

LIBRARY DIGEST

Vol.1. Issue.1: March 2024



Editorial Report

THE BUCKET

1. Editorial Report
2. Today 's Special
3. Berries
4. Current Affairs
5. Bytes of Knowledge
6. SINU Opening Hours
7. Upcoming Events and other Library Important Information



Dear Readers,

“Knowledge has no compromise”

Welcome to the inaugural issue of Library Digest, the quarterly news bulletin from the Solomon Islands National University (SINU) Library. As the heart of the academic life, the library plays a pivotal role in supporting research, fostering learning, and enriching the intellectual landscape of our university.

In this volume, you will find a curated selection of articles, updates, and insights that highlight the library’s efforts. From new acquisitions and digital resources to scholarly events and collaborative initiatives, Library Digest aims to keep you informed and engaged.

Our dedicated team of librarians and support staff work tirelessly to ensure that the library remains a vibrant hub for knowledge dissemination. Whether you’re a seasoned scholar, an aspiring student, or simply curious, we invite you to explore the wealth of resources available at your fingertips.

As we embark together on this journey, we encourage you to share your stories, suggestions, and feedback. Let us celebrate the spirit of inquiry, discovery, and lifelong learning that defines our academic community.

For this volume, we acknowledge those who have contributed in writing. Dr. Don Karunanayake the content advisor, Mr. Ryan Bako as the content editor, and Ms. Anne Piasi the volume editor.

Thank you for being part of the “Library Digest family”. Happy reading!

Sincerely

Anne Piasi- Editor Library Digest

TODAY'S SPECIAL: VICE CHANCELLOR DR. TRANSFORM AQORAU'S INAUGURATION SPEECH OF THE EMERITUS PROF. BRIJ LAL MEMORIAL COLLECTION AND LEARNING COMMONS.

The Solomon Islands National University Library has inaugurated the Emeritus Professor Brij Lal Memorial Collection, a testament to Professor Lal's lifelong dedication to the study of the Pacific region and its peoples. Born in Fiji in 1952, Lal was a leading historian, exemplar of academic excellence, and advocate for truth and justice. His research on the Indian indenture system and the experiences of the Indo-Fijian community has left an indelible mark on our understanding of the Pacific's complex social fabric. The collection includes books and materials that reflect Lal's lifelong dedication to scholarship and his contributions to the historical tapestry of the Pacific.



VC Dr. Transform standing beside the Prof. Brij Lal memorial collection: photos: library Digital

SINU has housed the Emeritus Professor Brij Lal Reference Collection, thanks to the generosity of Dr. Padma Lal, a respected natural resources economist. The collection is a beacon of knowledge, connecting the past with the future and symbolizing SINU's commitment to academic excellence and intellectual curiosity. The collection was facilitated by Solomon Airlines, Dr. Don, SINU Librarian, and Wendy Afu, Chief Procurement Officer. The collection's life and work inspire the next generation of scholars and leaders in the Pacific and beyond. The collection's journey began in 1982 when the author was a student at the University of the South Pacific.

Professor Brij Lal's partnership with the late Emeritus Professor Ron Crocombe inspired a generation of Pacific Islanders passionate about the region's development. In 2021, he reached out to share insights on the University of the South Pacific's challenges, demonstrating the deep connection between the two individuals. This relationship reflects the enduring connections between the academic fraternity and the Pacific region. The Solomon Islands National University (SINU) is opening the Learning Commons at its Kukum Campus, aiming to enhance the learning environment and foster research, collaboration, and innovation. The Learning Commons is a testament to Professor Lal's lasting impact on the academic



Sinu VC and the University librarian during the inauguration event. Photos: library digital

The Solomon Islands National University (SINU) is enhancing its educational infrastructure by providing all students with access to learning spaces and ICT labs for at least 25 hours per week. The Learning Common, designed to be inclusive and adaptable, will offer advanced ICT labs and versatile learning spaces. This initiative aligns with the university's mission to build an internationally recognized institution known for academic excellence and state-of-the-art facilities. The Learning Common is a testament to the university's commitment to providing a positive environment for future thought leaders in the Solomon Islands and the Pacific region. The initiative is a testament to the power of giants like Professor Brij Lal.

LEARNING COMMONS

The learning common serves as a collaborative hub and space for students to learn, share ideas and actively engage in meaningful discussions. This space enhances the idea of holistic learning, beyond books and textbooks, students learn through interaction, exploration, and collaboration.

THE BERRIES

Your guide to reading insights

- Abu Nuwas: *The Arabic Poet*
- Pythagoras: *The Greek Philosopher and Mathematician*
- Max Gorky: *Erudite Author*
- Anatomy of Life: *Eye*
- Booker Price: *A Reward*
- Clive Moore: *Solomon Islands Theses Catalogue*
- Idiomatic Phrases

In the bath house

In the bath-house, the
mysteries hidden by trousers
Are revealed to you.
All becomes radiantly
manifest.
Feast your eyes without
restraint!
You see handsome buttocks,
shapely trim torsos,
You hear the guys
whispering pious formulas
to one another
(*'God is Great! 'Praise be to
God! '*)
Ah, what a palace of pleasure
is the bath-house!
Even when the towel-bearers
come in and spoil the fun a
bit.

Abu Nuwas

Abu Nuwas: A genius of poetry

Abu Nuwas was a remarkable classical Arabic poet whose verses continue to resonate across time and cultures. During the Abbasid era, he was the most famous Arab poet. Known as Diwan, Abu Nuwas's poems explore themes of pleasure, sensuality, and religion. His work remains relevant and inspiring throughout generations.



Abu Nuwas

Abu Nuwas work

The best poem of Abu Nuwas

Love In Bloom

I die of love for him, perfect in every
way,
Lost in the strains of wafting music.
My eyes are fixed upon his
delightful body
And I do not wonder at his beauty.
His waist is a sapling, his face a
moon,
And loveliness rolls off his rosy
cheek
I die of love for you, but keep this
secret:
The tie that binds us is an
unbreakable rope.
How much time did your creation
take, O angel?
So, what! All I want is to sing your
praises.

Abū Nuwās al-Ḥasan ibn Hānī al-Ḥakamī (756–814), a known as Abū Nuwās (Arabic: Persian Abū Novās), was one of the greatest classical Arabic poets, who also composed in Persian on occasion. Born in the city of Ahvaz in modern-day Iran, to an Arab father and a Persian mother, he became a master of all the contemporary genres of Arabic poetry. Biographies differ on the date of Abu Nuwas' birth, ranging from 747 to 762. Some say he was born at Basra [1] others in Damascus, Busra, or at Ahwaz. He liked to shock society by openly writing about things which Islam forbade. Most scholars believe that Abu Nuwas wrote most of his poems during the reign of al-Amin (809-813). His most famous royal commission was a poem (a 'Kasida') which he composed in praise of al-Amin. "According to the critics of his time, he was the greatest poet in Islam." wrote F.F. Arbuthnot in Arabic Authors. His contemporary Abu Hatim al Mekki often said that the deepest meanings of thoughts were concealed underground until Abu Nuwas dug them out. Nevertheless, Abu Nuwas was imprisoned when his drunken, libidinous exploits tested even al-Amin's patience. against Ali, the fourth Caliph and son-in-law of the Prophet, while Nuwas was drunk. Zonbor then deliberately read the poem aloud in public, and ensured Nuwas's continuing imprisonment. Depending on which biography is consulted, Abu Nuwas either died in prison or was poisoned by Ismail bin Abu Sehl, or both.)

Source;
Britannica, T. Editors of Encyclopaedia (2024, January 31). Abū Nuwās. Encyclopedia Britannica.
<https://www.britannica.com/biography/Abu-Nuwas>

By Sidi

Pythagoras: Greek Philosopher and Mathematician

Pythagoras, born around 570 BCE on the island of Samos, Greece, was a remarkable Greek philosopher and mathematician. His contributions spanned both fields, leaving an undeniable mark on the intellectual landscape of ancient times.

As a young man, Pythagoras visited philosophers Thales and Anaximander on the island of Miletus. His curiosity led him to explore philosophy, mathematics, and mysticism.

Pythagorean Brotherhood: Pythagoras founded the Pythagorean Brotherhood, a group of mathematicians and thinkers. They revered numbers and lived a lifestyle akin to that of monks.

Pythagorean Theorem:

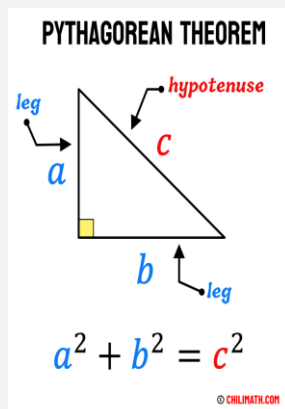
His most famous contribution is the Pythagorean theorem, which relates to right-angle triangles. It states that in a right triangle, the square of the length of the hypotenuse (the side opposite the right angle) is equal to the sum of the squares of the other two sides. Pythagoras emphasized the functional significance of numbers in the objective world and music. He explored concepts such as the incommensurability of side and diagonal of a square.

Legacy and Influence:

Although he likely wrote no books himself, Pythagoreans cited his authority extensively. His teachings influenced later philosophers, including Plato and Aristotle. Beyond mathematics, his mystical wisdom left an enduring impact. Pythagoras's legacy resonates through the ages, bridging mathematics, philosophy, and spirituality.



Pythagoras



Source: Britannica, T. Editors of Encyclopaedia (2023, December 4). Pythagoras. Encyclopedia Britannica.
<https://www.britannica.com/biography/Pythagoras>

By Ray

ERUDITE AUTHOR

Maxim Gorky

Maxim Gorky, born Alexei Maximovich Peshkov on March 28, 1868, was a prominent Russian and Soviet writer, playwright, and political activist. He is considered one of the most significant figures in Russian literature of the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

His early life was marked by poverty, hardship, and tragedy, as he experienced the death of his father at a young age and was raised by his grandparents. These experiences deeply influenced his later works, which often depicted the struggles of the working class and the disenfranchised.

In his early career, Gorky worked various odd jobs while honing his writing skills. He gained recognition with his first short story, "Makar Chudra," published in 1892. Gorky's writing style was characterized by its realism and vivid portrayal of everyday life. He was also known for his sympathetic depiction of marginalized characters and his critique of social injustice.

Some of Gorky's most famous works include "The Lower Depths," a play exploring the lives of the urban poor, and the autobiographical novel "My Childhood," which is part of his trilogy of autobiographical works along with "In the World" and "My Universities."

He continued to write prolifically and was a prominent figure in Soviet literary circles. He also expressed concerns about censorship and artistic freedom under the Bolshevik regime. Maxim Gorky died on June 14, 1936, in Moscow. Despite some controversy surrounding his political positions and his complex relationship with the Soviet government, Gorky remains one of the most celebrated and influential writers in Russian literature, known for his powerful portrayals of the human condition and his commitment to social justice.

Source: Hingley, R. Francis (2024, February 22). Maxim Gorky. Encyclopedia Britannica.

The Anatomy of Life

“Evolution of Eye”

Based on the existing morphological facts, evolutionary beliefs and it is assumed that the evolution of the ocular system has a long history dating back to 600 million years or more. The eye originates from a deep root of both animals and molecules and is not a discreet entity, a single object or an event. It has occurred through a process that is full of arguably mixed ideas. The eye is a combined object of pin-holes, lenses etc. Diversities are eminent from nervous systems to place or the types of the eyes on the creatures. Due to the complex homologies and diversities of eyes, it is yet impossible to make a clear explanation. The process of eye evolution might take from different angles and avenues thus concluding that the eye has an antiquity with motile animals.

The eye is the only object that may make direct sensitivity with a probable light of mass creatures.

The eye has two perspectives: looser perspective and extreme perspective. The looser perspective encompasses the eye as the light-sensitive organ that directs towards illumination while the extreme perspective defines the eye as a single photoreceptor. It is also further diversified by the context of the creatures in terms of vertebrates and invertebrates. This context further diversified from simple eye to compound eye which further led to a more complex optic system. The eye is the main organ responsible for vision and has an exquisite complexity. The complexities are more obvious when deeply looking at the process of how electrical signals convert into an image or vision. In this process, the eye acts like a camera that helps focus light. The simplest definition of vision is the light from objects from the surroundings being converted into a visual image by the thalamus of the brain. The eye has evolved from a single bilaterally celled organism to the vast complex eye that exists today.

Ecological Perspective on the Eye

The evolution of living organisms refers to the gradual transition which took place during the early primitive stage to a Cambrian period where much of the diversities could be evidenced. The evolution of early organisms is debated from different angles and has been concluded over eons, eras and periods. A variety of angles and pieces of evidence that remain on evolution do not provide a concrete picture but explore a potential relationship of evolution.

Much fossil evidence suggests that the Cambrian period dates back to 541 million years as the period in the wider development of organisms in Phylum had plotted in fossils in the process of evolution. The “Cambrian explosion” could be treated as the most significant evolutionary transition in this fossil evidence though the clear pieces of evidence are yet to be scrutinized and obscure. As per the clues, setting an exact boundary is impossible and the Cambrian explosion might be a relative plot to start. The intention of explaining the Cambrian Explosion is limited to the recursive nature and relative aspect of the Cambrian visual systems even though the eyes might be formed into the pre-Cambrian era. It is to be noted that many discoveries and notations on the evolution of the eye may be varied by arguments and new findings. The eye is speculated to originate from aquatic creatures. Visual system or visionary system is one of the phylogenetic factors that could be taken to understand the criteria behind the evolution process. The development of the eye is one of the best identities in such studies.

To be continued.....

By Don

Booker Prize

Officially known as the "Booker Prize for Fiction," is one of the most prestigious literary awards in the world. It was established in 1968 by the Booker Group in the United Kingdom and is awarded annually for the best original novel written in the English language and published in the UK or Ireland. The Booker Prize was originally sponsored by the British Booker-McConnell. Over the years, it has evolved into a highly respected literary award, attracting submissions from renowned authors as well as emerging talent. The prize is awarded to the best novel of the year, judged based on various criteria including literary quality, originality, depth of characterization, narrative structure, and overall impact.

Winners and Nominees: The Booker Prize has recognized many celebrated authors, including Salman Rushdie, Margaret Atwood, Kazuo Ishiguro, Hilary Mantel, and many others. Winning the Booker Prize often catapults authors to international fame.

Impact: Winning the Booker Prize can have a profound impact on an author's career, often resulting in increased recognition, critical acclaim, and commercial success. However, it also sparks discussions about the nature of literary excellence and the role of literary prizes in shaping literary culture.

Legacy: The Booker Prize has become a symbol of literary excellence and is closely watched by readers, writers, publishers, and critics around the world. Its influence extends beyond the literary community, shaping public discourse on contemporary literature and providing a platform for diverse voices.

Source: Britannica, T. Editors of Encyclopedia (2024, March 8). Booker Prize. Encyclopedia Britannica. <https://www.britannica.com/art/Booker-Prize>

APPRECIATION – SOLOMON ISLANDS THESES CATALOGUE:

THESES ABOUT OR OF DIRECT RELEVANCE TO THE SOLOMON ISLANDS WITH
DIGITAL COPIES WHERE AVAILABLE, 1883-2023

Created for the library of Solomon Islands National University

About the Compiler:



Clive Moore was born in Mackay, Queensland, Australia in 1951 and graduated from James Cook University with an Honours degree (1973) and PhD (1981) in history. After seven years teaching at the University of Papua New Guinea (1981–1987), he worked at the University of Queensland for 28 years, retiring in 2015 as McCaughey Professor of Pacific and Australian history. In 2005, he received a Cross of Solomon Islands for historical work on Malaita Island. He was inaugural president of the Australian Association for Pacific Studies (2006–10) and was made a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Humanities in 2010. He received an Outstanding Alumni Award from James Cook University in 2012, and the John Douglas Kerr

CLIVE MOORE

Adjunct Professor

Solomon Islands National University

Professor Emeritus

School of Historical and Philosophical Studies

University of Queensland

March 2024

Special collections in Dspace under Clive Moore

- Clive Moore: Audio
- Clive Moore: Gallery
- Clive Moore: Library
- Clive Moore: These and Dissertation
- Clive Moore: Miscellaneous

Medal of Distinction, awarded by The Royal Historical Society of Queensland and the Professional Historians Association (Queensland) in 2015.

He has published extensively on Mackay and Australian South Sea Islanders, New Guinea, and Solomon Islands, as well as Australian Federation, masculinity, and sexuality. In 1979, he edited *The Forgotten People: A History of the Australian South Sea Islands Community*, and in 1985 he published *Kanaka: A History of Melanesian Mackay*, a history of Malaita migration to Queensland. In 1990, with Jacqueline Leckie and Doug Munro, he edited *Labour in the South Pacific*, in 1998 (with Mary Kooyman) edited *A Papua New Guinea Political Chronicle, 1967–1992*, and in 2001 (with Samuel Haihuie and Dikana Kema) published *Report of the Feasibility Study on Distance and Flexible Learning in Papua New Guinea* for the PNG Office of Higher Education. His later major publications include *New Guinea: Crossing Boundaries and History* (2003), *Happy Isles in Crisis* (2004), *Solomon Islands Historical Encyclopaedia, 1893–1978* (digital, 2013), *Making Mala: Malaita in Solomon Islands, 1870s–1930s* (2017), *Tulagi: British Outpost of Empire* (2019), and *Honiara: Village-City of Solomon Islands* (2022). In 2023, he digitally published *The River: Mackay in the Nineteenth Century*, on the website of the Mackay Historical Society. He edited the autobiography of Sir Peter Kenilorea (*Tell It as It Is*, 2008), *Andrew Goldie in New Guinea, 1875–1879: Memoir of a Natural History Collector* (2012, with Steve Mullins and Martin Bellamy), *Looking Beyond RAMSI* (2014), and the autobiography of Sir Nathan Kere (*Village Boy Knight*), due to be published in 2024.

In 2023, he accepted a two-year appointment as an Adjunct Professor at the Solomon Islands National University to strengthen the research potential. The *Solomon Islands Thesis Catalogue* is part of his contribution.

About the Volume:

This bibliography of university postgraduate theses and theological college diploma and degree theses including or relevant to the Solomon Islands is intended to be accessed primarily by SINU staff and students. It contains around 1,213 references and links to 512 digital copies of theses.

In early 2023, I accepted a two-year appointment as an Adjunct Professor at the Solomon Islands National University (SINU), with an open brief to become involved in building research infrastructure at the university. I first visited the Solomon Islands during doctoral research in 1976, although my connections with Solomons Island descendants in Australia date back further, to 1974, half a century ago. I have visited the Solomons sixty times and written and edited eight books on the nation. When I retired in 2014, after seven years teaching at the University of Papua New Guinea (1981–87) and then twenty-seven years at the University of Queensland, I transferred copies of many of my Solomon Islands research materials to SINU. In 2023, I transferred more of my digital files there, and all are now housed in the Library's Clive Moore Collection. One task that I suggested for my new role was to complete further research, attempting to better organise and enlarge my digital collection of Solomon Islands-oriented theses (a haphazard collection assembled over decades), and add them to my research materials in the SINU Library. It seemed a reasonable proposal that staff and students at the now decade-old national university should have access to or at least knowledge of academic theses written about their nation. No other Pacific Islands nation has a similar catalogue.

IDIOMATIC PHRASES

- A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush

Having something that is certain is much better than taking a risk for more, because chances are you might lose everything.

- All bark and no bite

When someone is threatening and/or aggressive but not willing to engage in a fight.

- To kill two birds with one stone

to solve two problems at once.

- To hit the nail on the head

describe exactly what is causing a situation or problem.

- Get your act together

Get organized and do things effectively

- No pain no gain

You have to work hard for something you want

- Bite the bullet

Decide to do something unpleasant that you have avoided doing

- Giving someone the cold shoulder

To ignore someone

- See eye to eye

this means agreeing with someone

- Call it a day

Stop working on something

CURRENT AFFAIRS

THE USER SERVICE

The Solomon Islands National University Library offers a range of services to help students and faculty efficiently use library resources. Services offered include:

- ▶ **Circulation services:** Facilitating the borrowing and returning of library materials, managing library accounts, and providing assistance with renewals and holds.
- ▶ **Reference services:** Offering assistance to users in finding information, conducting research, and utilizing library resources such as databases, journals, and reference materials.
- ▶ **Interlibrary loan services:** Since students are not allowed to be members in more than one library, an arrangement can be made through this office to enable you to borrow books from other SINU Libraries. See Circulation staff for help.
- ▶ **User assistance and support:** Offering guidance and support to users navigating the library's physical and digital spaces, answering questions, and providing assistance with technology and equipment.
- ▶ **Outreach and user engagement:** Engaging with the university community to promote library services, resources, and events, as well as gathering feedback from users to improve services.

These services aim to support the academic and research needs of students, faculty, and staff at the Solomon Islands National University by providing access to information and resources essential for teaching, learning, and research.

Library Opening Hours

DURING SEMESTER: KUKUM, PANATINA & RANADI
Monday-Friday

8:00 am-4:30 pm

SEMESTER BREAK: Monday-Friday

8:00 am-4:30 pm

DURING EXAM: KUKUM & PANATINA
Monday-Sunday

8:00 am-12:00 am midnight

RANADI: 8:00 am-7:00 pm

Public Holiday: Kukum, Panatina and Ranadi

CLOSED

Bytes of Knowledge:

Exploring SINU's Digital Library

Welcome, dear readers, to a virtual space where knowledge exceeds the boundaries of paper and ink. Within this digital space at SINU library, we invite you to journey with us beyond the physical realms of the bookshelves and library walls into a wonderland of electronic resources where a vast oasis of e-books, e-journals, online databases, digital libraries and SINU Digital Commons are located, SINU digital commons, an archival and retrieval platform for SINU's academic and research initiatives.

Let's see what awaits you!



E Journals

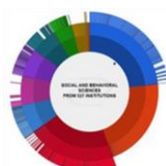


E Books

Immerse yourself in the world of e-books and e-journals spanning genres of academic narratives to academic journal publications. Our digital shelves unlock the key to a vast collection of online resources.



Databases



B Press

Dive into the online databases and network of online resources (*B Press* Network) where you will find vast collections of scholarly articles, research papers and academic publications. These databases provided valuable resources for conducting in-depth research and updated information sources.



SINU Digital Commons



Digital Libraries

SINU Digital Commons is a repository of the university's scholarly output, such as these, dissertations, research papers, and publications. *SINU Digital Library* is a collection of digital resources from various fields of study, such as food, agriculture, environmental science, and social sciences. These resources are accessible through databases, e-journals, e-books, and other digital libraries. Both *SINU Digital Commons* and *Digital Library* aim to provide high-quality information to support the teaching, learning, and research needs of the university community and beyond.

Sinu Writing



Lab

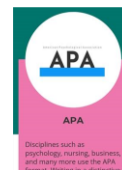
SINU Writing Lab is a service provided by SINU.lib.net to help students improve their academic writing skills. The Writing Lab offers daily workshops and trainings on topics such as basic Microsoft Office word, Turabian formatting style, and referencing & citation styles. The workshops and trainings are conducted by experienced staff who can also provide individual feedback and guidance to students. The Writing Lab aims to support students in developing their basic word skills, academic writing and referencing of information sources. The On-Campus writing lab is open for all students ...you can make a group appointment for each session at the library circulation desk.



Basic Microsoft office word



Turabian academic formatting style



Referencing information sources and citation management

Acquisition's

Acquisitions is the SINU library section that is responsible for selecting and acquiring library materials in various formats, such as books, journals, e-books, and databases. The Acquisitions staff work closely with the University librarian and faculty to ensure that the library's collection meets the needs and interests of the university. The Acquisitions staff also perform the initial bibliographic metadata input of the library resources into the Koha library management system. The Acquisitions department regularly updates the library users about the new arrivals received by the library, through the library website, social media, and on the online public access catalog (OPAC). Some of the recent arrivals are currently being processed and ready for dispatch to its shelving locations.



Library resources being processed and ready for dispatch to shelving locations. Photos: library digital

You can visit us on these addresses



42600 Ext. 42697



Sinu.lib.net@sinu.edu.sb



Follow Us on sinu library



Do Visit Us on Our library webpage
<https://www.sinu.edu.sb/sinu-lib-net/>

What's happening at SINU library's monthly activities and events for the next quarter...

Date	Event
April 23	Pink Moon
May 23	Moon Flower
June 21	Strawberry Moon

ARE YOU READY FOR THE EVENTS?

Come! join us and be part of the library outreach events.

SEE WHAT'S COMING UP...

1. SINU Library Digest, (Quarterly)
2. Library Classified, (Monthly)
3. On Solomons, (Quarterly)

