

## Access Library and Information Science E-Books Through Directory of Open Access Books (DOAB)

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### ABSTRACT

The Present study makes an attempt to explore and analyze the bibliographic information in the publication of e-books in the field of library and information science available through the Directory of Open Access Books. This study presents overview of e-books and varies facilities and search mechanism provided by the Directory of Open Access Books to access full-text e-books made available in different disciplines and subjects. The result of study is clearly described that there is big gap (1978 to 2000) discovered from the e-books available under library and information science section in the DOAB. It was also found majority of e-books were published in last decade. Major finding is e-books of library and information science on DOAB portal published by IFLA publisher book series, by De Gruyter publishers in English language by one and two authors and single keyword.

**KEYWORD:** *E- Book, Library and Information Science, Directory of Open Access Books, Open Access Books, DOAB.*

### INTRODUCTION

Open access movement has made possible democratic access to information and knowledge. It has overcome the drawbacks of conventional and commercial publishing by eliminating the financial barriers and copyright issues. It has made the scholarly literature available free of cost among the masses across the globe. Started with the Science and Technology fields, the open access movement is now quickly gaining momentum across other disciplines including the Social Sciences and Humanities. The Directory of Open Access Books (DOAB) was officially launched on July 1, 2013, at the Open Access Monographs in the Humanities and Social Sciences Conference at the British Library in London to maintain the record of open access books especially in the field of Social Sciences (Loan & Refhat-Un-Nisa, 2015). The DOAB is a service of the Open Access Publishing in European Networks (OAPEN) Foundation. The OAPEN Foundation is an international initiative dedicated to open access monograph publishing, based at the National Library, The Hague. The DOAB is a discovery service for peer-reviewed open access e-books and aims to maximize their dissemination, visibility, utilization, and impact (Stenson, 2012).

### E-BOOKS

In most simple terms, an e-book is a book available digitally that can be read on screen with the help of a computer or other mobile book reader devices. Emphasizing the format, the Oxford Dictionary has defined e-book as “an electronic version of a printed book”. Emphasizing more on creation and use Merriam-webster Dictionary has defined e-book as, “book composed in or converted to digital format for display on a computer screen or hand held device”. The concept, content and e-book reading process is comprehensively included in a definition by Eileen Gardiner and Musto Ronald G. They defined e-book as “An

electronic book (or e-book) is a book publication made available in digital form, consisting of text, images, or both, readable on the flat-panel display of computers or other electronic devices”.

## **OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY**

This study has following objectives: -

- To know the Information about Directory of Open Access Books (DOAB).
- To know development collection of e-books in Directory of Open Access Books (DOAB).
- To know the subject coverage in DOAB portal.
- To identify how many e-books are available on library and information science in DOAB.
- To find out year wise added LIS books in DOAB portal.
- To investigation the bibliographic information about library and information science e-books available under the DOAB.

## **METHODOLOGY**

The Directory of Open Access Books (DOAB) websites was selected for collecting the data related availability of e-books in library and information science, for this study. The required data was collected during the month of July 2020 and recorded in excel file for analysis. The collected data were analyzed using different quantitative techniques and presented in tabular formats.

## **DIRECTORY OF OPEN ACCESS BOOKS**

The website of Directory of Open Access Books (DOAB) is available at (<http://www.doabook.org/>) in both English and French languages. The Directory of Open Access Books (DOAB) was officially launched on July 1, 2013 at the Open Access Monographs in Humanities and Social Sciences Conference at the British Library in London. But, DOAB was unofficially operating since 2011 and its beta version was launched in 2012. The Directory of Open Access Books (DOAB) is a services of the Open Access Publishing in European Networks (OAPEN) Foundation which is an international initiative devoted to open access monograph publishing based at the national Library, The Hague and for building a quality controlled over collection of open access books. It was developed with the aim to increase discoverability of Open Access books and powered by OAPEN Foundation which an open access platform for e-books in cooperation with Semper Tool which is an exclusive a digital library software developed for in building digital library libraries with multi features and facilities ranging from resource management system to reports. DOAB is supported by Open Edition, BRILL and Springer Link all of above three are associated with open access initiatives particularly for books. DOAB is inviting support from publishers and academic institutions such as universities, libraries and library consortia.

## **COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT OF DOAB**

The collection of the e- books in Directory of Open Access Books (DOAB) is continuously growing. The Directory of Open Access Books (DOAB) was started in 2011 with 490 e-books and 15 publishers. Currently, DOAB facilitates to access to 29703 academic peer-reviewed e-books which published by 392 publishers. However, collection development on Directory of Open Access Books (DOAB) is gradually growing in terms of number of e-book and publishers.

## SEARCHING AND BROWSING

The Directory of Open Access Books is providing facility to search and browse e-books available on its websites started from simple search to advance search. A user can search e-books through various search interfaces through title, ISBN/ISSN, author, keywords, abstract, publisher, Boolean Operator and range of publication years or all years respectively. Browsing facility to their user which is ranging from browsing by titles, subject, publishers, first or any word in title and by alphabetical browsing facility on the portal. Apart from this, other facilities such as abstract, keywords, free access link, buy the book link and export citation and share facilities available.

## LICENSES AND USE

It available under the license of Creative Commons (CC). user is not only able to read, print, download and save but also have the right to share for non-commercial purposes through wide range of social site networking sites.

## SUBJECT COVERAGE

The Directory of Open Access Books (DOAB) provides e-books on the covers seventeen broader subjects namely Agriculture and Food Sciences, Arts and Architecture, Biology and Life Sciences, Business and Economics, Chemistry, Earth and Environmental Sciences, General works, Health Sciences, History and Archaeology, Language and Literature, Law and Political Sciences, Mathematics and Statistics, Philosophy and Religion, Physics and Astronomy, Science General, Social Sciences and Technology and Engineering which covered under the DOAB portal, besides this, several subjects are also covering under the each mentioned broader subject section.

## LIS E-BOOKS IN DOAB

The library and information science related e-books were provided under the social science heading. Total fifty-four e-books were found upto July 2020 in library and information science sub-heading. Out of fifty-two e-books of library and information science available under DOAB, two issues of Italian journal of Library, Archives and Information Science, volume 4, No. 2 (2013) and volume 5, No. 1 (2014) are also included. As such, only fifty-two e-books were discovered for analysis for this study. Further, the analysis of library and information science related e-books collection found under DOAB made as under.

## DATA ANALYSIS

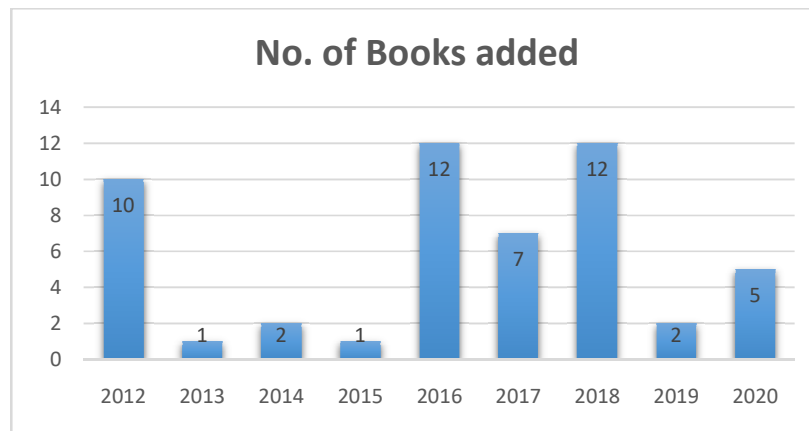
fifty-two library and information science e-books available under DOAB portal has analysis for this study.

### Year wise Books Added

Sr. no.	Year	No. of Books added	Percentage (%)
1	2012	10	19.23
2	2013	1	1.92
3	2014	2	3.84
4	2015	1	1.92
5	2016	12	23.07
6	2017	7	13.46

7	2018	12	23.07
8	2019	2	3.84
9	2020	5	9.61
	<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>100</b>

**Table 1: Year- wise Books Added**



**Fig. 1: Year- wise Books Added**

Table-1 show that the fifty-two LISe-books added in period (2012 to 2020). Majority of e-books added in year 2016 and 2018 in DOAB portal.

### Publishing Year

Publishing Year	No. of Books	Percentage (%)
1977	1	1.92
2001	1	1.92
2003	2	3.84
2004	1	1.92
2005	2	3.84
2006	2	3.84
2007	1	1.92
2008	2	3.84
2009	4	7.69
2010	3	5.76
2012	4	7.69
2013	1	1.92
2014	2	3.84
2015	1	1.92
2016	7	13.46
2017	6	11.53
2018	6	11.53
2019	3	5.76
2020	3	5.76
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>100</b>

**Table 2: Year- wise Publication**

Table-2 show that the majority of e-books available on library and information science area in the directory of open access books (DOAB) were published after 2009 and latest up to 2018 year. Only 12 (23.04%) e-books published in year 1977 to 2008. However, large number of 40 (76.86%) e-book publish in year2009 to 2020.

### Authorship Pattern

Authorship	Number of Books	Percentage (%)
One	23	44.23
Two	23	44.23
Three	5	9.61
Four	1	1.92
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>100</b>

**Table 3: Authorship Pattern**

Table-3 show that the library and information science e-books were written 23 (44.23%)separately by one and two authors. 5 (9.61%) e- books written by three authors. Only 1 (1.92%) e-book written by four authors that present in library and information science section on DOAB website.

### Publishers of Books

Publishers Name	Number of Books	Percentage (%)
De Gruyter	29	55.76
EDP SCIENCES	1	1.92
FedOA – Federico II iversity Press	4	7.69
IOS Press	1	1.92
Ledizioni - Ledipublishing	5	9.61
Open Edition Press	2	3.84
Presses de l'Université de Montréal	2	3.84
Springer	1	1.92
Universidal Carlos III de Madrid. Figuerola Institute of Social Science History	1	1.92
Universidad Nacional de La Plata. Facultad de Humanidades y Ciencias de la Educacion	5	9.61
UTS ePRESS	1	1.92
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>100</b>

**Table 4: Publishers of Books**

Table-4 provides information regarding publishers of e- books available on library and information science domain in which large 29 (55.76%) e- books published by De Gruyter. Ledizioni- Ledipublishing and Universidad Nacional de La Plata. Facultad de Humanidades y Ciencias de la Educacion published 5 (9.61%) e- books separately. Onepublishers FedOA – Federico II yiversity Press published 4 (7.69%) e- books.

### Series of Books

Book Series	Number	Percentage
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	<b>of Books</b>	<b>(%)</b>
Bibliotheks- und Informationspraxis	2	3.84
Biblioteca Humanidades	1	1.92
Copyleft Italia	1	1.92
Current Topics in Library and Information Practice	1	1.92
De Gruyter Praxishandbuch	1	1.92
Editoria – Presente e Futuro	1	1.92
Fuori Collano	1	1.92
Historia de las Universidades	1	1.92
IFLA Publications	13	25
Literature und Archiv	2	3.84
Praxiswissen	1	1.92
Saperi storici e nuove tecnologie	2	3.84
Scuola delle Scienze Umane e Sociali. Quaderni	1	1.92
Studies in Manuscript Cultures	3	5.76
Trabajos, comunicaciones y conferencias	3	5.76
Variaciones	1	1.92
(Series of Book not given)	17	32.69
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>100</b>

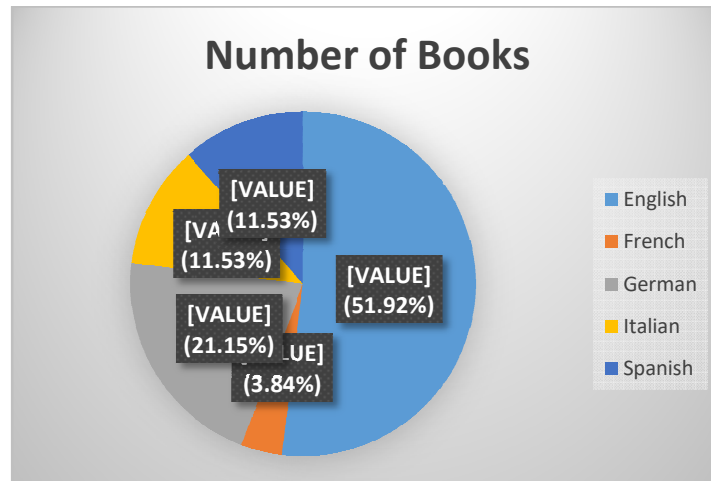
**Table 5: Series of Books**

Table-5 shows that large number 13 (27.66%) of e-books available in library and information science on DOAB, were published by IFLA (International Federation of Library Association and Institution) Publications in English language in comparison to the other book series as mention in table no. 5. Out of forty-seven LIS e-books, forty e-books series are not given. Other twenty library and information science e-books published in different fifty book series.

### Language of Books

<b>Languages</b>	<b>Number of Books</b>	<b>Percentage (%)</b>
English	27	51.92
French	2	3.84
German	11	21.15
Italian	6	11.53
Spanish	6	11.53
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>100</b>

**Table 6: Language of Books**



**Fig. 2: Language of Books**

Table-6 shows about language availability of library and information science e-books in directory of library and information science (DOAB) portal in which large number of LIS e-books 27 (51.92%) published and available in English language, German language 11 (21.15%) e-books, Italian and Spanish language separately 6 (12.77%) e-books, French language 2 (3.84%) e-books.

#### Numbers of Keyword

Number of Keywords	Number of Books	Percentage (%)
0	10	19.23
1	17	32.69
2	4	7.69
3	7	13.46
4	5	9.61
5	3	5.76
7	4	7.69
9	1	1.92
12	1	1.92
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>100</b>

**Table 7: Number of Keyword**

Table- 7 show that maximum number 17 (32.69%) of e-books that available under the heading of library and information science has only one keyword. Another 7 (13.46%) e-books have three keywords. Only one e-books having more than ten keywords.

#### FINNDING

- As far as publication years of LIS e-books are concerned, a big gap (1978 to 2000) discovered from the e-books available under library and information science section in the DOAB.
- Maximum number of e-books publish in last decade.
- Maximum number of e-books listed under the library and information science heading in DOAB were written by one and two authors.

- Massive number of library and information science related e-books included by only one publisher in DOAB in comparison to other publishers which contributed LIS e-books under DOAB.
- Large number of 13(25%)e-books under the section library and information science published by IFLA publications relative to other books series.
- Majority of 27 (51.92%) LIS e-books published and available under DOAB in English language in contrast to other language such as French, German, Italian and Spanish.
- Majority of 17 (32.69%) e-books available on DOAB portal, have only one keyword in terms of number of keywords provided for LIS e-books on DOAB.

## SUGGESTIONS

- Different publishers and authors should submit and include e-books in heading of library and information science on DOAB portal
- Large number of publishers should contribute their e-books under the library and information science section to the directory of open access book (DOAB).
- E-books on library and information science subjects published under the book series by the famous publishers may be contributed to the directory of open access books (DOAB).
- More e-books on library and information science subject may be published in different languages and made available on the directory of open access books(DOAB).
- It is suggested that proper keywords in terms of numbers and words should mentioned for each e-book listed under the heading of library and information science on DOAB website.

## CONCLUSION

The library and information science e-books available under broad subject Social science heading on DOAB portal. this study is clearly described that there is big gap discovered from the e-books available under library and information science section in the DOAB and need to pay serious attention towards building collection under the banner of library and information science subject. For the collection development of e-books of library and information science on Directory of Open Access Books, publishers which are producing e-books on library and information science area and on other subjects should come forward to become member of Directory of Open Access Books and make contribution of e-books on library and information science subjects as well as other subjects at large. Besides this, more research articles should be published on Directory of Open Access Books and its related aspects in order to attract users and publisher's attention towards use and contribute to e-books to the Directory of Open Access Books at massive level.

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