S.R. Ranganathan Classics -1



The Science and the Profession of Libraries - A Visionary's Perspective

(A collection of 20 papers)
125th Anniversary
Commemoration Volume



S R Ranganathan (1892-1972)

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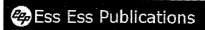
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Sarada Ranganathan Endowment for Library Science, Bangalore

and



The Five Laws of Library Science

- 1. Books are for use
- 2. Every reader his/her book
- 3. Every book its reader
- 4. Save the time of the reader
- 5. Library is a growing organism

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Dr.S.R.Ranganathan (1892 to 1972)

Shiyali Ramamrita Ranganathan is world-renowned in the field of library and information science. There is hardly any aspect of library science that he has not touched and made significant contributions to it. His Five Laws of Library Science laid the foundations of library and information service; and his Prolegomena to Library Classification, Colon Classification along with Chain Procedure are seminal contributions to knowledge organization (subject structuring, classification and indexing).

Dr.Ranganathan received many honours — the Nationl Research Professorship in Library Science in March 1965 conferred by the Government of India- D.Litt (Honoris Causa) by the Delhi University in 1948, Doctorate in Library Science by the University of Pittsburg in 1964, Padma Shri in 1956, and the MARGARET Mann award in 1971 by the American Library Association for his contribution to Cataloguing theory and practice.

Born in August 1892, Dr.Ranganathan earned his M.A. in Mathematics from Madras. He started as a lecturer in mathematics and physics in some of the constituent colleges of Madras University. Chance events led him to accept the Madras University Librarian's post in 1924. After a year's study at the School of Librarianship and Archives in London, he returned to the Madras University Library and for the next 20 years, worked ceaselessly to make that library a model academic library. In 1945 he was invied to the positions of Honorary Professor of Library Science by the Benares Hindu University (1944-47), then Delhi University (1947-56) and later the Documentation Research and Training Centre (DRTC) of the Indian Statistical Institute at Bangalore (1962-1972). Earlier he was associated with the establishment of such information institutions as INSDOC(CSIR), and Documentation Sectional Committee of the Bureau of Indian Standards, New Delhi. He founded the Sarada Ranganathan Endowment for Library Science in 1963, with the objective of promoting research in library science and dissemination of the research results. He wrote more than 2000 research papers, about 60 books and founded and edited five periodical publications during his life-time. Ranganathan passed away on 27th September 1972, leaving indelible marks in most facets of library and information science.

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Dr. A.Y. Asundi is a former Professor and Chairman, Dept. of Library and Information Science, and Officer-in-Charge of IT Centre, Bangalore University, Bangalore. He has a rich blend of experience both as a practitioner and as a teacher for nearly four decades. He has served as a visiting faculty at ISI/DRTC, Bangalore, Dr. Asundi was also a member of the Core Committee of CDC of UGC for the preparation of LIS Curriculum and the Status Report on LIS Education in India. He has ten books and 200 Papers to his credit. He has been a member of the Advisory Committee of IFLA/SIG on LIS Education in Developing Countries.

Dr. B M Meera, currently Chief Librarian at the Raman Research Institute (RRI), Bengaluru has rich experience of managing academic libraries. Dr. Meera also served at the Indian Statistical Institute, Bengaluru for 24 years. She has more than 20 research papers in national and international journals and has 40 conference papers. A past Vice president of KALA, Dr Meera is recipient of "Award of Excellence" on the occasion of International Women's Day in 2010 and "Granthalaya Seva Puraskara" in recognition of her record of excellent library services by the Department of Public Libraries, Government of Karnataka