

## Between Cricket and MyDLIS

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Time has gone by very fast. I cannot even imagine that 18 years have passed after the completion of my Masters from MyDLIS. In Gangotri, most of my class hours and evenings were spent at 'Downs Tea Canteen' or 'Gangotri Canteen', with my Yuvaraja's College batch mates who were from Life Science departments. This made me pay 'attendance shortage fine' successively for two years.

As is the case for most MILANers for me too it was a 'by chance' entry to the LIS course and not 'by choice'. I was not aware that such a course existed in the Master's Level until my friend Subbi (Subramani, our alumnus, friend) told me that 'Maga, it is very easy course, need not study too much. You need common sense to get first class in this degree'. I passed out with a first class. Thanks to my teacher Prof. Shalini R. Urs (SRU has taught us many things, she did not just deliver lectures) for giving me permission to appear for the examination in Second Year. That "conditional permission" (not mere permission but a serious warning from my teacher to take the profession seriously) made me take up librarianship as my profession.

Being an ardent cricket fan, I would like to use the metaphor to describe the teachings of my teachers. Facing their teaching was like facing a bowler. The Yorker was used by Prof. VG Talawar and slow delivery by Prof. N B Pangannayya. Prof. Y Venkatesha used the Malinga style, Prof. Nagappaa medium pace,

Prof. M Chandrashekara spin, Prof. Khaiser Nikam bouncers and Googly by others. My friend Shivaram used to say 'Anna, for all questions, you start with Ranganathan's five laws and end with ICT implementation in library services'.



The most unforgettable moment of my student life at MyDLIS was at the 'Manasa Exhibition'. The exhibition made the entire batch to work as a team. Prof. NBP's calm instructions "swalpa nodi... Chandrashekar swalpa help madi... thind tarsuva... thinuva..." Prof. YV's memorable

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discussion "No baba... Happy Monday... What baba, no Englisha...Fridge inside the cockroach" and Prof. VGT's (I don't know whether it was request or set of instructions) "yenri marayare bega kelasa mugsu...VC barthare..." and above all, imitation of faculty members by Sheba Rani,

Srilakshmi, Savitha, Salma, Ronald, Sathya, Umesh were superb.

We had a Dr. SRR in our batch also; it is none other than Vinay. He was the key source of information for all the 'xeroxed' material, class notes and very important for the examination. Not only studious but also very courteous. The timely Kannada dialogues by Shivaram, Mallikarjuna, Dinesh, Mahadevaswamy during class hours were the light moments we enjoyed.

As experienced by many MLISc degree holders, I was totally blank and was not aware of what to do next. When I asked Mr. Kumar (research scholar), he guided me to take up the apprenticeship program at IIMB Library. I learnt about library management from my teacher and alumnus of MyDLIS, Sri Chikkamallaiah, Former Librarian, Indian Institute of Management, Bengaluru (IIMB). But the teacher who moulded my professional life is Dr. N S Harinarayana, a guide, friend, well-wisher, professional and a good mentor. NSH is the "Key Reference" for whatever I am today.

My learning with MyDLIS continued even after joining SDM Institute for Management Development (SDMIMD) as a librarian. I was fortunate enough to be associated (directly and indirectly) with the department in IEEE research study, MyDLIS 40<sup>th</sup> Year

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Celebration, COLLNET and most importantly with MyLISA, which is having its secretariat at MyDLIS. The involvement made my professional life more meaningful and relaxed.

"No matter how much time passes, no matter what takes place in the interim, there are some things we can never assign to oblivion, memories we can never rub away" -- said Haruki Murakami. Yes, even after 18 years, no matter if we have completed 16 years of our professional life; there are some captive memories of MyDLIS and our teachers which we can never rub away.

*"It has long been my belief that everyone's library contains an Odd Shelf. On this shelf rests a small, mysterious corpus of volumes whose subject matter is completely unrelated to the rest of the library, yet which, upon closer inspection, reveals a good deal about its owner."*

Anne Fadiman