

Exploration of the Term 'Digital Library' as Groups in Facebook: An Analysis

Nantu Acharjya*

Kanchrapara College, Kanchrapara – 743145, West Bengal, India; librarian.kpc@gmail.com

Abstract

Facebook is one of the most used social networking sites. Group is the special feature of facebook. A special community may be created with the sector of group. In this paper the term "digital library" has been explored in the groups of facebook. The data has been collected from facebook.com till 28.10.2017. Total 94 groups are identified. Here nature or structures of groups are analyzed. This paper examines the activities of digital library groups.

Keywords: Digital Library, Facebook, Groups, Information Sharing, Library and Information Science, Social Networking

1. Introduction

According to alexa.com Facebook is the third most used website in the world (Ranking of facebook.com, 2017). The website is widely used with many having an account on facebook. They use that social networking app to share their views, their interests. They spend much time in facebook to explore their interests and to make friends. Besides these activities they also share information of general and special subjects.

In this paper a search has been made in facebook with the term 'digital library'.

2. About Facebook

Facebook.com is the most frequently used social networking. In this paper Facebook is considered for its specific features. Their main features are: *News Feed, Friends, Wall, Timeline, Likes and Reactions, Comments, Messages and inbox, Notifications and Groups* (Features of Facebook, 2017). Facebook Groups can be created by individual users. Groups allow members to post content such as links, media, questions, events, editable documents, and comments on these items.

Groups are used for collaboration and allow discussions, events, and numerous other activities. They are a way

of enabling many people to come together online to share information and discuss specific subjects. They are increasingly used by clubs, companies and public-sector organizations to engage with stakeholders, be they members of the public, employees, members, service users, shareholders or customers. Groups can have three different levels of privacy settings:

- "Open" means both the group, its members and their comments are visible to the public (which includes non-members) but they cannot interact without joining,
- "Closed" means the group and its members are visible to the public but their comments are not visible until the user has joined the group, and
- "Secret" means that nothing can be viewed by the public unless a member specifically invites another user to join the group.

Besides these there are ten reasons to use facebook. These are:

- Facebook works as an RSS reader for news,
- It's required to log in to other websites,
- User can use it to build a professional profile,
- User can use it to share photos easily,
- Facebook offers free video messaging,
- It's an easy way of organizing events,
- Facebook groups are better than bulletin boards,

- It's the easiest method for remembering birthdays,
- It offers a simple way of spreading awful opinions, and
- It's better than Google+.

3. Objectives

The objectives of this paper are:

- To know the most used group on “digital library”,
- To identify the last activity of the group,
- To know the types of groups,

- To know the most liked groups,
- To find Top 20 groups according to Likes, and
- To find the basic term used in groups.

4. Methodology

For this article the data are collected from Facebook by searching the term “digital library”. Here the term has been collected from the Group tab of Facebook only till 28th October, 2017 at 09.42 pm.



Screenshot 1. Searching result term.

The searching result has come with all the term (Screenshot 1), not exact phrase. There are 94 groups are found. According to the objectives of this article the data are arranged and analyzed.

5. Analysis

5.1 Distributions of Groups

There are 94 ‘digital library’ groups are identified in Facebook. Among them close group and public group are seen. Figure 1 shows public groups are the highest with 57% and total numbers of groups are 54. But here the close groups are also very near to public groups with 40 groups.

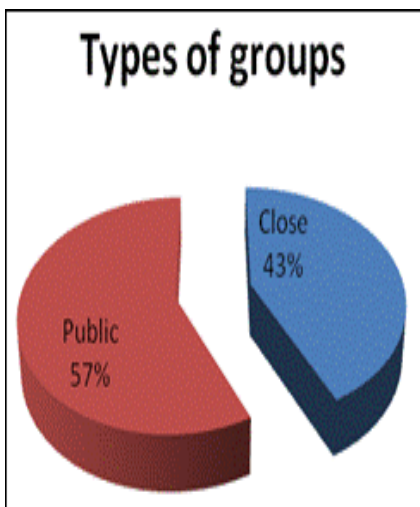


Figure 1. Types of groups.

5.2 Distribution of Likes of Groups

Table 1 shows the likes as well as interest or engagement of individuals. Here in this article it is found that maximum groups are public by nature, but the likes are not maximum number. Public groups are acquired 27.8% likes. Here the maximum likes are acquired by close groups i.e. 72.2%.

Table 1. Distribution of likes

Groups	Likes of Groups	Percentage
Closed	47033	72.2
Public	18115	27.8
Total	65148	100

5.3 Top 20 Groups According to Likes

After the analyses there are 48 ranks are found of 94 groups. Here maximum likes (36396) are found in ‘Digital Libraries - 574 fall 2012’ and this group has obtained rank One. This group is closed by nature. Second rank ‘Digital Library of Cambodia Wildlife’ stands one with (7847 likes) among the public groups. In Table 2 there are close groups and 16 Public groups. Basically public groups are ranked most.

Table 2. Distribution of top 20 ranks according to likes

Ranks	Name of groups	Likes
1	Digital Libraries - 574 Fall 2012	36396
2	Digital Library of Cambodia Wildlife	7847
3	Digital library	5131
4	Philippine Biodiversity Net: Digital Library of Species	4483
5	Greenstone digital library software	1738
6	The Digital Homeopathic Library	1659
7	Digital Library Systems in Bangladesh (Integrated Library Systems)	1441
8	Narail Digital Library	1031
9	International Digital Library Network (IDLNET)	863
10	Greenstone Digital Library Software	705
11	Digital Library in the colleges of Assam	646
12	Digital Library Forum	519
13	Digital Library with Social Network	407
14	Digital Library Management	405
15	Post Graduate Diploma in Digital library and Information Management	166
16	Gujjar Digital Library - ~ گوجر ڈیجیٹل لائبریری	138
17	ডিজিটাল লাইব্রেরী - diGitAL LibRarY	100
18	Heavenly Stars Digital Library	94
19	Digital Library	88
20	Mobile Digital Content Library	88
21	Auvijatri Bangladesh Digital Library	81

5.4 Distribution of Description

Table 3 shows the availability of descriptive notes of the groups. Description is the feature of groups where admin can describe the aims or purposes or attributes. This is very helpful to identify the motive of the groups. After the analysis it is noticed that 60.64% groups have no description.

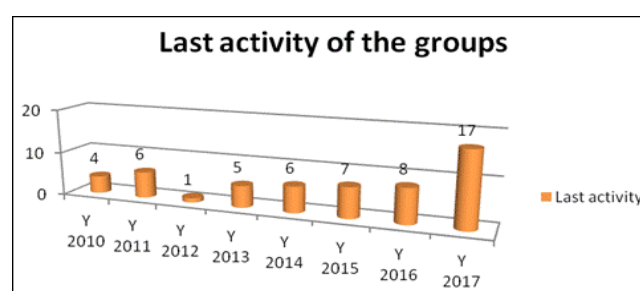
Table 3. Distribution of description

Groups	Number	Percentage
With Description	37	39.36
Without Description	57	60.64
Total	94	100

5.5 Distribution of Last Activities of the Groups

In analysis it is identified that the last activities have been seen of public groups only. Data can't be collected from

closed groups. So there are 54 public groups. Figure 2 shows the distribution of last activities year wise. Only 17 groups are regularly updating their postings.

**Figure 2.** Distribution of last activities of the groups.

5.6 Month-wise Distribution of Last Activities of 2017

Figure 3 shows the month-wise distribution of last activities of 2017. Only 7 groups updated their posts regularly. These groups are: Digital Library Systems in

Bangladesh (Integrated Library Systems); Greenstone Digital Library Software; Digital Library Forum; Digital Library Management; Post Graduate Diploma in Digital library and Information Management; and The Federal Polytechnic Digital Library and Graduates of CERN-UNESCO School on Digital Libraries-2016.

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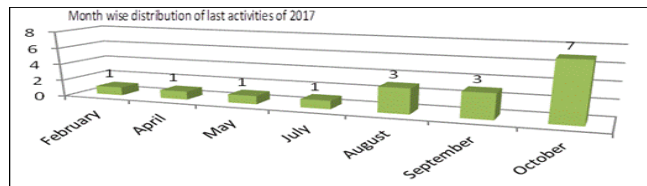


Figure 3. Month-wise distribution of last activities of 2017.

6. Findings

- 94 'digital library' groups can be identified in Facebook,
- Only Closed and Public groups are seen; there are 54 public groups,
- The most used group is "Digital Libraries - 574 fall 2012". It has 36396 likes,
- Most updated group is 'Digital Library Systems in Bangladesh (Integrated Library Systems)',
- Most (60.64%) of groups have no descriptions, and
- Only 17 groups are regularly updating their post in the current year; Only 7 groups updated their activities in the month of October, 2017; These are: Digital Library Systems in Bangladesh (Integrated

7. Conclusion

There are quite a few digital library-related groups on facebook. These groups are working as information sources about digital libraries and help find library related information (such as information about LIS career, LIS job, LIS education, LIS courses, News from LIS associations, News about LIS journals, Learning materials of LIS etc). Facebook has provided a platform to explore developments in digital library. However, it will be more helpful if these groups are formed in a more systematic fashion so that the social platform could be more effectively used for digital library movement.

8. References

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