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Awareness of Reference Management Software's among the Research Scholars of Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University and Mahatma Gandhi Central University

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Abstract

Reference management software is a handy tool for researchers. In this study, the researcher checked the awareness of research scholars of the Department of Library and Information science of Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University (BBAU) and Mahatma Gandhi Central University (MGCU). An online questionnaire was used for collecting data. The study's findings show that 97% of respondents are aware of the reference management software and Zotero are the most popular RMS among respondents. And most of the respondents are happy with the features which are offered by Reference management software.

Keywords

Bibliographic management software, Citation management software, Library and information science, Reference management software.

Introduction

In the future of science fields, reference management methods would be critical. The most challenging problem that any research scholars or students faces is properly citing references or creating a bibliography. There are several referring forms, such as APA, Chicago, MLA, and others, and it is impossible to be familiar with all of them. Manually referencing references takes time and can lead to errors, but when researchers use a citation tracking programme to cite references, they save time and get error-free connections. Error-free concerns are essential for researchers and researchers who need to read the papers mentioned in the bibliography for further analysis. It is a cost-effective and time-saving platform.

Reference management software may be described as software that assists in tagging papers for research purposes or providing the path to documents in the form of a connection.

What Will Reference Management Software Help You With? (RMS)

Write down the following items:

- Organize and search articles
- Attach pdf files
- Read and annotate attached pdfs
- Sync RMS and access articles from anywhere by logging into RM online account
- Collaborate with others
- Cite when writing articles
- Insert reference manually
- Import and export citation
- Easily convert reference into other reference styles. There are numerous others as well.

Review of Literature

According to Amrutha, Kumar, and Kabir (2018), the study aimed to investigate the various types of Reference Management software used by research scholars at the University of Kerala. For data collection, the researchers used a questionnaire instrument. According to the survey, most researchers used Mendeley's free desktop edition, and the majority of the researchers were aware of Reference Management applications. Universities and libraries should provide educational programmes, according to researchers. Similarly, Pathak and Johson's (2018) research aimed to look into the use and understanding of Reference Management tools among community college students. To achieve the study's goals, the researcher used a survey approach. A total of 124 people were chosen as a sample for the investigation by the researcher. The Research discovered that community college students are unaware of Reference Management tools and do not use them. According to the researcher, community colleges in New York City need to have a training curriculum and raise awareness. Shivcharan (2018) demonstrates that Maharishi Dayanand University pharmaceutical science students are aware of Reference Management tools. According to the findings, the majority of respondents only use RMS on occasion. The most prominent Reference Management programme among respondents is Endnote. Respondents learned about RMS from their professors, according to the report. The study's findings also indicate that participants need and want instruction to better

use Reference Management tools (RMS). Sarrafzadeh and Khaleghi (2017) found the "instruction of citation management tools by academic librarians: the need for training the trainers." The researcher collected data in this analysis using the survey approach. According to the report, half of the Iranian universities are unaware of Reference Management tools. The Research also discovered that only eleven universities offer EndNote instruction daily. A training programme for users, according to the researcher, is needed. According to Madhusudan (2016), students in the University of Delhi's library and information science departments know online citation resources and occasionally use them. The most used online citation method among respondents was 'Simple Bib,' and the study also revealed that most respondents had not undergone any formal training in generating online citations. Sarrafzadeh and Hazeri (2014) investigated the use and knowledge of Reference Management tools among Iran University's Library and Information Science faculties. The researcher used the questionnaire to accomplish the study's goals. Endnote was found to be the most common Reference Management app for those who responded to the survey. According to the study, just half of the respondents are aware of and use Reference Management tools, and the respondent needs RMS preparation.

The significance of the Research

This Research would benefit Research Scholars who are unfamiliar with the use of Reference Management Software. Reference management tools would assist researchers and academics in writing bibliographies since doing it manually will almost certainly result in inaccuracy and make it impossible to reach or locate anyone. Reference Management Software saves time for users/research scholars and boosts researchers' science productivity.

Objectives

The main objectives of the study areas:-

1. Determine whether or not research scholars in the Mahatma Gandhi Central Universities (MGCU) or Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University's Library and Information Science departments are aware of Reference Management Software (BBAU).
2. To classify the different reference management software used by Mahatma Gandhi Central Universities (MGCU) or Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University Library and Information Science research scholars (BBAU).

3. To investigate the aims of using Reference Management Software by Mahatma Gandhi Central Universities (MGCU) or Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University Library and Information Science research scholars (BBAU).
4. To know about the functionality of Reference Management Software that Library and Information Science academic scholars prefer.

Methodology

Data were collected only from the Department of Library and Information science of Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University and Mahatma Gandhi Central University. To accomplish the study's goals, the researcher used the survey approach. The information was gathered using a formal online questionnaire created with Google Forms, and the data will be processed using Google Docs and Sheets for tabulation and graphical representation.

Findings

The invitation e-mail was sent to 50 recipients, but only 35 of them responded to the questionnaire.

Are you familiar with Reference Management Software (RMS)?
35 responses

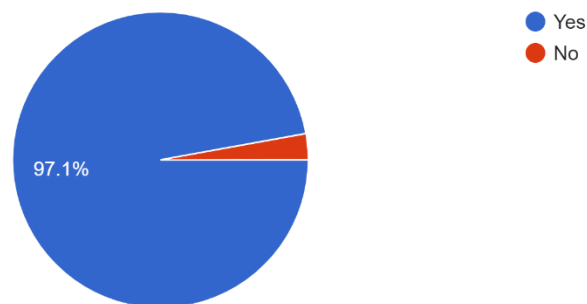


Fig. no. 1

Awareness of RMS the first part of the questionnaire aimed to examine the level of awareness of RMS amongst respondents. As Figure 1 demonstrates, many respondents are familiar with RMS – 97 per cent of them use it.

Which of the following Reference Management Software you have used (you can select more than one option also)

35 responses

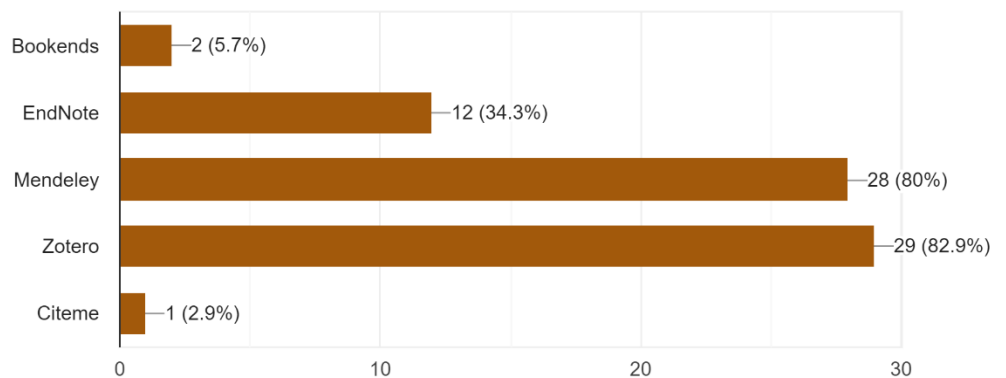


Fig. no. 2

The second question of the questionnaire asked about the type of RMS packages used by respondents. A list of some popular RMS packages, including Zotero, EndNote, Mendeley, was provided so that respondents could indicate the packages that they used. According to the findings, Zotero is the most popular RMS, attracting about 82 per cent of respondents. Mendeley is the next most popular RMS among respondents, with 80 per cent of them using it. The other software packages appeared to be in little use (12 per cent). Respondents have also named the reference manager another RMS package in the open-ended section of this question.

Which Reference Management Software features are most important for you? (You can tick more than one)

35 responses

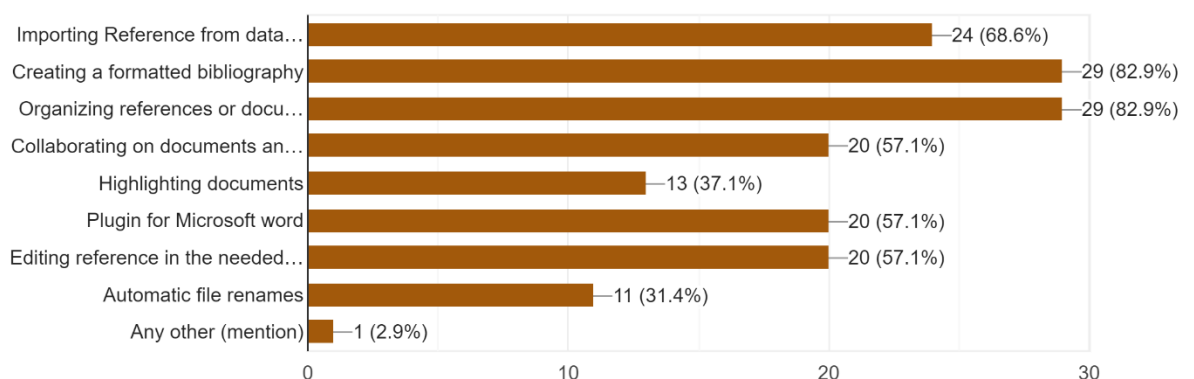


Fig.no 3

RMS features in use Respondents were asked to identify the essential features of RMS packages that they used. As Figure 3 indicates, respondents mostly referred to creating a bibliography and organizing documents. (82 or 80 per cent). Other factors include

editing reference, a plugin for Microsoft word, Importing data from Google Scholar and other databases, Automatic file renames.

The aim of using a reference management software tool is to keep track of all of your references.
35 responses

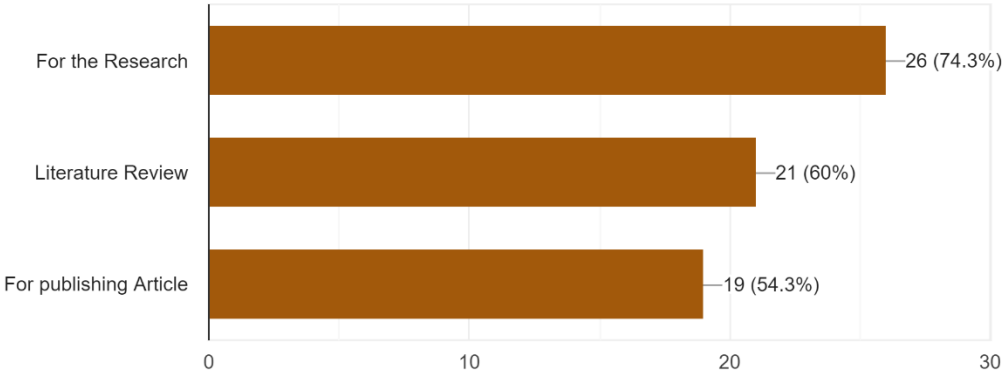


Fig.no 4 indicate that more than 74% of respondents are using RMS for research purposes.

How satisfied are you with the following features in the Reference Management software mentioned below?

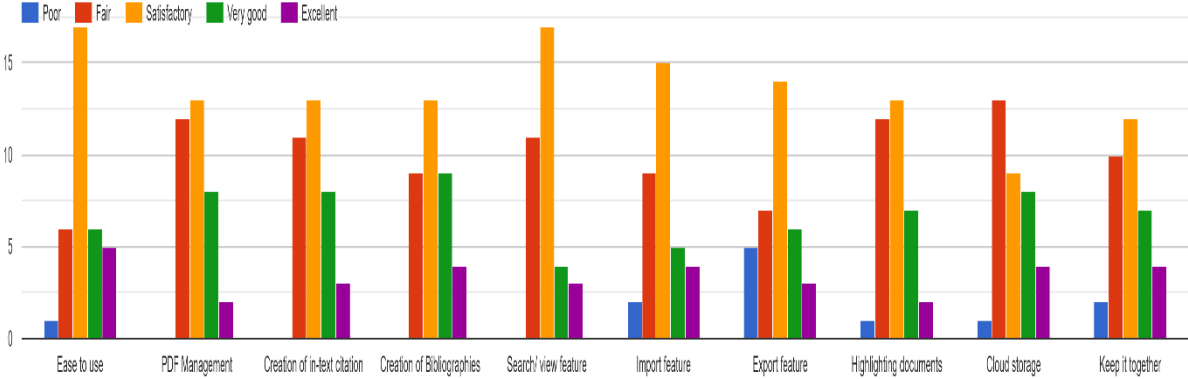


fig. no 5

This fig shows that respondents are satisfied with the features offered by Reference Management Software. Most special features are easy to use and search documents by the respondents.

Conclusion

In this present study, the researcher was exploring the importance of Reference management software. Reference management software is helpful for research scholars as well as librarians too. Reference management software offers many useful features to its users. With the help of RMS tools, users can easily arrange the documents and retrieve them without wastage of time.

Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University and Mahatma Gandhi Central University both are central universities. BBAU Situated in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh and MGCU is situated in Motihari, Bihar. Both the universities scholars are aware of the Reference Management software. The study's finding also shows that respondents are satisfied with the features offered by the Reference management software's.

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