MANAGEMENT OF TEMPLES IN MAHARASHTRA –A
LITERATURE REVIEW

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ABSTRACT

This review study examines themes in literature on development of temples worship and its administration and management of temples. In order to understand the concept of management of temples in Maharashtra, a survey of relevant literature was conducted. Books written by authors were helpful in identifying the evolution of Hindu temple worship and its administration. A few books by historians and ethnographers helped in identifying the sources of data for the study. The available literature is related the development of temples worship and its administration and management.

Keywords: Temple management, Literature review

I. INTRODUCTION

India is a country of rich and diverse cultured heritage. Religious structures, like temples, play a very important role in the lives of Indians. Temples are those buildings, artifacts, structures that have historic, spiritual, astatic as well as cultural significance. The conservation of built heritage is generally preserved for long term interest of society. (V.K. Gupta, 2013) Temples are an integral part of society. The old age practices such as donations given by the people in various forms such as gold, silver, ornaments, cash, lands, etc. for continuous spiritual and cultural development of common people. The data regarding these tangible and intangible assets possessed by these temples are not available this makes it difficult to keep a watch on malpractices that may have occurred on the treasury.

In this literatures chosen for the current research is concerned with the important temple trust of Maharashtra that is Paschim Maharashtra devasthan Samiti. There are many temples in Maharashtra, out of which some temples are managed by local priests, whereas for the management
of some of temple trust that is Paschim Maharashtra devasthan Samiti, committees have been appointed under the control of the Govt. of Maharashtra. For the current research, from important temple of Maharashtra which are important from the income point of view and those ones where the no. of devotees visiting them is also large, three temple trusts from three different geographical areas are selected.

II. LITERATURES

The first chapter provides ideas about how a temple’s management is not comparable to running a corporation, a house, or even a charitable institution; it is far more than that. The second chapter familiarises a reader with the principles behind the design of temples, how they have been financed and descriptions of their arrangement since time immemorial. It also mentions what is expected from a temple and what is not expected from it. The longest chapter is the seventh. It offers a summary of temple functions such as administration, upkeep, community-volunteering participation, pooja ritual management, etc., and then goes headlong to detail all the administrative aspects that a temple manager should pay attention to. In the fourth chapter, three essential issues are addressed; successful management of the premises, ways of communicating with society and interfaith protocols. The fifth chapter deals with setting benchmarks for ideal pooja practises, selecting suitable shops, inspiring songs, different pooja specifications, and achieving them with creative ideas. The sixth chapter draws the attention of temple administrators to the laws and regulations regulating the aspects of operating a temple and stresses that local laws governing temples and the society that the temples aim to serve need to be understood. It gives a few legal concepts, temple-practices permitted and disallowed, etc. The book asks 55 teaser questions as end-notes and offers brief responses that also serve as a fast overview of the book. It is equally necessary for readers to comprehend what this book does not have. Religious rites, Sanskrit language, Hinduism, yoga, meditation or astrology are not intended to be taught in this book. These subjects are avoided so as not to dilute message of this book which focuses on the management aspect of temples. It is hoped that this book will go a long way in improving management of temples. It is recommended that every temple retain a copy. If the temple trustees were to program a reading of this book at least once for the benefit of their staff, it would prepare ground for setting a minimum common denominator for the temples in the art of good-temple-management.

The book of Indian History outlines the meaning of temples and monastic institutions. In the later Gupta era, the Hindu Temple, as a ritualistic and architectural complex, appeared in full form. A glorious mediaeval legacy from mahaballipurm to khajuraw is created by its growth and spread from the sixth to fourteenth centuries. They had covered rich centers of terrible worship under the representation of social geography by distribution and temple material, incorporating many of the technical skills regulated by Brammhins. Great kings built great temples and assisted many of the learned Brahamites. Medieval social geography is thus mapped by the distribution and content of temples and inscriptions. The author also reflects on the relationship between the number of individuals with increased contributions and temple investments attached to the temple.

In this paper author giving all information of Building science of Indian Temple Architecture, The Hindu religion and its philosophy greatly influenced Hindu temple architecture in its evolutionary process which continues till this date. Therefore, On the basis of the above studies this dissertation concludes by undertaking a structural study of temples taking examples from primarily ‘north’ and ‘south’ Indian temples in an attempt to graphically analyse the structures with respect to its structural stability. A dimensional analysis therefore constitutes an important step in safety assessment of this kind of structures. In spite of the limited number of samples it is possible to find some interesting trend even though the absence of a statically validity constitute a starting point for future works concerning the stability analysis of the temples."

In this article, describe in the Disaster Management: A Case of Sankatmochan Temple Blast of Varanasi research paper, disasters, especially man-made disasters as terrorist attacks, are a relatively new phenomenon in India, and the country is rising rapidly and falling out as a result. These attacks have different aspects, one of which is the management of such disasters by providing the victims with sufficient and timely medical assistance, making adequate security arrangements on the site for additional and subsequent casualties, managing the news of fear spreading, and maintaining peace in the wider community. An analysis of the blast on one of the oldest and most worshipped Sankatmochan temple in Varanasi and consequent disaster management was performed. The paper aims to analyses what has occurred, to find out about the disaster response system and its generalization for many other disasters.

The author focuses on Temple Tank Management in this chapter, i.e. Kund, in the language of Hindi. Since the author of this book is a civil engineer, from the architect ‘s viewpoint, he searches for Temple Tanks (Kund). For his research, he took South Indian temples as a sample. He centered on planning for land use, control of water supplies and provision for parking, etc.

The chapter Building and Maintenance Supervision include general questions about the temple facilities and arise some question about temple management like (1) who may use the facilities and for what purpose? (2) Who will be responsible for their maintenance? (3) How will the operating cost of Manpower, Utilities in Management system? Etc. Chapter also focus on the role of building superintendent, the role of temple building committee, the role of the temple administrator.

The author researched the location of the temple and the orientation of the city in this book. He says that the location of the temple depends on different variables. The first is the location of the sun at the solstices and equinoxes, and the location of the stars. "The Plan of the Temple“ is also the emphasis. The temple is built on a combination of geometric figures that are a description of the universe and a prodigious core of energy with the goal of creating it.
In their paper analyzed activities characteristics of Christian pilgrims towards religious sites. They stated that there were significant differences between pilgrims” and tourists” behavior towards any religious site inspire of the fact that both had three common elements like optional income, leisure time and social sanctions. The study also highlighted certain parameters like age, socio-economic status and nationality which were very imperative for the purpose of studying tourists” and pilgrims” behavior. It revealed that the persons who perceived themselves pilgrims belonged to low social-economic group and those who belonged to high socio-economic group perceived themselves as tourists. The study concluded that although various differences were there between tourists and pilgrims but it was very difficult to present those differences.

This article describes the Indian religious tourism, which has evolved for many years without causing negative environmental, cultural and social consequences, was praised in this report. The author believed that the pilgrimage had a lower environmental burden, supported local communities, was seasonal and provided the local economy with economic benefits. The author suggested that modern tourism be built to support local communities without affecting the natural environment.

This article describes a short, but vivid account of Indian heritage and culture is provided in his book "Indian Heritage and Culture". The book also identifies the contributions made to the social, cultural and religious structure of India by different dynasties. In India, the author has established various religious institutions that operate. The book offers details on how the workshop activities in temples were institutionalized during the various monarchs' times.

The book discusses the contributions to the various social, cultural and religious varieties of India made by different dynasties. In India, the author has established various religious institutions that operate. The book offers details about how, during the times of various monarchs, the traditions of worship in temples were institutionalized. In the development of temple worship, the author has discussed the role of priests. An overview of the growth of temple worship in India is given in the book. Since the entire work is based on Central and North Indian, the practices prevalent in Kerala need to be examined.

III. SUMMARY
From the literature reviewed above an over view of development of temples worship and its administration and management of temples. A summary of temple functions such as administration, upkeep, community-volunteering participation, pooja ritual management, etc. and the involvement of various persons according to these tasks is depicted. Support to local communities and its seasonal variations and the impact on local economy with economic benefits can also be found.

The maintenance of these structures, the agencies involved, the scope of development etc. has been highlighted in few research papers. Also the responses of the temple management and the locals during disasters and the impacts of these disasters is also studied. Also the changes in
traditions over the course of time and the historic rituals being still carried out till date have been highlighted. Thus overall all the necessary factors that affect these historic and religious monuments have been studied in the above literatures

IV. REFERENCES