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Digitization of Manuscripts A Case Study of Central Library, Banaras Hindu University, India

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The paper outlines the efforts at Sayaji Rao Gaekwad Library, Banaras Hindu University (BHU), so as to bring in their rich collection of manuscript from the cocoon of reticence and making it available to the world of scholars. It also includes an elaboration of the National Mission for Manuscripts of India and the affiliation of Central Library, BHU with it. The issues and future targets for the library pertaining to preservation of manuscripts have been elaborated. The paper is first of its kind to report on various aspects such as policy issues for access; content management; manpower development; centralized database development related to manuscripts. The issues have its relevance for the organizations which are planning for conservation and preservation of their manuscript collection.