

## **PUBLISHING TRENDS IN INDIAN LITERARY WRITINGS: A BIBLIOMETRIC ANALYSIS OF INDIAN LITERATURE (2013-2015)**

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The present study is the bibliometric analysis of the publishing trends in literary writings of India, published by Sahitya Akademi (National Akademi of Letters) for a period of three years (2013-2015). As many as 545 articles published during this period were undertaken for the study. The study includes year-wise, issue-wise, subject/genre-wise, and language-wise publication of writings, comparison of Writings (Original vs. Translated) and most prolific contributors, etc. It reveals that most of the writings are translated from other Indian languages into English. It also reveals that poetry is the most popular form of writing in Indian Literature.

**Keywords:** Bibliometrics; Publishing Trends; Indian Literature.

### **INTRODUCTION**

Bibliometrics has now matured into a very vital facet of Library and Information Science to study the literary output in a scientific way. It utilizes quantitative analysis and statistics to quantify the production and use of intellectual output disseminated through books, journals and the kindred materials. The term 'statistical bibliography' was first coined and used by E.W. Hulme in 1923 to describe the application of quantitative techniques in libraries [1]. It was later substituted by the term 'bibliometrics' that appeared in print in 1969 in Alan Pritchard's article 'Statistical bibliography or bibliometrics' in the December 1969 issue of the Journal of Documentation [2]. It flourished with the works of Lotka, Bradford and Zipf who observed distribution pattern in word frequency, author and journal productivity and thus added new dimensions to the activity. These bibliometric indicators are now applied by governments and other funding organizations also mainly because of their large-scale applicability, lower costs and time as well as their perceived objectivity.

The present study has been conducted to gauge the nature and content of writings that have appeared in 'Indian Literature, a bimonthly English language journal, published by Sahitya Akademi, between 2013 and 2015. It is India's oldest and the only journal of its kind showcasing literary activities and advances in Indian languages covering poetry, fiction, drama and criticism. The journal, now almost 60 years of age, serves as a forum for diffusion of scholarly articles, critical reviews and trends in Indian languages literature.

### **OBJECTIVE**

The present study was undertaken to determine the quality, maturity and productivity of a journal that has been playing a vital role in promoting and disseminating trends in the literature in Indian languages. To achieve this objective the following aspects were analysed to come out with facts and figures about the journal.

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- To find out the year wise distribution of articles.
- To study the subject coverage of writings.
- To find out the popular form of writings in literature.
- To compare the writing trends (original vs. translated).
- To classify the number of contributions published during the period of study.
- To trace out the ranking of leading contributors.

### METHODOLOGY

Methodology applied in the present study is bibliometric analysis which is used to study in detail about the writings appeared in Indian Literature from 2013 to 2015. The data covers 545 writings in 3 volumes spread over 18 issues. All the bibliographic details regarding each published article such as authorship, title, pagination, and other relevant details were recorded and analyzed for making observations. A computerized database was then created for in-depth analysis.

### DATA ANALYSIS

All the details such as number of articles, name of the contributors, no. of prolific contributions, languages, subjects, etc. of all writings published from 2013 to 2015 were recorded for the following analysis.

**Table 1: Year-wise Publications of Writings**

Year	No. of Issues	No. of Contributions	Percentage
2013	6	186	34.13
2014	6	176	32.29
2015	6	183	33.58
<b>Total</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>545</b>	<b>100%</b>

Table 1 shows that the Indian Literature has published 545 papers during the period of study i.e. from 2013 to 2015. The journal on an average has published 181 papers per year. It also shows that the maximum numbers of articles were published in the year 2013 with 186 articles and minimum in the year 2014 with 176 articles.

**Table 2: Issue-wise Publications of Writings**

Year	Jan to Feb	Mar to Apr	May to June	July to Aug	Sep to Oct	Nov to Dec	Total
2013	41	34	35	25	22	29	<b>186</b>
2014	32	23	25	31	33	32	<b>176</b>
2015	22	37	30	37	28	29	<b>183</b>

Table 2 reveals distribution of articles (Issue-wise). It shows that issue Jan-Feb 2013 has the highest number of total articles (41). The second highest position is occupied by the issue May-June 2013 which has 35 articles. The lowest numbers of total articles 22 were in the issues of Sept-Oct 2013 and Jan-Feb 2015.

**Table 3: Subject/Genre-wise Publications of Writings**

Subject	No. of Writings	Percentage
Poetry	174	31.92
Short Story	120	22.01
Review	95	17.43
Tribute/Homage/Memorial	55	10.09
Essay	30	5.50
Heritage	17	3.11
Classic	14	2.56
Drama/Play	12	2.20
Autobiography	8	1.46
Oral Literature/Folklore	8	1.45
Novel Excerpt/Novella	6	1.10
In Conversation/interview	4	0.73
Literary Criticism	1	0.18
Event	1	0.18
<b>Total</b>	<b>545</b>	<b>100%</b>

Table 3 shows that majority of the contributions appeared under the subject/genre Poetry 174 (31.92%) followed by Short Story 120 (22.01%), Review 95 (17.43 %), Tribute/Homage/Memorial 55 (10.09 %), Essay 30 (5.50%) and Literary criticism and Event 1 (0.158 %) each in which there are lowest contribution.

**Table 4: Language-wise Contributions of Writings**

S. No	Languages	No. of Writings (2013-2015)	Percentage
1.	English	250	45.87
2.	Odia	49	8.99
3.	Hindi	38	6.97
4.	Bengali	32	5.87
5.	Kannada	28	5.13
6.	Assamese	23	4.22
7.	Malayalam	19	3.48
8.	Gujarati	17	3.11
9.	Urdu	15	2.75
10.	Tamil	9	1.65
11.	Marathi	8	1.46
12.	Punjabi	8	1.46
13.	Manipuri	6	1.10
14.	Nepali	6	1.10
15.	Telugu	6	1.10
16.	Dogri	5	0.91
17.	Kashmiri	4	0.73
18.	Maithili	4	0.73
19.	Rajasthani	4	0.73
20.	Konkani	3	0.55
21.	Sindhi	3	0.55
22.	Bodo	2	0.36
23.	Sanskrit	2	0.36
24.	Khasi	1	0.18
25.	Portuguese	1	0.18
26.	Santali	1	0.18
27.	Tulu	1	0.18
<b>Total</b>		<b>545</b>	<b>100%</b>

Table 4 shows that majority of the contributions 250 (45.87%) out of 545 writings, appeared original writings in English. Whereas, 49 writings (8.99%) are translated from Odia, 38 (6.97%) from Hindi, 32 (5.87%) from Bengali, 28 (5.13%) from Kannada, etc. Translation from the languages, Khasi, Portuguese, Santali and Tulu is the minimum, i.e. 1 (0.18%) writing each.

**Table 5: Comparison of Writings (Original vs. Translated)**

S. No	Languages	No. of Writings (2013-2015)	Percentage
1.	Original (English)	250	45.87
2.	Translated from other languages	295	54.12
<b>Total</b>		<b>545</b>	<b>100%</b>

Table 5 shows that majority of the contributions 295 (54.12%) out of 545 writings are translated from other languages into English whereas 250 (45.87%) are original writings in English.

**Table 6: Most Prolific Contributors**

S. No.	Name of the Contributors	No. of Contributions (2013-2015)	Percentage
1	H.S. Shivaprakash	9	1.65
2	J.P. Das	8	1.46
3	Sayantan Dasgupta	8	1.46
4	A.J. Thomas	7	1.28
5	Supriya Kar	7	1.28
6	Tej N. Dhar	6	1.1
7	Jatindra K. Nayak	5	0.91
8	K. Satchidanandan	5	0.91
9	P.P. Raveendran	5	0.91
10	S. Suresh	5	0.91
11	Suresh Kohli	5	0.91

12	Anita Nair	4	0.73
13	Krishna Dulal Barua	4	0.73
14	Purabi Panwar	4	0.73
15	Sailen Routray	4	0.73
16	Snehaprava Das	4	0.73
17	Usha Bande	4	0.73
18	Vellikkeel Raghavan	4	0.73
19	Bibhu Padhi	3	0.55
20	Darshan Darshi	3	0.55
21	Dibyajyoti Sarma	3	0.55
22	G.S. Amur	3	0.55
23	Harish Trivedi	3	0.55
24	Keshav Malik	3	0.55
25	Madan Mohan Mathur	3	0.55
26	Madhura Damle	3	0.55
27	Manju Kak	3	0.55
28	Mini Chandran	3	0.55
29	Nishat Zaidi	3	0.55
30	Pradip Acharya	3	0.55
31	Suniti Madaan	3	0.55
32	Suresh Gadhavi	3	0.55
33	U.R. Ananthamurthy	3	0.55
34	Vibha S. Chuahan	3	0.55
<b>Total</b>		<b>146</b>	<b>26.78%</b>

Table 6 reveals the names of 34 writers who have contributed 3 or more articles. It shows that H.S. Shivaprakash has contributed the maximum writings 9 (1.65%) out of total 545 writings, followed by J.P. Das and Sayantan Dasgupta, each contributed 8 (1.46%) writings, A.J. Thomas and Supriya Kar contributed 7 (1.28%) writings each and so on.

### FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION

Bibliometrics analysis of the publishing trends in the journal 'Indian Literature' shows that the journal has published 545 articles during the period of study, 2013-2015. The present study reveals that majority of the contributions appeared under the subject/genre Poetry 174 (31.92%) followed by Short Story 120 (22.01%), Review 95 (17.43 %),

Tribute/Homage/Memorial 55 (10.09 %), Essay 30 (5.50%) and Literary criticism and Event 1 (0.158 %) each in which we found the lowest contribution. It is therefore reveals that Poetry is the most popular form of writings followed by Short Story. Similarly most of the contributions are from other languages translated into English, such as 49 writings (8.99%) are translated from Odia, 38 (6.97%) from Hindi, 32 (5.87%) from Bengali, 28 (5.13%) from Kannada, etc. Translation from the languages, Khasi, Portuguese, Santali and Tulu is the minimum, i.e. 1 (0.18%) writings in each. It is also evident that translation from foreign language is almost nil except one from Portuguese.

## REFERENCES

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