

# SURVEY STUDY ON LIBRARY USAGE, AWARENESS, ACCESS AND UTILIZATION OF LIBRARY CATALOGUE BY FACULTY MEMBERS AND STUDENTS OF NATUROPATHY AND YOGA

Praveen Naik\*

**Abstract** *There is tremendous transformation from the era of ancient library to the present information age. In this juncture, present study aims to investigate the frequency of library usage, awareness, access and utilization of library catalogue and problems faced by the faculty members' medical students of the Naturopathy and Yoga College while using library catalogue. The population of the study comprises of 20 faculty members and 428 students of the naturopathy and yoga college. A structure questionnaire was used to collect data. The results of the study reveal that; approx. 72% of respondents are using library at least once a week and about nearly 12% respondents are finding it difficult to access the library resource through library catalogue. 32% of the respondents opined that orientation program is better to educate the usage of library catalogue. Results also show, 42.0% of the respondents were able to access the library catalogue through the use of author access point, and 46% of the respondents access the library catalogue through the use of title access. Therefore, the study concludes that the awareness programme and access points contribute immensely to the utilization of library catalogue.*

**Keywords:** *Library, Naturopathy and Yoga, Catalogue, Programme, Access Points*

## INTRODUCTION

The library as a storehouse of information has undergone an incredible transformation from the era of an ancient library to the present information age. It is perhaps one of the industry that has been affected continuously by technological changes, but yet continues to adapt for the benefit of humanity (1). With the era of information explosion, there is growing concern about the use of reliable information retrieval tools, such as catalogue, abstract, indexes, bibliographies and citations. The library having been described as the heart of the learning community is supposed to provide a place for the students to carry out their research and advance their information retrieval skills. The first explicit statement regarding the objectives of a bibliographic system is explained by Charles Ammi Cutter in his Rules for a Printed Dictionary Catalogue in 1876 (2). A library catalogue is a register of all bibliographic items found in a library i.e., books, computer files, graphics, realia, cartographic materials, etc. (3). Therefore, awareness of the library catalogue is the ability of the students to have communication and consciousness of its essence, its retrieval technique as well as their relevance to the information user.

Students' skills in search catalogue can be created through library tours, orientations, seminars, lectures, library staff, hand-books and use of library studies. Although much awareness of the retrieval tools may be created in the libraries, it does not necessarily mean its accessibility, not to speak of its use. The major importance is that they help library users to locate and retrieve the information materials they need (2).

Generally, these access points are the means through which library users gain access to materials available in the library. They are important in the library services, since many users are not aware of the bibliographic information materials they are looking for. Awareness and accessibility are propelling factors to effective utilization of library catalogue (4). A study by Umesh pointed out that for effective use of library catalogue and her services, awareness programme must be incorporated into the library, which include, book display programme, orientation programme, information brochures, user education and library instruction (5). Hence, in the present study with a structured questionnaire (attached as enclosure-1), we planned assess the awareness of library catalogue in faculty members and medical students of naturopathy and yoga.

\* Librarian, SDM College of Naturopathy & Yogic Sciences, Ujire, Karnataka, India. Email: praveen.naik85@yahoo.com

## OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- To determine the influence of access point on utilization of the library catalogue by faculty members and naturopathy and yoga students.
- To explore both the influence of awareness and access on utilization of library catalogue by faculty members and naturopathy and yoga students,
- To study the influence of awareness programme on utilization of the library catalogue by faculty members and naturopathy and yoga students.
- To determine the problems encountered while using library catalogue by the users.

## METHODOLOGY

After administering the questionnaire with items relevant to this study, data was collected from the faculty members and students of naturopathy and yoga college. A total of 20 faculty members and 428 students were participated in the study. A structured questionnaire was prepared with two sections, that is section A and B. Section A of the questionnaire sought the name of the students, age, class and gender while section B was made up 8 questions pertaining to Library, awareness programme, access point, and utilization of library catalogue. The researcher administered the questionnaire to the respondents and simple percentage and frequency were used to analyze data.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

A total of 20 faculty members and 428 students participated in the study. The analysis of the gender-wise distribution of respondents was presented in Table 1, which show that among students, male respondents (28.5%) were less than the female respondents, which had 71.5%. Among 20 faculty members participated in the study, 60% were female respondents. Overall, among the participants, 29.01% were male and 70.98% were female respondents.

**Table 1: Gender Wise Distribution of Respondents**

Sr. No.	Gender	Faculty Members	Students	Total	Percentage (%)
1.	Male	8	122	130	29.01
2.	Female	12	306	318	70.98
	Total	20	428	448	100

The analysis of the frequency of visit to library by the respondents was presented in Table 2. The results show that 72% (n=321) of respondents visited library at least once in a week, and 17% (78) visited daily. Number of respondents visiting library once in a month, once in every six months and once a year is respectively 7%, 3% and 1%.

**Table 2: Frequency of Visit to Library by the Respondents**

Sr. No.	Visit to Library	No. of Responses	Percentage Distribution (%)
1.	Every day	78	17
2.	At least once a week	321	72
3.	Once a month	30	7
4.	Once every six months	14	3
5.	Once a year	5	1
6.	Never	0	0
	Total	448	100

As shown in the Table 3, among the participants 189 (42%) have opinioned that by author, it is easy to retrieve the information in the library whereas 206 (46%) and 53 (12%) respondents expressed, by title and by subject it is easy to retrieve the information in the library respectively.

**Table 3: Type of Easier Search Method as Per Respondents to Retrieve Information in the Library**

Sr. No.	Finding of Information	No. of Responses	Percentage Distribution (%)
1.	By Author	189	42
2.	By Title	206	46
3.	By Subject	53	12
4.	By Classification	0	0
5.	By Publisher	0	0
	Total	448	100

About the usage of library catalogue, for retrieving information in the library 12 % (n = 52) respondents told it is very difficult to use, 20 % (n = 89) respondents told it is average difficult to use, 34 % (n = 154) respondents told it is not at all difficult to use, 30% (n = 133) respondents told it is easy to use, and 4 % (n = 20) respondents told it is very easy to use library catalogue, for retrieving information in the library (Table 4). So, this study results indicate that it is not very difficult to use library catalogue, for retrieving information in the library.

**Table 4: Opinion of Respondents About Using Library Catalogue to Retrieve Information in the Library**

Sr. No.	Opinion About Using Library Catalogue	No. of Responses	Percentage Distribution (%)
1.	Very difficult	52	12
2.	Average difficult	89	20
3.	Not at all difficult	154	34
4.	Easy	133	30
5.	Very easy	20	4
	Total	448	100

Regarding the usefulness of library catalogue, 367 respondents (82%) expressed their view that, it is useful to retrieve the information available in the library whereas 81 (18%) have opined that it is not useful to retrieve the information (Table 5).

**Table 5: Usefulness of Library Catalogue to Retrieve Information in the Library**

Sr. No.	Usefulness of Library Catalogue	No. of Responses	Percentage Distribution (%)
1.	Useful	367	82
2.	Not useful	81	18
	Total	448	100

As per the respondents opinion indicated in table 6, 188 respondents (42%) told that the purpose of using library catalogue was to access materials for reading for pleasure whereas 128 (29%) opined that they use library catalogue to access materials for assignment/homework, 104 (23%) opined that they use library catalogue to access materials for making note and 28 (6%) opined that they use library catalogue to access research materials.

**Table 6: Reasons for Using Library Catalogue**

Sr. No.	Reasons for Using Library Catalogue	No. of Responses	Percentage Distribution (%)
1.	To access research materials	28	6
2.	To access materials for making note	104	23
3.	To access materials for assignment/homework	128	29
4.	To access materials for reading for pleasure	188	42
	Total	448	100

Regarding the frequency of usage of library catalogue, 96 respondents (21%) expressed their view that, they are using regularly library catalogue to retrieve the information whereas 224 (50%) have opined that they are using it occasionally and 128 (29%) respondents have opined that they never used library catalogue (Table 7).

**Table 7: Frequency of Usage of Library Catalogue**

Sr. No.	Frequency of Usage	No. of Responses	Percentage Distribution (%)
1.	Regularly	96	21
2.	Occasionally	224	50
3.	Never	128	29
	Total	448	100

As per the respondents opinion indicated in table 8, searching materials in the library through library catalogue, 33 respondents (7%) opined that they find it not useful because they are unable to locate materials on the shelves indicated in the catalogue whereas 76 (17%) opined that due to queue when accessing card catalogue, they find it difficult to use library catalogue. 188 (42%) opined that time is wasted when using card catalogue for finding the book, 82 (18%) opined that they use finding it difficult to understand the meaning of information on library catalogue and 69 (15%) opined that they don't have sufficient time to use library catalogue to access research materials.

**Table 8: Problems in Usage of the Library Catalogue Services**

Sr. No.	Problems in Usage	No. of Responses	Percentage Distribution (%)
1.	Inability to locate materials on the shelves, indicated in the catalogue as being available.	33	7
2.	Queue when accessing card catalogue	76	17
3.	Time wasting when using card catalogue	188	42
4.	Poor understanding of meaning of information on library catalogue etc	82	18
5.	Lack of adequate time to search for information	69	15
	Total	448	100

**Table 9: Role of Awareness Programme on Utilization of Library Catalogue**

Sr. No.	Awareness programme	No. of Responses	Percentage Distribution (%)
1.	Book display	81	18
2.	Instruction by Librarian	98	22
3.	Orientation program	144	32
4.	User education	112	25
5.	Information brochure	13	3
	Total	448	100

Table 9 shows that awareness programme and utilization of library catalogue by faculty and students are mostly done through orientation programme which has 144 response that is representing 32%, followed by user education which has 112 responses, representing 25%, library instruction has 98

responses, representing 22%, while book display programme has 81 responses, representing 18%, and information brochure had 13 responses, representing 3%, it will be deduced that user orientation programme, education, and library instruction are the common awareness programme in the institutional library. Therefore, the result here means that there is a relationship between awareness programme and utilization of library catalogue.

## CONCLUSION

It has been investigated in this study that even though we are in the era, where each individual is gifted with the sophisticated mobiles by which he/she can gather information of his/her interest very easily, still the people who are dependent on library is not decreasing. The study results show that among the respondents around 78% are visiting library at least once in a week. Moreover role of awareness programs plays a crucial role in the utilization of library catalogue by the faculty and the students, because even now there are individual who are struggling to follow the library catalogue to access the materials available in the library. In the same vein, access points have contributed immensely to the utilization of library catalogue by undergraduate

students. Conclusively, the research observed that in fairness to faculty and students, it is imperative that their use pattern should be identified together with library usage activities and further steps should be taken to make it easier to access the library resources to promote the usage of library and to meet the varying needs and expectations of library users.

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## ANNEXURE-1

### Questionnaire

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am a Librarian conducting research on the topic 'library usage, awareness, access and utilization of library catalogue by medical students'. I therefore solicit your help by providing answers to the following set of questions. I promise that the information obtained through this exercise will be strictly used for academic purpose.

Thanks for your anticipated co-operation.

Please complete the following information about your background.

- Name of the participant: \_\_\_\_\_
- Gender : Male / Female
- Class : I BNYS / IIBNYS/ IIIBNYS/ IV BNYS/ Faculty

1. How often do you visit the library?
  - a. At least once a week
  - b. Once a month
  - c. Once every six months
  - d. Once a year
  - e. Never
2. Which search method is easier to retrieve information in the library
  - a. Searching By Author
  - b. Searching By Title
  - c. Searching By Subject
  - d. Searching By Classification
  - e. Searching By Publisher
3. In general, did you think the Library Catalogue was easy to use?
  - a. Very difficult
  - b. Average difficult
  - c. Not at all difficult
  - d. Easy
  - e. Very easy
4. Do you find library catalogue is useful?
  - a. Yes
  - b. No
5. What are your reasons for using the library catalogue?
  - a. To access research materials
  - b. To access materials for making note
  - c. To access materials for assignment/homework
  - d. To access materials for reading for pleasure
6. How frequently do you use the library catalogue?
  - a. Regularly
  - b. Occasionally
  - c. Never
7. Students' problems in usage of the Library Catalogue services
  - a. Inability to locate materials on the shelves, indicated in the catalogue as being available.
  - b. Queue when accessing card catalogue
  - c. Time wasting when using card catalogue
  - d. Poor understanding of meaning of information on library catalogue etc
  - e. Lack of adequate time to search for information
8. Awareness program on utilization of the Library Catalogue services
  - a. Book display
  - b. Instruction by Librarian
  - c. Orientation program
  - d. User education
  - e. Information brochure