

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY EVENT REPORT

Name of the Event: Using library resources and online databases: Academic Writing and Research Skills

Category: Extension Lecture

Date Held: 21.05.2026

Time: 11. 15 am onwards

Venue: Sraddhaprana Pathakakshma, College Campus

Name and Designation of the Resource Person(s): Smt. Parama Sarkhel, Librarian, Ramakrishna Sarada Mission Vivekananda Vidhyabhavan

Number of Participants: 5

Brief Description of the Event: The objective of this extension lecture was to familiarise students with the foundations of library usage and the various ways in which academic resources can be accessed through libraries. The lecture highlighted how libraries, through proper methods of access and organisation, continue to play an important role in supporting students, teachers, and researchers in academic pursuits across disciplines. The speaker, Parama Sarkhel, also discussed the significance of online databases as digital archives containing scholarly articles, journals, and research papers that can be accessed for academic purposes. An interactive session was conducted at the end of the lecture to address queries and clarify doubts.

The lecture began with a discussion on the purpose of libraries in teaching and supporting academic needs, both in physical and digital forms. Smt. Sarkhel explained the major features of a modern library, namely collection, access, and purpose. A modern library must possess strong collections of books across different subject areas, ensure easy access to resources, and facilitate the

dissemination of knowledge. In this context, the speaker also introduced students to important online databases such as JSTOR, Google Scholar, Scopus, and PubMed, which store and organise scholarly information digitally.

The lecture further explained the different types of academic materials available in libraries and databases, including textbooks, reference books, research articles, review essays, theses and dissertations, conference papers, reports, electronic books, and government publications. Students were then introduced to the different categories of library sources—Primary, Secondary, and Tertiary sources—and their academic significance.

Another important component of the lecture involved familiarising students with reading lists, library catalogues, electronic resources, and methods of accessing the college library website. Reading lists were described as curated lists of books, articles, and academic materials recommended for students. The speaker also explained library cataloguing systems, including traditional card catalogues and OPAC (Online Public Access Catalogue). Electronic resources such as e-books, e-journals, and institutional repositories were discussed in detail, with emphasis on their accessibility through online databases.

The final segment of the lecture focused on search techniques and evaluation of academic sources. Students were introduced to the use of Boolean operators—AND, OR, and NOT—for refining search results effectively. The lecture also discussed the relevance of the CRAAP test (Currency, Relevance, Authority, Accuracy, and Purpose) in critically evaluating sources for academic use.

Additionally, students were informed about useful materials available on the college library website, including links to previous years' question papers, journals, and online courses. The session concluded with active participation from students and teachers, who raised questions that were answered with practical guidance and examples.

Outcome of the Event: The extension lecture successfully introduced students to the functioning and significance of libraries and online academic databases in

higher education and research. Students gained a clearer understanding of the different kinds of academic resources available in libraries, including books, journals, theses, reports, and electronic materials. The session also familiarised them with the concepts of primary, secondary, and tertiary sources, along with the use of reading lists and library catalogues.

The lecture enabled participants to understand the practical use of online databases such as JSTOR, Google Scholar, Scopus, and PubMed for accessing scholarly information. Students also became acquainted with OPAC systems, e-resources, and the college library website, which improved their awareness of the digital facilities available for academic work.

Another significant outcome of the lecture was the enhancement of students' information retrieval and critical evaluation skills. Through discussions on Boolean operators and the CRAAP test, participants learned methods of conducting more refined searches and assessing the reliability and relevance of academic sources. The interactive question-and-answer session further helped clarify doubts and encouraged active engagement among students and teachers. Overall, the lecture created greater awareness regarding the effective use of library resources and promoted information literacy among the participants.



**Ramakrishna Sarada Mission Vivekananda
Vidyabhavan**

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Department of Sociology

organises

Extension Lecture on

***Using Library Resources and
Online Databases: Academic
Writing & Research Skills***



RESOURCE PERSON:

SMT. PARAMA SARKHEL

LIBRARIAN

RKSMVV



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**Venue: Shraddhaprana
Pathakakshma**



