

## **CHAPTER - 4**

### **ROLE OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES IN PRESERVATION AND DISSEMINATION OF KNOWLEDGE**

It is revealed from the history of human civilization and culture that since early days library had played pivotal role by preserving and disseminating knowledge for future generations. Manuscripts were only document till widely introduction of printing in India as well as in Bengal. Scope of human knowledge expanded in different branches in due course. Library, an inspiration of knowledge of only handful persons transformed to strong medium of social, political and mental upliftment of common men since nineteenth century onwards. Libraries are found collected and disseminated literature on Montesquieu, Voltaire, Rousseau, Hume and others for English educated reader. Library collection comprised with history of the English revolution, the American War of Independence and French Revolution, history of Greece, Italy, freedom movement of Ireland and ideals of Mazzini, Garibaldi etc. to enkindle readers mind towards patriotism. It has been seen that libraries collected cultural history of India by William Jones, Max muller, Princip, Ferguson, Keith, Jacobi, Ranade, Haraprasad Sastry, Bhandarkar, Rajendralal Mitra etc. and certainly manuscripts, local history and reports to boost readers respect on their own history and culture. Readers were indoctrinated to nationalism by reading collected literary works of Iswar Gupta, Madhusudan Datta, Bankim Chandra Chattapadhyay, Rangalal Bandapadhyay, Dinabandhu Mitra, Nabin Chandra Sen, Swamy Vivekananda etc. The press was a powerful factor in building and developing Indian nationalism. A moderate collection of daily newspapers, periodicals and magazines are found in Colonial public libraries. Bengali papers, like, Somprakash, Bangadarshan, Sambadpravakar, Bharati, Sandhya, Jugantar, Bandemataram and English papers, like, Indian Mirror, Hindu Patriot, and Amrit Bazar Patrica had collected and disseminated to spread nationalism. Rapid extensive and unbelievable advancement of science and technology are the special feature of twentieth century. Subjects, like, pure science,

practical science, scientific technology and productive technology etc. are extensively developed in this century. Two wars in the century stirred human society severely, influenced consciousness closely and shivered the root of time, country and society. After First World War, subjects, like, economics, social science, statistics, politics, international relations were developed extensively. After Second World War, agriculture, medical science, practical science, technology, electronics and so on developed in much. Branches of fused subjects and inter- related subjects were developed profusely. Based on this multi subject numerous books had been published. The rate of publishing books was amazing in the first half of twentieth century as well as present. Rapid advancement of printing technology resulted rapid publication of books.

Though principal constituent of library collection is book, but readers expressed their need for periodicals, Atlas, Pamphlet, Seminar Proceedings, Statistics and Reviews Graphics in addition to a book of multi authors. With the help of modern technology, printing system in Bengal, non- book materials were printed profoundly and libraries were collecting it to meet reader's interest.

Library collection have been grouped under some major headings for convenience of the present discussion, such as, manuscript, book, local history, patriotic history, newspaper, periodical, report etc.

### **COLLECTION OF MANUSCRIPTS**

Manuscripts were principal library resource up to wide application of printing. Colonial public libraries are found preserver and disseminator of manuscripts which were primary source to write history.

#### **Rajnarayan Basu Smriti Pathagar**

At least 23 manuscripts and hundreds of rare books of the Rajnarayan Basu Smriti Pathagar are also important reading material to the researcher. Till now, Library has been preserving 23 manuscripts. Some of them are as following. Mahabharat by Kashi Ram Das (1249-50), Lakshmi Charitra 1761 (Sakabda), Usuf Julekha Siksha (Story), Golosthani (Urdu)- writers were Najar Ali, Majhar Ali, Abdul Halim, Golam Nabi 1268 A.D.

## **Uttarpara Joykrishna Sadharan Granthagar**

Uttarpara Joykrishna Library holds hundreds of manuscripts related to Tantra, philosophy, Upanishad, Smriti, Puran, Poem and Grammar both in Sanskrit and Bengali. We may mention some of them as example, Sanskrit manuscripts. Such as:

Anumanmathuri – Mathuranath Bhattacharjee, 1718 Shakabda, Shaptashirsar-Mahadev , 1765 Shakabda, Tantrasar- Krishnananda Agambagish, 1698 Shakabda, Mahanatakam – Hanuman , 1646 Shakbda, Haribansha, 1780 Shakabda, Daybhag – Jimutbahan, 1886 Shakabda, Bhagbatpuranam , 1749 Shakabda, Bhattikabyam – Bhatti , 1648 Shakabda, Shiromani Tika – Raghunath Bhattacharjee , 1739 Shakabda , Rasmanjari – Bhanu Dutta , 1712 Shakabda, Mugdhabodhtika – Dayananda Bachaspati Ghatak, 1775 Shakabda, Setupratistha, 1779 Shakabda, Srividyaupajpadhati , 1737 Shakabda, Sringartilaktika – Kabirajchandra – 1727 Shakabda , Shankiptasar Brititika – Goyichandra , 1553 Shakabda, Raghubansham – Kalidas , 1680 Shakabda etc.

### **Bengali Manuscripts**

Shrabanmangol – Harekrishnadas, 1251 Bangabda, Rasmoyi – Gosai Birbhadra, 1251 Bangabda, Chamatkarchandrika – Narottamdas, 1252 Bangabda, Das Kabaj – Kabichandra, 1252 Bangabda, Satyapir Panchali, 1770 Bangabda, Padabali etc.

## **Krishnanagar Public Library**

Krishnanagar Public Library in Nadia had a rare manuscripts collection with 151 titles which complied by Calcutta University Manuscript Resource Centre, both in Sanskrit and Bengali language such as,

### **Manuscripts**

Mahabharatam (Sanskrit)–Bedabyas, Tantrasar (Sanskrit) - Krishnananda Agambagish, Chaitanya Charitamrita , (Bangla)- Krishnadas Kabiraj, Mantra Samsanskar (Sanskrit)- Krishnadas Kabiraj, Bhattikabyam (1st to 5th) (Sanskrit) - Bhatti , Shri Hari Bhaktikalpalata ( Sanskrit) - Krishnasaraswati , Bichar Nirnoy (Sanskrit)- Krishnasaraswati ,Nayer Punthi (Sanskrit) - Krishnasaraswati, Jagadishi Tika (Nayer Punthi) - Jagadish Bhattacharya , Didhiti Tika (Nayer

Punthi) (Sanskrit) - Raghunath , Chandamanjuri (Sanskrit) - Gangadas , Shiromani Tika (Nayer Punthi) (Sanskrit) - Gadadhar Bhattacharya, (Nayer Punthi- Pramannya) (Sanskrit) - Gadadhar Bhattacharya, (Nayer Punthi- Pramannya) (Sanskrit) - Gadadhar Bhattacharya, (Nayer Punthi- Bipratipatti) (Sanskrit) - Gadadhar Bhattacharya, Mugdhabodh Byakarnam (Sanskrit) - Bopdeb , Shradhatattam (Sanskrit) - Raghunandan Bhattacharya , Gitasar(32 Chap.) (Skandapurاناتagarta) (Sanskrit) - Raghunandan Bhattacharya, Briksha Pratistha Prayogtattam (Sanskrit) - Raghunandan Bhattacharya , Rasamanjori ( Sanskrit) -Bhanuchandra , Satyanarayan Mahatama (Agnipurاناتagata) ( Sanskrit) - Bhanuchandra , Ramchandrastabaraj (Padmapuranatagata) ( Sanskrit) - Bhanuchandra , Bhagbat Mahapunam (Sanskrit) - Bhanuchandra , (Smritir Bibahabishyak Punthi) (Sanskrit) - Bhanuchandra , Bedantasar (Sanskrit) - Sadananda Jogi, Srimatbhagbatgita (Sanskrit)- Bedabayas , Mahakabayarthanirnoy (Sanskrit) - Bedabayas , Uttargita (Tika- Subodhini) ,( Sanskrit) -Tikakar- Gour Padacharya, Sudhitatter Babyastha (Bangla)-Tikakar- Gour Padacharya,Tithitattayam ( Sanskrit and Bangla)-Tikakar- Gour Padacharya,Kumarsambham (Sanskrit) -Kalidas, Raghubansham (Sanskrit) - Kalidas,Dhatu Prakash (Sanskrit) - Kalidas,Gitgobindam ,(Sanskrit) -Joydeb, Chandipujapadhati (Sanskrit) - Joydeb , Shantisatakam (Sanskrit) - Silhan, Nabakabyam (Sanskrit) - Madhab (Kabisekhar) , Shudhisangra (Sanskrit) - Madhusudan , Chanditika (Sanskrit) - Ramchandra Chakraborty , Daybhaga (Sanskrit) - Jimutbahan , Jogtarabali (Sanskrit) -Sankaracharya, Saktananda Tarangini (Sanskrit)-Sankaracharya, Padanka Dutam (Sanskrit) - Sankaracharya,Satyanarayan Bratakatha (Sanskrit) - Sankaracharya, Anandalahari Stotram (Sanskrit) -Sankaracharya , Biratsartha (Sanskrit) - Sankaracharya, Kalistabaraj(Sanskrit) - Sankaracharya , Udbhatkabita (Sanskrit) - Sankaracharya, Byadhikaran Tika(Nyayer Punthi) ( Sanskrit) -Sankaracharya, Sribhagbadgita (Tika Saha) (Sanskrit) - Bedabyas , Debikabcham (Sanskrit)- Bedabyas , Shyamakabcham (Sanskrit) - Bedabyas , Shudhitattayam (Sanskrit) - Raghunandan Bhattacharya, Amarushatakam (Sanskrit)-Amaru Samaspadatippani (Sanskrit) - Ramtarkabagis Bhattacharya , Karkollasa (Sanskrit) - Bharat Sen , Karakpadatippani (Sanskrit)- Ramtarkabagis Bhattacharya, Subodha (Mudhabodh- Byakaranar Tika),(Sanskrit) - Durgadas Bidyabagis Bhattacharya, Prabodh Prakasha (Sandhipad) (Sanskrit)- Balaram , Karmasanskar (Sanskrit)- Balaram. So,

Krishnanagar Public Library has been inheriting the glory by collecting and preserving rare manuscripts.

### **Bali Sadharan Pathagar**

Collections of manuscripts in Bali Sadharan Pathagar in Howrah incite wonder. Some these could be mentioned in below:

Collected Manuscripts such as Haribansha Banjudham (1202 B.), Tithitattam, Bibahatattam, Pathapathabinischoy, Madhabnidan, Sarkoumudi, Bhatikabiyam, Mugdhabodhbyakaranam, Shrimadbhagbata, Ramayan, Mahabharata, Sahityadarpanam, Puran, Dashakarma Padhyati, Sarbasatkarma Padhyati, Radhikamangal, Bhasapariched, Smrititattya and others sixty-six manuscripts preserved in the library almirah covered by the red cloth.

### **Nabadwip Sadharan Pathagar**

In Nabadwip Sadharan Pathagar highest number of manuscripts were collected and disseminated so far. It is found that total 4802 manuscripts comprising 514 in Sanskrit, 2831 in Bengali and 1457 in English were in the collection of the Nabadwip Sadharan Pathagar.

According to Accession Register, following manuscripts are observed as holding of library:

Sanskrit

Srimadbhagbatgita - Pramathanath Takkabhusan, Aitareya Upnishad (1314 B S )  
- Mahesh Chandra Pal, Devi Puranam - Panchanan Tarkabhusan,  
Srimadbhagbatgita (1335 B S ) - Gurunath Bidyanishi Bhattacharya, Ballal  
Charitam (1904) - Ananda Bhattya, Bedanta Paribhasa (1814) - Krishnanath  
Shamachan, Dhanaloklochan (1357 B S) - Ananda Bardhanacharya, Jainasidhanta  
Dipika (2002 Sanbarta) - Acharya Swami Tulshiram, Phakika Prakash (1917) -  
Maithilendra Dutta, Sri Sri Gita Gobindam (1895) - Joydev Goswami, Mukta  
Charitam - Raghunath Das Goswami, Sri Naganandam - Harshadev, Sadhan  
Samar (1331 B S) - Pyarimohan Dutta, Smriti Chandrika (1921) - Debanath  
Bhattya, Swalpa Bramacharya Bidhi (1830) - Shashibhusan Bhattacharya,

Sanskrit Manuscript in the Tanjore Maharaja Serfeji's Saraswat Mahal Library  
Tanjore vol. XIII (1931) - P.P.S. Sastri etc.

### **Uttarbanga Rashtriya Granthagar**

Uttarbanga Rashtriya Granthagar has a wide collection of manuscripts, comprising 21 in Asamese, 95 in Sanskrit, 112 in Bengali followed by rare books on Indian history and reports published in 19<sup>th</sup> century. Rare Manuscripts such as: Mahaharat-Shantiparba- Dwija Raghuram, Shibsangit- Rameshawar, 1188, Hariram Kabaj-Krishnadas, Sadhana Bhakti Chandrika- Narottam Das, Janmastami- Dwija Debnath, Chaityanaya Charit- Hridananda Das, Gitagobind- Jagatsingh, Kalanka Bhanjan- Mukudaram etc. 33 The number of 123 handwriting manuscripts of Kasim Bazar Raj Bari Granthagar also kept in the Sanskrit College library, such as: Chaitanyacharitamrita- Krishdaskabiraj, Mahabharater Banparba- Bedbyas, Gitgobind- Jaydev, Chandrika- Jaykrishna Sharma, Ramayan- Balmiki, Paninir Shiksha etc.

### **Asiatic Society**

Many books on India as well as eastern countries had been preserved in the library of Asiatic Society. Its manuscripts section holds attraction of the readers. Books and manuscripts in Arabic, Persian, Turks, and Pustu are inevitable source for researchers. Books of Mughal emperors have placed in the library. Manuscripts on Buddhism are valuable collection of the library. Significant Burmese, Siamese, Japanese manuscripts are observed in the library. It also holds copper plate, coins, paintings of 19<sup>th</sup> century side by side rare books and journals.

### **Bangiya Sahitya Parishad**

Use of Bangiya Sahitya Parishad library is inevitable to the researchers for his rare manuscripts collection. It holds manuscripts written by Bengali, Sanskrit, Tibetan, Oriya, Hindi, Asamese and Persian languages. It has a rich collection of rare books and magazine periodicals published in 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Fort William College Library also had a well-rounded collection of Arabic, Persian and Sanskrit language including manuscripts of oriental studies.<sup>1</sup>

## **COLLECTION OF BOOKS**

Fort William College Library was attached to the college but Reverend David Brown; Provost of the college was instrumental to open it to the public. Rich collection of Tipu Sultan Library included in the library in 1800. In this connection, the opinion of Governor General was deep consideration. In the interest of the company and for the pursuance of knowledge and literature, the collection would serve the purpose better if it was located in the college. Library collection had increased as soon as property of the college. In 1805, a native librarian was appointed to the Tipu Sultan Library and an English librarian for European library. George Hilario Barlow, the then Governor General was happy to the prosperity of the college and viewed in a lecture in 1806 that he noticed with peculiar satisfaction the extensive and valuable collection of books which had enriched the library of the college of the Fort William.

Authorities of Calcutta Public library had energetic to collect books on religion, philosophy, science, linguistic, history, biography, excursion, indology, literature and vocational side by side periodicals. It is found from the report of 1850 that library authority applied Madras Government to take step to collect Tamil and Telegu books to the library. In the month of October, 1848, enthusiastic share holders, such as, Devendra Nath Thakur, Prasanna Kumar Thakur, Satyacharan Ghosal, Ram Gopal Ghosh, Piyaichand Mitra etc. urged to the authority to collect the publications of foreign invisible college. As they supposed, one of the objects to the formation of this institution is the dissemination of European literature and science in this country.

Apart from the collection and preservation of Fort William College library and Calcutta Public Library, some century old colonial public libraries are also found as preserver and disseminator of knowledge on different subjects. Present discussion would be confined on them.

## **Joykrishna Sadharan Pathagar**

Joykrishna Sadharan Pathagar in Uttarpara, Hooghly had rich collection of books on Bengali Language, published before 1860. It is near about 600. As a whole, there are 1500 books on nineteenth century. Many books of school Book Society were preserved here. It is found from the old book list of 1902 that the Joykrishna Sadharan Pathagar is enriched with books, like, science, mathematics, art, religion, education, psychology, literature, travelogue, archaeology, biology, geography, physiology, medical science, poetry, drama, dictionary encyclopaedia, sociology, political science, biography, agriculture, botany, history, law, parliamentary debate, gazette, daily newspaper and periodical, almanac etc. Apart from those, the library was enriched with collection of books written in Bengali, Sanskrit, French and Latin. The library was the subscriber of almost all periodicals of those days.

We have also proceeded to mention here name of some inevitable history books out of library's marvelous collection, such as,

Action of Prostitution, 1857, Historical and critical dictionary - Bailey, Peter ed. , Bell's View of the Commerce of Bengal, 1838., Bengal Regulations of 1793, 1834, 1822-25., Hindu Astronomy, 1852- Bentley, Bolt's Consideration on Indian Affairs, 1772., Boswell's Life of Johnson, 1825., Sketches of Social Life in India, 1884., (1) Astronomy (2) Bengali Grammar (3) English and Bengali Dictionary, 3 Vols.- C.E.Buckland, W.Carey, Nizamut Adalat reports - Carrau , Chalmer's Bibliographical Dictionary, 22 Vols. 1812., Medicine- Goodeve Chakraborty, Bengal Tenancy Act of 1885 - Chakraborty, Dwarkanath, History of the Rebellion in England -Clarendon , Cobbett's Parliamentary Debates, 22 Vols. 1804., Life of Voltaire, 1790- Condorset, Lecture on Hindu Law, 1870-71-Cowell, Narrative of the Siege and Capture of Bharatpur, 1830 -Creighton, British India and its rulers, 1882 - H.C.Cunnigham, Hindoos of Northern India, 1860 - Isshwaree Dass, Biography, 1859- Deb, Radhakanta, Recollections of Alexander Duff- Lalbehari Dey, Administration of Justice in Dewani Adawlat, 1785 - Duncan, History of India, 1857- Elphinstone , Encyclopaedia Britanica, 17 Vols. 1797, Acts of the Legislative Council of India, Vol. I, 1862 - Fagan, Letters from India, 1821- (Mrs.) Fay, Few Notes on a trial illustrative of Muffusil Jurisdiction, Bengali and English



Vocabulary, 1791- Forster, Durga Puja, 1871- Pratap Chandra Ghosh, Law of Mortgage, 1877- Rashbehari Ghosh, History of the British Empire in India, 4 Vols. 1830-Gleig, Mathura : a District Memoir- F.S.Growse, (1) A Grammar of the Bengal Language 1778. (2) Gantoo Laws – Halhed. (i) East India Gazetteer, 2 Vols. 1828. (ii) Hindoo Rajas, 1811.– Hamilton, Analysis of the Law of the Indian Government, 3 Vols. 1821–Harrington, (1) Journey from Calcutta to Bombay, 1829. (2) Memoirs written by his widow, 2 Vols. 1830. (3) Biography, Herschel-Astronomy, 1834, - Heber, Travels and Researches, 1832- Humboldt, (1) Imperial Gazetteer, (2) Orissa, (3) Statistical account of Bengal, Indian Miscellany, 1841- W.W.Hunter , (1) History of the Sepoy War in India, 2 Vols., (2) Lives of Indian Officers, 1869,- Kay, Mughal Empire, 1866,- Keene, (1) Sketches of some distinguished Anglo-Indians, (2) Two years in upper India, 1850– Lawrie, Nijamat Adawlut reports, - Macnaghten, Life of Keshab Chandra Sen, 1887- Pratap Chandra Majumdar, Political History of India, 1811- Malcolm, (1) Native States of India, n.d. (2) History of the French in India, 1868, (3) Founders of the Indian Empire, n.d.– Malleon, History of India, 3 Vols. 1831,- C.J.Marshman, Guide to Bengal, 1850 – Marshman, Sanskrit Grammar, 1866 - Max Muller, Life of Dwarkanath Tagore, 1870 - Kisshori ChandMitra, Biography - Peary ChandMitra, Biography of 3 Copies - Mohammad, Penny Cyclopaedia- 23 Vols. 1833., Land Tenures in the Lower Provinces of Bengal, n.d.-Phillip, Prince in Calcutta, n.d., Report of the Sudder Dewany Adalat Cases, 1845, English- Persian Dictionary – Richardson , History of the Indian Empire, 2 Vols. 1848- Ritchie, East India Voyages, 1839- Robert, tr.- Mahabharata, 13 Vols- Pratap Chandra Roy, Bengali English Dictionary, 2 Vols. 1834- Ramcomul Sen, Administration of Justice in India, n.d.- Stephen, Vivada Chintamoy, 1863- Prasanna KumarTagore, Administration of the Hooghly District, 1795-1845., -Toynbee, Transactions of the Bengal Social Science Associations, Vol.III. pt. I, 1869, Vols. V-VII, 1871-78, Early annals of the English in Bengal, 2 Vols.- C.R. Wilson.

The library preserved notable Bengali Books on Indian history published in 19<sup>th</sup> century, such as, Raja Pratapaditya Charitra (1801)- Ramram Basu , Shabdakalpadrum - Radhakanta Deb , Bedantachandrika (1817) o Bedantagrantha (1815) - Rammohan Roy, Bharatbarsher Itihas o Bangadesher Purabritiya - Mr. Marshman, Ganger Khaler Sankhep Bibaran - Reverand Rabinson,

Bidyakalpadrum - Reverand Krishmohan, Maharaja Krishnachandra Charit - Rajiblochan Mukhopadhyay, Charitabali o Jibancharit - Iswarchandra Vidyasagar, Mahummad Charit - Krishnakumar Mitra, Bahubibaha Rahita Haoya Uchit Kina? - Iswarchandra Vidyasagar, Bahubibaha Nished Bishayak Babastha - Gobindachandra Sharma, Baidhabya Dharmodya - Nandakumar Kabiratna, Hindu Mahilaganer Hinabastha - Durgacharan Gupta, Hutom Panchar Naksha - Kaliprasanna Singha , Bombaichitra - Satyendranath Thakur , Beshabriti Nibartak Natak - Babu Prasannakumar Pal , Bodhendubikash- Iswarchandra Gupta, Shikshapranali - Gopalchandra Bandopadhyay , Shikshabidhayak Prastab - Bhudev Mukhopadhyay , Shishushiksha 2/3 Bhag - Modanmohan Tarkalankar , Jotirbidya Vols. 2. - James Furguson Saheb, Padarthabidya – Akhayakumar Dutta, Padarthabidyasar Vols. II. - Mr. Yeat Sahen, Praktik Bighayan - Bhudev Mukhopadhyay, Bidhaba Bangaghana - Babu Harishchandra Mitra, Vidyasagar - Babu Chandicharan Sen. Other mentionable collections, as, Striganer Vidyashiksha (Vol. III), Shishusebadhi, Bhugolbritantya, Jotish o Goladhyay, Bhugol o Jotish, Fulmani o Karuner Bibaran, Mata o Konnar Kathopokathan, Bishakosh. In addition to Akshaykumar Dutta, Iswarchandra Vidyasagar, Joynarayan Tarkapanchanan, Tarashankar Tarkaratna, Ramkomal Bhattacharya, Rajendralal Mitra, Piyarichand Mitra, Rajnarayan Basu, Bhudev Mukhopadhyay, Madhusudan Dutta, Bankimchandra Chottopadhyay, Sanjib Chandra Chottapadhyay, Shibnath Shastri, Haraprasad Shastri etc. written also found in this library.

### **Raj Narayan Basu Smriti Pathagar**

Raj Narayan Basu Smriti Pathagar in Midnapore district town had received a part of collection of Narajole Raj as donation. An old list of books in below which included books of King's collection with other books of library. Such as:

Plant breeding-L.H. Bailey, 1908, Bengal Tenancy act VII of 1835, Mahatma in Bengal- C.A. Bentley,1961, History of Hindu Civilization during British Rule, V-I-II - Pramathnath Bose, Bengal Under the Lieut, Governors, 1901,- C.E. Buckland , Manual of Gardening for India, - J, Cameron, 1904, Indian Unrest,v-(1), 1910, (2) India : Old and New, Chirol, 1921, , Commercial Information for India- C.W.E. Cotton , 1991, Archaeological Survey of India, Vols. II- Cunningham, Early History and Growth of Calcutta- Raja Binoy Krishna Deb, 1905, Prosperous British

India- Digby 1901, History, Civil and Commercial, British Colonies, Vols. III, Byson Wdward, 1807, Elevation on Ceylon, Vols. I & II, (Major) Forbes, History of Captivity of Napoleon at St. Helena from Letters and Journals of Late Sir Hudson Lowe, Vols. III- Foryth, Foster, Ellesworth, Died- New Educator Encyclopaedia, 1938, Bengal District Gazettes- J.H.E. Garrett, 1910, Journal of Proverbs- William Goiffith, Bishops College Press, 1847, Harmsworth's History of the World- Harmsworth, Vols. VIII, 1907-9, Transhimalayan Discoveries and adventures Tibet- Seven Hedin, Vol. I & II, Himalayan Journals - Joseph Dalton Hooker, Vols. I & II, 1854, (1) Rulers of India, (2) Statistical Account of Bengal, Vols. 1-20, 1875-77, (3) Imperial Gazetteer- W.W. Hunter, ed, Hutchinson, Pictorial Encyclopaedia - Walte, Kaye, John William- (1) Administration of Eastern India, 1853, (2) History of the Sepoy War in India, 1857-1858, Vols. II & III., (3) Lives of Indian Officers- 1869, Keer, James- Domestic Life, character, customs of natives of India- 1865, Mac Farlac, Charles- Our Indian Empire, (Colonel) Malleson- (1) An Historical Sketch of the Native States in India, 1875, (2) Indian Mutiny, Martin, Montgomery- (1) Despatches, Minutes and Correspondance of Marquies Wellesley during his administration in India; Vols I & V, 1837- 1840, (2) History, Antiquities, Topography and Statistics of Eastern India, Vols. II & III, Mitra, J. L- (The) Rise of the Dutch Republic, Nitisha Sultana- My Harem Life, Orma, Robert- History of the Military transaction of the British Nation in Hindustan from 1746; 4th ed. Vols.I., Pembarton, R.B.- Political Mission to Bootan, 1865 (Lord), Roberts- Forty Years in India; Vols. 1897, Roy, Krishna Chandra- Phrases and Idioms, 1889, Shelley, T.M.- Indian Gardens, 1873, Storton, Edward- History of the British Empire in India; Vols. I & V., 1841-43, Williams, Benjamin Samuel- Select Forms and Lycopods, British and Erotic, 1873, Wright, Robert Patrick- Standard Cyclopaedia of Modern Agriculture and Rural Economy; Vols. I & XII.

In addition to these, the library has 'Dhakar Itihas' - Jotindra Mohan Roy, Vol.I, (1320 B.C), Musical Books, Copies of Vedas and Upanishads, Volumes of Bengal Legislative debates, old books of Horticulture.

Novels of Scott published in 1829, 1831, 1882, life of Swami Vivekananda by his disciples, vol. I-IV, Notes on Indian Affairs, Vols. I,II (1837), Peoples of Nations, World Library Best Books, Ramler edited by Samuel Johnson (1857),

Encyclopaedia Britannica (1911). Few of them were donated by Bhagbat Das Smriti Samgraha. Library has some rare books, like, Shabda Kalpadrum 1711 (Sakabda), The Old Testament Vol, 1820, Hindoosthane Language, Goloboka Walee (Urdu Story). Hafej Dewan - Khaja Samsuddin, Grammer and Story in Persian Language, Suratul Kheyal - Sayeed Ali Muhammad 1881, Shabda Kalpa Bhraman - Prankrishna Nagen, 1776 sakabda, Shakendarnama, Birds Eyeview of Sandon, The Historical Record of the Imperial visit to India, 1911 - John Murry, Piping hot - Perey Pinkerton, The Great War, Vol 6 (1916) - W.N. Wilson and J.A.Hamerton, Eclipses of the World- A Portfolio of photographis, A Tour in Eastern Rajputana in 1882-83 (Archaeological of India) etc.

### **Chandannager Pustakagar**

Chandannager Pustakagar in Hooghly holds good number of rarebooks on history biography, religion, travelogue, philosophy, social science etc.

Such as, Bange Baishya Nirnay - Gopalchandra Debsharma (1292 B.), Pratham Charitastak (Kalimoy Ghosh (1295 B.), Dwitya Charitastak (1296), Narijati Bishayak Prastab - Kali Prasannya Ghosh (1276 B.), Birbhum Bibartan - Mahima Ranjan Chakraborty (1stVol., 1323 B.), Banganucharit - Harachandra Chowdhury (1293), Bama Ranjika - Tekchand Thakur (1267B.), Jibancharit - Debandra Nath Thakur (1298B.), Rasmanir Jibancharit- Hamendra Bandppadhyay, Romer Itihas (1813), Siksha Bisayak Prastab (1288 B.), Swapnalabadha Bharat Barsher Itihas (1301) - Bhudev Mukhopadhyay, Dewani Einer Sangraha (1852-1858) –Md. Ismail, 1859, Subaschandrer Antardhan Kahini- Uttamchand, 1353, Bharater Muktir Pantha – Andruz, Dinabandhu, 1328, Sati Dharma Tarakumar-Kabiratna,1308, Amar Bharat Udhar – Brahmabandhab Upadhyay, 1331, SriSri Chaitanya Charitamrita, Adi-Madhya- Antalila, Chaitanyaninda 418 – Krishnadas Goswami Kabiraz, Banglar Biplab Prachesta – Hemcandra Kanungo, 1928, Sir Surendranath Bandopadhyay, Vol.I, II. – Gyanendra Kumar 1340, 1343, Keshab Chandra – Keshab Chandra (Adi Madhya Bibaran) – 1813- 17 , Chattyagram Bidroher Kahini- Anandaprasad Gupta, Sekaler Chitra - Kalikrishna Ghosh , 1325 Biplaber Padachinya -Bhupendrakumar Dutta, 1353 , Europe Tin Batsar – Ramesh Chandra Dutta, Deshbandhu Chittyaranjaner Baktritabali – Chittyaranjan Dash, Biplaber Ahawan – Rashbihari Basu, Biplabi Rashbihari – Satyendranath Basu,

Jatiya Andolone Banganari – Jogesh Chandra Bagal 1361, Tamluker Itihas – Debananda Bharati, Etatdeshiya Strilokdiger Purbabastha – Pyarichand Mitra 1800, 1. Banga Mahila, 1881-84, 2. Swadesher Hitakatha, 1290 - Jogendranarayan Royetc. Bengali books on Brahma society, spiritualism, astronomy, applied astronomy, mesmerism; hypnotism, psychoanalysis etc. are the asset of library. The library also collected Bengali biographies of Akshyaykumar, Dwijendralal, Rabindranath, Savarkar, Gurudas Bandopadhyay, Vidyasagar, Sivaji, Keshabchandra, Dadathakur, Subhaschandra, Ramkrishna, Kangal Harinath etc. English biographies are too found in the holding of library. Such as, Ballavbhai Pattel, Churchill, Chaitanya, Lord Clive, Deshapriya Jatindramohan, Kropotkin, Lloyd George, Macaulay, Marx, Mazzini, Napolepn, Subhaschandra etc.

Notable History books written in English are the asset of the library, such as: Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal. A few numbers – Asiatic Researches, Rise and Progress of the British power in India 1600- 1835, 1837 – Peter Abu, Untold Stories of the Indian Mutiny, 1907, 2 Vols., Rise of Cristian Power in India, Vols. I-V. – B. D. Basu, 1. Comprehensive History of India in 9 Vols. 1858- 1862, 2. Nanda Kumar, 1886 – H. I. Beveridge, Bengal under Lieutenant Governors, 1902, Vols. I & II. – C.E. Buckland, Calcutta Review. Vol. I & II – 1844. Vol III – 1845. Vol VIII – 1847. Vol. IX – 1848. Vol. LIV – 1872. Vol LX – 1875. Vol LXII – 1876. Archaeological Survey of India. Vols. I & II 1871.- Alexandar Cunningham, History of the Military transactions of British nation in Indostan 1745-55, 1763 – Cowper, History of Hindosthan. 1812. Vols. I-III., Economic History of India. 1908 – R.C. Dutta, History of India. 1905 – M. Elphinstone, History of Indian Mutiny – G. W. Forrest, Reminiscences of Great Mutiny (1857-1859) 1893, 1904 – Mitchell Forbes, History of India, 1857- J. Garrett, History of Greece, 1895 Vols 12. – G. Grote, Archaeological Survey of India: Annual reports. Vols. I-VII.- John Marshall, 1. Annals of Rural Bengal 1868 2. Brief History of the Indian People, 1886, 3. India: 1883, 1896, 4. Statistical Account of Bengal, 5. Thakerays in India and some Calcutta graves, 1897 – W.W. Hunter, District Gazetters, 1907-10 – L.S.S.O. Malley, Fall of Mughol Empire, 4 Vols. Library has: Vols. I, IV. J.N. Sarkar, Shivaji and His Times, 1919, 1920 –J.N. Sarkar, History of Aurangzeb.Vols. I-IV - J.N. Sarkar, Eighteen Fifty- Seven, 1957 – Surendranath Sen, 1. Non-Cooperation. 2. To TheStudents. 1921 – C.F. Andrews, History of the Indian

Association: 1876- 1951. 1953 – Jogesh Chnardra Bagal, Dialogues on Hindu Philosophy 1908 – K.M. Banerjee, Alipore Bomb Case. 1910 – Bijoy Kishna Bose, Calcutta University Commission Report (1917-19). Vol. I-X.Vol. XII., Towards Home Rule. Pts. I-III, 1917, India for the Indian – and for England, 1885 – William Digby, New America. 1897 – William Dixon, Position of Women in Bengali Society, 1910 – Ashitosh Mukherjee, New Spirit 1907 – Bipin Chandra Pal, Studies in Applied Economics, 1932 – Benoy Kumar Sarkar, Elements of Hypnotism. 1893 – R.H. Vincent, Nationalism and Agnosticism Vols. I & II, 1906 – James Ward etc. It has a rare collection of more than five hundred books on history of England and Europe.

Other than books on Indian history, some valuable books are found in the collection of the library, such as, Non- Cooperation, To the students – C. F. Andrews, 1921, Bacon’s Novum Organum – Lord Bacon, 1845, History of Indian Association: 1876-1951 – Jogesh Chandra Bagal, 1953, Birth of new India, The story Indian National Congress – Annie Besant, 1947, 1915, Alipore Bomb Case – Bijoy Krishna bose, 1910, New India or India in transition – H. J. S. Cotton , 1886, Encyclopedia Britannica – 9th ed. Complete, 4th ed. Incomplete, Annals of Indian Administration from the beginnings of Mutiny – Govt. of India, vol. ii – 1858, vol. iii - , vol. - v – 1861, vol. – vi – 1862, vol. vii – 1863. Vol.viii – 1864, vol. ix – 1865, vol. x – 1866, vol xi -1867, vol.xii – 1868, vol.xiv – 1870, vol. xv – 1871.Records of Criminal Cases as between Europeans and natives for the last hundred years edited by R. G. Sanyal, 1896, Works of Plato, 1845, Elements of Hypnoticsm – R. H. Vincent,1893 etc. The library also holds a good number of old reference books in Bengali, as such as, Shabdakalpadram- Radhakanta Deb; Narijatibishayak Prastab – Kaliprasannya Ghosh; Birbhum Bibartan, Vol. I.- Mahimaranjan Chakraborty; Bamaranjika- Tekchand Thakur; Romer Itihas- Bhudeb Mukhopadhyay; Dasi; Nabajiban; Prabasi; Bangabani; Basumati; Bharatbarsha; Antapur; Manasi o Marmabani; Mahisya Samaj; Tili Samaj; Bharatbarsher Itihas; Chandannagarer Itihas, Bishwakosha - Nagendra Nath Basu, Smarthakosha, 1-4 vols.- Jiban Krishna Sen, Sahitya Parishad Panjika Prakashak, 1318-1324,1327 etc.

It is revealed from the collection of Chandannager Pustakagar that the library collected large number of books on history followed by books on history followed

by biography, religion, sociology apart for a rich collection of journals, reports and manuscripts.

### **Taltola Public Library**

Apart from the personal collection of Surendra Nath Banerjee, Taltola Public Library in Calcutta holds number of rare Bengali books on history, literature, philosophy, religion, biography etc.

such as, Bhabishyater Bangali – S. Wajed Ali, Narir Ukti and 11 novel - Indira Devi, Srimadbhagbat – Krishna Dwaipayana Bedabyas, Samaj- Brahma Bandhab Upadhyay, Jagriti - Rijaul Karim, Jatiyatar Pathe, Pakistaner Bichar, Total Bengali works - Arabinda Ghosh, Nibhrita Chinta - Kali Prasanna Ghosh, Pravatchinta, Bhranti Bilas, Girish Chandra Ghosh- Rachanabali, Congress, Congress O Bangla- Hemendra Prasad Ghosh, Jele Bish Bachar -Trailokya Nath Chakraborty , Bharater Banausadhi -Asima Chattapadhyay , Charitra Sangraha - Suniti Kumar Chattapadhyay, Prantar Gan - Salil Chowdhury , Bharat Governmenter Bhumi Rajaswa Niti, Bharat Barsher Arthanaitik Itihas - -Ramesh Chandra Dutta , Atma Charit -Raj Narayan Basu, Unabinsha Satabdir Bangla, Banglar Janasiksha, Banglar Strisiksha - Jogesh Chandra Bagal, Bharat Barsher Swadhinata Judher Itihas - Sukumar Roy, Ramtanu Lahiri o Tatkalin Banga Samaj, Atma Charit - Shiv Nath Shastrietc.

The library has preserved six thousand English rare books too, such as, Comet of 1556 -J. Russell, Homer's Illiad, Speeches of Lalmohan Ghosh - Asutosh Banerjee, Indian Domestic Medicines - Binoy Kr. Ghosh, Report of the Proc. of the Bengal Provincial Conference in Calcutta, 1891, Travels in Bengal -Shambhunath Mukherjee, The Calcutta University- H.E. Minto & Jubilee Convocation Speeches ed. - A.T.Mukherjee, Last days in England of Raja Rammohan Roy -Mary Carpenter , Our Viceroyal Life in India - Dufferin, Political Future of India, Hindu Manners, Custom and Ceremonies, Indian Industrial Economic Problems, The Renaissance in India, The Way of Swaraj, Travel in Mughal Empire –J. Bernier, India today – Walter Dalman, The Tagore family – James W.Turdel, The Bengal celebrities, Record of criminal cases – Ram Gopal Sanyal, Lectures on Astronomy – Rev. H. Mosley, The unveiling of the statute and portrait of Pandit Iswar Chandra Vidyasagar –J. Woodburn etc.

### **Bagbazar Reading Library**

Collection of Bagbazar Reading Library in Calcutta consists of history, novel, politics, poetry, drama, travel, biography, Baishnav literature, musical notation, collections of eminent writers, dictionary essays etc.

Rare history and biographies included in collection of library, such as, Krishak Andolan – Mujjafar Ahmed, Pather Sandhan –Harekrishna Konar, Ajad Hind Fauj – Sahanwaj Hossain, Bharatbarsher Itihash – Ramesh Chandra Datta, Bharater Jatiya Congress, Bharater Biplab Kahini – Hamendra Nath Dasgupta, Baglar Itihas – Iswar Chandra Vidyasagar, Kalikatar Itihas – Subal Chandra Mitra, Bisal Bangla – Radhakamal Mukhopadhyay, Chin Sbhyatar O, A, KA, KHA, Bartaman Jagat, Bartaman Juge Chin Samrajya, Hindu Rashtreer Garan – Binoy Kumar Sarkar, Pitrismruti - Rabindra Nath Thakur, Amar Katha – Binodini Dasi, Thakur Barir Gagan Thakur – Purnima Devi, Jibaner Jhara Pata – Sarala Debi Chowdhurani, Banglar Bulbul Angurbala – Prasanta Dan etc.

It has a rich collection of novels and short stories of eminent writers of nineteenth and early part of twentieth century, such as, Anurupa Devi, Annadashankar Roy, Ashapura Devi, Upendra Nath Gangapadhyay, Kamal Kumar Majumdar, Kedar Nath Bandapadhyay, Jaladhar Sen, Jasimuddin, Pramatha Chowdhury, Pravabati Debi Saraswati, Rakhaal Das Bandapadhyay, Shib Nath Satry etc. Works of eminent poets and dramatists are found in the collection of library, such as, Akshyay Kumar Baral, Atul Chandra Sen, Omar Khaiyam, Girindra Mohini Dasi, Dasharathi Roy, Jashimuddin, Michal Madhusudan Datta, Mohit Lal Majumdar, Satyendra Nath Sen, Swarna Kumari Devi Hem Chandra Bandopadhyay, Amrita Lal Basu, Khirada Prasad Bidyabinod, Girish Chandra ghosh, Joytrindra Nath Thakur, Tulsi Lahiri, Dwijendra Lal Roy, Rabindra Nath Thakur etc.

Many books on Baishnav literature are the asset of library. Travelogues by Anandashankar Roy, Abadhut, Uma Prasad Mukhapadhyay, Jaladhar Sen and Rahul Sankrityan increased glory of library. Rare religious books and musical



notations of Atul Prasad Sen, Dwijendra Lal Roy, Najrul Islam, Rajani Kanta Sen and Rabindra Nath Thakur are may not be found in many libraries in that period.

### **Bali Sadharan Grathagar**

The collection of Bali Sadharan Grathagar in Howrah is a treasure to the scholar. It is found from the 'Prabasi' patrika in 1943 that thousands of books were collected in the library by donation, gift and purchase. One must astonish to see its rare collection of books and magazines.

It also preserved rare books in 'Universal History of Music' by Sourindramohan Thakur, 'The Decline and Fall of Roman Empire' by Giban. Its permanent resources included first edition of five books of Sarat Chandra Chattapdhyay. It is true that 'the buildings and many thousand books of Bali Sadharan Granthagar was not built by the donation of one or two rich man. They were the indication of more or less donation of many persons. People of Bali had not only donated money but they had also spent their time and energy.

Collection of Bali Sadharan Granthagar with history, novel, politics, poetry, drama, travel, biography, Baishnav literature, musical notation, collections of eminent writers, dictionary essays etc. Some of these are mentioned below: -

'Bichartarangini'(1875) - Kashidas Mitra Mustoufir, 'Lakshman Barjan' (Drama) (1885) - Kedarnath Gangopadhyay, 'Hemlata' (Drama) - Haralal Roy, 'Padartha Darshan'(1889) - Mahendranath Bhattacharjee, 'Bidhababibaha Shastra Birudha' (1893) - Prasanna Kumar Sharma, 'Karma Pantha' (1898) - Chandranath Basu, 'Sahitya Prasanga' (1890) - Nagendrachandra Mitra, 'Nitipath' (1289 Bengali era) , 'Nitibodh' (1882) - RajkrishnaBandopadhyay, 'Bijyan Kalpalatika' (1289 Bengali era) - Radhaprasad Roy, 'Bijayan Niti Prasun' (1296 Bengali era), 'Shasikala' (1281Bengali era) - Radhamadhab Haldar, 'Nitipath' (1891) - Rampati Nayratna, 'Sahityaratnabali' (1886) - Harimohan Mukhopadhyay, 'Sikimer Itihas' (1875) - Umeshchandra Roy, 'Greesder Itihas' (1280 Bengali era) - Umeshchandra Sengupta, 'Lagucharitmanjuri' (1287 Bengali era) - Kaliprasanna Roy, 'The History of Extension Egipt' (1847) ed.- K M Banerjee, 'Bharatbarsha Bichar' (1248 Bengali era) - Ramcharan Sharma, 'Pashupatisambad' (1290

Bengali era) - Chandranath Basu, 'Bangalicharit' (1292 Bengali era)- Jogendrachandra Basu, 'Maharaj Krishna Rayasya Charitram'(1857)- Rajiblochan Mukhopadhyay, 'Harishchandra Mukhopadhyay'(1887)- Ramgopal Sannayal, 'Shabdakalpadrum' (1822-1851) - Radhakanta Deb, 'Sachitra Prakritibodh Abhidhan' (1866) - Ramkomal Bidyalankar. The library has a rich collection of nineteenth century.

### **Chaitanya Library**

Chaitanya Library in Calcutta too holds rare and old books on history, travel, geography and social sciences Biographies. Some important holdings of library are mentioned below.

Library holds the collection of Rajnarayan Basu, Ramesh Chandra Dutta, Teck Chand Thakur, Dwijendra Lal, Girish Chandra, Sarat Chandra, Anurupa Debi, Pravat Mukhopadhyay, Amrit Lal Basu etc. Biographies are found as collection of libraries. Such as, Amar Bharat - Brahma Bandhab Upadhyay, Barindrer Atmajibani - Barindra Kumar Ghosh, Begum - Brajendralal Bandopadhyay, Smriticharan - Dilip Kumar Roy, Swadeshi Juger Smriti -Matilal Roy, David Hare Jiban Charit - Peyarichand Mitra, Dinabandhu Mitra - Bankim Chandra, Dwijendralal - Nabakrishna Ghosh, Dwaraka Nath Mitra - Kaliprasanna, Metcalfer Jibani - Chandi Charan Sen, Iswarchandra Vidyasagar - Rajani Kanta Gupta, etc. The library is rich with the novels of the authors, such as, Annada Shankar Bandopadhyay, Dhiraj Bhattacharya, Prafulla Roy, Premendra Mitra, Banaful, Bibhuti Bhusan Bandopadhyay, Samaresh Basu, Satinath Bhaduri, Sunil Gangopadhyay, Saiyad Mujtaba Siraj, Haraprasad Shatri, Rabindra Nath Tagore etc. Notable dramas are collected in the library, such as, Rakta Karabi, Tapati - Rabindra Nath Tagore, DesherDak - Bhupendra Nath Bandopadhyay, Angar, Tiner Tolowar, Rifel Chayanat - Utpal Dutta, Avinaya, Natak Mancha - Sambhu Mitra, Books on Music, such as, Git Bithika - Rabindra Nath Tagore, Dwijendra Giti, Najrul Giti o Swaralipi, Hasir Ganer Swaralipi - Dilip Kumar Roy, Kakali - Atul Prasad Roy etc. Books on travel, history, geography and social sciences, such as, Kalikatay Chalafera - Kshitindra Nath Thakur, Tarakeswar Satyagraher Itihas - Swarna Kumar Ghosal, Rajmala - Kaliprasanna Sen, Sutanati Samachar, Town Kalikatar Karcha, Badsahi Amal - Binoy Ghosh. Books on general category, such

as, Gita Rahasya - Tilak, Enrejer Joy - Bihari Lal Sarkar, Kalikatar Itihas - Subal Chandra Mitra, Kalikata Rahasya - Jahar Lal Dhar, Nari Niti - Ishan Chandra Basu, Pratapditya - Nikhil Nath Roy, Prachin Kolkata - Prasad Kumar Mukhopadhyay, Bangalir Itihas Vol. I&II - Rakhil Das Bandopadhyay, Banglar Jamidar - Bamacharan Majumdar, Prachin Bharate Bijyan Charcha, Bijyaner Itihas - Samarendra Nath Sen, Amader Khadya - Dr. Nilrantan Sarkar, Zamidar Srenir Abanati - Jyanendra Kumar Roychowdhuri, Pada Ratnabali - Rabindra Nath and Srishchandra Majumdar, Banglar Pakhi - Jagadananda Roy, Padmini Upadhyay - Rangalal Bandopadhyay, Pagal Harinath Vol. I&II etc.

Some notable English rare books are found from the catalogue of the library, such as, Alipore Bomb Case- Depositions, Part I & II, Anonymous- Annals of the Indian Rebellion (602), Native States of Indian and their Princes, Hindu Sea- Voyage Movement in Bengal (G,280), S.N. Banerjee- Evidence before the Indian Expenditure Commission (G-282); 2-4, Speeches (1876-1880), (1886-1890), (1891-1894). Bengal Acts, 1915 to 1923 (L- 121); Bengal Code (Vols. I-IV, 1913-15) (L- 66,72,83,86); Bengl Provincial Conference, 1913 (Z-124), Bengal Magazine, 1872-73-1875-76 (X , 1-4), Travels in Mughal India (H-582) -F.Bernier-, Comparative Electro- Physiology (S-198) - Sir J.C.Bose-, Calcutta Municipal Act, 1899 (L-60), Calcutta Municipal Gazette 1924-1947, Calcutta Review, 1892- 93, 1897, 1914,1922-1948 (748,754,770 etc.), Calcutta University Commission 1917-19, Contemporary Review 1921-1924 (X 732,733,740 etc.), Open Letters to Lord Curzon (H-210)- R.C.Dutta, Edinburg Review 1803-1803; 1918-1920, Speeches, Indian Review 1908-1920 (X-315-462 etc.); 1921-1927 (X-730,739 etc.)-Sir Rash Behari Ghosh , Addresses, Law of Pertuities in British India, D Naoroji , Sir Grant Duff's View about India, Bepin Chandra Pal, Sir Ashutosh Mukherjee (B- 369), Progress of Education in Bengal, 1902-03 to 1906-07, Report on Public Instruction in Bengal- 1933-34, 1934-35, 1935-36, 1936-37, New Essays in Criticism - Brojendra Nath Seal , India Under Company and Crown (589)- H.A.Stark.

### **Bansberia Public Library**

Satyacharan Mukhipadhyay donated all books from his family to Bansberia Public library in Hooghly. It had rich collection of rare books on science, religion, history, law etc. Girindra Nath Mukhopadhyay, the aged revolutionary of Bansberia

donated 179 books to the library. It received 20 books from Dr. Bhalendu Charan Mitra as donation. Kumar Munindra Deb Roy, prince of Bansberia donated two almirahs and books. It included 'The secret book of the East' in 10 Volumes, 'Encyclopaedia Britannica, and Biswakosh in 22 Vols. Educational Records (1840-1859), Bengal under the Leateunant governor (1901), seeing Europe with famous Author (1914), the modern Encyclopaedia (1902), Srimath Bhagbath Gita (1775 Sakabda), 'Sabdakalpadrum, Vols. III by Radhakanta Deb, History of India by Marshman (1876) are found as the rare collections of the library.

### **Krishnanagar Public Library**

In Krishnanagar Public Library in Nadia a significant number of valuable books were collected, such as, Encyclopaedia Britannica (1875), chambers encyclopaedia (1892), Historians History of the World (London), History of Murshidabad by Major Wales, The Museum of Science and Art (Vol.10) by Linadner, History of the Indian People by Hunter, Hindu Mythology by Wilkens etc. Till now the library hold 1,800 rare books.

Barabazar Library had a rare collection of Vedas, Upanishadas and Urdu, Bengali, English books and Hindi books.

### **Panihati Bandhab Pathagar**

Panihati Bandhab Pathagar and Sabuj Pathagar in Hooghly had an old and rare collection of books, like, A History of Indian Tradition, Bharat Kosha, Autobiography of Nehru, Autobiography of Prafulla Chandra Roy, Khandit Bharat by Rajendra Prasad etc. 'The Hooligan Nights' (1901) 'De Vikont De Braglon' by Alexandar Dumer (1896), 'King John' by G.C. Mour Smith (1900), 'Count Hannibal' by Sandy Weyden (1901) etc. were the rare and old collection of the Chandra Saraswati Pathagar.

### **Nabadwip Sadharan Granthagar**

Since 1937, collection of Nabadwip Sadharan Granthagar in Nadia district had comprised with 2694 Bengali books, 1297 English Books 440 Sanskrit Books and 26 Hindi Books. Some of its Bengali and English books are mentioned below:

### Bengali Books

Alo o Chaya (1324) - Kamini Roy, Paramkalyan Gita (1327 B S) - Shibnarayan Swami, Begam Samru (1331 B S) - Bragendra Nath Bandopadhyay, Baignaniki (1320) - Jagadananda Roy, Banglar Pankhi (1320) - Jagadananda Roy, Poka Makarh (1326) - Jagadananda Roy, Bigyaner Galpa (1327) - Jagadananda Roy, Bharater Shakti Sadhana (1369 B S) - Amulyanath Chakraborty, Bigyanachrya Jagadish Chandrarer Abiskar (1319 B S) - Jagadananda Roy, Jati, Samskriti o Sahitya (1348 B S) - Sunitikumar Chattopadhyay, Birbani (1312 B S) - Swami Vivekananda, Samyabader Gorar Katha (1345 B S) - Bijoylal Chattopadhyay etc.

### English & Sanskrit Books

The Doctrine of Maya in the Philosophy of the Vedanta (1911) - Prabhu Dutta Shastri, The Shinning Gateway (1915) - James Allen, Oxford Lectures on Poetry (1934) - Selin Court, Practicl Economics (1937) - G.D.H Cole, Kalidasa's Shakuntala an Ancient Drama (2nd Ed) (1922) - Richard Pischel, Men and Systems - James Allen, History of Hindi Literature (1920) - F.E.Key, A History of Sanskrit Literature (1913) - Arthur A.Macdonell, Bernard Shaw (1931) - Frank Shaw, English Works of Raja Rammohan Roy Vol.I (1901) - Jogendra Chandra Ghosh, Introduction to the Science of Lnguage Vol.II (1900) - A.H.Sayce, The Complete Work of Swami Vivekananda Part –IV (1919) - Swami Vivekananda etc.Oldest books of the Mankar Pallimangal Library are 'Sri Bhaktamal Grantha' written and edited by Krishna das Babaji and Durga Lahiri respectively.

### **Sahid Pathagar**

Sahid Pathagar in modern Midnapore district collected total 198 books on history, science, religion, law etc. in 1947. Books are as following:

### Bengali Books

Ma (Mother)- Macsim Gorki, Ekdin Jara Manush Chila- Nalinikanta Gupta, Swarajer Pathe- Nalinikanta Gupta, Bilate Bharater Dabi- Hemendra Lal Roy, Sabuj Katha- Suresh Chandra Chakraborty, Bandi Jiban- Sachindra Nath Sanyal, Bidrohir Swapna- Bijoylal Chattopadhyay, Samyabader Marmakatha- Bijoylal Chattapadhyay, Swaraj- Anilbaran Roy, Communism- Bijoylal Chatapadhyay, Rabindra Sahitya Pallichitra- Bijoylal Chattapadhyay, Nutan Samajer Ingit-

Barindra Kumar Ghosh, Tarun Turki- Ram Nath Biswas, Afganistan- Ram Nath Biswas, Sri Aurobindo- Dharendra Nath Mukhopadhyay, Jaganather Rath- Sri Aurobindo, Hindu Musalmaner Birodh- Abdul Odud, Takar Katha- Anath Gopal Sen, Panchasher Mannantar- Shyamaprasad Mukhopadhyay, Bankimchandra o Musalman Samaj- Rezaul Karim, Path o Pathay- Nalini Kishore Guha, Dasher Dabi- Sachindra Nath Sengupta, Marxio Darshan- Saroj Kumar Acharya, Madhusudaner Jibani- Jogendra Nath Basu, Bartaman Europe- Subhendu Mitra, Amerikar Sadhinata- Nishikanta Ganguly, Jatiya Andolone Rabindranath- Prafulla Kumar Sarkar, Congress o Bangla- Hemendra Prasad Ghosh, Hitler Charitra- kailash Chandra Acharya, Bharat Charya- Nripendra Nath Chattapadhyay, Rajniti- Manoranjan Gupta, Bisher Darabare Bangali- Anil Bandopadhyay, Bharater Krishak Samasya- Mujaffar Ahmad, Russiar Siksha Babstha- Anil Kumar Singha, Banglar Chasi- Shantipriya Basu, Amader Siksha Babastha- Anath Nath Basu, Bharater Sanskriti- Khiti Moahn Sen, Sahiter Swarup- Rabindra Nath Thakur, Hindu Dharmer Nabajagaran- Swami Vivekananda, Chithi- Swami Premananda, Charitra Gathan- Gyanendra Mohan Dash, Prachya o Praschastya- Swami Vivekananda, Gandhi Katha- Kanthi (Contai) Seba Sangha, Femin in Bengal- K.C.Ghosh, Famous in Nations- K.P.Chatterjee, Sarbaharader Gan- Bijoylal Chattapadhyay, Manusher Adhikar- Bijoylal Chattapadhyay, August Biplab- Satishchandra Samanta, Banger Birangana- Bankim Chandra Chatopadhyay etc.

### **Raja Rammohan Roy Library**

Raja Rammohan Roy Library in Calcutta is praise worthy for its collection of notable history, literature, religion, biography and other books. Some of its collections are mentioned below:

History of the Roman Republics. Vols. I-V, 1813- Ferguson, Child's History of England.1888- C. Dickens, Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire, Vol s.I-VI, 1911-1913- Edward Gibbon, History of Greece, Vols.1-12,1869- G. Grote, History of England Vols. 1-6- Macaulay, History of the French Revolution, 1789-1814- F.A. Mignet, Legends of Greece and Rome- G.H. Kupfer, Seventh Great Oriental Monarchy, 1876- George Rawlinson, The War- W.H. Russell.

Indian History, Different Autobiography, Different Books on Excursion and Periodicals also preserved in the library, such as:Ain-i-Akbari- Abul Fazal, History

of Tirupati- Aiyangar, Asiatic Society of Bengal's Journal Vols.39-45, Travels in Hindustan- F. Bernier, The Ciins of India- C.J. Brown, Bengal Under the Lieut. Governors.Vols. 1 & 2, Documents relating to the Life of Raja Rammohan Roy- Ramprasad Chanda & J.K.Majumdar, The Fair sex of India, Ancient Geography of India- A.Cunningham, History of Hindustan Vols. 1 & 2, India from Primitive Communalism to Slavery, Origin and Growth of Caste of India- N.K.Dutt, Annals of Rural Bengal- Sir W.W.Hunter, History of Indian Mutiny Vols 1-6, Autobiography- J.S.Mill, History of India Vols 1-6, Travels- Marco Polo Vols 1&2, 1) Mongol Emperors of Hindustan 2) Medieval India- S. Lane Poole, 1) India before and after the Mutiny 2) Life and Experiences of a Bengali Chemist Vols 1 & 2, My diary in India Vols 1 & 2- W.H.Russell, 1) Anecdotes of Aurangzeb, 2) History of Aurangzeb Vols 1-5, 3) India of Aurangzeb, 4) Military History of India, 5) India through the Ages, 6) Mogul Administration, Downfall of Napoleon- Sir Walter Scott, Autobiograpgy- Debendranath Tagore, Annals and antiquities of Rajastan Vols 1 & 2, The Ramayana- A. Weber, History of Murshidabad District- J.H.T.Walsh, Despatches, Minutes and Correspondences etc. Vols. 1-5- Marquis Wellesley etc.

### **Kasimbazar Palace library**

Kasimbazar Palace library was one of the old libraries in Murshidabad. It was set up under the inspiration of Queen Swarnamayee. The library was prosperous during the tenure of King Mahindra Chandra Nandi and King Sureschandra Nandi. A major portion of its collection preserved in Jadavpur University and Sanskrit College library. The collection is enriched with history of 19th century and 123 Sanskrit manuscripts.

The collections of Kasimbazar Rajbarir Granthagar preserved in Jadavpur University which contained following books, such as,

Origin of the Bengali Script, 1919- R.D.Banerjee, Speeched- S.N.Banerjee, History of the Indian Mutiny- C.Ball, Considerations on Indian Affairs, 1772, Calcutta Review, Vols. 1-134, British India, 1839- W.Campbell, Calcutta Weekly Notes, 1896-1921, Three Presidencies of India, 1853- J.Capper, English Factories in India 1618-21, 1622-23, 1624-29- W.Foster, Oriental Memories, Vols. I\_II.,1834, Gazetter of the Bombay Presidency, Vols. 27, 1904, General report of the

Commissioners for the town of Calcutta, 1858, Speeches- G.K.Gokhale, Tracts, historical and statistical, on India, 1814- B.Heyne, The Indian Mussalmans- W.W.Hunter, Progress of education in Bengal, 1902-03, 1906-07- W.W. Hornell, Tibet and Nepal, 1905- A.H.S.Landor, London and Calcutta-, 1859- J.Mullens, Topics for Indian Statesman, 1858- J.B.Norton, 1) Census of India 1911, 2) Census of India: City of Calcutta, 1911- L.S.S.O.Malley, Report on public instruction in Bengal for 1905-06, Report on the state of education in Bengal, 1835, My diary in India in the year 1858-59, Vols. 1-2- W.H.Russell, Tribes and Castes of Bengal, Vols.I.,1891- H.H.Risley, Dawn of British trade, 1860- H.Stevens, Indian Reminiscences, 1880- S.D.White etc.

Bengali Books such as: Chaitanya Charitamrita- Krishnadaskabiraj, Adarshacharit Krishnamohan (1299)- Durgadas Lahiri, Ramtanulahiri o Tatkalin Bangsamaj- Shihnath Shastri, Acharya Ramendrasundar (1320)- Naliniranjan Pandit etc.

### **Bardhaman Rajbari Granthagar**

Mahatab Chanda, king of Burdwan was a significant character of nineteenth century due to his patronage in education, culture and a special interest in Bengali literature. Contributing of Kings of Burdwan in the sphere of education and culture had not only confined in Burdwan. Calcutta University, Hindu College, Asiatic Society and many institutions had enriched by the donation of the king family. In Hooghly, Midnapore, Burdwan many schools, pathshalas, madrasas, tools and Burdwan University had set up by their donation. There was a magnificent library in King's palace. During kings's period, it was enriched by different type of collection. A major portion of its collection had been lost due to change of times. Remaining portion has preserved in the library of Burdwan University as 'Raj collection'. It has rare collection Sanskrit and Bengali manuscripts followed by report and history of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

such as: 1)The Bhagvad Geeta, 1903, 2) Path of Discipleship 1899, 3) Self and its Sheath, 1893- Translated – Annie Besant, 1) India Revisited, 1891, 2) Marquis of Dalhousie's Administration of British India, 1862- Sir Edwin Arnold, Sacred Book of the Hindus, 1911- B.D. Basu, Bengal under the Lieutenant Governors, 1901- C.E.Buckland, Remarks on husbandry and Internal commerce of Bengal- Henry Thomas Colebrooke, Studies in Indian Social polity- Bhupendranath Dutta,



History of Indian and Eastern Architectures 1899- James Fergusson, History of the Sikhs 1904- Cunningham, Maharaja Subhomoy Roy Bahadur and his family- Benimadhab Chatterjee, Post Office of India and its story, 1920- Geoffray Clarke, English Works of Raja Rammohan, 1901- J.C.Ghosh, Government of Bengal- Report of the Land Revenue commission of Bengal, 1940, Life and Works of Ramesh Chandra Dutta, 1911- J.N.Gupta, Handbook of Indian art- E.B.Hanell, Indian records, 1870, History and Economics of Indian Famines, 1914- A.Loveday, British connection with India- K.J.Paul, History of the political and military transactions in India during the administration of Marquis of Hastings, 18136- 1823- Henry T. Prinsep, Mahabharata, 1890- P.C.Roy, Economic Development- Benoy Kumar Sarkar, Life Beyond Death, 1900- M.J.Savage, The Castes and sects of Bengal- Nagendra Nath Basu etc.

Bengali and Sanskrit books, such as:

1)Sypahidroher Itihas, 1910, 2) Nababharat, 1293- Rajanikanta Gupta, Smriti Sabha, 1330- Annayadakumar Chakraborty, Hindu Shastra- Ramesh Chandra Dutta, Shanibarer Chithi, 1355 (Baishak- Chaitrya)- Sajanikanta Das, Banglar Begam, 1319- Brajendranath Bandopadhyay, Banglar Chasi, 1351- Shantipriya Basu, Prachin Mudra- Rakhaldas Bandopadhyay, Narnamed Jyangha, 1302- Rajkrishna Roy, Pabna Zellar Itihas, 1300- Radharaman Saha etc.

### **Saptam Edward Memorial Library**

Saptam Edward Memorial Library holds rare reference books such as, Children Britanica (12 Vols.), Chotoder Biswakosh (50 Vols.), Child Book of Knowledge, Websters Dictionary, The Book of popular Science (11Vols.), Young Students learning Library (22Vols.), Britanica, Britanica Atlas, Bharat Kosh etc.

### **Bishnupur Public Library**

Bishnupur Public Library has got familiarity as scholars' destination for its rare collection. Only a few has mentioned here for reference, such as, Bijyan o Koran- Md. Nurun Islam; Koran - Musharaf Hussain; Tantrer Katha - Satindramohan Chattopadhyay; Banglay Baudhadharma- Nalininath Dasgupta; Puran Prabesh- Girindrakeshar Basu; Manusanhita- Muralimohan Senshastri; Hinduttyater Punaruthan- Matilal Roy; Saurapuram- Subodhkumar Chakraborty.

Bankurar Mati, Manush, Gan - Sailen o Dhanapati Samanta; Bankurar Lokasanskriti- Sailen o Dhanapati Samanta; Bharater Arthanaitik Itihas- Ramesh Chandra Dutta; Bangla Bhasay Ain Charchar Dhara- Purnendunath Nath; Bankura Zella Lokjibane Loksanskriti- Biresar Bandopadhyay; Bankura Zella Communist Andolaner Smritikatha- Mihir Roy (Ed.); Bankura Zella Tapashilijati o Upajati- Dukhabhanjan Bandopadhyay; Shilarupmaoy Bankura- Rabindranath Samanta; Indian National Army- M.L.Bhargava; Roots of separatism in Nineteenth Century Bengal- Amalendu De; District Census hand book, Bankura; Indian Sugar Industry - M.P.Gandhi; Life Style of educated women- Ele Ginzleerg; World Dynamics- W. Joy Forrester; Gram Pachayet Level Development 1990-91, Bankura District; Negro in Twentieth Century America- Hope John Franklin; District Statistical HND Book, Bankura 1983-86, Burea of Applied Economics; Igo West - George E Keunan; Great American Heritage- Bela Kornitzer; Leftist Movements in India 1917-1947- Satyabrata Ray Chowdhury; Religion and Politics in America- S. Murry Stedman, Bangla Bhasa Prasange- Sunitikumar Chattyopadhyay; Bhasacharcha- Adityakumar Chattyopadhyay.

Prachin Bharatiya Ganiter Itibritiya (Prachin o Madhyayjug)- Nandalal Maity; Pashupakhi- Jogendranath Sarkar; Shishubikash- Binoy Acharya; Bange Malaria- Rajkrishna Mandol; Ganga Pollution and Health Hazard - Upendra Kumar Sinha.

Bankimchandra o Musalman Samaj- Rejaul Karim; Prachin Bharater Kabi o Kabya- Anil Kanjilal; Samajchitre Unabinsha Shatabdir Bangla Prahasan- Jayanta Goswami; Adhuniki - Nalinikanta Gupta; Kathopokathan - William Carry; Bharatiya Chetanay Bristi Namuk - Tarashankar Chakraborty; Swapnapreyas - Dwijendranath Thakur; October Biplab o Adhunik Bangla Sahitya- Malay Basu; Tridhara- Chandranath Basu; Falgu - Baidyanath Bandopadhyay; Charankabi Baidyanath - Swapan Bandopadhyay; Pagla Jhora - Lalitkumar Bandopadhyay; Rabindranath: Sadhana o Sahitya - Amitryasudan Bhattacharya; Biplabi -Krishna Mukhopadhyay; Raktamukut -Binoykumar Mukhopadhyay; Firingi Banik - Akshyakumar Maitreya; Rammohan Granthabali -Brajendranath Bandopadhyay (Ed.); Ramtanulahiri o Tatkalin Bangasamaj -Shibnath Shastri; Kabya Kusumanjali – Mankumari; Contemporary Indian Literature a Symposium- Sahitya Academy; New Frontier for Freedom- Erusin D Cauham; Winds of Freedom- Rusk Dean.

### **Barananagar Peoples Library**

The library collected Bengal Past and Present in 7 Vols. Imperial Gazettee of India, History of France in 8 Vols. collection of Thackery, A Gazeteer of the territories under the government of East India Company etc.

### **Mirzapur Satsahitya Sammilani Library**

The library holding comprised with rare books such as, Gitgobinda (1294), Phularenu – Gobinda Chandra Das (1321), Kashikhanda, Atma Ramayan, Bankimchandra Smriti Chinya, Jogesh Chandra Basu, Bankim Sahitya Naouka Jatra- Jogesh Chandra Basu, Sabdakalpadram Brihat Advut Ramayan, Congress-Hamendra Prasad Ghosh (1328 BS), Kabikanannica- Kshirad Prasad Vidyabinad (1329 BS), Shakuntala- Iswar Chandra Vidyasagar (1913), Bankim Jibani-Purnachanda Chattapadhyay, Bankim Chander Jibani- Akshay Kumar Dutta (Published from Dacca). It is evident from the collection of the Satsahitya Sammilani that the authority of the library had preferred magazine and journal than books within their limited financial strength.

### **RajShahi Sadharan Granthagar**

RajShahi Sadharan Granthagar holds rare books, such as,

Panchaser Mannantar, Kalikata, Purbasa Press, 1350- Shayamaprasad Mukhopadhyay; Wahabi Andolan, Dhaka: Utara Press, 1969- Abdul Moudud; Shahid Titumir, Dhaka: Modern Printers, 1968- Abdul Gafur Siddiki; Bismritya Itihaser Tin Adhyay, Dhaka: Utara Press, 1968- Abu Talib; Charkar Utsab, Kalikata, Kamaliki Sahitya Mandir – Sarani Bala Basu; Bangladesher Krishaker Sangram, Dhaka: Alamgir Press- Satyen Sen.

Kash Gaoyer Iti Katha, Dhaka: Raket Press, 1967- Neyamal Wakil; Khiroda Prasad Granthabali, Kalikata: Basumati Press- Khirod Prasad; Chalanbiler Itikatha, 1967 – Abdul Hamid.

### **Raj Shahi Barendra Museum Library**

The museum library incites wonder for its rare collection. Only few of them mentioned here for reference, such as, Gaudalekhamala, 1912; Kasika Vivarana Panjika, Vol.I, pt. 2, 3, 1915; Vol I, pt. 4, 1916; Vol. I, pt. 5, 1916; Vol. II, pt. I,

1916; Vol. II, pt. II., 1924; Vol. III., 1925; Bhasavritti, 1918; Catalogue of Archaeological Relics, 1919; Ramacharitam, 1939; Inscription of Bengal Vol. III, 1929; Vol. IV, 1960; Bangla Puthir Talika, 1956; Adyaparicaya, 1964; A Descriptive Catalogue of Sanskrit Manuscript (1979), Vol. I; A Descriptive Catalogue of Sanskrit Manuscript (1979), Vol. II; A Descriptive Catalogue of Sanskrit Manuscript (2010), Vol. III; Inscriptions of Bengal Vol. IV, 1960; Annual Reports, 1925-26, 1927-28, 1928-29, 1929-30, 1930-31, 1931-32, 1932-33, 1933-34, 1934-35, 1935-36, 1936-37, 1938-39, 1939-40, 1949.

Monographs on -

i. Nalanda Copper Plate of Devapaladeva, Vol. I, 1926; ii. Mahasthan and its Environs, 2 Vols, 1929; iii. The Antiquities of Sunderbans; iv. The Mainamati Copperplate; v. A Short Catalogue of some Aboriginal Rites and Customs from Chutia Nagpur; vi. A Very Rare Work on Sanskrit Prosody; vii. Somapuri an Ancient Buddhist Monastery in Varendri; viii. A note on Baigraam Copper Plate; ix. Siva and Shakti etc.

### **Shah Makdum Institute o Sadharan Granthagar**

The public library has also caught attention of the scholars for its rare collection, like, Pakistane Upajati, Pakistan Publication, 1963; Purba Banglar Krishak Bidroha – Abdul Jalil; Brihat Banga- Dinesh Chandra Sen, 1941; Moslem Kirti – Md. Aa. Kader; Bhasar Itihas – Murari Mohan Sen; Bangla Academy, Eitahasik Abhidhan, 1967.

### **Panihar Public Library**

Rare collection of Panihar Public Library includes, Pakistan- Mojibar Rahaman; Spener Itihas- Abdul Kader; Ajker Russia- Brajabehari Barman; Russ-Garman-Asia sangram- Viivekananda Mukhopadhyay; Banglar Itihas- Rakahaldas Bandopadhyay; Nandakumarer Fansi- Biren Das; Indonesia- Mahbub Ul Alam; Syllon- Mahbub Ul Alam; Soudi Arab- Mahbub Ul Alam; Parassya Prativa- Md. Barkat Ullah; Amader Mukti Sangram- Owali Ullah; Carry Sahaber Munsii- Pramatha Nath Bishi; Arab Jatir Itihas- Principal Ibrahim Kha; Anlo Jara Pakistan; Ranagane Pakistan; Americar Sankhipta Itihas; Pak- Bharat Judha; Sadhinata Sangrame Chattyagram- Purnendu Dastidar; Pakistaner Rajnaitik Adarsha- Aa

Momin Chowdhury; Amar Janmabhumi- Dhananjoy Das; Islami Shilpakala; Samaj Sabhyatar Itihas; Bangladesher Samaj Sanskriti Sabhyata; Bangla Saner Janmakatha- Abu Talib; Company Amale Dacca- Md. Asadujjaman; Upamahadesher Rajnitite Sampradaiyikata o Musalman; Mughal Juger Bichar- Abu Jafar; Prithibir Itihas- Aa Halim; Sadhinata Sangrame Musalmander Bhumika- Satyen Sen; Vidyasagar o Bangali Samaj- Binoy Ghosh; Bangladesher Hatyakanda- Ashraf Kaysar; Siraj -Ud-Daulla- Akhsyay Kumar Maitra; Narir Khamatayan- Kanak Sarowar.<sup>2</sup>

### **Uttarbangya Rastriya Granthagar**

Uttarbangya Rastriya Granthagar was one of the old libraries of North Bengal, established approximate in 1870. Colonel J.C. Hoton, guardian of under- age prince Nripendra Narayan Sen of King Narendra Narayan King of princely state Coochbihar bought some rare valuable books from a famous book trader in England to set up library. A library was set up Nilkhuti in Coochbihar state. Later, in 1895, it was transferred to famous Lancedon Hall.J.W. Trotten wrote in his book ‘Indian under Victoria’, that ‘The little state of Coochbihar on the Assam border could boost of a library richer than any to be found in Bengal outside Calcutta.

A good number of rare books were in its collection. The library had collected 8,183 volumes in 1900. It has a wide collection of manuscripts, comprising 21 in Asamese, 95 in Sanskrit, 112 in Bengali followed by rare books on Indian history and reports published in 19th century.

The library preserved rare books such as:

History of the Indian Mutiny, London, 1794, Eastern Bengal Gazetter, Vols V. 1910, 1) District of Bakatganj, its history and statistics, London, 1876, 2) Trial of Maharajah Nandakumar, Calcutta, 1886- H. Beveridge, Account of the Kingdom of Nepal, 1819, 1) History of Bengal, Calcutta, 2) A brief survey of history, Calcutta, 1845- J.C.Marshman, Bengal District Gazetters, 36 Vols. Calcutta, 1903, Hindoo infanticide, London, 1811- E.Moore, Eastern Bengal Gazetter, Vols. V.,1910, Report of the resources of the district under the Presidency of Fort William, Calcutta, 1827, Report of the Sedition Committee, 1918, History of Bengal, London, 1813- C.Stewart, History of British India, Vols. VI.,London,

1851- E.Thornton, Report on the progress of forest administration in the lower provinces of Bengal for 1872.<sup>3</sup>

## **PERIODICALS AND REPORTS**

### **Joykrishna Sadharan Granthagar**

Zamindar Joykrishna allotted Rs. 1200 to procure books and periodicals for each year to the Library.<sup>37</sup>The Joykrishna Public Library in Hooghly district holds old Bengali Periodicals, such as, Somprakash, Dikdarshan (1st Issue), Kalpadrum (1287 onwards), Nitya Dharmanuranjika (1858 Onwards), Bamabodhini (1272-1280), Bibidhartha Sangraha (1773-1782), Bandhab (1288-91), Sarbartha Purnachandra (1262), Tattabodhini, Aryadarshan, Bangadarshan, Sadhana o Bharati.

It also holds old English Periodicals and Reports, such as, Account of trade and navigation of British India, 9 Volumes (Late 19th Century): American Quarterly Review, 79 Volumes from 1808, Asiatic Annual Register, 1800-1811, Asiatic Journals, 1816-1838, Benaras Magazine, 1849-1852, Bengal Magazine, 1872-1876, 1877, 1883, British Review, 1811, Calcutta Gazettee, 1854-1953, Calcutta Monthly Journal, 1799-1841, Calcutta Quarterly Magazine, 1833, Cobbett's Annual Register, 1802-1834, (The) Draft Indian Penal Code, Edinburgh Annual Register (18 Vols.), Edinburgh Magazine, 1822, 1824-1825, Edinburgh Philosophical Journal 1819-1828, Edinburgh Review, 1808, Education Report for 1837, 1860-61, 1865-75, Epidemic Fever in Bengal, 1872-73, European Magazine, 1792-1826, Gazettee of India, 1871-1922, Gentleman's Magazine, 1787-1832, Government Gazettee in Bengal, 1840-1897, Hooghly and Several other district reports, late 19th Century, Imports and Exports of East India, late 19th Century, Indigo Commission Report, 1860, Infanticide and Human sacrifice, late 19<sup>th</sup> Century, Jails administrative Report, 1862-67, 1877-89, Jameson's report on the epidemic Cholera of Bengal, 1817-19, Kerr's Review of Public Instruction in the Bengal Presidency, 1852, Ladies Magazine, 1811-1832, (The) Law relating to India and East india Co. 1841, Long's (Adam's) Report on Vernacular Education in Bengal, 1866, 1868, Life in the Mission, the Camp and the Zenana 3 Vols. - (Mrs.) Colin Mackenzie, Medical Reports of Madras, 1850, Notes on the state of Education in India, 1866-67, Papers regarding the cultivation of hemp in India,

1855, Report of the Commissioners of the Post Offices of India, 1851, Proceedings of the Agri-horticultural Society of India, 1886-61, Regulations for the Schools in Bengal, 1841, Report on the Agricultural Society of India, 5 Vols., 1839, Report on the Calcutta Medical Institution for 1871, Report of the Indigo Commission, Report of the Committee for the Improvement of Schools, 1857, Report of the Internal Trade of Bengal, 1883-84, Report (18th ) of the School Book Society, 1856, Report of the Sudder Dewany Adawlat Cases, 1845, Report on Tea cultivation, 1857, Report (Twenty-Fifth) of the Calcutta Diocessan Committee, 1858, Report on Vaccination in Madras, 1867, Rules for the Guidance of officers of the Revenue Department and of the Preventive Service, Sudder Dewany Adawlatt circular order, 1818, Tagore Law Lecture relating to the Hindoo widow, Tea industry in Bengal, 1873, Tierney's East India tracts 2 vols., Tobacco cultivation in Bengal, 1874, Toynbee's Administration of the Hooghly district, 1795-1845, Trade of Bengal, external 1877-1884, Transactions of the Bengal Social Science Association, Vol.III, pt. I 1869; Vols.V-VIII, 1871-78, Treatise on popular education in India, 1841.

### **Konnagar Public Library**

This old public library of Hooghly has a rich collection of old periodicals, such as,  
English Journal-

The Modern Review (1907-1963); The Theosophist (1922-1929); The Dawn Magazine (1907-1911); The Indian Review (1908-1932); The Islamic Review (1950); The Edinburg Review (1886-1887); The Dacca Review (1911-1912); The Quarterly Review (1853-1854).

Bengali Journal-

Bangadarshan (1281-1319 Bangabda); Tattabodhini (1785-1834 Shakabda); Prabasi (1316-1376 Bangabda) ; Bharati (1318-1333 Bangabda); Bharatbarsha (1323-1376 Bangabda); Manasi o Marmabani (1323-1336 Bangabda); Masik Basumati (1329- 1375 Bangabda); Udayan (1340-1341 Bangabda) ; Birbhumi; Sanhati; Sahitya; Shanibarar Chithi; Sabuj Patra

### **Bagbazar Reading Library, Calcutta**

Journals included in Bagbazar Reading Library, Calcutta, such as: Aryadarshan-1288,121290,1291, Dasi- 1895, 1896, 1897- January- Decenber, Nabya Bharat-1290, 1292, 1294, 1296, 1299, 1300, 1301, 1302, 1304-1307, Prachar- 1291-92, 1295, Bangyadarshan- 1279-1282, 1284, 1285, 1287, 1289, Bharati- 1284-1288; 1290-1296; 1298-1306, Bedabyas- 1293,1295,1298,1303,1304, Bina- 1293, 1888-89, Sahitya- 1299-1303, 1305-1306, Haniman- 1290-1292 etc.

### **Chandannagar Pustakagar**

Chandannagar Pustakagar, Hooghly has a rich collection of old periodicals in Bengali published before 1900. Some periodicals published after 1900 have also preserved in the library, as such as Antahpur (1900, 1901, Aryadarshan (1283-1291 Bengali era), Kalpadrum (1285-1288) (edt.) Dwarkanat Vidyabusan, Chikitsa darpan (1280 B.), Chikitsa bijyan o Samiran (1310 B.), Chikitsa Sammilani (1290-1297 B.), Tattabodhini Patrika 1783, 1788, 1790, 1815 sakabda, Dasi, (edt.) Ramananda Chattapadhyay (1894- 1897 B.), Nabajiban(edt.) Akshwaychandra Sarkar (1291 - 1296 B.) Nabya Bharat (edt.) Debiprassanya Roychowdury (1290-1329 B.) Prachar(edt.) Rakhachandra Bandopadhyay (1282- 1290), Pradip (edt.) Ramananda Chattapadhyay (1304- 1312), (1339-40), Bangadarshan- (edt.) Bankimchandra Chattapadhyay (1279- 1281 B.), Bandhab –(edt.) Kaliprasannya Ghosh (1285-1312), Bamabodhini Patrika, (1271- 1312 B.), Bharati (1284-1333),Bharati o Balak (1295 - 1299 B.), Malancha (1296, 1321- 1327 B.), Samiran - (edt.) Dwarkanath Mukhopadhyay (1301- 1302), Sangraha–(edt.) Rajendralal Mitra (1779, 1783), Sadhana (1299- 1302 B.), Sahitya (1301-1328 B.), Sahitya Parishad Patrika (1303 - 1366 B.), Subodhini (1297- 98), Sukatha (1301-02), Arthik Unnnati (edt.) Binoy Kumar Sarkar (1333- 1338, Shrabon 1361 B), Amar Desh (edt.) Shisirkumar Mitra (1327-28, 1331-32, 1332-33), Arya Nari (edt.) Sriradha (1367- 1371 B.), Ayurbijyan (1330-42B), Ayurveda (1323- 1330), Udbodhan (1306-1348, 1368- 1370), Kishilakshmi (1350 - 56), Pantha (1305-07, 1310, 1312-17, 1320-1321), Parichay (1338- 46 B.), Prabartak (1322- 1374B.), Pravasi (1309-77 B), Bangabani (1329- 41B.), Bangalakshmi – (edt.) Hemlata Debi (1336- 1340), Basumati (Monthly) 1329- 1376, Bichitra (edt.) Upendranath Gangopadyay (1334-



1345B.), Bharatbarsha (1320 - 1376 B.), Manasi o Marmabani (1322- 1336), Shanibarar Chithi (1334- 1337), Sabujpatra– (edt.) Pramatha Cowdury (1321 - 1333B.), Subarnabanik Samachar (1326 – 1347, 1361- 62B.), Hindu Patrika (1323 - 28), Tili Samaj (1365 B.), Tambili Samaj (1327 B.), Tantabay Samachar (1338 B), Mahishya Samaj (1323 B.), Sadgop Patrika (1338B.), etc.

Some notable reference books and journals written in English and French published before and after 1900 are found in catalogue of the library, such as, Benaras Magazine, January- March, 1850, Bengal Magazine, August 1875- September 1880, Bulletin de L'Ecole Francaise, 1902-1908, 1910-1919, 1922-36, Bulletin Official de Journal Official- 1864, 1868, 1880, 1889-1900, 1903-1905, 1914-1948 , Calcutta Review, May 1844- December 1860, 1878, 1880, 1889-1900, 1903-1905, 1914-1948, Dictionary of Bengali Language, 1825 – W Carey, Census of India. Vol. VIII, pt. I, 1901; Vol. I, pt- I, II, 1011; 1921, 1931, Centenary Dictionary Vols. I-VIII. Contemporary Review, 1877-1879, East and West, 1902-1904, Bengali Grammer – Duncan Forbes (1861), Fraser's Magazine, 1875, 1892, Hooghly College Magazine, 1919-32, Asiatic Journal, 1927-1937, Journal of Photographic Society of India, 1913, 1915, Modern Review, January- June, 1907; July- December 1914, 1915-1957, National Magazine 1901-1904, 1916, 1919, 1920, Notes and Queries- 1856, 1857, 1860-1863, 1965, 1866, Report of Calcutta University Commission, 1917-19, 1924, Report of Dacca University Committee, 1912, Report of Patna University Committee, 1913, Statistical Abstract for British India – 1923-24, 1924-25, 1927-28, 1932-33, 1936-37 etc.

### **Janai Public Library**

Janai Public Library had collected old books, journals and periodicals, such as, Udayan (1340-1341 BS), Bangabani (1328-30 BS), Manasi o Marmabani (1324-1327 BS), Sabujpatra (1325-1326 BS), Bharati (1324-1330 BS), Sahitya (1303-1308 BS), Aryadarshan (1283BS), Masik Basumati (1329-1359 BS), Jahnabi (1319BS), Bichitra (1343-1345 BS), Bharat barsha (1324-1354 BS), Aryabarta (1317 BS), Agamani (1326 BS), Islam Pracharak (1308 BS), Prabasi (1318-1356 BS), Kati o Kalam (1379-1380 BS), Bharat Bhraman (1327 BS), The Modern Review, Narayan, Shanibarar Chithi, Bangadarshan, Natyamandir etc.

### **Ranaghat Public Library**

Ranaghat Public Library's rare collection of periodicals included 'Bangadarshan' by Bankimchandra, 'New India' by B.C. Pal, 'Sahitya' by Suresh Chandra Samaj Pati, 'Hitabadhi' by Kaliprasanna Kabyabisharad all periodicals published from Tagore family, 'Modern Review' by Ramananda Chattyapadhyay, Prabasi, Basumati etc.

The library had also carefully preserved 'Balak', 'Bharati o Balak', 'Bharati', 'Sadhana', 'Narayan', 'Sabujpatra', 'Manasi', 'Manasi o Marmabani', 'Bangabani', 'Bangashree' 'Nabyabharat', 'Upasana', 'Sahitya Sanghita', 'Bichitra', 'Udayan', 'Kallal', 'Malancha', 'Prabartak', 'Dipali', 'Bharat Barsha', 'Shanibarar Chithi' etc.

'Royal Magazine', 'The Standard Magazine', 'Indian Review', 'Hindusthan Review', 'Mac Millans Magazine', 'Tinsales Magazine', 'Pearson's Magazine', 'The Review of Reviews', 'The English illustrated Magazine', 'The Young India and other rare English magazine were collected and preserved in the library. Rare collections were preserved in the first floor of the library. It contained with religious scripture, novel, short stories, poem, science, essay, collection etc. The collection included rare books, like, 'Jungle Life in India' by V. Ball (1880), History of Illustration in England by Henry Thomas Bucle (1872), 'The Greeks and Persians' by G.W. Cocks etc.

### **Taltola Public Library**

Taltola Public Library holds some back volume of journals, like, Bichitra (1234-1335), Bharat Barsha (1320-1376), Bharati (1309-1330), Manasi Marmabani (1322-1336), Sanibarar Chiti (1335-1379), and Subarnabanik Samachar (1343-1345) etc.

### **Bali Sadharan Grathagar**

Bali Sadharan Grathagar holds journals, such as, Janmabhumi, Nabajiban, Nabaprabandha, Nabbyabharat, Prachar, Bangadarshan, Bamabodhini Patrika, Bigyan Darpan, Bedbyas, Bharati, and Samsar Darpan. Except these Hindumission, Sahitya, Shanibarar Chithi, Moslem Bharat, Mukul, Manasi o Marmabani, Manasi,

Bharatbarsha, Barmabidya, Babsya o Banijya, Bichitra, Balak, Bandhab, Bangashri, Bangabani, Prabasi, Prabartak, Pradip, Narayan, Uttara, Modern Review, Arya Darshan, Dashi, Sabujpatra etc.

### **Chaitanya Library**

A major part of Chaitanya Library's preserved about sixty thousand periodicals and fourty thousand books are in rare list. Some leading journals are Antapur (1310-11 Bengali era), Anusandhan (1294-1301 Bengali era), Archana (1310,1323 Bengali era), Utsah (1305, 1308 Bengali era), Udbodhan (1305-1308 Bengali era), Kayastha Samaj (1326,1328-1330 Bengali era), Tattabodhini Patrika (1815, 1817-1819), 1821-1832, 1325-1332 Bengali era), Tattamanjari (1307, 1321-1324 Bengali era), Dasi ( 1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> ), Nabajiban (291-92, 1295-96 Bengali era), Nababharat (1297, 1324, 1327, 1331 Bengali era), Pathshala (1354-58 Bengali era), Prabasi (1308-1363 Bengali era), Bangadarshan( 1<sup>st</sup> , 3<sup>rd</sup> ,4<sup>th</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> year), Bangabasi (1329-1334 Bengali era), Bharati (1284-1333 Bengali era), Sabuj Patra (1327 Bengali era) etc.

### **Bansberia Public Library**

Bansberia Public Library, Hooghly has a rich collection of old periodicals and journals which includes, Bangdarshan, Bangabani, Bangashri, Berbhumi, Purnima, Bharati, Kayestha, Aryadarshan, Pravashi, Prabartak, Manasi, Marmabani, Bichitra, Modern Review, Masik Basumati, Sahitya, Bharat Barsha, Shanibarar Chithi, Kollol, Janmabhumi, Narayan, Nabayug, Jamuna, Jugbani, Sahitya, Swadeshi etc.

### **Contai Club Mahakuma Granthagar**

Contai Club Mahakuma Granthagar, Midnapore used to subscribe following dailies, weeklies and monthlies. Dailies as such as, Statesman, Amrit Bazar, Hindusthan Standard, Times of India, Anandabazar Patrika, Jugantar, Basumati and Satyajug. Weeklies, as such as, Darpan, Jugbani, Desh, Blitse, Amrit, Illustrated weekly etc. Maonthlies as such as, Modern Review, Prabasi, Bharatbarsha, Shanibarar Chithi, Nabakallal, Granthagar etc. Local papers, such as, Nihar, Hijli, Hitaishi, Narayan, Deshpran etc.

Ananda Bazar, Advance, Amritabazar Patrika, Desh, Bharatbarsha, Prabashi, Basumati, Sanibarar Chithi, Bichitra, Prabartak etc. were in the holding of Nabadwip Sadharan Granthagar.

### **Uttarbanga Rastriya Granthagar**

Periodicals of Uttarbanga Rastriya Granthagar, Jalpaiguri like Calcutta Review- 1945, Cooch Behar Gazette- 1893, 1894, 1896, 1997, 1910, 1914, 1919, 1923, 1926, 1928, 1932, 1934, 1936-1938, 1945, 1947, Islamic Review- January 195— August 1952, Indian Review- 1938-1943, 1947-1958, Modern Review- 1910, Graphic- 1882-1890, 1892-1903, 1905, 1907, 1908, 1912, London News- 1883-1890, 1892, 1894, 1897, 1901, 1905, 1907 etc.

### **Mirzapur Satsahitya Sammilani Library**

Mirzapur Satsahitya Sammilani Library in modern Midnapore, holds rare journals, such as, Balaka (1919), Bharati (1325), Manasi o Marmabani (1325), Bharatbarsha (1327), Sabujpatra (1325), Masik Basumati (1329), Mouchak (1336 BS), Shuktara (1356), Bangabani (1331), Basudha (1317 BS), Narayan (1327BS), Shani Barer Chithi (1354), Sahitya Paricharika (1325 BS), Abasar (1320), Sandesh (1325 BS). Besides books, Anandapur Public Library had subscribed Masik Basumati, Bharatbarsha, Prabasi etc.

### **Barananagar Peoples Library**

Barananagar Peoples Library collected and preserved rare journals and periodicals, such as, Bharati (1320s), Manasi (1319-1322BS), Bangabani (1331-1332 BS), Udayan (1341 BS), Shanibarar Chithi (1351-59 BS), Bangashree (1340-1343 BS), Basudhara (1366 BS), Achalpatra (1355 BS), Pravasi (1318-1355 BS), Bharat Barsha (1322-1361 BS), Masik Basumati (1330-1370 BS), Prabartak (1338 BS), Jugabani (1364-1370 BS), Sachitra Bharat (1355 BS), Bichitra (1334-1346 BS) etc.

### **RajShahi Sadharan Granthagar**

RajShahi Sadharan Granthagar holds a good number of rare journals both in Bengali and English.

English Journals as, The Gwalior Commercial Journal, Vol.I. Nov.1910, Dec. 1910, The Journal of Oriental Researches (Madras), 1927, The Calcutta Review.

Jan-June-1845, July-Dec. 1850, July-Dec.1924, Blackwoods Edinburg Magazine, January- 1856 to April-1883, The Illustrate Exhibition and Magazine of Art, Dublin University Magazine, Sep. 1842, Jan.- June, 1855, Journal of The Disaster's in Afganistan, 1842, The Macmillan's Magazine, Nov. 1859 to April, 1860, Modern Review etc.

Bengali Journals as,

Prabasi (33Khana), 1319 to 1336 Bangabda, Bharatbarsha, 1320 to 1351Bangabda, Narayan, 1326 to 1329 Bangabda, Bichitra, 1334 to 1346Bangabda, Shanibarar Chithi, 1346 to 1353 Bangabda, Basumati, 1331 to 1352 Bangabda, Bangla Academy Patrika, 1363 to 1374Bangabda; Manasi o Marmabani, 1323 to 1327 Bangabda; Bangashri, 1339-40 to 1340-41Bangabda; Sourav, 1334-35 to Magh-Paush (Bengali Month), Sabuj Patra, (4 Khana) 1323 to 1332 Bangabda; Bangabani, (10 Khana), 1329 to 1334 Bangabda; Krishak, 1338-39 to 1341Bangabda; Sahitya Patrika (11 Khana), 1367 to 1374 Bangabda; Muslim Bangla Samayik Patra, April 1st , 1963Bangabda;Islamik Academy Patrika, 1961 to 1967 Bangabda; Madhuri, (Hindi Masik Patrika) Bangabda.

### **Shah Makdum Institute o Sadharan Granthagar**

Shah Makdum Institute o Sadharan Granthagar had collected rare old periodicals in Bengali, such as,

Prabasi (Sachitra Masik Patrika), 25 bhag, 2<sup>nd</sup> Volume, Falgun (Bengali Month), 1332 to 42 bhag, 1<sup>st</sup> & 2nd Volume, Baishak- Magh (Bengali Month), 1349, 10 Sankha; Bichitra (Sachitra Masik Patrika), 6th Year, 1st Volume, 1339 to 11th Year: 1st and 2nd Volume, 1344, 5 Sankha; Malancha (Sachitra Masik Patrika), Baishak- Aashin (Bengali Month), 1321 to Baishak- Aasin (Bengali Month) , 1324, 4 Sankha; Sabujpatra, 1st Year: Baishak- Ashin (Bengali Month), 1321 (1 Sankha); Bijaya, Ashin (Bengali Month) , 1320- Bhadra (Bengali Month) , 1321 (1 Sankha);Manasi o Marmabani, 9th Year: Shraban (Bengali Month), 1324 to Magh (Bengali Month), 1324 (1 Sankha); Bharatbarsha, Baishak- Magh (Bengali Month),1333 to Baishak-Chaitra (Bengali Month) , 1348 (10 Sankha); Bangla Academy Patrika, 1366 to 1370 (5 Sankha); Sahitya Patrika, 1365 to 1373 (8 Sankha); Islamic Academic Patrika, 1963 to 1965 (3 Sankha); Barendra Sahitya

Parishad Patrika, 1367; Samakal, 1<sup>st</sup> Year 1364 to 10<sup>th</sup> Year 1373 (9 Sankha); Saptahik Desh , 1965, June, July to August.

### **Barendra Museum Library**

Barendra Museum Library inherited a rare collection of Bengali Periodicals which are in following,

Antapur, Sachitra Masik Patrika, Kalikata, 1st Volume, 1304 to 6th Volume 1310, No. 6; Abodh Bandhu (Masik), Kalikata, 2nd Volume Baishak- Chaitra (Bengali Month), 1275 to 3rd Volume, Baishak- Falgun 1276, No.2; Aryadarshan, Kalikata, 1st Volume, 1281 to 10th Volume 1291, No.9; Alochana (Masik), Kalikata, 1st Volume, Bhadra (Bengali Month) 106-7, No. 1; Itihash Samity Patrika (Barshik), Bangladesh Itihash Samity, Dacca, 2nd Year : 1374-1375, No.1; Upasana (Masik), Kasim Bazar; Koumudi (Masik), Maymansingha, 1st Volume, Baishak- Chaitra (Bengali Month), 1285, No. 1; Antarbhukta : Sahitya Sambad (Masik), No. 1; Chikitsa Prakash (Masik), Kalikata, 1st Year: Baishak-Chaitra, 1315 to 28th Year: Baishak- Chaitra, 1342, No. 11; Dacca Viswa Vidyaly Patrika, Dacca, 1st Volume, 1380 to 16th Year: 1389, No. 12; Tattyabodhini Patrika (Masik), Kalikata, 1st Kalpa, 1765-1768 to 15th Kalpa 1821-24, No.13; Dasi (Masik), Kalikata, 2nd Year: July-June, 1893-94 to 5th Year: June-December, 1896, No. 3; Nazrul Academy Patrika, Dacca, 1st Year: 1376 to 6th Year: 1384, No.6; Nabajiban, Kalikata, 2nd Part, 1292 to 5<sup>th</sup> Part, 1295, No. 4; Nisarga, Chattyagram, Bhasatattya Sankha, 1380, No.1; Bangadarshan (Masik Patra o Samalochana), 1st Part, Baishak- Chaitra (Bengali Month), 1279 to 9th Volume, 1289, No 9; Bangamihir (Masik), 1st Volume, Baishak- Chaitra, 1280, No.1; Bharat Barsha (Masik), Kalikata, 3rd Year, 1st Volume, 1322 to 44<sup>th</sup> Year, 2<sup>nd</sup> Volume, Paush-Jaistha (Bengali Month), 1363-64, No. 38; Sahachari (Masik), Kalikata, 1<sup>st</sup> Volume, 1290-91, No.1.

### **English Journals**

Administration Report of the Archaeological Department, Trivandram, 1932-33 to 1938-39 November: 7; Annals of the Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute, Poona, Vol-1, 1918-20 to Vol.42, 1961 Number: 41; Annual Progress Report of the Superintendent, Muhamadan and British Monuments, Northern Circle, Allahabad, Govt. Press, United Province 1912-13 to 1920-21, Number: 2; Annual Progress

Report of the Superintendent, Hindu and Buddhist Monuments, Northern Circle, Lahore 1912-13 to 1920-21, Number:9; Bulletin of the Archaeological Survey of India. New Delhi, Director General of Archaeology in India. 1946 to 1964-65, Number: 16; Calcutta Oriental Journal, Calcutta, J.C. Chatterji & Co., Vol.1, Oct. 1993 to Sept.1934 to Vol.2, Oct. 1934 Sept. 1935, Number: 2; Calcutta Review, Calcutta, W.H. Carey and Co. Vol.1, May- Aug., 1944 to Vol.113, May-Aug., 1901, Number: 112; Dacca Review (Monthly). Dacca, Vol. 2, 1912-13 to Vol.6, 1916-17, Number: 5; English Opinion on India (Monthly). Vol. 2, Feb. 1888 – Jan. 1889 to Vol. 1, 1892 to Vol.4 Feb. 1890- Jan 1891. Number: 3; Epigraphia Indica; and Record of the Archaeological Survey of India. Vol.1, 1892 to Vol. 36. 1965-66 Number: 34; Fortnightly Review, Vol. 2 July- Dec. 1882, Number: 1; Hindustan Review, Allahabad. Vol. 13 Jan.- June, 1906, Vol. 18, July- Dec. 1908, Number: 6; India (Monthly), London, British, Comm. Of Indian National Congress, Vol. 4, 1893 to Vol. 6, 1895, Number:3; Indian Antiquary; a Journal of Oriental Research, Vol. 1, 1872 to Vol. 62, 1933; Indian World, A Monthly Review of Indian Politics and economics Arts and Industries, History and Literature, Calcutta, Cherry Press, Vol.1, 1905 Apr.-Aug. to Vol.7, Jan-March 1908, Number:7; Journal of the Bihar and Orissa Research Society, Patna, Vol. 1, 1915 to Vol. 45, 1959, Number: 24; Journal of the Pakistan Historical Society, Karachi, Vol. 1, 1953 to Vol. 14, 1966, Number: 14; Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal, Calcutta, Vol. 8, 1839 to Vol. 74, 1905, Number: 71; Journal and Proceedings of the Asiatic Society of Bengal, Calcutta, Vol. 1, 1905 to Vol. 30, 1934, Number: 20; Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal, Asiatic Society, Calcutta, Vol. 1, 1959 to Vol. 28, 1986, Number: 29; Journal of the Calcutta Historical Society, Calcutta. Vol. 1, Jul-Dec. 1907 to Vol. 36, Jul- Dec. 1928, Number: 14; Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland, London, WIR. Allen & Co. 1889 to 1982, Number: 52; Memoirs of the Archaeological Survey of India, Calcutta, No. 1 to 69; Modern Review: a monthly Review and miscellany, Allahabad, Indian Press, Vol. 1, Jan-June 1907 to Vol. 85 & 86, 1849, Number: 65; Reports of the State of Education in Bengal (1835-1838) Calcutta, University, Calcutta, 1941; The Indian Nation (Weekly). Calcutta, Vol. 14, 1896 to Vol. 19, 1901, Number: 6; The Dawn and Dawn Society's Magazine (Monthly). Calcutta, Jan- Dec. 1910 and Number: 1; The Times of India, Annual 1922 to 1928, Number: 5; Viswa- Bharati New

Shantiniketan. Vol. 1, 1932 to Vol. 47-49, 1978-81; Viswa- Bharati, Calcutta, Viswa- Bharati office Bulletin. 1-10, 1924- 28 to Bulletin 11-18, 1928-33.

### **Raj Shahi College Library**

Library's collection of Periodicals in Bengali, such as,

Prabasi, 1333- 1341; Bharatbarsha, 1332-1340; Sahitya Parishad Patrika, 1334-1348; Bangabani, 1329-1332; Bharati, 1329; Biswa Bharati Patrika, 1345, 1351; Rajshahi College Patrika, 1947; Madrasa -i- Alia, Dacca, 1780-1980.

Collection of Periodicals, Proceedings, Reports in English, such as,

American Journal of Mathematics, Vol. 43 (1921); Annual Report of the Department of Agriculture in Bengal, 1925-1929; Bengal District Administration Committee, 1913-14; Bengal Legislative Council Proceedings, 1921-1935, 1939; Bengal Past and Present, 1910-1942; Botanical Gazette, 1931-1943; Calcutta Review, 1922,1923,1926;Calcutta University Commission Report, 1917-1930; Chemical Abstracts, 1938-1941;Chemical Age, 1932-33;Education Commission, 1883; Hindustan Review, 1913; Indian Antiquity, 1929-1933;Indian Review, 1912-1933; Islamic Review and Muslim India, 1913- 1943; Journal of Chemical Industry, 1909; Journal of Chemical Society, 1935-1951; Journal of Department of Science, 1919-1925; Journal of Genetics, 1940-1949; Journal of Indian Mathematical Society, 1912-1944; Journal of Research, 1932-1935; Journal of the American Mental Society, 1940, 1942, 1943; Library Association Year Book, 1935-1940; Knowledge, 1908-1916;Modern review, 1922-1926, 1933; Nature, 1895, 1902, 1906,1907-1949; Nineteenth Century and After, 1905-1913, 1928; Proceedings of the 17<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Orientalists, 1928; Proceedings of the Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science, 1917-1923; Proceedings of the Oriental Conference, 1920-1937; Proceedings of the London Mathematical Society, 1964-1969; Report of the Commissioners, Part I, 1916; Report of the Dacca University Committee, 1908; Report of the Education in Eastern Bengal and Assam, 1901-1912; Report on Public Instruction in Eastern Bengal and Assam, 1905-1911; Report of the Public Instruction of East Pakistan, 1960-1964; Review of the Scientific Instrument, 1932-1946; Science Progress, 1933-1939; Statistical Reports, 1872-1914; The Bengal Education Code, 1931.



## **Panihar Public Library**

Panihar Public Library is found collected periodicals in Bengali, such as,

Shanibarer Chithi, 1354-1372; Masik Basumati, 1354; Bharatbarsha, 1354-55; Naranari, 1356-1363; Saogat, 1335-1337, 1349, 1353-1355, 1372-1374; Pak Samachar, 1354-56, 1360; Krishak, 1341; Begum, 1371,76; Pubali, 1370-71; Chitrani, 1964; Pak Jamhuriyat, 1965; Soviet Union; Mukul, 1966; Khelaghar, 1965-66; Jhinuk, 1367, 1369.<sup>4</sup>

## **COLLECTION OF PATRIOTIC HISTORY**

Both public libraries and samity libraries were able to establish mass contact by collecting and disseminating journals, pamphlets, manifestos, pictures, books containing patriotic messages. Swadesh Bandhab, Brati, Dacca Anushilan, Suhrid, Sadhana of the then East Bengal and Anushilan and Jugantar branches of West Bengal were banned due to their anti- Government activities as well as collection and dissemination of seditious literatures. The police used to visit libraries and check both accession register and issue register in search of banned documents and frequently seized issue register of the libraries. It is found from the statistics of the issue register of the Dacca Anushilan Samity that 'Jaliyat Clive' was issued many times in comparison to other books, i.e., thirteen times. Second popular book was 'Maharaj Nanda Kumar'. It was issued by nine members of the Anushilan Samity of Dacca. Library of Dacca National School was searched during Dacca conspiracy case. History of Tilak's case and his biography, Chatrapati Sivaji by S. C. Shastry, Sipahi Bidroher Itihash etc. were found in the holding of the library.<sup>5</sup>

Since press was a powerful weapon in the development of Indian nationalism and of the national movement, it was subjected to restriction by the British Government which was reluctant to satisfy the aspirations and grant the demand of the Indian nationalism. The Jugantar, the Sandhya and the Bandemataram were influential organ of the Bengal group of militant nationalists, to spread their views of national freedom and reconstruction. Articles of these papers were frequently read in newspaper reading circle of libraries. Exciting writing of the papers boosted educated youths to join in the revolutionary movement.<sup>6</sup> Statement of Hrishikesh

Kanjilal, prominent leader of Jugantar Samity. Libraries are found collected these three papers to preach patriotic messages.

The militant nationalists drew inspiration from India's past, invoked the great episodes in the history of the Indian people, and tried to infuse national pride and self-respect among them. They asserted that idealizing the western especially British culture would only engender an inferiority complex among the Indians and suppress their national pride and self-confidence so vital to the struggle for freedom. They revived the memories of Vedic past of Hindus, the great phase of the reigns of Asoka and Chandragupta, the heroic deeds of Rana Pratap and Shivaji, the epic patriotism of Lakshibai, the queen of Jhansi and the leader of the national Revolt of 1857.

Bhagbat Gita, Chandi, 'Bartaman Rananiti', 'Mukti Kon Pathe etc., Maharaj Nanda Kumar', 'Jaliyat Clive', 'Bhagbat Gita' was most favourite book of revolutionaries, second and third favourite were 'Ananda Math' and Bhabani Mandir. Apart from this another notable book were 'Matsini Garibaldir Itihas' biography of Mazzini and Garibaldi by Jogendra Nath Bidyabhusan and 'Swadhinatar Itihas', history of freedom movement by Durga Charan Sanyal. 'Jaliyat Clive' was another favourite book of revolutionaries.

Libraries are found collected documents on patriotism based on based India's past history and mythology to infuse national pride. Naturally, most of them were notified as proscribed documents. An account of some proscribed and other patriotic literatures, such as, books, pamphlets, manifestos, pictures which were in the holding of the libraries are given in below:

### **Patriotic Books**

Chandragupta - Dwijendralal Roy ; Mirkasim, Sirajuddaula - Girish Chandra Ghosh ; Mukti Pathe-Prabhat Mohan Bandopadhyay ; Mukti Kon Pathe, 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th part-Abinash Chandra Bhattacharya ; Tarun Bangali, Bir Bangali Jatin Das- Braja Behari Barman Roy ; Jugabatar Gandhi - Monoj Mohan Bose; Pather Dabi-Sarat Chandra Chattopadhyay ; Ashakuhakini - Amarendra Nath Dutta ; Karma- Kshetra, 2nd and 3rd(edt.), Karma- Kshetrer Gan, Matipuja, Path, Pather Gan- Mukunda Das; Nirbasiter Atmakatha- Upendra Nath Bandopadhyay; Sipahi Juddher Itihas, 1st part-Panch kari Bandopadhyay; Agnisishu Kshudiram-Baridra

Kumar Ghosh; Anandamath- Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay; Banglai Biplab- Nalini Kishore Guha; Biplabi Abani Mukherjee-Rakhal Chandra Ghosh; Jagat seth- Nikhil Nath Roy; Maharaja Nandakumar-Chandi Charan Sen; Damaru: a collection, Bidrohi Rabindranath- Bijoy lal Chattopadhyay; Swaraj Gita: a collection-Ananta Kumar Sengupta; Chattagram Astragar Akramankarider Smritikatha-Kalpana Dutta; Deshar Katha-Sakharam Ganesh Deuskar; Matripuja ba Swargadwar- Kunja Behari Ganguly; Bhangar Gan, Bisher Banshi, Chandra Bindu, Jugabani, Pralay Sikha Nazrul Islam; Chandragupta-Dwijendralal Roy; Jaliyat Clive -Satyacharan Shastry; Banglay Biplab, Biplaber Pathe- Nalinikishore Guha; Samyabader Gorar Katha- Bijoylal Chattopadhyay; Maharana Pratapsingha, Jaga Biplabi Dal, Mayer Gan, Kshudiram, Jaubaner Dak, Rajdroha, Natun Diner Alo etc.- Unknown Author.

Amar Bharat Uddhar – Brahmabandhab Upadhyay (1331), Bharater Muktipantha- Dinabandhu Endruj (1328), Sati Dharma- Tarakumar Kabiratna (1308), Banglar Biplab Prachestha- Hemchandra Kanungo (1928), Sir Surendranath Bandopadhyay, Vol. I. & II. – Gyanendranath Kumar (1340,1343), Masterda- Anandaprasad Gupta, Sepaijudher Itihas- Rajanikanta Gupta (1292-1307), Swaraj Sadhanay Bangali- Nagendrakumar Guharay, Shrutsmriti ( a brief biography of eminent Bengalees since Plassey) – Manomohan Gangopadhyay (1334), Kara Kahini- Aurobinda Ghosh (1328), Sekaler Chitra- Kalikrishna Ghosh (1325), Narijati Bishayak Prastab- Kaliprassana Ghosh (1276), 1) Cogress, 2) Congress o Bangla- Hemendraprasad Ghosh (1342), 1) Khudiram, 2) Fashir Satyen- Brajabihari Barmanroy (1331), Biplabi Rashbihari- Satyendranath Basu, Swaraj Kon Pathe ?- Hemanta Kumar Sarkar (1922), Banglar Samajik Itihas- Durgachandra Sanyal (1317), Hindu Patriot o Harishchandra- Ramgopal Sanyal, Maharaja Nandakumar- Chandicharan Sen (1885). Banger Jatiya Itihas- Nagendranath Basu (1318), Nababharat- Rajanikanta Gupta (1293), 1910). Shik Judher Itihas o Maharaja Dilip Singha- Barada Kanta Mitra (1300).<sup>6</sup>

Chattagram Astragar Lunthan- Charubikash Dutta, Bharat Gourav Bankim Chandra o Surendranath- Kamala Devi, Jatiyatar Pathe, Bankimchandra o Musalman Samaj- Rejaul Karim, Biplaber Pathe- Nalinikishore Guha, Congress o Bangla- Hemendraprasad Ghosh, Jele Bish Batsar- Trailokyanath Chakraborty,

Muktir Sandhane Bharat- Banglar Janashiksha, Banglar Stri Shiksha- Jogesh Chandra Bagal and Nildarpan- Dinabandhu Mitra.

Swadesher Hitakatha- Jogendranarayan Roy, Jugantar- Shibnath Shastri, Palashir Judha- Nabinchandra Sen, Zeller Khata- Bipinchandra Pal, and Tilak Jibani- Tulshicharan Basu.

Azad Hind Fauj o Netaji- Shah Nawaj Khan, Jugantar- Shibnath Shastri, Mukti Sangram- Subhas Chandra Basu, Bandi Jiban- Satyendranarayan Majumdar.<sup>7</sup>

### **Leaflets and Posters**

Libraries are found collected and disseminated leaflets and posters secretly to inspire in patriotism. Most of them were banned documents. Some of leaflets and posters were as follows, Bandemataram, Bandemataram: Jugantar, Jugantar, Om Bandemataram, Om Jugantar, Sandhya, Swadhin Bharat, Brajendra Nath Bhadra - Amar Desh, Bhangar Pujari, Jago! Jago! Shakti Pujar Din Agota Oi! Srihatter Swadhinata Sangram, Swadhin Bharat, Abhijan 2nd No. (Campaign against recruitment of soldiers.), Chatra Sanbadika etc.<sup>8</sup>

### **Pictures**

Pictures were also collected and disseminated in libraries to inspire common people in patriotism. Most of them were proscribed by the Government. Such as,

Chattagram Astragar Abhijan (contains photograph of Ramkrishna Biswas who was sentenced to death and a poem in Bengali),

Photographs: Aryamata, Portraits of Krishnabarma and others arranged round allegorical representation.

Photographs: Portraits of Nana Fadnabis and others arranged on the words” Bande Mataram”,

Picture: Showing chains of Mother India being broken at the sacrifice of Sukhdeb, Rajguru and Bhagat Singh while she was performing “Arati”,

Picture: Showing Mother’s stabbed heart bleeding profusely. Three martyrs, Shukdeb, Rajguru and Bhagat Singh are shown inside the wound.<sup>9</sup>

## **COLLECTION OF LOCAL HISTORY**

### **Uttarpara Joykrishna Sadharan Granthagar**

Uttarpara Joykrishna Library in Hooghly district is famous for the public library founded and endowed by Joykrishna Mukherjee, which is especially rich in books of local topography. In addition to rare and old collection,

### **Contai Club Mahakuma Granthagar**

Contai Club Mahakuma Granthagar has an exhaustive collection of documents on Midnapore and Contai. Such as, Abhibhasan (Lecture of Deshpran)- Deshpran Birendra Nath Sasmal, Ei Amader Contai- Prabodh Chandra Basu, Contai Mahakumar Kathaya Bhasar Rup o Riti- Dr Dolgobinda Das, Khejuri Bandar- Mahendra Nath Karan, Medinipurer Itihas (Vol.I)- Jogesh Chandra Basu, Medinipur o Bankim Chandra- Haripada Mandal, Medinipur o Gandhiji- Haripada Mondal, Medinipurer Gourav Kahini- Salil Mitra, Medinipurer Zellar Bhagabanpur Thanar Itibrittya- Prabodh Chandra Basu, Medinipur Darpan- Harisadhan Das, Medinipur Utsav, Mela o Arthaniti- Harisadhan Das, Sadhinata Sangrame Medinipur (Vol.I,II,III)- Basanta Kumar Das, Hizlir- Masnad-i-Ala- Mahendra Nath Karan, Khudiram- Sara Bangla Khudiram Shatabarshiki Committee, Romanthan (Contai Panchsa Bacharer Itihas)- Prashanta Pramanik, Contai High School Smrak Grantha- Contai Culb, Garamdal: Tamralipta National Govt.- Banga Bhusan Bhakta, History of Midnapore : Political (1760-1803) Vol.-I. - Narendra Nath Das, Fight for Freedom in Midnapore (1928-38), Key Statistics (Midnapore-1988), Bengal District Gazetteers. Midnapore - L.S.S O. Malley, History of Midnapore- Narendra Nath Das, Sroter Trina- Birendra Nath Sasmal, Tamralipta Jatiya Sarkar (Undivided Tamluk Mahakumar Jatiya Sangram)- Radha Krishna Bari, Medinipurer Sahid Parichay- Gopinandan Goswami, Sangrami Jatiyatabad Medinipur o Manbhum (1900-1947)- Shyamaprasad Basu, Medinipur Collegiate Scholer Itikatha (1834-1948)- Haripada Mondal, Medinipure Rabindranath- Haripada Mondal, Shatabdir Alope Deshpran Birendra Nath- Pramatha Nath Pal, Pedi, Doglas o Burg Nidhaner Kahini- Haripada Mondal, Banga Sahite Medinipur- Jogesh Chandra Basu, Hijlinama- Premananda Pradhan, Mahendranath Karan Rachana Sankalan- Mahendranath Karan, Unish Sataker Medinipur-Nagendra

Nath Roy (Translate) (Memoranda of Midnapore, 1852- H.V.Bayley), Baichitramoy Medinipurer Itihas- Shyamapada Bhumik, Paschimbanga-Midnapore Zella Volume- Information and Cultural Dept. Govt. of West Bengal, Paschimbanga Darshan(Midnapore)- TarundeB Bhattacharya, Haldiar Itikatha(Vol. I & II) Bankim Brahmachari, Saraswata Sadhanay Midinipur- Paschimbanga Ganatantrik Lekhak Shilpi Sangha (Midnapore Zella Committee), Midinipur Zellar Loknatya- Dr. Subikash Jana, Midinipur Itihas o Sanskritir Bibartan (Vol.I &II) ed. Pranab Roy , Egra Thanar Sadhinata Sangramer Itihas- Bankim Chandra Das, Amader Shiksha o Samaj- Rajnarayan Basu, Aitijyamoi Shovana Bahini- Anukul Poirā, Shahid Khudiram, Kanai o Satyen- Haripada Mondal, Atite Sangrami Nandigram- Kanailal Das, Mul Nathi Theke Khudiram o Prafulla Chaki- Chinmoy Chowdhury, Deshpran Birendranath- Monmotho Das, Sadhinata Sangrame Itihas: Bhagabanpur Thana- Haripada Maiti o Monmotho Das, Iswarchandra Pramanik Chitramoy Ekti Ujjal Jiban- Monmotho Das (Secretary), Mahisya Samaj : Deshpran Smriti Sankha (Agrahayan- 1345) : Balir Shisu Samitite Sabhapatir Abhibasan, Pache Bhule Jai- Iswarchandra Pramanik.

### **Chandannagar Pustakagar**

Chandannagar Pustakagar holds local history books, such as, Shantipur Parichay- Bijoykrishna Goswami (1344), Birbhum Bibartan, Vol. I. – Mahimaranjan Chakraborty, Bansh Beria o Banshabati- Munindra Debray (1331), Tamluk Itihas- Debananda Bharati (1319), Nadiya Kahini- Kumudnath Mallik (1319), Murshidabader Itihas, Vol. I.- Nikhilmath Roy (1310), Banglar Paribarik Itihas, Hooghly Zella, Vol.I. (1934), Hooghly o Howrah Vol. II. (1935), Kalikata o 24 Parganas, Hooghly o Howrah, Vol. V. – Shibendranarayan Shastri (1940). One can also found local history of Sreerampur, Bikrampur, Bakhargang, Dacca, Maymansingha, Bagura, Faridpur, Uttarpara, etc. in the library.

Apart from the avove libraries, Bagbazar Reading Library, Chaitanya Library, Taltola Public Library and others are also found had rich collection local histories.

Bagbazar Reading Library too holds Shantipur Parichay- Bijoykrishna Goswami, Murshidabad Kahini- Nikhilmath Roy, Kalikatar Katha- Pramathanath Mallick and Kalikatar Itihas- Subal Chandra Mitra etc.

Chaitanya Library is found to collect Tarakeshwar Satyagraher Itihas-Swarnakumar Ghosal, Sutanati Samachar and Town Kalikatar Karcha etc.

Taltola Public Library, Boy's on Library, Bharati Parishad, Hiran Library had collected Hooghly o Howrah Itihas- Bidhubhusan Bhattacharjee, Noyakhalite Mahatma – Sukumar Roy, Nadia Kahini- Kumudnath Mallick, 1) Murshidabad Kahini, 2) Jagat Seth – Nikhilnath Roy, Manipurer Itihas- Mukundalal Chowdhury, Maymansinger Itihas- Kedarnath Majumdar, Nadia Kahini- Kumudnath Mallick, 1) Murshidabad Kahini, 2) Murshidabader Itihas, 3) Itikatha- Nikhilnath Roy etc.

### **RajShahi Sadharan Granthagar**

Rajshahi Sadharan Granthagar holds local history books in its collection, such as, Chhattagramer Itihas, Dhaka: Islamik Press, 1965- Mahub- Ul- Alam; Kishoreganjer Lokakahini, Dhaka Citi Press, 1965- Asraf Siddiki (edt.); Rajshahi Chara, Dhaka: Liberty Printing Works, 1370- Alamgir Jalil; Sylett Bhasatatter Bhumika, Dhaka: Amader Press, 1368- Shibprasannya Lahiri; Bidrohi Kaibartya, Dhaka: Chadya Art Press, 1376- Satyen Sen; Darjiling,1317 – Pravat Chandra Dube; Rajshahir Sankhipta Itihas; Manipurer Itihas – Mukundalal Chowdhury etc.

### **Shah Makdum Institute o Sadharan Granthagar and Panihar Public Library**

Shah Makdum Institute o Sadharan Granthagar and Panihar Public Library incuded local histories in their collection, namely, Syllety Bhasa Tattayer Bhumika- Shib Prasanna Lahiri. Bagurar Iti Katha- Kazi Md. Mecher;Rajshahir Itihas, 1st Volume- Md. Mecher; Rajshahir Itihas, 2nd Volume- Md. Mecher; Sundarbaner Itihas- A.F.M. Aajalil; Chattyagramer Itihas- Aa Hak Chowdhury; Natorer Itihas- Samar Pasa; Unis Shataker Daccar Samaj Jiban- Abud Joha Nur Mohammad; Kingbadantir Dacca- Nazir Hussain; Hridaynather Dacca Shahar- Muntasir Mamun; Daccar Katha- Muntasir Mamun; Kumillar Smaraniya Baraniya- Md. Aa Kuddus; Eitiyabahi Munsiganj Bikrampurur Itihas- Sirajul Islam Lenin; Jessore Zellar Itihas- Asadujjaman Asad; Parbatya Chattyagramer Rajnaitik Sangram- 1- Salim Samad.<sup>10</sup>

Principal constituent of library collection is book, but readers expressed their need for periodicals, Atlas, Pamphlet, Seminar Proceedings, Statisticsand Reviews Graphics in addition to a book. With the help of modern technology, printing

system in Bengal, non- book materials were printed profoundly and libraries were collecting it to meet reader's interest. Unique collections of books on Indian history in the libraries are found had attracted scholars, litterareuters, and historians of inland and abroad. Local history including history of Patriotic history is noticed as the best choice of reading. Inclusion of mythology, manuscripts and Baishnava literature proved interest of readers towards Indian cultural heritage. Collection of novels, histories, politics, dramas, travels, biographies, musical notations, literary works and referene books revealed readers inquisitiveness towards subjects.

### **LIBRARY HOLDING AND CIRCULATION STATISTICS**

We have gone through statistics of holding and circulation record of some libraries. Library catalogues and extent circulation records provide a vivid picture of holding of libraries and what actually circulated. In order to find out reading habit of colonial reader, one can depend on annual circulation and holding statistics, as we know books of the library are procured according to the demand of the readers and issued according to the readers too.

We have gone through the Annual Report of Calcutta Public Library, holding and issue- return statistics of Bagbazar Reading Library and holding of Rajsahi Sadharan Granthagar to reflect choice of Colonial readers.

The annual circulation statistics for both works and volumes for the period 1836-46 shows a fair reading awareness among Europeans as well as Calcuttans.

Table 4.1: Circulation statistics of Calcutta Public Library<sup>11</sup>

Year	Works	Volumes
1836-37	1,794	3,492
1837-38	5,137	9,827
1838-39	-	16,716
1839-40	11,503	22,329
1840-41	13,407	27,380
1841-42	10,784	20,862
1842-43	8,764	17,145
1843-44	9,054	16,703
1844-45	9,025	17,488
1845-46	13,309	26,226

From the catalogue it appears that the Library had fairly large collections in the popular subjects of the time. Different subject collections included



East India affairs- 470 sets in 1,306 volumes.

Voyages and Travels- 597 sets in 1,009 volumes.

Prose works of the imagination- 793 sets in 1,903 volumes.

Latin and Greek- 643 sets in 1,282 volumes.

The collection also contained books on divinity in Italian, Spanish, Portuguese, Hebrew and Oriental Languages. The periodical collection was quite impressive, holding 107 sets in 1,540 volumes (presumably issues).<sup>12</sup>

An appraisal of the categories of books purchased between 1858-1872 reflected the varied reading habits of the people of Calcutta who were expected to patronize the library. In 1847, subscriber member was 203 which decreased to 177 in 1872. Highest number of members 390 in 1852. In 1842, members used average 98 books. In 1872, per head use of books increased to 150 in spite of decrease in number of members. Readers' tastes are found from the Annual Reports of library which is illustrated below.

Table 4.2: Readers' taste in different subjects in Calcutta Public Library

Year	No. of Fictions	No. of Different Books	No. of Periodicals
1847	10,436	5,142	4,197
1852	13,697	9,130	5,037
1865	10,387	7,249	8,751
1872	10,313	5,988	10,379

Authorities of Calcutta Public Library interested to collect books on different subjects. They did not give priority to novel but collected books on different branches of science. Statistics on year wise collections of books on different subjects are illustrated reflects their motivation.

Table 4.3: Collection of books in Calcutta Public Library during 1858- 1872<sup>13</sup>

Year	Religion, Philosophy, Science, Linguistic, and Vocational	History, Biography, Excursion and Indology	Fiction & Poem
1858	73	175	130
1863	102	133	126
1868	107	266	154
1872	90	151	101

It is found from the analysis of Annual Reports of the library that liberal policy was followed in its access system and collection development policy which adopted to the libraries of post Ewer Act 1850 Britain and contemporary United States.<sup>14</sup>

It is also found in the Annual Report of 1850 that, abiding by the public demand, selection committee of the library tried to increase the number of fictions and directed local vendors to supply fictions of popular novelists.<sup>15</sup> Further, it is found from the Annual Report of 1854 that committee had opposed collection of popular novels in regular mode and decided to weed objectionable books from the library.<sup>16</sup> As a result, number of subscriber member was 4,703 in 1856, that decreased to 2,128 in 1872.<sup>17</sup> The committee enquired to the matter and found that two third library purchase of the year 1870 and 1872 was serious factual books which did not fulfill their taste of reading. So, balance would be necessary between readers taste and library collection.<sup>18</sup> It was not known whether that balance had made in later. However, it was viewed that mistrust, factionalism and non-co-operation were responsible for this situation.<sup>19</sup> Table below illustrated purchase of the library during the period 1858-1872

Table 4.4: Purchase of books in Calcutta Public Library during 1858-1872<sup>20</sup>

Year	Theology, Philosophy, Grammar, Pure & Applied Sciences, Professional works, etc.	History, Biography, Travels, East Indies	Total	Poetry, Novels	French works	Periodicals	Misc	Total (including periodicals)
1858	73	175	248	130	12	-	23	413
1859	221	217	438	228	14	22	44	746
1860	113	155	268	207	16	7	19	517
1861	109	145	254	126	14	9	17	420
1862	68	124	192	80	3	2	20	297
1863	102	133	235	126	15	53	22	451
1864	139	60	199	120	9	55	30	413
1865	75	108	183	114	18	57	34	405
1866	109	175	284	113	29	52	20	498
1867	108	181	289	123	9	46	31	498
1868	107	266	373	154	3	40	22	592
1869	71	167	238	117	11	64	20	450
1870	120	124	244	120	9	50	12	435
1871	79	138	217	123	13	74	31	458
1872	90	151	241	101	14	98	22	476

It is found from the report of 1850 that library authority applied Madras Government to take step to collect Tamil and Telegu books to the library. In the month of October, 1848, enthusiastic share holders, such as, Devendra Nath Thakur, Prasanna Kumar Thakur, Satyacharan Ghosal, Ram Gopal Ghosh, Piyarichand Mitra etc. urged to the authority to collect the publications of foreign invisible college. As they supposed, one of the objects to the formation of this institution is the dissemination of European literature and science in this country.

Table 4.5: Reader's preference in books- use in Calutta Public Library<sup>21</sup>

Year	(No. of sets.) General Literature	(No. of sets.) Novels	Periodicals	Total	No. of Subscribers	No. in 1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup> Classes
1847	5,142	10,436	4,197	19,775	203	-
1849	6,040	11,416	4,105	21,561	265	125
1852	9,130	13,697	5,037	27,864	390	147
1865	7,249	10,387	8,751	26,387	310	122
1867	6,576	13,609	6,663	26,848	235	122
1870	6,586	10,052	9,545	26,183	233	198
1871	7,290	9,767	10,793	27,850	201	115
1872	5,988	10,313	10,379	26,680	177	114

Table 4.6: Holding and yearly lending in Bagbazar Reading Library, 1902<sup>22</sup>

Name	Collections		Issue	
	English	Bengali	English	Bengali
Fiction	5306	802	903	524
Poem/Drama	897	109	964	13
History	53	279	61	47
Biography	152	178	162	19
Science/Philosophy	32	133	123	28
Excursion	51	86	37	10
Literature	63	126	134	39
Religion	119	42	241	3
Miscellaneous	445	535	488	65
Total	7118	2290	3113	748

It is evident from library holding and lending of Bagbazar Reading Library that readers were more enthusiastic to read fiction followed by poem and drama, history, Biography, science etc.

Famous Litterateur Jaladhar Sen visited the Rajshahi Sadharan Pathagar in 10 February, 1931. He gave an exhaustive list of library's holding, such as, total books including journals were 35,794 which included following subjects.

Table 4.7: Library holding of Raj Shahi Sadharan Pathagar<sup>23</sup>

Books Name	Collections
Novel (Bengali)	1012
Novel (English)	5815
Drama (Bengali)	10066
Drama (English)	675
Sex (Bengali)	194
Sex (English)	10066
Travelogue (Bengali)	468
Travelogue (English)	911
Health (Bengali)	64
Science (Bengali)	145
Science (English)	166
Journals (Bengali)	3300
Journals (English)	2912
Total	35,794

But incase of Rajsahi Sadharan Granthagar readers' choice are found superseded fiction. The library had collected more drama books than fiction.

### Observation

Both Memory of the World programme in 1992 and National Knowledge Commission (2006) spelled out their objective to preserve cultural heritage as one of the missions of public library. Colonial public libraries in Bengal are found as preserver of cultural heritage mainly in the form of documents, such as, manuscripts, old rare books in different subjects, periodicals and reports which bear the glorious history of past. Manuscripts were prime library resource till extensive use of printing. Rajnarayan Basu Smriti Pathagar, Uttarpara Joykrishna Pathagar, Krishnanagar public library, Nabadwip sadharan granthagar, Bali Sadharan Granthagar, Uttarbanga Rashtriya Granthagar and Chandannagar Pustakagar had rare collection of manuscripts. Joykrishna Public Library, Uttarbanga Rastrriya Granthagar, Contai Club Mahakuma Granthagar, Bali Sadharan Grathagar, Chandannagar Library, Chaitanya Library, Bagbazar Reading Library, Jessore Public Library, Bagura Woodburn Public Library, Rangpur Public Library, Barishal Public Library, North brook Hall Library, Dacca and so many century old

public libraries are found golden treasure of rare history books followed by literature with special emphasis on fiction and drama respectively. In one side it had satisfied the reading taste of English educated class and in other it had retained cultural history of the past to boost nationalism. A moderate number of societies cum libraries and public libraries were set up during political enraged situation of Swadeshi movement and afterward. Libraries were subscriber and preacher of patriotic literatures written to boost nationalism. Naturally most of literatures were proscribed due to charge of sedition. British police used to raid libraries in search of banned documents. Libraries were closed, registers were seized, and volunteers were arrested. But it was amazing that banned documents were circulated secretly ever so. Public libraries played formidable role to form public opinion by collecting news papers, periodicals and magazines. Both libraries of societies and public libraries collected information relating to the population, resources and topography of the village by collecting local histories. Rich collection of local histories are found in Uttarpara Joykrishna Library, Contai Club Mahakuma Granthagar, Panihar Public Library, Shah Makdum Institute o Sadharan Granthagar, Rajshahi Sadharan Granthagar, Contai Club Mahakuma Granthagar, Chandannagar Pustakagar, Bagbazar Reading Library, Chaitanya Library, Taltola Public Library, Uttarbanga Rashtriya Granthagar and so many other libraries.

It is also found from the Annual Reports of the Calcutta Public Library and issue-return statistics of Bagbazar Reading Library that readers were more interested to use fiction followed by poem and drama, history, biography, science etc. But in case of Rajshahi Sadharan Granthagar readers' choice supersede fiction. Literature was also predominant in their daily issue in public libraries like, Rajnarayan Basu Smriti Pathagar, Uttarpara Joykrishna Sadharan Granthagar, Bali Public Library, Amta Public Library, Bishnupur Public Library, Raniganj Public Library, Rangpur Public Library, Shah Makdum Institute and others, though highest number of history books and journals were in their collection as a sign of their eagerness to their past glories. Sufficiency in collection of patriotic and local histories were also mark of readers' regard to local heritage as well as national heritage.

## Notes and References:

1. Manuscripts Register of Rajnarayan Basu Smriti Pathagar, Uttarpara Joykrishna Sadharan Pathagar, Krishnanagar Public Library, Bali Sadharan Pathagar, Uttarbanga Rastriya Granthagar, Asiatic Society, Bangiya Sahitya Parishad, Fort William College Library.

2. Consultations have been made with books, annual reports, committee reports, accession registers, lists of old book collection on different subjects, such as, Kabir, Abulfazal M. Fazle. "English Libraries in Eighteenth Century Bengal", *Journal of Library History*, 14 (Fall 1979): pp.450; Buchanan, Claudius. *The College of Fort William in Bengal* (London: T. Cadell and W. Davis, 1805), pp.240; Roebuck, Thomas. *The Annals of the College of Fort William* (London: n.d.), pp.114; Richard D Altik, 1957, *The English Common Reader : A Social History of the Mass Reading Public 1800-1900*, Chicago : The University of Chicago Press; Chapter 10; Hart, James D. 1950, *The Popular Book: A History of American Literary Taste*, Oxford, Oxford University Press, Quoted in Priya Joshi, *Reading in the Public Eye : The Circulation of Fiction in Indian Libraries, 1835-1901* in Stuart Blackburn & Vasudha Dalmia Ed. *India's Literary History*, Delhi, Permanent Black, 2004,pp.296 ; Annual Report, Calcutta Public Library, 1850,pp.9-10 ; Annual Report, Calcutta Public Library, 1854,pp.6 ; Report of the Calcutta Public Library for 1874-1892-93, Calcutta : Sanders, Cones and Co., Ltd. ; Finances of the Calcutta Public Library, Report of the Sub- Committee appointed on 10th February 1873, 1874, pp.20-1 ; Kalpana Dasgupta, 'the National Library', *National Library and Public Library Development, The 150th Anniversary of the Calcutta Public Library*, Ed. Kalpana Dasgupta, 1989, Calcutta: National Library,pp.3-13.

Accession Register and list of old collection of libraries, such as, Joykrishna Public Library, Rajnarayan Basu Smriti Pathagar, Chandannagar Pustakagar, Taltola Public Library, Bagbazar Reading Library, Bali Sadharan Library, Chaitanya Library, Bansberia Public Library, Krishnanagar Public Library, Nabadwip Sadharan Pathagar, Rammohan Library, Uttarbanga Rastriya Granthagar, Bishnupur Public Library, Rajshahi Sadharan Pathagar, Barendra Museum Library, Shah Makdum Institute library etc.

3. Mukhopadhyay, Sadhan Kumar. Former Professor in History, ABNS College, Shibshankar Mukhopadhyay and Professor in Economics share account of Uttarbanga Rastriya Granthagar.
4. Register of Periodicals of the libraries, such as, Joykrishna Public Library, Konnagar Public Library, Chandannagar Pustakagar, Bali Sadharan Pathagar, Chaitanya Library, Bansberia Public Library, Contai Club Mahakuma Granthagar, Nabadwip Sadharan Pathagar, Rajshahi Sadharan Pathagar, Shah Makdum Library, Rajshahi College library etc.
5. Sedition Committee Report, 1918, pp.10.
6. *Ibid.*, pp. 21.
7. Proscribed Books, Notifications, such as, 4648, 7<sup>th</sup> August 1911, File: Home( Pol) 2B- 61/ 1926, Notif: 12541P, 25<sup>th</sup> July, 1931, Proscribed Indian Book 183/23, Proscribed Publication Bengali B40, Notif: ( part 1- 4) 2965P, 8<sup>th</sup> August, 1910, Proscribed Indian Book 2/1, Proscribed Publication Bengali B66, National Archives of India 1720, Notif: 17350 Pub, 15 Mar 1935, Proceeding: B135-140 File 5S- 108, 15<sup>th</sup> Sept 1921, Notification: 103P, 4<sup>th</sup> January, 1927, Notif: 282PD, 26<sup>th</sup> Apr 1910 & Notif: 279PD 26<sup>th</sup> April 1910 Govt. of East Bengal and Assam, Notif: 11654, 19<sup>th</sup> April 1932 & 15356P, 11<sup>th</sup> July, 1932. Proscribed Indian Book 7/15, Proscribed Publication Bengali B31, Notif: 22392P, 14<sup>th</sup> Nov 1932. Proscribed Publication Bengali B32, 33, 34, & 35 respectively, File: Home (Pol) June 1909, 112-131 National Archives of India, Notif: 11654, 19<sup>th</sup> Apr 1932. Proscribed Indian Book 7/16, Proscribed Publication Bengali B41, Notif: 22392P, 14<sup>th</sup> Nov 1932. Proscribed Publication Bengali B42, Notif: 213PD, 23<sup>rd</sup> April, 1910 Superseded by 696PD, 17<sup>th</sup> May 1910, Proscribed Indian Book 193, Proscribed Publication Bengali D16, Notif: 17817P, 29<sup>th</sup> Nov 1930. Proscribed Publication Bengali 2/10, Proceeding: B18- 21, File: 5S- 4, Jan 1930. Proscribed Indian Book 2/10, Proscribed Publication Bengali B11, National Archives of India 1736. Proceeding: B337- 42, File 5S-91, Oct 1930. Proscribed Indian Book 2/2, Proscribed Publication Bengali B16, Notification: 11202P, 11<sup>th</sup> Apr 1932, Notification: 224P, 9<sup>th</sup> Jan 1933. Proscribed Publication Bengali B62, Notification: 148Pr, 26<sup>th</sup> Mar 1946, Notification: 2840PD, 22<sup>nd</sup> Sep 1910. Proscribed Indian Book 4/1, Proscribed Publication Bengali B22, File: Home (Pol.) Sept. 1910: 60-65 National

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8. Leaflets and Posters, notifications for proscription, such as, 310P, 16th Jan 1912, Notification: 6605, 16th December 1912, File S- 47, Jul 1910. India Office Record, Notification 1066C, Delhi 14<sup>th</sup> Feb 1914, Poll- Oct 369 Part “B”, 1916 National Archives of India, Notification: 4648P, 7<sup>th</sup> August 1911, B62- 64 File S/ 1 Jan 1910, India Office Record. Proscribed Indian books 9/35, Proscribed Publication Bengali F1, Proscribed Publication 23 September 1932, File: R 1771/ 1932 Indian Office Library, Indian Office Library R 1530/ 31, Proscribed Bengali Publication F7, f8&F9, Proceeding: B212-3 5S-1 14 Sep 1932, Notif: 4656P, 9<sup>th</sup> August 1940, PP BEN F15&F17.

9. Pictures, notifications for proscription, such as, 12620P 27<sup>th</sup> July1931, Notification: 233PD 23<sup>rd</sup> April, 1910, Notification: 12194P, 23<sup>rd</sup> Jul 1931.

10. Local History Register of Public Libraries, such as, Joykrishna Public Library, Chandannagar Pustakagar, Bagbazar Reading Library, Taltola Public Library, Rajshahi Sadharan Pathagar, Shah Makdum Institute library, Rajshahi etc.

11. Kabir, Abulfazal M. Fazle. “English Libraries in Eighteenth Century Bengal”, Journal of Library History, 14, 1979: pp.123.

12. Kabir, Abulfazal M. Fazle. *Ibid.*, pp.124.

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15. Annual Report, Calcutta Public Library, 1850, pp.9-10.

16. Annual Report, *Ibid.* 1854, pp.6.

17. Report of the Calcutta Public Library for 1874-1892-93, Calcutta: Sanders, Cones and Co., Ltd.

18. Finances of the Calcutta Public Library, Report of the Sub- Committee appointed on 10th February 1873, 1874, pp.20-1.

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