

LIBRARIES AS CULTURAL ARCHIVES: EXPLORING THE ROLE OF LIBRARIES IN PRESERVING AND DISSEMINATING CULTURAL HERITAGE THROUGHOUT HISTORY IN INDIA

Manjeet

Researcher

The Indira Gandhi National Open University

Email: dalalmanjeet222@gmail.com

Abstract: Libraries, as longstanding education institutions, play a vital role in society by facilitating the exchange of knowledge and information. They serve as intermediaries between people and information, catering to the needs of educational and social communities. Safeguarding cultural heritage is a fundamental duty of libraries, which offer a crucial service in the modern era by collecting, organizing, and disseminating relevant information. Historically regarded as social establishments, libraries impact contemporary culture and adapt to evolving information sources and users. This paper focuses on historical materials in Indian libraries and archives, highlighting challenges in preservation and access. The rich legacy of handwritten manuscripts across India's institutions requires dedicated efforts for collection, organization, and archival, balancing physical preservation and digitization. The dynamic interplay between libraries, cultural heritage, and societal development is underscored by the narrative, exploring their role in Indonesia's cultural heritage preservation and fostering awareness of local traditions. The abstract encapsulate libraries' evolution into repositories of cultural heritage, promoting access, education, and the preservation of societal identity.

Keywords: Cultural heritage, information dissemination, historical resources, preservation, knowledge dissemination, Indonesia.

1.0 Introduction:

The library is an instructive foundation that has been available in our general public since old times. An area works with connection among individuals and data determined to meet the prerequisites of both the enlightening and social networks. The shielding of a country's social history is one of the essential obligations of its library framework. Nowadays, with such a lot of data accessible, libraries offer an important support to society by gathering, sorting out, and disseminating the data that is relevant at the suitable times. Starting from the dawn of history, the library has been viewed as a "social foundation." It has a huge effect on the present culture and is generally viewed as the "doorway to information" for the more youthful ages Gathering. Because of the production of new data sources, for example, materials situated on the web.ⁱ

The capability and presence of libraries are going through critical changes right now. Today, laborers in each possible field are the citizenry, no matter what their age, occupation, or whatever else, including kids, grown-ups, educators, and understudies. Everybody from lawmakers and money managers to housewives utilizes libraries. Everybody utilizes and depends on the help given by a library. Nowadays of data, it is important to store both printed and non-printed things. In a library, you will find both ordinary reports like books, diaries, and papers as well as forward thinking records like guides, outlines, and other such things. These are completely held together.ⁱⁱ Both the library and society are subject to and reliant upon each other. The requirements of society drive the presence of libraries. A library is frequently alluded to as a "social organization" due to the significant job it plays locally. It has a critical impact in the improvement of our development. It conveys and spreads the data that has been collected. Data acquired from understanding books and different materials. In ages past, libraries served only the capability of putting away books and different sorts of composed material papers and such. Earth tablets, papyrus, material, velum, paper, and other composing materials were protected with the goal that they might be understood today.

Inside those specific libraries. Before there were libraries, lords would hoard their own assortments and use them to make libraries. Sanctuaries and different settings of strict love. The quantity of individuals who could get to these assortments was confined. Just those of the greatest type who were engaged with getting information approached it.

Over the long run, as additional individuals accessed instructive open doors, libraries continuously turned out to be more just. Libraries were effectively accessible to the whole open, and individuals knew about their reality.

Legacy information is the heritage that is acquired from the past. It is passed on through oral history and composed correspondence as tunes, sonnets, compositions, stories, and different kinds of philosophical thoughts, in addition to other things. At different times, documentation and accounts of these legacy treasures were made on stones, earth tablets, wood, palm leaves, papers, and different metals, in addition to other things. It is the obligation of the social society to keep up with its set of experiences and culture and to make these assets accessible to people in general. This obligation lies totally with the general public. GLAMs, which represent displays, libraries, chronicles, and historical centers, are answerable for the social affair, curation, and the executives of legacy assets. The ebb and flow research focuses on verifiable materials like original copies, uncommon books, and different sorts of material that might be tracked down in various Indian libraries and files.ⁱⁱⁱ

As quite possibly of the earliest known civilization, India has an enormous storehouse of verifiable legacy information assets. These materials have been recorded in various dialects and scripts and have been given over from one age to another. The assortment, organization, and chronicling of these legacy information assets, which are situated in many pieces of the nation, have been the subject of endeavors that have been both significant and effective. Moreover, India is home to one of the worlds most established and most broad assortments of written by hand texts known as original copies. These legacy assets are available all over the nation, and can be tracked down in legacy establishments as well as confidential assortments. It is guessed that the nation has an assortment of in excess of 5 million that have been listed as yet, and more than 60,000 are accessible in the nations that make up Europe.

Moreover, almost 1.5 million compositions can be tracked down in South Asian and other Asian nations. These important verifiable fortunes are scattered all through the nation, and by far most of them are not in superb shape; therefore, they are in hazard of being lost perpetually because of an absence of fitting filing. To achieve this, they will initially should be found, reported, and kept up with prior to being made accessible to the academic local area. Be that as it may, the availability of these social assets has arisen as the main hindrance for foundations took part in the assortment, security, and dispersal of these data assets.

Every single use or case of actual taking care of makes these scant and fragile assets more defenseless to harm. Along these lines, the essential troubles that documented foundations should battle with are conservation and making the materials open. To achieve these objectives, they need to monitor the simple data assets, yet additionally digitize them and protect the advanced forms of them, alongside the papers that were conceived carefully. The cycles of digitization and computerized protection are unmistakable from each other and require the utilization of a wide range of safeguarding methods.

2.0 Evolution Of Libraries In India

The origin of one of the world's first civilizations was viewed as in quite a while. The improvement of Indian culture was impacted by various components, including scholarly request and philosophical idea. The tale of the development and improvement of the library framework in India is told as an adventure. The adventure depicts the foundation, support, and activity of libraries in India, giving an extensive record of the historical backdrop of library improvement in India.^{iv}

These perspectives — to be specific, the foundation, upkeep, working, and advancement of the library — join to make it a life form that develops through time. It is beyond the realm of possibilities for any country on the planet to progress without first giving its populace admittance to free open library administrations. It is basic for a majority rule country like India to lay out the help foundations like public libraries framework to reinforce the democratization of data and to advance the social, social, verifiable, as well as logical and specialized information in the overall population at large. It is feasible to lead a proficient examination of the extension and improvement of the library framework in India on the off chance that one partitions it into the accompanying three classifications:

2.1 Ancient Libraries

The early libraries were answerable for the capacity of by far most of private records, which are all the more frequently known as documents. The act of regularly composing and perusing compositions was normal among antiquated individuals between the fourth century B.C. furthermore, the 6th 100 years after Christ, as demonstrated by proof from both archeological unearthing's and put down accounts. This probably been the explanation of the increment and improvement in the amount of texts tracked down in critical learning conditions. The library of

Nalanda College in Bihar, which traces all the way back to the fourth century Promotion, was broadly viewed as the main library in presence at that point. It was expressed that the library was fanned out across three of the most noteworthy homes in an area known as "Show Maryjane." As per Sharma (1985), a portion of the other critical college libraries of the time included Vikramsila, Odantapuri, Somapuri, Jaggadal, Mithila, Vallabhi, and Kanheri, among others. During that time span, there was a ton occurring in the southern piece of India too. The sangam age was a training that was completed over the course of that time span comparable to libraries.^v

The Indian Buddhists put a huge accentuation on the development of texts and the protection of their assortments. Both the Jains and the Hindus made huge commitments to the scholarly discipline. They were promoters of learning and scholarly pursuits, and they established various instructive and social associations, like Sanctuary School and Upasrayas. The pioneer behind Mahayana Buddhism, Acharya Nagarjuna, likewise filled in as a teacher at the establishment where he kept a library on the most elevated floor of the design. It has likewise been accounted for that Taxila's library contains countless books.

2.2 Medieval libraries

One could contend that the seventeenth century denoted the finish of the archaic time. The rising period of this cycle is when extraordinary strict and scholarly figures like Sankara, Ramanujan, and Madheva were at the level of their powers and delivered their best work. During this time span, libraries, both public and private, were laid out in various districts of India. Instruction was empowered by India's rulers and respectability all along, and they verified that texts were down on paper and saved. Indeed, even the sovereigns of moderately minor countries kept up with their own confidential libraries of compositions. The propensity proceeded with as far as possible up until the 1800s. The heads of the Timurid line put a high worth on training for their subjects. All of the early Mughal rulers, except for Aurangzeb, were allies of human expression, including composing, music, and the composed word. Over their rule, libraries additionally accomplished critical progress towards their objectives. A previous delight house situated in the Purana Quila district of Delhi, which Humayun changed over into a library. As well as keeping a "royal library," Akbar was instrumental in organizing new frameworks for classifying and orchestrating book assortments during his rule. As per Khurshid (2004) It is accounted for that Jahangir kept up with his very own library, which he conveyed with him any place he voyaged.

At the point when there were more Europeans dwelling in India in the seventeenth and eighteenth hundreds of years, libraries started to grow and change because of this segment shift. Calcutta started its change into quite possibly of the main English settlement around the year 1690, when countless English individuals started to migrate there. After then, at that point, loaning libraries and libraries expecting individuals to look at books were laid out. Post St. David was the name given to the library that was laid out at Cuddalore by the East India Organization in the year 1707. A gathering known as the General public for the Advancement of Christian Information carried a versatile library to the city of Calcutta in the year 1709. The library headed out from one area to another.^{vi}

2.3 Modern libraries

It has additionally advanced into the current cycle the job that Mughal rulers and teachers played in the foundation of a few libraries. Probably the earliest texts that were scattered over various areas have been gathered and are currently put away in composition libraries. These can be found in some of the states that make up India. The ones in Baroda, Banaras, Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, Mysore, Poona, Tanjavur, and Trivandrum are notable to people in general. The year 1808 was a crucial year for the historical backdrop of Bombay since it was the year when the public authority of Bombay started a program to disseminate free duplicates of books that were distributed utilizing "assets to support writing" to libraries that had been enrolled. As indicated by Bhattacharjee (2002), on page 82, this is the absolute first event that the public authority has endeavored to enroll libraries and award them books.

At the turn of the nineteenth 100 years, John Andrew's library at Post William, Calcutta, which had first been proposed to general society in 1770, was changed over into a public library. During similar timeframe in this country, a couple of free open libraries started to open their entryways in different urban communities and towns. The Asha Granthalaya in Waltair in the year 1800, the Calcutta Scholarly Society Library in the year 1818, the Assembled Administrations Library in Poona in the year 1818, the Raghunandan Library in Puri in the year 1821, and the Bombay General Library in the year 1830 were probably the main libraries.

Calcutta's most memorable public library made its ways for the general population in August of 1835. Satisfying the longings of individuals of numerous social standings and occupations was planned. In the year 1860, Jean Mitchell laid out a humble library as a part of the Gallery in Madras. It originally became open to the overall population in the year 1896. It was known as the Connemara Public Library, and some say it was the primary genuine public

library. The main thing that was required was an ostensible expense, which would be discounted. In 1948, it was given the title of State Focal library.

3.0 Libraries As Cultural Archives

Engaging individuals at the grassroots level is essential in the event that India is to understand its true capacity for financial development as the new thousand years introduces a more libertarian, moderate, and powerful presence in the global field. India is at the junction of embracing ground breaking data arrangements and open administration standards to accomplish higher levels in the steadily changing data biological system. This requests meticulous arranging that should be woven into public key endeavors. To understand an all the more economy and society, India requires a labor force that is more versatile, useful, and principled in the data area, notwithstanding libraries that are wealthy in assets. The Indian library development has gone through a ton of changes from the very outset of the twentieth hundred years. The convergence of data, virtual entertainment, and correspondence innovation is where the new data society is starting to come to fruition. For India to make social headways, the public authority needs to create, execute regulations, and run programs that are outfitted towards comprehensive development.^{vii}

The data and library enterprises in India have a great deal of potential for development. For development that is comprehensively feasible, it is important to have government approaches, public mindfulness, social underpinnings, maintainability, and concentrated improvement endeavors by every Indian partner. The ongoing Gross Enlistment Proportion (GER) for advanced education in India is 11 understudies for 2 scholastic units. The impending twelfth Indian Long term Plan expects to focus on this for development. With regards to augmenting the capability of HR by means of the utilization of data innovation (IT), India will before long start to lead the pack around the world. Web entrance in India is growing at a similar rate as the nation's complete populace. As per measurements found at <http://www.internetworldstats.com/stats3.htm>, in 2009 around 6.9% of Indians, or 81 million individuals, approached the Web. The development in Web user ship from 2000 to 2009 was 1, 5200%. To stay aware of the extending number of clients and backing the flourishing Indian economy, the country's data foundation should be redesigned. During the eleventh Long term Plan, India's current 1,500 advanced education foundations are booked to go through expansion. The public authority of India is at present during the time spent directing the permission of unfamiliar colleges, which will prompt extra extension in the advanced education industry.

3.1 Preservation And Conservation Of Cultural Heritage Materials

As indicated by the arrangements of the Constitution of India, it is the obligation of every resident of India to regard and keep up with the country's numerous social customs as a rich legacy. Thus, one of our essential obligations is to guarantee that our heritage is safeguarded, and this is a vital commitment for us. It is the obligation of the Service of Culture to guarantee that the Indian history and culture are safeguarded and keep on being passed down to people in the future. Through the Archeological Review of India and the Exhibition halls, the Service is effectively participated in the exhuming of verifiable locales, the shielding of halfway safeguarded landmarks of public significance, and the social affair and show of craftsmanship bits of authentic and social importance.^{viii}

We analyzed the endeavors made by the Service of Culture towards the assurance, protection, and safeguarding of the substantial legacy of the country, which comprises of landmarks and ancient pieces, through the course of this exhibition review. The structures, areas, and curios that make up a country's legacy are viewed as public resources. In India, endeavors to recognize and protect social legacy were first embraced about the center of the nineteenth 100 years, far ahead of the nation's freedom. Regardless of this, a point by point examination of the headway that had been made over the course of the years since freedom had not been led. Lately, there has been a developing mindfulness among individuals from the Indian people group on the significance of protecting the country's social practices.

In 2012, the ASI arrived at the achievement of having been in presence for a very long time. Be that as it may, a critical number of its huge removal tasks had been left incomplete for a long time. Indeed, even the ASI's protection projects, which have been in progress for quite a while, have been tormented by various lacks and limitations. The association experiences extreme deficiencies of both financing and faculty to do preservation related activities. There has additionally been an expansion in the quantity of occurrences of the burglary of relics and the pirating of artifacts out of the country. The country's head exhibition halls don't have the assets or the arranging important to give fitting protection, security, and show of gathered craftsmanship antiques.^{ix}

Thinking about the previously mentioned conditions, we concocted this presentation review fully intent on helping the chief in deciding the purposes for the lacking exhibition of the associations in the field of legacy protection and preservation to work with the execution of suitable remedial measures.

4.0 The Role Of Libraries In Disseminating Cultural Heritage

2009 was the year when UNESCO formally recognized batik as a component of the immaterial social legacy of mankind. Wayang and Keris were both recognized by UNESCO as being instances of human accomplishments back in 2003 and 2005, separately. Then again, there is proof that proposes specific social legacies have been overlooked, prompting claims from different nations on those legacies. Numerous more youthful ages have not paid a lot of thoughtfulness regarding the social history of either their neighborhood or public networks. The support and spread of social customs is one of the jobs that libraries play. Individuals must know about their social history, and libraries ought to assume a part in carrying this attention to the overall population.

The reason for this study is to research the part that libraries play in the assemblage of social legacy assortments. A portion of Indonesia's libraries are stepping up to the plate and protect the country's social inheritance. These libraries have started to develop their assortments of social relics and antiques. The assortment incorporates various mediums, like artworks and photos. The social legacies assortment, whether it be manual or advanced, is likewise advanced by these libraries. A few libraries decide to lay out exceptional corners for their social assortments to draw individuals' consideration, while others decide to show their social assortments. Libraries really should assume a part in the security and advancement of social legacy. There is an organization of libraries all around Indonesia, both in the territories and in the more far off areas.

We can depend on libraries to accumulate, sort out, show, and spread data with respect to Indonesia's social legacies. This record makes suggestions for the public authority, one of which is to give data organizations like libraries the power to take part in the protection and advancement of social resources. Subsequently, it will be a lot easier for people in the future to get the data and information they need in regards to the social legacies of Indonesia. In the latest few years, there has been a developing discussion on the need of appropriately and productively overseeing data relating to social legacy. More specifically, there is a necessity to portray the social legacy data by using the guidelines that are the most relevant and successful. Open access, the putting away of this material in a computerized design, and connecting among important assets that are not really found as well as held by a similar social legacy establishment or association are a portion of the things that should be achieved to accomplish the objective. In this sort of exploration, the job that libraries play, especially the data experts who work in them, is basic. Libraries additionally assume a significant part in the administration and arrangement of administrations.^x

The executives of social legacy is portrayed as "the occupation and practice of overseeing social legacy" in one meaning of the term. As indicated by Wikipedia (2018), "it is a part of social assets the board (CRM), yet it likewise draws on the acts of social protection and rebuilding, museology, paleontology, history, and engineering." The administration of this sort of data in light of global principles and best practices not just empowers the re-utilization of the data and the connecting of assets to raise a superior or different comprehension of verifiable occasions, however it likewise helps different sorts of exercises like rebuilding, digitization, protection, etc.

5.0 Case Studies Of Notable Indian Libraries

5.1 National Library Of India: Preserving A Nations's Heritage

The Public Library of India is the biggest library in the country as well as the library of record for the public authority. As per Murray (2009), the library "works under the public government's Division of Culture and is assigned to gather, disperse, and safeguard all written word delivered in India, as well as all unfamiliar works distributed about the nation — where 'each work about India...can be seen and perused'" (accentuation added). The public library and the Supreme Library were converted into a solitary establishment to turn into the Public Library. Other government libraries were likewise remembered for the consolidation. The Public Library (1953), which had recently been known as the Supreme Library, filled in as a public asset for getting to an assortment of unfamiliar (English) and Indian writing. Likewise, it is critical to make reference to that the Public Library of India gathers books, magazines, and titles in "basically every one of the Indian dialects, with Hindi, Kashmiri, Punjabi, Sindhi, Telugu, and Urdu" keeping the best stacks (Murray, 2009). There are somewhere around fifteen distinct dialects addressed in the Exceptional Assortments of the Public Library of India, including Assamese, Bengali, Gujarati, and Tamil, notwithstanding various one of a kind works (Murray, 2009).

The assortment of books in the Hindi segment dates as far as possible back to the nineteenth hundred years and incorporates a portion of the extremely earliest books at any point imprinted in that language. The assortments are separated into their part parts, which incorporate 5,800 texts and 86,000 guides. The year 1836 imprints the start of the historical backdrop of the Public Library, which started with the foundation of the Calcutta Public Library. That foundation was not partnered with any administration and worked on a benefit making model. Individuals who contributed Rs300 (about \$4.20) in membership expenses became owners of the organization. He was the underlying owner of that Library and his name was Sovereign Dwarkanath Tagore. Around then, Rs300 was a lot of cash; subsequently, low-pay understudies and others were conceded free admittance to the library for a specific measure of time.

5.2 Khuda Baksh Oriental Public Library: A Repository Og Manuscripts

Patna is home to the Khuda Bakhsh Oriental Public Library, which might be tracked down in closeness to the Ganges riverbanks. Despite the fact that it had been laid out before, it was only after October of 1891 that it was opened to the general population by the recognized child of Bihar Khan Bahadur Khuda Bakhsh. He carried with him 4,000 original copies, of which he had acquired 1,400 from his dad. Through a trust deed, Khuda Bakhsh gave individuals of Patna his entire individual assortment of assets. In 1969, because of a demonstration passed by the Indian Parliament, the Indian government assigned the Library as an Establishment of Public Significance in acknowledgment of the endless social and scholarly worth held inside its broad and valued assortment. The Library is a free substance that accepts its whole financial plan from the Service of Culture.

The Library is a unique storage facility of the verifiable legacy, which is kept up with as original copies gotten written down, palm-leaf, deer cowhide, fabric, and other grouped materials. These compositions can be tracked down in the library. Notwithstanding a couple of books in German, French, Punjabi, Japanese, and Russian, it houses printed books in Arabic, Persian, Urdu, English, and Hindi. Furthermore, it has a couple of books in every one of different dialects recorded previously.^{xi}

5.3 Salar Jung Museum Library: Bringing Art And Culture

By prudence of a Demonstration of Parliament, the Salar Jung Gallery Library previously invited guests in the year 1961. The nature of the library's assortment of original copies, which incorporates some genuinely exceptional examples, makes it perhaps of the most broad and important in the whole world. Things with heavenly decoration and an imaginative mixing of tones with a bountiful utilization of gold, mineral varieties that luxuriously utilized lapis lazuli for blue, pearl for white, shangraf for red, and Zabarjad (emerald) for green. It has different diamonds of calligraphic workmanship and elaborate adornment. The composed word has been regarded by those in human expressions of calligraphy, painting, and bookbinding, every one of whom have given their absolute best endeavors in showing their specific main subject areas.

The Salar Jung family amassed an assortment of books and original copies consistently, and these are presently housed in the Salar Jung Exhibition hall Library. A portion of the things in the assortment can be followed back to the year 1656 after the BC. Nawab Mir Turab Ali Khan, otherwise called Salar Jung I, was the person who established the groundworks for a total and efficient library. His child, Nawab Mir Laiq Ali Khan, otherwise called Salar Jung II, and his grandson, Nawab Mir Yousuf Ali Khan, otherwise called Salar Jung III, added to and developed the library in ensuing ages. The subsequent floor is home to both the Library and the Compositions Areas of the assortment.

The Library has a tremendous assortment of 62,772 printed books, of which 41,208 are written in English, 13,027 are written in Urdu, 1108 are written in Hindi, 1105 are written in Telugu, 3,576 are written in Persian, 2,588 are written in Arabic, and 160 are written in Turkish. Research diaries, collections of uncommon pictures, and extremely valuable etchings are a portion of the kinds of distributions that are imprinted in English. The way that this tremendous assortment envelops a wide assortment of particular areas of study, including however not restricted to the domains of workmanship, engineering, paleontology, physical, natural, and sociologies, writing, history, and travel, is without a doubt quite possibly of its generally outstanding trademark. Likewise, it includes a library of strict books on themes including Christianity, Hinduism, and Islam, among others.^{xii}

The English volume that was imprinted in 1631 A.D. has the title of the assortment's most established book. The library is constantly refreshed with new distributions that cover a wide assortment of subjects, including however not restricted to workmanship, form, canvases, fired expressions, beautiful expressions, museology, the travel industry, and so forth. Notwithstanding the workers of the Gallery, the Library is much of the time visited by research scholastics both from India and from different nations. Overall, visit the library each and every day to develop and expand the underpinnings of their schooling.

6.0 conclusion

All in all, the significance of libraries as social files in India's set of experiences can't be underscored. Libraries house an abundance of information. The rich and fluctuated social history of the country has been saved, secured, and scattered all through the ages to a great extent in light of the fact that to the significant job that libraries have played all the while. These verifiable composition files have been changed into front line, advanced data communities to stay up with the times while staying consistent with their unique reason. In spite of the fact that they have gone through this change, the information held inside them has not changed.

The information, stories, customs, and achievements of a group's predecessors can be gotten to by present and people in the future on account of the job that libraries have generally played as go-betweens between the past and the present. Inside these organizations, the cautious safeguarding of old compositions, sacred writings, verifiable records, and relics has been a fundamental part in guaranteeing the coherence of India's social history. Furthermore, libraries have made scholastic exploration, social revelation, and the sharing of thoughts simpler, which has added to the improvement of both mental ability and a consciousness of different societies.

The utilization of innovation in India's libraries is proceeding to extend as the nation pushes ahead in the computerized time, fully intent on working on both availability and commitment. The utilization of computerized files, online information bases, and virtual shows have expanded the crowd that can profit from the protection of social legacy and made it more open to individuals everywhere. Nonetheless, regardless of the way that innovation has opened up new entryways, impediments like advanced safeguarding, legitimacy, and the computerized partition actually should be conquered to ensure that the center of India's social legacy is saved and that it very well may be gotten to by everybody.

To effectively explore these hindrances, libraries should keep up with their resolute devotion to schooling, credibility, and the incorporation, everything being equal. Libraries can guarantee that the social fortunes of India's past are safeguarded as well as keep on enhancing the present and rouse people in the future through working in a joint effort with scholastics, networks, and experts in innovation. Libraries will keep on being dynamic specialists of social safeguarding in light of the fact that they energize an adoration for learning, social interest, and appreciation for custom. This assists people and society overall feel with loving they have a feeling of personality and association with an option that could be bigger than themselves.

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