Ontology Driven Food Culture and Culinary Related (Traditional) Knowledge Preservation

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In any society, food culture is with utmost importance and fundamental not only for survival of those cultures but also to comprehend varieties of aspects such as social behaviors and perceived values, health and medicinal practices, aesthetics and performance arts, (traditional) knowledge and education, etc. Ontology is a promising foundation in order to understand any discourse with sound and complete philosophical basis. Besides in epistemological discussions and in some conceptual analysis, scarcity of development and utilization of Ontologies for in real world applications is evident, in literature. In this research work, framework has been proposed to formalize empirical, chronicle know-hows and culinary related knowledge with objectives to; capture, represent, preserve and then to facilitating working out possible innovations on that knowledge foundations. .

Endeavors for preservation of Cultures and Traditional Knowledge could be understood from two major abstraction layers; at Knowledge Levels and at Operational Levels. In this work sound and complete framework has been proposed and tested empirically for Food and Culinary related Knowledge manipulation. The proposed framework has also been illustrated by means of set of Meta-Models founded in tri-folded classification scheme. The adopted trifolded classification is based on three perspectives; Actor, Activity and Matter ensuring exhaustive existence of categorizations. With the completion of all relevant and major concepts in the concerned domain, multitudes of potential benefits are guaranteed through this knowledge management framework. Top two high level benefits are preservation of (Traditional) culinary related cultures at knowledge levels and facilitation for re-creation and for innovations also at operational levels guaranteeing continuation of cultural practices.

Keywords: food ontology; knowledge management; cultures; traditional knowledge