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Systematic Literature Review: Importance of Temple Food Identification of Variables and Gaps-Lessons From Bhagwad Gita, Buddhism & Jainism

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Abstract

The present paper will be focusing exclusively on the importance of the temple food. However, the aim is to present a systematic literature review on "the importance of the temple food" as exhibited in the Bhagwad Gita, Buddhist and Jain books. The study will focus on certain books from Buddhism and Jainism. One may note that there will be thorough research conducted from the databases like Google Scholar, Web of Science, Microsoft Research, etc. There will be two set of reviews presented in the paper. On one side, there will be detailed discussion on the primary set of reviews covering domain, theoretical, framework, definitional, conceptual reviews, etc. The second set of the reviews will be dedicated to the observations made from reviews like narrative, historical, argumentative reviews, etc. The main research questions are: What was the main reason for the introduction of free food in temples of Hindu, Buddhist and Jains? What is the relevance of it? How is the food preparation and distribution maintained in these temples? How is the food distribution managed in the identified temples? What are the ethical values described and prescribed in the holy books of Bhagwad Gita, Buddhism and Jainism? What is its relationship with the action-oriented leadership in both individuals and their leaders in one's immediate community? What are its repercussions also? The research methodology is through secondary research and major interdisciplinary databases will be searched to identify the prior literature on the selected topic. Apart from this, one will also note that there will be a list of variables identified from the prior literature. Moreover, the gaps will be identified and discussed as per the past papers. In the conclusion, one may end that the temple has been and will be playing a very important role in the community of India. There are implications of this study from the theoretical, conceptual and managerial perspectives also. In this manner, one may see the points for the future scope of the study also. However, there are few limitations also pointed out in the study and this presents a way out for the importance of the research for the future times.

Keywords: temple food, bhagwad gita, buddhism, jainism, literature

1. Introduction:

1a. Background:

In the Post-COVID times, there were many changes observed in one's immediate communities

and societies (Ross, 2021). These changes introduced good number of new concepts, theories, models, etc. In the present paper, an attempt has been made to study about the temple food or the food that is available from the religious places like temples. The main focus will be on the Hindu, Buddhist and Jain temples in India. The main aim is to study the importance of food available in the selected and identified temples of India (Debasis, 2020).

1b. Approach:

The methodology adopted for the study is basically the "Systematic Literature Review". Under this study, the details of the prior publications of the literature will be researched and analyzed more to get the relevant information. Apart from this, the databases like Google Scholar and Web of Sciences will be used to retrieve appropriate information about the previous studies published by the scholars and others. As a result, one will be able to collect the information required for the study (Gupta, 2022).

1c. Relevance and Statistics

The statistics has revealed the importance of the temple food in India (See the Figures 2 and 3 for more details). Moreover, there are some of the religious places in India where the food is distributed absolutely free to the individuals visiting these places (See Tables 11 and 12)(Kumar, 2020). Thus, it becomes necessary to study in depth about the relevance of the religious place for both Indians and Foreigners, the importance of the food that is distributed, the management of the food distributed in these places, the relevance of the food and to know more about the tourism and sustainability of the food

1d. Significance of the Study:

Consequently, one will note that there is a need for systematic literature review on the importance of the temple food in India, list of the gaps and variables presented for the future studies also, the various implications and future scope of the study.

Research Questions:

The main research questions raised in the paper are: What was the main reason for the introduction of free food in temples of Hindu, Buddhist and Jains? What is the relevance of it? What is its relationship with the action-oriented leadership in both individuals and their leaders in one's immediate community? What are its repercussions also? What are the ethical values described and prescribed in the holy books of Bhagwad Gita, Buddhism and Jainism? What are the concepts in the holy books of Bhagwad Gita, Buddhism and Jainism? How is the food distribution managed in the identified temples? How is the food prepared and distribution maintained in these temples?

2. Methodology:

2.1 Phase 1 Planning- Since it is a systematic literature review, it was decided that the main databases of Google Scholar and Web of Sciences will be utilized for the proper searches required for the study. Moreover, there was an attempt made to explore the main domains and branches of the knowledge.

2.1.1 Review Protocol- The main protocol used for the study was designed from the side the author. It was called as "6Ws2Hs" (as per the research questions listed above). This protocol helps in knowing more about the research conducted in the prior papers as well as for the present paper also(Lee & Wall, 2020)(JAIN., 2020).

2.1.2 Keywords & Search Strategy- The main search strategy used in the paper was through two main databases viz. Google Scholar and Web of Sciences (See Table 3). The search was done in the following manner: Choosing different keywords to get more information across the domains and Choosing different keywords to get more information across the various branches of knowledge.

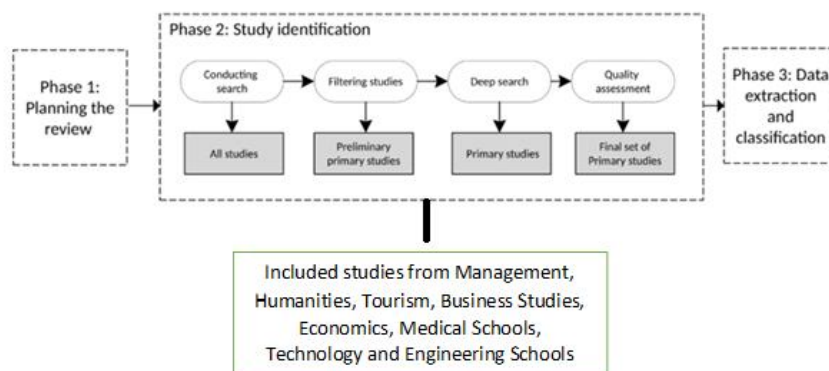
Once the search was done and completed through the keywords, it was necessary to understand the search strategy. Thus, a detailed strategy was used to search more literature for the study. This was done in the following manner: Focus only on Google Scholar or Web of Sciences, Search through the customized years, Search through the publications, Search through the citations, Search through the countries, Search through the publishers, etc.

This helped to include all the research that has been conducted by the academic circles in the fields of Management, Commerce, Financial Studies, Social Sciences, Humanities, Medicine, Nursing Schools, etc. As a result, one was able to know more about the titles of the research and the manner it was done.

2.1.3 Inclusion and Exclusion Criteria:

Subsequently, the main inclusion criteria selected and identified for the present study were the following ones(Debasis, 2020)(Mason, 2020):The literature that focused main religions that were involved in the food distribution across India, the important previous literature that helped in exploring multiple domains to gain more insight rather than just focusing only on one domain of knowledge, the selection of the variables as presented and published in prior literature, etc. Published in the earlier studies. The exclusion criteria the name of the author like "Temple" in the search options, The studies that were oriented to the global studies like "Korean Buddhist Temple Food"(since the present paper was focusing only on Indian temples),Topics like "food engineering", "food agriculture", "food menu", "food experiments", etc.(Aulet, Fernandes, & Timothy, 2021)(Son & Xu, 2013).

Figure 1



3. Systematic Literature Review:

Under this Section, one will see different headings with respect to the

3a.Number of Publications(Table 3)

3b.Phase 2 Conducting through Search Strategy (This was used for the appropriate searches(Moscardo, 2022)(Park, Bonn, & Cho, 2020), Selection Process (This helped in selecting the variables, methodologies, etc.) and Review Protocol Validation (The validation was done through the protocols selected for the present research paper).

Table 1

Research Question	Data Item for Extraction	Description
What was the main reason for the introduction of free food in temples of Hindu, Buddhist and Jains?	Free food, sustainability, compassion, empathy, abundance of wealth, spirituality, higher life, discipline, caring for others, human values, ethical values, moral life, cultural values, beliefs, religious backgrounds	These were really useful to now more about the research question and the manner the research was done in the prior literature. These also helped in identifying the gaps and the missing links.
What are the concepts in the holy books of Bhagwad Gita, Buddhism and Jainism?	Compassion, karma, selfless work, actions, sustainability, fighting against wrong and evil actions, being responsible, focusing on future generations, living with compassion, respect for all beings, sharing	Important relationships were seen between the theories, concepts and models
How is the food distribution managed in the identified temples?	Different distribution processes, cycles, channels of distributions, role of the marketing, techniques involved, human support, time management, relay distributions, contemporary processes of	Main relationships were identified through the gaps seen the prior literature
	distribution of food, role of online platforms, social media	
How is the food prepared and distribution maintained in these temples?	Preparation, kitchens, multiple locations, teamwork, support, time management, green utensils, innovativeness in food preparation, less wastage, more productivity, technology, foreign culture, attraction, tourism, appetite, religious beliefs, celebrations, piousness	Important variables were identified for the study and the gaps and missing links were identified.

What is the relevance of it?	Importance of the temple food, tourists, religious individuals, sustainability, value, utilitarianism, justice, economic fairness, aesthetics, consciousness, tastes, vegetarianism, protection of cultural values, ethical values and leading a moral life in the society.	The research helped to proceed further with the identification in the models from the multi-disciplinary approach and see the missing gaps in the theoretical, conceptual, frameworks and structural aspects of th studies.
What is its relationship with the action-oriented leadership in both individuals and their leaders in one's immediate community?	Relationship, action-oriented, leadership, responsibility, initiatives, leaders, individuals, role towards the members of the society, compassion, empathy, guiding others, mentoring others, uplifting, motivations, transformations, saving lives, future generations	The models of the action-oriented leadership and values based upon the spiritual teachings of Bhagwad Gita, Buddhism and Jainism were identified and comprehended.
What are its repercussions also?	Spreading the message of compassion, love, empathy, caring attitude, passion, transformations, motivations, saving others, sharing of the abundance wealth and food, leadership values	Important results were observed like sharing, cooking for others, free distribution, negation of self-fishness, community lover, sharing with others, etc.
What are the ethical values described and prescribed in the holy books of Bhagwad Gita, Buddhism and Jainism?	Rebirth, karma, motivations, responsible, future generations, action, orientations, respect for others, non-discrimination, spiritual and pious lives, sharing with others, reducing suffering, love for all, compassion, moral and ethical values	Relating the gaps between various models

Table: 3

S.No.	Topic	Number of Publications
1	Temple Food Intake And Health	40,300
2	Temple Food Insecurity	34,000
3	Temple Food Security	3,94,000
4	Temple Food And Energy	5,43,000
5	Temple Food And Drug	1,71,000
6	Temple Food Items	3,49,000
7	Temple Food Tradition	7,02,000
8	Temple Food Tradition	6,20,000
9	Temple Food Sacred Food	4,23,000
10	Reinvention Of Tradition Temple Food	23,800
11	Awareness Analysis Temple Food	2,74,000
12	Temple Food Perceived Value	3,52,000
13	Recognition And Preference Temple Food	1,27,000
14	Study On Recognition Temple Food	4,26,000

S.No.	Topic	Publications
1	Hindu Temple Food	1,10,000
2	Buddhist Temple Food	1,20,000
3	Jain Temple Food	23,800
4	Food At Islamic Dargah	1,650
5	Food At Islamic Masjid	15,700
6	Food At Gurudwaras	1,090

S.No.	Topic	Publications
1	Hindu Temple Food	1,10,000
2	Eternal Food Experiences Of Hindus	37,000
3	Discourse On Food Transnational Hindus	20,600
4	Food Of The Gods Hindu Rituals	81,500

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14	Study On Recognition Temple Food	4,26,000

S.No.	Topic	Publications
1	Philosophy Of Food	37,60,000
2	Philosophy In Food Engineering	9,52,000
3	Philosophy Of Food Twentieth Century Literature	10,80,000
4	Chinese Traditional Philosophy Food And Health	2,62,000
5	Indian Traditional Philosophy Food And Health	3,19,000
6	Hindu Philosophy Food And Health	86,200
7	Buddhist Philosophy Food And Health	89,600
8	Jain Philosophy Food And Health	31,300
9	Philosophy Of Food Indian Philosophy	8,67,000
10	Philosophy Of Food Western Philosophy	25,60,000
11	Philosophy Of Food Theories	10,40,000

4. Other Kind of Reviews:

In the Table 4, it may be seen that there are number of reviews published under the bracket of "First Set of the Reviews"(it is beyond the scope of the present research paper to show the details of these reviews). The total number of publications under the "Second Kind of the Reviews" also showcased the fact that there are publications from the side of the inclusive criteria. However, the exclusive criteria highlighted lack of these kind of reviews from the previous studies.

Table 4

S.No.	First Kind of Typology of Reviews	Publications	S.No.	Second Kind of Reviews	Total Number of Publications
1	Theoretical Reviews	3,43,00,000	1	Systematic Reviews	1,12,00,000
2	Thematic Reviews	75,30,000	2	Scopic Reviews	3,42,000
3	Domain Reviews	1,68,00,000	3	Integrated Reviews	1,70,00,000
4	Structural Reviews	1,49,000	4	Narrative Reviews	2,28,00,000
5	Framework Reviews	2,11,00,000	5	Umbrella Reviews	1,66,00,000
6	Definitional Reviews	2,19,00,000	6	Historical Reviews	2,95,00,000
7	Model Reviews	3,94,00,000	7	Argumentative Reviews	2,16,00,000
8	Conceptual Reviews	2,01,00,000	8	Literature Reviews	2,51,00,000
9	Bibliometric Reviews	1,60,000	9	Critical Reviews	1,07,00,000
			10	Rapid Reviews	95,80,000
			11	Mapping Reviews	5,26,000

5. Missing Gaps and Links:

These gaps present the future opportunities for the researchers. This makes the systematic literature review on "Temple Foods" relevant and its importance in the research areas (Debasis, 2020)(Aulet, Fernandes, & Timothy, 2021)(Moon, 2021)(Gupta, 2022)(Lee & Wall, 2020). One may see the gaps in theories, concepts, models, analysis, populations, methods and perspectives.

6. Implications:

There are important implications of the study and may be divided in the following: The **Managerial Implications** are based upon the philosophical studies of the Bhagwad Gita, Jainism and Buddhism(Zahner, 1973). Through the implementations of the main tenets of these religious and spiritual domains, one may certainly introduce and get oriented towards their principles and ideas. The **Theoretical Implications** are theories may be associated and main relationships may be observed like Temple Food and Management through Philosophy of Bhagwad Gita, Jainism and Buddhism, Relevance of Food Preparation and Distribution through Philosophy of Bhagwad Gita, Jainism and Buddhism(Zahner, 1973)(Rhys, 1965)(Umasvati, 1994), Highlighting the relevance of the spirituality through temple food. The **Conceptual Implications** are through the introduction of the concepts like temple food sustainability, sustainability and strategies for the distribution of the temple food, consciousness, respect for the spiritual ideas of food preparation and distribution, secularism, socialism, culturalism, action oriented ness, responsible, focusing on the future generations, etc. The Methodological Implications are the qualitative and quantitative research towards the identified topic.

7. Future Scope:

The research has a positive scope for the future studies. There are many areas which needs to be explored apart from the selected ones. For example, one may focus on the temples, Gurudwaras, Masjids, Dargahs, Churches and other spiritual places located in India.

8. Conclusion:

In the end, it may be concluded that the systematic literature review has highlighted the importance of the topic. One may also see the gaps and missing links in the research area on "Temple Food". The main areas for the future research may be seen in Engaging Millenials towards the Temple Food, Role of Social Media towards the distribution of the temple Food, Sustainable Opportunities through Spiritual Lessons from Bhagwad Gita, Buddhism and Jainism, Entrepreneurship Opportunities through the food distribution and Relationship between food distribution, ethical values and spirituality.

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