

PRINT: ISSN 0976-6634 ONLINE: ISSN 2456-6764

JOURNAL OF SOCIOLOGY AND SOCIAL ANTHROPOLOGY

Full text open access online (Since 2009)



Kamla-Raj JSSA 2024

J Sociology Soc Anth, 15(1-2): 1-10 (2024)

PRINT: ISSN 0976-6634 ONLINE: ISSN 2456-6764

DOI: 10.31901/24566764.2024/15.1-2.392

Institutionalising the Virtual Library of the Historical Disadvantaged Universities of South Africa

N. P. Mahwasane and T. Mahwasane

Department of Library and Information Services, University of Venda

E-mail: Nkhangweni.mahwasane@univen.ac.za

Department of Education, Ekuruleni South

E-mail: tshinakaho.mahwasane@gauteng.gov.za

KEYWORDS Digital Screen. E-resources. Information Technology, Online Library Services. Paperless Library. Physical Libraries

ABSTRACT One is now living in the digital era in which digits have had a considerable impact, more especially on how people communicate. As a result of the digital revolution social media was born which severely changed people's patterns of communication and doing things at all levels across the sphere, with the library being at the centre of this change. Digital technology, the storehouse and supplier of social media, has impacted all walks of modern life, and the library being amongst other things. This paper focuses on the different benefits of the libraries being virtual in the institutions of higher learning for both students and academics. The challenges encountered by the university community due to the fact that the libraries are offline are, for example, lack of proper knowledge on how to use information retrieval skills, insufficient user education, lack of computer knowledge and Information Communication Technology (ICT) in accessing information in the library. Therefore, this paper explores the notion of virtual libraries being a reality for the historically disadvantaged universities in South African. This study will employ a literature review method with the aim of exploring the use of technology to enhance the library services provided to the users. Various documents will be used to classify, investigate, and incorporate (analyse, synthesise and compare) the findings of other researchers to come out with the sustained paper/argument. The following phrases/catchwords will be selected /identified, that is, what virtual library entails, tools used to disseminate information to users electronically, activities conducted in virtual libraries, marketing the virtual library resources challenges encountered with virtual libraries.