Critical understanding of the Museum with its History

Dr. Dilip Kumar Assistant Professor (Guest) Dept. of Ancient Indian History & Archaeology, Patna University, Patna Paper – VIII, B.A. 3rd year

Introduction

The museum would play an important role as a representative of cultural centre of the country by preserving and promoting the art and for improvement of small industries, in the field of art and crafts as well. The word museum in its Greek form, mouseion, it meant "seat of the Muses" and designated a philosophical institution or a place of consideration. In the Latin origin, museum appears to have been restricted in Roman times mainly to places of philosophical discussion. Museumresearch has now become the most significant study for exploring new realities and facts about the historical aspects of different regions. In this concern, museums also show extractions of support for the historical findings and the following researchers can trace the facts with the available pieces or artefacts. Museums are now becoming attractions for not only the visitors but also providing imperative additions of knowledge for the archaeologists and researchers. To provide the valuable research on the study of the museums we necessitate focusing on the standards that followed in designing of the museums. Some museums are archaeological, some cultural and some regional. In this concern, the most important criteria for setting the collectibles and designing of the overall structure is related to whether the standards are meeting the international standards of a particular category of the museum or not. For this purpose, we are going to select an area of the museum for particular identification of the archaeological, regional and cultural museums. In the museum research we examined the museum management, its building and the historical and cultural background of the objects. It's all needed a systematic, step by step approach and be prepared the topics to create the new chapters for archaeological and the ethnological studies to put on critical range of different prehistoric cultures, human antiquities and also correspond to people lives in prehistoric periods. In the same regard, we can also find out archaeological studies in different areas like rock carvings, exploration of archaeological sites, digging procedures and archaeological techniques along with geological measures for preservations of the prehistoric cultural objects, sites and the folk art of the region as well. In this concern museum is also another key area of studies of archaeological and ethnological material in the museum. In introductory part, we need to focus on the structure of the museum and presentation of the objects categorically in the range of archaeological and cultural museum. For this part, we need to determine a sound background history of the museum in such a way that we can find the demands and requirements of the presentation of the objects with therepresentation of the archaeological and historical museum. The archaeological study would focus on the examination of the collectibles and objects and its linkage with the archaeological history of the region. Choices would focus on the mixed methods like survey and archival research to explore the matter of facts. This research study would focus based on the main objectives of the research. We need to study different dimensions of the museums for

thepresentation of the objects along with its overall structure. For this purpose, critical review of existing literature would assist us to create the reasonable framework for the study of the museum.

In the museum research we would focus on the critical, analytical study of the museums and on the background of artefacts. We would also focus on the critical anticipation of the cultural objects displayed in the museum. The archaeological study would focus on the examination of the collectibles and objects and its linkage with the archaeological history of the region. Choices would focus on the mixed methods like survey and archival research to explore the matter of facts. We need to study different dimensions of the museums for the presentation of the objects along with its overall structure. For this purpose, critical review of existing literature would assist us to create the reasonable framework for the study of the museum.Review of the literature and discuss with the existing studies, resources and research is very important to generate a new piece of work and also pass up the researcher to create an identical piece of work. It also facilitates us to be aware of the key area of the subject beside with different part of additional omitted points or can also help us to identify our range of the research. On the basis of the main objectives of the research we necessitate to study different dimensions of the museums for presentation of the items and collectibles along with its overall structure. For this purpose following critical re-examine of existing literature would help us to produce the logical framework for the study of the museum.

The critical analysis would be based upon the deficiencies in the museum standards like errors on display, description of the artefacts' and objects, availability of the maps and attractions for the visitors and researchers. Plan of reorganization of Museum can be designed effectively by focusing on the chronological structuring of the study on the basis of research methodology.Data collection would be very important to explore the facts and historical background of these objects. For this purpose, we select the objects regarding the archaeological facts and historical objects belong to chronological order and some of the cultural objects depicting or contradicting the regional culture.The overall plan of the museum research is starting from the selection of the sample of the objects from the museum. Background studies of the archaeological aspects of the objects and international standards would be derived from the existing literature, books and journals those would help us to give the detailed basis of the re-designing of the museum on aninternational standard. Then we would analyze all of the objects and collectibles of our sample with these standards and explore the new design of the museum.

We familiar with the basic area of this research are the study of the museum as an extension of the archaeological studies. Therefore we can say that study of the museum is link to the substudy of the material items excavate from excavation and available for the observation of the community. In this regard first of all we need to decide what is meant by archaeology and how it would help us to provide reasonable links with the museums. According to Webster's International dictionary (1986) "Archaeology is the scientific study of extinct peoples or of past phases of the culture of historic peoples through skeletal remains and objects of human workmanship found in the earth". To non-archaeologists, archaeology engages three crucial elements: the past, material remains and excavation. Too several archaeologists, however, the meaning of the word and the discipline is more flexible and has shifting meaning. In museums archaeology normally provides these above three elements to the items displayed in the museums. So almost all of the objects displayed in the museum must have its' past, material capacity and excavation process to trace back its' trend or relevance.(Conn:1998;65)³On the basis of this definition of archaeology we need to realize how museum should be studied and what are the main mechanism of the museum should be integrated in its' presentation. So at this point we would think of to scope and nature of the museums.

History of the Museum

A history of the museums has preserve and interprets the material confirmation of the human beings and human actions. In fact museums have a long historical background, arise from may be possible a natural human desire to collect and interpret and having visible origins in large collections built up by individuals and groups before the modern era.So the early museums start considering as the personal collections of prosperous persons, families or institutions of art and extraordinary or interested natural objects and artefacts. These were often displayed in so-called wonder rooms. Public have right of access to these museums was often possible for the "respectable", especially to private art collections, but with the permission of the authority and his staff. One way that few selectees'men during this time period gained a superior social status in the world of elites was by becoming a collector of these curious objects and displaying them. Many of the items in these collections were new finding and these collectors or naturalists, since some peoplestake interest in natural sciences, were eager to get them. By putting their collections in a museum and on display they only want to establish their fantastic finds but they also used the museum as a way to sort and "manage the new explosion of materials that wider spreading of ancient texts, increased travel, expedition of discovery, and more systematic forms of communication and exchange had produced." Museums have stretched out history in the world. Thus the great Museum at Alexandria, founded by Ptolemy I Soter early in the 3rd century BC, with the scholars and its library, was more a representation university than an institution to preserve and interpret material aspects of the heritage. The up to date wisdom of museum developed in the seventeenth century. The word museum was revived in 15th-century Europe to describe the collection of Lorenzo de' Medici in Florence, but the term conveyed the concept of comprehensiveness rather than denoting a building. The term museum "firstly used in English 1682 for strange and rare things. Use of the Latin derivation, museum, appears to have been restricted in Roman times mainly to places of philosophical discussion. Thus the great Museum at Alexandria, founded by Ptolemy I Soter early in the 3rd century BC, with its college of scholars and its library, was more a prototype university than an institution to preserve and interpret material aspects of the heritage. The word museum was revived in 15th-century Europe to describe the collection of Lorenzo de' Medici in Florence, but the term conveyed the concept of comprehensiveness rather than denoting a building.1677 the collection, having become the property of Elias Ashmole, was transferred to the University of Oxford. A building was constructed to receive it, and this, soon after being opened to the public in 1683, became known as the Ashmolean Museum. By the 17th century museum was being used in Europe to describe collections of inquisitiveness.. Although there is some conflict in the use of museum in the legislation, drafted in 1753, founding the British Museum, nevertheless the idea of an institution called a museum and established to preserve and display a collection to the public was well

established in the 18th century. In the eighteenth and nineteenth century museum developed thewhole world with modern technique. Use of the word museum during the 19th and most of the 20th century indicate a building housing cultural material to which the public had right to use. Later, as museums continued to respond to the societies that created them, the emphasis on the building itself became less dominant.Now museum culture flourished crossways the landscape. The Seaman explain to about museum and said "A museum is a permanent instauration service of society and of its development, open to the public, which acquires, conserves, researches, communicates and exhibits, purpose of study, education, enjoyment the tangible and intangible evidence of people and their environment."(Seaman: 2008;1) Museums make sure their unique contribution to the peoples by collecting, preserving and interpreting the things of this world. The United Kingdom museum association said about the museum that "Museum enables people to explore collection for inspiration, Learning and enjoyment. They are institutions that collect, safeguard and make accessible artefacts and specimens, which they hold in trust for society." International Council of Museums (ICOM) updated this definition in accordance with the realities of the worldwide museum community. The "ICOM" set a definition for museums. "A museum is a non-profit, permanent institution in the service of society and its development, open to public, which acquires, conserves, researches, communicates and exhibits the tangible and intangible heritage of humanity and its environment for the purposes of education, study, enjoyment"

On the basis of this definition we have tosettle on how museum should be studied and what components of the museum should be included in its' presentation. The Museum preserves, interprets and promotes the natural and cultural inheritance of humanity. Museums are responsible for the tangible and intangible, natural and cultural heritage.

Governing bodies and those concerned with the strategic direction and oversight of museum have a primary responsibility to promote and protect this heritage as well as the human physical and financial resources made available for this purpose. Mostly every one large museums of the world situated in major cities and local museum survive in towns, little cities and the rural area. Many museums have limited resources and some expert person's. ICOM doing greatest effort to maintain the museum performance. The museum is the outstanding institution which workout for social transformation. In these perspective museums createsa new sense of purposes. The collections of antiques are the basic purpose of the museum. Collection is just one thing to attract the visitors inside the museum. So the modern museum is carry on to the greatest profile objects on display and the displays are as interactive and consumer friendly as possible. The second purpose of museum is to preserve the national heritage. The heritage strongly associated to national pride and identity. The regional heritage is also necessary among the national heritage. The third purpose of a museum is to focus on education. The education is a modern concept and now education is the primary purpose of a museum. The modern museums trough their collections and programmers make an effort to attain this purpose. The museums also attempt to obtain the ability to work directly among members of the community to acquire a better idea of how to gather their needs, some practical knowledge gained about collaborating productively with other community organizations, generate understanding of how to use collections, exhibits, and programs effectively for knowledge and understanding of their audience.Museums arranged education programme regularly and similarly for everyone member of society. The fact actuality that the terminology 'creating knowledge' was constantly changedto sharingknowledge' emphasis on the perception of this basic part of museums. It's consider that Museums helpful developed a 'civilized 'society. They were also means by which a nation could remind its own past and shape its own national account. A important identity change by the end of the 20th century, that followed taken to their logical conclusion, promise to make the museums of the 21st century quite different from anything yet seen. At the core of the traditional museum have always the object, the skill, the stuffed specimen and the stone tool. The museums have many varieties and established in the world like Archaeological museum, Art museum, History museum, General museum, Natural History museum, Science museum, Ethological museum, Geological museum, Industrial museum and Military museum. Another factor is very important in this concern that how body run the system of museums. The further classification and categories of the museums bring into existence according to this point. The museums divided according to their categories and called Government museum, Municipal museum, University museum, Commercial museum, Private museum and Army museum. The governing body of every museum is different to each other and depend on their area. The important thing is to define area of the museum; they may be called National museum, Regional museumand Local museum and City museum. The term general museums is apply for many regional and local museums. This type museum established from the collection of private benefactors and societies. In United Kingdom, Municipal museums were seen as a means of providing instructions and entertainments to the increasingly urbanized population and developed in the context of reforms to overcome social problems resulting from industrialization. Some museum contains very little objects and not has required things but they called themselves museums. The local and regional museum performs a role in promoting to public pridebut they have just some artefacts. Museums are very important for a nation. Museum is a universal need of the whole world societies. The organization of the Museums arranged for collection of artefacts and other objects. The significance of these objects are scientific, artistic, cultural, historical and all itsaccessible for the public through exhibits, should be permanently and temporary. The museum separately and in a group form care of these unique resources and their collections which represent a significant part of the world heritage." Museums have different aims, serving to researchers, specialists and common peoples. The further are increasing quick information, together with digital information storage and extend of virtual exhibits and highresolution images of their collections for examination study, and exploration with Internet. Museum played a vital role in cultural development, international tourism, and providing an identity of a nation .A museum has important contribution to the cultural ,social ,and economic life of the peoples. There exists a widespread sense that museums are under threat, due to lack of turnout, shortage of funds and advance technological matters. There is a strong feeling that museums should concern themselves with what they are good at first and foremost. Recently a stem idea is strongly encourage thatmuseums undermine the essential purposes which presently working in museum neither than additional purposes.