Library and Information Science Role in Human Development

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Abstract: - Library and information science play an important role in the development of knowledge, full society through its collections, facilities, resources and services. Information sciences have tried to develop human resource in all aspects. There are several challenges to solve user needs and satisfaction among library services at the right time. Human resource is the most needed asset in the organization because all Natural resources can be better used by motivated human resources only. Thus it is important to invest time, money and effort in it to provide fruitful results. But often these potentials are not fully utilized by management through appropriate and systematic efforts. As has been well observed, “Every human being is born with something new, something never existed before. Each is born with the ability to win in life. His own unique potentials, capabilities and limitations.” Thus library and information science needs to develop human resources to the achievement of personnel as well as organization goals and objectives especially in weaker sections.

Keywords: Role, Library, Information Science, Human Development

I. INTRODUCTION

Information is an important factor in societal growth and development, and the ability to use available information tools is refer to as source of power (Bordbar, 2000). In the 21st century governments and individuals must take this need for information use and literacy as a way of development (Noruzi, 2006). Librarians and information experts play an important role in development of human resources. The important role of librarians in giving access to information for human development means LIS departments must develop unique educational systems. This discusses the transformations needed in LIS education and the importance of the basic changes in the curricula in this area in Nigeria as a major factor in national development, including some guidelines for these objectives. In olden days libraries are needed because they were about reading. They were often built as cultural statements, rather than as useful and accessible places of reading. In some cases, the building and architecture mattered more important than the functions of the library. With time, the era has changed. Libraries are more important for sophisticated learning and education. Societies that develop functional libraries are also good in human development and progressive in life. We need to emphasis the need of good libraries to change mindsets. Libraries are important now when the idea of education is stressing more independent learning and acting on library resources. All citizens are to find and use information. It is the mean raw material but it is a zero resource, if there are no access points to it and if documents are in chaotic order. Here we can see libraries enter the stage: The unique function of libraries is to acquire, organize, offer for use and preserve publicly available material irrespective of the form in which it is packaged (print, cassette, CD-ROM, network form) in such a way that, when it is needed, it can be found and put to use. Allen, R. E. (1984)

II. LIBRARY AND LIBRARY SCIENCE

The word "library" is used in so many different aspects now, from the brick-and-mortar public library to the digital library. Public libraries and indeed, all libraries are changing and dynamic places where librarians help people find the best source of information whether it's a book, a web site, or database entry. In The Librarian’s Book of Lists (Chicago: ALA, 2010), George Eberhart (2010) offers this definition: "A library is a collection of resources in a variety of formats that is organized by information professionals or other experts who provide convenient physical, digital, bibliographic, or intellectual access and offer targeted services and programs with the mission of educating, informing, or entertaining a variety of audiences and the goal of stimulating individual learning and advancing society as a whole.. A library’s collection can include books, periodicals, newspapers, manuscripts, films, maps, prints, documents, microform, CDs, cassettes, videotapes, DVDs, Blue-ray Discs, e-books, audio books, databases, and other formats. Libraries range in size from a few shelves of books to several million items. Institutional libraries, organized easy access by a specific clientele, are staffed by librarians and other trained personnel to provide services to meet user needs. By extension, the room, building, or facility that houses such a collection, usually but not necessarily built for that purpose. Library science (often termed library studies, library and information science, bibliothecography, library economy) is an interdisciplinary or multidisciplinary field that applies the practices, perspectives, and tools of management, information technology, education, and other areas to libraries; the collection, organization, preservation, and dissemination of information resources; and the political economy of information. Robert S. Martin (2003). Historically, library science has also included archival science. This involves how information resources are arrange to serve the desire of selected user groups, how people discuss with classification
systems and technology, how information is acquired, evaluated and applied by people in and outside libraries as well as cross-culturally, how people are trained and educated for careers in libraries, the ethics that guide library service and organization, the legal status of libraries and information resources, and the applied science of computer technology used in documentation and records management.

III. INFORMATION SCIENCE

Information science is a field primarily concerned with the analysis, collection, classification, manipulation, storage, retrieval, movement, dissemination, and protection of information. Stock, W. G., & Stock, M. (2013). Practitioners within and outside the field study application and usage of knowledge in organizations along with the interaction between people, organizations, and any existing information systems with the aim of creating, replacing, improving, or understanding information systems. Historically, information science is associated with computer science, library science, and telecommunications. Yan, Xue-Shan (2011). However, information science also incorporates aspects of diverse fields such as archival science, cognitive science, commerce, law, museology, management, mathematics, philosophy, public policy, and social sciences.

Information science should not be confused with information theory. Information science is concerned with the principles and practice of production, organization and the study of information from its generation to its use and transmission in variety of ways.

IV. LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE

Library and information science (LIS) (sometimes given as the plural library and information sciences) Bates, M.J. and Maack, M.N. (2010). Dewey decimal classification (2003) or as “library and information studies” “Canada Library School University Programs” 2014 is a merging of library science and information science. The joint term is associated with schools of library and information science (abbreviated to "SLIS"). In the last part of the 1960s, schools of librarianship, which generally developed from professional training programs (not academic disciplines) to university institutions during the second half of the 20th century, began to add the term “information science” to their names. The first school to do this was at the University of Pittsburgh in 1964, Galvin, T. J. (1977). More schools followed during the 1970s and 1980s, and by the 1990s almost all library schools in the USA had added information science to their names. Weaver Press: Although there are exceptions, similar developments have taken place in other parts of the world. In Denmark, for example, the 'Royal School of Librarianship' changed its English name to The Royal School of Library and Information Science in 1997. Exceptions include Tromsø, Norway, where the term documentation science is the preferred name of the field, France, where information science and communication studies form one interdisciplinary, Mucchielli, A., (2000), and Sweden, where the fields of Archival science, Library science and Musicology have been integrated as Archival, Library and Museum studies. In spite of various trends to merge the two fields, some consider the two original disciplines, library science and information science, to be separate. Saracevic, Tefko (1992). Miksa, Francis L. (1992). However, the tendency today is to use the terms as synonyms or to drop the term "library" and to speak about information departments or I-schools. There have also been attempts to revive the concept of documentation and to speak of Library, information and documentation studies (or science), Rayward, W. B. (Ed.) (2004). Library and information science (LIS) has been defined as a discipline oriented towards providing access to vast amount of accumulated knowledge and information.

V. RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN LIBRARY SCIENCE, INFORMATION SCIENCE AND LIS

Tefko Saracevic (1992). The common ground between library science and information science, which is a strong one, is in the sharing of their social role and in their general concern with the problems of effective utilization of graphic records. But there are also very significant differences in several critical respects, among them in: selection of problems addressed and in the way they were define theoretical questions asked and frameworks established; the nature and degree of experimentation and empirical development and the resulting practical knowledge/competencies derived; tools and approaches used; and the nature and strength of interdisciplinary relations established and the dependence of the progress and evolution of interdisciplinary approaches. Library science, on the other hand has mostly concentrated on libraries and their internal processes and best practices. It is also relevant to consider that information science used to be done by scientists, while librarianship has been split between public libraries and scholarly research libraries. Library schools have mainly educated librarians for public libraries and not shown much interest in scientific communication and documentation. Julian Warner (2010) suggests that the information and computer science tradition in information retrieval may broadly be characterized as query transformation, with the query articulated verbally by the user in advance of searching and then transformed by a system into a set of records.

VI. DEVELOPMENT

"Development" is a gradual change toward advancement and power (Zahedi Mazandarani, 2003). Development has political, economical, cultural aspects and social. Rapid expansion of knowledge and technology gives complexities in determining which factors have an effect on development. Considering factors such as education, hygiene, culture, economy, etc., leads to a reasonable but unified development (Bahramzadeh, 2003). Taken as a body, development is all actions that lead organization and society
toward an organized system of individual and collective living conditions relating to desirable values (Sharif al Nasabi, 1996).

VII. HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

The term human development may be defined as an expansion of human capabilities, an enhancement of freedom, a widening of choices, ‘and a fulfilment of human rights. Abdulhadi Abba Kyari (2017). This simply means developing mentally, socially through growing and experiencing things in your life and learning new things. Development concerns expanding the choices people have, to lead lives that they value, and improving the human condition so that people have the chance to lead full lives, Streeten, Paul (May 1994). Thus, human development is about much more than economic growth, which is only a means of enlarging people’s choices. Human development disperses the concentration of the distribution of goods and services that underprivileged people need and center its ideas on human decisions. Srinivasan, T.N. (May 1994). By investing in people, we enable growth and empower people to pursue many different life paths, thus developing human capabilities. Human development foundation (2009). This capability would (presumably) increase their value of life and expand their choices.

VIII. INFORMATION AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

Information is raw material for development of both urban rural dwellers. Prosperity, progress, and development of any depend on the nation’s ability to acquire, produce, access, and use pertinent information, because when a nation is developed the develop. A report on older rural people (2008) in Haranda (2009) indicates that, access information is also critical to letting people know their entitlements to welfare benefits and sources of support to overcome social exclusion.Wikipedia (2013) posited that economic development generally refers to the sustained, concerned action of policy makers and communities that promotes the standard of living and economic health of a specific area. Economic development can also be referred to as the quantitative and qualitative changes in the economy it’s because, when a nation develop economically the people develop individually. Such actions can involve multiple areas including development of human capital, critical infrastructure, regional competitiveness, literacy, social inclusion environmental sustainability health, safety and other initiatives.

IX. ROLES OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION IN HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

The library is dynamic social institution and indispensable resource centre. All types of libraries have some roles to play in the community in which they are established. The following are some of the major roles.

9.1 Information Role:

Information rules the world, the library is centre for reliable information, students often use the library because they always try to argument their lecture note with ideas, and facts obtained from other sources. A well organized library provides information also referred to as reference source. Information source provides answers to questions like Who, when, where and what. Which in turn enhances the development of its users Information service is essential in the communication process because it is a prerogative to everyone for effective and efficient communication.

9.2 Education Role

The library is associated with education. In ancient time the Egyptians preserved writing materials for education purposes. In Middle Ages, libraries where attached to the monasteries whereas in renaissance era, they were committed to the preservation and transmission of knowledge. In modern times the major reason for setting up libraries and information centers’ is to stimulate educational advancement and Human development We should also note that one of the criteria for the accreditation (recognition) of courses in institutions of higher learning is a well equipped library. The library helps to stimulate educational growth as well as serve as instrument for bringing up informed and developed citizenry.

9.3 Research Role

Time is an important factor in realizing research objectives. Which a well equipped and organized library with well organized resource materials that can be easily retrieved and the researchers’ time saved. Libraries and information centers provide the needed back–up resources for this purpose. Information exploitation has led to the existence of diverse branches of knowledge especially in the area of science and technology, the library tries to provide materials that will satisfy the enquiry need of these researchers for their personal research growth and development.

9.4 Recreation Role

Library and information centre are involved in the promotion of cultural activities of the community in which it operates. In Nigeria, recreational facilities provided are minimal because of the level of development; emphasis is still on scholarship. However, library public lectures, concert exhibition, film show and drama productions are examples of recreational activities that can help in human development. Some people also regard the provision of light reading materials e.g. Magazines, fiction news papers as recreational materials.

9.5 Custodial Role

The library is meant to preserve the recorded knowledge of man, i.e. it safe guards recorded information in any format. This role of the library and information centre is vital in human development because without it recorded human knowledge could not have been transmitted from one
There is no doubt that information and library propels nations and humans to greater height. It is the apex of all resources needed for political, economic, socio-cultural and educational development in countries across the globe. Library and information is a vital tool in human and national development, therefore there should be emphasis on these agents of development to ensure the vast growth and development of the citizenry.

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