

**“Webometrics of Dr. Ananda Coomaraswamy”:
An Analytical Study of the Availability and Accessibility of Scholarly Information of Dr.
Ananda Coomaraswamy Through out the
World Wide Web (WWW)**

S. K. Illangarathne

Main Library, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, Mihintale, Sri Lanka

E mail - *skillangarathne@gmail.com*

This paper describes the results of the analytical study of availability and accessibility of Dr. Ananda Comarswamy's scholarly information with special reference to his life and work throughout the World Wide Web. Today the World Wide Web (WWW) is identified as a pool of information that contains a millions pieces of scholarly information. Most researches have confirmed that they usually used to browse the www to fulfill their information needs. The simple meaning of the “webometric” is a number of highlights (hits) or hyperlinks relating to the single aspect of the search. The acceptance of the institute or person by the scholarly society would be high when the webometric of that institute or person is high. Therefore, most of the popular search engines have used this methodology to rank some institutional (Universities) or personal activities which are occurring in cyber space under their administration.

Dr. Ananda Kentish Coomaraswamy (1877-1947) was a Ceylonese philosopher and metaphysician, as well as a pioneering historian and philosopher of Indian art, particularly art history and symbolism, and an early interpreter of Indian culture to the West. In particular, he is described as “the groundbreaking theorist who was largely responsible for introducing ancient Indian art to the West. He has directly and partially involved to over the hundred of scholarly activities through out various disciplines and some of them are archived as print works within local context and many of them are within international context. When the world celebrate his 135th birth anniversary and 65th death anniversary this moment it is high-time to commemorate his measureless dedication to the world literature exploring his scholarly life and work again through out the various aspects.

The main objective of the study was to explore the web content of scholarly works of Dr. Ananda Coomaraswamy through out the WWW. Another objective of the study was to capture the bibliographic data of his first publications to enrich the “Ananda Coomaraswamy Bibliography” which has been planned to be launched at the Ananda Coomaraswamy Memorial Conference in University of Kelaniya 2012. It also examined that his disciplinary wise, webometrics at the WWW using top level search engines. Finally the study aimed to aware the audience about e-books and e-contents relating to Coomaraswamy's scholarly works and retrieve them using proper mechanism. A survey was carried out. The total population consisted of whole search engines available in the WWW and random sampling technique was used to select the sample out of them was 10 search engines including Google, Yahoo and Internet Content. Information searching and retrieving methods were used to capture information relating to the scholarly works of Coomarawamy and top level ranking systems were used to categorize them. The search was limited to general information of Coomaraswamy. It is found that webometrics of him scholarly works much higher than contemporaries. Google books and Internet Archives were most famous web sites which handle his scholarly works and let download facilities to users under free and reasonable subscribing schemes.

Keywords : Ananda Coomaraswamy, Webometrics, Scholarly Information of Ananda Coomaraswamy, Availability and Accessibility of cyber content, World Wide Web

Ananda Coomaraswamy Memorial Conference, 2012, Centre for Asian Studies,
University of Kelaniya, Sri Lanka