2.1 Introduction

A review of literature is an attempt to identify research reports, articles, books and other material, related to the topic of research and making a synopsis of the same. It is necessary to review the literature available in the field to build up or design research process and to find out new approaches in respect of the work on hand. According to Busha and Harter (1980), a literature search (or literature review) is an attempt to identify, locate, and synthesize completed research reports, articles, books, and other materials about the specific problems of a research topic. The literature search and subsequent review can be of value to researchers by helping them to regard their studies as contributions to a larger topic of which the inquiry at hand is only a part – rather than as isolated or esoteric collections of facts.

Review of literature involves process of critical assessment of the relevant literature that has been reported earlier, process of study of literature available on the research problem selected, process of reviewing comprehensively the existing literature, and process of writing an annotated bibliography. It suggests the new planning approach for the investigations by showing gaps of the study involved into it. It reveals the new concepts and ideas for carrying a fresh research. Also it helps in avoiding duplication or repetition of work.

2.2 Review of Literature

For the present study, the Indian Library Science Abstract (ILSA), Library and Information Science Abstracts (LISA), Google Scholar and following bibliographies have been referred after going through and screening a number of additional publications related to the research area.


The primary and secondary resources were consulted both from physical libraries and web resources. They are journals, theses, conference proceedings, books and reference resources like encyclopaedias; electronic resources available on the web which are consulted are through Google Scholar, J-Stor, Taylor and Francis, Wiley, and Springer, and theses database like Shodhganga.


A core set of literature on oriental manuscript collections in India was retrieved after doing a thorough literature search in different databases. Literature on various aspects of this topic was reviewed. The review is organized based on various themes to make the study fruitful for various sections of society. The information collected from above resources have been reviewed and organized in following different groups.

- History and Historiography of Libraries in India
- Libraries in Ancient and Medieval India
  - Buddhist Monastic Libraries in India
  - Jaina Libraries in India
• Islamic Libraries in India

➢ Growth and Development of Libraries and Librarianship in India
➢ Library Movement in India in General and in the Deccan Region in Particular
  ▪ Library Movement in Telangana and Andhra Pradesh
  ▪ Library Movement in Karnataka
  ▪ Library Movement in Maharashtra

➢ Oriental Libraries in India
➢ Manuscript Libraries in India

This review does not claim to be exhaustive but comprehensive with a limitation that a few resources could not be traced and accessed during the study period. The works referred for the review are as mentioned below.

2.2.1 History and Historiography of Libraries in India

N.M. Dutta (1932) in his address at the Third All Bengal Library Conference held in Calcutta had selected a topic of his discourse on the history of ancient and modern Indian libraries with a brief survey of the subject.

B.C. Law (1949) in his article has tried to find out the antiquity of libraries in India going through its history.

P.S.G. Kumar (1977) in his book titled Indian Library Chronology, comprehended about 4600 events from 3000 BC to 1975 AD. Later, he brought out the revised and updated edition of the same (2000) covering events till 1998 comprehending around 9000 important events with a short essay which can be treated as annotations. This omnibus work is truly a compendium of a variety of reference works as it provides the account of survey of the history of learning and librarianship in India, directory of libraries, biographical dictionary of librarians, and bibliography of library literature.

Minoti Munshi (1998) in her book titled History of Libraries in India has written detailed history of libraries in India from earliest period to 1707 AD.

Moreover, Arun Kumar Ghatak (1990) in his article traces origin of writing in India. Also mentions important monasteries where libraries were set up such as Nalanda, Vikramshila, Odantapuri, and Vallabhi where reading and writing of manuscripts was done. R. Raman Nair (1994) in his seminar paper discussed about the nature and uses
of library history. He opines that library movement of a specific region or the system can be fully understood only through an analysis of the influences that reached it through time and space. The book entitled *Library Developments in India* edited by B.M. Gupta (1996), presents a collection of essays by eminent historians of library science in India that provided a base for historians to assess the developments in India before and after independence.

R.K. Bhatt (1995) in his book *History and Development of Libraries in India* critically examines and traces the growth and development of libraries in modern India during 1901-1985 with special reference to development of libraries in Delhi. Also, he has taken a comprehensive literature review on history of libraries in India. He has attempted in his another research paper (2009) to fill the gap and traced the genesis and growth of academic libraries in ancient, medieval and modern India.

Mohamed Taher's (2001) book titled *Libraries in India's National Developmental Perspectives* is the culmination of his post-doctoral study. His work primarily seeks to determine what role the history of libraries plays in the society and proceeds from the assumption that there are very user friendly libraries within post-independent Indian society. Overall, the book is a historically well analyzed evolutionary record of the major developments and a good critical evaluation of where Indian library users stand today. In order to understand the focus of the book, it is worth listing here the topics covered: library history and historiography in India; the library movement during the pre-independence era; the library movement from 1947 to 1996; libraries and national development from 1947 to 1996; a state-wide analysis of the growth of the library movement; techniques of maintenance and the preservation of libraries; and libraries for a better tomorrow. There was an attempt by Mohamed Taher & Donald Davis (1994) in their book titled *Librarianship and Library Science in India: an Outline of Historical Perspectives* to cover the historical development in the field of librarianship comprehensively. Including this the other articles by Donald Davis (1989-90), Donald Davis (1990), and Donald Davis & Mohamed Taher (1992) are synthesis and bibliographic essays that lays together the long historical story of libraries in India. Donald G. Davis of the University of Texas, in his every work commented on the status of library historiography in India. As per his opinion,
although a core literature and Indian library historiography exists, it has many imbalances and gaps.

Summary:
In almost all the above mentioned works, the authors have expressed a great concern about the availability of very limited and scanty literature on Indian library history and historiography. Further to that wherever such material are available, the history of libraries is represented in scattered form, perhaps due to the lack of interest towards writing on the subject, describing and evaluating growth and development of libraries in India with historical perspective, which can bridge the gap in human civilization and culture. Also these resources give details about the libraries attached to ancient universities like Nalanda, Takshashila, Vallabhi, Odantapuri and libraries that flourished under Mughal patronage. In majority of sources they have focused on the historical development of libraries in ancient and medieval period from Northern part of India.

2.2.2 Libraries in Ancient and Medieval India
M. Rama Rao (1934) in his article has given detailed account of writing and writing material, origin and evolution of the library in the country, its primary locations and organization in the history. It also gives brief description of Hindu, Buddhist, and Jaina libraries in ancient India.

A published doctoral dissertation titled *Libraries and Librarianship of Ancient and Medieval India* by B.K. Datta (1970) gives systematic and comprehensive record of history of the growth and development of libraries and librarianship of ancient and medieval India, including small description on the libraries and archives of the Maratha rulers (Peshwas). It is the first systematic study where the author related a continuous and comprehensive story of the growth and development of Indian libraries from the earliest times to 1850.

Trehan (1975) discusses about the system of imparting education, learning and libraries in ancient India.

Anirudh Prasad (1994) in his book titled Libraries in Medieval India, which was basically his doctoral dissertation (1977), gives historical description about libraries during the Turko-Afghan period, development of libraries under the great Mughals, provincial libraries during the Sultanate and Mughal periods, libraries of Hindu kings, library management (organization) and administration in medieval India. Also, his article (1982) gives a brief account of the same topics covered in his dissertation.

2.2.2.1 Buddhist Monastic Libraries in India
In the three different articles by A.K. Biswas (1962), S.P. Barua (1972) and Bimal Kumar Datta (1974) there is a brief record given about the monastic libraries attached to Buddhist monasteries or viharas. These also record how those Buddhist monasteries in early India began to preserve religious Buddhist texts and how their libraries were developed, as these libraries served as important repositories of knowledge.

2.2.2.2 Jaina Libraries in India
Donald Clay Johnson’s (1993) article mentioned about the efforts of European scholars towards the discovery of Jain temple libraries and about the materials assembled form those libraries as well as bringing out listing/catalogues of those collections.

John E. Cort (1995) in his research paper investigates the pattern of ownership, management, and use of the libraries and the manuscripts in the small town of Patan in North Gujarat to study the sociology of Jaina knowledge.

2.2.2.3 Islamic Libraries in India
The Mughal rulers of India made great contributions towards Indian learning and culture. The great love of books and libraries of Mughal Emperors had affected the social and cultural life of the public. It had given birth to considerable literature during this period. This is what exactly reflected in the papers by S.A. Zafar Nadvi (1945, 1946) Dharma Bhanu (1953) and (1972), K.K. Saxena (1967), and Kalpana Dasgupta (1975). Everywhere they have given small account of imperial and royal
libraries of Babur, Humayun, Akbar, Jahangir, Shah Jahan, Aurangzeb, Salima Sultana, Nur jahan, and Mumtaz Mahal etc. and their library management practices. In most of the papers there is mention about the libraries of provincial kingdoms like Gujarat, Bidar, Jaunpur, Khandesh, Bijapur, Bengal and Maharashtra. Along with this S.A. Zafar Nadvi has given special mention about the library of Tipu Sultan and variety of collection in it. In another article by Hidayat Hosain (1940), he also has given detailed description about the library of Tipu Sultan and its collection. From this paper one can get an idea about how Tipu Sultan was a great patron of learning and under his patronage large numbers of books were written by scholars, by which his court library had become rich with nearly 2000 Arabic, Persian, and Hindi manuscripts in all the branches of Mohammadan Theology, and Sufism literature.

Apart from above, everywhere in the articles by Imtiyaz Ali Arshi (?), S. Khuda Bakhsh (1903), Radhagovinda Das (1964), Salman Shamsi Nadvi (1973), Fritz Lehmann (1977), Gulab Khan (1984), I.M. Siddiqui (1985), and books by Muhammad Zubair (1966) titled Islami Kutub Khaneh and Allauddin Shaikh with R.K. Rout (1996) titled Libraries and Librarianship during Muslim Rule in India, the authors have given more or less same story focusing their idea of study on libraries and librarianship in Islamic India.

Mohamed Makki Sibai’s book (1987) Mosque Libraries, an Historical Study is an excellent source for study and research in the area of Islamic librarianship. It is not just providing a history of libraries attached to mosques, it presents the historical overview of how the first library (housed in mosque) evolved and turned into public library. Such libraries attached to mosques have existed all through the years of Islamic civilization. It also mentions about naming of the Mosque library, intellectual contents, shelf arrangement and organizational details. Whereas, Mohamed Taher (1992) has traced the role of mosque libraries in Islamic civilization through his bibliographic essay taking support of several works which were devoted to mosque/Islamic libraries.

The article by Mohamed Taher et al. (1986) contains descriptive analysis of seven madrasas in six cities of India. Their other article (1989) contains descriptive analysis of five dargahs in four cities of India.
Summary:
All of the above resources tell collective story about libraries and librarianship in ancient and medieval India along with its connected aspects like history of writing and writing material, origin and evolution of library, learning and libraries, locations and position of library in the society. Majority of them have described about the functions, organization, administration and management system of those libraries. Some of the sources have just told stories either about Buddhist monastic libraries, or Jain temple libraries in ancient India, or Islamic libraries such as Mughal libraries, Mosque libraries, Madrasa libraries, and Dargah libraries in medieval India.

2.2.3 Growth and Development of Libraries and Librarianship in India
A.K. Ohdedar’s (1966) The Growth of the Library in Modern India traces the growth of the library in modern India from 1498, the year of India’s first coming into contact with the West, to 1836, the year of the establishment and opening of the Calcutta Public Library. In tracing educational and cultural history of modern India the author uncovers the earliest phase of the development of the modern library in India. It also has given description about oriental learning.

Ramakrishna Rao (1961) in his article on library development in India, attempts to place the topic in the context of historical and social factors. It also gives brief description about the literary traditions and literary heritage of India. Another major survey article by Anis Khurshid (1972) concentrates on the history of libraries for the last two centuries and treats the earlier history in a cursory fashion. A.K. Mukherjee (1966) in his book titled Librarianship: Its Philosophy and History and S.K. Mookerjee (1969) in his book titled Development of Libraries and Library Science in India, attempted evaluating critically the position of libraries and their functions in ancient India. They also have attempted to give historical assessments of the libraries in medieval India, a period which was particularly dominated and patronized by personal involvement of the kings and other upper class gentry.

A work on Libraries and Librarianship in India by Jashu Patel and Krishan Kumar (2004) helps in understanding libraries and librarianship in India under a reference
frame of comparative and international librarianship studies. It also provides with the records of history of librarianship in India.


Girja Kumar (1986) has written a book titled *Library Development in India* which can show the various facets and phases of library development in India in an elaborate form. Whereas, P.N. Kaula (1965, 1977) in his two articles gives same account of library development but that is in brief form.

Donald Clay Johnson (1986) through his article puts focus on the efforts made by three German scholars i.e. Martin Haug, Georg Buhler, and Franz Kielhorn, towards the search and collection of Sanskrit manuscripts, and how these efforts led to establishment of premier Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute Library of Sanskrit manuscripts in pre-independent India at Pune, under Bombay Presidency.

**Summary:**
All the above resources tell about the various facets and phases of growth and development of modern libraries in India. These have also marked the period of Indian contact with the West and their contribution towards the development of libraries in modern India.

### 2.2.4 Library Movement in India

P. Adhikari (1986) has focused his doctoral dissertation on history of library movement in India from the beginning of 20th century to independence. P.N. Kaula (1958) edited proceedings of conference on the theme *Library Movement in India* presents four general papers and six regional papers that survey various aspects of Indian library history, though it reflects the widely held idea that the library movement means the free public library movement. N.M. Dutt (1930) in his article and M.L. Nagar (1983) in his study of doctoral dissertation, have critically evaluated the aspects of library movement in India. N.C. Chakravarty (1962) in his small booklet of 37 pages wrote an introductory essay about Library Movement in India.
Since the focus of present research is to look into the works devoted towards the library movement in the different states of Deccan region in particular, it is vital to review herewith the works which have concentrated their study on the library movement in the states of Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, and Maharashtra.

### 2.2.4.1 Library Movement in Telangana and Andhra Pradesh

Mohammed Burhanuddin (1991) in his chapter from a handbook traces the growth from Government of Asif Jahi's to present state government of Andhra Pradesh, passing through respective policy decisions to own all under a single roof or to split the collection, into books and manuscripts. Further the changing collection patterns from Arabic and Persian dominated to multilingual and multipurpose, this library today is the State Central Library.

Mohamed Taher (1997) in his article on Salar Jung Museum Library traces the history and collection development patterns and trends which are located in this unique resource centre with valuable manuscript source, which is also a wonder of the world in terms of being one man's collection. In another article Mohamed Taher (1997) takes review of libraries in Hyderabad.

A.A.N. Raju’s (1988) *History of Library Movement in Andhra Pradesh* and article (1991) have traced the historical development of library movement in Andhra Pradesh since 1900 up to 1956 and library movement in Telangana since 1901 up to 1948 respectively.


The paper by S.R. Saranya Kumar (2014) is focused on public library movement in Andhra Pradesh in modern times and its significant role in socio-economic, cultural and spiritual development of communities in all parts of the world. It concludes that the library movements in Rayalaseema, Andhra and Telangana regions resulted in the
establishment of libraries which also contributed for the growth of awareness and freedom movement in those regions. The small 23-page monograph by C. Gopinatha Rao (1981) gives a brief account of various aspects related to library movement in Andhra Pradesh.

2.2.4.2 Library Movement in Karnataka

A chapter in a handbook by A.Y. Asundi (1996) describes the development of the public library system in the state of Karnataka, several exercises in its evaluation during the mid-1990s, and the current direction of its planning. Quantitative and qualitative survey data in it portray the demographics of library clientele, their information needs, their rating of library materials, facilities and personnel, and the relationship between their evaluations and the preliminary stages of automation. Analysis in it focuses on issues of age, gender, trajectories of career development, and the rural–urban divide in determining the future planning of the system.

A book titled Library Movement and Library Development in Karnataka by P.S.G. Kumar (2008) gives an account of historical background of the Karnataka State; the library movement; library legislation and public library system; description of important public, research and academic libraries; library education and research; library literature; etc. This book also gives a list of some of the important library professionals; library associations; Adult Education Council; endowments; institutions; lectures series; important conferences of national and international level, etc. An article by K.S. Deshpande (1962) keeping its scope limited with the district of Mysore gives brief account of public library movement happened there.

2.2.4.3 Library Movement in Maharashtra

A book titled History of the Public Library Movement in Maharashtra by S.G. Mahajan (1984), arising from his doctoral dissertation, is a sound contribution to the history of the libraries in India in general and Western Maharashtra in particular. It gives a brief history of manuscript libraries established up to 1805 in Maharashtra, and again includes a small description of Libraries of the Peshwas.

In the book titled Library Movement and Library Development in Maharashtra and Goa by P.S.G. Kumar (2008) has not only given an account of history of libraries in
Maharashtra, but also a detailed description of the public library system; committee on public libraries; and some of the important public libraries, special libraries and academic libraries. It also discusses about the library education, library personnel and a chronology of library events. Subjects like Maharashtra archives; Bibliographic Control; Marathi Viswakosh; Maharashtra State Gazetteers are added into it. Thus the book gives a comprehensive account of libraries in the State of Maharashtra.

**Summary:**
All the above resources have traced the aspects which were directly responsible for starting and strengthening the library movement, especially the public library movement in India and in particular states of India. The public library movement started in India from the beginning of 20th century. Starting from that period all have tried to survey and evaluate the various aspects involved in library movement. They all shed light on public library system, literature, libraries, library legislation, public research and academic libraries, library associations and give comprehensive account of libraries and library movement in India in general and in the states coming under Deccan region like Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, and Maharashtra individually in particular.

**2.2.5 Oriental Libraries in India**
Muhammad Hamidullah (1937) through his article has taken librariological survey of the east and west and introduced some of the less known collections of manuscripts. He also has mentioned some of the facilities and hardships experienced in the administration of different kind of oriental libraries.

Amjad Ali (2004) through his book *Oriental Libraries of India and their Collections* presents information about the premier oriental libraries of India and brings together details about their collections irrespective of their locations or languages.

A small article by Sumeer Gul and Samina Khan (2008) explains the history of the growth and development of oriental libraries in India from Vedic to contemporary period. It also explains briefly about the contributions of ancient monastic universities, Mughals, Muslim sultanates, and the European towards the establishment of libraries.
H.S. Chopra (1995) through his book titled *Oriental Manuscript Library: Origin, Development, Management, and Conservation* has taken a lead by writing on an entirely new subject in the field of Library and Information Science. This is a maiden attempt in India and other Asian Countries. Brief history of manuscript writing in India and oriental countries has been traced. Art of collecting rare manuscripts, their acquisition, classification and cataloguing have been discussed.

Muzaffar Ali (1965), S.A. Usmani and Z.R. Khan (1982), and Abid Riza Bidar (1989), in their individual chapters of different edited books write about development of oriental manuscript libraries, propagating knowledge gathered into it in the form of manuscripts, and various aspects of oriental librarianship. S. Narasimhan (1986) in her case study analysed the classification problems faced with respect of oriental libraries in four regions like China, Japan, Korea, and India.

**Summary:**
The above studies collectively traced the manuscript writing in India and oriental countries, history of growth and development of oriental libraries in India, premier oriental libraries in India, less known collections of manuscripts, contribution of monasteries, Mughals, Muslim sultanates and the Europeans towards the establishment of oriental libraries in India, organization and administrative practices related to collection, acquisition, classification, and cataloguing of manuscripts in oriental libraries. Overall they analyze the growth and development of oriental manuscript libraries and various aspects of oriental librarianship in India in general.

**2.2.6 Manuscript Libraries in India**
An article by Muhammad Hamidullah (1942) gives report about his personal visits to the two important treasures of manuscripts seen in Aurangabad city i.e. Panchakki library and library of Bande Nawaz Gesudaraz.

Annemarie Schimmel (1980) in his small article gives personal impressions about his visits to the important places from Deccan like Poona, Madras, Hyderabad, Bidar, Gulbarga, Bijapur as well as Patna. Through his experience he has showed that the Muslims in southern India, very carefully have preserved their cultural heritage in their libraries.
R.G. Harshe (1942) in his article expressed about his contribution towards the search and collection of manuscripts in the Deccan and his efforts in securing donation of 127 manuscripts from V.M. Gorhe from Puntambe, District Ahmednagar for the Deccan College Post-Graduate and Research Institute, Poona.

Omar Khalidi’s (2002-03) *A Guide to Arabic, Persian, Turkish, and Urdu Manuscript Libraries in India* has listed specific types of manuscript libraries from various parts of the country by geographically dividing them—first by state and then by city, which are having sizable collection of Arabic, Persian, Turkish, and Urdu manuscripts.

M.P. Pethe (1967) from University of Pune had undertaken a project for collecting information on manuscript collections, their preservation and utilization in India.

The book *Administration of Manuscript Libraries with Special Reference to Sanskrit* by Bijayanath Mukhopadhyay (1993) deals with all the aspects of administering a manuscript library in general with special emphasis on Sanskrit manuscript collection.

C.P. Pharande (1997) in his doctoral dissertation has studied salient features of organization and management of Marathi manuscripts especially in Maharashtra. He also identified preservation criteria's of Marathi manuscript collection.

K.T. Pandurangi (1978) in his book *The Wealth of Sanskrit Manuscripts in India and Abroad* gives all essential information regarding the history of manuscripts, scholars who worked for manuscripts, the libraries and institutions that possess manuscripts, catalogues and lists of manuscripts and other connected information of the rare Sanskrit manuscripts.

Ramesh C. Gaur and Mrinmoy Chakraborty (2009) in their paper discussed about the National Manuscript Mission that seeks to unearth and preserve the vast manuscript wealth of India. They have mentioned that the life of a palm leaf manuscript is far longer than a modern day device like CD or microfilm. They mentioned that, with increasing popularity of printed books the interest for collecting and preserving of manuscripts gained ground in India. Some famous bibliophiles and institutions built up their collections and as a result large repositories of manuscripts emerged and have
played a significant role in preservation and access to manuscripts in India by the Institutional and individual efforts in these fields.

The paper by S.M. Shafi and Mohammad Ishaq Lone (2012) have reviewed the literature about oriental manuscript collections in India and provided an overview of that area.

The aim of the monograph *Introduction to Manuscriptology* by R.S. Shivaganesha Murthy (1996) was to show with reference to Indian conditions the principal features of the science of Manuscriptology to enable the future editors master the modern methods of critical editing of manuscripts. Almost all aspects of Manuscriptology have been covered by him in this monograph, which would cater to the academic needs of professionals as well as beginners in the field.

The edited work *Manuscript and Manuscriptology in India* of Subodh Gopal Nandi and Projit Kumar Palit (2010) contains twenty-eight papers on various aspects of manuscript and Manuscriptology like manuscript writers, manuscript research, manuscript typology, manuscript and use of colophons, style of writing manuscript, manuscript editing, manuscript collection and centres, manuscript storage and preservation, manuscript conservation, manuscript catalogue and cataloguing etc.

Narender Kumar (1986) and P. Perumal (1999) in their chapters published in different edited books also express their views about the aspects of Manuscriptology and manuscript libraries in India.

**Summary:**
All the above research works provides a concise overview of manuscripts present in different Indian libraries and research institution/universities and also supplies a valuable entry point to the field of Indian manuscripts for research scholars, information scientists and other interested parties. It gives brief and scattered account of important manuscript treasures of manuscripts in India, types of manuscript libraries from various parts of the country having Arabic, Persian, Turkish, Urdu, Sanskrit, and Marathi manuscripts. It analyzes aspects of organization and management of such collections in the library and gives survey record of contemporary libraries and institutions that possess manuscripts and catalogues of
manuscripts in India. It tells the role of National Mission for Manuscripts (NMM) in unearthing and preserving the vast manuscript wealth in India. It also put focus on the principal features of the science of manuscriptology and manuscript libraries in India.

**Conclusion**

Oriental manuscripts are present in different research libraries, university libraries and public libraries in India but university libraries are leading others in preserving these manuscripts, with few exceptions. Manuscripts are available in different oriental languages and in different forms. Every religious sect in India has contributed immensely in collecting and preserving these manuscripts. The contribution of famous kings from various kingdoms of Indian history was also enormous in this regard.

This survey of literature reveals 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 (from ancient to contemporary period) and their importance in oriental education and research. A survey of literature on the topic reveals that oriental libraries have played a big role in the spread of higher education. It also reveals that the focus of higher education has shifted from southern and eastern Deccan to western Deccan in late medieval period and its development reached its peak during the British period. Since then western Deccan in particular has become the main centre of higher education and learning. This work will evaluate the role of library in spread of education in Deccan, understand the existing situation of oriental library system of the Deccan, identify the origin, history, problems and limitations that are involved in oriental library system of Deccan and identify their real contribution so as to fill the gap and formulate appropriate policies and suggest measures which can contribute to the improvement of the libraries in Deccan to meet the present-day-challenges.

The problem of investigation therefore is to present ideal model of *Oriental Libraries in 21st Century with special reference to 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 system; its effectiveness in oriental research and education is selected as a case study in the present thesis.
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