

# **Soul 2.0** (Software for University Libraries) Part - I

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# Learning Outcomes

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1. Be introduced to the various information related to the software
2. Understand modules and its working

# Introduction

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- Software for University Libraries (SOUL) is an state-of-the-art integrated library management software
- It designed and developed by the INFLIBNET Centre
- It is based on requirements of college and university libraries
- User-friendly software developed to work under client-server environment
- The latest version of the software i.e. SOUL 2.0 was released in January 2009

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- The database for new version of SOUL is designed for latest versions of MS-SQL and MySQL (or any other popular RDBMS)
  - It is compliant to international standards such as
    - MARC 21 bibliographic format,
    - Unicode based Universal Character Sets for multilingual bibliographic records
    - NCIP 2.0 and SIP 2 based protocols

# Major Features and Functionalities

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- UNICODE based multilingual support
- Compliant to InMARC21, AACR-2, MARCXM international Standards
- User-friendly interface
- Client-server based architecture
- Compliant to NCIP 2.0 protocol for RFID and other related applications especially for self check-out & check-in

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- Supports multi-platform for bibliographic database such as My SQL, MS-SQL or any other RDBMS
  - Supports cataloguing of electronic resources
  - Supports requirements of digital library and facilitate link to full-text articles and other digital objects
  - Provides default templates for data entry of different type of documents
  - User-friendly OPAC with advanced search facility

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- Provides freedom to users for generating reports of their choice and format along with template and query parameters vigorous maintenance functions, transaction level enhanced security, etc.
  - Provides facility to send reports through e-mail, allows users to save the reports in various formats such as Word, PDF, Excel, MARCXML, etc.
  - Supports data exchange through ISO-2709 standard
  - OPAC users can export their search results in to PDF, MS Excel, and MARCXML format

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- Supports authority files of personal name, corporate body, subject headings and series name;
  - Provides simple budgeting system and single window operation for all major circulation functions
  - Provide region-wise support for maintenance through regional coordinators
  - online and offline support by e-mail, chat and through dedicated telephone line during office hours
  - Available at an affordable cost with institutional support



# Standard Supported by SOUL Software

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1. The Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules
2. Common Communication Format (CCF)
3. MARC 21(MAchine Readable Catalogue)
4. ISO 2709
5. NISO Circulation Interchange Protocol

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- **Hardware Requirements**

Processor Type : PIV or Higher

Processor Speed : 1.6 GHz or Higher

RAM : Minimum 512 MB (1 GB Recommended)

Free Hard Disk Space : 400 MB (Minimum)

- **OS Requirements**

Windows XP SP3 , Windows Vista , Windows 2003 Server,  
Windows 2008 Server

# Installation

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**Installation of SOUL 2.0 has been divided into following three parts:**

1. Database Installation
2. Application Installation
3. Utility Installation

# Modules

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**The SOUL 2.0 consists of the following modules. Each module has further been divided into sub modules:**

1. Acquisition: This module enables library staff to handle all the major functions such as:
  - Suggestions management;
  - Order processing, cancellation and reminders;
  - Receipt, Payment and budgetary control;
  - Master files such as currency, vendors, publishers etc.; and
  - Reports

# Catalogue

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## **The strong features of catalogue module are:**

- allows cataloguer to create their own templates for data entry of different library resources
- different templates for leaders and fixed fields of MARC21;
- facilitates authority database of person name, corporate body, subject headings and series name;
- supports copy cataloguing in MARC21 format by using ISO-2709 standard;
- master database of publishers
- supports full MARC 21 bibliographic format

# Circulation

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## Major functions of the circulation module:

- Membership
- Transaction;
- Inter-library loan
- Over due charges
- Reminder
- Search status
- Maintenance of the items such as binding, lost, replace, missing, etc.

# On-line Public Access Catalogue (OPAC)

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## Major functions provided in the module are:

- Simple Search;
- Boolean Search;
- Advanced Boolean Search;
- Displaying and downloading of records in MS Excel, PDF or MARCXML; and
- Search support for the items that are in the acquisition process in the library

# Serial Control

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**The serial control module is developed based on the KARDEX system and has following functions built into it:**

- suggestions
- master databases
- subscriptions
- check-in of individual issues of journals
- payment, reminder, binding, and title history



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- export / import by using ISO 2709 bibliographic exchange format;
  - article indexing of journal/book articles
  - cataloguing of electronic journals

# Administration

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**These Administration module include following features:**

- grouping of users based on the policy
- transactional rights over the systems
- transaction level security to users
- various configuration settings such as labels, e-mail and other parameters related to the
- software use and
- common master databases being used in modules

# References

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3. SOUL (2020). Retrieved from <https://soul.inflibnet.ac.in/> on 20/04/2020.

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**Thank You**

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