CHAPTER 1
INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background
Libraries have always had a fundamental role in the storage, processing and dissemination of information. Library is a place with collection of information resources, which are made accessible to a defined community of users for teaching, research or general education purposes. Libraries are categorized according to their nature as public libraries, academic libraries, and special libraries. All these libraries may have the same functions but types of users are different. Public libraries may serve the general needs of users from society and academic libraries serve the educational needs of academic society. A special library is a place which provides special services in a specialized subject area or in a special formal way for specialized clientele. It refers to a collection of books and other printed, graphic or record material dealing with a limited field of knowledge. It is maintained by an individual, a corporation, an association, a learned society, a research organization, an industrial or a commercial undertaking, government departments, some educational institutions or any other group for the collection, organization and dissemination of information. It may also be a special branch of a public library serving certain interests or a subject library, meeting the needs of all enquirers in a given subject or field, such as an oriental library or a manuscript library. Among special libraries, oriental libraries hold an important place because they preserve the cultural heritage of a nation or a civilization.

With the establishment of larger kingdoms by powerful kings in ancient India, the Kings and their nobles, and rich persons who wanted to provide for an advanced state of life in their society, took keen interest in promoting education. They started donating large amounts of money and lands to learned scholars who in due course of time developed seats of higher learning. Their libraries possessed a wealth of manuscripts. India is a vast repository of different cultures both because it was invaded by a number of foreign peoples from the West, and also because of its contact with people from the East. The languages from these outside countries
became part of Indian literature. The literature in these Eastern languages created India’s oriental libraries.

### 1.2 Oriental Library

The literal meaning of the term ‘Orient’ is ‘the East’. The related terms oriental means eastern. It includes everything which is part and parcel of eastern cultures, countries, peoples, language, literature, folklore, and goods. This term has been applied as an adjective to objects, places and the people from the east. Here east means anything belonging to and from Asia.

According to Simpson and Weiner (1989), Oriental is a term which reflects something belonging to, found in, or characteristics of, the countries or region lying to the east of Mediterranean up to Japan and North Eastern part of Africa, and also Asia and Oceania. The languages spoken in these regions are Arabic, Persian, Urdu, Turkish, Hindi, Sanskrit, modern Indian languages, Indonesian, Malaysian, Chinese, Korean, Japanese etc.

![Map 1.1: Map of the Oriental/Asian Countries](http://www.mapsofworld.com/asia/)
‘Oriental Library’ is the library which contains precious information and knowledge about oriental languages, literature or cultures that belongs to the east or eastern countries including China, India, Kazakhstan, Pakistan, Myanmar, Cambodia, Japan, North Korea, South Korea, Thailand, Philippines, Vietnam, Taiwan, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan, Sri Lanka, Afghanistan, Mongolia, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Turkey and the Russian federation and the Middle Eastern nations including Oman, Yemen, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Israel, Lebanon, and Iran. Within this framework, any kind of library having vast collections of oriental documents is known as an Oriental Library. There are public libraries in India having a specialization in oriental collections. Manuscript libraries and research centres having an emphasis on oriental languages, literature, and culture also come under the category of oriental libraries. Apart from these, a number of academic and special libraries of India hold a vast number of books and manuscripts in oriental languages and literature and these, too, are considered as oriental libraries.

The collections in the oriental libraries are different from other libraries. They hold manuscripts, rare printed books, letters, archival materials, photographs, drawings, maps, rubbings and estampages from the orient.

There are plenty of libraries that contain a very good collection in one or another oriental language such as Hindi, Urdu, Bengali, Tamil, Telugu, Persian, Arabic, Sanskrit, and Kannada etc. The activities of the oriental library are to preserve printed documents and manuscripts of the earlier period for future use and to provide access to researchers. Many popular oriental libraries in India were mainly developed for collecting and taking care of rare literature in the form of manuscripts. There is a strong demand for primary literature for fundamental research in history, language and culture and hence need the support of oriental libraries. Treasures of rare manuscripts and old printed documents having invaluable knowledge are diminishing day by day; hence oriental libraries try to protect it.

Prominent organizations in India, having a good collection of manuscripts in oriental as well as Indic languages and literature, includes Khuda Bakhsh Oriental Public Library, Patna, Rampur Raza Library, Rampur, National Library of India, Kolkata,

1.3 Deccan Region

The area south of the Narmada river and to the north of the Krishna–Tungabhadra basin, bounded by the bay of Bengal in the east and the Arabian sea on the west is referred to as Deccan. This region consists of Maharashtra, Karnataka and parts of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh. It played host to a number of dynasties – Rashtrakutas, Yadavas, Hoyasalas, Kakatiyas, Vijaynagar, succeeded by the Bahamanis, Barid Shahis of Bidar, Nizam Shahis of Ahmednagar, Qutb Shahis of Golkonda and Adil Shahis of Bijapur. All these dynasties patronized different languages current in their kingdoms like Marathi, Kannada, Telugu, Persian, Arabic, and Hindustani – Deccani Urdu. Each one encouraged literature produced in these languages reflecting the cultural amalgamation in the region. Very few regions in the country could claim to have such a rich heritage, which marks its distinctness.

1.4 Library History and Historiography

History is the story of the past, people, societies and cultures. American historian Carl Becker defined history as the knowledge of things said and done. The British historian R.G. Collingwood defined history as ‘science, or an answering of questions, concerned with human actions in the past, pursued by interpretation of evidence for the sake of human self-knowledge’ (Krzys, 2003).

The library is a social institution and therefore its history specifies the level of library contribution in social development and vice-versa. According to Richard Krzys (2003) library history is that branch of history that investigates the actions of people, the activities of agencies, or the effects of social movements within or contributing to the development of librarianship for the sake of professional awareness.
The study of the history of libraries and library movements are relevant contributions that help us to know the part played by the libraries in the various phases of human history and also enable us:

1. To construct the intellectual history of the country
2. To understand the progress made by the libraries
3. To know the changing character of the libraries in reviewing the following aspects:
   a) Foundation
   b) Aims and objectives
   c) Members and their privileges
   d) Library finance
   e) Reading materials and use of the library
   f) Organization and management
   g) Persons who led the library movement
   h) Library buildings
   i) Factors responsible for the continuity and stability of libraries
   j) Contributions made by these libraries and their achievements
   k) Deficiencies and problems faced by these libraries

The history of libraries concerned with the purpose and content of libraries and with the social background which produced them. It therefore involves the investigation of the history of scholarship, human civilization, culture and literacy. As stated by Nair (1994), library history should enable those in the field to respect the antiquity of our profession, to appreciate the gradual progress and sometimes decline of various movements and systems and to base our future on sound foundations. We can take advantage of past experience and learn from the mistakes of others instead of repeating them.

Indian library history is a subject that excites the imagination because of its long duration, rich primary resources, and vast potential for insightful study (Davis, 1989-90). The present study fills the gap in our knowledge of the history of the developments of library movement in Deccan.
Following are some of the benefits of writing library history i.e.

1. Study of library history helps us to avoid mistakes that have been made in the past, and
2. Library history helps to understand properly the library world as it is today with knowledge and how it has reached to its present state
3. Library history is significant in understanding the movement involved in collecting, storing, and making the records of the past accessible to the posterity.

Library historiography is a branch of historiography. Historiography is the writing of history. The word historiography derived from Greek terms ‘historia’ (i.e. inquiry) and ‘grapheim’ (i.e. to write). According to Conal Furay and Michael Salevouris (2000) historiography is "The study of the way history has been and is written — the history of historical writing... When you study 'historiography' you do not study the events of the past directly, but the changing interpretations of those events in the works of individual historians." Historiography involves writing state-of-the-art and tracing the evolution of particular field. It is a form of narrative chronology in presenting the evolution of the field. It follows the normal historical approach of periodization such as ancient, medieval, and modern.

Joanne E. Passet (1994) defines Library Historiography as the writing of the history of agencies, people, and movements within or contributing to the development of librarianship; written history of those agencies, people, or movements. Richard Krzys (2003) states the library historiography is (a) the process and a product of the pattern of recording the changes those libraries have undergone in the ages of human history; (b) it is the way in which the historians isolate the main currents of librarianship to identify the forces that drew them along; and (c) it assists in formulating a theory explaining all the phenomena observed and stated. In short it is the writing of the history of people, institutions and movements that have contributed to the development of the profession.

Library historiography is the art of writing history of libraries and librarianship. Rewriting the library history means assessing the available facts and representing these
clearly without bias. Library historiography can be classified according to three types, i.e.

1. Purpose with which it is written
2. The subject area examined, and
3. The method employed.

For writing historiography the historian deals with collections and already existing series of resources. That is, he does not work with isolated documents but rather uses the cause and effect of each chain and link. Historiographical studies by their very nature are interdisciplinary. Library history writing is the process of collecting sources from social, cultural, literary, and other areas of library field. The same fields that are supplementary to history are supportive to write library historiography. It draws support from many disciplines, such as,

a) Archaeology: Study of human past through material remains
b) Anthropology: Study of all human cultures
c) Epigraphy: Study of inscriptions or epigraphs as writing
d) Paleography: Study of ancient writing, which involves analysis of the ancient manuscripts
e) Sphragistics/Sigillography: Study/science of seals and signets
f) Numismatics: Study of coins
g) Philately: Study of stamps and postal history
h) Genealogy: Study of family history and tracing their lineages
i) Heraldry: Study of armorial bearing
j) Chronology: Science of arranging events in their order of occurrence in time
k) Diplomatic: Study of official documents of governments. It investigates the date, place, and authorship of written documents. Documents related to libraries, or even private letters are included within the diplomatic.

1.5 Reasons for Selection of this Topic

Ancient India has been known for various kinds of study, institutes and libraries. The region of Deccan is a prototype of the orient, not only in its diverse people and culture but also in the history of development of oriental libraries and spread of
knowledge which played vital role in socio-economic-educational development of the society. The region presently encompasses the political states of Maharashtra, Karnataka, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, and some parts of Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Tamil Nadu.

Oriental libraries have their own place and importance in library profession. Since these libraries hold valuable collections of history, culture, languages etc. in manuscript and print forms, the value attached to it is immense. There are many prominent oriental libraries spread all over the world as every country and nation has its own culture and literature in rare manuscripts, these are to be preserved for the future generation and hence oriental libraries has its own identity in special libraries. This heritage collection is very important for historians, demographers, geologists, archivists, geographers etc. These documents are the supporting literature for the researchers and innovators.

From the literature scan it is noticed that studies on oriental libraries are very few and not conducted by the librarians of oriental institutes. There have been a number of surveys undertaken about collection and organization of oriental libraries in India in general but not anything specific with holistic approach about history and development of oriental libraries in Deccan. Similarly the Deccan area is not adequately covered in the studies. This area is a hub for Oriental Studies and Orientology. In Pune alone few prominent oriental institutes are established like Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institutes (BORI), Deccan College Post-Graduate and Research Institute (DCPGRI), and Vaidik Samshodhan Mandal (VSM) etc. These institutes have rare collections and well maintained libraries. The researcher has served as the Librarian of the Deccan College, from 2004 onwards and has managed manuscript collections and has visited different oriental institutes and their libraries. Hence, the researcher decided to undertake a study of the oriental libraries, especially of the Deccan zone. This study focuses on different aspects of the oriental libraries and the findings from the survey helped in presenting the best practices for managing oriental libraries. This may be helpful to library professionals working in this field.
1.6 Statement of the Problem

It’s a puzzle that the Deccan was not reported to be centre of great importance in education. At the same time it cannot become such an educational hub for both Oriental Study and Orientology without any foundation (library). One possible reason could be that the literature regarding the history of library movement in Deccan has not been explored thoroughly. Therefore the researcher has decided to undertake this study which will suggest means to improve oriental libraries. The scope of the present survey is restricted only to the oriental libraries in Deccan where the oriental literature in the form of manuscripts is available. Its title is, ‘Role of Oriental Libraries in India with Special Reference to Deccan’.

1.7 Need of the Present Study

Research in library history in India has largely remained as a neglected area, resulting in very limited and scanty literature. A historical study of the growth and development of academic libraries in India is essential, the fulfillment of which should go a long way in removing the imbalances and gaps. Such a study becomes significant not only in view of the tremendous activity concerning the growth in the first phase by the phenomena that have shaped the historical course of this period and, secondly, the rise of library as an important instrument in the advancement of knowledge and socio-economic transformation.

The few studies that have so far been made in relation to the problem mentioned above reveal that, oriental libraries in India have played important role in the growth of oriental studies. But there has been no comprehensive study undertaken covering history and development of oriental libraries in Deccan and their importance in oriental education and research. As said above, library historiography is the study about peoples, agencies/institutions, and movements, which contributed towards the development of librarianship; the present research aims to present the detailed history and development of libraries in Deccan and their contribution in the organization of manuscripts. It’s nothing but a study about oriental library movement in Deccan.

In order to ascertain the existing situation of oriental library system of the Deccan, there is need to go to history and find out what the scenario altogether was like in
this region specifically. It is pertinent to identify the origin, history, problems and constraints that are involved in oriental library system especially in Deccan and identify their real contribution so as to formulate appropriate policies and suggest measures which can contribute to the improvement of the oriental libraries in Deccan to meet the present-day-challenges. This study may also useful for other parts of the country to develop oriental library system.

In present era of Information Technology and cosmopolitan lifestyle it is important to realize the importance of oriental libraries and find ways for not only to ensure their survival but update the library collection and facilities for adaptability with the present techniques. It needs to investigate since when and by whom the collection and preservation of books for future generation started in the Deccan; who influenced this and how the library development in this region took place and how it has today become one of the important areas for oriental libraries with the very valuable collections in the form of manuscripts. Also need to investigate all library techniques that were followed and how the administration of those libraries was run.

1.8 Aims and Objectives

The aim of investigation is to present an ideal model of oriental libraries in Deccan with reference to their documentary sources and information services offered to research community in oriental studies. It includes identification of strengths and weaknesses of the oriental library system.

The oriental library development in Deccan did not start all of a sudden in colonial period but it has some historical background and that has to be investigated. Although in a broad sense the libraries in Deccan have played an important role in the spread of higher education, it is still not clear what manuscript/oriental libraries in the ancient Deccan were like, what were their aims and objectives and how they were organized and administered, so as to enable to get a clearer perspective of the library situation and their role in the spread of education. It is necessary to compare oriental libraries of the Deccan with other libraries in India and the world. There is a need to work out the ways to move towards modernization by adopting various new techniques while maintaining the interests of oriental readers and preserve the treasure for future generations. Also there is a need to visualize how these modern
changes are going to affect the oriental research. This study is therefore based on following objectives:

1. To study the history and development of oriental libraries in ancient and medieval Deccan
2. To find the evidences of libraries of Marathas and Hindu centers of learning at Maharashtra in Deccan
3. To trace the contribution of European settlers towards the development of oriental libraries in Deccan
4. To evaluate the role of oriental libraries in the organization of manuscripts
5. To ascertain the existing situation of oriental library system of the Deccan
6. To identify the origin, history, problems and constraints those are involved in oriental library system of Deccan
7. To formulate appropriate policies and suggest measures which can contribute towards the improvement of the oriental libraries in Deccan to meet the present-day-challenges

1.9 Scope and Limitations

India is quite rich in terms of oriental resources in the form of manuscripts, rare books, coins, edicts, and other materials. Oriental manuscript libraries possess literature in the form of books and manuscripts pertaining to oriental studies and languages from East means from Asia. For present study only literature in the form of manuscripts in libraries has been taken into consideration and therefore the scope of the survey is restricted only to manuscripts and its organization in the oriental libraries in Deccan.

For an objective and result oriented work the researcher has carried out the survey of almost all the oriental manuscript libraries, from the reference of first library in ancient period to the contemporary libraries of the 21st century in the Deccan region.

A holistic approach has been applied to cover as many institutions as possible without any bias. It covers oriental libraries, manuscript libraries, public libraries, academic libraries, research libraries, archives, museums and also temple, mutt,
monasteries and religious institutions in Deccan, which houses invaluable oriental heritage in the form of manuscripts.

The states of Maharashtra, Karnataka, Telangana and Andhra Pradesh have been selected for study and some parts of Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Tamil Nadu coming under Deccan region have been excluded from its scope.

Map 1.2: Map of the States in Deccan Region

1.10 Research Methodology and Techniques Used in Present Study

Since library historiography is a branch of historiography, the same research methodology that history utilizes is also appropriate to library historiography i.e. historical method of research. Prior to the 18th century library history existed only as reference to libraries within literary texts. Thus present study is mainly based on the collection of data from literature survey. It also has used the survey method of research to study present scenario of oriental libraries in Deccan.

1.10.1 Historical Method of Research

The process of historical research involves investigating, recording, analyzing and
interpreting the events of the past for the purpose of discovering generalizations that are helpful in understanding the past and the present, and to limited extent in anticipating the future.

Historical research is “concerned with a critical description and analysis of past events mainly for the purpose of gaining a better understanding of the present” (Verma and Beard, 1981).

Historical research is different from other types of research. History means a record of human achievements. It is not just a list of chronological events. It is a relationship between persons, events, times, and places.

Historical method of research is a systematic body of principles and rules designed to aid effectively in gathering the source material of history, appraising them critically and presenting a synthesis of the results obtained. Such type of research is carried out with a purpose to explain, discover and record accurately the past events.

It uses primary and secondary sources of information. Collection of data may involve anything from digging up ancient ruins, remains or relics to searching for old documents, old manuscripts, reports, inscriptions, biographies, memories, diaries, books etc. Primary sources are the ones where the author was a direct observer of the recorded events. These are original sources and carry the authority of first hand evidence. Secondary sources are the ones where the author reports the observations of others (Kumar, 1999). Here for the present research the investigator has mostly used the secondary sources of information to write the historical growth and development of oriental libraries in Deccan.

1.10.2 Survey Methods Used in this Research

Another methodology applied for the present study is survey method. A survey method consists of making general or comprehensive examination of a situation in order to ascertain certain conditions or facts.

M.B. Line (1969) states that, “the library survey is interpreted as a systematic collection of data concerning libraries, their activities, operations, staff, use and users at a given time or over a given period”. As per Baker (1988) survey is a method of
collecting data in which a specifically defined group of individuals are asked to answer a number of identical questions. Whereas according to Whitney (1950) survey is an organized attempt to analyze, interpret and report the present status of a social institution, group or area. It deals with the present time, not the present moment. Its purpose is to get groups of classified, generalized and interpreted data for the guidance and practice in the immediate future.

Survey research helps in gathering information, which is useful for making policy decisions or implementing long range plans. It is characterized by the selection of random samples from large and small population to obtain empirical knowledge of a contemporary nature. This knowledge allows generalizations to be made about characteristics, opinions, beliefs, attitudes and so on, of the entire population to be studied. Survey techniques can save time and money without sacrificing efficiency, accuracy, and information adequacy in the research process (Busha, 1980).

So far as the present study is concerned, the techniques of the survey method have been used to collect the information from various oriental libraries in Maharashtra, Karnataka, Telangana, and Andhra Pradesh states, which have sizable collections of manuscripts in their possession.

1.10.2.1 Sources of Data
The researcher has collected necessary data from primary sources like journals; theses and dissertations; and conference proceedings etc., from secondary sources of information like books; encyclopaedias; and handbooks etc., and also from tertiary sources of information likes bibliographies and guides etc. available in different library and information centres and available through online web resources.

Further, survey method is used applying questionnaire technique for collecting primary data from oriental and manuscript libraries in Deccan, which would form a fundamental base to lead to the conclusions.

1.10.2.2 Method of Data Collection
Survey of the libraries in Deccan (public, private, personal and royal) is conducted to obtain general and comprehensive examination of data to ascertain certain conditions or facts. Major oriental libraries in Deccan are selected and surveyed with a pre-
tested questionnaire to gather information regarding attitudes, opinions or the factual situation in a given field. Sometimes, interviews of some academicians and scholars in the field of Deccan history are taken.

1.10.2.3 Population, Sampling and Response to Survey
Here, in the present study stratified sampling method is applied and the Deccan region is divided into 4 strata or classes (i.e. states in it) and a simple random sample of oriental libraries is selected from each one of those states. Initially, a total of 105 oriental manuscripts libraries from Deccan were recognized and the libraries covered are selected randomly for carrying survey about their manuscript collection. The selection of those oriental manuscript libraries was done from the databases like National Mission for Manuscripts (NMM), Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA), Archives Southasia Database, and Libraries and Archives in South Asia (For List of Oriental Manuscript Libraries in Deccan please refer to Appendix II). The questionnaires were sent to all those 105 oriental manuscript libraries in Deccan – 44 libraries in Maharashtra, 36 libraries in Karnataka, 13 libraries in Telangana, and 12 libraries in Andhra Pradesh which have rich manuscript collections. Finally, out of 105 questionnaires sent, 75 questionnaires were received with information duly filled in. The percentage of the returned questionnaire was 71.42%.

1.10.2.4 Tools Used for Data Collection (Questionnaire)
Questionnaire technique is used for collecting the required data and information while conducting the survey. It is a primary and principal instrument of collecting information and data required for the research.

According to T.S. Wilkinson and P.L. Bhandarkar (1984), “a questionnaire consists of number of questions printed (typed) in definite order on a form (or set of form). The forms are usually mailed to the respondents who are expected to read and understand the questions and reply to them in the writing in relevant space provided for the purpose on the said form”. As per M.H. Gopal (1970), the questionnaire is a detailed, classified and planned list of items on which information is required. Its main aim is to obtain concrete, quantitative and objective data from direct sources. It comprises a series of questions to be put to the persons who can provide the authentic information required for the purpose. The most typical use of questionnaire
is an attempt to gather, rapidly and inexpensively, information regarding attitudes, opinions or the factual situation in a given field.

The purpose of questionnaire used for present research was to elicit information and data from the individual libraries, which are located at far off places from investigator. Questionnaires were sent to the oriental libraries with a request to answer the questions in it and return the document back to the investigator. The questions in it were simple, clear, self explanatory, and easy to answer. The questionnaire was constructed in logical order and scientific manner. Both the structured and unstructured types of questions were asked in it. Structured questionnaire are those which pose definite, concrete and predetermined questions that is they are prepared in advance (Young, 1984). Additionally, it covers entire range of possible answers. Whereas unstructured questions are also called open-ended questions and respondents are free to write on questionnaire where some blank space is provided.

Looking at the positive side of questionnaire technique, the present investigator decided to employ this technique to collect information and data for ascertaining the situation about manuscript collection in oriental libraries in Deccan, their history of repository, their total collection of manuscripts, their acquisition; organization (accessioning, classification, cataloguing, and arrangement etc.); and preservation criteria applied for manuscripts, their services and facilities extended, their management, their skilled staff and finally digitization of manuscripts.

The 48 questions in the questionnaire were divided into the following six main groups and 10 sub-groups as briefed below: (For Questionnaire please refer to Appendix I)

A] General Information
   In this group name and address, year of establishment, and detailed history about the institute/repository/library was asked to know about age and eventful past of the institutions and their libraries.

B] Collection
   In this group five questions were asked to know about the total collection, various types, languages, scripts, and the subject area covered in the manuscripts
which a particular library possesses.

1. Acquisition
   In this sub-group two questions were asked to know about the acquisition mode adopted and what special efforts are taken to develop the manuscripts collection in the library.

2. Budgetary Provision
   In this sub-group two questions were asked to get information about the financial grant provided to the library for purchasing, maintenance, and scanning/digitization of manuscripts and their comment on the budgetary provision.

C] Organization

Under this group again the following three sub-groups were made:

1. Accessioning
   In this two questions were asked to know whether the manuscript collection in particular library is accessioned and the different columns are made in the accession register to record the physical details of the manuscripts.

2. Classification
   In this section four questions were asked to know about whether the manuscript collection in the library is classified, and any standard scheme of classification used.

3. Cataloguing
   In this five questions were asked to know about whether the manuscript collection in the library is catalogued, what form of the catalogue they possess, whether specific cataloguing code is used for cataloguing, which aspects of manuscript are covered in the entry and finally what is the title of the descriptive catalogue of manuscripts in their collection, if published.

D] Dissemination

1. Arrangement
   In this sub-group only one question was asked to know how the manuscripts are arranged in the library.

2. Accessibility
   In this sub-group three questions were asked to know about whether there is
an open access system in the manuscript section of the library, and the special efforts, if taken for making people aware of their manuscript collection.

3. Reference Service and Users
   In this sub-group four questions were asked to know about the users category who refer to the manuscripts, total number of users, whether manuscripts are issued out of the library and who all are the well known personalities have referred to it.

4. Facilities
   In this sub-group only one question was asked to know about what facilities available in respect of manuscripts.

E] Preservation/Maintenance
   Under this group thirteen questions were asked to know about the special efforts taken for preservation and methods applied to preserve the manuscript collection, availability of proper ventilation and sufficient light in manuscripts area, availability of manuscript conservation section with trained staff, written preventive conservation guidelines, plan of library to preserve the manuscripts with the help of modern technology, availability of policy on scanning/digitization, whether the manuscript collection is scanned/digitized, accessibility of scanned/digitized collection, application of OCR technique while digitizing the manuscripts, hardware and software used for scanning/digitization, and the software used to manage manuscripts in digital repository.

F] Management
   Under this group only one sub-group was made, i.e.
   1. Skilled Staff
      Under this section two questions were asked to know about whether there is trained personnel working in the library who are well versed with techniques of conservation as well as classification and cataloguing of manuscripts.

G] General Suggestions about Manuscript Collection
   At the end of the questionnaire, respondents were asked to make suggestions about the manuscript collection, to enable researcher to know the views of the concerned librarians.
The questionnaires were sent to oriental manuscript libraries in Deccan which are having rich and sizable manuscript collections. It was expected from the respondent libraries to fill it duly and return them back to the investigator. Reasonable time was given to the respondents to gather the necessary information. But the investigator had to establish personal contact with many of the libraries, for collecting the required information. Sometimes old records of some institutes have been scanned for obtaining the required data. The interviews were conducted whenever required to gather the same information, which were structured in the questionnaire.

1.10.3 Techniques Used in Data Analysis, Interpretation and Presentation
The data obtained from the survey is analyzed, interpreted and presented with the help of maps, tables, and graphs and the findings are presented in both statistical and descriptive textual forms.

1.11 Organization of the Study
The organization of present thesis has been planned into six chapters as follows:

Chapter I: Introduction
This chapter highlights the introductory information about oriental libraries as special kind of libraries, Deccan region, library history and historiography, reason for selection of topic, statement of the problem, need of the present study, aims, objectives, scope and limitations of the study etc. are included in this chapter. This chapter also explains the research methodology selected for the present study in brief and finally gives the conspectus about organization of the present research study.

Chapter II: Review of Literature
This chapter takes the review of literature and presents the abstracts of various related research studies conducted in the field and available in the form of research reports, articles, books, online databases and in other resources.

Chapter III: Role of Oriental Libraries in the Organization of Manuscripts
This chapter explains about the meaning of Oriental Studies, definition and concept of oriental library, manuscripts and its important features like types of manuscripts; languages and scripts in the manuscripts; subject areas of manuscripts, importance of
manuscripts like historical; literary; as well as importance as a national and cultural heritage, problems with manuscripts, manuscript libraries, functions and objectives of the oriental manuscript library like identification; collection or acquisition; organization of manuscripts including cataloguing and descriptive catalogue of manuscripts; publication of rare manuscripts; services rendered to the researchers by the library; conservation, preservation and restoration along with digitization of manuscripts as a preservation technique, and important initiatives towards the documentation and preservation of manuscripts heritage in India by National Archives of India (NAI); Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH); Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA); and National Mission for Manuscripts (NMM).

Chapter IV: Review of Oriental Libraries in Deccan: A Historical Perspective
This chapter takes a review of the growth of libraries at the centres of learning in India in ancient period (up to 12th century); in medieval period (up to 19th century); and in modern period (up to 20th century), organization and administration of those libraries India, cultural history and geography of the Deccan Region, history and development of libraries in Deccan including details about early monastic and other institutional libraries in Deccan; libraries in Western Deccan (Jnan Bhandars); libraries in Southern Deccan (Saraswati Bhandars); royal and important private libraries of sultanate period and Muslim kingdoms in Deccan; libraries of the Marathas and the Hindu centers of learning at Maharashtra in Deccan; library of Kadmi Zoroastrian Parsis in Deccan; and contributions of the European settlers towards the development of libraries in Deccan. Moreover it gives a profile of present-day libraries (21st century) in Deccan with oriental literature.

Chapter V: Data analysis and interpretation
This chapter presents analysis of data collected through questionnaire from oriental libraries in Deccan and interprets it with the help of tables, graphs, charts and maps etc.

Chapter VI: Findings, suggestions and conclusion
This chapter presents findings, suggestions and conclusions derived from the research work after fulfilling the objectives of the study.
Summary
Libraries have always played a pivotal role in the storage, processing, and dissemination of information; in a way, also in civilizing and making people culture-conscious. Present developments always stand on the foundation of the past. Development of society has no meaning without cultural ethos that is enriched with our knowledge of past human behavior and thought processes. Record of all the events related to this process and evolution is mandatory for any civilized society to grow with harmony and peace and oriental libraries play the most vital role in maintaining this.

This study thus will fill in the gap in our knowledge of the history of the developments of oriental library movement in Deccan in particular and India in general. If studies of history of library movement on same such lines are undertaken, it would certainly enable us in constructing the intellectual history of the country, on a sound and more comprehensive basis.

References


**Maps**