# Digital Preservation and Access of News Articles using Comyan: A Study

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Abstract - Digital preservation of news articles is utmost essential for working journalists which saves the time, cost and energy. Each journalist has to have the knowledge of all the disciplines such as, basic science, humanities, economics, law, finance, history, politics, mythology, religious, cinema and sports etc. software like COMYAN assumes importance on preserving the data of old news articles which are most useful to the working journalist to write feature articles. The COMYAN System is using advanced search engine technology and makes photos available at extremely high speed. So there is no need for an alternative system. With this background the present paper attempts to bring out the importance of COMYAN in preserving the source and its utility in digital preservation of news articles.

Keywords: Digital Preservation, Working Journalists, News Articles and COMYAN

#### I. INTRODUCTION

The term Digitization is often used when diverse forms of information, such as an object, sound, image, text, or voice are converted into a single binary code. The core of the process is the compromise between the capturing device and the player device so that the rendered result represents the original source with the most possible fidelity, and the usage of digitization is the fast and accuracy in which this form of information can be transformed with no degradation. Before the advent of the internet, all librarians needed to be knowledgeable about authors, titles and subject matter. Now that libraries are becoming increasingly digitized and more community-based, they're calling for modern librarians to add tech and maker know-how to their skill set. Today, the three biggest needs for library visitors to have included materials, expert's help, and Wi-Fi access. There is a common misconception that to digitize something is the same as digital preservation. To digitize something is to convert something from an analog into a digital format. An example would be scanning a photograph and having a digital copy on a computer. This is essentially the first step in digital preservation. To digitally preserve something is to maintain it over a long period of time.

Digital preservation is more complicated because technology changes so quickly that a format that was used to save something years ago may become obsolete, like a 5 1/4" floppy drive. Computers are no longer made with them, and obtaining the hardware to convert a file from an obsolete format to other one can be costly. As a result, the upgrading process must take place every 2 to 5 years, or as

newer technology becomes affordable, but before older technology becomes unobtainable. The Library of Congress provides number of resources and tips for individuals looking to practice digitization and digital preservation for their personal information. Digital preservation can also apply to born-digital material. An example of something that is born-digital is a Microsoft Word document saved as a *.doc file* or a post to a social media site. In contrast, digitization only applies exclusively to analog materials. Born-digital materials present a unique challenge to digital preservation not only due to technological obsolescence but also because of the inherently unstable nature of digital storage and maintenance.

Articles, News, Editorial, Analysis and reviews published in the newspapers are most up-to-date source of Primary Information. Even there are many source of news like Journals and Books in Print Media: television, radio, internet and other media of electronics, Wi-Fi, mobile telephone, Speeches, Interviews, News conferences and oral communication etc., however, no other source ever come as primary source of information as of news and views. Newspaper from the first issue to last one reflects the chronicle life of the society contains official documents, journalistic, fiction and memoir works of which have not been published in any other editions. Importance of Newspaper as stock collection of documents has preserved Social, economic and political information is great. Newspaper libraries are special library which is depository for all information needed by management and editorial department of newspaper organization. Organisation, Presentation, and communication of specialized knowledge to give maximum accessibility and utility to information contained.

Many libraries, archives, and museums, as well as other institutions struggle with catching up and staying current in regards to both digitization and digital preservation. Digitization is a time-consuming process, particularly depending on the condition of the holdings prior to being digitized. Some materials are so fragile that undergoing the process of digitization could damage them irreparably; light from a scanner can damage old photographs and documents. Despite potential damage, one reason for digitizing some materials is because they are so heavily used that digitization will help to preserve the original copy long past what its life would have been as a physical holding. It is still quite common to split the production of new photos from

the system which is used for archiving. Typically, lack of performance is the main cause. However, there are huge advantages in having all images and graphical representation in one place: Editors do not need to use different production and archiving systems.

The COMYAN System is using advanced search engine technology and makes photos available at extremely high speed - so there is no need for an alternative system. It is good to know that whatever you published will be archived forever - and is readily available to anybody who needs it, including Internet portals and third party databases for syndication of your content.

#### II. LITERAURE SURVEY

Manoj Mishra, Bijayananda Pattanaik and Rabindra K Maha Pathra (2017), in their articleentitled "Accountability and Accessibility of Library Resources in Print Media of Odisha: A Study" focus on print media. The print media libraries serve different kinds of users. There are Editors, reporters, photographers, Stringers, Columnists, Journalists, writers, Computer professionals and some others among them. They also need the library services on many topics like Literature, Economics, Business, geography, history and politics. Authors found there is a need for documentation work like newspaper clipping and indexing for journalists' further requirement.

Ramesh C Gaur, Mahesh Chander and others (2013) wrote about National Library of India (NLI) New Delhi and its role in preserving the newspapers in their article entitled "Online newspaper clippings and News Services for Libraries: Experiences in Indian Libraries". They came to know that NLI and other important libraries play an important role in the preservation of newspapers in India. Same time everything published in a newspaper may not be of interest to all users in an organization. They may be interested in some of the items published in it. News clippings or press clippings are selected news items, articles in particular subjects marked, collected, stored, organized, classified and disseminated by a library to its users.

In the article titled 'Digital preservation of Newspaper resources: A systematic approach for traditional and online newspapers' Dhananjay B Sutar, Sunil R Birje and others (2008) attempted to examine the transition of digitalization from tradition to new online one. The feasible solutions for easy and speedy access all the time to all the people from one window to modern digitized collection of newspaper clippings are also suggested in the paper.

# III. IMPORTANCE OF THE STUDY

Digital preservation of news articles is utmost essential for working journalists which saves the time, cost and energy. Each journalist has to have the knowledge of all the disciplines such as, basic science, humanities, economics, law, finance, history, politics, mythology, religious, cinema

and sports etc. software like COMYAN assumes importance on preserving the data of old news articles which are most useful to the working journalist to write feature articles. With this background the present paper attempts to bring out the importance of COMYAN in preserving the source and its consequences on digital preservation of news articles (especially published images).

#### IV. OBJECTIVES

- 1. To analyze the usage of Digital soft wares to working journalist
- 2. To know about the stages of Processing, Archiving and retrieving of the Source through COMYAN
- 3. To study the Working Operation of COMYAN

#### V. METHODOLOGY

The present paper is prepared on the basis of Secondary source which was heavily drawn from the websites, magazines, newspapers and other reports. Essential information was taken from the National Library of India, JNU, New Delhi. The scope of the paper is to focus on Article and Photo Indexing System, Retrieving of Article and Photos using COMYAN software.

#### VI. DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

#### A. Digitization of Library and COMYAN

Concept of Digitization is the process of changing the format of data or information into a digital format. In this format, information is arranged in binary digits. That can be separately addressed (usually in multiple-bit groups called bytes). This is the binary data that computers and other devices with identifying capacity (such as digital cameras and other digital aid devices) can process. Similarly Text and images can be digitized, a scanner captures data in the form of image such as Jpg, bitmap, tiff etc. An optical character recognition (OCR) program analyzes a text image for light and dark areas in order to recognize every letter alphabet and in numeric format, and changes each character into an ASCII code. Digital Library provides easier to preserve, organize, access, and share. For example, Manuscripts of Portuguese may only be accessible to people who visit its physical location, but if the Manuscripts content is digitized, it can be made available to people worldwide. So today there is enormous increasing trend in digitizing the content.

In order to cope up with new technology News Paper Libraries preserving their published news articles (Press Clippings) in database using COMYAN Software. COMYAN software is designed in such a way that which can adopt new technological method of indexing newspaper Clippings. Based on the demands or approaches from journalists of various subjects, Indexing technique is designed which provides right information to journalist in right format.

#### B. Preservation of News Articles through COMYAN

Screen shot-1 shows the process of Indexing article with attributes using COMYAN. Professional Indexing is needed to work with COMYAN. Normal indexing is quite easy to provide access through title, imprint, place, publisher, printer and so on. In COMYAN group box is generated with certain fixed attributes. The attributesused for indexing articles are Name ,Author, Publication Name, Publicationi Date, Suppliment, Edition, Category, Keywords. In name attribute title of the article is mentioned, where as in author attribute if it is byline article, author name will be mentioned. Where

as news room (editorial department) recieves many news items from different news agencies like Press trust of India (PTI), United News agencies (UNI), Asian news International (ANI), etc so on. These agencies act as author. Publication name is an attribute which depicts name of newspaper published.

Publication date is nothing but date of article published. Supplement attribute says article published in supplimentary edition. Local, national, state and Local publication are indexed in Category attribute.



Fig. 1 News Clipings Archiving System

Flow chart of indexing News articles using COMYAN

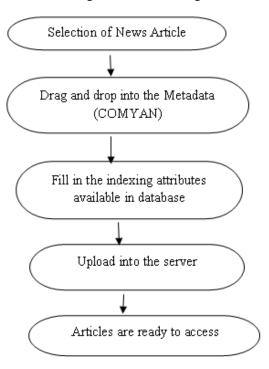


Fig. 2 Indexing News articles

### 1. Keyword Formulation in Article Indexing

Keyword is the main technique in archiving process. On the basis of approaches or demand from journalists subjects are generated from general category to Specific category. Example: Education-Higher education-Colleges-Aided, Degree, Diploma, Engineering, Engineering medical, IIT. This example says Education is Main Subject or Category in that Higher education, Aided, Degree stands as sub category for systematic indexing using COMYANwhich is shown in screenshot-2.

# C. Access of News Articles through COMYAN and its Usage for Working Journalists

Screen shot-3 explains the result of serach interface of News article with COMYAN.Editorial staff and other departments need news clippings which are archived or indexed in COMYAN. Query parameters are formulated to retrieve. On the basis of attributes formulated for archiving, same attributes can also be used for retrieving articles. For example: List of Naxal attacks in Karnataka, Terrorist attack in Indian cities, illicit liquor strategies, Number of drowned cases in the state etc.



Fig. 3 Multiple news cliping archive

Source: Websource



Fig. 4 extraction of News articles using keywords

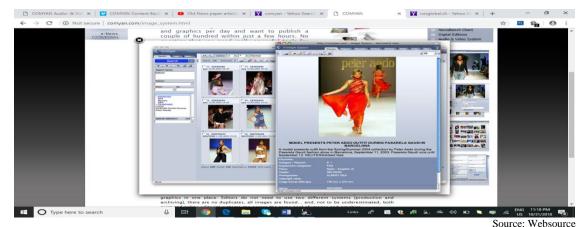


Fig. 5 Original images archiving

It is cleared from the screenshot-4 that retrieved articles or Photographs can copy and paste into their respective editorial page to write feature article. COMYAN supports journalists for easy access of news articles and Photographs that are indexed systematically. It saves time, energy, cost, labour essential for growth of any industry. COMYAN acts as backbone for journalists in fetching need based articles.

# VII. FINDINGS

Following are the major findings in this paper

- 1. Newspaper Libraries are today engaged in digitization of libraries, speciallyindexing newspaper articles.
- 2. Media Libraries adopted COMYAN to preserve, organise, access and share the newsarticles.

- 3. News technological methods are adopted in COMYAN for indexing newspaper clippings.
- 4. COMYAN provides different attributes to archive and retrieve newpaper clippings.
- 5. Journalists find easy to fetch needed information through COMYAN.
- COMYAN reduces time, space, cost and provide right information at right time.

#### VIII. CONCLUSION

Newspaper libraries whose production system is less technically advanced, the options are fewer and the pace of change will be less swift. In author's view systematic conversion of news articles using COMYAN software which automatically full text indexing achieves technically and economically. Librarians must get ready for technical

advanced to face new change and challenges, which offers real and affordable benefits to working journalists.

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