ISBN - 978-93-5529-621-
Authors Press, Delhi, 202
Title - Preservation & Conserv
tion of Library

CHAPTER 7

Preservation and Conservation of Library Materials in College Libraries in Beed District

Dr. Sanjay Bhedekar

Abstract

Purpose: Libraries in third world countries despite the constraints of finance confronting them still make huge investment on acquisition of library resources. Deterioration of library resources has been one of the greatest challenges plaguing the libraries. In order to savage these library resources and the libraries from a colossal loss of her heritage. The study examines preservation and conservation of library materials in college libraries in Beed.

Methodology: The study adopted a descriptive survey design. A total enumeration technique was used for selecting 34 respondents for the study. Questionnaire was used for data collection and was analysed using descriptive statistics.

Findings: The findings revealed that library security is the most used measure of preservation and conservation practices. Dust and particulate matter are the greatest causes of deterioration to library materials. The finding further revealed that dusting, cleaning and proper shelving are the major techniques adopted by the libraries.

Keywords: Preservation, conservation, College Libraries, Beed, Maharashtra.

7.1 Introduction

Deterioration of information materials is one of the basic challenges facing library materials which are prone to wear and tear, shrinkage, cracks, brittleness, warping, bio-infestation, discoloration, abrasion, hole, and dust and dirt accumulation. External causes of deterioration of collections include poor handling or storage, theft or vandalism, fire and flood, pests, pollution, light and incorrect temperature and relative humidity. (Popoola, 2003; Alegbeleye, 2008 & Walker, 2013).

Almost all library collections are organic in nature, so they are in need of preservation and conservation. Books and other materials suffer damage or deterioration because of several groups of factors, some inherent in the materials and others beyond the control of the library. Each type of paper material, glue plastic that goes into the manufacturing of a book, recording or optical media has its own combination of physical and chemical properties, and a life span. The other factors include all of the conditions surrounding the processing, storage and use of the materials. The deterioration of information materials is caused by either inherent chemical instability of the materials or the external environmental factors. (Akussah, 2006); to avoid these heavy loose of materials in the library, preservation and conservation practices become imperative.

In Preservation, consideration is given to every element that promotes the protection of the materials including the housing, stable environment, storage system and security against such threats as theft, mutilation, disaster preparedness such as floods, fires, tornadoes, and earthquakes and poor handling. Preservation is, therefore, a more embracing concept while conservation can be described as the direct physical intervention arresting or slowing down deterioration of library materials which could be characterised as both preventive and interceptive (Ngulube, 2003 ; Ogunmodede & Ebijuwa, 2013).

7.2. Objective of the Study

1. Determine the preservation and conservation practices in the college libraries in Beed, Maharashtra.
2. Examine the causes of deterioration of library materials in college libraries in Beed.
3. Establish the techniques used in the preservation and conservation of library materials in college libraries in Beed.

7.3. Research Questions

1. What are the preservation and conservation practices in the college libraries?
2. What are the techniques used in the preservation and conservation of library materials in the college libraries?

7.4. Scope of the Study

This study seeks to evaluate the preservation and conservation practices among college libraries in the Beed. The libraries include all Arts, Science & Commerce College libraries in studying both aided colleges would give a comprehensive study of the preservation and conservation practices among the college in the Beed college libraries. This study is limited to college libraries in Beed district in Maharastra.

7.5. Review of Literature

In every university library, on major function of library and librarians is the management of information materials for effective utilisation. Some of this management processes are preservation and conservation practices. The whole essence of preservation and conservation practices is to ensure that information materials are in good shape for use at any point in time. Preservation and conservation practices often include policies and strategies, environmental control, housekeeping activities, training in the handling of archival materials (Patrons and Staff), security, disaster management and access (Eden and Feather, 1997); wrote that six million volumes of books of the library of Congress have deteriorated so badly that they cannot be given to users without the risk of irreparable damage. Several researches have been conducted to examine to causes of deterioration of library materials, (Alegbeleye, 1996); in his study on Disaster Control Planning for libraries, archives and electronic data processing centers in Africa stated that a number of disasters have struck information centers and a lot of damage has been done to records, books and artifacts. He observed that in 1988, records were destroyed when a record centre was burnt down by students in Sierra Leone. In another incident, the Nigerian Institute of Policy and Strategic Studies Library Experienced electrical failure resulting in a fire which destroyed many books, artifacts, and other monuments in 1987. Also, for every increase of 10 degree centigrade in temperature, the rate of chemical activity greatly doubles and thus the rate at which paper deteriorates also doubles. This presupposes that if paper materials are stored at low temperature, their life expectancy will be significantly lengthened. (Alegbeleye, 1993); dust and other solid particles damage materials through abrasive action. (Thomas, 1981); fine dry particles of any matter present in the air are known as dust, which is highly dangerous for the library and archival collections, composed of soil, metallic

substances, fungus spores and moisture among other things. Since dust is air borne, it settles down on any surface of the object. Dust is hydroscopic in nature and when it is mixed with high humidity, it is transformed into dirt. If this dirt sticks to the surface of the books, it becomes difficult to remove. (Harvey, 1993); stated that much avoidable damage is done to books by well-meaning but uniformed librarians through the use of pressure sensitive tapes, indeterminate use of polyvinyl acetate and other synthetic adhesives, use of highly acidic paper for protective wrappers, use of wood backing in print, picture and map frames, amateur lamination and improper storage. He also sees the following physical and chemical situations as responsible for deterioration of documents, either by one or more. Natural aging of paper since the major constituents are of organic nature. Such inevitable deterioration can be minimized to a large extent by proper housekeeping. (Mahapatra, 2003).

7.6 Preventive Conservation

Many cultural works are sensitive to environmental conditions such as temperature, humidity and exposure to light and ultraviolet light. Taking sufficient measures to protect arterials in a controlled environment where such variables are maintained within a range of damage– limiting levels is called preventive conservation.

7.7. Interventive Conservation

Interceptive Conservation refers to any act by a conservator that involves a direct interaction between the conservator and the cultural material. These interventive treatments could involve cleaning, stabilising, repair or even replacement of parts of the original object or consolidation such as securing flaking paint.

Muhammad (2006) states that light from incandescent source generates heat and must be kept a distance from library collections. Blinds and shutters completely block out light from the sun, thus aid in temperature control by minimizing heat loss and heat generated by sunlight during the day. Filters made of special plastics help control Ultra Violet (UV) radiation, and the use of special low UV florescent tubes is very important. Disasters, Which can result from fire, flooding, storms, earthquakes or broken steam pipes, can damage or destroy a few items or entire collections. Vigilance, preparedness and recovery plans are the best guards against loss from disaster (Alegbeleye, 1993).

7.8. Methodology

This study adopted survey research design. This design allowed for data to be collected. The population for this study cut across all categories of personnel in the academic libraries in the college libraries. A total of 0.34 public and college libraries in Beed. In Beed District of 103 library staff were used as the population of this study. Table 1 shows the list of academic College libraries in Beed District.

Table No. 1 List of College in Beed (College Libraries in Beed District)

Sr. No.	Name of College
1	PVP College Patoda
2	JBSPM'S Arts & Science Patoda
3	ATSPM'S Arts & Science Ashti
4	JBSS late Shankarrao Ahtle College Dharmapuri
5	KSS Vasundhara Arts & Science College Ambejogai
6	Navagan SS Rajuris Arts & Science College Chausala.
7	MSPM'S Arts & Science College Killedharur
8	Milia Arts & Science College Beed.
9	Navgan SS Rajuris, Arts & Science College Beed
10	MSPM'S Balbhim Arts & Science College Beed
11	ShriAmolak Jain M'S Arts & Science College Kada.
12	Shri Chhatrapati SSS VasantMahavidyalayaKaij
13	VenutaiChavanPratirthansMahila College Ambajogai
14	Shri BankatswamiMahavidyalayaBeed
15	K.S.K. Arts, Science & Comm. College Beed.
16	MauliVidhyapeethsPramiladeviPatilNeknoor
17	Arts & Science Neknoor.
18	MauliVidhyapeethsMahila Kala MahavidyalayaBeed
19	MSPM'S Law College Beed
20	Majalgaon Arts, Science & Comm. College Majalgaon.
21	RB Attal Arts, Science & Comm. College Georai.
22	Laxmibai Deshmukh Mahila Arts, Science & Comm. College Parli V.
23	KSPM's Janvikas Arts College Bansarola.
24	Vaidynath Arts, Science & Comm. College ParliVajinath
25	JBSPM'S Arts MahilaMahavidhyalayaGeorai.

26	Kholeshwar Mahavidhyalaya Ambajogai.
27	BSPM'S Sawarkar Arts, Science & Comm. College Beed.
28	Kalikadevi Arts, Science & Comm. College ShirurKasar.
29	SRT Mahavidhyalaya Ambajogai.
30	RS Samitis Lokmanya Tilak College Beed
31	Anandrao Dhonde College Kada.
32	Siddheshwar Arts, Science & Comm. College Majalgaon.
33	Mauli Vidyapeets Saraswati Arts College Kaij.
34	Arts & Science College Gadhi.

A structured questionnaire was designed and administered to the librarians and pare professionals in the sampled libraries. A total enumeration technique was used to select 102 library workers with over ten (10) years working experience as the respondents. A library staff with over ten (10) years working experience would have been involved in preservation and conservation process at one point or the other 102 questionnaires were administered but only 91 (89%) questionnaires was returned and found useful for data analysis. Data analysis was done using relevant descriptive statistics, specifically, percentage distribution and frequency counts, means and standard deviation were generated on most of the items in the questionnaire.

7.9. Results and Discussion of Findings

Research question I: What are the preservation and conservation practices in the college libraries?

Table II

Sr. No.	Preservation and conservation practices	Very Important	Important	Less Important	Not Important	Mean
1	Security of Library materials	91.1	8.1	0	9.0	3.9
2	Disaster recovery procedure	68.6	27.9	1.7	1.7	3.6
3	Environmental control	87.2	10.2	1.9	0.9	3.8
4	Handling of Library materials	83.1	14.7	1.3	0.9	3.8
5	Training of staff on Preservation library materials	60.4	34.8	3.5	1.3	3.5
6	Restoration degraded library materials	60.3	35.3	3.6	0.9	3.5
7	Funding	62.2	31.1	0	6.7	3.5

Research Question III: What are the techniques used in the preservation and conservation of library materials?

Table III

Sr. No	Preservation and conservation techniques	Very frequently	Often	Occasionally	Never	Mean
1	Binding	57.7	26.1	13.4	2.8	3.4
2	Encapsulation	22.3	25.4	27.7	24.6	3.2
3	Photocopying	38.2	27.7	30.9	3.1	3.1
4	Digitisation	27.8	26.4	28.5	17.3	2.6
5	De-acidification	20.1	28.6	17.5	33.8	2.3
6	Cleaning and dusting	70.2	21.1	7.4	1.4	3.6
7	Shelving library materials to allow for free flow of air	71.4	21.6	5.6	1.4	3.6
8	Use of insecticide and insect repellant for library materials techniques	35.3	32.4	28.4	4.4	3.0
9	Installing air-conditioners in your library	51.3	22.2	7.2	19.4	3.1
10	Provision of adequate security system to prevent the mutilation and defacing of paper based materials	64.1	27.5	3.8	4.5	3.5

Table 3 Shows that majority of the respondents and or institutions often and very often practiced many of the preservation and conservation techniques, the top among the practices include binding with a mean of 3.4, Cleaning and dusting as well as shelving with the means of 3.6, Provision of adequate security system with a mean of 3.5. Other practices include installing air-conditioners with a mean of 3.1, Use of insecticide and insect repellant with a mean of 3.0among others. It means that over all, most of the institutions libraries have good preservation and conservation practices.

7.10. Conclusion and Recommendation

Academic libraries down the ages have been tailored towards teaching, learning, scholarly work and research activities with a view to achieving the mission and vision of the institutions. This study has established that lack of proper preservation and conservation practices in college are the cause of resource loss and deterioration. Dust and Particulate matter was found to be the greatest cause of information resources' deterioration. Also relative humidity, wear and tear, high acidity level and high temperature level and high temperature level have significant effect on the library materials in college libraries in Beed District. As a result of these, this study recommends thus:

1. The libraries must ensure effective dusting and cleaning of the library resources.
2. A thorough weather and environmental control evaluation must be carried out in these college libraries. Installation of air-conditioners becomes necessary.
3. The libraries should deploy modern preservation and conservation tools such as Technologically enabled ICT devices which will aid adequate storage and enhance the durability and longevity of information materials in the libraries.

References

Adcock, E.P. (1998), *IFLA Principles for the care and Handling of library Material.* International Preservation Issues No.1 The Hague, IFLA. Available: http://www.ifla.org.

Alegbelege, B. (1996), "A Study of Book Theft, Deterioration at University of Ibadan and its Implication of Preservation and Conservation" *Africa Journal of Library Archives and Information Science.* Vol- 6(1). pp- 37-45.

Alegbeleyem G.O. (1999). "The Role of the Joint IFLA/ICA Committee on the Preservation and Conservation of Library and Archival Materials in Africa." Being a paper presented at the 65 the IFLA Council and General Conference, Bangkok, Thailand, in August 20-August 28, 1999. *Available: http://www.knaw.nl/ecpa/grip/pdf/tropical/bib-6.pdf.*

Eden, P. and Feather, J. (1997). "Preservation Policies and Strategies in British Archives and Records Offices: a Survey," *Available :http://ehostgw4.epnet.com.*

IFLA (2010) *Principles for the Care and Handling of Library Materials International Preservation Issues, Number One.* Retrieved on 27th April, 2016 from *http://archive.ifla.org/VI/news/pchlm.pdf.*

Mahapatra, P.K. (2003). "Preservation in libraries: Perspectives, Principals and practices." *Ess. Ess. Publications.* New Delhi.

Ngulube, P. (2001), "Guidelines and Standards for Records Management Education and Training in a model of Anglophone Africa." *Records Management Journal.*Vol-11(3): pp-155-173. Available *:www.ingentaconnect.com/content/mcb/28.*

Ngulube, P. (2003). Preservation and Access to Public records and Archives in South Africa. Unpublished doctoral thesis submitted to the school of Human and Social Studies, University of Natal, Pietermaritzburg. Retrieved july 18, 2013 from; *http://www.infs.ukzn.ac.za/thesispn.pdf.*

५. जैन, प्रकाश, डाखोळे, प्रमोद : देशपांडे, दत्तात्रय. (२००७) : सुलभ ग्रंथालयशास्त्र, पहिली आवृत्ती, विश्व पब्लिकेशन अँड डिस्ट्रिब्युटर्स, नागपूर, पृ. ४
६. डॉ. कापडे, दिपग ग. (२०१५) : संदर्भ सेवा व संदर्भ साधनांचे मूल्यमापन, पृ. ४८
७. डॉ. करमरकर, प्रकाश (२०१२) : ग्रंथालयीन संदर्भ सेवा, आवृत्ती, युनिव्हर्सल प्रकाशन, पुणे, पृ. ६३
८. डॉ. सु. प्र. सातारकर, डॉ. उद्धव रा. आघाव (२०१२) : ग्रंथालय व माहितीशास्त्र परिभाषा कोष, मराठी-इंग्रजी, इंग्रजी - मराठी, पहिली आवृत्ती, डायमंड पब्लिकेशन १२५५, सदाशिवपेठ, लेले संकुलन, पहिला मजला, पुणे, पृ. २३६
९. The Librarians glossary Reference book (1971) : - 3 Publication Clarion Book, Indian Book Company ndra Deutsch, P. No. 692
१०. डॉ. करमरकर, प्रकाश (२०१२) : ग्रंथालयीन संदर्भ सेवा, पुनर्मुद्रण -२०१२, प्रकाशक भा. प्र. जुळवे, युनिव्हर्सल प्रकाशन, २७ बुधवार पेठ, पुणे, पृ. ६३
११. त्रिपाठी एस.एम. लाल सी., कुमार के. (२००१) : ग्रंथालय एवं सूचना विज्ञान, प्रथम आवृत्ती, ईसईस पब्लिकेशन, दर्यागंज, नई दिल्ली, पृ. ७६