# Preparation of a bibliography on and by Pandit Iswar Chandra Vidyasagar: an informetric analysis

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Abstract:- The contribution of Pandit Iswar Chandra Vidyasagar in the society of earlier Bengal is noteworthy. He actually reformed the then society to a large extent in different aspects such as education, social welfare etc. Last year i.e. 2019, the 200 years of birth anniversary of Vidyasagar is celebrated throughout the state West Bengal. At this glorious moment it is an attempt to prepare a bibliography to pay homage him. Through this paper the total creation of and by Vidyasagar is depicted here and different aspects are also described here informetrically as far as possible. The whole bibliography is prepared following the APA style format. The total bibliography is divided into two main parts. Each of the parts is also sub divided into different sub divisions following the literature review method. The informetrical analysis involve period- frequency distribution; author wise distribution.

Keywords Renaissance, Social Reformer, Women education

#### Introduction

India is the evergreen galaxy of great men and heroes. At different times, they come and win our heart by their works and activities. Pandit Iswar Chandra Vidyasagar was one of them. He was born on 26<sup>th</sup> September in 1820 in the village Birsingha of the undivided Medinipur district of the state West Bengal. His parents were Late Thakurdas Bandyopadhyay and Bhagabati Devi. The actual name of Pandit Vidyasagar was Iswar Chandra Bandyopadhyay. He was awarded with the honor of Vidyasagar at the end of the study in the Sanskrit College, Kolkata.

The 19<sup>th</sup> century is regarded as the period of renaissance of Bengal. This period is divided mainly into three phases:

The first phase was from 1815-1832(period of Raja Ram Mohan Roy); period of Young Bengal (1833-1841) and the period of "Tattobodhini" (1841-1859).

The second phase was the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century and the two decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. These period was from Michael Madhusudan Dutta to Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay. Another part was from Rabindranath Tagore to Nationalist Movement (1904-1914).

Pandit Vidyasagar (1820-1891) appeared in the junction of these two phases of the renaissance period during 19<sup>th</sup> century. The working life of Vidyasagar ranged from 1846 to 1875. It was approximately of 30 years.

Pandit Vidyasagar was a versatile genius in his contemporary period. The multifaceted activities of Pandit Vidyasagar made him ever remembered by the Bangalese. He was a true social reformer. His tireless efforts for the empowerment of women in respect of education was always praiseworthy. He tried his best to establish a position of the women in the society. He was a pioneer to influence the then government to introduce widow marriage system in the society that impacted the then society to a large extent. Not only this but his sympathetic mind towards women lead to another movement to stop the system of polyandry by the "kulin" Brahmins.

He was the first person to introduce the real prose style writing in Bengali language in place of poetry style. He wrote the "Barnaparichay" in 1855 for the study of the children. Undoubtedly, this was a remarkable effort by him. Actually he identified the loop-holes of the then education system under the British-ruled India. He tried to create a scientific education system in the Bengal through which the whole student community will be highly benefitted and will become a lifelong learner in future. He translated many books with an attitude of a social scientist. His contributions of creating the proper terminologies in Bengali language is remarkable. He created many terminologies in Bengali language of so many familiar words such as "Science"; "Mathematics"; "Research"; "Astronomy"; "Physics"; "University"; "Superstition" and so many terms. Really, he was very much interested to culture science in Bengali language. Indeed, Prof. Satvendranath Bose tried a lot to culture science in Bengali language. But due to lack of proper terminologies, study of science was a troublesome during that time. Pandit Vidyasagar started this work by his one's own effort. He wrote to Sir Gordon Young, the then DPI(Director of Public Instruction) in 1855 to introduce science subjects from the school level. He encouraged Akshay Kumar Dutta, Prasanna Kumar Sabadhikari, Joygopal Goswami and Bhuban Chandra chattopadhyay to write science literature in some specific science subjects to spread science education in Bengal.

He reformed the total education system of the Sanskrit College in Kolkata during his time. He had to face a lot of difficulties to introduce a new education culture in the Sanskrit College. The door of Sanskrit College was opened to all students irrespective of caste, creed and sex. Really, the Sanskrit College became a center of learning.

The contribution of Pandit Iswar Chandra Vidyasagar towards the University of Calcutta; Asiatic Society, Kolkata; Fort William College and Bethune School, Kolkata was inevitable. He established so many schools in the districts of Hooghly, Bardhhaman and Medinipur with prior permission from the government.

We celebrated the 200 years of the birth anniversary of Pandit Iswar Chandra Vidyasagar in the year 2019. Many lectures, discussions on Vidyasagar were organized by various academic and non-academic institutions at different places in the state West Bengal to pay homage him.

However, it is an opportunity to commemorate the creation of Vidyasagar and other creations on Vidyasagar by many notable authors.

Methodology:- Actually, the literature review method is being followed here. Through the various sources such as books, periodicals etc. the list of books written by Vidyasagar and on Vidyasagar are collected to prepare a bibliography following the APA style format which is prepared chronologically according to their creation. An informetric analysis is also provided here with different aspects of the bibliography. The scope of this study is limited only on Vidyasagar. This bibliography has two parts. The first one deals with the creation made by Vidyasagar himself. It includes not only the documents created and edited by Vidyasagar but some other types such as creations published in journals, letters of Vidyasagar and some posthumous publications. The another one deals with the documents on Vidyasagar created by others in the form of books as well as articles in some journals. However this is an attempt to cover all such creations regarding Pandit Vidyasagar as far as possible.

**Objective:-** The very objective of this paper is to help the researchers to study in depth on "Vidyasagar" in future. Now-a-days various types of inter disciplinary researches are going on by the scholars of the various academic departments of various universities. Such an informative research paper may be a great help to them. Not only this, researchers may use this information as a part of their references at the end of their research document to encourage to the academic community for further study.

## The Bibliography:

#### PART I

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- 4. Vidyasagar, Iswar Chandra. (1849).Sisusikhya.v.4. It is last part of Madan Mohan Tarkalankar.
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- 6. Vidyasagar, Iswar Chandra. (1851). Sanskrita byakaraner upakramanika.
- 7. Vidyasagar, Iswar Chandra. (1851). Rijupath.v.1.
- 8. Vidyasagar, Iswar Chandra. (1852). Rijupath.v.2.
- 9. Vidyasagar, Iswar Chandra. (1853). Rigupath.v.3
- 10. Vidyasagar, Iswar Chandra.(1853).Sanskrita vasa sastra o sahitya bishoyok prastab.
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- 12. Vidyasagar, Iswar Chandra. (1853). Byakaran kaumudi.v.2
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## B. Books edited by Vidyasagar:-

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- 13. Vidyasagar, Iswar Chandra. (Ed.). (1890). Padyasangraha.v.2.(from Annadamangal of Bharat Chandra Roy).

#### C.Posthumous Publications:-

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- 2. Vidyasagar, Iswar Chandra. (1892). Pravabati samvasan.
- 3. Vidyasagar, Iswar Chandra. (1892). Bhugol khagol barnam.
- 4. Vidyasagar, Iswar Chandra.(1898). Re-marriage of hindu widows.
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#### D.Essays published in journals:-

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- 4. Vidyasagar, Iswar Chandra. (1894). Chagoler buddhi. Sakha Patrika. It is for the children.
- 5. Vidyasagar, Iswar Chandra. (1902). Sabda sangraha. Sahitya Parisad Patrika. It is a bibliography of essays.
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- 2. Guha, Arabinda. (Ed.). (1971). Unpublished letters of Vidyasagar.

#### **Informetric Analysis:**

This table 1 is a time-frequency distribution of the creation of Pandit Iswar Chandra Vidyasagar. From the table it is found that maximum number of books (i.e. 20) were published in between 1847 and 1857 because these period was the dark age of the 19<sup>th</sup> century and was full of superstition. After these period publication frequency of books

is comparatively more or less equal. It is found that the number of books published during the period 1858-1868; 1869-1879 and 1880-1890 were 06, 04 and 05 respectively. It is also found that total number of publications as the editor were 13 among which five(05) were published within 1847-1857 and other two(02), three(03) and three(03) books were published during 1858-1868; 1869-1879 and 1880-1890 respectively. There are total five (05) posthumous publications of Vidyasagar. These are four (04) and one (01) during 1891-1901 and 1902-1912 respectively. Total seven (07) essays were published by Vidyasagar in different journals among which 06 were published after his death and only one (01) was published in 1847-1857. There are two letters that are published in the year 1895 and 1971 respectively which are not reflected in the above table.

Table 1: Period Frequency Distribution of Part I Bibliography
The calculation is done approximately after two digits of the decimal fraction.

Period-	Books written by	Books	Post humus	Essays
Frequency	Vidyasagar	edited	Publications	Published
Distribution		by	By Vidyasagar	In Journal
		Vidyasagar		
1847-1857	20	05 (30.76%)	NA	01
	(57.14 %)			(14.28%)
1858-1868	06	02 (15.38%)	NA	NA
	(17.14%)			
1869-1879	04	03 (23.07%)	NA	NA
	(11.42%)			
1880-1890	05	03 (23.07%)	NA	NA
	(14.28%)			
1891-1901	NA	NA	04	03
			(80 %)	(42.85%)
1902-1912	NA	NA	01	02
			(20 %)	(28.57%)
1913-1923	NA	NA	NA	01

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				(14.28 %
TOTAL	35	13	05	07

#### **PART II**

#### A.Books on Vidyasagar in Bengali language:-

- 1. Mitra, Rajendralal.(Ed.). (1852). Iswar Chandra Vidyasagar pranita sanskrita sahitya sastra bishyok prastaber samalochona: bibidhartha sangraha.v.2.p.196-200.
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- 3. Dutta, Ajit. Bangla sahitye hansyaras. Kolkata: Jijyansa. p.112. [ See Vidyasagar rachanay hasyaras]
- 4. Mitra, Mohanlal & Dutta, Kanailal. (Eds). Unabinsa sataker banglar katha o Jogesh Chandra Bagal. [ See unabinsa satabdir bangla o Vidyasagar].
- 5. Mursid, Golam.(Ed.). Vidyasagarer sardha sata barsha smarak grana. Kolkata: Vidyaday Library. p.290.
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- 6. Sanyal, Ram gopal. (Ed.). (1894, 1895). Reminiscences and anecdotes of Great men on India. Calcutta: Herald Printing Works. [ See Vidyasagar]
- 7. Dutt, Ramesh Chandra. (1895). The literature of Bengal. Calcutta: R.P. Mitter. [See Vidyasagar]
- 8. Mitra, Subal Chandra. (1902). Iswar Chandra Vidyasagar. Calcutta.
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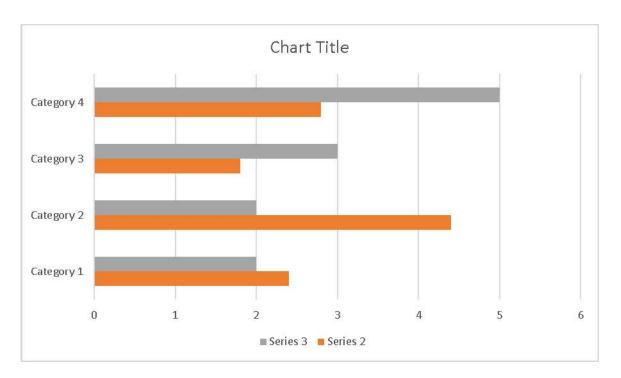
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## **Informetric analysis:-**

Table 2: Period Frequency distribution of Part II Bibliography

Period Frequency distribution	- Books in (Bengali Language)	Journal article In (Bengali Language)	Unknown Authors in (Bengali Language)	Books in (English Language)	Journal article in (English Language )
Before 1850	NA	01	NA	NA	NA
1850-1870	01	NA	NA	01	01
1871-1891	02	NA	NA	03	NA
1892-1912	15	NA	NA	06	NA
1913-1933	16	01	NA	03	NA
1934-1954	21	03	NA	01	NA
1955-1975	58	02	02	04	NA
1976-1996	30	NA	NA	02	NA
1997-2017	22	NA	NA	02	NA
TOTAL	165	07	02	22	01



From this table it is found that maximum number of books (i.e. 58) are published during 1955-1975 in Bengali language. There are only 07 journal articles in Bengali language. The total 22 books are published in English language. Only 01 article is being published in English language.

Table 3: Authorship distribution

The calculation is done approximately after two digits of the decimal fraction

Author	Books in	Journal article	Unknown	Books in	Journal article in
ship Distri- bution	Bengali Language)	in (Bengali Language)	Authors in (Bengali Language)	(English Language)	(English Language
Single Author	155 (93.93%)	07 (100 %)	06 (85.7%)	21(95.45%	01 (100%)
Double Authors	06 (3.63%)	NA	01 (13.69%)	01 (4.54%)	NA
More than Double Authors	04 (2.42%)	NA	NA	NA	NA

TOTAL	165 (100%)	07 (100%)	07 (100%)	22(100%)	01 (100%)

This table reveals that maximum books both in Bengali as well as English languages are contributed by the single authors. Only a few books and journal articles are contributed by the double and more than double authors.

From the bibliography it is also found that there are so many publishers from where publications are originated. There are some notable publishers such as Sanskrita Press Depository, Bangiya Sahitya Parisad, Ananda Publishers, Dasgupta, Dey's, University of Calcutta, Asiatic Society, Vidyasagar Research Centre etc. There are so many publications from Bangladesh also. However, it is very difficult to enumerate of all such Publishers individually.

**Subjective view of the Bibliography:** In this paper the total bibliography has two parts. From the titles of the Part I bibliography the subjects are more or less cleared. Mainly these are confined into grammatical concept of both Sanskrit and Bengali languages. On the other hand, the Part II of this bibliography deals with the various aspects of Vidyasagar such as biographical aspect, Literature aspect, new concept of education ,social reformation point of view and many other related concepts. The form of the most of the documents are confined into essay type publication.

**Findings:** This article has two parts. One is the part I which gives the detail bibliography by Pandit Iswar Chandra Vidyasagar and the another one is the Part II which is the reflection of the bibliography by the others. It is very interesting to note that the number of the part II bibliography is more than that of the part I. It proves that the research as well as importance of study on Pandit Vidyasagar is still increasing and is also a serious matter of consideration.

Most of the bibliography on Vidyasagar are written in Bengali language followed by the English language. Not only this, but maximum publications are essay type. The journal publications are less than the book publication in both Bengali and English language.

Conclusion: During the 19<sup>th</sup> century, female education got momentum by the joint efforts of Vidyasagar & Madanmohan Tarkalankar with the active support of Bethune saheb, an Englishman. Pandit Vidyasagar made a bridge in between the classical Sanskrit study and of introduction of Bengali language education. The strong common sense, kindness, strong personality, punctuality etc. made him an ideal person in the contemporary periods. The contributions of women in the freedom fight movement of India became possible due to spread of education among the female. Pandit Vidyasagar played a great role in this achievement. Truly, Vidyasagar was a follower of Raja Rammohan Roy in the 19<sup>th</sup> century in Bengal. In the year 2019, the celebration of 200 years of birth anniversary of Pandit Iswar Chandra Vidyasagar in different places of West Bengal particularly such as schools, colleges, universities, education department(s) and many other organization(s) in the form of seminars, conferences, invited talks, open forum discussions etc. proved the relevancy of the ideologies,

notable creations and the viewpoints of social reformation of him once again in the 21st century also.

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