WEB OPAC OF MYSORE UNIVERSITY
LIBRARY AN OVERVIEW

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Abstract:
This article explains the available searchable options in Mysore University Library WEB OPAC (http://libcat.mysore-univ.org/). The Mysore University Library WEB OPAC page is very informative and accessible worldwide. Here a brief overview of the WEB OPAC, its usage statistics and library supports facilities are explained.

1. Introduction:
The Five Laws are fundamentals of Library science, According to S R Ranganthan the fourth law suggests “Recognition that part of the excellence of library service is its ability to meet the needs of the library user efficiently”. Ranganathan observed that centralizing the library collection in one location provided distinct advantages. Librarians should have excellent first-hand knowledge of the people to be served. Collections should meet the special interests of the community, and libraries should promote and advertise their services extensively to attract a wide range of readers. In this context Mysore university library have a WEBOPAC facility which can be accessed at http://libcat.mysore-univ.org/.

Mysore University library is one of the oldest and largest University Library in the country and Mother of other University Libraries in Karnataka. The Library started functioning in the year 1918. It has a glorious record of 91 years of worthy service, with resource collection of 6 Lakhs volumes in its systems today. The Library has grown to become one of the leading university libraries in the country with a rich collection of books, journals, reports, rare materials and archives, with multiple locations and a collection of more than 1.2 million items. The goal of knowledge acquisition is Enlightenment. Mysore University Library provides access to more than 13000 e-journals, More than eighteen thousand E-books, and e-thesis through its e resources portal for the benefit of its patrons. Very recently the Mysore University library is being automated with the Koha open source software.

2. WEB OPAC http://libcat.mysore-univ.org/ of Mysore University Library
Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC) is the key to a library's collection as it allows users to find out about what books, journals, conference proceedings,
reports, and other resources are available in either print or electronic format. Although OPACs are designed for all kinds of users, ranging from novices to experts, they are not always very easy to search.

**Screen shot of library WEB OPAC**

Mysore University Web OPAC facilitates multilingual search option and most Indian local language collections can be searched easily. KOHA is library software supports to generate databases of many Indian languages. The browser can search any Indian language collections by entering the selected language. Mainly our library holds the regional language Kannada, Hindi, Urdu, Sanskrit, Tamil, Malayalam, and Telugu languages books. The OPAC has more number of English books (87.24%) and other languages books are lesser percentage. The web OPAC can also be searched by department and subject wise collection. University library Web OPAC also covers collection of constituent colleges, department libraries, Post Graduate Centers of Chamarajanagara, Mandya, Hassan, and other Institutions collection. The browsers can search simultaneously Maharaja College Library collection or Bahadur Institute of Management library Collection. The OPAC also holds the special collections on Ambedkar studies, Reference, Reports, Biography, Shakespeare, Text book Loan, Competitive Cell, Dictionary, Encyclopedia, Fiction, Hand Books, and Mahatma Gandhi, Kuvepnu, Shakespeare, etc.

The advance search screen provide searching by author, title, call number, ISBN, Key words, Year, Subject, Collection Type, Reference collection, Active Collection, CIRC, Serials, Thesis, CD Collection, EBooks, and Language Books etc. These are basically string or phrase search. The search queries are directly linked to Google reviews, E books and Google online bookshop, and if a book is available freely on-line, we will be able to browse the book directly.

**Conclusion**

University library is heart of the university academic and research activity. The library plays an active role for the information seekers. The main moto is to provide right information at right time to all the user community. The web OPAC is one such facility provided to the users.

**References:**

1. [http://libcat.mysore-univ.org/ retrieved on 22/08/2013](http://libcat.mysore-univ.org/)
3. [http://libstaff.mysore-univ.org/cgi-bin/koha/about.pl retrieved on 22/08/2013](http://libstaff.mysore-univ.org/cgi-bin/koha/about.pl)