



**GUJARAT  
TECHNOLOGICAL  
UNIVERSITY**

**AN INTERNATIONAL INNOVATIVE UNIVERSITY**  
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# Central Library, GTU

## Report on Exploring Proquest PQDT: A Gateway to Global Research Thesis and Dissertations

Date of Event: 10th April. 2026

Time of Event: 04:00P.M - 5:00P.M. Onwards

# FLYER OF THE EVENT



Gujarat Technological University  
Central Library

## EXPLORING PROQUEST PQDT: A GATEWAY TO GLOBAL RESEARCH THESES AND DISSERTATIONS



**DR. Mahesh K. Solanki**  
GTU - Librarian



**Mr. Sanjay Rajan**  
Speaker



10<sup>th</sup> April 2026



4:00pm - 5:00pm



079-23267541/626  
elibrary@gtu.edu.in

**Register Now**



**ORGANISED BY**  
**Central Library**  
**Gujarat Technological University**

# INTRODUCTION

The Central Library of Gujarat Technological University (GTU) organized an online training session on ProQuest Dissertations & Theses (PQDT) with the objective of enhancing research awareness and promoting the effective use of high-quality academic resources among students, research scholars, and faculty members.

Central Library took the initiative to conduct this session to familiarize users with one of the most reputed global databases for dissertations and theses. The session was hosted under the leadership of Dr. Mahesh Solanki, Librarian, GTU, and featured Mr. Sanjay Rajan as the expert guest speaker, who brought extensive knowledge and practical insights into the platform.

## OBJECTIVES OF THE SESSION

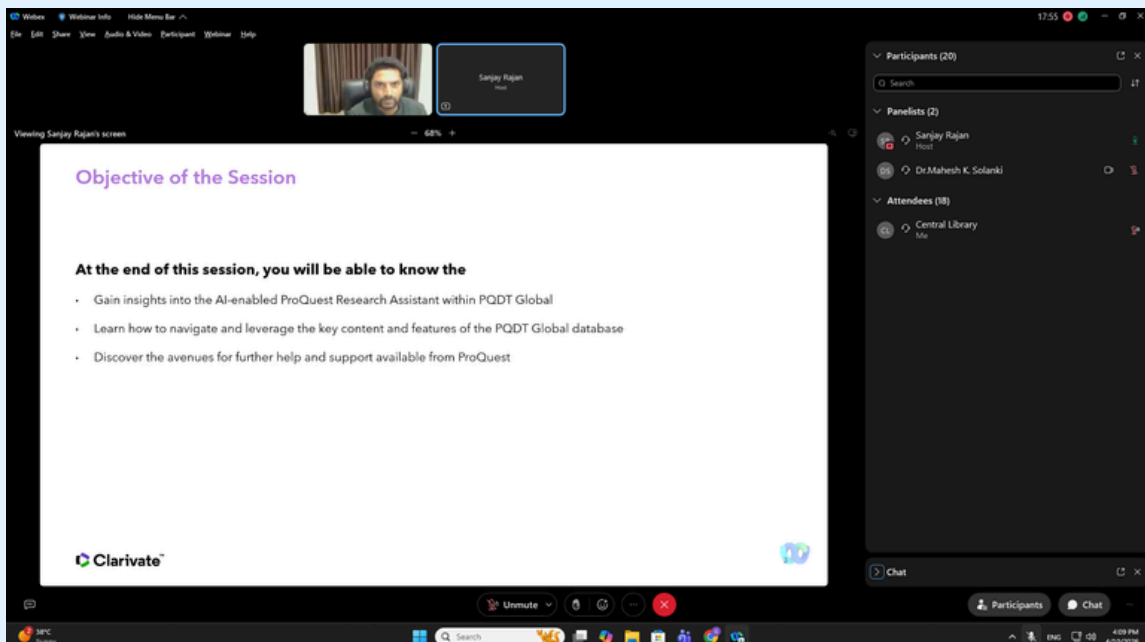
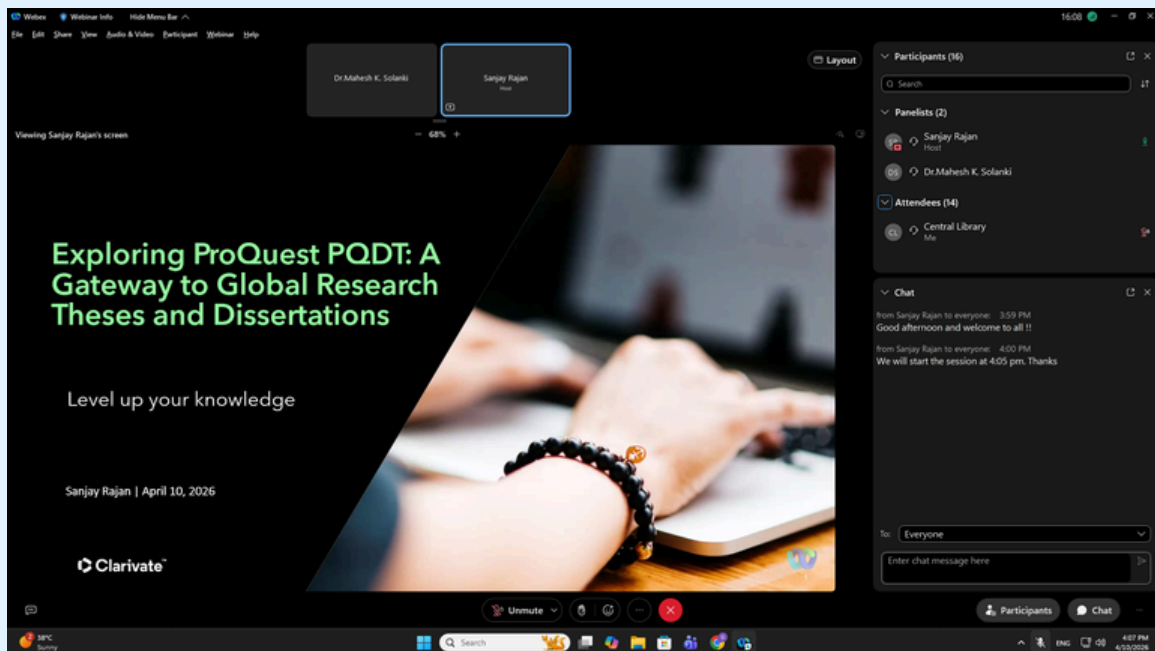
- At the beginning of the technical session, Mr. Sanjay Rajan clearly outlined the objectives to set the context for the participants. The primary objectives included:
- To provide a comprehensive understanding of ProQuest Dissertations & Theses Global (PQDT Global)
- To demonstrate effective and advanced search techniques
- To guide users on refining and filtering search results for better accuracy
- To introduce additional tools such as LibGuides and AI-powered research assistance
- To enable participants to utilize the platform efficiently for academic writing and research work
- This clarity of objectives helped participants follow the session in a structured and meaningful way.

# OVERVIEW OF PROQUEST DISSERTATIONS & THESES GLOBAL

Mr. Rajan presented an in-depth overview of ProQuest Dissertations & Theses Global, describing it as one of the world's most trusted and comprehensive collections of dissertations and theses.

He explained that the database includes scholarly works from leading universities across the globe, covering a wide range of disciplines and research areas. The platform not only provides access to abstracts but also full-text documents, making it a vital resource for literature review and academic exploration.

The speaker stressed that using such a database significantly improves the credibility and quality of research output.

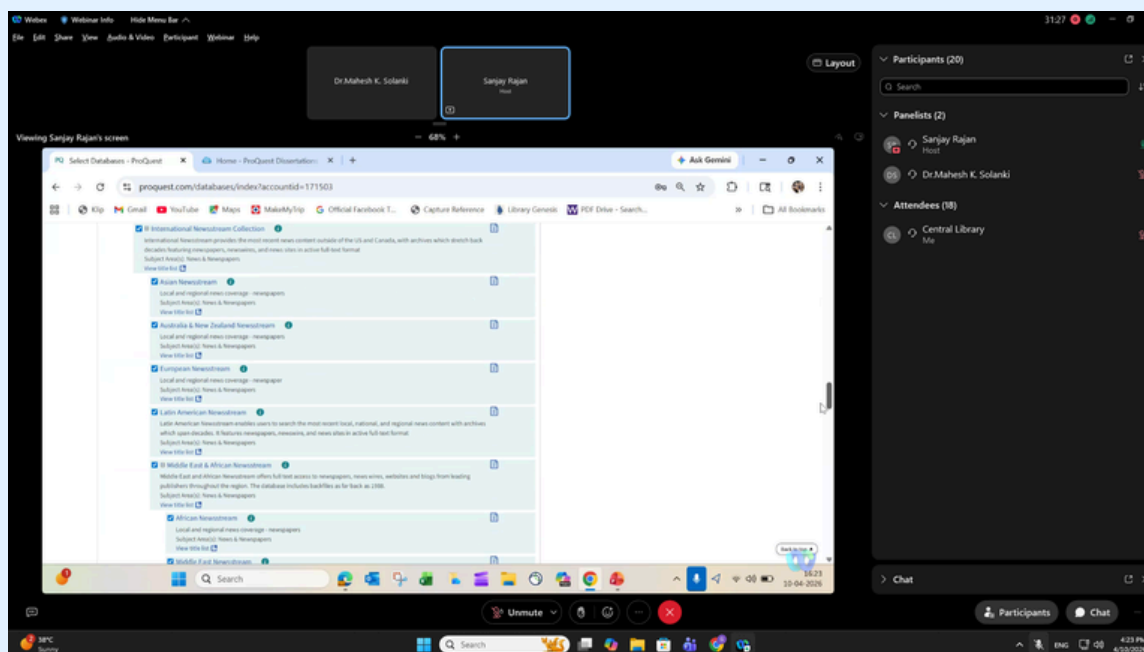


## DEMONSTRATION OF SEARCH TECHNIQUES

A major portion of the session was dedicated to demonstrating how to effectively search within the PQDT database. Mr. Rajan explained various search methods in detail, including:

- Basic keyword search for quick results
- Advanced search options using multiple fields
- Use of Boolean operators (AND, OR, NOT) for precise searching
- Phrase searching and use of quotation marks
- Truncation and wildcard techniques

He emphasized that a well-structured search strategy is crucial for retrieving relevant and high-quality information, especially for academic research.



## FILTERING AND REFINEMENT OF SEARCH RESULTS

The speaker provided a comprehensive explanation of how users can refine and limit their search results to match their exact requirements. He demonstrated the use of filters such as:

- Subject and discipline
- Publication date range
- Document type
- Language
- University or institution

This feature allows researchers to avoid information overload and focus only on the most relevant and recent studies related to their topic.

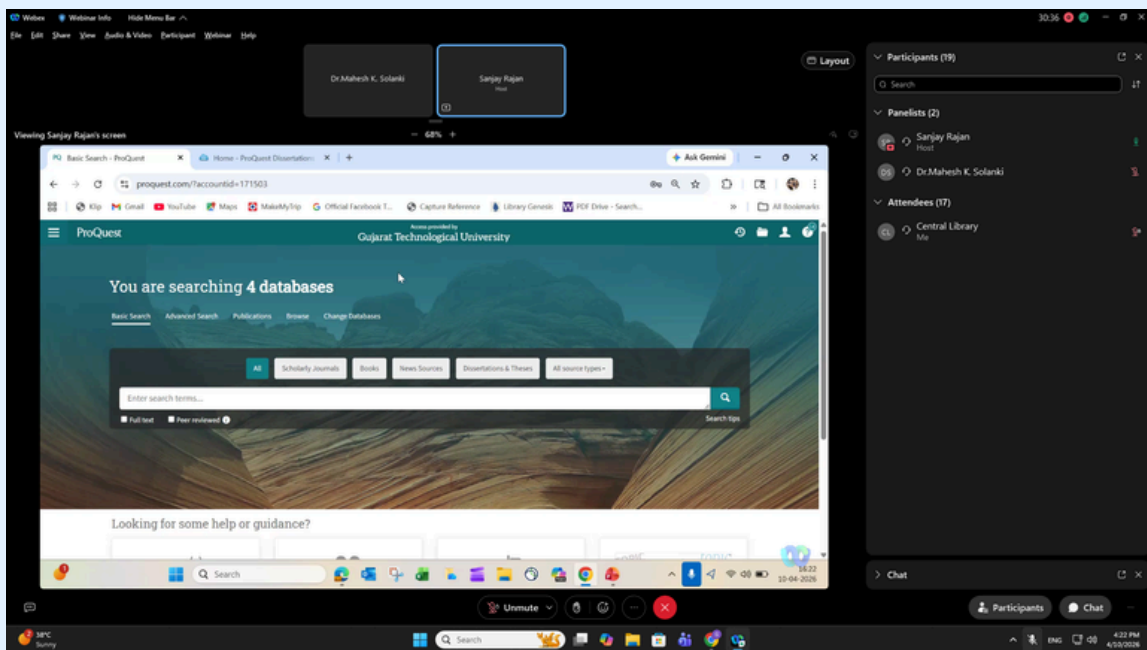
## INSTITUTIONAL-LEVEL EXPLORATION

An important aspect discussed during the session was the ability to explore dissertations and theses from specific universities or institutions.

Mr. Rajan explained how this feature helps researchers:

- Analyze research trends across institutions
- Identify leading universities in a particular field
- Compare methodologies and findings from different academic bodies

This functionality was highlighted as particularly useful for benchmarking and academic comparison.



## INTRODUCTION TO LIBGUIDES BY PROQUEST

The session also included an introduction to LibGuides provided by ProQuest. These guides act as curated pathways for users to explore resources effectively.

The speaker explained how LibGuides can help:

- Navigate complex databases with ease
- Access subject-specific content
- Improve overall research methodology
- Gain structured guidance for literature review

Participants were encouraged to make use of these guides for enhancing their research skills.

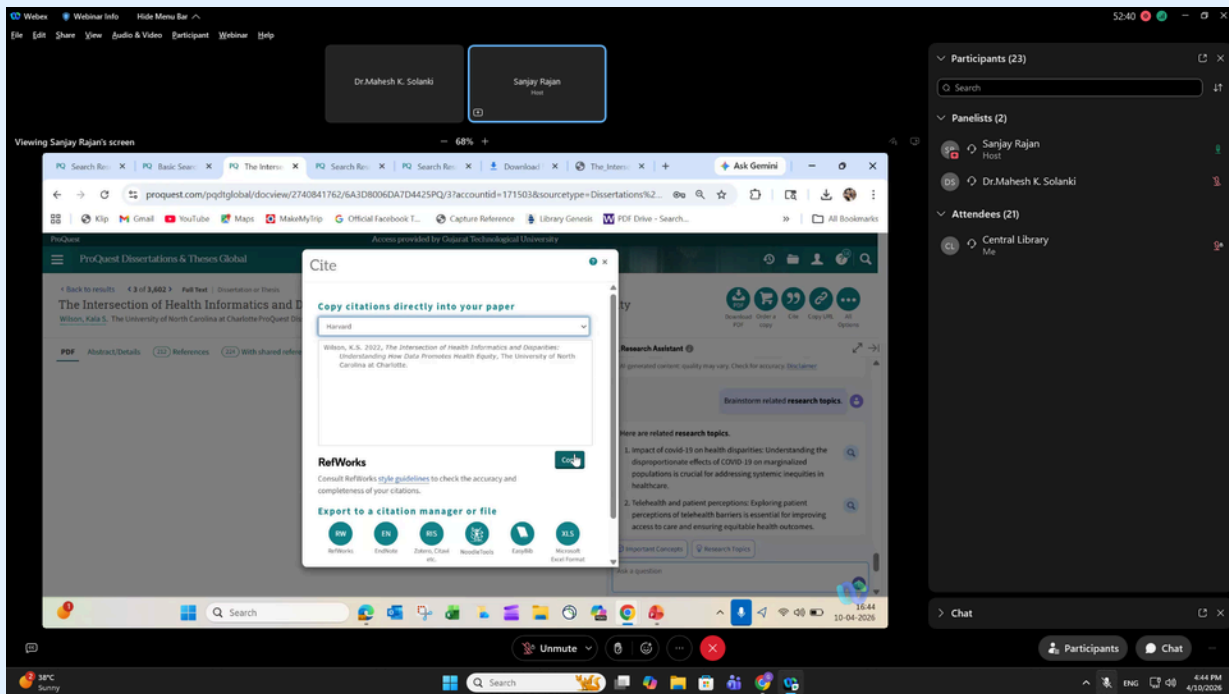
## REFERENCE MANAGEMENT AND CITATION SUPPORT

Another key feature demonstrated was the ability to extract and copy references directly from research documents.

Mr. Rajan showed how users can:

- Copy citations in different formats
- Integrate references into their own research work
- Maintain accuracy and consistency in academic writing

This feature was appreciated as it simplifies the process of citation management and saves valuable time for researchers.



## AI-POWERED PROQUEST RESEARCH ASSISTANT

A highlight of the session was the introduction to the AI-powered ProQuest Research Assistant.

The speaker explained how this advanced tool supports researchers by:

- Providing intelligent recommendations based on search queries
- Enhancing discovery of relevant content
- Assisting in understanding research topics more efficiently
- Improving productivity through smart search features

This AI integration reflects the evolving nature of digital research tools and their role in modern academia.

# CONCLUSION

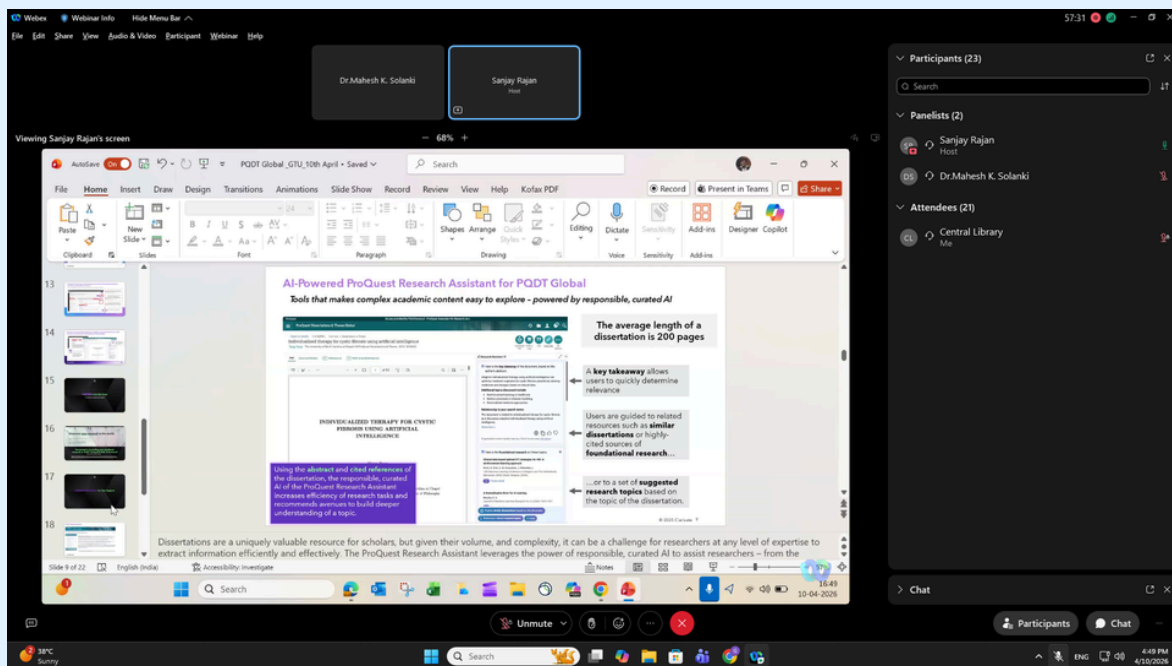
The webinar concluded successfully with a summary of the key points discussed during the session. The training proved to be highly informative, insightful, and beneficial for all participants.

The session enhanced participants' understanding of:

- Advanced research techniques
- Efficient use of ProQuest databases
- Importance of structured searching and filtering
- Utilization of AI tools in research

The Central Library, GTU, reaffirmed its commitment to organizing such training programs regularly to empower its academic community with the latest tools and technologies.

Overall, the session was a significant step towards strengthening research capabilities and promoting effective utilization of digital academic resources.



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