



UNIVERSITY OF PERADENIYA

Library Newsletter

APPRECIATION CEREMONY

OPEN DAY 2023

VISIT OF GREECE AMBASSADOR

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Librarian's visit of India

• Mr. R. Maheswaran presented a research article at the 11th International Seminar on Tamil Studies. The topic of the research paper is: Role of Sri Lanka University Libraries in the Development of Computer Tamil (கணிணித் தமிழ் வளர்ச்சியில் இலங்கைப் பல்கலைக்கழக நூலகங்களின் வகிபாகம்) - This International Conference was held on July 7. 8. 9 in Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India.

The 11th International Seminar on Tamil Studies Conference is organized by the International Association of Tamil Research (IATR). This organization was established in the year 1964 by Fr. Xavier Thaninayagam a renowned Sri Lankan Tamil Scholar to promote Tamil Studies and Research. Previously this international conference seminars had been held on different occasions in countries such as Malaysia, India, France, Mauritius, Sri Lanka and the USA.

Librarian's visit of Malaysia

• The 11th World Tamil Research Conference of the International Institute of Tamil Research (IATR) was held in Malaysia from 21-23 July 2023. The aim of the conference was to foster and enhance research and studies on Tamil Language and Literature among scholars. Librarian of the University of Peradeniya, Mr. R. Maheswaran presented a paper on the title "Scientific Tamil in Contemporary Tamil literature"

(தற்கால தமிழ் இலக்கியத்தில் அறிவியல் தமிழ்). The First World Tamil Conference was held in the year 1966 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

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Mr. R. Maheswaran

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Mr. S. A. Jeewan Mr. B. E. S. Bandara

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Visit of the Ambassador of Greece

His Excellency Dimitrios Ioannou, the Ambassador of Greece in India, took the opportunity to explore the Library during his visit to the University of Peradeniya on 30th June 2023. The Ambassador inspected the palm leaf collection, the Prof. Ediriweera Sarachchandra Museum, and the rich Greek and Roman studies collection available in the Library. The Head of the Department of Classical Languages, Dr. (Ms.) Ruwantha Kulatunga, Professor of Berkeley, and Director of Research at the Centre National de Recherche Scientifique-Paris, Dr. Osmund Bopearachchi, an international authority on Hellenistic numismatics, and Senior Lecturer Prof. (Ms.) Chandima Wickramasinghe, accompanied the ambassador on this memorable visit.













The Story of the Heart of Pera Uni'

Main Library Programme for University Open Day

In a historic milestone, the University of Peradeniya hosted its first-ever Open Day on 1st of July 2023, commemorating the 80th anniversary of the university's establishment. Adding a unique dimension to the Open Day, the Main Library at the University of Peradeniya organized a series of academic programmes under the theme 'The Story of the Heart of Pera Uni,' running from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm.

The Main Library graciously opened its doors to the public, inviting them to explore the library premises, engage with exhibition items, interact with library staff, participate in interactive lecture sessions, and gain invaluable insights into the diverse range of academic services offered by the Main Library.

Visitors had the opportunity to immerse themselves in various exhibitions, including the Professor Ediriweera Sarachchandra Museum Collection, the Painting Collection showcasing selected works of renowned artists, the Palm-leaf Manuscript Collection, Archival Documents Collection, and Archival Objects of the Library.

Two academic seminars were planned under the resource support of two distinguished lecturers: Dr. (Ms). C.N.K. Alahakoon, Deputy Librarian at the Main Library, University of Peradeniya, and Senior Lecturer Dr. S. Sutharsan from the Department of Tamil, Faculty of Arts, University of Peradeniya.

During the program, the library provided guided tours, allowing visitors to explore various sections, including the Ceylon Room and Special Collections, Reading Rooms, Schedule Reference Counter, Lending Collection, Mask Collection, Books Binding and Preservation Unit, Palm-leaf Conservation and Preservation Unit, and Fumigation System.

A significant highlight of the programme was the opportunity for the public to observe the 'Mahavaṁsa,' the Great Chronicle of Sri Lanka. This document, recently listed among the 64 new items of documentary heritage inscribed on UNESCO's Memory of the World (MoW) International Register in 2023, was made accessible to the public during the event.





















The Open Day drew hundreds of thousands of attendees, including school children, foreigners, monks, and the general public, making it a resounding success. The program was supervised by Mr. R. Maheswaran, the Librarian, University of Peradeniya, along with a team of thirteen members. The team included two Assistant Librarians, Mr. S.A. Jeewan and Mr. B.E.S. Bandara, as well as Assistant Registrar Ms. Ayesha Senaratne. Other library staff members, such as Mr. R.M. Sarath Kumara, Mr. W.R.N. Fernando, Mr. S.M. Machchagama, Mrs. N.S. Somaratne, Ms. G.G.T.D. Jayaweera, Mr. P.R.R.C. Bandara, Mrs. R.M. Ratnayake Menike, Mrs. P.A.J.N. Bandara, Mr. R.M.A.S.B. Ratnayake, and Mr. R.D.P.K. Ranasinghe, also played integral roles in the program's success.

It is crucial to acknowledge that beyond the mentioned team members, numerous other staff played instrumental roles. Their collective efforts, alongside the active involvement of the academic staff of the library, significantly contributed to the seamless execution and success of the inaugural Open Day at the University of Peradeniya. Their dedication and hard work, both seen and unseen, deserve commendation for creating a truly historic and memorable occasion.











































Feature Article

Importance of Institutional Repositories for Higher Education Institutes

By Dr. (Mrs.) C. Gunasekera Senior Assistant Librarian, Reader Services Division, Main Library , University of Peradeniya

Introduction

In the present digital era, Institutional Repositories (IRs) have become prevalent among educational institutions worldwide, especially universities. Many universities deposit their scholarly works in IRs to showcase their research output to the global community. As a result, IRs have become an indispensable requirement for academic and research institutions, offering a digital platform for storing, preserving, and disseminating the scholarly output of the owning institution. This article aims to provide a brief overview of institutional repositories, emphasizing their key benefits.

What are Institutional Repositories - Definitions

The term "Institutional Repositories" is defined in various ways. According to Lunch (2003), an IR is a service offered for the university community by the university, managing information and the dissemination of intellectual materials in digital format. In other words, an IR is a modern approach to organizing and preserving digital knowledge created by the university community.

As defined by Crow (2002), an IR is a digital collection that captures and preserves the scholarly output of the university. It mainly concentrates on educational, research, and similar information available within the institution. Most IRs provide open access to the institution's research output, such as conference papers, research publications, theses, and dissertations, etc.

According to Johnson (2022), an IR is a digital archive of the scholarly output created by the staff, students, and researchers attached to the institution, which is available for both endusers within and outside the institution. It also houses experimental and observational data captured by members of the institution to support their scholarly activities.

Content of Institutional Repositories

Peer-reviewed journal articles and Conference Proceedings

The primary type of content in repositories is peer-reviewed journal literature. A collection of journal articles published by an institution, provided in Open Access through the repository, gives the institution's research program worldwide visibility and increases its impact. Individual authors also enjoy the same increased visibility for their work and its related impact.

Research data

Currently, research data are increasingly created in digital form. Repositories are also places where authors can deposit the data that support their final articles. Many research funders require their grant-holders to make their data Open Access once they have analyzed and published their findings from the data. This requirement exists so that researchers can use the data to verify results, compare it with their own data, or reuse it in various ways to generate new data and knowledge. Datasets can take many forms, including spreadsheets, photographs, audio files, poetry, plays, diagrams, etc.

Monographs and books

Most IRs contain books or book chapters. In cases where books are written for monetary gain, authors may be reluctant to deposit them for free in a repository. In such cases, it is still important for the book to be deposited, with metadata (title, author, publisher details, etc.) displayed, while the text may remain hidden from viewers. Having visible metadata ensures that the book is counted in the institution's assessment procedures, its existence is known to potential readers, and it can be located by web search engines.

Other content types

In addition to the types of content described above, IRs frequently contain theses, dissertations, and other research-related outputs such as presentations, working papers, grant proposals, and reports.

Purposes of an IR to an institution

The IR serves the following purposes for an institution:

- 1. Global Outreach: Opens up the university's outputs to the world.
- 2. Enhanced Impact: Maximizes visibility and impact of outputs.
- 3. Showcasing: Highlights the university to prospective staff, students, and stakeholders.
- 4. Curation: Collects and curates digital outputs.
- 5. Measurement: Manages and measures research and teaching activities.
- 6. Collaboration: Provides a workspace for work-in-progress and collaborative projects.
- 7. Interdisciplinary Research: Enables an interdisciplinary approach to research.
- 8. Teaching Materials: Facilitates the development and sharing of digital teaching materials.
- 9. **Student Support:** Supports students by providing access to theses, dissertations, and e- portfolios.

Benefits of IRs for Researchers and Faculty

Implementing an IR is of great importance for academic institutions, as it provides a range of benefits for researchers and faculty staff in various ways. Some of these benefits include:

• Increased visibility:

Depositing research works in an IR makes all types of academic research freely available on the web, thereby enhancing accessibility to a wider audience. This heightened

enhances the professional profile of locally produced research outputs and contributes to an increased citation impact for the authors. Furthermore, compared to offline counterparts, open-access articles in IRs often exhibit even higher impact. Additionally, the use of indices to locate information becomes more accurate and appropriate for open-access documents within IRs.

Easy accessibility:

All research works and other information available in IRs can be accessed more swiftly than traditional methods of scholarly communication. Since IRs are in digital format, they expose the metadata of each article (such as title, author, and other bibliographic details) to all users accessing the IR. This fosters enhanced access to the repository's contents. Open access also facilitates uncomplicated retrieval of data and contents from IRs for the global academic community. Given the easy access to scholarly works from other universities or educational institutes through IRs, these platforms can promote cooperation and communication among institutions in research activities.

• Ease of management:

IRs are managed using specialized software designed for this purpose. The management of IRs is tailored to the requirements and needs of each institution's user community. The submission process and content management are determined based on distinct collections, which are defined according to community requirements. Many IR systems permit the creation of numerous collections within the repository.

Depositing materials in an IR indirectly aids in cost-effective document storage. Specifically, for universities, it offers unified access to the institution's entire research output from a single location. This convenience benefits researchers and users both within and outside the university, as well as the global community.

Conclusion

Institutional Repositories (IRs) have developed into essential information resources within higher education institutions. These digital platforms serve numerous vital purposes, benefiting universities, researchers, and the broader academic community in various ways. Furthermore, IRs promote open access and facilitate the exchange of knowledge created by the community of a particular institution, thereby increasing research visibility.

References

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Appreciation Ceremony honoring the bequest of

Emeritus Professor Gananath Obeyesekere and Professor Ranjini Obeyesekere



A special event was organized by the library to honor and extend appreciation towards Professor Gananth Obeyesekere, an Emeritus Professor of Anthropology at Princeton University, USA. This ceremony was a token gesture of gratitude to an eminent and distinguished scholar who has generously gifted his precious ex-library collection to the library, with the fullest support and blessings of his beloved wife, Professor Ranjini Obeyesekere.

Professor Gananath and Ranjini Obeyesekere donated their ex-library books to the Main Library, University of Peradeniya, in 2022. The book collection comprises nearly 2000 books and periodicals on various subjects, including Anthropology, Sociology, Archaeology, History, Psychology, and books under a wide array of diverse disciplines.

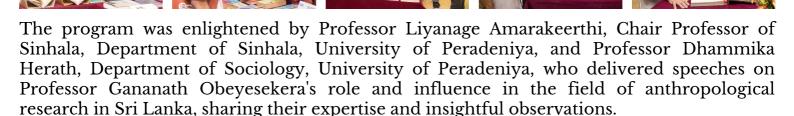
After completing all the technical work at the library, the book collection was handed over to university readers on 9th August, 2023, with a felicitation ceremony for Professor Gananath and Ranjini Obeyesekere. The program started at 10:15 am at the Arts Gallery, with the presence of Professor Terrence Madhujith, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, University of Peradeniya. Following the warm welcome of Professor Emeritus Gananath Obeyesekere, Professor Ranjini Obeyesekere, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Librarian, Acting Dean/Faculty of Arts, and other distinguished guests, academics, students, and distingushed guests, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Professor Obeyesekere unveiled the exhibition of the donated books, which were exhibited in the Arts Gallery at the New Library Building and led to the Library Auditorium for the gathering. Mr. R. Maheswaran, the Librarian, welcomed all the guests and appreciated the invaluable book donation. Deputy Vice-Chancellor Professor Terrence Madhujith and Acting Dean Professor Rohitha Dassanayake also expressed their gratitude to Professor Gananath and Ranjini Obeyesekere for the bequest of the precious donation as a valuable academic contribution to the university community.











Professor Ranjini Obeyesekere expressed her gratitude to the library for organizing such an event in her speech, and Professor Gananath Obeyesekere presented his views on academia via the poem 'From Another Time' by W.H. Auden.

Under the supervision of Professor Ranjini Obeyesekere, as the first phase of this book donation, nearly 2000 valuable academic books were presented to the library, and the remaining books, approximately 3000, will be handed over to the library in the future.

This distinguished program was graced by Emeritus Professors and retired Professors of the University of Peradeniya, Heads of Departments of Arts Faculty, Academics of various faculties, Library Academics, Administration Staff and Non-Academic Staff Members, Students, Media, Well-wishers of the university, and others. The program was compered by Ms. Chamilka De Silva, Assistant Librarian of the Cataloguing Division. The program was organized by Mr. S.A. Jeewan, Assistant Librarian of the Special Collections, Main Library.

This collection of books and periodicals has now been placed on the Fifth Floor of the New Library Building as a Special Collection of reference materials for the use of academic researchers.



Reading Challenge for undergraduate students of the Faculty of Agriculture

Reading helps the individuals to access knowledge, expand their views of the world and develop critical thinking skills. Reading is also an intellectual activity which improves linguistic, cognitive and socio-cultural competencies.

Many universities and colleges conduct common reading programs for their undergraduates to encourage reading and develop the reading habit which will be useful for them to perform well in their academic work.

The Agriculture Library, Agriculture Library Committee, English Language Teaching Unit and the Language Teaching Committee conducted the programme for the second year undergraduate students of the Faculty of Agriculture. An introductory session was conducted for the students at the Animal Science Department of the Faculty of Agriculture. Prof. Janaki Mohotti the Chairperson of the Language Teaching Committee delivered the introductory speech. Dr. Jayalath Edirisinghe, Senior Lecturer of the Department of Civil Engineering conducted the motivational speech for the students emphasizing the importance of developing reading habits. Mrs. Harshani Dissanayake Senior Assistant Librarian of the Agriculture Library introduced types of reading material, the process and the rules and regulations of the programme. Sixty-one students participated in the programme.











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Library Seminar Series: Lecture No.05

'ශී ලංකා ආර්ථිකයේ අනාගතය: බාධක සහ අභියෝග'

'Future of the Sri Lankan Economy: Constraints and Challenges



The 'Library Seminar Series' hosted its fifth lecture to delve into the pressing economic issues of Sri Lanka by inviting the renowned Professor Wasantha Athukorala from the Department of Economics and Statistics, Faculty of Arts, University of Peradeniya.

This intellectual session aimed to capture the true state of the Sri Lankan economy. Themed 'Future of the Sri Lankan Economy: Constraints and Challenges,' the lecture took place at the Library Auditorium, with anticipation from 2:00 to 4:00 pm on May 23, 2023. The audience included academic staff and students from various faculties such as Arts, Management, Agriculture, Dental Science, Medical Science, Library, and more. Furthermore, academic support staff, administrative staff, and non-academics also attended the programme. The program was also broadcasted via Zoom technology.

Professor Athukorala unveiled the current challenges and constraints of the Sri Lankan economy, shedding light on its future trajectory. His impactful presentation not only provided valuable insights on the economy but also offered a glimpse into the future of the nation's economic prospects. The Librarian, Mr. R. Maheswaran welcomed the audience while Dr. (Ms.) C.N.K. Alahakoon, Deputy Librarian insightfully introduced the guest speaker. This seminar was coordinated by Mr. S.A. Jeewan, Assistant Librarian, Main Library.

























Library Seminar Series: Lecture No.06

'Translation Studies – Contemporary Theories'

The sixth installment of the Library Seminar Series was held on 29th May, 2023, in the Library Auditorium. The session commenced at 11:00 am and concluded at 12:00 noon, featuring a distinguished guest speech by Dr. Anandakumar, a Professor in Tamil at the Department of Tamil, Gandhigram Rural Institute – Deemed to be University in Gandhigram, Tamil Nadu, India. Dr. Anandakumar delivered a captivating lecture titled 'Translation Studies – Contemporary Theories,' marking a vibrant chapter in the Library Seminar Series as its first Tamil Medium Lecture.

This collaborative effort between the Main Library and the Department of Tamil aimed to enrich the academic experience of the university community. Mr. R. Maheswaran, the librarian extended a gracious welcome to Dr. Anandakumar, setting the stage for an engaging program. The lecture not only provided valuable insights into Translation Studies and Contemporary Theories but also showcased the beauty and depth of Tamil literature. Dr. Anandakumar's expertise illuminated the finest phases, poems, and writings of Tamil literature, creating an informative and culturally rich discourse.

Moreover, the program transcended mere information dissemination, offering a lively experience for participants. Engaging discussions and exploration of Tamil literature's best aspects contributed to a dynamic atmosphere, ensuring an enriching and memorable event. The program was graced by various scholars from the Faculty of Arts, along with library academics, non-academic staff, and students.













Photo Credit: Mr. S. A. Jeewan









Subject: Report on Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) - Library Activities

The IQAC conducted it's 16th and 17th meetings on 4thMay 2023 and 31st July 2023, respectively.

The Institutional Review team visited the Library System from 8th May to 12th May, and the reviewing process was successfully completed. The participants involved in the reviewing process were the Librarian, Senior Staff members, Branch Librarians, and staff members from all other categories.

The Institutional Review (IR) Program was conducted as follows:

- On 8th May, the IR team met with the Main Library staff.
- On 11th May, the IR team had meetings with the Branch Library staff at their respective faculties.
- Both the Librarian and the IQAC coordinator attended the Management Committee meetings of the CQA

IR process contributed significantly to the enhancement of our library services and overall institutional quality.













IQAC related - Science Library





Ms. S. Weerasinghe/ Senior Assistant Librarian of the Science Library participated for the onsite Stake Holders Meeting with the programme review team for B.Sc. Honours study programme in Cluster 2- 'Mathematics, Statistics and Computer Science' of the Faculty of Science, University of Peradeniya. The meeting was held at the Board Room of the Faculty of Science, University of Peradeniya on 31st of May 2023 at 8.30am.

Ms. S. Weearsinghe/ Senior Assistant Librarian of the Science Library participated for the Key Stake Holders Meeting with the programme review team for B.Sc. Honours study programme in Cluster 3- 'Botany, Zoology and Molecular Biology & Biotechnology' of the Faculty of Science, University of Peradeniya. The meeting was held via Zoom at the Auditorium of the Postgraduate Institute of Science (PGIS), University of Peradeniya on 21st June 2023 at 10.30am.





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Library Orientation Programme for New Students - Faculty of Arts - 2023

The Library Orientation for first-year students admitted to the Faculty of Arts was conducted on July 4th 2023. The program comprised two sessions. Initially, a speech titled "Introduction to University Main Library" took place from 3:00 pm to 3:30 pm at the Arts Theater on July 4th, 2023. Dr. Chamani Gunasekera, Senior Assistant Librarian & Head of Reader Services, delivered the speech to help new students better assimilate with the activities of the Main Library at the University of Peradeniya. For Tamil speaking students, Mr. Rodney Fernando, Senior Staff Assistant, provided Tamil translations in the B-Room of the Faculty of Arts.

Library Registration for new entrants was successfully facilitated by Mr. S. A. Jeewan, Assistant Librarian, and the library staff. Approximately 1150 students were registered during this process. Following the registration, a Guided Library Tour was arranged for the new entrants, providing them with an overview of the library's facilities.





Photo Credit: Mr. S. A. Jeewan

Library Seminar Series: Lecture No.09



The Main Library is offered its 9th consecutive Programme of the Library Seminar Series on 16th August, 2023. The event, held from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm at the library auditorium, featured two insightful lectures by guest speakers Dr. Ponnusamy Palanisamy and Dr. Lokesh Kumar Ramasamy. Both lectures were conducted in preparation for the International Conference 2023 at Uwa-wellassa University, following a request from Mr. R. Maheswaran, the Librarian, and University of Peradeniya.

Dr. Ponnusamy Palanisamy, an Associate Professor affiliated with the School of Mechanical Engineering at Vellore Institute of Technology, Vellore, India, presented his lecture on the theme of 'Enhancing Thermal Performance of Heat Exchangers through Nanocomposite Phase Change Materials: Synthesis, Characterization, and Thermophysical Analysis.' Dr. Lokesh Kumar Ramasamy, also an Associate Professor representing the Department of Analytics, School of Computer Science and Engineering, Vellore Institute of Technology, Vellore, India, focused his lecture on 'Data Challenges and Views in Social Media Analytics.

The programme was honored by the presence of several scholars from India, all on their way to the International Conference 2023 at Uwa-wellassa University. Attendees included scholars from diverse faculties, such as Arts, Management, and Library academics, along with administrative staff and University students.

The librarian extended a warm welcome and introduced the distinguished lecturers to the gathered audience. The active participation and discussions among scholars and students added substantial value and depth to the programme, successfully enriching the overall experience. The success of the event was acknowledged in the vote of thanks, delivered by Mr. S.A. Jeewan, Assistant Librarian, Special Collections, expressing gratitude to all participants and contributors.



























Library Collection - Department of Political Science Logout Bibliography Search Search Results Search Results Search Results Library End Office Search Results Library End Office Search Results Library End Office Library Collection: Search Results Library Collection: Tung Chi-Ming Haterial: Logout Mathor: Tung Chi-Ming Haterial: Logout Library Collection: Country Studies Call Number CST Copy Barcode: 1362 2. Title: China: A Handbook Author: Wall-I Wu (Edited) Haterial: Book Collection: Country Studies Collection: Count

Library Management Application for Political Science Department

In response to the needs of the Political Science Department and following the librarian's instructions, Mr. Anuruddha Adikari, Systems Analyst from the ICT Division of the Main Library, has introduced a Library Management Application to organize the department's book collection

efficiently

Material Type:	book
Collection:	Country Studies
Call Number:	CST
Title:	A Short History of China: From Earliest Times to 1840
Remainder of title:	
Personal name:	Tung Chi-Ming
Statement of responsibility, etc.:	
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NEWS IN BRIEF

- Mr. Eranga Bandara, Assistant Librarian contributed as a Resource Person at an ICT Seminar for O/L students at Gangasiripura Vidyalaya, Gampola on 15th May, 2023.
- Mrs. Chithrani Gamage, Senior Assistant Librarian, received the 'Longest Service Award' in Library Service Category on Founder's Day Commemoration on 1st of July, 2023, at the Arts Theatre.
- Mrs. Kamani Dambawinna, Senior Assistant Librarian, went on vacation leave from
- 9th August to 8th November, 2023.

Appointments

- Mr. B.E.S. Bandara, Assistant Librarian of the Ceylon Room/Reference Collection has been transferred to the Medical Library with effect from 14th August 2023.
- Mr. S.A. Jeewan, Assistant Librarian of the Special Collections, Main Library has been appointed to the Ceylon Room/Reference Collection with effect from 01st August 2023.

IN MEMORIAM: KANCHANA DEHIGAMA

With deep sorrow,
we announce the passing of
Mrs. Kanchana Dehigama, a dedicated Senior
Assistant Librarian at the Allied Health Science
Library, University of Peradeniya who served our
library system for 21 years.

Beyond her integral role in library and information services, Mrs. Dehigama was a passionate researcher and contributor on an international scale. Her invaluable work in archaeology and heritage management-related research leaves a lasting impact on our understanding of

cultural preservation.

Her sudden departure on
August 18, 2023,
is deeply felt.

May her legacy as a scholar, mentor,
and devoted contributor
to library services, archaeology,
and heritage management
endure in our hearts.

May she attain the supreme bliss of Nibbana.

By the Editorial



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