

Internet Resources on Archaeology and History: An Introductory Note

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The Internet has dramatically changed the culture of research during the last two decades. Even now it is constantly being changed at a pace where researchers may find it difficult to cope with. Internet or electronic resources have become an integral part of any research in any field of study. If used skillfully and thoughtfully the Internet gives access to a vast range of valuable resources full of authentic information in a very short time than any other medium of scholarly communication. By using the Internet, a historian or an archaeologist will save time, energy and money, because one needs not visit libraries or to talk to experts for long hours over the phone. This paper is an attempt to discuss some of the e resources available via the Internet that would be useful for researchers in history and archaeology in particular and humanities and social sciences in general.

In the Internet there are certain tools that help one to locate information. Websites, subject gateways, virtual libraries, subject catalogues and directories and search engines are some of such tools. Indeed, even without a prior knowledge or training one can start a search for information easily in the net. It's so simple. Try "Yahoo" a favorite directory or search engine. Google is another. Go to Yahoo or Google and in the search box just type the word or phrase you want to find information. Type words "Sri Lanka archaeology". Quickly one will gain access to hundreds of websites that contain information on Sri Lankan archaeology. If one wishes to get more specific

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information in any format or any language try Yahoo Options. Under options you get "Advanced search". Using this facility you can get more precise information in any format or language you want. This is the simplest way.

Learning to use the Internet is similar to learning to read. The more one reads, the more one knows about the sources. The more one uses the net, the more one knows about e resources. However, when one is surfing the net one will become familiar with many other powerful tools that will help one immensely. For example this gateway:

<http://infotree.library.ohiou.edu/scripts/redirect.html?id=27>

In the search box just type Sri Lanka.

Following are a few of the useful sites for historians and archaeologists:

www.archaeology.org

http://www.ucd.ie/library/electronic_resources/guides_to_web_resources/archaeology.html#top

<http://www.besthistorysites.net/about.shtml>

<http://www.biab.ac.uk/index.asp>

<http://www.webworldindex.com/>

<http://virtualreligion.net/vri/index.html>

<http://www.ipl.org/ref/websearching.html>

http://web.archive.org/web/20060117042050/http://www.rdn.ac.uk/publications/Subject+booklets/IR_for_History.pdf

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