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Digital Library Infrastructure and Architecture
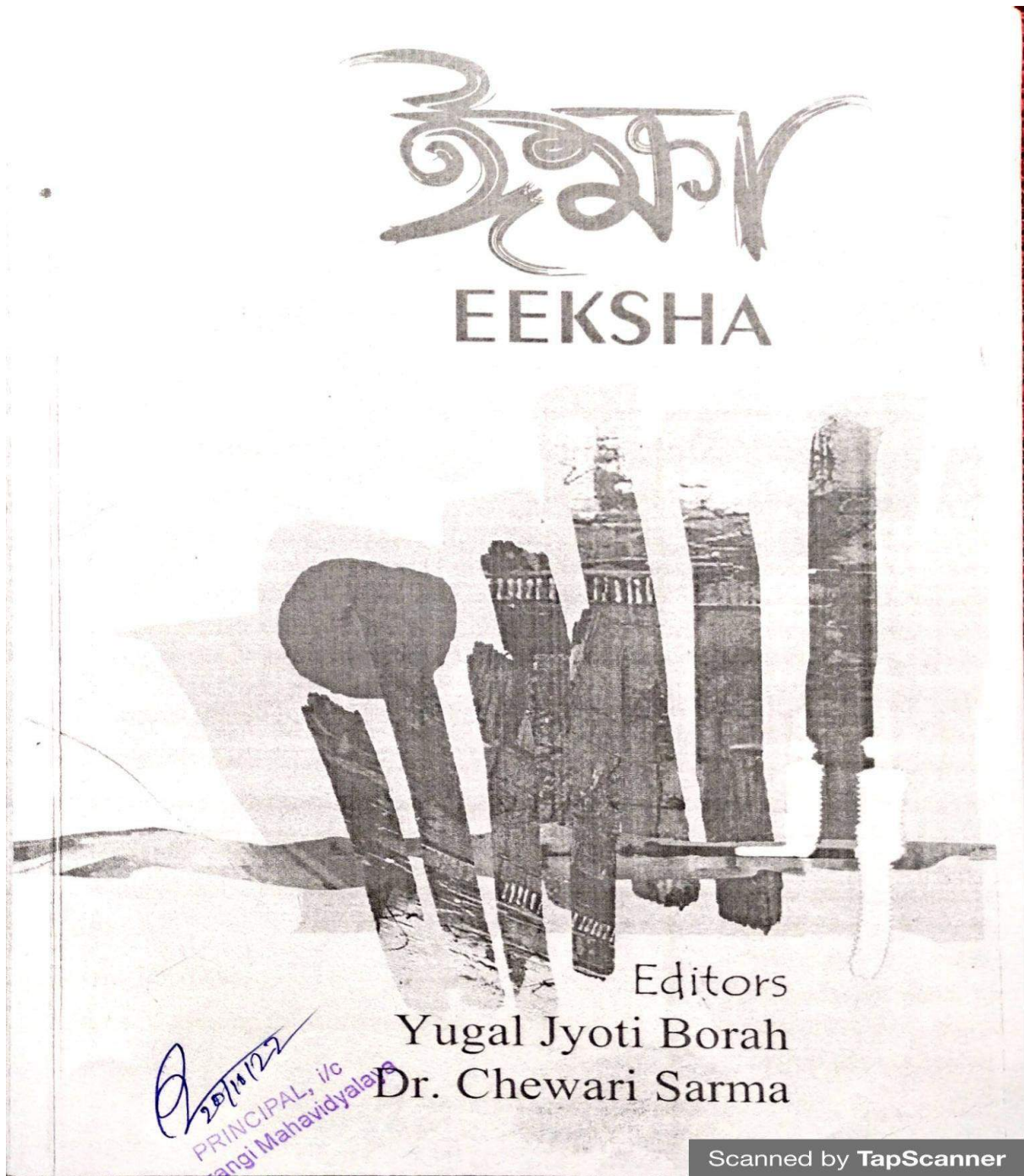
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Digital Library Infrastructure and Architecture

✍Mousumi Bora

Information technology has changed the modern day libraries as compared to traditional libraries. Today it is obvious that the most effective way this is to create digital libraries distributed information systems ensuring reliable storage and effective use of various collections of electronic documents (text, graphics, video; audio etc.) via global telecommunication networks in a way convenient to the end users. The information explosion has direct impact on the libraries as they have to denies ways of performing their tasks better and faster even when the volumes are increasing at a high pace.

Traditionally, libraries have been collecting various kinds of sources and holding them in readiness for use by users. After World War- II, there has been a knowledge explosion and consequent exponent growth of literature and information. There have been complexities in the information generation, handling and use libraries in the developed and developing countries witnessed the introduction of computers and IT from the 1960's Information can be saved digitally and therefore this helps in immediate asses to high demand and frequently by users Digital library provides access to digital information collections and included a combination of structure/unstructured, text/numeric/graphical data, scanned images and graphics, audio and video recordings Digital Library now a days the most widely accepted term and implemented in all libraries.

Librarians, better known as library managers, are to keep up and satisfy the demand of the faculty, students and researchers against a diminishing budget.

Here technology is readily available in the form of cameras, DTP, other capturing devices like scanners that allow one to convert analog images into digital images.

Digital library stores materials in electronic format and manipulates and disseminates the large collection of information effectively. Various documents saved in digital format that can be saved in digital format that can be accused through the internet or the World Wide Web.

Digital library consists of information in digitized form, where the information stored are electronically accessible using a computer which can store, provide access and disseminate without and conversion process. Information in digital form is stored electronically and accessed, where access to digital library has no boundary or particular restriction in accessed, with respect to space/age/time. This digital library helps to provide access to information through electronic gateways to remote digital database.

American Digital Library Federation, 1998 which says "digital libraries are organizations that provide the resources, including the specialized staff, to select, structure; offer intellectual access to; interpret, distribute, preserve the integrity of; and ensure the persistence over time of collections of digital works so that they are readily and economically available for use by a defined community or set of computers".