

A Study on the Assessment of the Use of Bibliographic Data & Library Management Software Koha in Academic Libraries of South India

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Emergence of multi-disciplinary subjects in every domain has brought the situation of information explosion and it has become the challenging task for library professionals in libraries to manage information in effective way. However, the advent of technology has given an opportunity to assist these libraries by implementing software to overcome the situation. This study is an effort to examine and assess the use of bibliographic data and open source library management software i.e. *koha* in academic libraries of south India. The study aims to highlight the importance of library automation to academic libraries and its benefits to library staff and users of the library in different ways by reducing the level of job stress and enhancing library services. A systematic questionnaire was prepared and distributed via an email, different forums and social media groups to academic libraries to collect the data. The study focused to find out the use of *koha* software in five states of South India for managing the digital resources. It was found during study that many libraries have adopted this software and have started using for housekeeping operations in their libraries. Many libraries are fully automated and their collections are searchable through online public access catalog.

Keywords: Library automation, Open source, Koha, Academic libraries