

INTERNATIONAL LIS JOURNALS OF INDIAN ORIGIN: A STUDY ON TRANS-BORDER DIVERSITY IN AUTHORSHIP

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The study explored the cross-border diversity in authorship and editorship in international Library and Information Science (LIS) journals published from India. Online LIS journals of Indian origin which contain the word “international” or “world” in their title were identified. The data on number of articles published in these journals since their first issue was collected. Of them, four LIS journals which had highest number of articles were chosen for the study. Out of total number of 1626 articles published during the period 2011-2018, 1485 (91.33%) articles have been contributed by Indian authors (82.36% male and 17.64% female). *International Research: Journal of Library and Information Science (IRJLIS)* has published highest number (627) of articles. There were a total of 95 editorial board members for all the four journals, of which 70.53% are of Indian origin and 29.47% of foreign origin. *International Journal of Information Dissemination and Technology (IJIDT)* have the highest number of 33 editors, comprising 27 from India and 6 from other countries. All the journals under the study predominantly had editors of Indian origin. None of the journals under the study have laid down comprehensive publishing policy on their websites. In order to attract contributions from authors of foreign origin, it is suggested that journals must empanel more number of editors worldwide and publish a comprehensive publishing policy on their websites.

Keywords: Authorship, Editorship, Indian Journals, International Journals, Internationalization, scholarly communication

INTRODUCTION

Internationalization is the process of establishing a plan and its effective implementation of products and services, these products and services can be easily adapted to specific local conditions, activities and cultures. In the present globalization era, governments and Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) are striving to improve global competitiveness at the national/international level in general and at the institutional levels in specific. The challenges for higher education today that, it is important for the university graduates to be equipped with the needed knowledge and skills to compete in the globalized knowledge economy at first. Secondly, the growing relevance of worldwide rankings of institutions and its important to respond strategically on the increased

global competition regarding teaching, education, research, and innovation, as the stakes are high regarding the international reputation (Ali and Watson, 2016).

The scholarly communication originated through formal channels in the form of 'research transactions, also known as journal' in the late-mid 17th century, when scholarly research community decided to start to bring-out the findings of the scholarly research output from laboratory notes into the formal channel such as printing format for the benefit of the scholarly researchers worldwide. The social changes coupled with technological advancements such as the invention of printing technology and postal services in the European countries led to the knowledge sharing in a quick and economical manner across geographies. On 5th January 1665 Denis de Sallo, in France, published the first ever print journal named as 'Journal des Scavens'. On 6th March 1665 another journal called 'Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society, London' was published by Henry Oldenburg. Gradually, a system of 'peer review' was introduced into the journal publishing to maintain quality, authenticity and standards of high degree as the circulation of the journals spread across the globe (Czinkota, 2000). The peer review process has played a key role in building the body of scientific knowledge, reputation of the science, reputation of the individual scholar, the employer and an institution. The peer reviewing process was accepted worldwide and took the front seat in gauging the quality of research output before it gets published for about 300 years (Dewey et al., 1999). The quality of the research was endorsed by the fellow researchers through peer review process, was one of the major reasons and

forms a basis for the libraries to subscribe to core journals for the benefit of their user community.

During the 18th and early 19th centuries, the natures of subjects have started evolving into interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary subjects within a broad subject field (Hulme and Toye, 2006). This trend has given rise to the creation of specialized journals to reflect the fragmentation of knowledge into sub-disciplines. Any scholarly work in the form of a scientific paper published in these peer-reviewed journals forms an established medium of record and dissemination for the scholarly research. Today, scholarly research products are not only Journals articles, but also Books, Theses and dissertations, reports, patents, review articles, gray literature, specialized research monographs, pamphlets and various other primary, secondary and tertiary documents. One of the major channels of scholarly communication is Theses and dissertations, which form a serious research content. It is important to study the research report writing and the style manuals including citation styles to further science communication.

NEED FOR THE STUDY

Invention of electronic format and Internet has revolutionized the way scholarly communication takes place today. The speed in which the scholarly literature reaching the end user has improved multifold now, the publication is brought out and can be accessed immediately through internet. This phenomenon has given rise to the accelerated scholarly communication and formation of interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary nature of subjects. This growth also has given rise to many focused journals at local, national and international level. In the similar

fashion, there are many journals mushroomed in the subject of Library and Information Science (LIS) too. The scope / coverage of the journals can be identified by its title such as national or international and so on. This study is aimed to find the true nature, scope and author participation in the international journals in LIS field originated from India.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The present study has been carried out to ascertain the trueness of the concept of internationalization of Indian international journals in the field of LIS based on the following objectives.

1. To assess the distribution of Indian and Foreign Authors in the Indian international LIS journals.
2. To assess the Indian author participation in the Indian international LIS journals.
3. To assess the foreign author participation in the Indian international LIS journals.
4. To find out the author participation in each Indian international LIS journals.

SCOPE OF THE STUDY

The study on internationalization of Indian international journals is based on the contribution by authors and contribution by the editors for the quality and international growth in a journal publication. The study selected four journals based on their prolificacy in terms of continuity, web availability, author contribution across the borders, viz, International Research Journal of Library and Information Science; International research Journal of Multidisciplinary Studies; International journal of Information,

Dissemination and Technology; and World Digital Libraries: International Journal. The scope confined to only the four journals cited above published from India. The time period covered for the study is from the year 2011 to 2018 only.

METHODOLOGY

The study explored the cross-border diversity in both authorship and editorship in international Library and Information Science (LIS) journals published from India. Online LIS journals of Indian origin which contain the word “international” or “world” in their title were identified. The data on number of articles published in these journals since their first issue was collected. Of them, four LIS journals which had highest number of articles were chosen for the study. Time period considered for the study has been from 2011 to 2018; though the journals have started by 2008. The beginning of the online version has been taken into consideration to collect the data.

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

The study examined the global dispersion of scholarly contributions to marketing thought within a set of 20 “high ranked” journals for over five years (Marginson, 2007). The results of the research suggest no scattering of authors globally within marketing and other business disciplines. The worldwide literature needs to be properly organized, maintained and sustained in a way that ensures seamless global dissemination. The study (Jay et al., 2006) found that there is a significant “bias” of authorship within the 20 journals examined with the majority of works published by academic people in the institutions of North America.

The article studied the purpose of access levels involvement of international professionals in the editorial boards and needs to investigate the content of the leading journals of the marketing discipline and reported bias against non-US works (Rosenstreich and Wooliscroft, 2006) of ten leading marketing journals and found good evidence of US dominance both in authorship and editorial board memberships. Similarly study analyses the geographic origin of authors in the top journals form across the geographies (Van Rossim et al., 2007), for example, 4.7 percent of JM articles had no US authors.

ANALYSIS OF DATA

The investigation has considered four Indian origin International journals for the study to assess the true spirit of internalization represented in the journals as their titles say.

Note: 1. The numbers within the parentheses can be read as percentage.

2. The study was conducted during the period of June-July 2018.

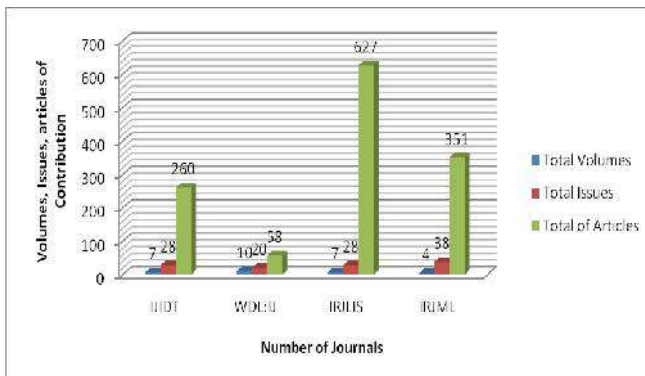
JOURNAL DETAILS

The four journals considered for the study are International Journal of Information Dissemination and Technology started in 2011, and publishing from Mullana-Ambala, Haryana. World Digital Libraries: International Journals was started in 2008, and published by The Energy and Resources Institute New Delhi. International Research: Journal of Library and Information Science (IRJLIS) was started in 2011, and published form Lucknow and the International Research Journal of Multidisciplinary Studies (IRJMS) was started in 2015, and published from Delhi, India respectively.

Table-1: Journal details

Sl. No.	Name	Year	Place of Publication	Type	ISSN	Periodicity	Web Site
1	International Journal of Information Dissemination and Technology (IJIDT)	2011	Mullana-Ambala, India	OA	2249-5576	Quarterly	http://www.ijidt.com/index.php/ijidt
2	World digital libraries : An International Journal (WDL:IJ)	2008	New Delhi, India	Subscription	0975-7595	Semi-annual	http://bookstore.teri.res.in/journals/0974-567X
3	International Research: Journal of library and information science (IRJLIS)	2011	Lucknow, India	OA	2249-0213	Quarterly	http://irjlis.com/
4	International Research Journal of Multidisciplinary Studies (IRJMS)	2015	New Delhi, India	OA	2454-8499	Quarterly	http://www.irjms.in/

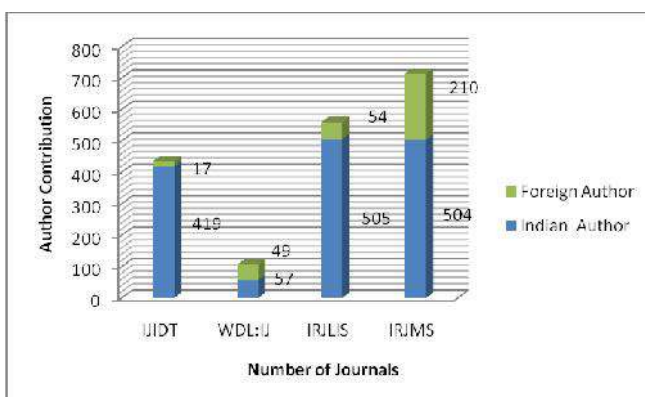
Figure.1: Total articles published: Journal wise



Distribution of Indian and Foreign Authors in journals

The highest number of 627 articles were published by International Research: Journal of Library and Information Science (IRJLS), the reason may be attributed to the journals was started in 2011. In seven years the journal has published an average of 89.57 articles per year and 22.39 articles per issue. The lowest publications was recorded by the journal 'Word Digital Libraries: An International Journal (WDL:IJ)' with 58 articles as it was started in 2008 with the publication rate of 6.44 articles per year and 2.9 articles per issue.

Figure 2: Distribution of Indian and Foreign Authors in journals



Contribution of Indian authors

The data indicates that author participation based on their origin some are Indian origin and other are from foreign origin. There is a maximum number of 91.32% of authors who have published their articles in the four journals are from Indian origin and 8.68% of contributing authors are from foreign origin. This trend clearly indicates that the journals though they are called international journals by their name but, by the scope they are not supported the title of international by the contributing authors. Out of the foreign authors participated numbers, IRJLS has 54 authors contributing the articles. Among the Indian author participation, IRJLS leads with 505 contributing authors.

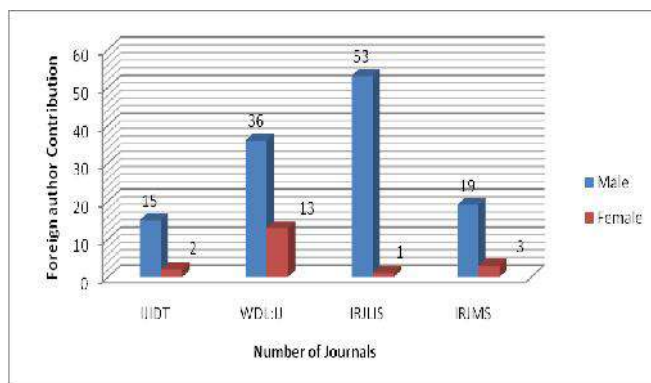
Table-2: Contribution of Indian authors

Gender	IJDT	WDL:IJ	IRJLS	IRJMS	Total
Male	330 (22.22)	46 (3.10)	432 (29.09)	415 (27.94)	1223
Female	89 (5.99)	11 (0.74)	73 (4.91)	89 (5.59)	262
Total	419 (28.21)	57 (3.84)	505 (34.01)	504 (33.94)	1485

Contribution of Foreign authors

There are a total number of 1485 Indian authors contributed in all the journals under the study shown in the table-2. There are 1223 male and 262 female contributing authors. IRJLS has 29.09% male and 4.19% female authors, followed by 27.94% male and 5.59% female contributing authors. Out of a total of 262 authors, equal number of contributing authors can be found in IJDT and IRJMS journals.

Figure 3: Contribution of Foreign authors



The data in the figure.3 shows the details of foreign authors according to their gender. There are a total of 141 contributing authors across all the four journals. Out of which there are 122 male and 19 female contributors. As like Indian authors, there is a huge disparity between male and female authors participation in contributing authors form foreign origin. Among the journals IRJLIS stands first with 37.59% male and 70% female participation with a total of 54 authors cumulatively.

Table 3: Article publishing in International Journal of Information Dissemination and Technology (IJDT): Year wise

Year	Indian Authored Article	Foreign Authored Article	Total
2017	38 (14.62)	2 (0.77)	40
2016	52 (20)	8 (3.08)	60
2015	46 (17.69)	-	46
2014	56 (21.54)	3 (1.15)	59
2013	53 (20.38)	2 (0.77)	55
Total	245	15	260

Coming to individual journal article publishing in specific and overall contribution in general, the data from the table.3 shows the year wise article publishing in International Journal of Information Dissemination and Technology (IJDT). The journal started in the year 2013 and published a total of 40 articles, out of which there are 38 Indian and 2 foreign articles. The highest number of articles published was in the year 2016 with 60 with 52 Indian and 8 foreign authors contributed followed by 59 articles published in 2014 with 56 Indian and 3 foreign authored articles.

Table 4: Articles published in Word Digital Libraries: An International Journal (WDL: IJ): year wise

Year	Indian Authored Article	Foreign Authored Article	Total
2017	4 (6.90)	2 (3.45)	6
2016	6 (10.34)	4 (6.90)	10
2015	7 (12.07)	3 (5.17)	10
2014	6 (10.34)	4 (6.90)	10
2013	8 (13.79)	2 (3.45)	10
2012	7 (12.07)	5 (8.62)	12
Total	38	20	58

The data from the table-4 shows the year wise article publishing in Word Digital Libraries: An International Journal (WDL: IJ)). The journal started in the year 2012 and published a total of 58 articles, out of which there are 38 Indian and 20 foreign articles. The highest number of 10 articles published in the years 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016.

Table 5: Article publishing in International Research Journal of Library and Information Science (IRJLIS): Year wise

Year	Indian Authored Article	Foreign Authored Article	Total
2017	39 (15.18)	5 (1.95)	44
2016	52 (20.23)	5 (1.95)	57
2015	37 (14.40)	4 (1.56)	41
2014	53 (20.62)	7 (2.72)	60
2013	49 (19.07)	6 (2.33)	55
Total	230	27	257

Data from the table.5 indicates the year wise article publishing in International Research Journal of Library and Information Science (IRJLIS). The journal started in the year 2013 and published a total of 55 articles, out of which there are 49 Indian and 6 foreign articles. The highest number of 60 articles was published in the year 2014 with 53 Indian and 7 foreign authors contributed, followed by 57 articles published in 2016 with 52 Indian and 5 foreign authored articles.

Table 6: Contribution of Articles publishing in International Research Journal of Multidisciplinary Studies (IRJMS): Year wise

Year	Indian Authored Article	Foreign Authored Article	Total
2017	154 (43.87)	10 (2.85)	164
2016	135 (38.46)	3 (0.85)	138
2015	37 (10.54)	4 (1.14)	41
Total	333	18	351

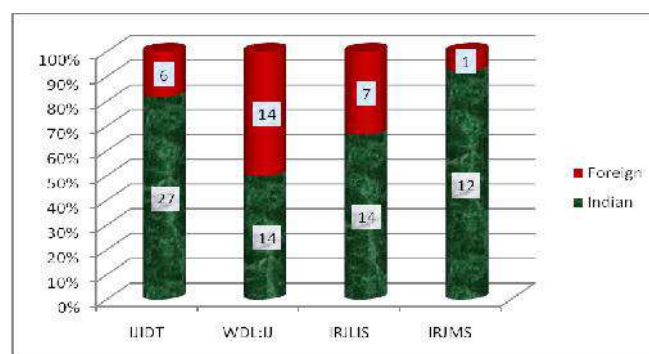
The year wise article publishing in International Research Journal of Multidisciplinary Studies (IRJMS) can be found from the data in table.6. The journal started in the year 2015 and published a total of 351 articles, out of which there are 333 Indian and 18 foreign articles. The highest number of 164 articles was published in the year 2017 with 154 Indian and 10 foreign authors contributed, followed by 138 articles published in 2016 with 135 Indian and 3 foreign authored articles.

Table 7: Journals featuring in the UGC list, Scopus, Web of Science and DOAJ databases

Journal Name	UGC List	Scopus List	Web of scienceList	DOAJ List
IJIDT	Yes	No	No	Yes
WDL:IJ	Yes	No	No	No
IRJLIS	Yes	No	No	No
IRJMS	No	No	No	No

There was an effort to see where the journals under the study feature among UGC List, Scopus List of Journals, Web of science List of Journals and DOAJ List of Journals as shown in the table-7. All the said journals covered under the study featured in the list of UGC journals. No other databases such as Scopus List of Journals, Web of science List of Journals and DOAJ List of Journals doesn't contain the journals.

Figure 8: Number of editors: Geography wise



There are a total of 95 editors across the borders, out of which 67 are from Indian origin and 28 are from foreign origin from the figure-8. The IJIDT journal has more number of editors, 27 from India and 6 from Foreign. The lowest being IRJMS journal with 13 editors, out of which 12 are Indian and 1 editor from foreign origin.

SUGGESTIONS

1. No journal under the study has laid down comprehensive publishing policy on their websites. Therefore, it is suggested to have a comprehensive publishing policy with the components such as scope, nature, who can contribute, style guides, stringent peer review, regular updates to the instructions to the authors, clear and classified publication fee if any, and so on.
2. All the journals under the study predominantly had editors of Indian origin. The IJIDT journal has more number of editors (27 from India and 6 from Foreign). The lowest being IRJMS journal with 13 editors, out of which 12 are Indian and 1 editor from foreign origin. It is suggested in order to attract contributions from authors of foreign origin for the journal to be truly international, it is suggested that journals must include more number of editors from foreign origin.

CONCLUSION

The first journal “Journal de savans” started on 5th Jan 1665 by the Royal Society for furthering the scholarly communication worldwide. Ever since the journals have grown to over a lakh today across the universe of subjects. In the same way, there are also many journals mushroomed, in the subject of Library and Information Science (LIS) too. The scope of the

journal can be identified by its title such as National or International. This study aims to find out the true nature and scope of the international journals in LIS originated out of India and to identify the true spirit and nature of journals and their publications according to their nomenclature. It is evident that the journals under the study, needs to be more professional in nature, have a strong editorial boards, introduce the stringent editorial and publishing policies.

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