



REGENERATING KNOWLEDGE ONLINE THROUGH SELECTIVE DIGITIZING OF ANTIQUÉ BOOKS CONTENT

Brief Report of the UGC funded Minor Research Project for Teachers

XII Plan (2012-17)

[Approval Letter No. 2351-MRP/15-16/KLKE031/UGC-SWRO) Dated 25 April 2016]

Principal Investigator: Dr.C.Praveen

Faculty, PG Department

Govt. College of Teacher Education, Thiruvananthapuram

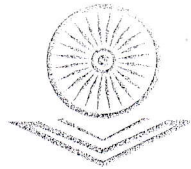
Kerala State Pin 695 014



<http://curatorpedagogue.com/>

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ज्ञान-विज्ञान विमुक्तये

विश्वविद्यालय अनुदान आयोग

नैरुत्य प्रादेशिक कार्यालय

UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION

SOUTH WESTERN REGIONAL OFFICE

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APPROVAL LETTER

2351-MRP/15-16/KLKE031/UGC-SWRO

The Principal

GOVT. COLLEGE OF TEACHER EDUCATION

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

KERALA - 695 014

25 APR 2016

Sub: Financial Assistance to SHRI/MS Dr.C.Praveen, GOVT. COLLEGE OF TEACHER EDUCATION, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, KERALA for undertaking Minor Research Project in Sciences for the project entitled Regenerating Knowledge Online Through Selective Digitizing of Antique Books Content

Sir/Madam,

This is in reference to the proposal submitted by SHRI/MS. Dr.C.Praveen, MEd, to UGC for financial assistance under the above scheme. The proposal was placed before an Expert Committee duly constituted for the purpose. Based on the recommendation of the committee and in accordance with the guidelines, the University Grants Commission has approved an amount of Rs. 70000/- for the aforesaid Minor Research Project as per details given below.

Items	Amount Recommended
Non-Recurring:	
Equipment	20000/-
Recurring :	
Contingency	30000/-
Any other	20000/-
TOTAL :	70000/-

On receipt of the Approval letter, the Principal Investigator should inform the undersigned of his/her consent to implement the project and send the Acceptance Certificate(Annexure-I) before 15.5.2016, otherwise it will be presumed that the Principal Investigator (PI) is not willing to implement the project and the approval will be withdrawn.

As the first installment grant has been transferred to the College account, you are requested to ensure the following:-

1. The Principal Investigator may be asked to submit the enclosed acceptance certificate on or before 15.5.2016. If acceptance certificate is not submitted to this office before the given date, the Minor Research Project stands cancelled and it is the responsibility of the college to refund the amount through RTGS (Details of account given at para 9 of sanction letter).
2. The first installment grant may be given to the Principal Investigator only after submission of acceptance certificate.
The grant is subject to the terms and conditions as per XIIth plan guidelines on Minor Research Project.

Encl: As above

Copy to

SHRI/MS Dr.C.Praveen

Department of MEd

GOVT. COLLEGE OF TEACHER EDUCATION

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

KERALA - 695 014

Yours faithfully

(Dr.N. Gopukumar)

Joint Secretary

Acknowledgement

*I am greatly indebted to the University Grants Commission for funding this project entitled **REGENERATING KNOWLEDGE ONLINE THROUGH SELECTIVE DIGITIZING OF ANTIQUE BOOKS CONTENT**. I would also like to place on record my profound gratitude to the Principals and Librarians who served the Govt. College of Teacher Education, Thiruvananthapuram, during the tenure of the Project for providing necessary assistance for completing the Project.*

Dr.C.Praveen

Abstract

The Government College of Teacher Education, Thvananthapuram was established in 1911. The normal trend in the college in those days was to import books from England and America both for reference and for drawing new ideas emanating on pedagogy. This practice continued until Indian independence. Though over the years the number of books in the library grew, no additional rooms were set up. The practical approach was to preserve new books regularly issued to students in good book shelves and dump very old books that are not issued to students in discarded shelves.

In 2015, the investigator submitted a research proposal to the University Grants Commission to selectively digitize the antique books content of the century old Government College of Teacher Education, Thiruvananthapuram. This received a favourable response.

As only a limited amount was sanctioned it prevented the investigator from getting services of outside agencies for digitizing the entire collection of antique books content in the college library. During the two consecutive summer vacations (2016-17 and 2017-18) Dr. Praveen, the Principal Investigator manually searched, classified and compiled invaluable content for dissemination from the antique books collection.

A selection of the digitized content was published in a specially created website <http://curatorpedagogue.com/> as suggested in the original proposal submitted to the UGC. The main objective of creating the website was to :

1. Identify invaluable content from the antique books collection
2. Convert print material into digital material.
3. Disseminate the digital content.

The rationale of the project is to inform the availability of a rare treasure house of knowledge in the GCTE, Thiruvananthapuram library. So the prime objective was to identify significant extracts from select antique books which would interest a large public with different tastes. Considering the paucity of time and resources available, only a limited content have been selected with discretion for digitizing and display. In many instances only a couple of pages have been digitized and it is assumed that once the general public and interested scholars get to know about the availability of the invaluable resources it would allure them to the college. This would then help in disseminating the knowledge hidden in the books which owing to years of neglect in maintenance of the library have resulted in destruction of quite a number of rare and out of print books.

The website was launched by Ms.Santhakumari, Retired teacher educator, Govt.College of Teacher Education, Thiruvananthapuram at a function held in the college on 14 July 2017. The website became fully operational in the second week of August 2017 and has been viewed by over one thousand viewers as on 01 September 2017.

List of Antique Books from which select content is digitized

Sl.No.	Title of Book	Year of Publication
1	Special Report on Certain Points Connected With Elementary Education in Germany, Switzerland and France	1886
2	The Educational Review- A Monthly Record For India Vol.I January to December 1895	1895
3	The Indian Journal of Education-A Monthly Review –Vol III- January to December 1895	1896
4	Journal of Education- A Monthly Record And Review January to December 1897 Vol. XIX	1897
5	The Practical Teacher's Art Monthly Feb 1898 Vol.I No.1	1898
6	Elementary Woodworking	1903
7	The Practical Teacher- A Monthly Magazine and Review For The Schoolroom And The Study Volume XXIV. July 1903-June 1904	1904
8	The Punjab Educational Journal Vol 1. No. 4 June 1905	1905
9	Kindergarten Magazine Vol XVIII September 1905 to June 1906	1906
10	The Public Schools Historical Atlas	1907
11	Indian Education-A Monthly Record Vol.VI August 1907-July 1908	1908
12	The School World- A Monthly Magazine of Educational Work and Progress- Vol XI January to December 1909	1909
13	The Teachers' Aid- A Practical Journal For Assisting Teachers in the Work of Their Schools And in Their Private Study –Volume L April 2 nd 1910 to September 24 th 1910	1910
14	Government of Travancore-Education Department-Courses of Instruction for the Elementary and Secondary Schools	1910
15	A Cyclopaedia of Education Vol. I	1911
16	The Teacher's Encyclopaedia of the Theory, Method, Practice, History and Development of Education At Home and Abroad Vol VII	1912
17	Chambers's Journal- Seventh Series Vol III December 1912 to November 1913	1913
18	Legislation and Judicial Decisions Relating to Education-October 1,1910 to October 1,1912	
19	Travancore Education Code	1913
20	The Punch –January -June 1913	1913
21	The Indian Review- August 1913	1913
22	The Fifty-Eighth Annual Report of the Syndicate of the University of Madras 1913-1914	1914
23	The Illustrated London News- April 24, 1915	1915
24	The Spectator-A Weekly Review of Politics, Literature, Theology and the Art	1916
25	The History Teachers' Magazine Vol. III No.1	1917

Antique Photo Gallery Index

Sl.No.	Description	Title of Book and year of publication
1	Pestalozzi monument at Yverdon	Legislation and Judicial Decisions Relating To Education October 1,1909 to October 1,1912 (1913)
2	Gymnastic drill after compulsory swimming practice -Berne	-do-
3	Wood and metal workshop-Liverpool	-do-
4	Models made in Liverpool Handicraft Center	-do-
5	Cooking class and Laundry work in Manchester Elementary School	-do-
6	Gardening in Shooters Hill Open-air School	-do-
7	Pet House and Fencing of the garden in Shooters Hill Open-air School	-do-
8	Activities for children- Bringing seashore nearer to them	Kindergarten Magazine Vol XVIII September 1905 to June 1906 (1906)
9	Training in home gardening	-do-
10	Class in laundry	-do-
11	Prize winning sketches	The Practical Teacher's Art Monthly Vol I No.1. February 1898 (1898)
12	Images related to Learning during the Renaissance	A Picture Book of British History Vol II 1485-1688 (1915)
13	Tudor architecture-(Renaissance)	-do-
14	Queen Elizabeth and Mary Stewart, Queen of Scots	-do-
15	Queen Elizabeth's friends and enemies	-do-
16	The Spanish Armada	-do-
17	Oliver Cromwell and his army	-do-
18	The last years of Charles I	-do-
19	The Restoration	-do-
20	Students engaged in field work	Report of the Society for the Promotion of Natural Education for the year 1918 (1918)
21	Montessori class for girls- Madras	-do-
22	Girl's School; Woodworking	-do-
23	Girls at drill, Mangalore	-do-
24	Outdoor class	-do-
25	Science lab ; Primary class	-do-

Content gist of Website Blog

The Blog has extracts from 25 different antique books published between 1886 and 1917 available in the Library collection of the Government College of Teacher Education, Thiruvananthapuram.

Each Blog post has :

1. **Curio critique**- a title capturing the content of the antique book article chosen.
2. **Curio Title**- A snap shot of the cover/first page of the antique book.
3. **Curio reference**- A snap shot of the relevant page from the antique book from which a representative article that rouses reader curiosity even after one hundred years.
4. The Curio reference is immediately followed by **Related references** which throw more light on the 'Curio reference' . For this, relevant articles, events, references and comments are cited by the investigator with the hope that it would aid scholars and readers better appreciate the significance of the 'Curio reference' in the antique book .
5. The Blog post ends with **Curio Quest** in which the investigator poses unanswered questions for future research which interested scholars may undertake.

The 25 Blog posts have more than 50 references providing links to related articles, images from several sources and nearly 40 snap shots of pages from the antique books which makes the posts rich in terms of content and visuals.

Blog Index

Curio Critique # 1: Whither learning without a book!

Sl. No.	Curio Book Title	Year of Publication
1	Special Report on Certain Points Connected With Elementary Education in Germany, Switzerland and France	1886

Curio Quest : Plans are in the pipeline for supplying free Tablets to students in schools. Has the time come for abandoning the supply of free textbooks?

Curio Critique # 2: A reference to sanitation in the University Convocation Address!

Sl. No.	Curio Book Title	Year of Publication
2	The Educational Review- A Monthly Record For India Vol.I January to December 1895	1895

Curio Quest : Why is sanitation a big issue in Chennai for over a century? Is sanitation still a problem in Chennai now? What lessons can we learn from Chennai?

Curio Critique # 3: A separate education for the sexes!

Sl. No.	Curio Book Title	Year of Publication
3	The Indian Journal of Education-A Monthly Review – Vol III- January to December 1895	1896

Curio Quest : What are the differences in perception towards co-education? How is it perceived in different countries?

Curio Critique # 4: Women studying in a Men's Only University!

Sl. No.	Curio Book Title	Year of Publication
4	Journal of Education- A Monthly Record And Review January to December 1897 Vol. XIX	1897

Curio Quest :How have women fared in universities? Can equality of the sexes and student rights be properly balanced?

Curio Critique # 5: The British interest in art education

Sl. No.	Curio Book Title	Year of Publication
5	The Practical Teacher's Art Monthly Feb 1898 Vol.I No.1	1898

Curio Quest : What type of instruction were given in other schools of art in India such as Shantiniketan? Did it help students master the Indian style or did it draw heavily from European art?

Curio Critique # 6: On wood working in schools

Sl. No.	Curio Book Title	Year of Publication
6	Elementary Woodworking	1903

Curio Quest : In modern times, should we give due emphasis to the teaching of woodworking ? Would there be a potential job market?

Curio Critique # 7: When handwriting matters!

Sl. No.	Curio Book Title	Year of Publication
7	The Practical Teacher- A Monthly Magazine and Review For The Schoolroom And The Study Volume XXIV July 1903-June 1904	1904

Curio Quest : Should schools be directed to pay attention to developing handwriting of pupils? How can this issue be properly addressed in the age of Information and Communications Technology?

Curio Critique # 8: Instruction in the vernacular medium

Sl. No.	Curio Book Title	Year of Publication
8	The Punjab Educational Journal Vol 1. No. 4 June 1905	1905

Curio Quest : Is instruction in the vernacular relevant any more in the age of globalization?

Curio Critique # 9: Soul-based education!

Sl. No.	Curio Book Title	Year of Publication
9	Kindergarten Magazine Vol XVIII September 1905 to June 1906	1906

Curio Quest : Is education of the soul, same as moral education? Should we introduce children in schools to belief in God?

Curio Critique # 10: Changing Political map of India

Sl. No.	Curio Book Title	Year of Publication
10	The Public Schools Historical Atlas	1907

Curio Quest : How did the continuous change in boundaries of the Indian Political Map for three consecutive centuries affect the social life of Indians living within the precincts of newly drawn boundaries?

Curio Critique # 11: Schools and Politics

Sl. No.	Curio Book Title	Year of Publication
11	Indian Education-A Monthly Record Vol.VI August 1907-July 1908	1908

Curio Quest : What are the arguments for and against politics in campuses in the 21st century?

Curio Critique # 12: Language teaching methods

Sl. No.	Curio Book Title	Year of Publication
12	The School World- A Monthly Magazine of Educational Work and Progress- Vol XI January to December 1909	1909

Curio Quest : At the turn of the century, the State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT), Kerala, advocated an abandoning of the direct teaching of grammar and vocabulary in the English classroom. Did this bring about any change in the English language competence of students in Kerala?

Curio Critique # 13: Practical lesson in evolution

Sl. No.	Curio Book Title	Year of Publication
13	The Teachers' Aid- A Practical Journal For Assisting Teachers in the Work of Their Schools And in Their Private Study –Volume L April 2 nd 1910 to September 24 th 1910	1910

Curio Quest : Should the practice of providing instruction in college laboratories for dissecting frogs be reintroduced? What is the best strategy for teaching the life history of animals and plants? Can smart classrooms give a better learning experience?

Curio Critique # 14: Languages compulsorily taught in Travancore

Sl. No.	Curio Book Title	Year of Publication
14	Government of Travancore-Education Department- Courses of Instruction for the Elementary and Secondary Schools	1910

Curio Quest : Some children may have a particular language as their mother tongue, but the circumstances may be such that they may be using a different language for daily communication at home. What would be the effect on achievement, interest in academics and cognitive development of children compulsorily taught a language they are not interested in and which they never use for communication at home?

Curio Critique # 15: Teaching of art in schools

Sl. No.	Curio Book Title	Year of Publication
15	A Cyclopedia of Education Vol. I	1911

Curio Quest : How can art education be effectively taught in the technological age?

Curio Critique # 16: Training of college teachers

Sl. No.	Curio Book Title	Year of Publication
16	The Teacher's Encyclopaedia of the Theory, Method, Practice, History and Development of Education At Home and Abroad Vol VII	1912

Curio Quest : Should college teachers acquire a degree in teaching? If yes , what should be the knowledge and skills they should master?

Curio Critique # 17: On provisions for delinquent children

Sl. No.	Curio Book Title	Year of Publication
17	Legislation and Judicial Decisions Relating to Education-October 1,1990 to October 1,1912	1912

Curio Quest : How effective is the education of delinquent children in Kerala State ?

Curio Critique # 18: : Girls' schools in apartheid South Africa

Sl. No.	Curio Book Title	Year of Publication
18	Chambers's Journal- Seventh Series Vol III December 1912 to November 1913	1913

Curio Quest : How different is the schooling of girls in India compared to post-apartheid South Africa?

Curio Critique # 19: : Corporal Punishment

Sl. No.	Curio Book Title	Year of Publication
19	Travancore Education Code	1913

Curio Quest : Should we have a re-look at the necessity of corporal punishment in schools?

Curio Critique #20: Humour in Education

Sl. No.	Curio Book Title	Year of Publication
20	The Punch – January -June 1913	1913

Curio Quest : What current issues in education are being perceived humorously by the general public?.

Curio Critique #21: Gurukula system of Education

Sl. No.	Curio Book Title	Year of Publication
21	The Indian Review-August 1913	1913

Curio Quest : How successful have been the current attempts at reviving the Gurukula system in India?

Curio Critique #22: Oriental manuscripts

Sl. No.	Curio Book Title	Year of Publication
22	The Fifty-Eighth Annual Report of the Syndicate of the University of Madras 1913-1914	1914

Curio Quest : What ancient knowledge in the field of education can be drawn from the ancient Oriental Manuscripts?

Curio Critique #23: School Uniform

Sl. No.	Curio Book Title	Year of Publication
23	The Illustrated London News- April 24, 1915	1915

Curio Quest : A trend catching on is the preference for working class parents to send their children to private schools. Most such schools have more than one uniform for different days of the week. How do such parents, students and the general public perceive the over emphasis on school uniform?

Curio Critique #24: War and the teaching profession

Sl. No.	Curio Book Title	Year of Publication
24	The Spectator-A Weekly Review of Politics, Literature, Theology and the Art	1916

Curio Quest : Is compulsory military training relevant now in India ?

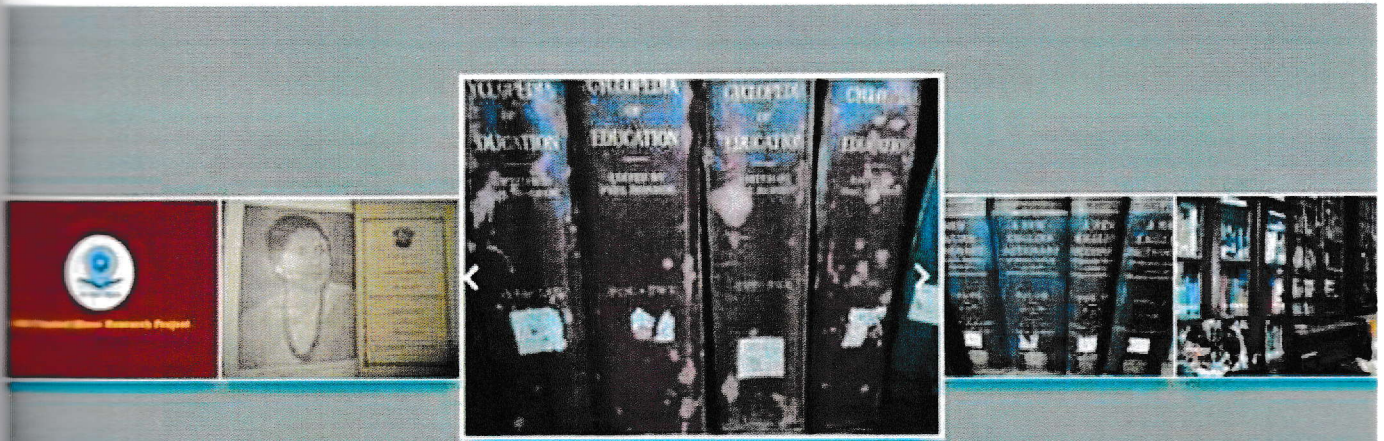
Curio Critique #25: : Resources for teaching History

Sl. No.	Curio Book Title	Year of Publication
25	The History Teachers' Magazine Vol. III No.1 January 1917	1917

Curio Quest : What kind of resources are made use of for teaching History, in schools in India, today?

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

No future for old books here


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Sarath Babu George

 THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, AUGUST 22, 2017 01:10 IST
 UPDATED: AUGUST 22, 2017 08:27 IST

Digitisation bid by researcher at College of Teacher Education hits a hurdle

The city is home to many reputed centres of higher education, some of which have completed their centenary and have acquired heritage status.

Sadly, their huge collections of books face damage because of the absence of timely renovation and proper storage facilities.

The situation at the 106-year-old Government College of Teacher Education, the oldest training college for teachers in Kerala, is no different. Leaky roofs, termites, and the lack of adequate storage options have destroyed several books of antique value.

Now, C. Praveen, a faculty of the postgraduate department at the college, has embarked on a mission to digitise the collection of antique books.

However, paucity of funds has hindered his efforts. Dr. Praveen has digitised select pages of 25 antique books published between 1886 and 1918, all of which are on pedagogy.

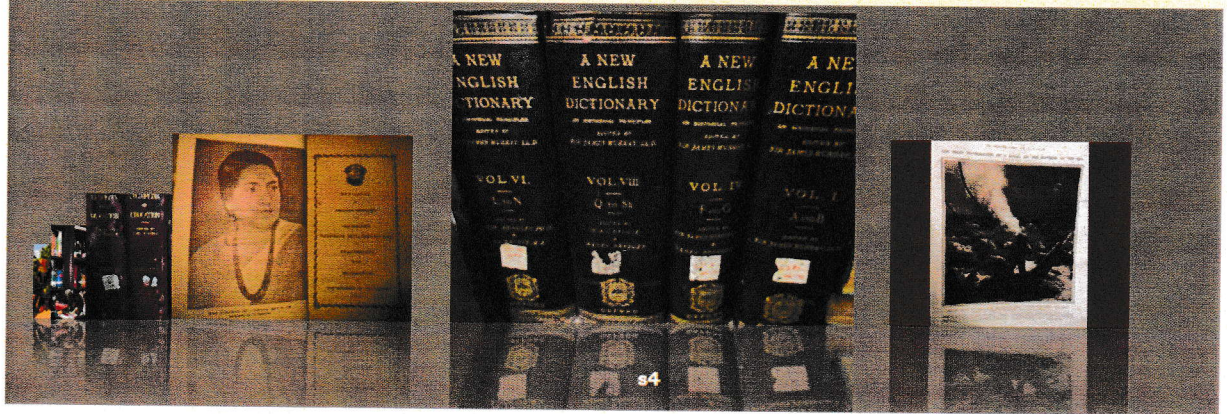
Research project

He undertook the efforts as part of his minor research project, titled 'Regenerating knowledge online through selective digitising of antique books content', for which he was provided with a grant of ₹70,000 by the University Grants Commission (UGC). The digitised content has been included in his website www.curatorpedagogue.com.

"The college has lost a number of books. While relatively new books regularly issued to students are being preserved in bookshelves that are in fine condition, the antique ones are dumped in dingy corners," he said.

CURATOR PEDAGOGUE

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<http://curatorpedagogue.com/>