

INFORMATION ARCHITECTURE: THE WONDERFUL CONTENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

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ABSTRACT

Information Architecture (IA) is one of the important term in the field of Information and documentation. Information Architecture is an important domain responsible for information activities. It is an art of expressing or model or concept of information or concept of information and its design. It is actually organization or designing of information or content of an organization, institutions, or projects Information Infrastructure. Virtually, Information Architecture (IA) a specialised skill set which relates to the interpretation of information and expression of distinction between sign and systems of signs. Information Architecture (IA) and the term is practiced in several academics and community which are mainly deals with information and computing. As far as modern information science is concerned, Information Architecture (IA) may be referred as analysis and design of the data stored by computerised information systems. For better utilization of data, information and similar facet, Information Architecture (IA) is widely utilised and practiced. This paper is talks about Information Architecture (IA); its nature and characteristics including role and applications in information and information science field. Paper also mention about information design and Information Architecture (IA) in contemporary perspective.

Keywords : Information Architecture (IA), Information, Information and Knowledge, Web Architecture, Information Science, Content Management, Information Professionals, Information Design

INTRODUCTION

Information Architecture (IA) is actually application of basic architecture and design principles in information handling; which is may be applicable in information activities of wide range zone and features like collection, selection, organization, processing, management and dissemination. Out of these information activities, Information Architecture (IA) is mainly applicable in information processing, organization and management [01, 05]. Traditionally it was mainly considered with conventional information and content designing and architecture creation; but today it is treated with online and electronics data management, the art and science to organize and labelling of websites, internet, online communities and software to support find-ability and usability is also fall under Information Architecture (IA) practice. Earlier the professional experts in this field were treated as Information expert or Information Professional but today a separate domain or designation

involved called Information Architecture (IA). Though, the term Architecture and Architect criticized by several academicians and professionals of various fields [02, 03, 08].

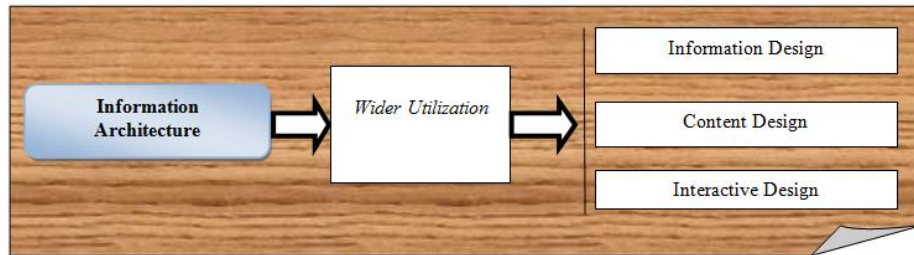


Fig: 1. The dimension of Information Architecture at a glance

OBJECTIVE

The main objective of this study is including, but not limited to:-

- To learn basic about Information Architecture (IA) and its meaning;
- To find out basic about Information Architecture (IA) and its characteristics;
- To find out contemporary uses of Information Architecture (IA) in better information infrastructure development;
- To find out main difference among Information Architecture (IA) with Information Design, Web Architecture;
- To find out future potential of Information Architecture (IA) and possibilities in the academics.

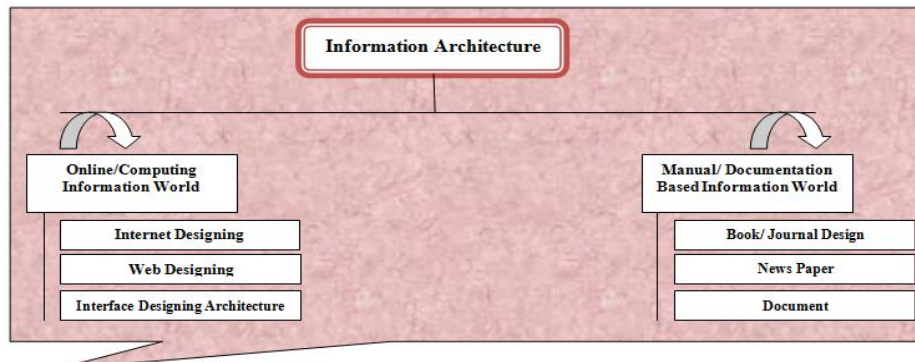


Fig: 2. Depicted Two Dimension of Information Architecture at a glance

Information Architecture (IA): Meaning

The Information Architecture (IA) is explained by several professionals and experts in many ways. Initially, Information Architecture (IA) may be treated as concept of information used in activities that require explicit details of several complex system [03, 04, 09,]. The working activities are includes manual and electronic information management, which includes content management systems, web development, database development, technical writing,

software and hardware design and so on. Information Architecture (IA) is helpful in better information design. Actually, Information Architecture (IA) and Information Design are complementary and supplementary to each other. Enterprise wide data management, online and offline web architecture is also depends on Information Architecture (IA) practice. More clearly we can say that, Information Architecture (IA) is actually nothing but the categorization of information in to coherent structure and when it should be easily understandable[10, 11].

Information Architecture (IA): Characteristics

Information Architecture (IA) may be characterised as follows:-

- Information Architecture (IA) is actually structural design of shared information environment. This is an emerging domain practice in several science and technology domain; such as computer science, information science, library studies, community science and so on[12];
- It is useful in several entities which are tangible or non tangible;
- It is actually nothing but the creation of the systematics structural and ordinarily principles;
- Information Architecture (IA) refers the analysis and design the data stored by information systems[13];
- Information Architecture (IA) allows information environment and systems; which allow up to-date, altered, and morphed and usable information;
- It is a methods of organizing and labelling websites;

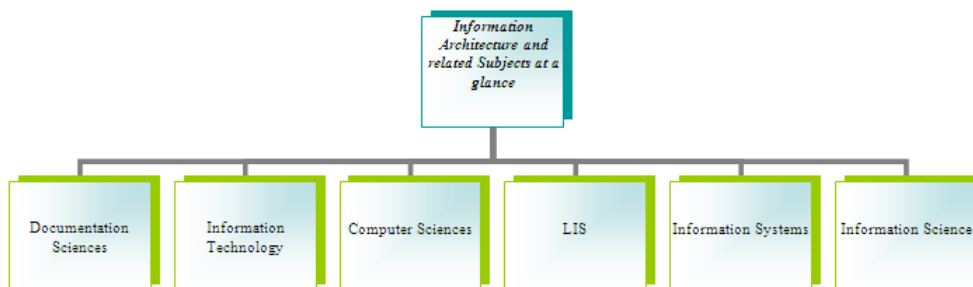


Fig: 3. Some field which talks about Information Architecture

- It helps computing, internet, websites, online communities, and ways of bringing the principles of design and architecture landscape;
- Information Architecture (IA) is deals with human factors and controlled vocabulary systems;
- It is helpful for structured data and unstructured data [14].

Information Architecture (IA): Application and Importance:-

Information Architecture (IA) is important name in the field of information and computing. Today's age is called information and knowledge economy based society for sophisticated information society building; Information Architecture (IA) play an important role. Directly and indirectly Information Architecture (IA) is utilized in several information entities [06, 16].

- Information Foundations such as Information Centre, Documentation Centre, Data Centre, Information Networks, Information Grid, Information and Digital Repositories are actually depend on information activities and information organization of such established is actually depends on Information Architecture (IA) for accurate and by label information organizing. Proper linkage like hyper link in web site and computer also depends on Information Architecture (IA) practice[07, 17];
- Electronic channel and repositories also deals with several information fundamentals, here each and every bibliographic details, full text list practically depends on Information Architecture (IA);
- Information Architecture (IA) is useful in several cases and places, includes structured and unstructured information and data and thus in several minor areas it is applicable such business analyst, card sorting, control vocabulary, application architecture, enterprise architecture, information security systems and so on;
- Data Bank, Data and may take the help of Information Architecture (IA) for healthy information and data management and data system development. It is also applicable in data preservation architecture, faceted classification, human factors, information design and so on[05, 18, 19];
- User Centred Information Design and Analysis, cognitive behavioural and emotional process of user and define user centre information systems and taxonomies;
- Information Architecture (IA) is also duplication in information design, information systems, interaction design and so on;

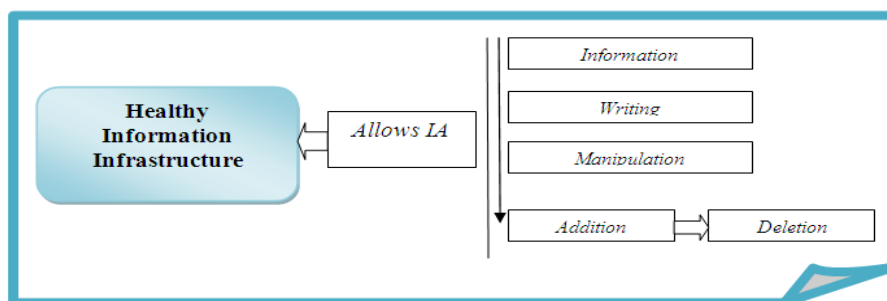


Fig. 4. Way to build Healthy Information Infrastructure

- In web designing , Human Computer Interaction System building, Human Interaction System building and similar cases Information Architecture (IA) is required;
- Mobile Interface and mobile application are also need to utilise Information Architecture (IA) for better features and programme arrangement[06, 20, 21];
- In I-Pod, Tablet, Laptop, and other general graphical user interface programme also need the help of Information Architecture (IA);
- Conventional LED, LCD and TV information architecture support features also depend on Information Architecture (IA).

Information Architecture (IA) and Design

Information Architecture (IA) and Information Design are closely depends each other. Practically, information design is nothing but the development and preparation of information in efficiency and effectiveness for the benefit of the user and common people. The information design is the main base for healthy Information Architecture (IA) building and development. In traditional and computational information systems also Information Architecture (IA) plays an important and the gradient behind this Information Architecture (IA) is Information Design. Information Design began as a subset of, or synonym for graphic design [07, 22, 23]. Practically both these domain are helps some other information practice such as- knowledge organization, knowledge visualization, ontology, process architecture, web indexing and even web abstract. Information Design also helps in better data management including complex or unstructured and others; thus it helps in Information Architecture (IA).

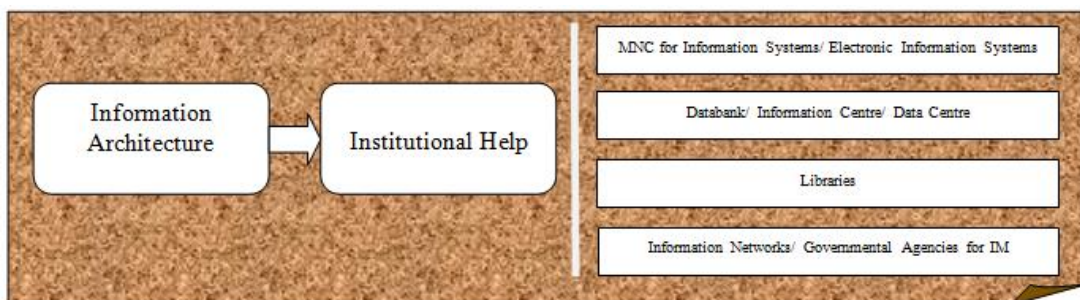


Fig: 5. Information Infrastructure and possible and popular domain of utilization

FINDINGS

- Information Architecture (IA) and Information Design helps in better Information Visualization;
- Academic programme, interface, seminar and workshop, and other dealing of academics in relation to Information Architecture (IA) is limited;
- In 1970's information design emerged as an important domain and similarity after onwards information field gain popularity[08, 24];

- Criticism on Information Architecture is there, from traditional architecture and other community.

SUGGESTION

- General Libraries, Information Centre needs to improve in Information Architecture (IA) practice;
- Information Architecture (IA) may be offered as academic domain in Information Science or similar departments;
- It may be offered as academic specialization in Information Science (BSc/MSc/MPhil/PhD) programme;
- Concept on Information Design, Usability Engineering, HIC and HID needs bundled for further development of the Information Infrastructure development.

CONCLUSION

User centred information design, user centred interface design and so many concepts are emerged rapidly. Information Architecture (IA) is virtually right place for healthy usability principle and Usability Engineering development. The mobile, computer, website, internet and intranet, extranet, E-Commerce and general book structure may take the help of healthy Information Architecture building [06, 24].

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