

Application for LAUC Mini grant Proposal for 2009-2010 Period

Applicant Name and Address:

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Title of the Project: Documenting and Analyzing Asian, Eastern European extremist organizations

Requested Amount: \$500

No Release time requested

Summary and current status of the research project/activity:

The proposed project will sample and analyze the content of the extremist websites of Asia, and also it will examine the open web for the presence of web sites of Eastern European as well as Central Asian Extremist groups. The focus in case of the Eastern Europe will be primarily on Russian Federation. The application for mini-grant is for the purchase of the necessary software that will allow me to conduct the project

A. Rationale:

Recent terrorist attacks in Mumbai on 11/26/2008, several Chechen separatists attack within Moscow over the period of last several years have shown importance for collecting information on several extremist groups that have been behind these attacks from the open sources. The websites of these groups are often overlooked by the librarians who could harvest relevant information about the nature of the activities, ideologies, goals and aims of these social movements. This proposal fits within the scope of the Pan-Asian and the Eastern European Studies collection development and information delivery commitment of the UCLA Library.

As we know, the region itself is embroiled in various conflicts of local nature that can easily acquire globalized characteristic due to large South Asian Diaspora outside the boundaries of India, Pakistan, Nepal, Bhutan, Sri Lanka, Maldives and Afghanistan.

Just for example, I would like to propose for the digital content analysis following web-sites:

1. To capture for analysis, on quarterly basis a sample of "extremist" websites that are hosted in the region. These websites are in Russian, Arabic, Urdu, Hindi or the other regional languages and provide us with the wealth of information. These websites can be taken down without some prior notice by the concerned governments. The total of 5 sites will be chosen using blind sampling method.

2. The base for social and political extremism can vary from religious dissent to various ideological normative differences such as Marxism, National-Socialism, Religious extremism etc. The content analysis of these websites landing page will be important and a framework to this extent will be developed.
3. Although each of these organizations represents different sets of problems as a group they integrate within them the turbulence that the nuclear South Asia and Russian Federation represents for the world.
4. These websites are often transient and born digital. The information that they provide is currently not being captured by any library. I would like to provide few examples of such sites.

For Example,

Hindu nationalist website <http://www.shivsena.org/>

Or <http://www.shivsenaulhasnagar.org/>

<http://panchjanya.com/dynamic/>

RSS- the Right Wing Hindu Nationalist Organization:

<http://rssonnet.org/> or <http://www.jamatuddawa.org/> (The banned terrorist organization from

Kashmir) or <http://www.jamatdawah.org/>

Or Eelam Nation from Sri Lanka : <http://www.eelamnation.net/> or <http://ttnet.netfast.org/>

Naxalites from India <http://www.cgnet.in/N1>

<http://www.cpnm.org/> Nepal Maoist Rebels

ULFA: <http://www.geocities.com/CapitolHill/Congress/7434/ulfa.htm>

Hamas: <http://www.pmo.gov.ps/news.php>

Chechen sponsored site at <http://www.kavkazcenter.com/russ/>

Russian Nationalist Party <http://www.rne.org/>

This project will give us at the UCLA, a unique opportunity to archive these websites on some periodic basis. This project has not been done yet at any North American University as well as at the LOC. I hope that you would look favorably on this project.

B. Time Table for activities:

Duration of the proposed project is from July 2009 through June 2010. No release time is required for this project.

C. Summary of the Budget

Purchase of the required software:

1. Atlas Ti (This program is not offered by the CLICC and the ASUCLA Store)-the student license is \$140.00 for which I qualify. The information is available at <http://www.atlasti.com/licenses.html>
2. Endnote x2 required for creating a bibliography of literature review sources for my research. Price \$299.95 for Windows version. The pricing details are at http://www.digitalriver.com/dr/v2/ec_Main.Entry17c?SID=7438&SP=10007&CID=0&PID=&PN=0&CUR=840&DSP=&PGRP=0&ABCODE=&CACHE_ID=0
3. Web copier-\$50.00 for life time upgrade. Details: http://www.maximumsoft.com/products/wc_pro/overview.html

The total is \$489.50

D. Yes, I am the member of Collections, Research and Instructional Services Department at the Young Research Library that is represented by the UC-AFT.