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MALA InfoZine

The Madras Library Association's Newsletter

September 2008

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Dear Friends,

It feels great to be back in Chennai amongst friends and family after a two year hiatus in Gurgaon! It is heightened by the fact that I have been elected as the "President" of MALA, the oldest and most prestigious association. I wish to thank the MALA members and the executive committee for this honour. I would also like to thank the vibrant outgoing president for her excellent contribution and look forward to her continued support and wish her all the best in her new role.

I would like to take this opportunity to serve the MALA community at large, to the best of my abilities and live up to your expectations with support and guidance from the very able and highly competent executive committee.

We request the members to participate in all our activities. Contribute articles to the news letter; share your achievements so we can celebrate it with you. Tell us your challenges and opportunities and provide us your valuable comments and feedback. Your active contribution is the surest and effective way to keep us on track with your professional needs. Stay involved in shaping the future of our association and help us celebrate as we turn 80 for "you are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream!"

- S. Vijaya

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New Members

We are proud to present the following new members:

Annual

- Mr. Subrata Sur, Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Cancer Research Institute, Kolkata
- Ms. A R Hemalatha, LIS Student, Chennai
- Ms. Pavitra Mukunna, S V Infosys, Chennai
- Mr. S Nava Deeban, Comfort Solutions Private Limited, Chennai

Life

- Mr. Kunwar Singh, Indian Institute of Technology - Madras, Chennai
- Mr. N V Bharathwaj, Voluntary Health Services Taramani, Chennai

Annual General Body Meeting

During our last Annual General Body Meeting held on August 9, 2008 Ms. Vijaya K. Sundaram, former Secretary of MALA has taken over the Presidentship from Dr. Samyuktha Ravi. Dr. Samyuktha stepped down from the post due to her move to Pondicherry to take over the post of University Librarian. Similarly the Treasurer Dr. R. Ravichandran requested to be relieved of his responsibilities due to personal reasons. Members elected Dr. M. Mymoon, one of the executive committee members as the new Treasurer.

Mr. G. Sundar, our Vice President & Director, Roja Muthiah Research Library (RMRL) visited the British Library's Conservation Centre to acquire training in the latest techniques and strategies in conservation. Association of British Scholars (ABS), Chennai Chapter sponsored the trip in August – September 2008. Sundar received training in the areas of treating paper, book binding, photographic conservation and in storage and preservation of library and archival material.

RMRL has subsequently set up a Conservation Studio and is planning to organize workshops for individuals, libraries, archives and institutions involved in preservation and conservation of library material in India.

Dr. Samyuktha, Ex-officio President MALA, is in the Advisory Committee and the Rapporteur General for the conference **Planner 2008** to be organised by UGC INFLIBNET for the Libraries in the North East India at Nagaland University, Dimapur on November 6-7, 2008.

Dr. Harish Chandra, Librarian, IIT Madras Library was presented with a Silver Rolling Trophy on September 2, 2008 by the Mylapore Academy, a premier social service organization since his library was selected as the best maintained library in the city. The Trophy, Certificate of Merit and Memento were presented by Sri G. Srinivasan, Chairman and Managing Director, United India Insurance Co. Ltd in the presence of Hon'able Justice Shri Asok Kumar Ganguly, Chief Justice of Madras High Court, Chennai.

On August 23, 2008, Sarada Ranganathan Endowment for Library Science, Bangalore, Ranganathan Centre for Information Studies and M.O.P. Vaishnav College for Women, Chennai organised a felicitation function to release the Festschrift volume to honour our senior most member Prof. S. Parthasarathy, former Director of INSDOC. Dr. K. N. Prasad, Prof. K. S. Raghavan, DRTC, Dr. M. S. Swaminathan, Agricultural Scientist, Dr. M. Anandkrishnan, former Chairperson, MIDS, Dr. K. Nirmala Prasad, Principal, M.O.P. Vaishnav College spoke on the occasion.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Local

MALA is organising a **Symposium on the Role of Public Libraries in Social Development** in association with the Directorate of Public Libraries, Chennai on October 18, 2008. The venue is WUS Centre, Chetpet, Chennai. Dr. M. Anandkrishnan, former Chairperson, Madras Institute of Development Studies, Chennai will deliver the Presidential address. Eminent personalities have been invited to speak on the occasion. Public Librarians from different districts in Tamilnadu have contributed papers to be included in the Symposium volume. Registration is free on first
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cum first served basis. Members are welcome to join. RRRLF, Kolkatta is sponsoring the event.

National

Three-day Workshop on **Future Libraries: Advanced GSDL and RFID** is being organized by TERI, New Delhi during January 14-16, 2009. For more details about the workshop, please visit the website www.teriin.org/events/dlworkshop

National Seminar on Digitization and Networking of Library and Information Centers in NE India is being organized during January 9-10, 2009 jointly by the Department of Library and Information Science, Guwahati University, Guwahati (Assam) & Central Reference Library, Department of Culture, GOI, Kolkata. More details can be collected from: <http://www.gulis.110mb.com/>

National Institute of Science Communication and Information Resources (NISCAIR), CSIR, New Delhi is organizing a **National Conference on Traditional Knowledge Systems, Intellectual Property Rights and their Relevance for Sustainable Development** from November 24-26 November 2008. Details at: <http://niscair.res.in/Movingmenu/conf-TK-IPR-nov08.pdf>

ILA Platinum Jubilee International Conference is being organized by Sir Dorabji Tata Memorial Library, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai and Indian Library Association in Mumbai during November 13-15, 2008. Theme of the Conference is *Empowering Knowledge for All: Role of Libraries*.

International

International Symposium on Emerging Trends and Technologies in Libraries and Information Services is being organized by Jaypee Institute of Information Technology University, Delhi College of Engineering and SALIS-Delhi-NCR Chapter during December 18-20, 2008. For more details please click on: <http://www.ettlis2008.com/>

Newsdesk

Country's first e-law library inaugurated

The Hindu: Sept. 21, 2008: Panaji (PTI): Goa Chief Minister Digambar Kamat inaugurated the country's first e-law library here aimed at facilitating legal practitioners.

The e-library would make judgements available at the click of the button. Lawyers would get a printout of any judgement they needed for ready reference, Council Vice-Chairman Jayant Jaibhave said.

A Thought: "No institution can possibly survive if it needs geniuses or supermen to manage it. It must be organized in such a way as to be able to get along under a leadership composed of average human beings." - Peter F. Drucker

Delhi Public Library set to make its catalogue online

PTI: New Delhi, September 30: Members of Delhi Public Library can now search catalogues for books at the click of the mouse.

From October 2, the Delhi Public Library (DPL), an autonomous organisation under the Delhi Ministry of Culture, is set to make its catalogue online with Koha open-source library software for the benefit of readers.

"The library is having 15 lakh books in its zonal and branch libraries, will offer the latest option for the 45,000 DPL members and others through its website <http://dpl.gov.in> "

Blog Watch

BlogStreet India - Blog Profiles, RSS Ecosystem, Blog Tops, Search and Directory <http://blogstreet.com/> . It offers a host of methods for searching for Indian Blogs. Aside from a search engine and a directory, you can search for submitted blogs by "Author, Email, Rank,

Category, Reviews, Rating, Related Blogs, Books, Music and RSS."

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"I always give 110% to my job. 40% on Monday, 30% on Tuesday, 20% on Wednesday, 15% on Thursday, and 5% on Friday."

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CHECK IT OUT!

Useful resource based on the 'Encyclopaedia Britannica' foundation: <http://directory.100.com/?cat=Libraries>

Libweb: Library Servers via WWW. Updated daily. It currently lists over 7700 pages from libraries in 146 countries: <http://lists.webjunction.org/libweb/>

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Edited by L. R. Gowri / Vijaya K. Sundaram
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We welcome your contributions for our next Newsletter. Programmes organised by your library, awards/rewards received by you, your significant contributions to the field or simply your feedback on this publication. We also look forward to hearing your suggestions/co-sponsorship of MALA events. Please feel free to write to us. Our Email ID is: madraslibraryassociation@gmail.com

Please encourage your professional colleagues to become members of the MALA. Membership fee is Rs. 100/- for Annual, Rs. 500/- for Life and Rs. 3,000/- for Institutional members. The amount could be paid by cash/local cheque/demand draft drawn in favour of The Madras Library Association. The registration form can be downloaded from: <http://www.accel-india.com/mala/0700.htm>.

Please mail the filled-in application form along with the cheque/demand to the Treasurer: Dr. M. Mymoon, No.10, 4th Street, Sevanagar, Velachery, Chennai 600 042. Tel: 2243 2802

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