Editorial
Digital Ayurveda

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Zero and one are the fundamentals exhibit as "*Nasti*" and "*Asthi*" in Indian philosophy and technology. The entire technology is based on this fundamental rule and Ayurveda is not exceptional for it. Ayurveda, Traditional Indian Healthcare knowledge prevalent in Ethnic and Geographical variations of India do leap its existence through various types of propagation and methods of development according to time. Ayurveda is heading towards digitalization from manuscripts in 21st Century. Initially the palm leaf or paper manuscripts of ancient India are published in pre and independent India by various Ayurveda lovers viz. Nirnaya Sagar Press, Motilal Banarasidas, Choukhambha, Vavilla (Telugu), Vaidyaratnam (Malayalam), etc.

India is moving fast towards becoming an information society as the Government of India is paying due attention to the use of information technology (IT). The Prime Minister of India constituted a National Task Force on IT and Software Development in May 1998 with the purpose of formulating a long-term National IT Policy to transform India into an IT hub mainly in software sector. [1] The www is not only capturing the learned community of Ayurveda with technical books but also handling the general public by offering introductory knowledge and coffee table books of Ayurveda [2].

Out of various libraries viz. Traditional library as a memory institution, Library as a learning and research centre, Library as a cultural and communication centre, Electronic library and Digital library, etc., the digital library is getting more value with the options of free and paid. The concept of library or digital library is not acceptable and say that "if this technology vanishes what will be the fate". It seems to be good argument; as such I have 5 ¼ inch floppy disc with me that are not useful in present day technology. People are astonished in 1970's computer runs on 1Mb disc and advanced on 100mb hard disc with windows 3.1 version. Digitalization started and making the global village to learn more effectively and faster as the growing technology is demanding new approaches.

Indigenous knowledge of medicinal and health care i.e. Ayurveda, has long successful historical background is getting famous worldwide. Information has been identified as one of the vital resources needed for the success in almost every major human endeavour. The World Wide Web offers a great wealth of information, as well as the opportunity for people to express themselves and exchange ideas. It seems that these databases will perform a great role in the development of new researches in the field of Ayurveda and put a boost speed and encouragement in the young Ayurveda researchers. [3] The trends to set in Ayurveda digitalization, various Government and Non Government organizations are taking active part. Collection, organization and dissemination of information with economy

and efficiency dampened on the skills and expertise of the portal / program manager. The computerized Ayurveda studies have identified several important factors that affect the current and future role of computers and information technology in Ayurveda treatment [4]. Various programs like Aushadhakosh, Dosha assessment, Prakriti assessment, Madhava Ayurveda diagnostic system, RASEX, RUDRA, etc, are in the market making digital ayurveda supportive systems. In the net not only e-Journals and indexing units (DHARA, AYUSH Research portal, TKDL) but also many bloggers and dot com (technoayurveda, ayurhelp, ayurvedic cure, chakrapani, etc) are serving the system.

AYUSH Research Portal
 (www.ayushportal.ap.nic.in):

AYUSH Research portal has been developed by Central Council for Research in Ayurveda and Siddha (CCRAS), and the content is being provided by all AYUSH Research councils, Drug standardization laboratories, and National Institutes. It is meant for dissemination of Research findings in the domain of AYUSH researchers and allied faculties. It aims for providing access to the research findings, which is organized to encourage interdisciplinary research. The total collection of portal is 10751 articles out of 5605 are Ayurveda.

DHARA (www.dharaonline.org**):**

DHARA means 'flow' in Sanskrit is the acronym for 'Digital Helpline for Ayurveda Research Articles'. It is comprehensive online indexing service for research articles published in the field of Ayurveda. It is the first comprehensive online indexing service exclusively for research articles published in the field of Ayurveda. There is still a lot of unpublished research work that is beyond the reach of DHARA database. Another limitation is that DHARA adopts a twin strategy of indexing journals as a whole or only indexing selected articles. [5] It is a free accessible portal. It is an offshoot of a collaborative imitative between central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Science (CCRAS), New Delhi, The ayurveda Trust, Coimbatore and Switzerland Medical Academy (SAMA), Switzerland. The objective behind this collaboration is to analyses and systematic reviews of research conducted in Ayurveda. Articles at a Glance in DHARA are 7619 out of which 2588 are available with full text.

TKDL (Traditional Knowledge Digital Library) (www.tkdl.res.in**):**

Traditional Knowledge Digital Library is known as TKDL. The project of TKDL is a result of collaborative efforts by Council of Scientific and industrial Research (CSIR), Ministry of science and technology and Department of AYUSH, Ministry of Health and Family welfare. This project is implemented at CSIR. For the successful creation of the project TKDL the knowledgeable representative database containing formulations selected from various classical texts of Ayurveda, Unani and Siddha systems of medicine.

The real time advantages of digital Ayurveda includes   No physical boundary, Round the clock availability, Multiple accesses, Structured approach, any time Information retrieval, no pains of Preservation and conservation or Space problem and easy Networking with low Cost availability. On the other hand the disadvantages are - Digitization violates the copy right law, computer and connectivity limits the accessibility, larger volume of space is required for the site managers, and due to technological developments, a digital library can rapidly become out-of-date and its data may become inaccessible [6].

The process of digitalization is old content in new bottle. Ultimately one word, the Print media and digitalization are to be balanced for the knowledge to save and propagate.

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