

Annual Report
2017 - 18



ROJA MUTHIAH
RESEARCH LIBRARY TRUST

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Main Objectives of the Trust

The Roja Muthiah Research Library Trust endeavors to:

- undertake and enable development of research libraries and archives relating to south Indian studies in order to serve the needs of scholars;
- preserve and conserve documents of value for research;
- gather and generate knowledge about libraries and archives;
- disseminate that knowledge;
- train librarians and archivists;
- engage in international collaborative efforts for the betterment of services to readers; and
- engage in research in the areas of humanities and social sciences.

The Roja Muthiah Research Library Trust's principle current objectives are maintenance and development of the Roja Muthiah Research Library and affiliated bodies such as the Indus Research Centre.

We acknowledge with gratitude the support of

AMM Foundation (Corpus Grant)

Chatnath Trust (Endowment Fund)

Dr. Iravatham Mahadevan (Endowment and Sponsorship)

Dr. N. Kandasamy (Donation)

Mr. Krishna Thenappan (Donation)

Prof. Perundevi Srinivasan (Donation)

And all the donors who have generously supported the library

Reference Services

462 new scholars have used RMRL collection this year. A total of 1,236 visits were made by scholars for their research work during this year. As in the past, M.Phil. and Ph.D. scholars as well as writers, freelance researchers and journalists have used the collection. A total of 2928 titles of books and periodicals have been put to use multiple times. An internal portal was developed for reference service in house. This is to maintain the details of users and books and periodicals referred by them. Many scholars have received support over the telephone. Many scholars started using the online catalogue provided in our website www.rmrl.in in addition to accessing the catalogue searching facility available in the Library premise.

Donors List*

Individuals

Ambrose, SP	Krishnan, Mumbai	Ranjani
Balasubramaniam, T. R	Manavalan, A. A	Ravi, N, The Hindu family
Balasubramanian, P	Meena Suresh	Revati Ramani
Dr. Champakalakshmi, R	Mohamed Ali	Rohini, S. Dr
Dr. Kalam, M. A	Mohana Sundram, Ira	Sembai Xavier
Gopinath, S	Muthiah, S	Subbarao
Indrani Murugesan	Narasiah, K, R	Subbarayalu, Ira
Dr. Iravatham Mahadevan	Padmanaban, T	Sudhankan
Kamalalayan	Premeelagurumurthy	Tamilarasi, Ira.
Kanakasabai	Pulavar P. Jayaraman	TKC Family
Karuppan Chetti	Radhakrishnan, K.S	Venkatachalapathy, A. R

Institutions & Publishers

D. M. K. Thalamaik Kazhakam
Kalari Heritage and Charitable Trust
Kumaran Book House
Music Academy
Sivalayam Foundation
American Centre
TTK Trust

Documentation and Acquisitions

The book database of RMRL has been expanding in quality and quantity. Now it has increased to 1,11,215 records. This year 6007 records were added to the database. At the same time we have extended our support to create MARC records for overseas libraries such as Stanford and Texas Universities.

We supported Music Academy Library in creating database for photographs. The Music Academy Library has huge number of photographs since 1929. Digital library for photographs have been developed in J-ISIS, the searchable database is linked to the photographs along with narration to each photographs. In the same way we have helped Namgyal Institute of Tibetology to develop photographic database in J-ISIS platform.

RMRL is collaborating with Mushfiq Khwaja Library and Research Centre, and the University of Chicago Library for creating name authority records for person names of the Urdu authors and also reviewing the bibliographical records created in parallel scripts.

Reprographics Services

RMRL is actively engaged in the digitization of Grantha books for the preservation project funded by the Endangered Archives Project (EAP) of British Library. Books from various libraries, archives, mutts, personal collection all over south India have been taken up for this preservation project. This project is aimed at preserving one of the often neglected books by Libraries for posterity. The project would be completed in the next quarter with the digitization of 1100 books. RMRL digitized the Official Publications of Bombay Presidency reports of British India. A total of 105 reports were digitized. RMRL digitized the Hindi periodical, Viplov and Yashpal, for the Martyrs Memorial & Freedom Struggle Research Centre in Lucknow.

Complete set of souvenirs and journals of the Music Academy were also digitized this year. These issues have been made searchable through a digital library interface. A major part of photographs of Music Academy were also digitized.

Paper Conservation

The project “Developing Permanent Solutions for Conserving Print Material at the Roja Muthiah Research Library” was granted as a two year project to the Roja Muthiah Research Library in 2015 March. This project was completed successfully in March 2017. An extension of this project for a period of six months was given by the Tata Trust in June 2017. 24,000 pages from rare books and periodicals were conserved during this extension period and the project was completed in November 2017. A total of 94,000 pages of books and periodicals were conserved through this project (2015-17).

As the project is over, the conservation team has been extending its expertise to other institutions. Custom made acid free folders for keeping the photograph collection were made to prevent the deterioration of the photographs. Documents and layout plans from other institutions and individuals were also taken up for conservation.

Indus Research Centre

Indus Research Centre of RMRL organised two courses, Introductory courses in general & comparative linguistics and Comparative Linguistics & Dravidian Linguistics in March 2018. Each was a week long course and handled by faculties such as Prof. Vijaya Venugopal, Prof. G. Balasubramanian and Prof. S. V. Shanmugam. Around 10 people from various streams attended the courses. This course was sponsored by Dr. Iravatham Mahadevan. A book project “Journey

of a Civilization” is being authored by R. Balakrishnan, honorary consultant of IRC. RMRL will be publishing this with support from individuals and Government of Tamilnadu.

Workshops / Training Programmes

A 3 day orientation programme for librarians from Tamilnadu Public Libraries was organized by RMRL in association with Anna Centenary Library in May 2017. Sundar, Prakash and Manikanda Subbu gave lectures on various topics in the programme. This program was well received by the participants.

Sundar and Prakash attended a three days workshop on audio metadata in Kathmandu, Nepal in June 2017. This workshop was organized by University of Chicago, New Delhi Centre.

Lectures / Seminars / Exhibitions

RMRL Lecture Series / Endowment lecture

Prof. M. Anandakrishnan Endowment Lecture series

Mr. S. Theodore Baskaran delivered his lecture “இந்திய நாயினங்கள் – ஒரு வரலாற்று பார்வை” on 31 May 2017.

Mr. S. Anwar delivered his lecture Madras under Golconda on 16 August 2017

Mr. R. Kannan delivered his lecture Leader Anna on 18 August 2017

Dr. Y. Srinivasan delivered his lecture Historicization of Mythical Asura on 16 December 2017

Dr. Job Thomas delivered his lecture Chola Bronzes after Chola on 14 February 2018

Mr. Karthik Narayanan Endowment Lecture

Mr. S. Theodore Baskaran delivered his lecture அச்சிலிருந்து திரைக்கு – தமிழ் இலக்கியமும் சினிமாவும் on 12 January 2017

Prof. V. Arasu Endowment lecture

Prof. P. R. Subramanian delivered his lecture எங்கே போய்விட்டன இந்த சொற்கள்? சங்க இலக்கியச் சொற்கள் குறித்த ஒரு பார்வை on 30 October 2017

Book release function

The book “We Who Wove with Lotus Thread”, written by Dr. Aarti Kawlra was released at RMRL on 24 March 2018. First copy of the book was released by Dr. Nalli Kuppusamy Chetti. Following the release was a discussion on the book by Dr. S. Anandhi, Mr. L. Kannan and Mr. Sadanand Menon.

Theatre Play

RMRL in association with Koothu-P-Pattarai organized the play “Life of an Actor”, directed by Gil Alon. This was played for 6 days at RMRL, from 7th to 12th August 2017.

Board of Trustees

Uma Narayanan, *Social Work*, Chennai

S. Muthiah, *History, Heritage Conservation*, Chennai

M. V. Subbiah, *Industry*, Chennai

S. Theodore Baskaran, *Cinema, Wildlife*, Bangalore

Prof. M. Anandakrishnan, *Education*, Chennai

Ramani Natarajan, *Law*, Chennai

G. Sundar, *Library & Archives*, Chennai

Consultants

Mr. R. Balakrishnan, IAS

Honorary Consultant, Indus Research Centre

Staff

G. Sundar, *Director*

R. Prakash, *Assistant Director*

M. Manikanda Subbu, *Development Executive*

S. Muthu Malathi, *Technical Officer*

E. K. Mohan, *Conservationist*

A. Sathiyamurthy, *Conservationist*

M. Ravi, *Technical Assistant*

Research Fellow

C. Subramanian, Indus Research Centre

Audit Report under section 12A(b) of the Income-tax Act, 1961, in the case of charitable or religious trusts or institutions

We have examined the Balance Sheet of **Roja Muthiah Research Library Trust** as at 31st March, 2015 and the Income & Expenditure Account for the year ended on that date which are in agreement with the books of account maintained by the said trust.

We have obtained all the information and explanations which to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purposes of the audit. In our opinion, proper books of account have been kept by the head office of the above named trust so far as appears from our examination of the books.

In our opinion and to the best of our information, and according to information given to us, the said accounts give a true and fair view –

- (i) in the case of the Balance Sheet, of the state of affairs of the above named trust as at 31st March, 2018
- (ii) in the case of the Income & Expenditure account, of the excess of income over expenditure of its accounting period ending 31st March, 2018

for Bhaskaran & Ramesh
Chartered Accountants

Chennai
11 September 2018

A Bhaskaran
Partner

Audited Financial Statement
Balance Sheet as at 31.03.2018

Particulars	31.03.2018		31.03.2017	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
SOURCES OF FUNDS				
Capital Fund		49,399,797		49,156,581
Endowment Fund		858,150		768,150
		50,257,947		49,924,731
APPLICATION OF FUNDS				
Fixed Assets				
Gross block	41,775,895		41,776,925	
Less: Depreciation	7,598,761		6,470,382	
Net block		34,177,134		35,296,543
Current Assets, Loans & Advances				
Cash and Bank balances		14,673,733		14,014,205
Interest accrued on Deposits		360,448		199,893
Loans & Advances		166,880		143,433
Other current assets		217,939		375,000
		15,419,000		14,732,531
Less: Current Liabilities and Provisions		56,188		822,343
Other Liabilities		56,188		822,343
Net Current Assets		15,362,812		13,910,188
		50,257,946		49,924,731

Income & Expenditure Account for the year ended 31.03.2018

Particulars	31.03.2018	31.03.2017
	Rs.	Rs.
INCOME		
Contributions Received	2,914,807	6,535,923
Grant Received	685,410	2,371,324
Donations Received	171,526	920,000
Other Receipt	2,716,753	1,450,345
Total Income	6,488,495	11,277,592
EXPENDITURE		
Operating expenses	402,494	962,989
Employee expenses	5,407,464	6,243,568
Administrative expenses	1,806,942	2,822,206
Depreciation	1,128,379	1,363,403
Total Expenditure	8,745,279	11,392,166
Excess of income over expenditure	(2,256,784)	(114,574)

Accounting Policies

- The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention on accrual basis of accounting.
- The preparation of financial statements requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the period reported.
- The income from Digitization, Documentation, Reprographics, Reference Services and Training is accounted on accrual basis.

Donations are accounted on receipt basis. Interest is accounted on accrual basis.

Project work in progress (WIP) has been recognized on percentage of completion basis.

- iv) The Fixed Assets other than the Books owned by the Library are accounted at cost and depreciated over the useful life of the asset.

The books & periodicals purchased for the collection are recorded at cost and not depreciated.

The books and periodicals received as donation are valued at fixed prices depending on the age of the book or periodical. These rates have been approved by the managing committee after considering the practices followed by similar organizations. These assets are not depreciated.

- v) Depreciation on fixed assets is provided on written down value method at rates arrived at based on the useful life of the asset.

Depreciation in respect of additions made during the year and put to use for less than six months has been charged at 50% of the original rate for the block.

- vi) Investments in Mutual Funds being short term in nature are recorded at cost.

- vii) Foreign currency transactions are recorded at the rates prevailing on the date of transaction.

Notes

Books Collection

- a. Roja Muthiah Research Library Trust (RMRLT) has a large collection of books some of which date back to the 19th century, which are partly owned by the Trust and partly by the University of Chicago (UoC).
- b. The books owned by RMRLT were received as donations from various sources during the past several years. These books were not represented in the books of account earlier and it was decided by the committee of management to bring these books into the accounts. Subsequently, a formula was arrived by the management, based on practices followed by similar organizations and the books received as donations have been capitalized during the year.
- c. As per an MOU entered into between the UoC and RMRLT, the fourth transfer of ownership covers some of the items held by the University of Chicago Library and RMRL and duplicate issues of periodicals. There are 237 books and 14,410 issues of periodicals in this transfer. The approximate average value for books at Rs. 153 or \$2.84 per volume and for periodical issues at Rs. 162 or \$3 per issue yields a total value of Rs. 23,79,300 or \$44,061 for this transfer.
- d. RMRLT also has a collection of books and periodicals on Microfilm which were made using their own resources. These books and periodicals are owned by other organizations and only the microfilms are held by RMRLT. The value of this collection has not been reflected in the accounts.