) is the first consolidated national level effort in the world for reclaiming inheritance of knowledge contained in the vast treasure of manuscripts. Manuscripts, which contain centuries of accrued knowledge in such areas as philosophy, sciences, literature, arts and the pluralistic faith systems of India are more than just historical records. They represent the collective wisdom and experience of generations of thinkers. The NMM was established in 2003 by the Ministry of Tourism and Culture. The major objectives of the

NMM are to document, conserve and preserve the manuscripts of India and also to disseminate the knowledge contained therein through digitization and publication.

The NMM functions through different types of centres established throughout the country. The number of centres (category-wise) are as follows:

Manuscript Resource Centres (MRCs) – 54
Manuscript Conservation Centres (MCCs) – 49
Manuscript Partner Centres (MPCs) – 42
Manuscript Conservation Partner Centres (MCPCs) – 300

Objectives

In suggesting the objectives for the Mission it would be wrong to suppose that the objective for launching a National Mission for Manuscripts is merely to locate, enumerate, preserve and describe all the Indian manuscripts in India and abroad. The objective for undertaking these tasks is to enhance their access, improve awareness about cultural inheritance and encourage their use for educational and research purposes and lifelong learning. The Development Objective can be broken down into the following four sub-objectives:

- **Objective 1:** To facilitate conservation and preservation of manuscripts through training, awareness and financial support;
- **Objective 2:** To document and catalogue Indian manuscripts, wherever they may be, maintain accurate and updated information about them and the conditions under which they may be consulted;
- **Objective 3:** To promote ready access to these manuscripts through publication, both in book form as well as electronic form;
- **Objective 4:** To boost scholarship and research in the study of Indian language and manuscriptology;
- **Objective 5:** To build up a National Manuscript Library.

Programmes and Activities

I. Documentation

- Enriching of National Electronic Database of Manuscripts
- National Survey of Manuscripts and Post Survey Programme
- Expansion and Strengthening of Manuscript Resource Centres (MRCs)
- Supporting Manuscript Partner Centres (MPCs)

II. Manuscript Conservation and Training

- Expansion of MCC Network
- Establishing Manuscript Conservation Partner Centres (MCPCs)
- Creation of a National Resource Team of Conservators
- Promotion of research programmes
- Importing training in preventive conservation
- Workshops on Conservation of Rare Support Materials
- MCPC Workshops
- Establishment of Field Laboratories
- Conservation of manuscript collections in MRCs
- Collaboration with Survey and Post Survey
- Collaboration with Digitization

III. Training on Manuscriptology and Paleography

- Conducting training programmes on Manuscriptology and Paleography

- Creating trained manpower resource
- Introducing manuscriptology courses in Indian Universities
- Preparing of critical editions of manuscripts

IV. Documentation through Digitization

- Preservation of the original manuscripts for posterity
- Promotion of access and usage for scholars and researchers, without tampering with original copies
- Creation of a digital library as a resource base of the digitized copies of manuscripts preserved at different collections of the country
- Creation of standards and procedures for digitization of manuscripts

V. Research and Publication

- **Tattvabodha:** Publication of Collection of Lectures
- **Sameekshika:** Publication of Collection of Seminar Papers
- **Samrakshika:** Publication of Collection of Seminar Papers on Conservation
- **Kritibodha:** Publication of the Critical Editions
- **Prakashika:** Publication of rare texts
- **Kriti Rakshana:** bi-monthly publication of the NMM

VI. Outreach Programmes

- Public Lectures
- Seminars
- Exhibitions etc.

Performance Summary 2010–2011

(In brief)

- Post Survey is continuing in Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat and Tripura.
- Collected information about 2,11,053 manuscripts and total information available with the NMM up to 31st March, 2011 was 32,79,028. In 2010 – 2011, NMM web-launched 1,84,000 additional data. The total data available in the NMM website, www.namami.org stands at **around 20 lakh**.
- 21 workshops on conservation of manuscripts were organised.
- Up to 31st March, 2011, digitization of 70,053 Manuscripts (93,97,422 pages) has been completed. There are 58,045 DVDs containing the digital images of Manuscripts in the custody of the NMM.
- In total, 21 (4 in Delhi and 17 outside Delhi) public lectures were organized under Tattvabodha Series.
- Eight national level seminars on different topics were organized.
- 12 (7 Basic Level and 5 Advance Level) workshops on manuscriptology and palaeography were organized.
- Samrakshika II, Samikshika IV, Kritibodha II and Tattabodha III have been published during 2010–2011.
- An exhibition during the World Sanskrit Book Fair, was organised at Bangalore from 7 to 10 January, 2011.
- ‘Guidelines for Digitization of Archival Material’ was published.
- The total expenditure incurred on the above activities was 10.5 crore.



A view of the Manuscript Exhibition held at Nagarjuna Buddhist Foundation, Gorakhpur (MCC), 25th May, 2010



Documentation of manuscripts in Manipur: Workers, MRC, Manipur State Archives in action

Survey & Post Survey

National Survey for manuscripts

National Survey for Manuscripts is held in different States of India to locate manuscripts in every district of the country. In the survey, 50 trained surveyors in each district look for, locate and document manuscripts in their localities on the standard Questionnaire Forms and Manus Data Sheets over 5 allotted days.

Objectives

- Location of as many manuscripts as possible with a special emphasis on undocumented, private collections
- Reaching out to the grass root level, by linking together the search for manuscripts at the village, district, state and finally the national level
- Generation of interest and awareness about manuscripts among people in districts, towns and villages
- Coordinating with the state and the district administration in the respective states for involving the infrastructure for reaching out to and working with the common man at each level in the state
- Promotion of basic conservation information and hands on training



Manuscript collection at Library of Tibetan Works and Archives, Dharamsala (H.P.)

- To involve local people and students of literature, linguistics, history or any other discipline in finding and documenting their local manuscript wealth
- To create a manuscript map of every district, every state and eventually the whole country.

Strategy

- The Mission approaches the Culture Department or the Archives and Museums Department of the state, and decides on a State Coordinator to coordinate the survey in the state under review
- Two district coordinators are selected for each district—preferably one academician and one representing the local government
- A maximum of 50 surveyors are selected to locate manuscripts in each district
- Pre-survey mapping of the district by the district coordinators
- Outreach campaigns with advertisements in the newspapers, public meetings and networking with panchayats, local governments and eminent personalities
- Training of the district coordinators and surveyors in filling the questionnaire and Manus Data sheet in at least 2 separate training sessions
- The setting of targets for the surveyors by the district coordinators on the basis of pre-survey mapping
- The 5 actual days of survey when 50 surveyors fan out over each district to locate the manuscripts and repositories.

Post Survey for Manuscripts

Post survey is a special drive which follows national survey to accelerate the documentation work in the states. National survey is the means to identify repositories in a state, and Post survey is conducted

to document particular manuscripts therein. During this period, trained scholars revisit the identified repositories for documenting manuscripts, and also to trace new repositories that might have been left out during national survey.

During the post survey programme, the documenter revisits every manuscript repository located during the national survey and ensures proper documentation of each manuscript for the National Electronic Database. Post survey uses the information gathered during the survey and partners with people and institutions in the districts (often themselves located during the survey) to complete the documentation and consolidate the gains of the national survey in the districts.

Objectives

- To follow up on the national survey for manuscripts by revisiting each repository uncovered during the Survey
- To document each manuscript in each repository in every district, state and eventually the country.

Methodology

- Analysis of the information gathered through the national survey with regard to:
 - ◆ Number of repositories in each district
 - ◆ Total number of manuscripts in each repository and district
 - ◆ Number of districts in the State.
- Defining resources required for documenting manuscripts in terms of:
 - ◆ Number of documenters/surveyors per district
 - ◆ Amount of time required to finish the work in each district and state
 - ◆ The identification of potential Manuscript Partner Centres (MPCs) in each district to coordinate the work.
- Selection of MRCs/Partner Institutions/MPCs at the state-level to coordinate the work in the state

- Identification of qualified documenters and district coordinators (according to requirement) by the State-level coordinating institution
- Organizing an intensive training workshop for the documenters for which mission provides the trainers. The aims are to:
 - ◆ Train the documenters with respect to filling the Manus Data sheets and questionnaires
 - ◆ Familiarize the documenters with potential problems they may face in the field.
- Providing the documenters with lists of repositories
- The actual data collection by the documenters who submit the Manus Data sheets to their district coordinator or state-level coordinating institution
- The data is then computerized using the Manus Granthavali software at either the state-level coordinating institution or at the mission office in Delhi and integrated into the Database.

Post Survey has been accomplished in Bihar (10 districts) Orissa, Tamil Nadu, Karnatak and Kerala. The post survey documentation work is presently continuing in:

Andhra Pradesh

1. West Godavari
2. Karimnagar
3. Adilabad
4. Mahabubnagar
5. Vizianagaram
6. Chittor
7. Nizamabad
8. Warangal
9. Srikakulam
10. Vishakhapatnam
11. Kurnool

Gujarat

1. Mehsana
2. Radhanpur
3. Deesa

4. Palanpur
5. Banaskatha

Tripura

1. North Tripura
2. South Tripura
3. West Tripura
4. Dhalai

During the national survey the Mission has identified around 20 lakh of manuscripts in Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh and Tripura which are under process for documentation through post survey programme.

Andhra Pradesh: In the state the post-survey program was launched on 15th October 2009 by the Hon'able Minister for I & PR, Cinematography, FDC & Tourism, Archaeology, Museums, Archives & Culture. A.P. Govt. Oriental Manuscripts Library and Research Institute has been entrusted the responsibility to conduct documentation work throughout the State.

Rajasthan: Rajasthan State Archives has taken up the responsibility of post survey in the state of Rajasthan as state coordinating agency. Around 7.5 lakh manuscripts will be documented in 20 districts of the state. High level meeting with the Principal Secretary, Govt. of Rajasthan has been concluded for the implementation of the program.

Gujarat: L. D Institute of Indology, Ahmedabad has been selected as the state coordinating agency for the state of Gujarat. Around 5 lakh manuscripts will be documented during the program. Training program of district coordinators has been conducted at L.D. Institute of Indology on 21st January 2010.

Tripura: Tripura University has been given responsibility of post survey documentation work in the state. Prof. Satyadeo Poddar, Professor and Head, Department of History has been appointed as the State Coordinator.

Documentation

With an estimated of ten million manuscripts, India is perhaps one of the biggest manuscript reserves in the world. However, most of this wealth has not been documented in a manner to provide a common portal for reference to aid scholars and researchers. In many instances, there has been no knowledge of or access to these manuscripts, creating a gap between the knowledge cultures of the past and present.

NMM is engaged in detailed documentation of manuscripts in India for creating a National Catalogue of Manuscripts. **The catalogue containing information about 20 lakh manuscripts is already available in NMM website, www.namami.org.** This electronic catalogue provides information of manuscripts from institutions-religious, cultural and educational- as well as private collections across the country.

Documentation of Manuscripts since 1st April, 2003 to 31st March, 2011

Year	No. of data received	Total No. of data in possession
2003–2004	88,569	88,569
2004–2005	2,02,563	2,91,132
2005–2006	7,70,111	10,61,243
2006–2007	7,03,196	17,64,439
2007–2008	8,13,151	25,77,590
2008–2009	2,76,271	28,53,861
2009–2010	2,14,114	30,67,975
2010–2011	2,11,053	32,79,028

Performance in 2010 – 2011

Total electronic data received	1,91,000
Total hard data received	9,20,000
Total data edited	3,10,000
Total data released into the website*	1,84,000

- 50,000 additional data are ready for Web-launching and 85,000 additional data have already been edited

Objectives

- Location of the unknown manuscript reserves in the country, both in institutional and private repositories
- Documentation of the entire estimated ten million manuscripts of the country
- Reaching out to the grass root level for gathering information on manuscripts as well as for spreading awareness
- Creation of the electronic catalogue of manuscripts to be made available on the internet

Methodology

- Conducting national survey in each state and union territory, for locating manuscripts in both known and unknown, private and public, catalogued and uncatalogued collections, through standard questionnaire forms
- Coordinating with the state and district administration, as well as local self governing bodies and general populace at large

- Conducting extensive post survey exercises to document each manuscript in Manus Data Sheets
- Gathering data from the Manuscript Resource Centres (MRCs)
- Assorting, checking, organizing and entering the data in the database
- Promoting documentation of collections of Indian manuscripts outside India through set questionnaire and Manus Data forms.

National Electronic Database of Manuscripts

The National Electronic Database of manuscripts is the first of its kind online catalogue of Indian manuscripts, emerging out of various earlier attempts at such documentation by different institutions. With information on every manuscript that has been documented through the Mission's datasheets, the catalogue covers various aspects of manuscripts, from title, commentary, language, script, subject, place of availability, number of pages, illustrations, date of writing etc. As a consolidated portal, it can be searched through the categories of author, subject etc.

Apart from sensitizing people about the rich intellectual heritage of India, the database will provide vital policy impetus for future initiatives to be taken to conserve, preserve, digitize, improve access and save manuscripts for posterity.

Formats

After collection of information, it is entered into the Manus Granthavali software at the Manuscript Resource Centres (MRCs) or Manuscript Partner Centres (MPCs) and finally comes to the Mission for checking by qualified scholars in various fields of knowledge.



Manuscript exhibition at Kundkund Jnanpith, Indore



Participants at Manuscript Day Programme held at Datta Mandira - Shikaripura (Karnatak), 26th December 2010



Dignitaries on the Dais: Manuscript Day Programme held at Datta Mandira - Shikaripura (Karnatak), 26th December 2010

Contribution of MRCs

Sr. No.	Name of the MRC	Total data Up to 31st March, 2010	No. of Data received in 2010-2011	Total data received up to 31st March, 2011
1	A.P.G.O.M.L, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh. (MRC)	22,961	1,973	24,934
2	Akhila Bharatiya Sanskrit Parishad, Mahatma Gandhi Marg, Hazaratganj, Lucknow, U.P. (MRC)	0	2,500	2,500
3	Anandashram Sanstha, Pune. (MRC)	42,998	6,035	49,033
4	Bhai Vir Singh Sahitya Sadan (National Institute of Panjab Studies) Gole Market, New Delhi. (MRC)	214	0	214
5	Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute, Deccan Gymkhana, Pune, Maharashtra. (MRC)	55,500	13,377	68,877
6	Bhogilal Leharchand Institute of Indology, New Delhi. (NEW)	0	1,363	1,363
7	Central Institute of Buddhist Studies, Leh (Ladakh). (MRC)	8,024	1,217	9,241
8	Dept. of Sanskrit, HNB Garhwal Univ., Uttaranchal. (MRC)	741	0	741
9	Dept. of Tamil, Univ. of Madras, Tamil Nadu. (MRC)	5,222	0	5,222
10	Directorate of State Archaeology, Archieves & Museum, J&K. (MRC)	26,331	1,806	28,137
11	French Inst. of Indology, Pondicherry.	35,495	1,999	37,494
12	Guru Charan College Silchar, Assam.	602	0	602
13	H.S. Gaur University, Gaur Nagar, Sagar Madhya Pradesh. (MRC)	33,983	16,240	50,223
14	Himachal Accademy of Arts, Culture & Language, Shimla. (MRC)	46,498	13,881	60,379
15	Institute for Oriental Studies (Shiv Shakti), Maharshi Karve Road, Naupara, Thane West Maharashtra. (MRC)	2,800	0	2,800
16	Kameswar Sing Darbhanga Sanskrit University, Darbhanga, Bihar. (MRC)	10,403	0	10,403
17	Kannada University, Hampi, Vidyaranya, Hospet Tq., Dist. Bellari, Karnataka. (MRC)	50,718	6,059	56,777

18	Kavikulaguru Kalidasa University, Baghla Bhavan, Sital Badi, Manda Road, Ramtek, M.P. (MRC)	6,143	0	6,143
19	Keladi Museum & Historical Research, Keladi, Sagar Tq., Simoga Dist. Karnataka. (MRC)	14,808	4,128	18,936
20	Khuda Bakhsh Oriental Public Library, Ashok Rajpath, Patna, Bihar. (MRC)	23,144	0	23,144
21	Krishna Kant Handique Library, Gauhati University, Gopinath Bardolai Nagar, Guwahati, Assam. (MRC)	25,513	0	25,513
22	Kund-Kund Jnanapith, 584, M.G. Road, Tukoganj, Indore/D-14, Sudama Nagar, Indore, Madhya Pradesh. (MRC)	27,807	4,358	32,165
23	Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra, Haryana. (MRC)	16,658	10,765	27,423
24	Lalbhai Dalpatbhai Institute of Indology Ahmedabad, Gujarat. (MRC)	64,740	0	64,740
25	Library of Tibetan Works and Archives, Gangchen Kyisong, Dharmashala, Himachal Pradesh. (MRC)	95,898	100	95,998
26	Manipur State Archives, Washington Likoi, Imphal, Manipur. (MRC)	37,750	751	38,501
27	Mahabharat Samshodhan Pratisthan, Hanumanth Nagar, Bangalore, Karnataka. (MRC)	59,886	0	59,886
28	Nava Nalanda Mahavihar, Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India, Nalanda, Bihar. (MRC)	20,000	2,164	22,164
29	National Institute of Prakrit Studies and Research, Shravanabelagola, Dist. Hassan, Karnataka. (MRC)	48,749	12,893	61,542
30	ORI, Sri Venkateswar University, Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh. (MRC)	33,543	0	33,543
31	ORI, University of Mysore, Kautilya Circle, Mysore, Karnataka. (MRC)	74,139	4,002	78,141
32	ORI & Manuscript Library, University of Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala (MRC)	74,239	1,441	75,680
33	Orissa State Museum, Bhubaneswar, Orissa. (MRC)	2,90,774	0	2,90,774
34	Rajasthan Oriental Research Institute, PWD Road, Jodhpur, Rajasthan. (MRC)	1,76,954	0	1,76,954
35	Rampur Raja Library, Rampur	43,300	0	43,300

36	Salarjung Museum, Museum Road, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh. (MRC)	40,845	0	40,845
37	Sampurnananda Sanskrit Visvavidyalaya, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh. (MRC)	45,320	6,010	51,330
38	SARASVATI, Sarasvati Vihar, Bhadrak, Orissa. (MRC)	1,08,861	0	1,08,861
39	Scindhia Oriental Research Institute, Ujjain.	38,840	0	38,840
40	Shivaji University, Kolhapur, Maharashtra. (MRC)	6,517	0	6,517
41	Sri Dev Kumar Jain Oriental Research Institute, Devashram, Mahadev Road, Arrah, Bihar. (MRC)	1,17,114	0	1,17,114
42	Sri Sat Shrut Prabhana Trust, Jaipur, Rajasthan. (MRC)	45,008	13,993	59,001
43	SCSVMV, Kanchipuram, Tamil Nadu. (MRC)	0	0	39,436
44	Thanjavur Maharaja Sarfoji's Saraswati Mahal Library, Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu. (MRC)	35,914	0	35,914
45	Thunchan Memorial Trust, Thunchan Paramba, Dist. Mamlapuram, Kerala. (MRC)	1,36,140	7,830	1,43,970
46	Manuscript Library, University of Calcutta, Kolkata. (MRC)	80,255	12,497	92,752
47	Uttaranchal Sanskrit Academy, Haridwar, Uttarakhand. (MRC)	12,324	13,603	25,927
48	VBISIS, Hosiarpur. (MRC)	24,816	1,406	26,206
49	Vrindavan Shodh Sansthan, U.P. (MRC)	42,201	3,005	45,206

Conservation

India has both tangible and intangible heritage. The important elements of our tangible heritage are manuscripts, paintings and books which not only reflect our life styles, religion, traditions, culture, civilization, technology, science and historical reference, but also strengthen our foundation gifted by our forefathers.

Conservation of cultural property through the promotion of awareness and expertise is a concern shared by all in the cultural heritage sector. Through its network of Manuscript Conservation Centres (MCCs), NMM organizes workshops and training programmes across the country to create a national pool of conservation experts for manuscripts.

These workshops have been organised to impart training to personnel working in repositories, individuals holding manuscripts, personnel at MRC, MCPC, MCC and other institutions on preventive and curative conservation of manuscripts.

Conservation of Manuscripts

Any direct or indirect action on a damaged or undamaged manuscript or collection of manuscripts, for increasing their life is conservation. This can be of two types preventive and curative.

Preventive Conservation: Preventive conservation seeks to reduce the future risk of deterioration. It includes measures such as controlling the



Manuscripts in different size and shape, Orissa State Museum, Bhubaneswar



Preventive conservation workshop held at Abrol Manuscript and Rare Books Library, J&K, 27th to 31st December, 2010

temperature and humidity of the storage area of manuscripts and regular inspection and cleaning of manuscripts.

Curative Conservation: Curative conservation is any direct action on the manuscript(s) to prevent active deterioration and also the act of restoration. For instance, fumigation of manuscript(s) infested with insects.

Reserve Pool of Conservators

Taking into consideration the extent and scope of conservation activities the Mission has launched preventive conservation training through workshops. In this type of workshops organised in collaboration with MRCs, conservation of manuscripts is done of the institutions and repositories which are within the periphery of the particular MRC. During these workshops requests from repositories are also taken into consideration by the Mission in which

the service of the MRC is utilized for implementing preventive conservation and reorganization of their collections.

MCPC Workshops

In order to facilitate and provide assistance to institutions with large holdings of manuscripts, which do not have need or facility to develop as MCC, the Mission has developed a different programme. Under this programme such institutions are nominated as Manuscript Conservation Partner Centres (MCPCs). Under this programme each MCC nominates some institutions as MCPCs. The MCPCs are given advice on maintenance and upkeep of their collections. At present the Mission has 220 institutions as its manuscript conservation partner centres.

To further this programme, the Mission organizes three day workshops for the staff of MCPCs. The

main objective of these workshops is to give basic preventive conservation training to the manuscript holders for the regular upkeep and maintenance of their collection. During the course of workshop, as a part of the practical session, one repository is selected for reorganization of their collection.

Awareness Workshop for MRC, MCPC, and Other Repositories

NMM, with an intention to train the staff of MRC, MCPC, and other repositories conducts workshops in different regions to aid the MCCs in the preventive conservation of the collections in institutions and private repositories in their respective regions. This training is given to participants, with a basic knowledge about the preventive conservation of manuscripts.

are unique and specific to the region of Karnataka only. The composition of kadas is not very well known till now. These are on textile base with some coating on both the sides with dark blue colour, the records are written with calcium carbonate. The second one took place at INTACH, ICI, Bhubaneswar. This was a workshop on palm leaf preservation, the third workshop on stone and terracotta inscription took place at Shimla.

The outcome of these workshops will be of great significance for the Mission and manuscript heritage of the country. These workshops give equal emphasis on material and technology, its preparation as well as conservation. It is decided that these seminar papers will be compiled together and published by Mission so that it may facilitate our centres as well as the repository owners. These workshops are basically meant for the repository owners or in-service men

Workshop on Conservation of Rare Support Materials

India is a big country with geographical and climatic variations. Therefore the effect of macro-climate on different materials also differs from region to region. As there are various types of manuscript support materials available in India, the nature and type of problems are also specific and diverse. To supplement the conservation objectives of the Mission, seminars-cum-workshops are planned in different parts of the country of which, the first workshop-cum-seminar on Kadas was held at Karnataka State Archives, Bangalore. Kadas a rare support material for the writing of records



Conservation of manuscripts in progress at NMM laboratory, New Delhi

who have such rare support material manuscripts in their procession. Conservators/curators from various repositories and MCCs, research scholars, and also owners of private collections with manuscripts of the specific material discussed in the workshop, have come together in these workshops to discuss and draw practical conclusions from theoretical

and practical training. Lectures were delivered by eminent scholars, scientists and conservators from all over India who specialize in the respective support material. The workshops involve material technology, the making and conservation of various types of support materials such as, kadas, stone, terracotta, and palm leaf manuscripts.

Conservation Workshops Held in 2010–2011

Name of the Workshop	Sl. No.	Venue	Date
Preventive Conservation and Awareness Workshop	1.	Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, Shri Ganganath Jha Campus, Allahabad, U.P.	10–20 July, 2010
	2.	Oriental Research Institute, Shri Venkateswara University, Tirupathi, A.P.	24–28 September, 2010
	3.	Central Library, BHU, U.P.	21–25 October, 2010
	4.	Thunchan Memorial Trust, Kerala	16–12 October, 2010
	5.	Abrol Manuscripts and Rare Books Library, Jammu, J&K	27–31 December, 2010
	6.	Govt. DSRMVPG Sanskrit University, Raipur, Chhattisgarh	18–22 January, 2011
	7.	Shri Vadiraja Research Foundation, Udupi, Karnatak	17–22 March, 2011
	8.	Patna Museum, Patna, Bihar	2–6 March, 2011
	9.	Kundkund Jnanpith, Indore	7–11 March, 2011
	10.	Bhagolal Leherchand Institute of Indology, Delhi	23–27 March, 2011
	11.	Mazahar Memorial Museum, Bahariabad, Ghazipur, U.P.	
	12.	Manipur State Archives, Imphal	20–24 October, 2010
	13.	Tripura University, Agartala, Tripura	25–29 May, 2011
Curative Conservation Internship Workshop	14.	INTACH, Bhubaneswar, Orissa	23 Nov.–7 Dec. 2010
	15.	NRLC, Lucknow, 2010	30 Nov.–14 Dec. 2010
	16.	Tamilnadu Govt. Museum, Chennai	14–28 February, 2011
Workshop to Create Resource Pool	17.	INTACH, Lucknow	20–24 December, 2010
Workshop on Curative Conservation	18.	Manipur State Archives, Imphal	10–24 January, 2011
Workshop on Conservation of Illustrated Manuscripts	19.	Himachal State Museum, Shimla	22–26 February, 2011
Workshop on Rare Support Materials	20.	Rajasthan Oriental Research Institute, Jodhpur	22–24 March, 2011



Dr. Usha Suresh in interaction with participants at the Preventive Conservation Workshop held at Shri Vadiraja Research Foundation, Udupi, Karnatak, 17th to 20th march, 2011



Curious participants at the Workshop on Preventive Conservation and Awareness on Illustrated Manuscripts held at MRC, Deptt. of Language & Culture, Shimla, 22nd to 26th February, 2011

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Sl. No	MCC	Date of Signing MOU	Name of the Coordinator	Preventive Con. Done		Curative Con. Done	
				Mss	Folio	Mss	Folio
1.	CIBS, Leh, Ladakh	Oct. 03	Prof. Wangchuk Dorjee Negi, Principal	Paper -	Paper -	Paper 10	Paper 2,542
	Field Lab		Prof. Wangchuk Dorjee Negi, Principal	Paper 201	Paper 8,932	Paper 49	Paper 6,251
2.	Deptt. of Language and Culture, Shimla	May 05	Dr. Hari Chauhan Registering Officer	Paper 810	Paper 40,000	Paper 50	Paper 7,484
				Workshop-3, T.P. 90 Awareness Program and Campaign-10, T.P. 500			
3.	Himachal Rani Bagh, Nainita	July 05	Mr. Anupam Sah, Director	Paper 207	Paper 19,681	Paper 116	Paper 1,661
				Refresher Curative Conservation workshop-1 Awareness Campaign-2			
4.	V.R.I. Vrindavan	Sept. 03	Dr. Hari Mohan Malviya, Director	Paper 1,611	Paper 53,622	Paper 133	Paper 6,276
5.	N.B. Foundation Gorakhpur	May 05	Shri Karunesh Shukla, General Secreary	Paper 3,893	Paper 71,138	Paper	Paper
				Awareness Campaign-8 Exhibition-7, Workshop-2			
6.	I.C.C.I. Lucknow	Sept. 03	Mrs. Mamta Misra, Director	Palm leaf 1,408	Palm leaf 2,601	Palm leaf 16	Palm leaf 1,343
7.	Central Library, B.H.U. Varanasi	Nov. 06	Dr. A.K. Singh, University Librarian	Paper 1,725	Paper 86,081	Paper 9	Paper 335
8.	O.R.I.V. University Tirupati	May 05	Prof. V. Vankataraman Reddy, Director	Paper 81	Paper 17,824	Paper	Paper
				Palm leaf 114	Palm leaf 19,366	Palm leaf	Palm leaf
				Workshop-2 Awareness campaigns-4, Exhibition-6			
9.	INTACH, ICKPAC Bangalore	Sept. 03	Ms. Madhu Rani Coordinator	Palm leaf 1,287	Palm leaf 54,609	Palm leaf 55	Palm leaf 5,406
				Paper 5	Paper 852	Paper	Paper
10.	Tamilnadu Govt. Museum, Chennai	Aug. 04	Ms. J.M. Gandhimati, Curator	Palm leaf 1,287	Palm leaf 41,071	Palm leaf 33	Palm leaf 4,090
				Paper 70	Paper 921	Paper 5	Paper 15
				36th Refresher Course on Care of Museum Objects with special reference to Manuscripts, Exhibition-1			
11.	R.C.L., Tiruuantpuram	April 06	Dr. K. K. Mohanan Pillai Conservation Officer	Palm leaf 23	Palm leaf 1,135	Palm leaf 331	Palm leaf 30,592
				Paper	Paper	Paper 30	Paper 120

Sl. No	MCC	Date of Signing MOU	Name of the Coordinator	Preventive Con. Done		Curative Con. Done	
				Mss	Folio	Mss	Folio
13.	Dev Kumar Jain Arrah, Bihar	April 06	Shri A. K. Jain Coordinator	Paper 1,511	Paper 28,105	Paper 8	Paper 351
				Palm leaf 259	Palm leaf 9,325	Palm leaf 30	Palm leaf 783
14.	Manuscript Library, University of Calcutta Kolkata	May 05	Prof. Ratna Basu	Palm leaf 21	Palm leaf 892	Palm leaf 28	Palm leaf 775
				Paper 3,278	Paper 65,138	Paper	Paper
				Awareness and Orientation Programme-2			
15.	INTACH, Bhubaneswar	Sept. 03	Mrs. Mallika Mitra, Director	Palm leaf 581	Palm leaf 69,861	Palm leaf 7	Palm leaf 293
				Paper 2,395	Paper 43,723	Paper	Paper
16.	AITIHYA, Bhubaneswar	Sept. 05	Mr. Aruna Kumar Nayak, Coordinator	Paper 323	Paper 47,000	Paper 30	Paper 4,000
17.	Sambalpur	Aug. 04	Dr. P.K. Behera, Director	Paper 555	Paper 54,262	Paper 555	Paper 54,262
18.	Manipur State Archives, Imphal	April 06	Dr. Sobita Devi, Director	Paper 180	Paper 4,956	Paper 108	Paper 2,387
				Workshop-2			
19.	K, K, H, L, Guwahati	Oct. 03	Prof Wooma Sankar Dev Nath	Paper 98	Paper 3474	Paper 5	Paper 110
				Tula Pat 121	Tula Pat 5,727	Tula Pat 6	Tula Pat 84
				Sanchi Pat 206	Sanchi Pat 8,286	Sanchi Pat 14	Sanchi Pat 387
20.	Rajasthan Oriental Research Institute, Jodhpur	Oct. 03	Shri Shyam Singh Rajpurohit (R.A.S.) Director	Paper 1,999	Paper 68,001	Paper 949	Paper 23,385
				Awareness Campaign -1			
21.	D. Jain Pandulipi Kendra, Jaipur	Nov. 04	Dr. Kamal Chand Sogani	Paper 804	Paper 55,709	Paper	Paper
22.	L.D. Institute of Ideology, Gujarat	March 04	Shri Jitandra B. Shah, Director	Paper 109	Paper 3,842	Paper 79	Paper 2,055
23.	B.O.I.R. Pune	Sept. 03	Dr. Saroja Bhate, Hony. Secretary,	Paper	Paper	Paper	Paper
35	N. I. P. S. Shri Davala Teertham Srovanabelagola		Dr. M. Uday Raj, Executive Officer	Palm leaf 519	Palm leaf 31,506	Palm leaf 288	Palm leaf 3,537
				Paper 521	Paper 73,700	Paper 319	Paper 3,675

Sl. No	MCC	Date of Signing MOU	Name of the Coordinator	Preventive Con. Done		Curative Con. Done	
				Mss	Folio	Mss	Folio
36	Kannada University, Dist. Bellary, Karnataka	Oct. 2010	Prof. Veeresh S. Badiger, Director	Palm leaf 30	Palm leaf 200	Palm leaf 4	Palm leaf 214
				Awareness and Orientation Programme -11			
39	Thunchan Memorial Trust, Tirur	Sept. 2011	Dr. K.P. Ramanunni Director	Palm leaf 44	Palm leaf 7,029	Palm leaf 4	Palm leaf 214
47	Department of History, Tripura University, Tripura West		Dr. Satyadeo Poddar	Palm leaf 9	Palm leaf	Palm leaf	Palm leaf
	Total			26,282	9,98,569	3,271	1,62,627

Feb 2003 to March 2011

	Received report of MCCs	Preventive Conservation		Curative Conservation	
		No. of Mss	No. of Folio	No. of Mss	No. of Folio
April 2003 to March 2007	32	1,84,350	95,77,601	14,743	10,91,859
April 2007 to March 2011	24	1,55,538	48,04,147	65,537	11,23,497
Feb 2003 to March 2011		3,39,888	1,43,81,748	80,280	22,15,356

कृष्णकृतवर्जितं एतत्तु मदात्मा वैरहा कुकुलनदनः । कृत्रियोजानि संपन्नो विहि नो वननारिणः । त्र्यंशुवेदितुमिच्छामः कस्तुवरमिदं
 काचः । तमुवाच विराधः कुरु मम सत्यपराक्रमं हतुं सोमं । तिरगजत्रिवोधमपरायणं पुत्राः । किलाहं न गतो मातामं प्रजातज्ञदा । विराधरति
 मामाज्जुष्टिद्व्यामर्वसकसा । उत्सृज्य प्रमदां मेतामं पक्षीयथागतो । त्वरमाणो पलायेतां नान्यथाजीविनं सवेवा । तं रामः गच्छन्वावेत्सं
 वसेरकुलो वनः । राक्षसे विकृताकारं विराधं पापवतसः । कडुभिर्कृष्णदीनार्थकालमवेष्य संभुवं । नेन प्राणसिद्धिं वनमेनीव त्रिमोसं
 सद्योः कथयतो रवराक्षसयोस्तदा । लक्ष्मणः क्रोधं संक्रोधं उज्ज्याहवे गमाच । ततः स त्र्यंशुः कृत्या लक्ष्मणो निजितावशात्
 सुवर्णमणि संपत्त्या कुरु मे वै पतयत । ते गरीरं विराधस्य सित्वा वाहिणलक्ष्मणः । निपे तु उक्षिरादिग्धाधरणां पादकप्रसाः । नदि
 त्वा सुमहामादंश्च लज्जुधजोपमः । विरूपपरमकुहोलक्ष्मणाय समाहितः । तच्छले वधुसंकाशं तं तिरुगतं महतः । दान्तांशरास्यं वि
 हं द रामः प्राश्नन् तं पुरः । तमास्त्वृतीयं विमलं कुक्कुष्ठं खंजालाजिताच । हदिरामो विराधस्य निदम्या न गरोत्रमाच । रामेण प्राश्नं नि
 वे विस्मृत्य जनकात्मजासु । पपात स गतप्राणो विराधः कालोदितः । ससीतो दीनया दास्य सफेणं उक्षिरं वमन् । उवाच रामे सं
 हतः प्रांजनिर्मयते इयः । कोऽग्न्या सुप्रज्ञानामलया उत्रेण तारिता । विरही वमहातागालक्ष्मणा वमहायशाः । विहि तो
 सिमया प्रवै मापने वनरक्षसः । सुवाकोपयतो वीरो मया सीता हना वितो । अतिप्रापदं द्यौरां प्रविष्टो राक्षसी तत्रे तं
 कृत्वा मगधर्वः प्राप्नो वैश्रवणे नवैः । प्रसाद्यमानश्च मया सोऽत्री नो मरायशाः । एतत्संयतं वापुः प्रापो न विष्णुतिमदावलः । यरा
 जारथीरामस्त्वां वधिष्ठानि संसृगे । ततः प्रकृतिप्रापन्नौ स वनं संगमि । मयसि अत्र पस्थीयता नो मां क्रोद्धवै व्याजहार हो इति वैश्रवः
 णो राजारंभो मङ्गलापदः । न वत्समादात्सु क्रोद्धमजिघापात्सु दाहणाव । न वनं संगमिच्छामि स्वस्ति ते कुरु महाजुजः । अर्धहं योजने तं
 महर्षिः सूर्यामन्त्रितः । इतो वमति धर्मात्मा जारसंगः गता पवाच । तं ग्रीष्ममग्निं सत्वं स ते श्रेष्ठे जिधास्यति । अवदेवापि मे राप्रक्षिपे मं
 कले वरं । रक्तसां गतसत्त्वानां मे वधमैः सनातनः । अवदेये निधीयते ते धालोकाः सनातनाः । एवमुक्त्वा तु काकुलं विराधः जारपीडि
 तः । वल्लवस्वर्गमाकृतः स्युक्ता देहं महीतले । तं समुद्यम्य सौमित्रिर्विराधं पर्वतोपमं । गंतीरमवदं कृत्या निवृत्तान परंतपः । ततो दीनो
 पस्थित्य ममाव्यास्य च मे शिली । अत्र वीलक्ष्मणं रामो ज्ञातरं दीपते जसं । कष्टं वनमिदं दुर्गं न वस्मन् वनकोविदाः । अत्र गच्छामहे ग्रीष्म
 जारसंगं न पोषने । ततस्ततो काचन वित्रकां कुको निहत्य रक्तः प्रतिलप्य मे शिली । विरेजतु र्वर्ष उतो महावतं दिवि स्थितो बद्ध दिवा क्ता
 विव । ॥ इत्यादि रामायणं अरण्यककाण्डे विराधवधो नाम सर्गः ॥ इत्यादि महात्मीमवले विराधं पर्वतोपमां स्थापनं जारसंगस्य विराजे

A folio from Arsharamayana, RORI, Jodhpur

Digitization

Digitization of manuscripts as means of protecting and documenting textual heritage has emerged as an important field in recent times. With the advancement of information technology, digitization promises documentation and preservation of original texts, facilitating at the same time, greater access for scholars and researchers. In 2004, the Mission had initiated a Pilot Project of Digitization, aiming at digitizing several caches of manuscripts across the country. In 2006, the Pilot Project was completed. New projects were taken up, targeting some of the most important manuscript collections of the country. With the fresh digitization projects, the Mission seeks to create a digital resource base of manuscripts.

In the second phase of digitization, the Mission selected important collections from a wider range of institutions.

Objectives

- Preservation of the original manuscripts for posterity
- Promotion of access and usage for scholars and researchers, without tampering with original copies
- Creation of a digital library as a resource base of the digitized copies of some of the significant manuscript collections of the country
- Creation of standards and procedures for digitization of manuscripts

Digitization Assessment

Digitization 'assessment' considers:

1. Curatorial and conservation concerns related to:
 - ♦ The 'robustness' of the source material (does it need special treatment when digitizing, or alternatively can it suffer such things as disbinding)
 - ♦ The security implications of out-sourcing the digitization
2. The other 'physical' and 'content' attributes of the source document
3. Costs of completing the project, with relation to in-house resources and out-sourcing (if allowed)

The aim of the digitization assessment is to:

- Decide, or confirm decisions, as to whether the document can be digitized from source
- Make a rough assessment of the scanning technique that should be employed and the resolutions, bit depths, etc., that are needed
- Decide bearing in mind security risks, costs, and in-house resources that the work can be completed according to the set pattern and within the time frame

Benchmarking

Benchmarking can be defined as the process undertaken at the beginning of a digitization project that attempts to set the levels used in the



Shrimadbhagvad manuscript, M.R. Sharma Collection, Gurgaon, Haryana

capture process to ensure that the most significant information is captured, e.g. setting the resolution or bit depth correctly, full knowledge of the main attributes of the source document. Mission has set some Standard requirements to start a Digitization program. They have been compiled in book form as “Guidelines for Digitization of Archival Material”, available in print as a pdf on Mission’s website <http://www.namami.gov.in>. The book covers the following areas:

1. **Scanner:** Non-touch devices are to be used for scanning purposes as a touch device might harm the original state of document. For this reason a Face Up Scanner rather than a Flat Bed Scanner is to be employed.
2. **Image Quality:** Image Quality at capture can be defined as the cumulative result of the scanning resolution, the bit depth of the scanned image, the enhancement processes and the compression applied, the scanning device or technique used, and the skill of the scanning operator.

- ♦ **Resolution:** It is determined by the number of pixels used to present the image, expressed in dots per inch (dpi) or pixels per square inch (ppi). Increasing the number of pixels used to capture the image will result in a higher resolution and a greater ability to delineate fine details, but just continuing to increase resolution will not result in better quality. The scanning of images hence will take place at 300 dpi.
- ♦ **Bit Depth:** It is a measurement of the number of bits used to define each pixel. The greater the bit depth used, the greater the number of grey and colour tones that can be expressed. The Mission follows two kinds of scanning:
 - ♦ Bi-tonal scanning to represent black and white.
 - ♦ Colour scanning use multiple bits per pixel to represent colour, 24 bits per pixel is called true colour level.

- ♦ **Image Enhancement Process:** This would be used to modify or improve image capture by changing size, colour, and brightness, or to compare and analyze images for characteristics that human eye cannot perceive.
- ♦ **Compression:** It is normally used to reduce file size for processing, storage and transmission of digital images. The Mission follows loss less compression technique where the decompressed image will be identical to its earlier state because no information is thrown away when the file size is reduced. The Mission follows JPEG/JPEG 2000 international standards for compression.

3. Image Formats for Scanned Images

- ♦ Master Image (TIFF format)
- ♦ Clean Image (TIFF format)
- ♦ Access Image (JPEG format)
- ♦ Thumbnail Image (JPEG format)

Naming Convention

The naming of images is an important issue that is handled by the Mission in the most enabling manner. Each manuscript digitized is already documented on the Mission's Electronic Database and the Meta Data (the main fields describing the manuscript) information for each manuscript scanned is identified by its Manuscript Identification Number (Manus ID) which is generated by the Mission's *Manus Granthavali* software. So the Manus ID and the Accession Number, from the Institute/Repository catalogue where the manuscript is kept and where the digitization is taking place, forms the basis of naming the digitized images of each manuscript page.

Quality Assurance

It is imperative that all digitization passes through a series of quality control analyses at various stages.



Visitors at an Exhibition organised at ORI, Mysore during Manuscript Day celebration in 2010

This is an accepted method of verifying that all reproduction is up to standard. Bearing in mind limits of time and finances, some form of sampling may be necessary to reduce the costs of this process. As per the NARA a minimum 10 images or 10% of images (whichever number is higher) need to undergo quality control (these should be selected randomly from the entire collection). Ideally quality assurance (or QA) must be performed on all master images and their derivatives with each step being fully documented. The types of things one should look for are:

- Size of image
- Resolution of image
- File format
- Image mode (i.e. colour images are in colour, not greyscale)
- Bit depth
- Details of highlights and shadows
- Tonal values
- Brightness
- Contrast
- Sharpness
- Interference
- Orientation
- Cropped and border areas, missing text, page numbers, etc.
- Missing lines or pixels
- Poor quality interpolation with access and thumbnails
- Text legibility

The overall return should be checked for file name integrity, completeness of job, and overall meeting of project scope. NARA recommend that if more than 1% of images looked at fail the above quality control checks then the job needs to be redone. Quality control parameters are well defined in the Mission. It conducted meeting on setting up of quality control standards, the process initiated by Khuda Bakhsh Oriental Public Library, Patna, Bihar. Experts on digitization and imaging technology have come to a conclusion that random checking by Imaging Experts

are the best and cheapest solution to keep a check on deliverables by the digitizing agency. Mission has adopted the observation and sends imaging experts to digitization sites for quality checking before final delivery.

Having accepted the advantages digitization presents for facilitating access, and the disadvantages digitization has in acting as a substitute for standard preservation methods, it is clear from previous projects that it is most cost-effective to digitize at a master level quality to allow for multiple outputs (e.g. print, access images, thumbnails, etc.) that can be used as alternatives for the original document in the long run.

Digital technology opens up a totally new perspective. Digitization means acquiring, converting, storing and providing information in a computer format that is standardized, organised and available on demand from common system. Manuscripts are converted into compressed digital formats with specialized scanners and stored systematically for future reference.



An illustration from Kalpasuj-I, Shri D.R. Mehta collection, Jaipur

Performance in 2010–2011

Till March 2011 the digitization of 70,053 Manuscripts (93,97,422 pages) has been completed. There are total 58,045 DVDs containing the digital images of the Manuscripts. The detailed status of digitization of Manuscripts till now are given in the tables below.

Proposed work

The remaining 20 lakh pages which were kept reserved has been allotted among the four digitization agencies (shortlisted for digitization work under second phase against a tender). Almost

85% of the total work is complete and the rest is expected to be completed soon.

NMM is going to initiate the 3rd Phase of Digitization shortly for digitization of Manuscripts in several repositories and collections throughout the country. The tender document for digitization of Manuscripts under the third phase was published in the website and the advertisement for the same was published in the leading newspapers throughout the country. Tenders were received and the evaluation is in process. The selection of digitization agencies, signing MoU with them as well as the repositories, allotment of digitization work to agencies will be completed shortly. The digitization will be started in the repositories/Institutions soon.

Status of Digitization Initiated under Phase-I

Institution	No. Mss.	No. of Pages	Status
ORI, Srinagar	10,591	21,00,000	Complete
OSM, BBSR	1,749	3,50,000	Complete
Jain Manuscripts	180	42,951	Complete
Kutiyattam	340	38,260	Complete
Siddha Manuscripts	1,938	78,435	Continuing
TOTAL	14,798	26,09,646	

Status of Digitization Initiated under Phase-II

Institution	No. Mss	No. of Pages	Status
OSM, BBSR	4,777	13,48,398	Continuing
KKHL, Guwahati	2,091	1,56,170	Complete
Harisingh Gaur University, Sagar	1,010	1,17,603	Complete
Anandashram Sanstha, Pune	7,939	9,21,673	Complete
Bharat Itihas Samshodhan Mandal, Pune	3,523	6,60,730	Complete
Himachal Academy, Simla	225	55,751	Complete
Vrindavan Research Institute	20,075	15,61,864	Complete
Institute of Asian Studies, Chennai	481	34,505	Complete
French Institute	502	1,70,629	Complete
Kundakunda, Indore	8,622	11,60,453	Complete
Bhogilal Leherchand Institute of Indology	6,010	6,00,000	Continue
TOTAL	55,255	67,87,776	



Participants at the Basic Level Workshop on Manuscriptology and Palaeography held at Manipur State Archives, Imphal, 22nd August to 11th September, 2010



Dr. Peter M. Scharf delivering a public lecture under Tattvabodha series at Bharat Itihas Samshodhan Mandal, Pune, 13th January, 2011

Guidelines for Digitization of Archival Material

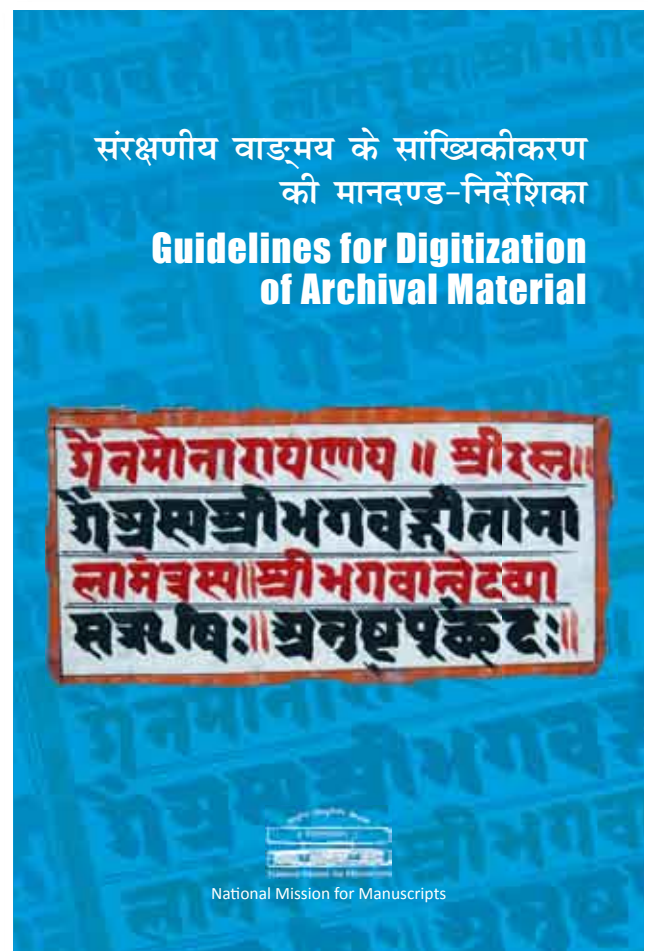
National Mission for Manuscripts (NMM) has the primary objective of using digital technology to preserve the manuscripts for posterity. NMM has studied the best practices being adopted in several digitization projects at national and international level and after long consultation with experts in the field has come up with the document that presents guidelines of digitization. The guideline, titled 'Guidelines for Digitization of Archival Material' was prepared by a Technical Committee comprising experts in the fields of information technology and archival matters from NIC, National Archives of India, IGNC and NMM under the guidance of Director, NMM, Prof. Dipti S. Tripathi. The document was edited by Prof. Dipti S. Tripathi and released in book form on 7th February, 2011.

In this Guidenes, 'digitization' is defined in this way:

"Digitization means acquiring, converting, storing and providing information in digital format that is standardized, organized and available on demand"

These guidelines are aimed at decision makers, archivist, library managers and curatorial and technical staff members. The document sets the guidelines for creating archival quality digital still images of materials which include manuscripts,

printed books, maps, photographs, slides, negatives, microfilms, etc. The guidelines specify factor affecting image quality, file formats, storage and access standards for images.



Outreach

With a view to spreading awareness about manuscripts, the importance of preserving them and facilitating documentation, the NMM has initiated a number of programmes including seminars, lectures, advertisements, publication of newsletter and reports, etc. The objectives of the outreach programmes are:

- Creation of a platform for discussion, debate and critical engagement with manuscripts
- Promotion of awareness and understanding of the manuscript heritage of India
- Generation of interest, awareness and knowledge of the manuscripts among the general populace.

Public Lectures organized under Tattavodha Series in the year 2010-11

Sr. no.	Collaborating Institution/Venue	Topic	Date	Speaker
1	NMM, New Delhi Venue: Lecture Hall 11 Mansingh Road New Delhi - 110 001	वेद विज्ञान एवं पाण्डुलिपि	30.07.2010	Prof. Lakshmishwar Jha Professor, Sri Lal Bahadur Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapith New Delhi.
2	Sanskrit Academy, Osmania University, Hyderabad Venue: Sanskrit Academy Seminar Hall, Hyderabad	अभिज्ञानशाकुन्तलम्-कृतिसमीक्षा से पाठसमीक्षा	09.09.2010	Prof. Vasant Kumar Bhatt Director School of Languages Gujarat University Ahmedabad
3	Nagarjuna Buddhist Foundation, Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh	मातृका ग्रन्थों की सुरक्षा और सम्पादन : महाभारत के सन्दर्भ में	11.12.2010	Prof. Uma Raman Jha Director, Sarasvati Shodha Sansthan, Lucknow, U.P.
4	NMM, New Delhi Venue: Seminar Hall – 1 International Youth Centre Chanakyapuri New Delhi - 21	संगीत सम्बन्धी संस्कृत पाण्डुलिपियों का परिचय एवं उनका महत्व	25.11.2010	Prof. Bhagawat Sharan Shukla Associate Professor, Vyakarana Vibhaga Sanskrita Vidya Dharma Samkaya BHU, Varanasi, UP.
5	NMM, New Delhi (Special Lecture) Venue: Seminar Hall – 1 International Youth Centre Chanakyapuri New Delhi - 21	Indus Civilization and Script	26.11.2010	Dr. S. Kalyanaramana Sarasvati Research Centre, Chennai

Sr. no.	Collaborating Institution/Venue	Topic	Date	Speaker
6	NMM, New Delhi Venue: Lecture Hall 11 Mansingh Road New Delhi – 110 001	विशिष्टाद्वैतदर्शन से सम्बद्ध कतिपय विलुप्त महत्त्वपूर्ण ग्रन्थ	24.12.2010	Prof. Ashok Kumar Kalia Former Vice-chancellor Sampurnanda Sanskrit Vishvavidyalaya Varanasi, U.P.
7	NMM, New Delhi Venue: Lecture Hall 11 Mansingh Road New Delhi – 110 001	ज्योतिर्विज्ञान के ग्रन्थों में परिशोधन की समस्या	28.01.2011	Prof. Mohan Gupta Vice-chancellor, Panini Sanskrit Vishvavidyalaya Ujjain, M.P.
8	Himachal Academy of Arts, Culture and Languages Shimla, H.P. Venue: Bahuddesiya Hall Geyati Campus, Shimla	Himalaya, jñāna aur pāṇḍulipi	23 rd March 2011	Prof. Ganga Prasad Vimal Senior Author
9	Anandashram Sanstha, Pune Venue: D. V. Potdar Hall Bharat Itihasa Sanshodhana Mandal Pune	Providing high quality cataloguing and access to Sanskrit Manuscripts in the digital age	13 th Jan. 2011	Dr. Peter M. Scharf Prof. in Sanskrit, Brown University, USA
10	Dr. H. S. Gaur University Sagar Madhya Pradesh	श्रीमद्भागवतमहापुराण की प्रकाशित और अप्रकाशित पाण्डुलिपियाँ	28 th Dec. 2010	Prof. Gangadhar Panda Prof. in Purana Itihasa, Sampurnananda Sanskrit Vishwavidyalaya, Varanasi U.P
11	NIPSAR, Shravanabelagola Karnataka	Manuscripts and Scripts Tradition	26 th Feb. 2010	Dr. Sangamesh Kalyana Modilipi Expert, Mudhola, Karnataka
12	Sampurnanda Sanskrit Vishvavidyalaya, Varanasi, U.P. Venue: Naimisharanya	पाण्डुलिपि एवं भास	10 th March 2011	Prof. Srinivas Rath Former Director, Kalidas Sanskrit Academy, Ujjain, MP
13	ORI & MSS Library, University of Kerala, Kariavattom Kerala	Sanskrit Tradition in Manuscripts	24 th Feb. 2011	Prof. C. Rajendran HoD, Sanskrit University of Calicut, Kerala
14	Akhila Bharatiya Sanskrit Parishad, "Devavani Bhavanam" Lucknow Venue: Akhil Bharatiya Sanskrit Parishad Lecture Hall	भारतीय चित्रकला और हमारी सचित्र पाण्डुलिपियाँ	23 rd March 2011	Prof. G. C. Tripathi National Fellow, Indian Institute of Advance Studies Shimla, H. P.
15	Rajasthan Oriental Research Institute, Jodhpur, Rajasthan	Bhakti Sahitya and Manuscript Conservation	22 nd March 2011	Dr. D. K. S. Gautam Associate Professor, Dept. of Hindi, J.N.V.U., Jodhpur, Rajasthan
16	SARASVATI (MRC) Bhadrak, Orissa	The importance of 'अर्णवविहारविलास' in Odishan context	10 th April 2011	Prof. Keshab Chandra Dash Chairman, PG Council & HoD, Nyaya Darshana, Sri Jagannath Sanskrit Vishvavidyalaya, Sri Vihar, Puri, Orissa

Sr. no.	Collaborating Institution/Venue	Topic	Date	Speaker
17	Thunchan Memorial Trust (MRC) Tirur, Kerala	A comparative analysis of Ramayana in Hindi, Bengali and Malayalam	2 nd Feb. 2011	Prof. Indranath Choudhuri Member Secretary, Sasta Sahitya Mandal, New Delhi
18	Krishna Kant Handiqui Library Gauhati Univ. Guwahati, Assam	Handiqui and his world republic of letters	22 nd Feb. 2011	Prof. Ranjit Kumar Dev Goswami Dept. of English, Gauhati University.
19	Kunda-kunda Jnanapitha, Indore Madhya Pradesh Anakanta Jainamandir Shitadham, Bina	भारतीय संस्कृति के विकास में जैन शास्त्र भण्डारों का योगदान	13 th March 2011	Dr. Phul Chand Jain Premi HoD, Darsan, Sampurnananda Sanskrit Vishvavidyalaya, Varanasi, U. P.
20	Sanskrit Seva Samiti, "Valam" Ahmedabad, Gujarat Venue: Hemchandracharya Jaina Gyanamandir Azad Medan, Patan	Catalogues of Indian Manuscripts: Critical View Point	29 th March 2011	Prof. Mani Bhai Prajapati Former Professor (Library Science), Hemchandra Uttar Gujarat University Patan, Gujarat
21	Khuda Bakhs Oriental Public Library, Patna, Bihar	Arabic and Persian Illustrated Manuscripts and their significance in understanding the past	23 rd March 2011	Prof. S. P. Verma Tagore National Fellow

Seminars Held in 2010–2011

Sl. No.	Collaborating Institution/Venue	Date	Topic
1.	Govt. Degree College Dharmanagar Tripura	20–22 November, 2010	Manuscript resources of the North-East: problems of conservation and dissemination
2.	Oriental Research Institute and Manuscript Library University of Kerala Thiruvananthapuram Kerala	8–10 December, 2010	Traditional Medicine System of India (With special reference to available manuscripts)
3.	Dept. of Persian University of Delhi Delhi	16–18 December, 2010	Persian and Arabic Manuscripts: National Heritage of Composite Culture
4.	Andhra Pradesh Government Manuscript Library and Research Institute Hydrabad	18–20 March, 2011	National Seminar on Manuscripts on Poetics in Southern Peninsula (Sanskrit as well as Dravidian Languages)
5.	Kundakunda Jnanapitha Indore, MP	27–29 March, 2011	National Seminar on Mathematical Manuscripts in India
6.	Nagarjuna Buddhist Foundation Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh	18–20 February, 2011	National Seminar on Buddhist Sanskrit Texts and their Conservation
7.	Central University of Gujarat Gandhinagar, Gujarat	3rd to 6th March 2011	Manuscripts as Alternative Textual Traditions (special panel)

Kriti Rakshana

Published and distributed three issues of the *Kriti Rakshana* and the forthcoming issue of the *Kriti Rakshana* is being edited.

Exhibition at World Sanskrit Book Fair, Bangalore

World Sanskrit Book Fair was held for four days, 7th to 10th February, 2011 and NMM participated by organizing an exhibition of the books published by the NMM, framed photographs of manuscripts and a slide show on activities of the NMM.

The World Sanskrit Book Fair was first of its kind and a well organized and well attended fair. The four day gala was indeed an international affair. Besides a few visitors from abroad, people from all over the country attended the Fair. To the people of Bangalore it was simply a festival. From school going children to octogenarians, as per an assessment of the Book Fair Authority, four lakh persons visited the Fair. In the NMM Exhibition, the number of visitors was not less than eighty thousand (including four days). The remarkable thing is that a large number of school

going inquisitive children not only thronged the exhibition but also flung different questions to know about manuscripts and their importance.

Among the visitors were scholars and academicians from over the country, Govt. officials, eminent personalities and common populace. Dr. Daggubati Purandeswari, Honourable Minister of State for Human Resource Development (Higher Education), Govt. of India visited the NMM Exhibition on 9th January and appreciated the performance of the NMM in the field of heritage conservation. She was accompanied by former Chief Election Commissioner of India, Shri N. Gopalaswami.

The effective functioning of the NMM depends entirely upon the voluntary cooperation of the common people. This type of exhibition is one of the means to garner public support and the Exhibition in Bangalore was a grand success so far as the interaction with the scholars and common people is concerned. People at large were eager to know how NMM can be of their help so far as the conservation of manuscripts is concerned. The primary aim of the Exhibition, dissemination of information about the activities and achievements of the NMM, was well received by the visitors.



Smt. Daggubati Purandeswari, Union Minister of State, Human Resource Development is being honoured at the NMM Exhibition, World Sanskrit Book Fair, Bangalore, 9th January, 2011

Manuscriptology & Palaeography

The manuscript heritage of India is unique in its linguistic and scriptural diversity. Dearth of skill or expertise in scripts in contemporary researchers has, however, posed a threat to the study and understanding of this textual heritage. To address this, the NMM has developed a detailed framework,

with a view to train students and researchers in Indian scripts and manuscript studies. Through workshops, introduction of manuscriptology courses in universities, and providing fellowships for the higher studies in manuscriptology, the NMM seeks to contribute directly to the production of a skilled resource pool in manuscript studies.

Manuscriptology Workshops held in the Year 2010-11

Basic Level

Sl. No.	Collaborating Institution/Venue	Date	Detail
1.	Manipur State Archives Imphal	22 Aug. – 11 Sept. 2010	No. of participants: 35 Scripts taught: Brahmi, Grantha, Bengali, Odia, Maitei
2.	IGNCA, Varanasi Regional Centre Varanasi, UP	9–30 Nov. 2010	Number of participants: 20 Scripts taught: Sharada & Newari 1. Mss. edited- Natyashastra (13th & 14th Chapter) 2. Ganita Prakash 3. Mayuracitraka 4. Vasturajavallabha
3.	Keladi Manuscripts Resource Centre Keladi Museum Dist. Shimoga, Karnataka	17 Nov. – 1 Dec. 2010	Number of participants: 35 Scripts taught: Kannada Modi, Marathi Modi, Tigalari, Nandi Nagari, Devanagari
4.	Rabindra Bharati University Kolkata	11–28 Feb. 2011	Number of participants: 32 Scripts taught: Old Bengali & Gaudi
5.	CELMF Department of Bengali Assam University, Silchar, Assam	3–18 Feb. 2011	Number of participants: 31 Scripts taught: Old Bengali & Gaudi
6.	Vasantrao Naik Govt. Institute of Arts & Social Science Nagpur, Maharashtra	12–21 Feb. 2010	Number of participants: 40 Scripts taught: Sharada, Shankha & Nagari
7.	Arabic, Urdu & Persian Dept. University of Calicut, Kerala	7–19 Feb. 2010	Number of participants: 39 Scripts taught: Nastaliq, Kufi & Malayalam

Advance Level			
Sl. No.	Collaborating Institution/Venue	Date	Detail
1.	ORI, Mysore and Deptt. of History of Science, University of Mysore Karnatak	25 March– 7 May, 2010	Number of participants: 40 Scripts taught: Brahmi, Kannad & Grantha Text edited: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Subhasitakaushubha 2. Tattvasangraha 3. Baudhayana-adhanaprayoga
2.	L. D. Institute of Indology Ahmedabad	25 March–7 May, 2010	Number of participants: 42 Scripts taught: Brahmi, Devnagari & Gujarati Text edited: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Chandopahacharyam 2. Shimahasanaavattisi 3. Anumanakhandanam
3.	Chinmaya International Foundation Shodha Sansthan, Ernakulam Kerala	1 Nov. –10 Dec. 2010	No. of participants: 22 Scripts taught: Sharada, Nagari, Granth & Newari Text edited: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Samagrivada 2. Satakotikhandanam 3. Bhashakusumamanjari 4. Smrititattvamani 5. Ekaslokivyakhya
4.	Rani Durgavati University Jabalpur M.P	8 Feb. –24 March, 2010	Number of participants: 35 Scripts taught: Sharada & Newari Text edited: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Manastirakaraprakarana
5.	Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra Haryana	23 March–6 May, 2011	Number of participants: 35 Scripts taught: Sharada & Newari Text edited: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Nyayasadarthsangraha 2. Kaushikamatanasarini shikha 3. Kailasakaraka 4. Kathinavadana 5. Kapishavadana



Participants busy in editing during Workshop on Manuscriptology held at IGNCA, Varanasi Regional Centre, Varanasi (9th to 30th November 2010)



Curious School children at an Awareness Programme held at Shimla, 25th August, 2010

Publications

Publication of unpublished manuscripts, critical edition of manuscripts, seminar papers, lectures etc. occupy a position of prime emphasis in the scheme of things undertaken by the NMM. The NMM has started five primary series – *Tattvabodha* (lecture papers), *Kritibodha* (critical editions), *Samikshika* (seminar papers), *Samrakshika* (papers of seminars on conservation) and *Prakashika* (publication of rare unpublished Mss) besides other publications. So far NMM has published three volumes under *Tattvabodha* series, two volumes under *Kritibodha*, three under *Samikshika* and two under *Samrakshika*. *Tattvabodha* IV and *Samikshika* III and *Prakashika* I are in the process of editing.

To give impetus to the publication of unpublished manuscripts, NMM has prepared a list of 300 important unpublished manuscripts available at different repositories in India. After selecting 200 more manuscripts the list of 500 manuscripts will be referred to a committee for short listing 100 manuscripts which will then be published by the NMM under *Kritibodha* Series.

Publications of the NMM

Tattvabodha, the monthly lecture series launched by the National Mission for Manuscripts in January 2005, has established itself as a forum for intellectual debate and discussion. Eminent scholars representing different aspects of Indian knowledge systems have addressed and interacted with audiences both in Delhi and other centres across the country.

The Mission publishes a compilation of these lectures by the same name, **Tattvabodha**. Three volumes of *Tattvabodha* have been published so far.

The National Mission for Manuscripts organises national level Seminars as part of its outreach programme. The papers presented in these



TATTVABODHA VOLUME-I

Edited by: Sudha Gopalakrishnan

Publishers: National Mission for Manuscripts, New Delhi and Munshiram Manoharlal Publishers Pvt. Ltd, New Delhi

Pages: 164

Price: ₹ 325/-



TATTVABODHA VOLUME-II

Edited by: Kalyan Kumar Chakravarty

Publishers: National Mission for Manuscripts, New Delhi and
Munshiram Manoharlal Publishers Pvt. Ltd.

New Delhi

Pages: 194

Price: ₹ 350/-



TATTVABODHA VOL-III

Edited by: Prof. Dipti S. Tripathi

Publishers: National Mission for Manuscripts, New Delhi and
Dev Books, New Delhi

Pages: 240

Price: ₹ 350/-

seminars are published under the title, *Samrakshika* (conservation related) and *Samikshika* (research oriented).

The first volume of **Samrakshika** called **Indigenous Methods and Manuscript Preservation**, was published in September 2006. It contains proceedings of the seminar 'Indigenous Methods of Preservation and Conservation of Manuscripts' organised at National Mission for Manuscripts

head office, New Delhi in February 2005. The papers in this volume emphasize on indigenous techniques and methods of conservation, the need to revive these as they are more beneficial to manuscripts.

Samiksika I contains proceedings of the seminar, '**Buddhist Literary Heritage in India: Text and Context**' organized at Calcutta University Manuscript Resource Centre, Kolkata in July 2005.



SAMRAKSHIKA VOLUME-I

Indigenous Methods of Manuscript Preservation

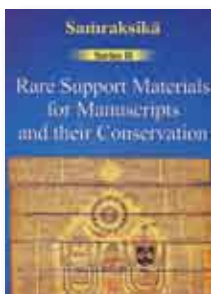
Edited by: Sudha Gopalakrishanan

Volume Editor: Anupam Sah

Publishers: National Mission for Manuscripts, New Delhi and
D. K. Printworld (P) Ltd., New Delhi

Pages: 253

Price: ₹ 350/-



SAMRAKSHIKA VOLUME-II

Rare Support Materials for Manuscripts and their Conservation

Edited by: K. K. Gupta

Publishers: National Mission for Manuscripts, New Delhi and Dev Books, New Delhi

Pages: 102

Price: ₹ 200/-

Samrakshika II is an anthology of papers presented at a national seminar on the Mahabharata, organized by the National Mission for Manuscripts, in February-2007. The volume is on **Text and Variations of the Mahābhārata: Contextual, Regional and Performative Traditions.**

The National Mission for Manuscripts has taken the initiative of publishing critical editions of rare and previously unpublished texts under the title *Krtibodha*.



SAMIKSHIKA VOLUME-I

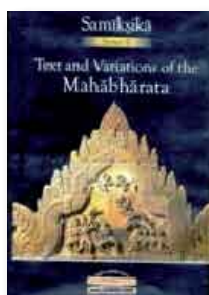
Buddhist Literary Heritage in India

Edited by: Prof. Ratna Basu

Publishers: National Mission for Manuscripts, New Delhi and Munshiram Manoharlal Publishers Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi

Pages: 158

Price: ₹ 325/-



SAMIKSHIKA VOLUME-II

Text and Variations of the Mahābhārata

Publishers: National Mission for Manuscripts, New Delhi and Munsiram Manoharlal Publishers (P) Ltd. New Delhi

Year of Publication: 2009

Pages: 335

Price: ₹ 500/-



SAMIKSHIKA VOLUME-IV

Indian Textual Heritage: Persian, Arabic and Urdu

Publishers: National Mission for Manuscripts New Delhi and Delhi Kitab Ghar, Delhi

Edited by: Prof. Chander Shekhar

General Editor: Prof. Dipti S. Tripathi

Year of Publication: 2011

Pages: 368

Price: ₹ 350/-

The first of the *Krtibodha* series was Vādhūla Ṛṣhyāgamavṛttirahasyam of Nārāyaṇa Miśra critically edited by Prof. Braj Bihari Chaubey. The text is a versified commentary on the Vādhūlagṛhyasūtravṛtti, which itself is a short commentary on Vādhūlagṛhyasūtra. The text is

important for the wealth of information it contains on domestic rites and rituals, especially related to Ṛṣhya and Smārtakarma. It also has reference to other important texts such as Katha-Aranyaka, Vadhulagam and Vrata Sangraha which have so far remained unknown.



KIRTIBODHA-I

Vādhūla Ṛṣhyāgamavṛttirahasyam of Nārāyaṇa Miśra

Critically edited by: Braj Bihari Chaubey

General editor: Sudha Gopalakrishnan

Publishers: National Mission for Manuscripts

New Delhi and D. K. Printworld (P) Ltd., New Delhi

Pages: 472

Price: ₹ 550/-



KIRTIBODHA-II

Srauta Prayogaklipti of Acharya Sivasrona

Critically edited by: Braj Bihari Chaubey

General editor: Dipti S. Tripathi

Publishers: National Mission for Manuscripts

New Delhi and D. K. Printworld (P) Ltd., New Delhi

Pages: 218

Price: ₹ 250/-

In 2011, the NMM has started a new series, *Prakashika*. Rare unpublished manuscripts are published with Introduction under this

series. The first volume of this series, which is already in the market is *Diwanzadah*, a persian text.



PRAKASHIKA-I

Diwanzadah

Edited by: Prof. Abdul Haq

General Editor: Prof. Dipti S. Tripathi

Publishers: National Mission for Manuscripts

New Delhi and Delhi Kitab Ghar, Delhi

Pages: 454

Price: ₹ 250/-

The Mission not only encourages documentation of manuscript collections all over the country but also plans to publish them. We have a programme of publishing descriptive catalogues of all the collections of the **Manuscript Resource Centres** working with the Mission.

The Mission has published a catalogue of the exhibition of Indian manuscripts at the Frankfurt Book Fair, Germany. The catalogue covers several aspects of Indian manuscripts. It is divided into 6 sections; 'From Clay to Copper' giving us an idea of the variety of materials on which texts are found;

'The Making of a Manuscript' with information on styluses and inkpots; 'Fields of Learning' which provides an overview of the different areas which manuscripts deal in; 'Veneration, Submission, Worship' shows us the importance of the word which is considered sacred; the fifth section, 'Word and Image' provides us a glimpse of illustrated manuscripts in the country; lastly, 'Royal Commands and Plain Records' is an indicator of the fact that manuscripts were an integral part of lives of everyone from the King to the common man.



THE WORD IS SACRED SACRED IS THE WORD

The Word is Sacred, Sacred is the Word- the Indian Manuscript Tradition by B. N. Goswamy with contributions from Dhritabrata Bhattacharya, Yashaswini Chandra, Kakul Fatima, Jagdish Mittal, D. K. Rana, Rita Devi Sharma, Sanjukta Sunderason and Gitanjali Surendran

Publishers: National Mission for Manuscripts
New Delhi and Niyogi Offset Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi

Pages: 248

Price: ₹ 1850/-

Vijñānanidhi: Manuscript Treasures of India: A catalogue of select manuscripts declared 'Vijñānanidhi: Manuscript Treasures of India' has also been prepared by the Mission. This was released by

Smt. Ambika Soni, Minister for Tourism and Culture in February 2007 in a function which also saw the launch of database of 1 million manuscripts on the web.

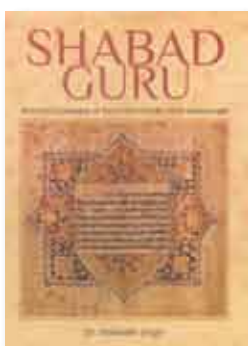


VIJÑĀNANIDHI: MANUSCRIPT TREASURES OF INDIA

Published by: National Mission for Manuscripts

New Delhi

Pages: 144



SHABAD GURU

Illustrated Catalogue of Rare Guru Granth Sahib Manuscripts

Editor: Dr. Mohinder Singh

Publishers: National Mission for Manuscripts

New Delhi and National Institute of Punjab Studies

New Delhi

Pages: 193

Mission Directory

Prof. Dipti S. Tripathi
Director

Pt. Satkari Mukhopadhaya
Consultant (Manuscript)

Sri R. M. Nawani
Internal Financial Advisor

Sri S. P. Swamy
Sr. Accounts Officer and Coordinator, MRC & MCC

Documentation

Dr. Ganesh Prasad Panda
Coordinator

Documentation Assistants

Dr. Prabhat Kumar Das
Shiv Prasad Tripathi
Dr. Avadh Kishore Chaudhary
Abdur Razique
Dr. Ramavatar Sharma
Shishir Kumar Padhy
Lakshmidhar Panigrahi
Pramita Mishra
Dr. Sridhar Barik

Cataloguers

Mamta Lekhwar
Sheeja T
Deepti Negi
Laxmi Rawat
Mukesh Janotra
Lata Gohri
Sharmishtha Sen
Deepak Kochar

Survey

Dr. Dileep Kumar Kar
Coordinator

Post-Survey

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Coordinator, Post Survey

Research & Publication

Dr. Sanghamitra Basu
Coordinator

Mrinmoy Chakraborty
Editor, Kriti Rakshana

Conservation

Dr. Kirti Srivastava
Coordinator

Digitization

Bishvaranjan Mallik
Coordinator

Programmer

Pranaya Kumar Mishra
Muhammad Mansoor Akhtar

Accounts and Office Support

Deepa Chopra
Personal Assistant

Snehlata
Accounts Assistant

Peons

Smt. Kamla Rawat
Shri Mohit Kumar Karotia
Smt. Sushila

Committees Governing the National Mission for Manuscripts

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3. Member Secretary, IGNCA, New Delhi – Member
4. Joint Secretary, Ministry of Culture, Government of India – Member
5. Director, National Mission for Manuscripts – Member
6. Director General, National Archives of India, New Delhi – Member

List of nominated members lapsed after two years (since NNM's inception in 2003). Nomination of members is under process.

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7. Dr. Ravindra Panth, Director, Nava Nalanda Mahavihara, Nalanda – Member

Functional Network of the National Mission for Manuscripts

India has the largest number of manuscripts in the world and collections are spread all over the country. Therefore, a network of activity based centres is necessary to fulfil the objectives of documentation, conservation, digitization and dissemination of manuscripts. The National Mission for Manuscripts (NMM) functions through a network of **(1) Manuscript Resource Centres (MRC), (2) Manuscript Conservation Centres (MCC), (3) Manuscript Partner Centres (MPC) and (4) Manuscript Conservation Partner Centres (MCPC).**

Manuscript Resource Centres (MRCs)

Akhila Bharatiya Sanskrit Parishad
Deva Vani Marg
Sector-B, Aliganj
Lucknow
Uttar Pradesh

Bhogilal Leherchand Institute of Indology
Vijay Vallabh Smarak Complex
20th Km., G.T. Karnal Road
P.O. Alipur
Delhi-36

Anandashram Sansthan
22, Budhwar Peth
Pune-411 002
Maharashtra

Calcutta University Manuscript Library
Hardings Building
1st floor, 87/1, College Street
University of Calcutta
Kolkata-700 073

Andhra Pradesh Govt. Oriental Manuscript Library &
Research Institute
Jama-i-Osmania
Osmania University Campus
Hyderabad-500 007
Andhra Pradesh

Central Institute of Buddhist Studies
Choglamsar
Leh (Ladak)-194 001
Jammu and Kashmir

B.C.Gupta Memorial Library
Guru Charan College
Silchar-788 004
Assam

Centre for Heritage Studies
Thripunithura Hill Palace
Ernakulam
Kerala

Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute
812, Shivaji Nagar, Deccan Gymkhana
Pune-411 037
Maharashtra

Department of Archaeology
Tamil Valarchy Valagam
Halls Road, Egmore
Chennai-600 008
Tripura University

Deptt. of Culture & Archeaeology
Raipur
Chhattisgarh

Suryamaninagar-799130
Agartala
Tripura West

Sampurnananda Sanskrit Viswavidyalaya
Varanasi-221 001
Uttar Pradesh

HNB Garhwal University
Pauri Garhwal-46 001
Uttaranchal

Kurukshetra University
Kurukshetra-136 119
Haryana

Directorate of State Archaeology, Archives & Museum
Stone Building
Old Secretariat
Srinagar-190 001
Jammu & Kashmir

Shri Chandrashekharendra Saraswati Visva
Mahavidyalaya, Enathur
Kanchipuram-631 561
Tamil Nadu

French Institute of Pondichery
11. Saint Lois Street
P.B. No.33
Pondicherry

Himachal Academy of Arts,
Culture & Language
Cliff-End Estate
Shimla-171 001
Himachal Pradesh

Institute of Tai Studies and Research
Moranhat-785 670
Assam

Kameswar Singh Darbhanga Sanskrit University
Darbhanga-846 004
Bihar

Kavikulaguru Kalidasa University
Baghla Bhavan, Sitalwadi
Manda Road, Ramtek
Maharashtra-441 106

Keladi Museum & Historical Research
Keladi, Sagar Taluq
Dist.- Shimoga
Karnataka-577 401

Kund Kund Jnanpit
584, M.G. Road, Tukoganj
Indore-452 001
Madhya Pradesh

Lalbbhai Dalpatbhai Institute of Indology
Navarangpur
Near Gujarat University
Ahmedabad-380 009
Gujarat

Manipur State Archives
Keishampat
Imphal-795 001
Manipur

Kannada University
Hampi
Vidyaranya-583 276
Hospet Tq.,
Dist. Bellari
Karnataka

Mazahar Memorial Museum
Bahariabad
Ghazipur-275 208
Uttar Pradesh

Bhai Veer Singh Sahitya Sadan
Gole Market
New Delhi

Nava Nalanda Mahavihar
Nalanda-803 111
Bihar

Oriental Research Institute and Manuscripts Library
University of Kerala
Kariavattom
Thiruvananthapuram-695 581
Kerala

Oriental Research Institute
Sri Venkateswara University
Tirupati-517 502
Andhra Pradesh

Oriental Research Institute
Kautilya Circle
Mysore-570 005

Orissa State Museum
Museum Building
Bhubaneswar
Orissa

Patna Museum
Vidyapati Marg
Patna

Rajasthan Oriental Research Institute
PWD Road
Jodhpur-342 001
Rajasthan

SARASWATI
Sarasvati Vihar
Bhadrak-756 113
Orissa

Shree Dwarkadhish Sanskrit Academy & Indological
Research Institute
Dwarka-361 335
Gujarat

Sri Dev Kumar Jain Oriental Research Institute
Devashram, Mahadev Road
Arrah-802 301
Bihar

Sri Sat Shrut Prabhavana Trust
B-17, Indrapuri Colony
Lalkothi
Jaipur-302 015

Thunchan Memmorial Trust
Thunchan Parambu
Tirur
Malapuram-676 101
Kerala

National Institute of Prakrit Studies and Research
Sri Dhavala Teertham
Shravanabelagola-573 135
Dist. Hassan
Karnataka

Mahabharat Samshodhan Pratisthan
I/E, 3rd Cross, Girinagar
Bangalore-560 085

Rampur Raja Library
Hamid Manzil
Rampur-244 901
Uttar Pradesh

Vrindavan Shodh Sansthan
Raman Reti
Vrindavan-281121
Uttar Pradesh

Thanjavur Maharaja Sarfoji's Sarasvati Mahal Library
Thanjavur-613 009
Tamil Nadu

Scindia Oriental Research Institute
Vikram University
Ujjain
Madhya Pradesh

Krishna Kanta Handique Library
Gauhati University
Gopinath Bardolai Nagar
Guwahati-781 014
Assam

K.M.Institute of Hindi Studies & Linguistics
Dr. B.R. Ambedkar University
Paliwal Park
Agra-282 001
Uttar Pradesh

Viswasvarananda Visvabandhu
Institute of Sanskrit & Indological Studies
Shadhu Ashram, Una Road
Hoshiarpur-146 021
Punjab

Uttaranchal Sanskrit Accademy
Sanskrit Bhawan, Delhi Highway
Jwalapur
Haridwar-249 407
Uttarakhand

Library of Tibetan Works and Archives
Gangchen Kyisong
Dharmashala-176 215
Himachal Pradesh

Khuda Bakhsh Oriental Public Library
Ashok Rajpath
Patna-800 004
Bihar

Deptt. of Tamil
University of Madras
Marina Campus
Chennai-600 005
Tamil Nadu

Manuscript Conservation Centres (MCCs)

AITIHYA
Plot No 4/330, 1st Floor
P.O.- Raghunathpur
Sisupala Gada
Puri Road
Bhubaneswar
Orissa

Aklank Shodh Sansthan
Aklank Vidyalaya Association
Basant Vihar
Kota-324 009
Rajasthan

Digambar Jain Pandulipi Samrakshan Kendra
Jain Vidya Samsthan
Sawai Man Singh Road
Jaipur-302 004
Rajasthan

Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute
812, Shivaji Nagar
Deccan Gymkhana
Pune-411 037
Maharashtra

Mazhar Memorial Museum
Bahariabad, Ghazipur
Uttar Pradesh-275 208

A. P. State Archives & Research Institute
Tarnaka
Hyderabad-7

Bhogilal Leherchand Institute of Indology
Vijay Vallabh Smarak Complex
20th Km., G.T. Karnal Road
P.O. Alipur
Delhi-36

Central Library
Banaras Hindu University
Varanasi-221 005
Uttar Pradesh

Department of Manuscriptology
Kannada University
Hampi Vidyananya-583 276
Dist - Bellary
Karnataka

Deptt. of Language & Culture
Himachal Pradesh State Museum
Shimla-171 004
HP

INTACH, Chitrakala
Parishath Art
Conservation Centre
Kumara Krupa Road
Bangalore-560 001

Indian Council of Conservation Institute
HIG-44, Sector-E
Aliganj Scheme
Lucknow-226024
Uttar Pradesh

INTACH ICI
Orissa Art Conservation Centre
Orissa State Museum Premises
Bhubaneswar-751 014
Orissa

Kund-Kund Jnanpith
584, M.G. Road
Tukoganj
Indore-452 001

Calcutta University Manuscript Library
87/1, Harding Building
(1st Floor), University of Calcutta, College Street
Kolkatta-700 073

Keladi Museum & Historical Research
Keladi, Sagar Taluq
Dist.-Shimoga
Karnataka-577 401

Dept. of Sanskrit
Pali & Prakrit
Kurukshetra University
Kurukshetra-136 119
Haryana

Krishna Kanta Handique Library
Gauhati University
Guwahati-781 014
Assam

Nagarjuna Buddhist Foundation
18, (C-143/22)
Andhiari Bagh
Gorakhpur-273 001
Uttar Pradesh

National Institute of Prakrit Studies and Research
Sri. Dhavala Teertham
Shravanabelagola-573 135
Dist. Hassan
Karnataka

Manipur State Archives
Kaisampat
Imphal -795 001
Manipur

Orissa State Museum
Museum Building
Bhubaneswar
Orissa-751 014

Centre for Heritage Studies
Thripunithura Hill Palace
Ernakulam
Kerala

Deptt. of Culture & Archeaeology,
Raipur
Chhatisgarh

Rajasthan Oriental Research Institute
P.W.D Road, Jodhpur-342 011
Rajasthan

P.G department of History
Sambalpur University
Jyoti Vihar
Sambalpur-768 019
Orissa

B.C. Gupta Memorial Library
G.C. College
Silchar-788 004
Assam

Patna Museum
Vidyapati Marg
Patna
Bihar

Tripura University
Suryamaninagar-799 130
Agartala
Tripura

Vrindavan Shodh Santhan
Raman Reti
Vrindavan-281 121
Uttar Pradesh

Government Museum
Egmore
Chennai-600 008
Tamilnadu

Central Institute of Buddhist Studies
Choglamsar
Leh (Ladakh)
J&K-194 104

Shri Dev Kumar Jain
Oriental Research Institute
Devashram, Mahadeva Road
Arrah-802 301
Bihar

Tawang Monastery
Dist. Tawang
Arunachal Pradesh

Lalbhai Dalpatbhai Institute of Indology
Navarangpur
Near Gujarat University
Ahmedabad-380 009
Gujarat

Oriental Research Institute
Sri Venkateswara University
Tirupati-517 502
Andhra Pradesh

INTACH
Chitrakala Parishath Art Conservation Centre
Kumara Krupa Road
Bangalore-560 001
Karnataka

Regional Conservation Laboratory
Department of Arcaeology
Sreepadam Palace
Fort P.O.
Thiruvananthapuram-695 023
Kerala

Himalayan Society for Heritage and Arts
Conservation
Markandeya House
Ranibagh
Dist- Nainital
Uttarakhand-263 126

Thunchun Memorial Trust
Thunchan Parambu
Tirur, Dist. Malapurram
Kerala

Rampur Raja Library
Hamid Manzil
Rampur-244 901
Uttar Pradesh

Khuda Bakhsh Oriental Public Library
Ashok Rajpath
Patna-800 004
Bihar

Salarjung Museum
Salarjung Marg
Hydrabad-500 002
Andhra Pradesh

Scindia Oriental Research Institute
Vikram University
Ujjain
Madhya Pradesh

Viswesvarananda Visvabandhu
Institute of Sanskrit & Indological Studies
Shadhu Ashram
Una Road
Hoshiarpur-146 021
Punjab

Our Partners

Manuscript Resource Centres (MRCs)

Expansion and Strengthening of Manuscript Resource Centres

To create an extensive network for survey, documentation, cataloguing and awareness among the people and to assist the keepers and stakeholders of manuscripts, the Mission has set up Manuscript Resource Centres (MRCs) across the country in universities, renowned research institutions and established non-governmental organizations engaged in work relating to manuscripts.

Organization of the MRCs

- Each MRC has a core team of personnel trained in various levels of expertise like cataloguing, editing and deciphering scripts
- The activities of each MRC are administered and coordinated by a Project Coordinator from the existing staff of the Institution
- To source the data through field surveys and document the manuscripts, two types of personnel work with the MRC—scholars engaged in the field for survey and the computer entry personnel to enter data in the Manus Granthavali software
- Manuscript Registration Centre is equipped with two computers and a printer with internet facilities and the prescribed Manus Granthavali software where manuscript data is entered for eventual integration into the National

Electronic Database of Manuscripts at the Mission Office

- To find resource persons to decipher and edit manuscripts through Organising workshops on Manuscriptology and Paleography
- The funds for each MRC are disbursed according to its capacity and satisfactory output

Activities of MRCs

- The MRCs engage trained researchers and students in the field of Manuscriptology for survey and documentation
- MRCs help in the National Surveys at the state level
- MRCs network with private and institutional manuscript custodians
- MRCs find scholars to decipher manuscripts and teach scripts and other aspects of Manuscriptology and Paleography
- MRCs coordinate with the NMM office in Delhi to organise Tattvabodha lectures and national seminars

Supporting Manuscript Partner Centres

Apart from the Manuscript Resource Centres, the Mission has created a network of Manuscript Partner Centres. Here we have affiliated with important manuscript repositories for the documentation

and cataloguing of their own collections. Their work involves basic cataloguing through Manus Granthavali software done by their own staff on a pro-rata basis or by outsourcing the task.

Documentation of Collections Abroad

The Mission had been preparing the ground for the documentation of collections located in repositories abroad. More than 70 institutions were contacted in 2006. After a gap of four years, the Mission has been in the process of drawing up a project for coordinating with the SAARC nations, to document Indian manuscripts in the various South Asian countries. It is expected that in 2011–12, this exercise in international networking and documentation of collections abroad will begin to yield tangible results in terms of the expansion of the National Electronic Database and the digitization of particularly rare and valuable Indian manuscripts.

Strategy

- Establishing contact with known repositories of Indian manuscripts in Europe, USA and Asia
- Sending the appropriate formats on which our manuscript data is collected
- Sending the Manus Granthavali software for computerization of data
- Helping repositories locate scholars in their areas who can read and decipher as yet un-catalogued Indian manuscripts
- Collecting catalogues where such catalogue of Indian manuscripts exist
- Digitize the Indian manuscripts available in collections abroad

Manuscript Research Centres

Andhra Pradesh Government Oriental Manuscripts Library, Hyderabad

With a view to salvaging the valuable and rare manuscripts in the State, the Oriental Manuscripts Library was established in the Andhra Pradesh State Archives Department in 1967. In 1975, the Library was made an independent directorate under the Education Department. It is now located in the Osmania University Campus. The main objective of the Department is the documentation and preservation of manuscripts. It has a rich collection of 24,017 manuscripts both on palm leaf and paper in Telugu, Sanskrit, Urdu, Arabic, Persian, Kannada, Hindi, Oriya, Marathi and a few other languages. These manuscripts relate to various subjects like Vedas, Upanishads, Agamas, Dharmashastra, Grammar, Prosody, Alankarashastra, Mantrashastra, Tantrashastra, Indian Medicine, Unani Medicine, Astrology, Astronomy, Kavya, Dictionaries, etc. The Institute has published three volumes of Descriptive Catalogues. There are a number of rare manuscripts preserved in the Library, such as the Bhargava Purana, Tattvasangraha Ramayana and Andhra Tulasi Ramayana in Telugu, Akaradi Amara Nighantu, Samaveda in Sanskrit, Diwan-i-Gawazi in Urdu and Almktra-i-Funoon, Aqlaq-i-Nasery in Arabic and Persian. The Institute has digitized 7,698 manuscripts of 6.60 lakh pages of palm-leaf and paper manuscripts from its own collection.

The MRC was established in November 2005. The MRC has so far documented 24,934 manuscripts as electronic data and has conducted six awareness campaigns which received a great response from the public. The MRC collected hundreds of written documents of folk performances and oral narratives



One folio from bamboo leaf manuscript, preserved at Orissa State Museum, Bhubaneswar



Director, National Mission for Manuscripts, Prof. Dipti S. Tripathi being honoured at a Seminar cum Exhibition, held at L.T.L. Library & Archives, Mizoram



Prof. S.P. Verma delivering a public lecture under Tattvabodha series at Khuda Bakhsh Oriental Public Library, Patna (23rd March, 2011)

palm-leaves and paper scrolls. There are many types of manuscripts & documents seen during survey period in the possession of the villagers. One type of document which are found with village performers are “family right deeds or hakku patras”. The members of performer families have received right to perform from the village elders and by some local authority. The hakku patras allow these villagers to perform in forty villages known as “patti”. Though these documents are discovered in small quantity, they are important and helpful in providing information about socio-artistic activities, local histories, and oral literature.

Address:

Prof. Sripada Subramanayam
Director
A.P. Govt. Oriental Manuscripts Library and
Research Institute
Jama-I-Osmania, Osmania University Campus
Hyderabad-500007
Andhra Pradesh
Tele/fax: 040 23220236

University of Madras, Chennai

Since August 2003 The University of Madras has been collaborating with the Mission to complete the project of New Catalogus Catalogorum which is very informative for scholars in the field of Sanskrit, Pali and Prakrit. The New Catalogus Catalogorum is a comprehensive alphabetical register of Sanskrit and allied works in Pali, Prakrit and Apabhramsa carried out by the University of Madras since 1935. The National Mission had taken steps to restart this illustrious programme. Through financial support from the Mission, the publication of volumes were brought out by 2007. So far volumes have been completed through this project.

The University signed a second MOU in July 2004 to collaborate as a MRC for locating and documenting the manuscripts of Tamil Nadu. The MRC has documented and produced electronic data on 7,500 manuscripts covering 5 institutions,

29 mutts, 2 universities and 25 private collections in 7 districts.

Address:

V. Arasu
Head of the Department of Tamil Literature
Marina Campus, University of Madras
Chennai-600005
Tamil Nadu
Tel: 044 28444933/28441686
Fax: 044 25366693/28445517
Email: tamil_lit@rediffmail.com

French Institute of Pondicherry, Pondicherry

The French Institute of Pondicherry was established in 1955. The Institute was established with a view to collecting all material relating to Saiva Agamas, scriptures of the Saiva religious tradition called the Saiva Siddhanta, which has flourished in South India since the eighth century A.D. The manuscript collection of the Institute was compiled under its Founder-Director, Jean Filliozat. The manuscripts in need of urgent preservation cover a wide variety of topics such as Vedic ritual, Saiva Agama, Sthalapurana and scripts such as Grantha and Tamil. The collection consists of approximately 8,600 palm-leaf codices (including 360 bundles of texts written on paper) and 1,144 transcripts of manuscripts on paper in Devanagari script including five illustrated manuscripts. It is unique as it has the largest collection of Saiddhantika manuscripts in the world.

The MRC at the French Institute has been in operation since August 2003. It has so far documented 37,494 manuscripts into the database of the Mission.

Address:

T. Ganesan
Project Coordinator
French Institute of Pondicherry
11 Saint Louis Street, PB-33
Pondicherry-605001
Tel: 0413 2334168 (ext) 123, Fax: 0413 2339534

Department of Manuscriptology, Kannada University, Hampi

The Manuscriptology Department at Kannada University at Hampi, Karnataka, was started in 1996. It may be considered as the foremost department designed for the study of the manuscripts at the University level in Karnataka. The Department has a four-fold activity, which includes the collection of manuscripts, editing them, their study in a new dimension by adopting innovative technology and their publication. The main objective of the Department is to compile manuscripts that enshrine the history of centuries, to enrich India's cultural history. Field work, seminar, training courses, workshops are part of the programme of this Department. It has so far collected more than 4,000 valuable manuscripts including Tamil, Telugu, and Malayalam, Marathi and Sanskrit languages besides Kannada. Some of the most significant among them are Nammi's *Bharata*, *Halayudha Stotra*, *Kumarasambhava*, *Shivadhikya Ratnavali* and

a commentary on *Maghakavya*, etc. There are also several illustrated and colored manuscripts.

The Manuscript Department of the Manuscript Library of Kannada University has many specialties. The library has 5500 very rare manuscripts. Among the collection Kannada manuscripts are more than 3,000 in number. The MRC at Kannada University, Hampi, has been functioning since June 2004. It has covered 200 institutions and 1600 private collections covering 11 districts during survey and has organised 27 awareness campaigns. The MRC has so far documented 56,777 manuscripts most of which are written in Sanskrit or Kannada scripts covering a wide range of subjects like Religion, Astrology, Philosophy, Vastu Shastra, songs, folklore etc. The Department has collected 1500 manuscripts during the survey period.

Address:

Veeresh S. Badiger
Department of Manuscriptology
Kannada University
Hampi
Vidyaranya-583276
Hospet Tq
District: Bellary (Karnataka)
Tel: 08394 441335/441337, Fax: 08394 441334
Email: registrar@kavihampi.org



An illustration from *Ramayana* (in Persian),
Rampur Raza Library Collection

Keladi Museum and Historical Research Bureau, Shimoga

Affiliated to Gnana Sahyadri, Shankaraghatta, Kuvempu University of Shimoga, the Keladi Museum has a library of about 1,000 paper and palm leaf manuscripts written in Kannada, Sanskrit and Telugu and approximately 400 palm leaf manuscripts in Tigalari script. These manuscripts cover literature, art, dharmashastra, history, astrology, astronomy, medicine, mathematics and veterinary science. There are also several collections of art objects, arms, coins, stone sculptures and copper plate inscriptions belonging to the Vijayanagara and Keladi eras.

The Museum associated itself with the Mission's network in May 2005. Since then it has been working with the Mission and has documented 18,936 manuscripts.

Address:

Keladi Gunda Jois
Project Coordinator
Keladi Museum and Historical Research Bureau
Keladi, Sagar Taluk
Shimoga District
Karnataka-577401

Mahabharata Samshodhana Pratishthanam, Bangalore

Founded in 1997 by a group of techies working in various MNCs, The Mahabharata Samshodhana Pratishthanam is an Indic research organisation based in Bangalore. It has been established with the objective of contextualising India's ancient wisdom and knowledge and use it to improve quality of life of people across the world and to conduct focused research in select areas of Indic knowledge systems. It is also involved in research and development of new tools and technologies and in distributing them as freeware as needed by scholars of Indic systems.

The MRC at MSP has been functional since December 2004 and works towards preservation and digitization of manuscripts of India. It has so far documented 59,886 data of manuscripts and has conducted 5 awareness campaigns. The MSP has covered 25 institutions and 20 individual collections in seven districts.

Address:

Ramachandra Budihal
Project Coordinator
Mahabharata Samshodhana Pratishthanam
#1/E, 3rd Cross, Girinagar 1st Phase
Banashankari 3rd Stage
Bangalore-560 085
Karnataka
Tel: 080 6422387
Email: mspblr@yahoo.com

National Institute of Prakrit Studies and Research, Shravanabelagola

The National Institute of Prakrit Studies and Research was established in 1993 to promote Prakrit language, literature, Jainology and Jain literature in Kannada and other Dravidian languages. It has a magnificent library of 6,000 invaluable manuscripts written on palm leaf and paper along with a rich collection of 20,000 volumes. Affiliated to Mysore University it is the only Centre in South India promoting higher education and research on Jain literature, theology, philosophy, history and arts and thus it has attracted scholars from all over the world. The Institute regularly supports 5 advanced students to work on PHD Degree by providing guidance and monetary Assistance.

The Institute has some very important manuscripts available like *Gommatasara*, *Chattisa Ganitha*, *Adipurana*, and *Khagendramanidarpana* and *Thiloyapannathi*. The institute also possesses a valuable copy of *Thiloyapannathi* of Yathivrishabhacharya, a text written on the three world Jain theory in the sixth century A.D.

The MRC at National Institute of Prakrit Studies and Research started functioning from October 2005. Before becoming an MRC, the Institute had documented and catalogued 50,000 data of Jain manuscripts which is integrated in the Mission's National Electronic Database of Manuscripts. As an MRC the institute has surveyed 50 private collections and 37 institutes and documented 61,542 manuscripts in the Mission's National Electronic Database of Manuscripts from 5 districts covering 210 institutions and private collections. The MRC has collected 80 manuscripts in donation.

Address:

M. Udayraj
Executive Officer
National Institute of Prakrit Studies and Research
Shri Dhavalateertham
Shravanabelagola-573135
Hassan District
Karnataka

Oriental Research Institute, Mysore

Housed in the architecturally attractive Jubilee Hall built in 1887, The Oriental Research Institute was established in 1891. The institute was established by Chamaraja Wodeyar, the Maharaja of Mysore, with the objectives of collecting, preserving, deciphering and critically editing palm leaf and paper manuscripts. It was a part of the Department of Education until 1916, when it became a part of the University of Mysore.

Oriental Research Institute has published nearly 200 titles, the most notable among them is the publication of the first ever complete text of Kautilya's Arthashastra (written in the fourth century B.C) in 1909, which catapulted the Institute to international academic renown. There are other important texts like Navaratnamani-mahatmya (a work on gemology), Tantrasara-sangraha (a work on sculpture and architecture), Vaidyashastra-dipika (an ayurvedic text), Rasa-kaumudi (on mercurial medicine) and Paryayapadamanjari (ayurvedic materia medica) which are part of ORI's collection. The Institute has already published 17 volumes of Descriptive Catalogues of different subjects including 9 volumes of the Sritattvasudhanidhi, the illustrated manuscripts.

The MRC at Oriental Research Institute, University of Mysore, has been functioning since October 2003. The documentation, pertaining mainly to the collections of the MRC itself, has covered 78,141 manuscripts through regular and post survey. The MRC has collected about 100 manuscripts during survey period.

Address:

Dr. B. A. Dodamani
Project Coordinator
Oriental Research Institute
University of Mysore
Kautilya Circle
Mysore-570005
Karnataka
Tel: 0821 2423136/2420331
Email: mrcmys@yahoo.com

Oriental Research Institute and Manuscripts Library, University of Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram

Established in the University of Kerala the Oriental Research Institute and Manuscripts Library is a renowned repository of manuscripts from this region. It has more than 60,000 manuscripts in palm-leaf, paper, ivory, tortoise shell and metal covering a wide variety of subjects. These are found in languages such as Sanskrit, Malayalam, Kannada, Telugu and Tamil. The Library has published 8 volumes of Alphabetical Tabular catalogues and 2 volumes of Malayalam catalogues.

The Institute has been collaborating with the Mission as a MRC since November 2003. It has so far conducted surveys covering 7 districts. The institute has documented 75,680 and prepared electronic data of 36,240 manuscripts.

The MRC has conducted 8 awareness campaigns and covered 8 institutions and 50 private collections.

Address:

Dr. K. G. Sreelekha
Head of the Department
Oriental Research Institute and Manuscripts Library
University of Kerala
Kariavattom, Thiruvananthapuram-695585
Kerala
Tel: 0471 2418421, Fax: 0471 2302898
Email: keralauniversity@vsnl.com

Sri Chandra Sekharendra Saraswathi Viswa Mahavidyalaya, Kanchipuram

Sri Chandra Sekharendra Saraswathi Viswa Mahavidyalaya is sponsored by the Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam Charitable Trust. The University started functioning from 1994-1995 with various branches of modern knowledge with a focus on science including Sanskrit, Physics, Chemistry, Engineering, Medicine (Human, Veterinary and Plant),

Biotechnology, Genetics and Computer Technology. The University also encourages advanced research in the above fields of knowledge. Sri Chandra Sekharendra Saraswathi International Library was established in 1995 a unique feature of this library is its collection of rare and ancient manuscripts and palm-leaves which are more than 6,000 in number. These manuscripts have been microfilmed and will generate high quality research in Sanskrit and various fields of modern science and technology.

An MOU was signed between Mahavidyalaya and NMM in November 2004. The main objective of this project consists of surveying and cataloguing the manuscripts available throughout Tamilnadu. The Vice-chancellor of the Mahavidyalaya has been appointed as the Director of the Project and Smt. S. Nagalakshmi, Deputy Registrar was appointed as the project Co-ordinator.

Amongst the 5000 manuscripts, nearly 3500 manuscripts have already been catalogued and 2850 microfilmed by the NMM. In the current project, nearly 1100 manuscripts from the original collection have been documented with descriptive cataloguing.

Nearly 47050 electronic data were entered through the software Manus Granthavali.

Address:

Dr. G. Srinivasu
Project Coordinator
Sri Chandra Sekharendra Saraswathi Viswa
Mahavidyalaya
Sri Kanchi Sankar Matha
Kanchipuram-631502
Tamil Nadu
Tel: 04112 222115
Fax: 04112 224305

Thunchan Memorial Trust, Tirur

Established in memory of Thunchan Ramanujan Ezhuttachan, the great spiritual leader, poet and social reformer of Kerala, Thunchan Memorial Trust has through its several activities such as conducting seminars, discussions and poetry readings established itself as a vibrant centre of learning dedicated to the study of history, culture and literature of the region. The Institution has a well-developed library with significant manuscript collection.



An illustration from Tarikh-i Khandan-i Timuriyah, preserved at Khuda Bakhsh Oriental Public Library, Patna

The MRC at Thunchan Memorial Trust started functioning in June 2004. So far the trust has documented 1,43,970 mss.

Address:

K.P. Ramanunni
Director
Thunchan Memorial Trust
Thunchan Parambu
Tirur-676 101
Malappuram District
Kerala
Tel: 0494 2422213/2429666
Email: thunchan@vsnl.com

Oriental Research Institute, Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupati

The Oriental Research Institute in Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupati was established by Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanam in 1939. It was set up with

the objectives of furthering Indological research and propagating Indian culture and heritage. The institution was handed over to Sri Venkateswara University in 1956.

The Institute has a rich collection of 50,000 palm-leaf and paper manuscripts and 75,000 rare printed books in its library. The manuscripts in the collection cover a wide range from philosophy, religion, epic, language, grammar to poetics and horoscopy.

The MRC at the Institute has been working with the Mission since September 2003. It has so far documented 33,543 manuscripts written in Telugu and Devanagari scripts covering 13 institutions in 4 districts. The MRC has collected 500 manuscripts as donation. Data pertaining to the manuscripts has been entered into the Database. It has held several outreach campaigns and sensitization programmes through newspaper and TV channels. This created a good response in the area, especially among research scholars, teachers and manuscript holders.

Address:

V. Venkataramana Reddy
In-charge Director
Oriental Research Institute
Venkateswara University
Tirupati-517502
Andhra Pradesh
Tel: 0877 2249666 (ext) 291, Fax: 0877 2226614

Thanjavur Maharaja Serfoji's Saraswati Mahal Library, Thanjavur

Built up by the successive dynasties of Nayaks and Marathas of Thanjavur, Tanjore Maharaja Serfoji's Saraswati Mahal Library is perhaps one among the few medieval libraries that exists in the world. The Library contains very rare and valuable collection of manuscripts, books, maps and painting on all aspects of arts, culture and literature. The Library has a rich collection of manuscripts numbering about 59,000 in Sanskrit, Tamil, Marathi and Telugu including several illustrated manuscripts, which reflect the



Folios from Vishnupurana, S.P.K. Gupta Collection

history and culture of South India. A total number of 24,432 titles are catalogued and in active use. The scripts used for Sanskrit language are Grantha, Devanagari, Telugu, Malayalam, Kannada and Oriya. Fourteen volumes of Descriptive Catalogues have been published by the Library so far.

The MRC at Thanjavur Maharaja Serfoji's Saraswati Mahal Library has been functioning since September 2003. The MRC has so far prepared 35,914 electronic data of manuscripts in Tamil Nadu.

Address:

Sri S. Sivagnanam
Project Coordinator
Thanjavur Maharaja Serfoji's Saraswati
Mahal Library
Thanjavur-613009
Tamil Nadu
Tel: 04362 234107/230206
Fax: 04362 233568/230857

Central Institute of Buddhist Studies, Leh

The Central Institute of Buddhist Studies has been working as the nodal resource centre for Buddhism in the local area of Leh for several years. Formerly known as the 'School of Buddhist Philosophy', this Institute was established in 1959. Its main objective is to develop a comprehensive knowledge of Buddhism. This includes the study of ancient shastras, culture, philosophy, history and languages such as Hindi, Sanskrit, English, Tibetan and Pali. It also preserves and publishes rare Buddhist manuscripts and facilitates research on Buddhism. The Institute is dedicated to instilling the wisdom of Buddhist thought, literature and arts in young students.

The Institute signed the MOU with the National Mission of Manuscripts in August 2003 and has been since then doing active work in the difficult terrains of Ladhak, an area which is scattered with Buddhist monasteries, the storehouses of manuscripts. The

MRC has so far conducted surveys in 755 institutions and private collections and prepared electronic data for 9,241 manuscripts in Tibetan and Bhoti, all related to Buddhism and documented 17,858 manuscripts of Bhumi, Kangyur, Gyastongpa through seven scholars. It has conducted 50 publicity programmes which received a phenomenal response from the people of this region.

Address:

Dr. Tsering Mutup
Director
Central Institute of Buddhist Studies
Choglamsar
Leh (Laddak)-194001
Tel./Fax: 01982-264391
Mr. Tsering Muthup (AO) - 09419177543

Directorate of State Archaeology, Archives & Museum, Srinagar

In Kashmir, Manuscripts were written in several languages on various materials such as birch bark, hand-made paper, wood, stone, cloth and terracotta. These manuscripts covered almost all important aspects of the contemporary times such as religion, history, philosophy, literature, medicine, arts, geography and literature. The State of Jammu and Kashmir undoubtedly, has a vast collection of such manuscripts and historical documents.

The MRC at the Directorate started working with the Mission in August 2003. The MRC has the mandate of collecting information on the rich cultural assets in the form of manuscripts scattered all over the region. The Directorate has offices both in Srinagar and Jammu. It has so far produced electronic data for 3672 manuscripts and documented 28,137. The rest of the data has been sent to the Mission Head Office, New Delhi to be prepared for the electronic data of Manus Granthavali. The Museum has covered 23 institutions and 190 private collections covering seven districts, and has held several awareness campaigns across Jammu and Kashmir.

Address:

Director
 Directorate of State Archaeology,
 Archives & Museum
 Stone Building, Old Secretariat
 Srinagar-190001
 Jammu and Kashmir
 Tel: 0194-2472361 (Srinagar)
 0191-2578834 (Jammu)

Himachal Academy of Arts, Culture and Languages, Shimla

The MRC at Himachal Academy of Arts, Culture and Languages, Shimla signed the MOU with the Mission in May 2005. Since then the MRC has documented 60,379 manuscripts covering 1800 private collections and 100 institutions. It has also organised 10 publicity programs in different places generating a very good response among the people. The MRC has also been involved in conducting the National Survey for manuscripts in Himachal Pradesh. The Academy has collected 700 manuscripts during the Survey period.

Address:

Dr. B. R. Jaswal
 Project Coordinator
 Himachal Pradesh Academy of Arts
 Culture and Languages
 Shimla-171001
 Himachal Pradesh

Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra

The Kurukshetra University was established in 1956 and its foundation stone was laid by late Dr. Rajendra Prasad, the first President of India. Starting with only the Department of Sanskrit, it has grown into a multi-faculty University as one of the premier centres for advanced study and research in the region. Committed to offer quality education, Kurukshetra University established the Jawaharlal Nehru Library. The library has 2,99,463 documents including

7,000 manuscripts. Kurukshetra University has a long history of collecting manuscripts and rare books for research and teaching. Some of its manuscripts are 500 years old. The University's collection serves the students and scholars from around the world, as well as members of the general public, who are welcome to use its materials.

The MRC at Kurukshetra University has been functioning since October 2003 to locate and document the manuscripts in the public and private manuscript repositories of Haryana. The MRC has documented 27,423 manuscripts covering 12 districts and prepared 16658 electronic data. The MRC was also involved in conducting the National Survey for manuscripts in Haryana in 2006. The university MRC has added 5,000 manuscripts in their collection during survey period and covered about 55 institutions and 400 private collections in the State.

Address:

Surendra Mohan Mishra
 Department of Sanskrit, Pali and Prakrit
 Kurukshetra University
 Kurukshetra-136119 (Harayana)
 Tel: 01744 238367, Fax: 01744 238277

Library of Tibetan Works and Archives

Conceived of and founded by His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama of Tibet, the Library of Tibetan Works and Archives (LTWA) is one of the most important institutions in the world dedicated to the preservation and dissemination of Tibetan culture. It has been operational since 1st November, 1971. As a centre for the study of Tibetan culture, the Library is firmly dedicated to a threefold vision of preservation, protection and promotion. The Library is home to one of only two Tibetan Oral History projects in the world. The Tibetan Manuscript Collection contains more than 80,000 items, ranging from handwritten manuscripts and centuries old documents to contemporary books and periodicals. Of special value are several



An illustration from Palakapya Gajayurveda, RORI, Jodhpur

handwritten editions of the Kangyur and Tengyur, the Tibetan Buddhist Canon; major works of Tibet's four Buddhist traditions, the Nyingma, Kagyu, Sakya and Gelug, as well as the indigenous Bön tradition. It is in the process of completing a general catalogue of all materials in the collection. An important new project for the LTWA is the launch of the Central Archives of the Works of His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama. The purpose of which is to gather all materials concerning His Holiness the Dalai Lama's teachings, writings and speeches.

The Library signed the MOU with the Mission in September 2003. The survey in this region has so far generated 95,998 data on manuscripts. The Institute has conducted 25 outreach campaigns which were well received by the participants. The MRC has covered 10 private collections and 31 institutions covering 4 districts. The events organised by the MRC have been broadcast in radio and local television channels, for wider propagation.

Address:

Dr. Labsang Shastri
Chief Librarian
Library of Tibetan Works and Archives
Gangchen Kyisong
Dharamsala-176215
Himachal Pradesh
Email: lobshastri@gov.tibet.net

Rampur Raza Library, Rampur

Established by Nawab Faizu'llah Khan, a remarkably gifted and far-sighted ruler, The Rampur Raza Library is a rich storehouse of 50,000 books and 15,000 manuscripts in Arabic, Urdu, Persian and Turkish, many of them priceless. It also houses Mughal miniature paintings from the sixteenth to eighteenth century. The Library has the status of a National Institution and functions under the Ministry of Culture, Government of India. The Library has a collection of 150 illustrated manuscripts and

11 Descriptive Catalogues in various languages and subjects. The library is preparing a critical edition of Tarikh-e-Baburi, a manuscript of immense historical value. Tarikh-e-Mohammadi, another important text, is also being transcribed from the original for publication.

The MRC at Rampur Raza Library has been functioning since August 2003. The MRC has so far documented 43,300 manuscripts of Urdu, Arabic and Persian languages. It has covered 40 institutions and 100 private collections covering 60 districts during Survey and has held 7 awareness campaigns.

Address:

Director
Rampur Raza Library
Hamid Manzil
Rampur-244901
Uttar Pradesh
Tel: 0595 2325045, Fax: 0595 2340548
Email: director@razalibrary.com

Visweshvarananda Viswabandhu Institute of Sanskrit and Indological Studies

The Institute of Sanskrit and Indological Studies, Hoshiarpur is an important manuscript repository from the North - West zone of the country. The collection of the Department is distinctive, with 2,685 manuscripts in the north Indian and south Indian languages and scripts pertaining to different subjects such as the Vedas, Upanishads, Puranas, astrology, astronomy, and ayurveda among others. They are written on different materials like birch bark, palm leaf and hand-made paper. Many old and important manuscripts have already been edited and published and some are in process of publication by the Institute. The latest publication to come out of the Institute was Asvalayana Srautasutra in 3 volumes. One of the

unique manuscripts of the Institute is a manuscript (photocopy) titled Sancha written in Pavuchi script which is presently not known to be available in any other collection. This script is yet to be deciphered by the scholars.

The MRC, started working in September 2003. Out of the surveys conducted so far, information has gleaned on 26,206 manuscripts from different collections in places such as Chandigarh, Muktsar, Amritsar, Patiala, Ludhiana and Hoshiarpur including some areas of Uttaranchal covering 60 institutions. The MRC has collected 100 manuscripts for their collection.

Address:

Prof. Raghubir Singh
Visweshvarananda Biswabandhu Institute of
Sanskrit and Indological Studies
Sadhu Ashram
Hoshiarpur-146021 (Punjab)
Tel: 01882-275475, Fax: 01882-221002

Uttaranchal Sanskrit Academy, Haridwar

Established in December 2002 to promote the Sanskrit language, the Uttaranchal Sanskrit Academy integrates the Sanskrit language with new technology. It organises seminars, exhibitions, and collects manuscripts from private collections. There are Eighty-eight Sanskrit colleges and schools working under this Academy. It has a collection of 4,000 manuscripts. The manuscripts found in the institutions and private collections in the State cover a wide range of subjects from Veda, Upanishad, Purana Itihasa, Dharmashastra, Darshana, Kavya, Stotra and several other subjects.

The MRC at Uttaranchal Sanskrit Academy has been working with the NMM since June 2005. With the help of 9 staff members the institute has surveyed 125 private collections and 20 institutions covering 6 districts. These surveys resulted in the documentation of 5993 manuscripts.

Address:

Dr. Buddhadev Sharma
Secretary
Uttaranchal Sanskrit Academy
Ranipur Jhal
Delhi Rashtriya Raj Marg
Haridwar-249401

K. M. Institute of Hindi & Linguistics

K. M. Institute of Hindi & Linguistics functions under B. R. Ambedkar University, Agra. Formerly known as the Agra University, the University was renamed 'Dr. B. R. Ambedkar University', in 1996. The University is privileged to have a large collection of rare manuscript related to literature, history, astronomy, astrology, religion and philosophy. The collection also contains old coins, old pictures and a map of Agra from the time of Shah Jahan and other items of immense historical value. The University is making every possible effort for the careful preservation of these treasures. The K. M. Institute of Hindi & Linguistics established as early as 1953 is actively involved in the preservation and study of these manuscripts some of the outcome of this study is the edited work on Sursagar Padmawat Beesaldev Raso etc. There is a section of special collections in the Central Library which includes the Mahajan collection, the Srivastava collection and the Bagchi Collection. The MRC since its inception documented 1400 manuscripts with the help of 2 scholars.

Address:

Prof. Hari Mohan
Director
Kanhaiyalal Maniklal Muni Institute of Hindi
Language and Linguistics
Dr. B.R. Ambedkar University
Paliwal Park (Agra-2)

**Sampurnananda Sanskrit
Visvavidyalaya, Varanasi**

Sampurnananda Sanskrit Visvavidyalaya, established by Sir Arthur Venis, in 1791 is located

in Varanasi and is among the oldest Sanskrit Universities in India. It is considered a focal point for Sanskrit culture and studies in India. The University has a valuable collection of 1,25,000 manuscripts covering all the subjects in Devanagari, Bengali and Sarada scripts. The University has published valuable catalogues of manuscripts. Among these, the older catalogue comprises the manuscripts acquired in 1791-1950 and the new one covers those obtained in 1951-1981. Both contain a large number of extremely valuable manuscripts.

Sampurnananda Sanskrit Vishvavidyalaya signed the MOU with the National Mission for Manuscripts in May 2005. It has 8 scholars working in 10 districts towards the collection and preservation of manuscripts. The Resource Centre has documented 38, 270 manuscripts from 16 institutions and 13 private collections.

Address:

Prof. Gangadhara Panda
Project Coordinator
Sampurnananda Sanskrit Visvavidyalaya
Varanasi-221001 (UP)
Tel: 0542 2205122

**Kameshwar Singh Darbhanga Sanskrit
University, Darbhanga**

Darbhanga Sanskrit University was established in 1961, with Mahamahopadhyay Dr. Umesh Misra, the eminent scholar, as the first Vice Chancellor. Among the collections of the University are manuscripts on epics, philosophy, vyakarana, dharmashastra, agama, tantra etc. The University has an exceptional collection of nearly 5,562 rare manuscripts including 6 illustrated manuscripts of the Ramayana, Gitagovinda, Srimadbhagavata and Durga Saptasati etc. The few manuscripts of Vidyapati, Mahesh Thakur composed in their own scripts are among the proud possession of the University.

Darbhanga Sanskrit University started functioning as a MRC in September 2003. Known across Bihar for the rich manuscripts in Sanskrit, this MRC has documented in various collections and surveyed Mithila and Jharkhand areas. Seven scholars have so far documented 10,403 manuscripts. The MRC has covered 12 institutions and 114 individual collections in 3 districts.

Address:

Prof. Kulananda Jha
Pro-Vice Chancellor
Kameshwar Singh Darbhanga Sanskrit University
Kameshwar Nagaram
Darbhanga-846004
Bihar
Tele/fax: 06272 222608/222138

Khuda Bakhsh Oriental Public Library, Patna

One of the National Libraries of India, Khuda Bakhsh Oriental Public Library was established in 1891 by Khuda Bakhsh Khan out of his personal collection of a few manuscripts. It acquired the status of an "Institution of National Importance" by an Act of Parliament in 1969. The Library is recognized the world over for its rich collection of invaluable manuscripts, rare printed books, many miniatures and paintings of Hindu pantheon and original paintings of Mughal, Rajput, Turkish and Iranian schools. It has special manuscripts like an inch-wide Quran. It also contains the only books rescued from the plunder of the University of Cordoba in Spain. There are some other rare manuscripts in the collection at Khuda Bakhsh, including the *Jehangir-Nama*, *Shah-Namah*, *Al-Quran*, *Tarikh-i-Khandan-i-Timuriya* and *Kitab-ul-Hashaishh*. There are many examples of Persian calligraphy and rare coins. Many expensive and rare manuscripts have come from places like Alexandria, Cairo, Damascus, Beirut, Arabia, etc. There are facilities for research work concerning the Muslim period in Oriental

studies. The Institution has published 39 volumes of Descriptive Catalogues covering 300 illustrated manuscripts. The Khuda Bakhsh MRC concentrates mainly on documenting Urdu, Arabic, and Persian manuscripts.

The MRC, started in September 2003 has collected information on 23,144 manuscripts with electronic data. The 20 publicity campaigns organised by the Centre have yielded rich results in terms of creating awareness in the people in preserving their manuscripts and in sharing the information.

Address:

Dr. Imtiaz Ahmed
Director
Khuda Bakhsh Oriental Public Library
Ashok Rajpath
Patna-800 004
Bihar
Tel: 0612 2300209, Fax: 0612 2300209
Email: pat_kbopl@data1.in

Nava Nalanda Mahavihara, Nalanda, Bihar

Drawing inspiration from Dr. Rajendra Prasad, the first President of India, to develop a centre of excellence for Pali and Buddhist studies along the lines of the ancient Nalanda Mahavihara, Nava Nalanda Mahavihara was established in 1951 by the Government of Bihar. Sri Bhikkhu Jagdish Kashyap was the Founder-Director of the Institute. The present campus of the Mahavihara is situated on the southern bank of the historical lake, Indrapuskarani. Close to the northern bank of the lake lie the ruins of the ancient University of Nalanda. In 1994, Mahavihara was taken over by the Department of Culture, Government of India. Now it is functioning as a registered society under the Society Registration Act, XXI of 1960.

Presently, the Mahavihara offers a one-year certificate course in Pali and a two-year diploma in

course in Pali, Tibetan, Sanskrit, Hindi and English. The Mahavihara is affiliated with Kameshwar Singh Darbhanga Sanskrit University and Magadh University, Bodh Gaya, for several of its courses such as Pali, philosophy, ancient Indian and Asian studies etc. Courses leading to PhD degree are also offered in conjunction with Magadh University.

Nava Nalanda Mahavihara, Nalanda signed an MOU with the Mission in June 2005. With the help of 2 scholars it has documented 22,164 data sheets from 3 districts. The MRC has covered 30 private collections and 11 institutions.

Address:

Dr. D. Lama

Director

Nalanda-803111

Bihar

Tel: 0611 2281897, Fax: 0611 281820

Krishna Kanta Handiqui Library, Gauhati University, Guwahati

In 1982 the Guwahati University Library was renamed as Krishna Kanta Handiqui Library after its first Vice

Chancellor. Established primarily to enhance and support the different research programs carried out by the University, The Guwahati University Library started its functioning in 1948. The Library has acquired more than 4,500 manuscripts on different subjects including 5 illustrated manuscripts of the Ramayana, Bhagwata and Lavakusha Yuddha among others. The collection of manuscripts in the repository is written mostly in agaru bark. They also have immense historic and cultural value as representing the region of their origin.

The MRC at Krishna Kanta Handiqui Library, Guwahati University, has been functioning since August 2003. The MRC has so far documented 25,513 manuscripts from the 25 districts of Assam. It has conducted 96 awareness campaigns and over 1324 institutions and private collections have been surveyed. The sanchipat, tulapat are unique to this area as a medium of composition.

Address:

Dr. Uma Shankar Devnath

Librarian

Krishna Kanta Handiqui Library

Guwahati University

Gopinath Bardolai Nagar

Guwahati 781014

Assam

Tel: 0361 2570529/2674438, Fax: 0361 2570133

Email: kkhhl@sancharnet.in

Manipur State Archives, Imphal

The practice of maintaining records had been in vogue with the advent of art of writing in Manipur. The official records were maintained in the royal court. Individuals also used to maintain private records. The Manipur State Archive was established in March, 1982, under the Directorate of Social Welfare, Arts & Culture, Government of Manipur. The aims and objects of the State Archives is to concentrate in a single repository all the non-current records both confidential and non-confidential as well as



Prof. Satyadeo Podder, Co-ordinator, MRC & MCC, Tripura University addressing a learning session during Workshop on Manuscriptology and Palaeography held at Tripura University, Agartala (15th to 23rd July, 2010)

the private records. The Manipur State Archives accessioned the records under the following categories i.e. Public Records, Private Records, Historical Manuscripts both in Archaic Meitei & Bengali Scripts and rare books of the Library.

In its valuable collection the Manipur State Archive also has the Parawanas and orders of the Manipur Maharaja & the Political Agent in Manipur from the year, 1891 to 1947 and the Diaries of the Manipur Political Agents and Assistant Political Agent (1886–1947). The State Archives collected and preserved many valuable historical manuscripts in Archaic Manipuri and few manuscripts of Bengali scripts.

MRC at the Manipur State Archives conducted 90 awareness campaigns and 120 surveys of 70 private collections and 50 institutions which resulted in the documentation of 59,500 manuscripts from which 38,501 manuscripts have prepared electronic data. The MRC has collected 500 manuscripts during survey period. The MRC has took as a major part of survey.

Address:

Dr. K. Savita Devi
Director
Manipur State Archives
Keishampat
Imphal–795 001
Manipur
Tel/Fax: 0385-2222813, Mob: 09436021755

Orissa State Museum, Bhubaneswar

The collection of the Orissa State Museum is rich and focuses on the arts of the region. The precious palm leaf manuscripts of the Museum deserve a special mention. About 37,273 titles have been collected out of which 52 manuscripts have been published. It has manuscripts made of palm leaf, bamboo leaf, hand-made paper, ivory, bhurja bark and kumbhi bark. Rare garland-shaped, fan-shaped, fish-shaped, sword-shaped, rat- and parrot-shaped varieties

of manuscripts and different types of stylus are available here. Four hundred illustrated manuscripts of coloured and monochrome variety are also found. Important manuscripts of Gitagovinda of Kali Charan Pattanaik, Ushaharana, Ushavilasa etc, and different varieties of cover design of palm-leaf manuscripts are also available in the collection.

The MRC at Orissa State Museum, Bhubaneswar has been functioning since August 2003. Ever since its inception, the MRC has been very active in survey and documentation work. The MRC has documented 2,90,774 manuscripts in 138 institutions and 174 private collections. The MRC has conducted 52 awareness campaigns. The OSM, Bhubaneswar has donated about 250 manuscripts to the NMM.

Address:

C.B. Patel
Superintendent
Orissa State Museum
Museum Building, Bhubaneshwar (Orissa)
Tele/fax: 0674 2431597
Email: cbpatelosm@rediffmail.com

SARASVATI, Bhadrak

Situated at the eastern part of Orissa at Sarasvati Vihar, Bhadrak, SARASVATI is one of the leading institutes for Oriental Studies and Research in the State dedicated to the cause of promoting Bharatiya Vidya (Indian Indigenous Science and Technology). Since its inception it has focused on training in Manuscriptology and has so far organised 10 orientation courses on Manuscriptology building a team of more than 400 scholars in this field in Orissa, Assam and West Bengal.

The MRC at SARASVATI has been working with the Mission since May 2005. It has managed to document 1,08,861 data so far and prepared 98,000 electronic data. The manuscripts documented by the MRC are mostly written in Oriya and Devanagari scripts covering a wide range of subjects like Purana,

Dharmashastra, Karmakanda, Ayurveda, Tantra and many other subjects. The MRC has covered 6000 private collections and 192 institutions in 14 districts.

Address:

Sadananda Dikshita
Hon. Director
SARASVATI
Sarasvati Vihar, Barpada
Bhadrak-756113 (Orissa)
Tel: 06784 261690

Sri D. K. Jain Oriental Research Institute, Arrah, Bihar

The "Jain Sidhanta Bhawan" better known as the "Central Jain Oriental Library, Arrah" was found in 1903 by Sri Devakumar Jain, a great scholar and philanthropist. The Library has a valuable collection of manuscripts from all over the world. There are 3,179 palm leaf manuscripts, 3,500 paper manuscripts which are at least 500 years old. Most prominent among the manuscript collection are the illustrated Jain Ramayana and the Bhaktamira. There are nearly 200 paintings in Jain Ramayana alone in excellent Mogul and Rajput styles.

Besides the manuscripts, the library has 9,000 published books on religion, philosophy, history, and literature in nearly all the Indian and some foreign languages. There is also a collection of old paintings, pieces of art and old coins. Among the paintings on mythological subjects, treatment of the 16 dreams of Chandragupta, the 16 Tirthankars and Pawapuri temple stand out.

The MRC at the Institute has been functioning since May 2005. Since then the MRC is engaged in documenting manuscripts and producing electronic data with the help of 8 scholars and 6 official staff in 15 districts. Manuscripts found in these districts are mostly written in Devanagari, Urdu, Maithili, and Bengali covering wide range of subjects like Veda,

Vedanta, Darshana, Karmakanda and many other such subjects.

The MRC has so far documented 1,17,114 manuscripts data and prepared 94650 electronic data. It has also documented 56,410 Jain manuscripts under the Register of Jain Manuscripts scheme which data is integrated with the National Electronic Database. The MRC has covered 22 districts.

Address:

Dr. Ajay Kumar Jain
Sri D. K. Jain Oriental Research Institute
Devashram, Mahadeva Road (Arrah)
Bihar 802301
And
809, Ashiana Plaza
Budha Marg
Patna-800001 (Bihar)
Tel: 0612 2352285

Calcutta University Manuscript Library, Kolkata

The manuscript section of Calcutta University, Kolkata, has been in existence right from the inception of the University in 1857. In 1990, the Manuscript Library of Calcutta University became a full-fledged unit of the University under the Pro-Vice Chancellor (Academic). The Library has a collection of more than 42,000 manuscripts including quite a few on palm-leaves, including 20,000 in Sanskrit, 12,000 in Tibetan and Bengali and also several Persian and Arabic manuscripts. They are in different languages such as Sanskrit, Tibetan, Bangla, Oriya, Maithili, Pali, Arabic and Persian, and in scripts like Bengali, Oriya, Gaudi, Newari, Malayalam and Maithili. Some manuscripts are wrought in gold and silver lettering.

The MRC at Calcutta University was started in August 2003. The MRC has conducted surveys in Government and Government-sponsored libraries, institutional libraries, private libraries and personal collections in West Bengal.

The MRC has documented 92,752 manuscripts covering all districts of West Bengal so far and also prepared a list of manuscripts for digitization. It has also taken initiative in providing conservation support to several collections of manuscripts through applying indigenous methods for conservation at the time of documentation. The MRC has documented in 75 repositories.

The MRC has also been involved in conducting the National Survey for manuscripts in 19 districts of West Bengal.

Address:

Prof. Ratna Basu
In-charge
Manuscript Library
Hardinge Building, 1st Floor
87/1, College Street, Senate House
University of Calcutta
Kolkata-700073, West Bengal
Tele-fax: 033 22413763/22413222

Gurucharan College, Silchar, Assam

Gurucharan College, Silchar was established in 1935. The MRC at Gurucharan College, Silchar has been functioning since October 2005. The MRC has so far conducted 199 surveys covering 31 institutions and 168 individual collections in 7 districts. It has documented 3,032 manuscripts in different subjects like Ayurveda, Tantra/Mantra, Jyotisha, Pujavidhi etc, out of which most are found to be written in Archaic Bengali script.

Address:

Shri Utpal Das
Project Coordinator
B. C. Gupta Memorial Library
G. C. College
College Road
Silchar-788004
Assam
Tel: 03842 264257



One day manuscript awareness programme at HP State Museum, Shimla, 18th March, 2011

Anandashram Sanstha

The Anandashram Sanstha is one of the Premier Institutes in Pune. It was founded by Late Mahadeo Chiaji Apte, a leading advocate of Mumbai High-court, in Pune in the year 1888. He bequeathed all his property, including valuable collection of Manuscripts, to the Institute. It was registered as a public charitable Trust in 1954.

The Institute is known to scholars of Sanskrit as well as Indology all over the world as a publishing house. Since its inception the Institute has published 144 titles in 188 volumes extending over 61000 pages, almost all of them being the editions of the Mss possessed by the Institute. Some of the valuable publications of the Institute are;

1. Mimamsadarshana
2. Krishnayajurvediya-taittiriya-samhita
3. Aitareyabrahmana
4. Aitareya-Aranyaka
5. Taittiriya-brahmana
6. Taittiriya-Aranyaka
7. Vayupurana
8. Matsyapurana
9. Kamandakiyanitishastra

The Institute has a collection of over 10,000 manuscripts classified under 26 different subject-heads ranging from poetry and poetics to architecture and music. The Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute has completed the documentation of these Mss for NMM.

Anandashram has recently opened its website www.anandashramsanstha.org.

The Anandashram Sanstha began working as an MRC from 27 January 2006. Since then the Sanstha has conducted one awareness campaigns and has documented and prepared electronic data 49,033 manuscripts in the Missions electronic database. The Institute has covered three institutions and ten private collections.

Address:

Prof. Saroja Bhate

Director

Anandashram Sanstha

22, Budhwar Peth

Pune-411002

Tel: 020 24226854 (R), 020 24457119 (O)

Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute, Pune

Founded in 1917, in memory of Ramakrishna Gopal Bhandarkar, the distinguished scholar, litterateur and one of the pioneers of scientific Indology in India, the Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute has nearly 20,000 manuscripts, covering a wide variety of subjects like religion, languages, Vedic literature, grammar, music, drama, purana, stotras, tantra, medicine and philosophical systems. The Archives contains copies of Farsi translation of the Gita and Yogavasishta, made by Dara Shikoh 340 years ago, a copy of Vishnu Purana translated into Persian by a Kashmiri Pundit, a manuscript relating to horse-breeding written by Qazi Hasan Iftakhan 390 years ago, and an original manuscript bearing the seal of the royal library of Emperor Jehangir.

Thirty-five volumes of Descriptive Catalogue (covering over 12,000 manuscripts from the Government Manuscripts Library) have been published so far. Microfilming of about over a million folios (including those of about 4,000 un-catalogued manuscripts) was carried out at the Institute, under the auspices of the Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts, New Delhi, and completed recently.

The MRC at Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute has been functioning since September 2003. The MRC has so far documented 68,877 manuscripts and prepared electronic data 46308 manuscripts for the Manus Granthavali. The MRC has covered 123 institutions and 30 individual collections through three scholars

Address:

Prof. Saroja Bhate
 Hony. Secretary
 Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute
 Deccan Gymkhana
 Pune 411037
 Maharashtra
 Tel: 020 25656932, Fax: 020 25661362
 Email: boril@vsnl.net

Institute for Oriental Studies (Shiva Shakti), Thane

The Institute was established in 1980 for the promotion of Indian culture, history, study of manuscripts and Sanskrit language through organising seminars, workshops, exhibitions and discussions. The library possesses about 3,300 Sanskrit manuscripts and 26,000 volumes of printed books.

The MRC at Institute of Oriental Studies has been functioning since May 2005. It has documented 2,800 manuscripts from their own collection in the prescribed data form of the Mission.

Address:

Dr. V. V. Bedekar
 President
 Dr. Bedekar's Hospital
 Maharsi Karve Road
 Naupara, Thane-West
 PIN-400000
 Maharashtra
 Tel: 022 25422392

Kavikulaguru Kalidasa Sanskrit University, Ramtek

The Kavikulaguru Kalidas Sanskrit University is unique in academic nature from all the other Sanskrit

Universities in India. Other Sanskrit Universities traditionally cater to the learning of Veda, Vedanta, Vyakarana, Nyaya, Mimamsa Dharmashastra and Sahitya in Sanskrit. Kavikulaguru Kalidas Sanskrit University has an innovative academic program and a syllabus incorporating modern subjects and traditional Sanskrit. On the one hand the courses emphasize a modern approach, and on the other hand they strive to preserve traditional principles. All of the courses are oriented in this way with special emphasis being placed on the science and technology of ancient India as preserved in the Sanskrit texts.

The Kavikulaguru Kalidas Sanskrit University is fully equipped academically with 40 innovative and modern courses. It is a leading Sanskrit university among the 9 Sanskrit universities in India. It has 50 affiliated institutions in the Maharashtra State, and 30 outside Maharashtra from Gujarat to West Bengal, and from Kerala to Haryana.

The realization of the immense richness and beauty of Sanskrit as a language and a mode of communication of ideas has prompted Kavikulaguru Kalidas Sanskrit University to launch a program for



A folio from Bhagwadgita Manuscript, preserved at RORI, Jodhpur



Participants at National Seminar on Mathematical Manuscripts, held at Kundkund Inanpitha, Indore, 27-29 March, 2011

foreigners in Ayurveda, to preserve this ancient Vedic knowledge.

The Kavikulaguru Kalidasa Sanskrit University became at MRC of the Mission in November 2004. The MRC has documented 6,143 data on manuscripts covering Vidarbha and Marathwada region of Maharashtra. Mostly the manuscripts cover on Vrata, Vedic literature, Purana and other Shastras.

Address:

Prof. Harshada Dave
Vice Chancellor
Kavikulaguru Kalidasa Sanskrit University
Baghla Bhawan, Sitalwadi
Manda Road
Ramtek 441106
Maharashtra
Tel: 0711 455549/0712 531298/0712 560992

Lalbhai Dalpatbhai Institute of Indology, Ahmedabad

Lalbhai Dalpatbhai Institute of Indology, one of the largest treasure houses of manuscripts relating to Jainism was established by Muni Shri Punyavijayji and Shri Kasturbhai Lalbhai. The L.D. Institute has a library consisting of nearly 45,000 printed books nearly 75,000 manuscripts including 500 illustrated manuscripts, covering a wide range of subjects, like the Vedas, agamas, Buddhist religion, tantra, systems of Indian philosophy, and poetics etc. The institution has published 7 volumes of tabular catalogues, representing several languages like Sanskrit, Prakrit, Apabhramsa, Old Gujarati, Hindi and Rajasthani.

The MRC started in September 2003, has so far catalogued 64,740 electronic data for the Manus Granthavali database. It has covered 104 institutions, 27 private collections covering 18 districts during

the survey and has held 10 awareness programs for sensitizing the people on the preservation of manuscripts.

Address:

Dr. Jitendra B. Shah

Director

Lalbhai Dalpatbhai Institute of Indology

Navarangpur

Near Gujarat University

Ahmedabad 380 009

Gujarat

Tel: 079 6302463

Email: ldii@ad1.vsnl.net.in

Rajasthan Oriental Research Institute, Jodhpur

With a view to explore, collect, preserve, edit and publish the ancient literature in Sanskrit, Prakrit, Apabhramsa and Hindi-Rajasthani available in

Rajasthan and adjacent areas, the Rajasthan Oriental Research Institute an initiative of the Government of Rajasthan, was established as the Sanskrit Mandal in 1950 and extended as a full-fledged department in 1954.

It has a large reference library comprising of 26,713 rare titles and 6,000 periodicals. It has 7 branch repositories at Bikaner, Jaipur, Bharatpur, Kota, Chittorgarh, Udaipur and Alwar. It has a collection of 119,830 manuscripts including 1,011 illustrated manuscripts on different subjects like the Veda, Dharmashastra, Itihasa, Purana, Tantra, Mantra, Darshana, Jyotisha and Ayurveda. The Institute has published 130 Descriptive Catalogues and published critical editions of more than 200 important texts.

The rich manuscript collection of the Rajasthan Oriental Research Institute include miniature versions with Pala, Western Indian, Rajput, Kangra and Jammu and Kashmir schools of painting on palm leaf, birch-bark, paper, wood and cloth. There are excellent calligraphy texts like Dvipatha, Tripatha and Panchpatha. Some unique specimens are Arsha-Ramayana, Gita Govinda (Mewar School), illuminated Kalpasutra of VS 1485, Buddhist manuscript Arya Mahavidya, and an illustrated Bhagavata among others. An authenticated manuscript of Prithviraj Raso from Dharnoj village of Gujrat and a number of manuscripts written profusely in gold ink are also worth mentioning.

The MRC at the Rajasthan Oriental Research Institute started functioning in September 2003. With the active participation of the affiliate branches spread across Rajasthan, the MRC has been able to enrich the National Electronic Database by producing electronic data for 1,76,954 manuscripts. The Institute explored 9 districts including Dholpur, Alwar, Jaipur, Kota and Bikaner and managed to cover 22 institutions and 140 private collections during survey. The 9 awareness campaigns conducted by the MRC have unearthed information on fresh data concerning manuscripts.



Single folio from a dispersed illustrated manuscript of the Jnaneswari, Dr. Harsha Dehyia Collection

Address:

Dr. Shyamsingh Rajpurohit
R.A.S.
Rajasthan Oriental Research Institute
P.W.D. Road
Jodhpur 342011
Rajasthan
Tel: 0291 2430244

Kunda Kunda Jnanapitha, Indore

Kunda Kunda Jnanapitha, Indore was established by Shri Deokumarsinghji Kasliwal in 1987 under Digambara Jaina Udasina Ashram Trust, Indore. The main objective of the Institute is to promote the scientific study of Jainism focusing on the history and archaeology of Jaina religion. The Institute was recognized as a Ph.D. research centre by Devi Ahilya Vishwa Vidyalaya, (University) Indore in the following 5 subjects i.e. Ancient Indian Mathematics and History of Mathematics, Environment and Ecological Sciences, Prakrit, Pali, Apabhramsha and other oriental languages, Comparative Religion, Ancient Indian History, Cultural and Archaeology. Kunda Kunda Jnanapitha Pustakalya has a collection of 12,500 printed books and 350 periodicals for researchers. Since 1999 it has catalogued 58,766 of Jain manuscripts in 479 Jain Bhandaras under the "Register of Jain Manuscripts" project. That data has been integrated with the Mission's database.

The MRC at Kunda Kunda Jnanapitha, Indore has been associated with the Mission since May 2005. The MRC has surveyed 90 institutions and 350 private collections in 55 districts and has also organised various awareness programmes in different places. The MRC has documented 58,766 data and 32,165 in electronic form.

Address:

Dr. Anupam Jain
Secretary
584, M.G. Road
Tukoganj, Indore 452001

**Scindia Oriental Research Institute,
Vikram University, Ujjain**

Scindia Oriental Research Institute of the Vikram University, Ujjain was established in 1957. Apart from the Scindia Oriental Research Institute, the University also has an archaeological museum and an art gallery, which are major repositories of heritage items and artifacts.

The manuscript wealth in Scindia Oriental Research Institute is of all languages, Sanskrit being the most predominant. The Scindia Oriental Institute has a rare collection of 18,000 manuscripts in paper, old palm leaf and bark leaf (bhurja patra). The subjects are wide-ranging, from ancient philosophy, sciences, religion, language, grammar and the arts. There are some rare manuscripts of heritage value such as the illustrated manuscript of the Srimad-Bhagavatam set in gold and silver, illustrated manuscripts exemplifying the old Rajput and Mughal style paintings, among others.

The Manuscript Resource Centre at Scindia Oriental Research Institute, Vikram University, Ujjain, started functioning in September 2003. The MRC has conducted extensive survey and documentation in the state of Madhya Pradesh and documented 46,000 and prepared electronic data 38,840 manuscripts which have been integrated into the Manus Granthavali software of the Mission. The MRC as covered 90 institutions and 34 private collections.

Address:

Balkrishna Sharma
Director
Scindia Oriental Research Institute
Vikram University
Ujjain, Madhya Pradesh
Tel: 0734 2515400
Fax: 0734 2514276
Email: sorimrc@yahoo.com



Prof. Radhavallabh Tripathi, V.C., Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, New Delhi at Preventive Conservation Awareness Workshop held at National Museum, New Delhi



Basic Level Workshop on Manuscriptology and Palaeography, held at School of Vedic Studies, RBU, Kolkata, 11th to 20th February, 2011

Our Partners

Manuscript Conservation Centres

Organisation of the MCCs

- Each MCC has a team of trained conservators and specialists in the field of manuscript conservation
- The activities of each MCC are administered and coordinated by a Project Coordinator from the existing staff of the Institution
- Each MCC has a laboratory with at least basic facilities to undertake manuscript conservation
- Each MCC assists a number of institutions in varying degrees to provide basic preventive conservation care for their manuscript collections
- MCCs provide training in preventive and curative conservation to custodians of manuscripts all over the country
- MCCs conduct outreach campaigns to promote knowledge of basic conservation of manuscripts
- The skills of the conservators working for MCCs are regularly updated with workshops and training sessions
- Outreach programmes expanded to cover more institutions in providing vital care and understanding of conservation issues
- MCCs identified on the basis of their infrastructure, past performance and expertise to provide curative assistance to collections and institutions

Central Institute of Buddhist Studies, Leh

The Central Institute of Buddhist Studies has been working as the nodal resource centre for Buddhism in the local area of Leh for several years. Formerly known as the 'School of Buddhist Philosophy', this institute was established in 1959. Its main objective is to develop a comprehensive knowledge of Buddhism. This includes the study of ancient shastras, culture, philosophy, history and languages such as Hindi, Sanskrit, English, Tibetan and Pali. It also preserves and publishes rare Buddhist manuscripts and facilitates research on Buddhism. The Institute is dedicated to instilling the wisdom of Buddhist thought, literature, and arts in young students.

To conserve these manuscripts a Manuscript Conservation Centre (MCC) was established at CIBS. A conservation laboratory with basic infrastructure and equipment was set up by the Central Team for conservation at the Mission which visited CIBS. More than 3592 folios have undergone preventive conservation along with curative conservation of 3000 manuscripts.

Performance Summary of the MCCs

- Basic conservation laboratories are established in all MCCs
- Core team of staff in each MCC created from trained staff in varied levels of expertise
- Systematic increase in the preventive conservation drives of the MCCs

Address:

Wangchuk Dorjee Negi
Director
Central Institute of Buddhist Studies
Choglamsar
Leh (Laddak)–194001
Tele/fax: 01982-264391
Mr. Tsering Muthup (AO) – 09419177543
Email: office@cibsladakh.com

Department of Language and Culture, Shimla

Among the newest MCCs, this Centre signed the MOU with Mission on 27 May 2005. They have established a well-equipped laboratory. The Centre is taking up preventive conservation work in the remote regions of Himachal Pradesh and has conducted 9 storage re-organisations and preventive conservation has been done on 99869 folios covering 29 institutions. Curative conservation of 26744 folios was also carried out.

Address:

Dr. Hari Chauhan
Director
Department of Language and Culture
Block No. 395, SDA Complex
Kasumpty
Shimla–171009
Tel: 0177 2626614

Uttaranchal Institute for Conservation Research and Training, Nainital

The MCC at the Uttaranchal Institute for Conservation Research and Training, Nainital has signed the MOU with the Mission on 19 July 2005. A conservation lab with basic facilities has been established. Two persons are appointed and basic training has been given. The Centre is being developed as a training institute utilizing the basic strength of this Centre. The Centre is taking up preventive conservation work in 5 institutions and has conducted preventive conservation of 9500 folios.

Address:

Anupam Sah
Director
Uttaranchal Institute for Conservation Research
and Training
Markandey House (near HMT Main Gate)
Rani Bagh, District Nainital–263 126
Uttaranchal
Tel: 05946-244242 Fax: 05946-244242
Email: uicrat@sancharnet.com

The Vrindavan Research Institute

Founded in November, 1968 by philanthropist scholar, Dr. R. D. Gupta the Vrindavan Research Institute was inaugurated by Dr. Karan Singh, the then Union Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation. The Institute is accorded the status of a Museum of Manuscripts and Archival Material by the Museums Association of India. It has thus grown into a centre devoted to the cause of conservation and publication of Indian culture. The primary aim of the Institute is to collect, preserve and study the manuscripts, archival material, and objects of art and culture of India in general and of the Braj region in particular. The Institute has microfilmed thousands of manuscripts and historical temple documents from some private collections, which are extremely useful for the study of the history and culture of the region. Its collection now contains about 30,000 manuscripts in Sanskrit, Hindi, Bengali and other Indian languages, and hundreds of archival documents and temple records shedding light on the socio-economic, religious and cultural life of medieval India.

VRI has been associated with the Mission as an MCC since September 2003. It has organised 4 awareness campaigns and several public outreach campaigns. It has already identified 18 Manuscript Conservation Partner Centres and has conducted preventive conservation activities on 180382 folios. It has also conducted curative conservation on 6173 folios.

Address:

Dr. P. Goswami
Coordinator
Vrindavan Research Institute
Raman Reti Marg
Vrindavan-281121
Tel: 0565-2540628, Fax: 2540576
Email: vrivbn@sancharnet.in

Nagarjuna Buddhist Foundation, Gorakhpur

The MOU with Nagarjuna Buddhist Foundation was signed on 18 May 2005. A thorough survey of manuscripts in and around the city of Gorakhpur has been done by the MCC and a large number of collection/individuals and organisations had been spotted for conservation activity. They are presently working on the conservation of their own manuscript collection and have conducted preventive conservation activities on 68764 folios covering 5 institutions.

Address:

Karunesh Shukla
Nagarjuna Buddhist Foundation
18, Andhiari Bagh
Gorakhpur-273001
Phone: 0551 2242258/2249914

Indian Conservation Institute, Lucknow

The Indian Conservation Institute was established in 1985 as INTACH's first conservation laboratory. It has been associated with the Mission as an MCC since September 2003. It has organised 10 workshops and a number of outreach campaigns. The Centre has also successfully undertaken curative conservation of 59487 folios in various collections covering 20 institutions. The Centre also provides vital assistance to the Mission on account of its large resource pool of trained personnel in several areas related to conservation and training.



Jain manuscript cover, RORI, Jodhpur

Address:

Dr. Mamta Misra
Conservator
Indian Council of Conservation Institutes
HIG-44, Sector E, Aliganj Scheme
Lucknow-226024
Tel: 0522 2377814/2376858
Fax: 0522 233432 Email: iccins@sancharnet.in

Oriental Research Institute, Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupati

Set up with the objectives of furthering Indological research and propagating Indian culture and heritage, The Oriental Research Institute in Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupati was established by Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanam in 1939. It was handed over to Sri Venkateswara University in 1956.

The Institute has a rich collection of 50,000 palm-leaf and paper manuscripts and 75,000 rare printed books in its library. The Institute has published 1 tabular alphabetical catalogue covering all the subjects. The manuscripts in the collection cover a wide range from philosophy, religion, epic, language, grammar to poetics and horoscopy.

The MOU with Oriental Research Institute, Sri Venkateswara University was signed on 18 May 2005. They have provided good storage for their collection. The preventive and curative conservation began as soon as the laboratory was set up. The Centre has also successfully undertaken curative conservation of 5067 folios in various collections covering 10 institutions.

Address:

V. Venkataramana Reddy
In-charge Director
Oriental Research Institute
Venkateswara University
Tirupati-517502
Andhra Pradesh
Tel: 0877 2249666(ext) 291 Fax: 0877 2226614

Salar Jung Museum, Hyderabad

The famous Salar Jung Museum houses one of the finest collections of art objects anywhere in the world. The Museum began its association with the Mission as an MCC in October 2003 for the conservation of manuscripts in Andhra Pradesh. They provided preventive and curative conservation treatment to 19 institutes covering both, palm leaf and paper manuscripts. The Centre has also successfully undertaken curative conservation of 1, 14,264 folios along with preventive conservation of 49268 folios in various collections.

Address:

Dr. C. P. Unihal
Director
Salarjung Museum
Salarjung Marg
Hyderabad-500002
Tel: 040 24523211/301
Fax: 040 24572558
Email: salarjung@hotmail.com

INTACH Chitrakala Parishath Art Conservation Centre, Bangalore

The INTACH Chitrakala Parishath Art Conservation Centre MCC began functioning from 23 September 2003. The MCC has conducted preventive conservation of 5663 manuscripts in several Institutes and also provided emergency treatment for 23501 manuscripts. It has a well-equipped laboratory with well-trained conservators in preventive and curative conservation.

Address:

Miss. Madhuranai
Director
INTACH Chitrakala Parishath Art Conservation Centre
Kumara Krupa Road
Bangalore-560 001
Tel: 080 2250418 Fax: 080 226 3424
Email: ickpac@vsnl.net

Government Museum, Chennai

The Government Museum began its collaboration with the Mission as an MCC, in August 2004. Apart from the existing laboratory facilities, the MCC was equipped with additional facilities and more staff was appointed. It has conducted preventive conservation on 766126 folios of palm leaf manuscripts and curative conservation of 7402 folios of palm leaf manuscripts were given curative conservation treatment.

Address:

V.Jeyaraj
Government Museum
Egmore
Chennai-600008
Tel: 044 28193238
Email: jeyarajv@rediffmail.com

Karnataka State Archives, Bangalore

The MOU was signed with Karnataka State Archives in August 2004. They have a full-fledged conservation laboratory. They have extended their assistance in preventive conservation of 65255 folios and curative conservation activities to 20 institutions and have also conducted 10 workshops on conservation.

Address:

Mrs. Usha Suresh
Director, Room No 9
Ground Floor, Vidhan Sabha
Karnataka State Archives
Bangalore-1
Tel: 22254465/Fax. 2235257
Email: Dir_Archives@mail.kar.nic.in
Website: <http://kannadasiri.kar.nic.in/archives>

Tanjore Maharaja Serfoji's Saraswati Mahal Library, Thanjavur

Built up by the successive dynasties of Nayaks and Marathas of Thanjavur, The Tanjore Maharaja

Serfoji's Saraswati Mahal Library is perhaps one among the few medieval libraries that exists in the world. The Library contains very rare and valuable collection of manuscripts, books, maps and painting on all aspects of arts, culture and literature. The Library has a rich collection of manuscripts numbering about 59,000 in Sanskrit, Tamil, Marathi and Telugu including several illustrated manuscripts, which reflect the history and culture of South India. A total number of 24,432 titles are catalogued and in active use. The scripts used for Sanskrit language are Grantha, Devanagari, Telugu and Malayalam, Kannada and Oriya. Fourteen volumes of Descriptive Catalogues have been published by the Library so far.

An MCC was established at library, in October 2003. The Library employs several indigenous methods of conservation and manuscript storage. This MCC in collaboration with Tamil Nadu Government Museum has conducted 2 workshops and publicity programmes. The MCC has conducted preventive conservation activities on both palm leaf and paper manuscripts covering 10 institutions.

Address:

P.Perumal
Project Coordinator
Thanjavur Maharaja Serfoji's Saraswati Mahal Library
Thanjavur-613009
Tamil Nadu
Tel: 04362 234107/230206
Fax: 04362 233568/230857

Mural Painting Conservation Research and Training Centre, Trippunithura Palace, Cochin

The Mural Painting Conservation Research and Training Centre, Trippunithura, Cochin Palace is a repository of art objects, paintings and historical data. The Centre began collaborating with the

Mission in July 2004. With a staff of five, the Centre has identified 19 institutions and private collections for preventive conservation and carried preventive conservation activities on 837239 folios of paper manuscripts.

Address:

Arvind Kumar
INTACH- Ernakulam
Hill Palace Museum Premises
Trippunithura, Ernakulam-682 301
Kerala
Tel: 09447451486 Fax: 0484 2780202
Email: mcrththrissur@rediffmail.com

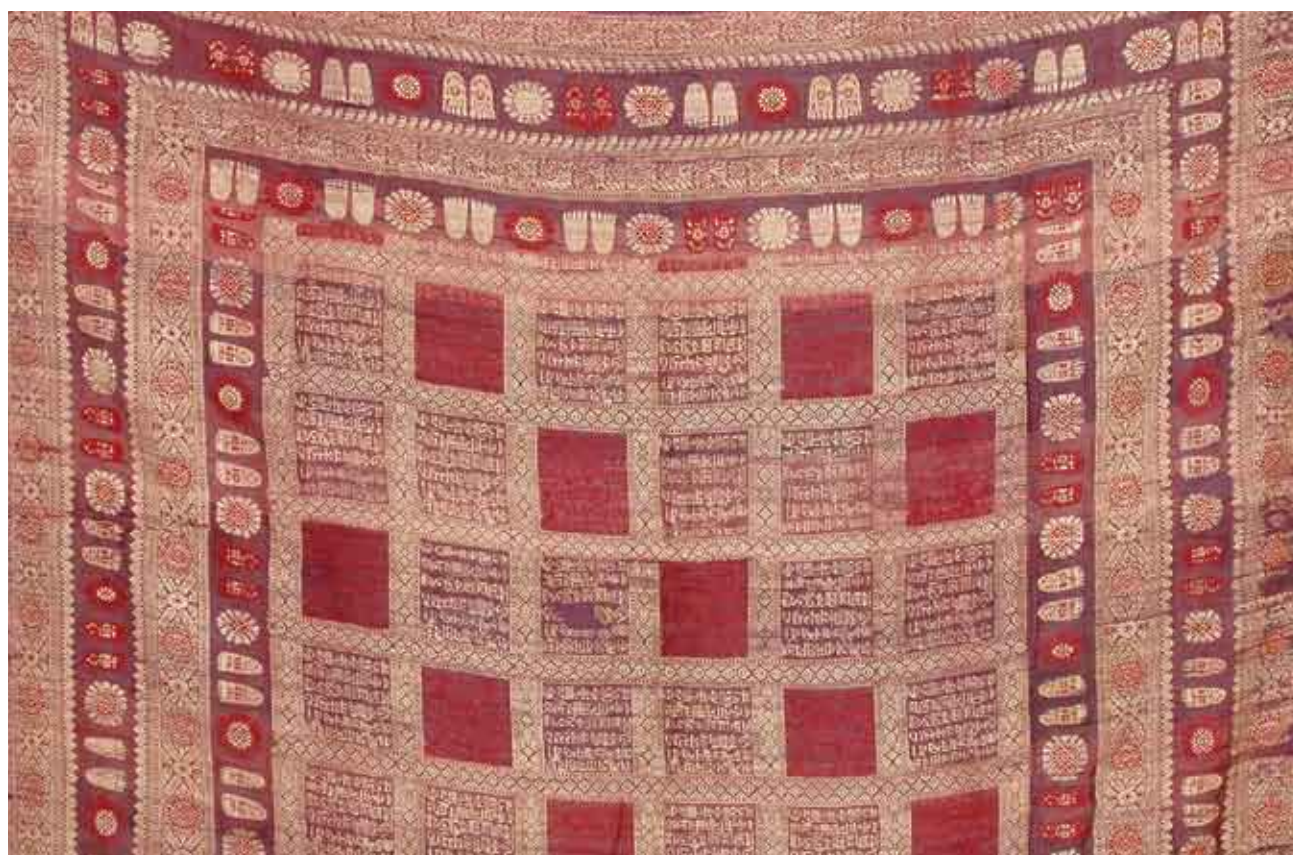
Khuda Bakhsh Oriental Public Library, Patna

One of the National Libraries of India the Khuda Bakhsh Oriental Public Library was established in 1891 by Khuda Bakhsh Khan out of his personal

collection of a few manuscripts. It acquired the status of an "Institution of National Importance" by an Act of Parliament in 1969.

The Library is recognized the world over for its rich collection of invaluable manuscripts, rare printed books, many miniatures and paintings of Hindu pantheon and original paintings of Mughal, Rajput, Turkish and Iranian schools. It has special manuscripts like an inch-wide Quran. It also contains the only books rescued from the plunder of the University of Cordoba in Spain.

There are some other rare manuscripts in the collection at Khuda Bakhsh, including the Jehangir-Nama, Shah-Namah, Al-Quran, Tarikh-i-Khandan-i-Timuriya and Kitab-ul-Hashaishh. There are many examples of Persian calligraphy and rare coins. Many expensive and rare manuscripts have come from places like Alexandria, Cairo, Damascus, Beirut, Arabia, etc. There are facilities for research work concerning



Kali Mantra on cloth, National Museum, New Delhi Collection

the Muslim period in Oriental studies. The Institution has published 39 volumes of Descriptive Catalogues covering 300 illustrated manuscripts. The Khuda Bakhsh MRC concentrates mainly on documenting Urdu, Arabic, and Persian manuscripts.

The Khuda Baksh Oriental Public Library has been part of the Mission's MCC network since September 2003. They have identified partner centres and are extending assistance in preventive and curative conservation activities. They have provided preventive conservation for 1,69,502 and curative conservation for 37,033 manuscripts folios covering 14 institutions.

Address:

Dr. Imtiaz Ahmed
Director
Khuda Bakhsh Oriental Public Library
Ashok Rajpath
Patna-800 004
Bihar
Tel: 0612 2300209
Fax: 0612 2300209
Email: pat_kbopl@data1.in

Manuscript Library, University of Calcutta, Kolkata

The manuscript section of Calcutta University, Kolkata, has been in existence right from the inception of the University in 1857. In 1990, the Manuscript Library of Calcutta University became a full-fledged unit of the University under the Pro-Vice Chancellor (Academic). The Library has a collection of more than 42,000 manuscripts including quite a few on palm-leaves, including 20,000 in Sanskrit, 12,000 in Tibetan and Bengali and also several Persian and Arabic manuscripts. They are in different languages such as Sanskrit, Tibetan, Bangla, Oriya, Maithili, Pali, Arabic and Persian, and in scripts like Bengali, Oriya, Gaudi, Newari, Malayalam and Maithili. Some manuscripts are wrought in gold and silver lettering.

The Manuscript Library joined hands with Mission as an MCC on 26 May 2005. The Manuscript Library MCC has evolved a good system of storage of their collection. A space has been allocated for laboratory and 2 staff members have been appointed. They have already identified their 13 partner centres and are extending their assistance in preventive conservation to various institutions. They have provided preventive conservation for 3,69,361 folios and curative conservation for 400 manuscripts.

Address:

Prof. Ratna Basu
In-charge
Manuscript Library
Hardinge Building, 1st Floor
87/1, College Street, Senate House
University of Calcutta
Kolkata-700073
West Bengal
Tele/fax: 033 22413763/22413222

INTACH Orissa Art Conservation Centre, Bhubaneswar

The INTACH ICI Orissa Art Conservation Centre started functioning in September 2003 with a staff of 14 conservators. It is fast developing as a specialized Centre for palm leaf manuscript conservation. Through the year the Centre has provided assistance to six institutions in providing preventive and curative conservation. It has provided conservation activities to both palm leaf and paper manuscripts, over 600,693 palm leaf folios have received preventive conservation through this MCC.

Address:

Mallika Mitra
INTACH ICI Orissa Art Conservation Centre
Orissa State Museum Premises
Bhubaneswar-751 014 (Orissa)
Tel: 0674 2432638 Fax: 0674 2432638
Email: icioacc@sancharnet.in



Folios from Srimadbhagavad, Scindia Oriental Research Institute, Vikram University, Ujjain

AITIHYA, Bhubaneswar

The MOU with AITIHYA was signed on 11 May 2005. This MCC has a 4 member team to look after conservation activities. They have given preventive conservation treatment to 8700 folios of manuscripts. They have also assisted institutions with curative conservation of manuscripts.

Address:

Mr. Arun Kumar Nayak Coordinator
Chairman
AITIHYA, A/L-5
Bhimtangi Housing Board Colony
Phase-I, Bhubaneswar 751 002
Orissa
Tel: 0680 2296131

Sambalpur University, Burla, Orissa

Sambalpur University started functioning as an MCC from August 2004. A conservation laboratory was set up with basic infrastructure and basic chemicals. They have identified their Manuscript Conservation Partner Centres. The emphasis was on preventive conservation and they provided preventive conservation to 446729 folios of palm leaf manuscripts.

Address:

P.K. Nayak
Project Coordinator
Sambalpur University Library
Sambalpur University
Burla-768001 (Orissa)
Tel: 0663 2432061/2430329

Krishna Kanta Handiqui Library, Guwahati University, Guwahati

In 1982 the Guwahati University Library was renamed as Krishna Kanta Handiqui Library after its first Vice Chancellor. Established primarily to enhance and support the different research programs carried out by the University, The Guwahati University Library started its functioning in 1948. The Library has acquired more than 4,500 manuscripts on different subjects including 5 illustrated manuscripts of the Ramayana, Bhagwata and Lavakusha Yuddha among others. The collection of manuscripts in the repository is written mostly in agaru bark. They also have immense historic and cultural value as representing the region of their origin.

The MCC signed an MOU with the Mission on 3 November 2003. The institution conducted 5 outreach campaigns-cum-workshops in 2006. Preventive conservation work was carried out in several institutes. This MCC provided both, preventive and curative conservation treatment to a large number of Sanchipat Tulapat manuscripts. They have provided preventive conservation for 104218 folios and curative conservation for 1682 manuscripts covering 65 institutions.

Address:

Dr. Raman Barman
Librarian
Krishna Kanta Handiqui Library
Guwahati University
Gopinath Bardolai Nagar
Guwahati-781014 (Assam)
Tel: 0361 2570529/2674438
Fax: 0361 2570133
Email: kkhl@sancharnet.in

Rajasthan Oriental Research Institute, Jodhpur

With a view to explore, collect, preserve, edit and publish the ancient literature in Sanskrit, Prakrit,

Apabhramsa and Hindi-Rajasthani available in Rajasthan and adjacent areas, the Rajasthan Oriental Research Institute an initiative of the Government of Rajasthan, was established as the Sanskrit Mandal in 1950 and extended as a full-fledged department in 1954.

It has a large reference library comprising of 26,713 rare titles and 6,000 periodicals. It has 7 branch repositories at Bikaner, Jaipur, Bharatpur, Kota, Chittorgarh, Udaipur and Alwar. It has a collection of 119,830 manuscripts including 1,011 illustrated manuscripts on different subjects like the Veda, Dharmashastra, Itihasa, Purana, Tantra, Mantra, Darshana, Jyotisha and Ayurveda. The Institute has published 130 Descriptive Catalogues and published critical editions of more than 200 important texts.

The rich manuscript collection of the Rajasthan Oriental Research Institute include miniature versions with Pala, Western Indian, Rajput, Kangra



A folio from Rasaraja of Matirama, RORI, Jodhpur

and Jammu and Kashmir schools of painting on palm leaf, birch-bark, paper, wood and cloth. There are excellent calligraphy texts like Dvipatha, Tripatha and Panchpatha. Some unique specimens are Arsha-Ramayana, Gita Govinda (Mewar School), illuminated Kalpasutra of VS 1485, Buddhist manuscript Arya Mahavidya, and an illustrated Bhagavata among others. An authenticated manuscript of Prithviraj Raso from Dharnoj village of Gujrat and a number of manuscripts written profusely in gold ink are also worth mentioning.

RORI, MCC began working with the Mission in October 2003. The MCC is primarily involved in preventive conservation and has a complete laboratory to support its activities. Preventive conservation was carried out in 16 institutions and 349374 manuscripts received preventive conservation treatment.

Address:

Dr. Shyamsingh Rajpurohit
Coordinator
Rajasthan Oriental Research Institute
PWD Road
Jodhpur 342011
Rajasthan
Tel: 0291 2430244

Digambar Jain Pandulipi Samrakshan Kendra, Jaipur, Rajasthan

The Digambar Jain Pandulipi Samrakshan Kendra signed an MOU with Mission on 12 November 2004. This MCC has got a very good collection of Jain manuscripts which are in good condition and are stored properly. This Centre is actively involved in preventive conservation and has done 6 publicity campaigns to spread awareness about manuscripts and their preservation. They also extended their assistance in preventive conservation to various institutions and gave treatment to 696973 manuscript folios. They are also involved in curative conservation and have given curative treatment to 4405 paper manuscript folios.

Address:

Dr. Kamal Chand Sogani
Director
Digambar Jain Pandulipi Samrakshan Kendra
Jain Vidya Samsthan
Digambar Jain Nasim Bhattarakji
Sawai Ramsing Road
Jaipur 302004
Rajasthan
Tel: 0141 2385247

Lalbhai Dalpatbhai Institute of Indology, Ahmedabad

Lalbhai Dalpatbhai Institute of Indology, one of the largest treasure houses of manuscripts relating to Jainism was established by Muni Shri Punyavijayji and Shri Kasturbhai Lalbhai. The L.D. Institute has a library consisting of nearly 45,000 printed books nearly 75,000 manuscripts including 500 illustrated manuscripts, covering a wide range of subjects, like the Vedas, agamas, Buddhist religion, tantra, systems of Indian philosophy, and poetics etc. The institution has published 7 volumes of tabular catalogues, representing several languages like Sanskrit, Prakrit, Apabhramsa, Old Gujarati, Hindi and Rajasthani.

This MCC is furnished with a laboratory with basic infrastructure and two trained conservators are currently working with the MCC. They are at present providing preventive conservation to their own large collection of manuscripts. The Centre has also successfully undertaken conservation of 58590 folios in various collections covering 1 institutions.

Address:

Dr. Jitendra Shah
Director
Lalbhai Dalpatbhai Institute of Indology
Navarangpur
Near Gujarat University
Ahmedabad 380 009 (Gujarat)
Tel: 079 6302463
Email: ldii@ad1.vsnl.net.in

Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute, Pune

Founded in 1917, in memory of Ramakrishna Gopal Bhandarkar, the distinguished scholar, litterateur and one of the pioneers of scientific Indology in India, the Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute has nearly 20,000 manuscripts, covering a wide variety of subjects like religion, languages, Vedic literature, grammar, music, drama, purana, stotras, tantra, medicine and philosophical systems. The Archives contains copies of Farsi translation of the Gita and Yogavasishta, made by Dara Shikoh 340 years ago, a copy of Vishnu Purana translated into Persian by a Kashmiri Pundit, a manuscript relating to horse-breeding written by Qazi Hasan Iftakhan 390 years ago, and an original manuscript bearing the seal of the royal library of Emperor Jehangir.

Thirty-five volumes of Descriptive Catalogue (covering over 12,000 manuscripts from the Government Manuscripts Library) have been published so far. Microfilming of about over a million folios (including those of about 4,000 un-catalogued manuscripts) was carried out at the Institute, under the auspices of the Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts, New Delhi, and completed recently.

The MCC at BORI has engaged conservators, who well trained in preventive conservation. Preventive conservation work covering 37500 manuscript folios has been carried out in 9 institutes. Curative conservation treatment was conducted on 1512 folios.

Address:

Prof. Saraja Bhate
Hon. Secretary
Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute
Deccan Gymkhana
Pune-411037
Maharashtra
Tel: 020 25656932 Fax: 020 25661362
Email: boril@vsnl.net

Scindia Oriental Research Institute, Ujjain

Scindia Oriental Research Institute of the Vikram University, Ujjain was established in 1957. Apart from the Scindia Oriental Research Institute, the University also has an archaeological museum and an art gallery, which are major repositories of heritage items and artifacts.

The manuscript wealth in Scindia Oriental Research Institute is of all languages, Sanskrit being the most predominant. The Scindia Oriental Institute has a rare collection of 18,000 manuscripts in paper, old palm leaf and bark leaf (bhurja patra). The subjects are wide-ranging, from ancient philosophy, sciences, religion, language, grammar and the arts. There are some rare manuscripts of heritage value such as the illustrated manuscript of the Srimad-Bhagavatam set in gold and silver, illustrated manuscripts exemplifying the old Rajput and Mughal style paintings, among others.

The Scindia Oriental Research Institute signed an MOU with the Mission on 15 June 2006. The emphasis of the MCC was only on Preventive Conservation. It has provided both curative and preventive conservation treatment to 606963 palm leaf folios.

Address:

Dr. Balkrishna Sharma
Director
Scindia Oriental Research Institute
Vikram University
Ujjain, Madhya Pradesh
Tel: 0734 2515400 Fax: 0734 2514276
Email: sorimrc@yahoo.com

The Tawang Monastery

Tawang, world-renowned for its 400-year-old Buddhist Gopma, one of the biggest in India is an important centre of Buddhist learning. The gompa, also called the Galden Namgyal Lhatse, is a famous

Mahayana Monastery established in 1643-47 by Lodre Gyaltsso, popularly called Meera Lama. The Gompa houses a beautifully gilded 8 metre high statue of the Buddha and a number of equally remarkable idols, thangkas and murals. The 3 storey, fortified monastery is over 140 square metres and has 65 residential buildings, chortens, lanes and by-lanes. The Duknang (main assembly hall) has Buddha statues in various poses, while the Parkhang hall lodges the library, with a wealth of rare hand written and block-printed Thankas or manuscripts of revered books like 'Tangym,' 'Kangyur' and 'Sungbhum' and a valuable collection of old scriptures mainly Kanjur and Tanjur numbering 850 bundles. Some of the manuscripts have been penned in gold.

The Tawang Monastery signed an MOU with the Mission on 1st August 2006.

Address:

Secretary
Tawang Monastery,
Tawang
Distt. Arunachal Pradesh
Ph. (O) 03794-223286/223476/9436051206 (M)

Manipur State Archives, Imphal

The practice of maintaining Records had been in vogue with the advent of Art of writing in Manipur. The Official Records were maintained in the Royal Court. Individuals also used to maintain private records. The Manipur State Archive was established in March, 1982, under the directorate of social welfare, arts & culture Government of Manipur. The aims and objects of the State Archives office is to concentrate in a single repository all the non-current records both confidential and non-confidential as well as the private records. The Manipur State Archives accessioned the records under the following categories i.e. Public Records, Private Records, Historical Manuscripts both in Archaic Meitei & Bengali Scripts and Rare books of the library.

In its valuable collection the Manipur State Archive also has the Parawanas and orders of the Manipur Maharaja & the Political Agent in Manipur from the year, 1891 to 1947 and the Diaries of the Manipur Political Agents and Assistant Political Agent (1886-1947). The State Archives collected and preserved many valuable historical manuscripts in



Prof. Dipti S. Tripathi, Director, NMM addressing a seminar on Buddhist Sanskrit Texts, held at Nagarjuna Buddhist Foundation, 18-20 February, 2011

Archaic Manipuri and few manuscripts of Bengali scripts.

The Manipur State Archive signed an MOU with the Mission on 24 April 2006. It has provided both curative and preventive conservation treatment to 20,000 palm leaf folios.

Address:

Dr. K. Savita Devi
Director
Manipur State Archives
Keishampat
Imphal-795 001
Manipur
Tel/Fax: 0385-2222813/M-09436021755

Sri D. K. Jain Oriental Research Institute, Arrah, Bihar

The “Jain Sidhanta Bhawan” better known as the “Central Jain Oriental Library, Arrah” was found in 1903 by Sri Devakumar Jain, a great scholar and philanthropist. The Library has a valuable collection of manuscripts from all over the world. There are 3,179 palm leaf manuscripts, 3,500 paper manuscripts which are at least 500 years old. Most prominent among the manuscript collection are the illustrated Jain Ramayana and the Bhaktamira. There are nearly 200 paintings in Jain Ramayana alone in excellent Mogul and Rajput styles.

Besides the manuscripts, the library has 9,000 published books on religion, philosophy, history, and literature in nearly all the Indian and some foreign languages. There is also a collection of old paintings, pieces of art and old coins. Among the paintings on mythological subjects, treatment of the 16 dreams of Chandragupta, the 16 Tirthankars and Pawapuri temple stand out.

D. K. Jain Oriental Research Institute signed an MoU with the Mission on 24 April 2006. It has provided both curative and preventive conservation treatment to 238533 folios.

Address:

Dr. Ajay Kumar Jain
Sri D. K. Jain Oriental Research Institute
Devashram, Mahadeva Road
Arrah
Bihar 802301

Visweshvarananda Biswabandhu Institute of Sanskrit and Indological Studies Hoshiarpur

The Institute of Sanskrit and Indological Studies, Hoshiarpur is an important manuscript repository from the North-West zone of the country. The collection of the Department is distinctive, with manuscripts in the north Indian and south Indian languages and scripts pertaining to different subjects. They are written on different materials like birch bark, palm leaf and hand-made paper. One of the unique manuscripts of the Institute is a manuscript (photocopy) titled Sancha written in Pavuchi script which is presently not known to be available in any other collection. This script is yet to be deciphered by the scholars.

The institute began working with the Mission as an MCC from 12 April 2006. It has provided both curative and preventive conservation treatment to 1546 folios.

VBISIS

Indological Studies
Hoshiarpur, Punjab.

Regional Conservation Laboratory, Thiruvananthapuram

The Regional Conservation Laboratory was established under the Department of Archaeology in the year 1978 based on the scheme prepared by the Scientific Advisor, Department of Culture, and Government of India. The laboratory is one of the well-equipped laboratories in India capable of undertaking conservation projects on a variety of

materials such as stone, metal, mural painting etc. Deteriorated objects brought from various Museums are subjected to scientific examination and treatment at the Laboratory. They include organic as well as inorganic materials such as manuscripts, stones, metals etc. All monuments conservation is carried out in situ. In certain projects the laboratory collaborates with the National Research Laboratory for Conservation, Lucknow, the National Museum, New Delhi, the Indian Council of Conservation Institute and so on. The Regional Conservation Laboratory is an Institutional Member of the Indian Association of the study of Conservation, New Delhi.

The MOU with the National Mission for Manuscripts was signed on 27 April 2006. They are carrying out the work on preventive as well as curative conservation simultaneously in several institutions all over southern Kerala. They have a well established laboratory of their own and also have trained conservators to carry out the work in several institutes.

It has provided both curative and preventive conservation treatment to 50322 folios covering 20 institutions.

Address:

Dr. K. K. Mahanam Pillai
Conservation Officer
Regional Conservation Lab
Cotton Hill, Vazhuthacaud
Sasthamangalam P. O.
Thiruvananthapuram-695 010
Phone: 0471 27256351

Central Library, Benaras Hindu University

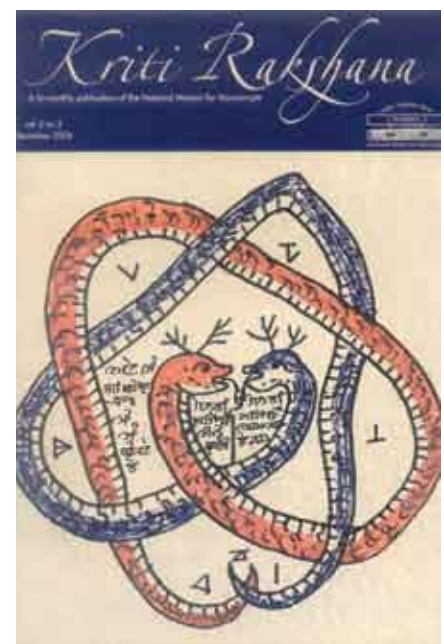
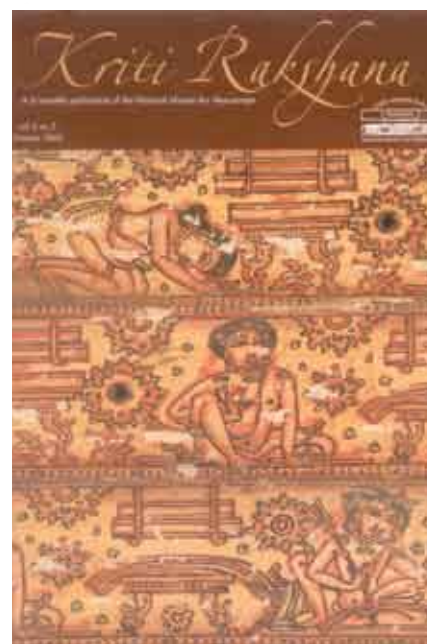
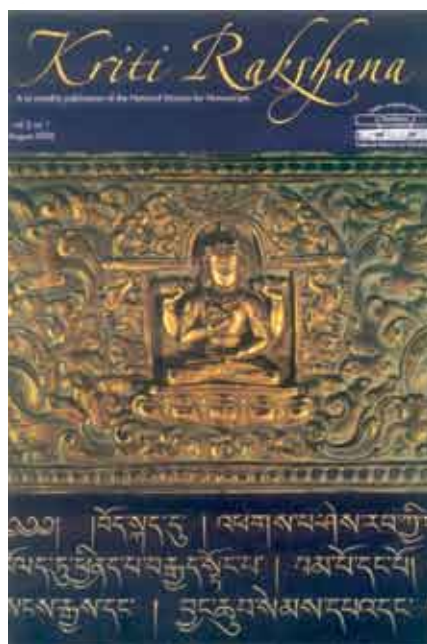
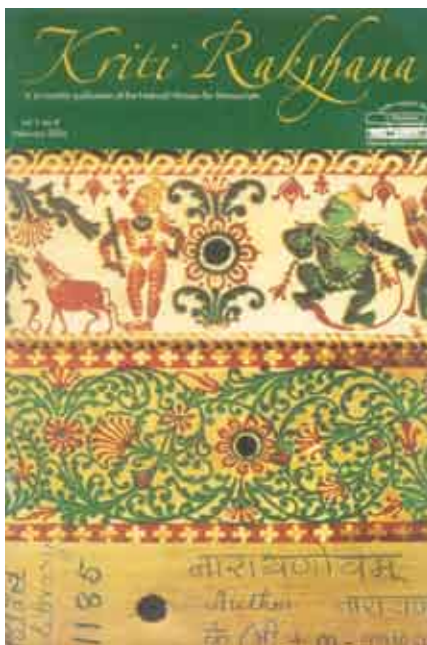
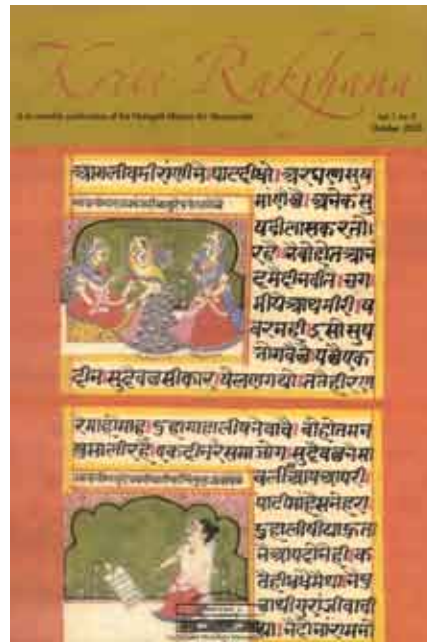
The Banaras Hindu University Library system, the largest University Library System in the country, germinated from a small but precious collection donated by Prof. P.K. Telang in the memory of his father Justice K.T. Telang in 1917 and housed in the Telang Hall of the Central Hindu College, Kamachha. It was nurtured in its infancy by the renowned historian Sir Jadunath Sarkar. With the University taking shape at its present premises, the library was also shifted in 1921 to the Central Hall of the Arts College (now Faculty of Arts) and then in 1941 to its present majestic building built with the munificent donation from Maharaja Sayajirao Gaekwad of Baroda, on the pattern of the great library British Museum in London on the suggestion of Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya, the founder of university, after his return from the Round Table Conference, London in 1931. Its majestic circular Central Hall has been furnished with elegant furniture's made of famous and rare variety of Burma Teak woods.

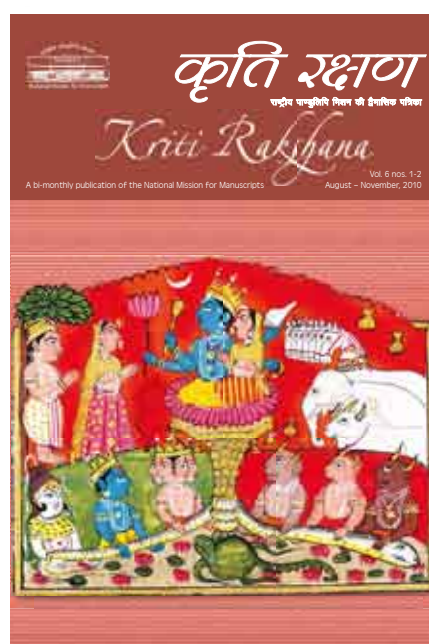
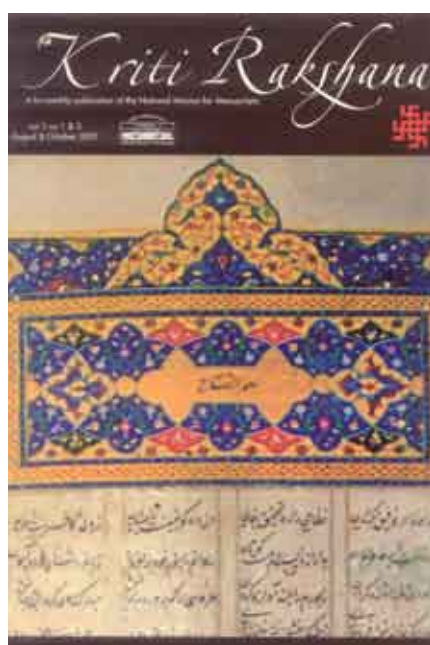
The MOU with the National Mission for Manuscripts was signed on 23 November 2006. They are carrying out the work on preventive as well as curative conservation simultaneously in several institutions all over the region. It has provided both curative and preventive conservation treatment to 1,86,101 folios.

Address:

Dr. D. K. Singh
Central Library
Benaras Hindu University
Varanasi-221005

Kriti Rakshana, by - monthly publication of the NMM





FUTURE PLANS

- Continued training programs on preservation and conservation
- Strengthening of pool of resource persons
- Intensifying efforts at digitisation
- Publication of unpublished manuscripts
- Location of Indian manuscripts in: UK, France, Belgium, Germany, USA, Canada, Australia, Thailand, Korea, Malaysia, Japan, China, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal
- Efforts to be made to obtain copies of manuscripts through direct contact with repositories

