South Asia Archive

The largest online primary-source collection in South Asian studies

Used in over 800 South Asian academic institutions

COHERENT DIGITAL

Some background

South Asia Research Foundation

Routledge
Taylor & Francis Group

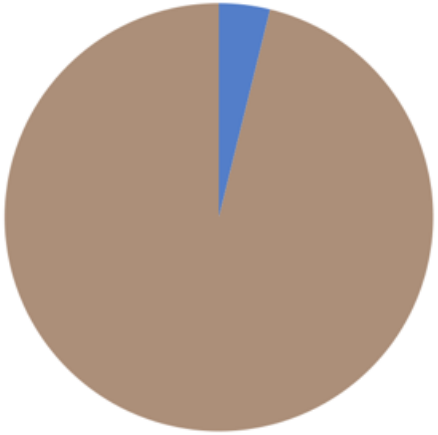
COHERENT DIGITAL

- In December 2021, Coherent Digital acquired the Taylor & Francis digital primary-source collections
- Five databases, including the *South Asia Archive*
- Currently migrating them to a new platform with many new features
- Coherent has substantial experience in creating primary-source collections

South Asian cultural materials are…

Important

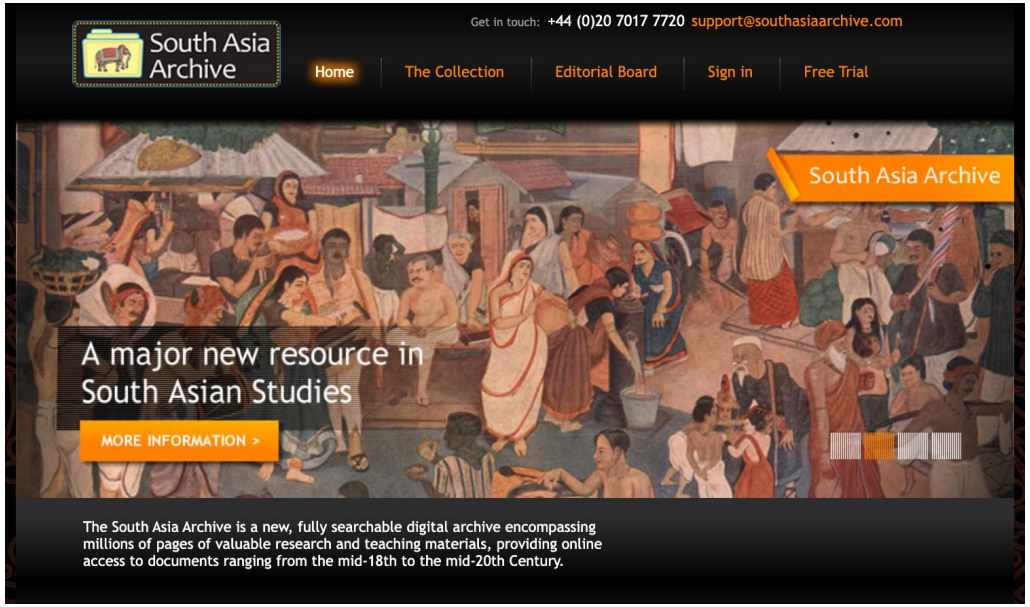
One in four of the world's people comes from South Asia



Underrepresented

Less than 4% of Western library collections

South Asia Archive



- 4.5 million pages of research material
- Content dated 1700-1953
- The entire Indian subcontinent is represented
- Most of the collection is in English—with 15% in vernacular languages, primarily Bengali and Sanskrit
- Designed for both research and teaching

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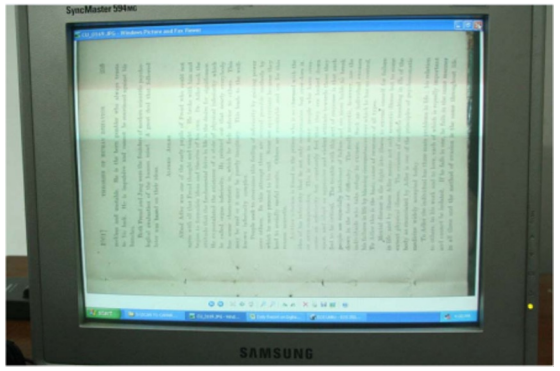

Sourced from the
South Asia Research Foundation
from an archive of over 15 million pages

SARF South Asia Research Foundation

Document types

South Asia Archive

- Government Acts
- Books
- Calendars
- Catalogues
- Censuses
- Directories
- Gazettes
- Journals
- Film Pamphlets
- Legal Documents
- Magazines
- Manuals
- Maps
- Proceedings
- Reports
- Statistics

Themes

Coverage on all aspects of South Asia, including:

- Partition and Independence
- Crime, Riot, and Resistance
- Colonial Knowledge and Colonial Governance
- Print and the Production of Culture
- Religious and Moral Discourse
- Constructions of Colonial Development
- Gender and Society in Colonial India: Race, Education, and Reform

Gender, race, education

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- **Books** on the education and status of women in India, including *The Scientific Basis of Women's Education, The Vedic Law of Marriage or The Emancipation of Women, The Position of Women in Hindu Law, Papers on Indian Reform, The Women of India and What Can Be Done For Them,* and *The Ways and Means of Imparting an Ideal Education to Boys and Girls.*
- **Reports** on women's education, including *Central Advisory Board of Education: Report of the Women's Education Committee on Primary Education of Girls in India, 1936* and *Development of Female Education in England and Utilization of Western Methods of Education in Bengal*.
- *Journal of the National Indian Association, In Aid of Social Progress in India* (1881-1884).
- *Our Cause. A Symposium by Indian Women* (proceedings, 1938)
- *Widow-Burning. A Narrative* (book, 1855)
- *The Scientific Basis of Women's Education* (book, 1930)
- *The Position of Women in Hindu Law* (doctoral thesis, 1913)

Religion

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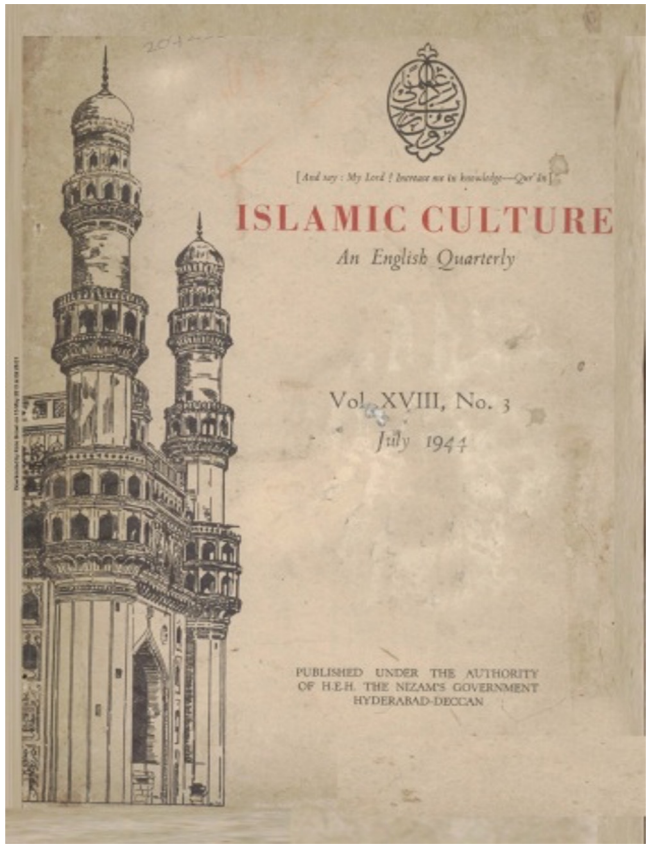
- **Journals and periodicals** such as *The Islamic Review*, *The Quarterly Journal of the Mythic Society*, *Hindu Patrika*, *The Journal of the Greater India Society*, and *The Calcutta Oriental Journal*.
- Extensive issues of *Modern Review* 1907-1953.
- **Reports**, including the *Report of the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Committee, United Provinces*.
- Hinduism according to Muslim Suffis (*Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal, 1924*)
- *Hinduism and the Untouchables* (*Modern Review*, 1936)
- *Islamic Culture* (journal, 1927)
- *Sketch of the Sikhs* (book, 1812)
- *Jatak - Arthat Goutam Buddher Atit Janmasamuher Brittanta* (book, 1916)



Colonial governance

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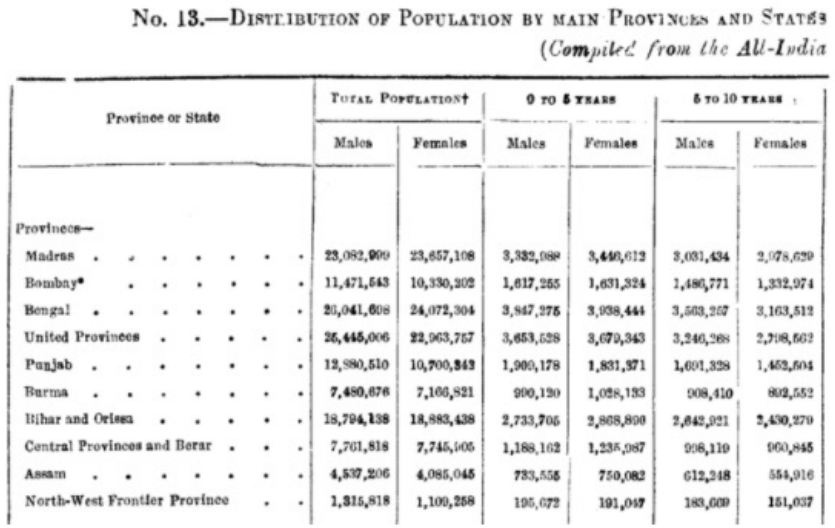
- **Manuals** for civil servants—for example, *Manual for the Guidance of Officers of the Excise and Salt Department* and *A Manual for the Guidance of Officers in the Partition of Estates*.
- **Reports** of government departments, including commerce, agriculture, and shipping
- The 1941 Indian **Census**
- **Journals and bulletins** concerned with Indian financial and industrial performance, including *Landholder's Journal, Commerce: A Weekly Review* and various *Bulletins of Indian Industries and Labour*
- **Annual reports** of the Ministry of Industry and Supply and the Department of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics



No. 13.—Distribution of Population by main Provinces and States (*Compiled from the All-India*

Province or State	Total Population†		0 to 5 years		5 to 10 years	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
Provinces—						
Madras	23,082,909	23,657,108	3,332,088	3,440,612	2,031,434	2,078,629
Bombay*	11,471,543	10,330,202	1,617,265	1,631,324	1,486,771	1,332,974
Bengal	26,941,608	24,072,304	3,847,275	3,938,444	3,563,267	3,163,512
United Provinces	25,445,006	22,963,757	3,653,528	3,670,343	3,246,268	2,908,602
Punjab	12,980,510	10,700,343	1,900,178	1,831,371	1,691,328	1,462,604
Burma	7,480,676	7,166,821	999,120	1,028,133	908,410	892,552
Bihar and Orissa	18,794,138	18,883,438	2,733,705	2,868,800	2,642,921	2,430,279
Central Provinces and Berar	7,761,818	7,745,905	1,188,162	1,236,087	996,119	960,845
Assam	4,537,206	4,085,045	733,555	750,082	612,348	554,916
North-West Frontier Province	1,315,818	1,109,258	195,072	191,047	183,609	151,037

CHOICE
CURRENT REVIEWS FOR ACADEMIC LIBRARIES

"an invaluable resource to those studying South Asian (specifically Bengali) history, particularly because of its helpful and relatively consistent organizational scheme. Summing up: Highly recommended. Lower-level undergraduates and above."

V.M. Natarajan,
Barnard College

"Information… lost to the people of India will come alive… and millions of researchers across the world will now be able to access it."

Kapil Sibai,
Indian Minister of Communications and IT

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- Dr. Sharmistha Gooptu, South Asia Research Foundation

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Functionality

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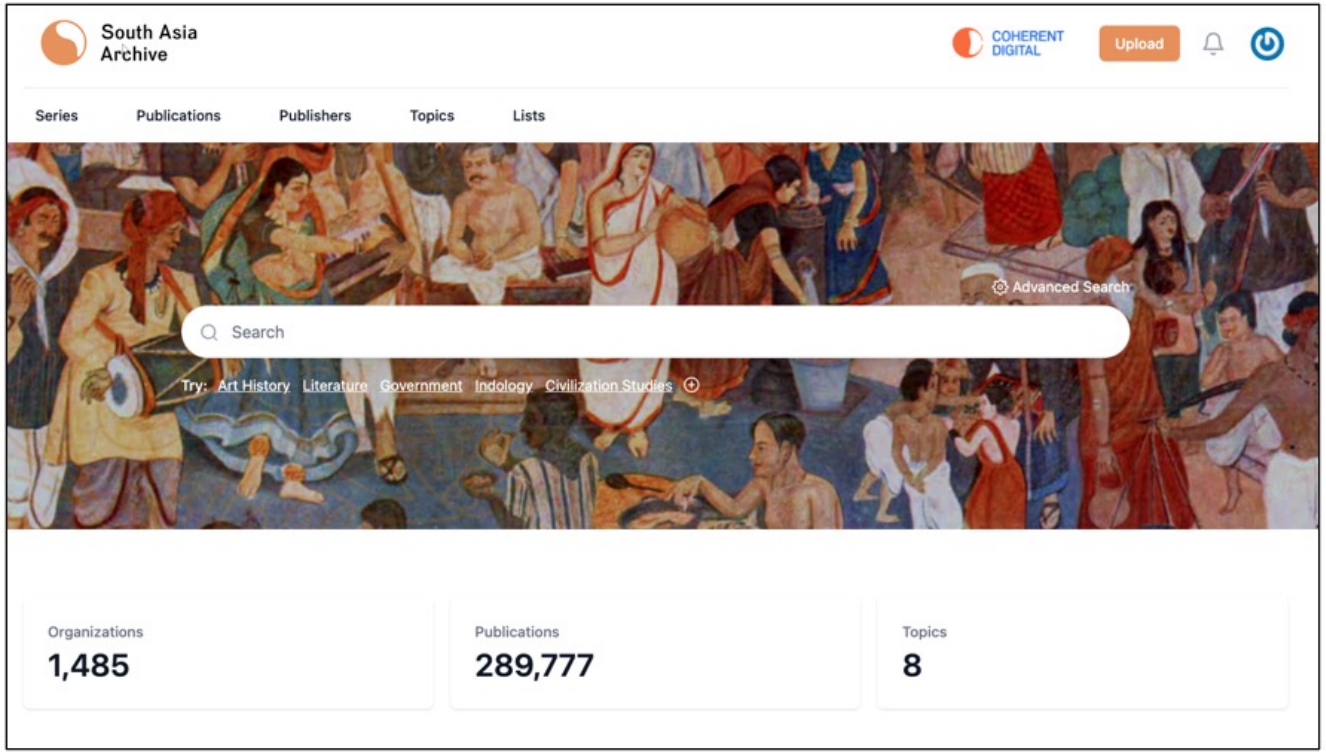
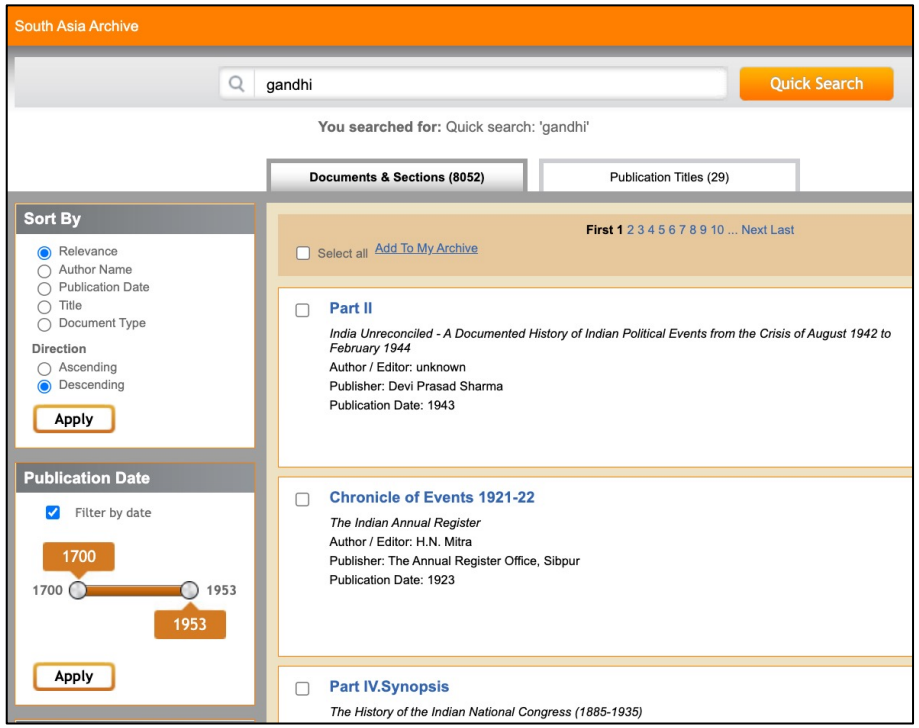
Old platform

NEW platform

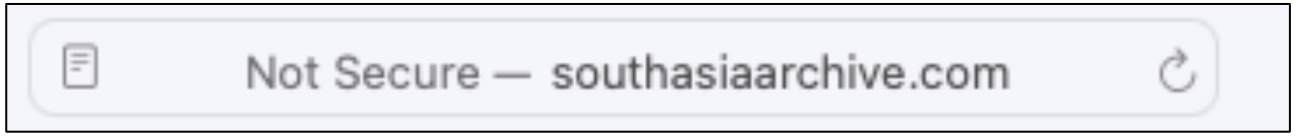


Old version…

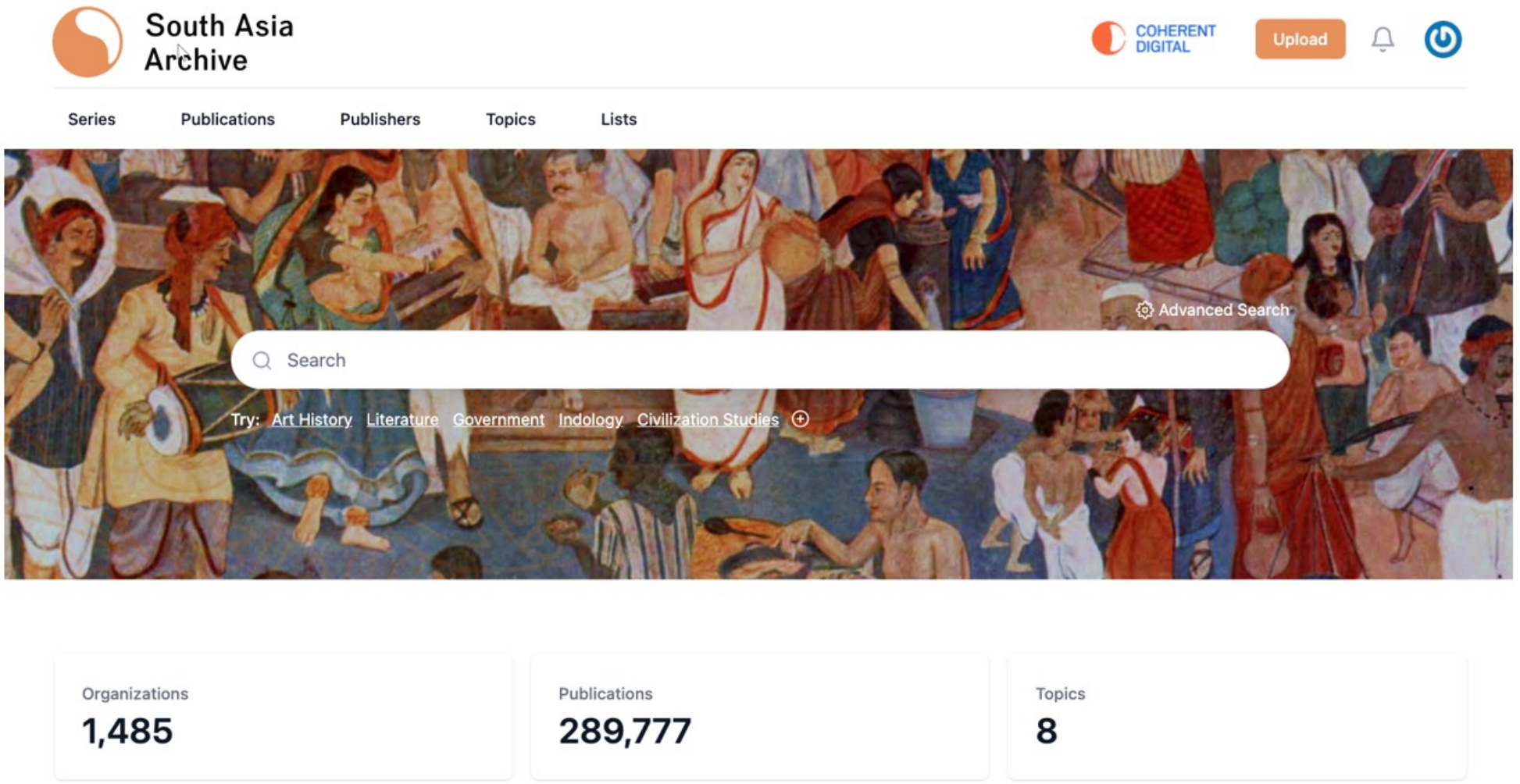


Great content, but…

1. Not secure (not *https*)
2. Not easy to use
3. Slow
4. Content segmentation confusing



New version


South Asia Archive
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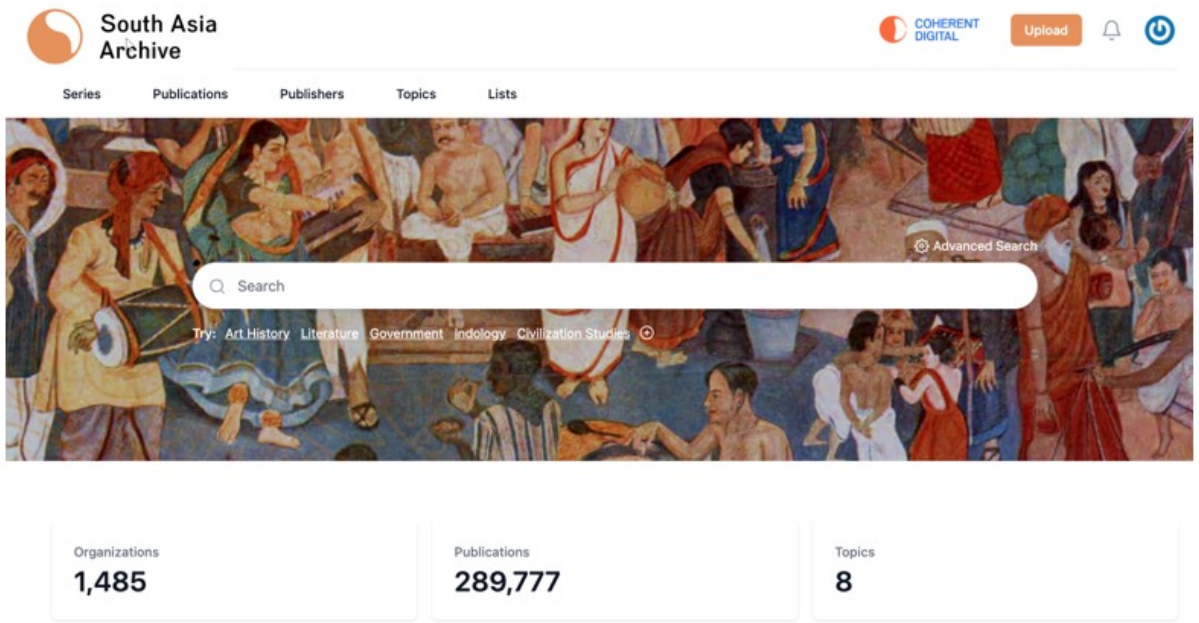
Upload
Series
Publications
Publishers
Topics
Lists
Advanced Search
Search
Try: Art History Literature Government Indology Civilization Studies
Organizations
1,485
Publications
289,777
Topics
8

Simple user interface



Organization

Unset	3,695
Superintendent. Gov...	4,255
The Indian Press Ltd.	526
Gurudas Chattopadhy...	443
Sashibhushan Datta	341
Sri Sajanikanta Das	380
Manager of Publications	816
Calcutta University Pr...	663
Hare Press	256
Bijoychandra Bhattach...	229

View more

Publication Type

Journal article	14,180
Report	8,931
Book	2,750
Acts, Decisions, Instru...	502
Statistical publication	550
Gazetteer	1,768
Manual	279
Proceedings	207
Census	133
Catalogue	197

View more

Language

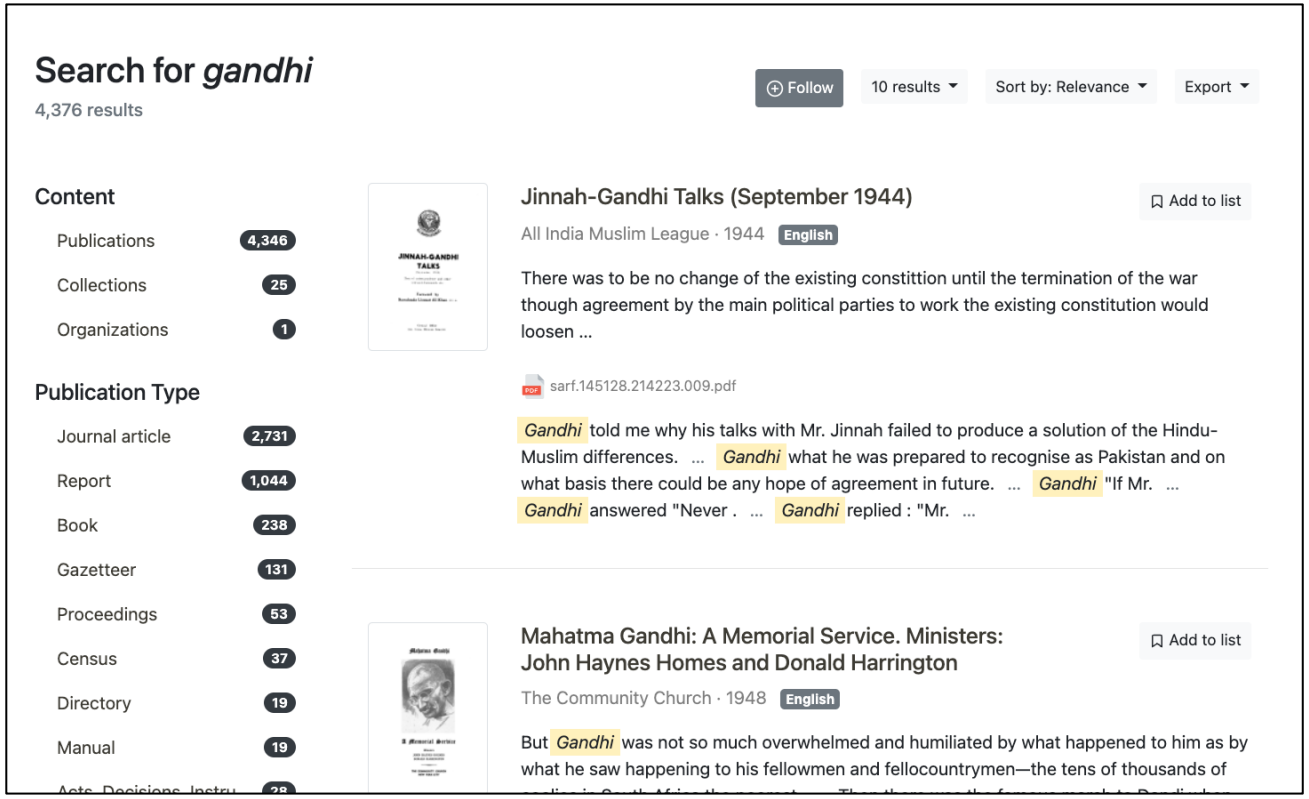
English	21,910
Bengali	6,988
Hindi	140
Sanskrit	44

Year Published

2022	5
1955	1
1953	825
1952	830
1951	680
1950	748
1949	701

Fast, responsive—with clear titles

South Asia Archive



- Improved titles
- Content segments brought together for continuity
- Item summary
- Keyword in context visible immediately
- Thumbnail display

PDF reader

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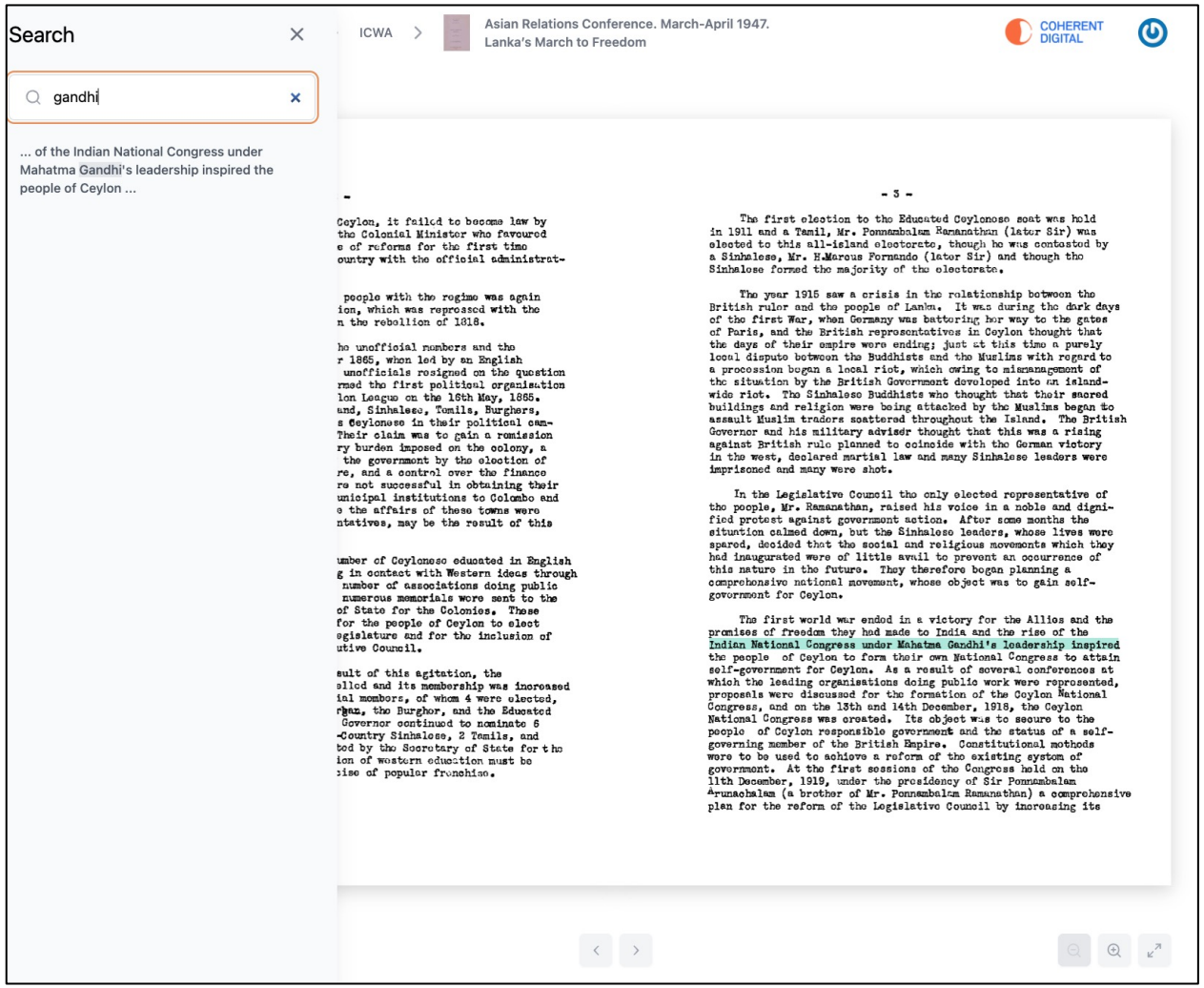

- Search term highlighted results
- Zoom in and out
- Quickly navigate to new searches
- Expand to full screen

Improved Advanced Search tool

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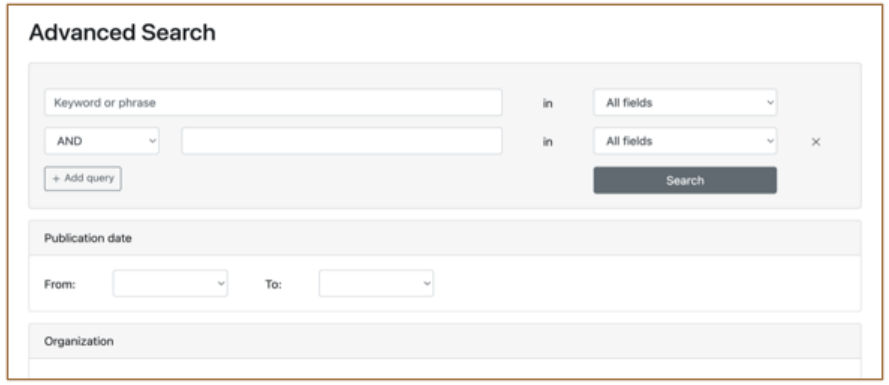

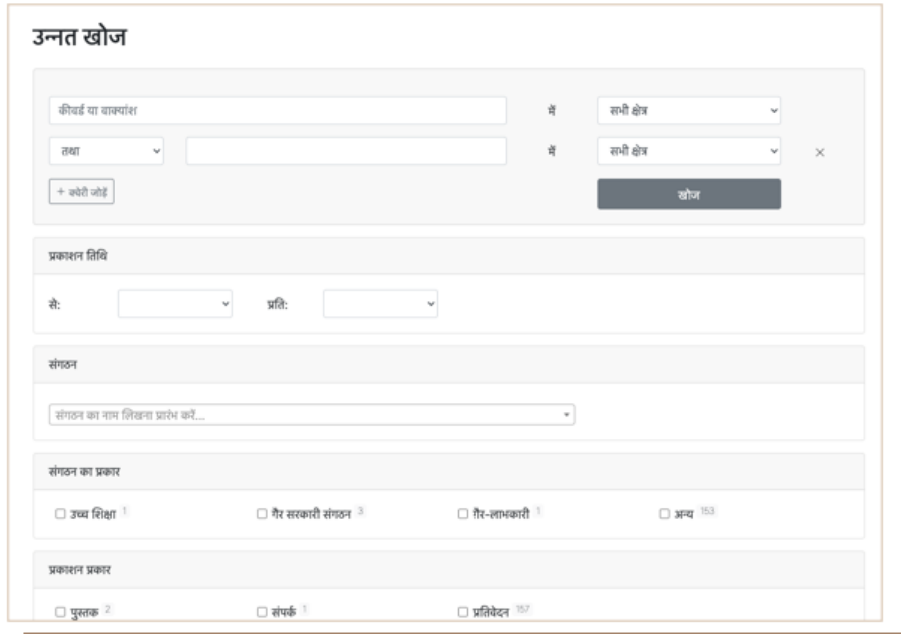

- Phrase search
- Boolean operators AND, OR, NOT, NEAR
- Unlimited number of queries
- VPAT
- Multi-language user interface

New Organizations Directory

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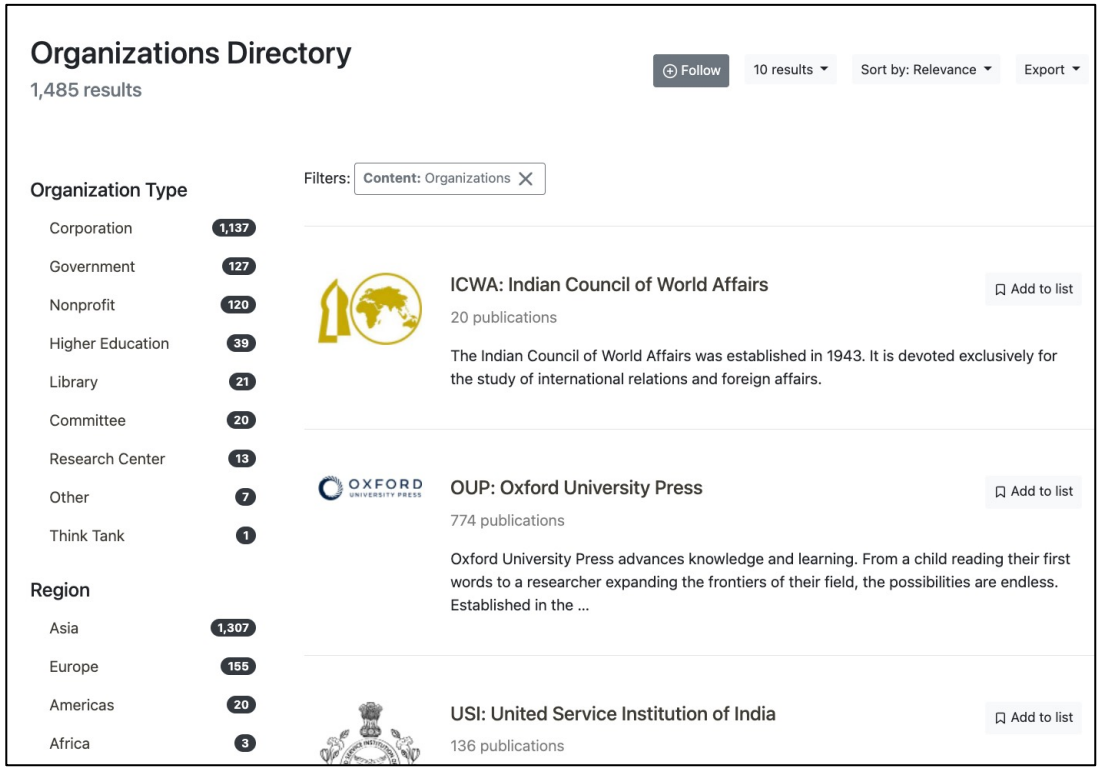
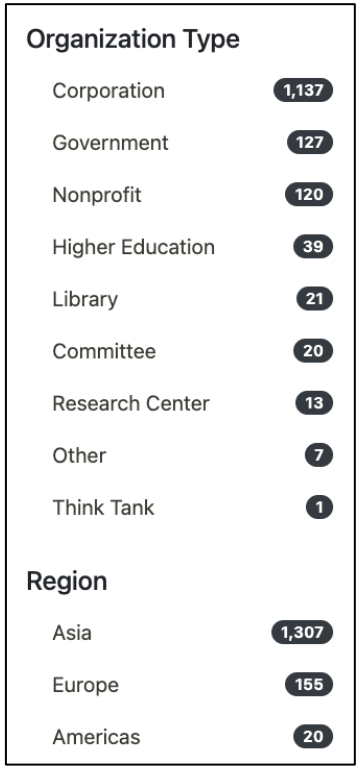




Growing to become the definitive source for information about publishing and printing organizations

Community uploads and links

South Asia Archive

<1 min elapsed time

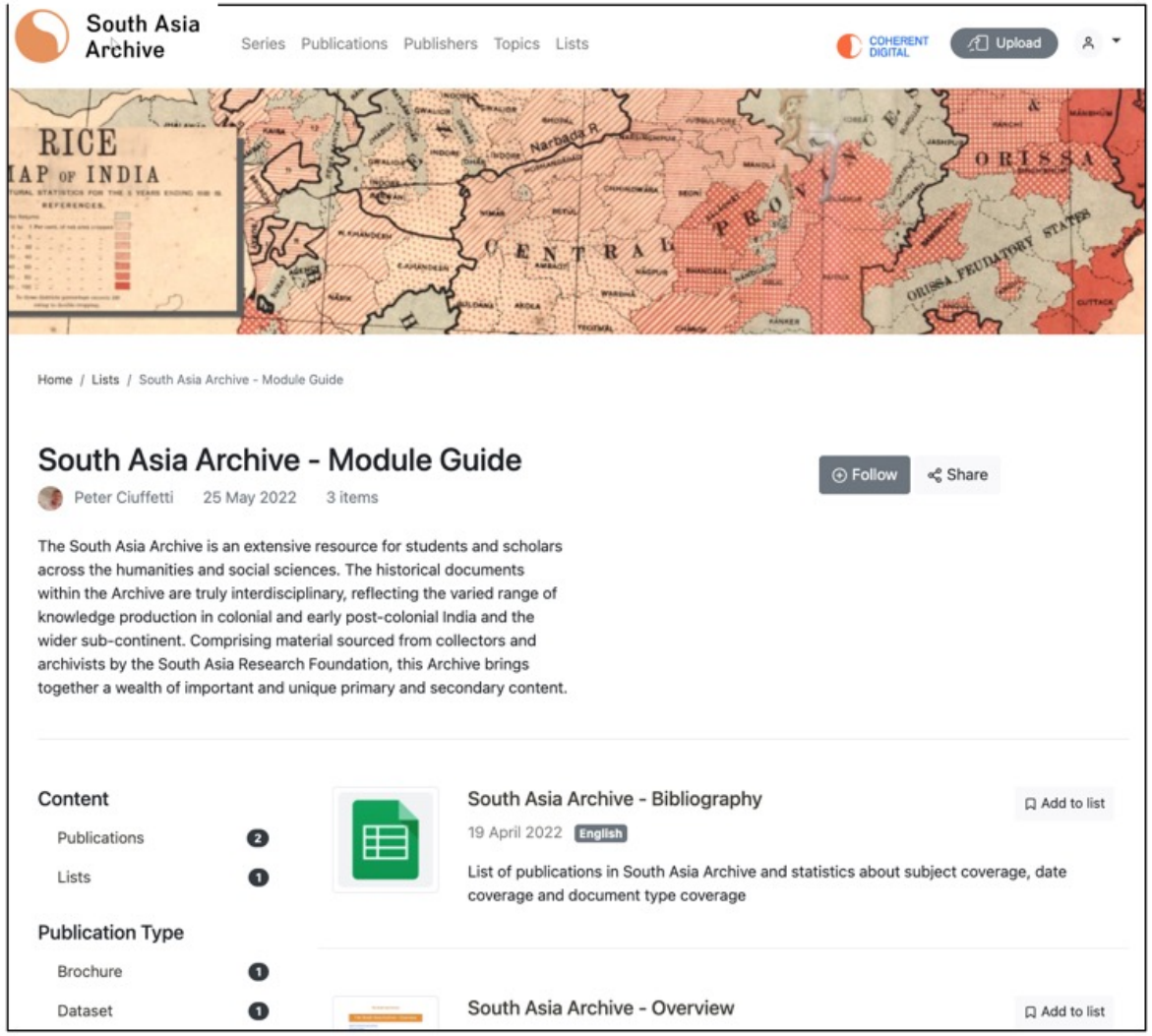
1. Contribute a file or a link
2. We enrich and extract metadata automatically
3. We make it available to users
4. Material outside editorial guidelines can be flagged and removed–persistent violators are denied access

Upload and share materials if you hold copyright

Post links to materials you host or if you don't hold copyright

List Builder—create custom lists

South Asia Archive



- Find items
- Build a list of them
- Make a custom landing page
- Or export the records

Upcoming for *South Asia Archive*

South Asia Archive

Summer 2022

- Additional topics
- Help files and videos
- Series—remove single titles
- Merging of individual segments

Fall 2022

- Thumbnail Gallery
- Printing and downloading
- Easier Keyword-in-Context (KWIC)
- More standardization of titles/authors/printers/publishers
- Table conversion

Future modules

South Asia Archive

- Discovery service—indexing over a million additional open items
- Additional collections of South Asian content to sit alongside *South Asia Archive* on the *South Asia Commons* platform
- And more… your ideas welcome