Implications of Evolving and Use of Ancient Writing Systems up to the Invention of Paper

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Abstract

In the modern world writing systems have changed from traditional systems to modern technological and ICT based systems. One cannot overlook these rational systems owing to many factors like the beauty, historical and cultural value, and the implicit knowledge behind these writing systems. The purpose of this paper is to explore historical and chronological scenario of ancient writing systems to modern systems. The earliest ancestors did not have any idea of a writing system however they later used to write pictures about their feelings, thoughts and work they performed for expressing views and ideas. This communication system may be the foundation for earliest writing system. However with the rapidity of emerging subject like medicine, astronomy, asterism, useful arts, divine and later theology particularly religious knowledge they used oral tradition. With the promptness of developing these knowledge domain many educational establishments were introduced by the then society. Owing to many changes and effects there have been a threat to this oral tradition and with the growth of early civilizations systems different ancient writing systems also evolved. Approximately before six thousand years, the Mesopotamian founded way to writing. These river based civilization systems were Mesopotamian, Babylonian/ Sumerian – Yuppratries, River, TyGreece River, Assyrian, and Indu Civilization. Mesopotamian, Babylonian, Assyrian People found a way of writing on clay that was found in river banks. They found clay tablets. The first world map was drawn on the clay tablet. They carved in the rock surface by using hard tools or small rock pieces. But it’s not good with practically so they used stone boards they were useful for long time because damage is less than other materials.

Since clay tables were difficult to be maintained the papyrus was found by Nile river bank which were grew well on wet zone. Egypt used Papyrus for stored knowledge. In Alexandria library which is famous for the largest library in the past world. There were about 700,000 papyrus rolls stored in that library. Vellum and Parchment were made by used animal skin. Vellum was made from skin of Sheep s and Goats. These animal skins were mostly use for writing valuable details like religious purposes and secrets documents because there were rare and exist for long time period. In Asian countries used bamboos and silk cloths because they didn’t have papyrus or animal s skin. But they realized it’s not suitable way and tried to find more and more alternatives. As the result of that Paper were found by Cai Lung in china.

The inferences out of this study shown that the writing systems have evolved with causing several factors. The profound challengers and changers both human and environment have brought these writing systems from one to the other. Other thing that they have used their local resources and items available in nearby vicinity for different wiring systems and tools such as clay from river basin, bamboo from jungle and animal skin from their own homestead or from jungle.

Keywords: Writing System, Civilization, Asian heritage, Library history, Library material