

Online Bibliography of Dr. Shiran Upendra Deraniyagala

S.K. Illangarathne¹ and Nuwan Abeywardana²

¹Senior Assistant Librarian, Main Library, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, Mihintale.
(skillangarathne@gmail.com)

² Lecturer, Dept. of Archeology and Heritage Management,
Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, Mihintale.
(nuwanabeywardana@yahoo.com)

Introduction

Dr. Shiran Deraniyagala was a pioneering archeologist and pre-historian of Sri Lanka. His works dominated Sri Lankan archaeology and history in the last few decades. He received his degree in Architecture and Sanskrit (BA Cambridge 1963; MA Cambridge 1966) and went on to postgraduate studies in archaeology at the Institute of Archaeology, London (now University College London), in which he passed with distinction and was awarded the Gordon Childe Prize (as one of two best all-round students of the year from among all fields of archaeology). He joined the Archaeological Department of the Government of Sri Lanka in 1968 as Assistant Commissioner in charge of scientific excavations throughout the country. Dr. Deraniyagala's functioning in the latter capacity was primarily research orientated with emphasis on Sri Lanka's prehistoric period (beyond 1000 BC) while pioneering in its protohistoric (1000-500 BC) and early historic (500 BC - 300 AD) archaeology as well. He received his PhD (Harvard) in 1988. Dr. Deraniyagala's research continued on the lines set out above as Consultant for research excavations (1983-92) and as Director-General (1992-2001) of the Archaeological Department. Sri Lankan history and prehistory were brightened by

his academic and writings which are filled with insight, thoughtful. Intension of this research is to provide detailed quick accessible online bibliography for Dr. deraniyagala.

“Bibliographies” are identify as an informatics sources or lists of the books referred to in a scholarly work, usually printed as an appendix containing background information of specific author or publisher, or on a specific subject. There are many flavors such as enumerative bibliography, annotated bibliography and analytical bibliography etc. Most popular bibliographies are bibliography of World War I, Bibliography of Social Sciences, Sri Lanka National bibliography etc. The world trend of bibliography is online bibliography, provides whole informatics sources of publications and its authors through out the World Wide Web (WWW) has become a competitive among scholars. The online bibliography of same capacity is “Inforsys Ananda Coomaraswamy” The researchers can find out Dr. Ananda Coomaraswamy's scholarly works through out the url of [“http://thakshana.nsf.ac.lk/wwwisis/bisac/form.htm”](http://thakshana.nsf.ac.lk/wwwisis/bisac/form.htm)

Research Problem

Dr. Deraniyagala is identified as a premier archeologist and well known scientific excavator of archeological sites and make thousand of inquires by the world wide scholars from the libraries asking reference facilities of his massive publications which contain research findings. However there is no proper detailed bibliographic source available in the libraries either print or electronic format conjoining his scholarly works together available libraries to cater the above demand. The main objective of the libraries is providing correct information to correct user with correct format while saving the time of its user. When analyszing the above demanding factor with the main objective of the libraries it shows the gap. Therefore providing the proper detailed bibliographic source for Dr. Deraniyagala's research publications will fill the above gap.

Objectives of the study

The main objective of the study is to provide a detailed, quick accessible bibliographic information service (Data Base Management System – DBMS) with contact details of available libraries via online to the researchers who searech Dr. Deraniyagala's research publications.

Population & Sample

Sri Lankan and Overseas Libraries were nominated as population and 20 Sri Lankan Libraries and 10 overseas libraries were selected as a sample. Stratified random sampling technique was used to select the sample.

Methodology

Secondary sources (CV of Dr. Deraniyagala and Library Catalogues) were used to compose the list of

publication of Dr. Deraniyagala and observation and questionnaire methods were used to collect primary data (available libraries, no of copies available, ability of reference and contact details of available libraries etc.) Microsoft Excel worksheet was used to organize both data and finally the whole data were transferred to the MySql Database which can be managed easily through out the online platform. PHP Scripting language was used to create the interface of the database and few search techniques (Boolean and truncation search techniques) were used to retrieve the search results.

Limitations

The study identified two limitations that bibliography not covered publications which were not listed in his CV and not covered overseas libraries which were not available in online catalogues.

Findings

It is still on going project that the authors plan to present findings at the 1st Annual Research Symposium 2013, organized by the Dept. of Archeology and Heritage Management, Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka as well as plan to present the web based bibliography called "the online bibliography of Dr. Shiran Deraniyagala" at the same occasion.

References

- "bibliology". The Oxford English Dictionary (2nd ed.). 1989.
- Fredson, Bowers, "Four Faces of Bibliography" Papers of the Bibliographical Society of Canada 10 (1971):33-4.
- Philip, Gaskell, A New Introduction to Bibliography (2000). <http://thakshana.nsf.ac.lk/wwwisis/bisac/form.htm>