

## **Case study on Salvage Operations for Water Damaged library Collection in Tsunami affected public libraries in Sri Lanka.**

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There are numerous examples of library disasters caused by water. Water Damage can be caused through a tsunami or floods. Flooding, leakage, heavy rains, hurricanes, activation of fire sprinklers due to fire are some of the reasons due to which water can enter library premises. It can damage library resources and infrastructure as well as disrupt services for a long time. Water damages almost all types of library resources: paper-based, photographs, films or digital. Water damage can range from dampness, or wetness at the edges, to completely soaked or submerged items. The tsunami in 2004 in Sri Lanka affected several libraries. This study investigated various problems of conservation and preservation strategies of tsunami affected public libraries in Sri Lanka. The main objectives of this paper is to identify the issues in Conservation Preservation Strategies of public librarians and to identify their conservation strategies, knowledge and technical devices. The population of the study consist of 16 tsunami affected public libraries in south coastal area. There were 02 Libraries in Hambanthota district, 02 libraries in Matara district and 12 libraries in Galle district. The researcher visited the above all libraries and realized the situation using research techniques such as interviews, structured questionnaires and direct observations. It was identified there are number of problems that are affiliated to libraries with regard to Conservation and preservation strategies. According to results, the following are recommended: need proper preservation devices for libraries, training sessions and workshops for librarians. This research, suggest new strategies for the benefit of public libraries in coastal areas.

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