



THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF TURKEY

2013

ANNUAL REPORT

TO THE CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN
NATIONAL LIBRARIANS (CENL)

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MISSION OF THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF TURKEY

The mission of the National Library of Turkey, NLT, is to support all studies on the national culture, collect documents and works in the country for this purpose, provide documents and works about Turkish people and Turkish culture, which are published abroad and contribute to the policy of national culture of Turkey.

Our vision is to lead libraries in the country, and contribute to development of our nation culturally and socially by becoming an informational hub.

GENERAL OVERVIEW

Collection

In 2013, the total collection of The National Library of Turkey reached to 3,157,761 materials including 1,360,512 books, 1,490,981 volumes of periodical collections, 222.179 non-book materials such as maps, posters, musical notes, sound recordings and pictures and 27,493 rare titles and valuable manuscripts and 56,596 books in old Ottoman Turkish alphabet.

In 2013, The National Library of Turkey purchased 3,357, was donated 12,735, and collected 41,570 materials and added 57,662 materials to its collection.



In total 15,504 (5078 scanned recent years) articles (10,426 in 2013), were typeset in 2013.

In 2013, 51 manuscripts and 2050 publications written in old Ottoman Turkish were examined by our readers. 32,177 images of newly added manuscripts and rare works were served to readers digitally.

NON- BOOK MATERIALS

In the rich collection of the library, there are 33 various kinds of audio- visual materials. In the non- book materials collection, gramophone and plastic plates records of Turkish and foreigner singers which were released from 1913 to 1960, poster collection of Turkish theater and cinema as well as some other posters which reflect the political and commercial life in Turkey are served to readers. There are also reproductions collection, oil, water color, charcoal paintings and mixed technique paintings of famous artists, and especially gravures portraying Istanbul and other historical cities from 1450 to 1800.

Also, there are other materials such as Turkish and Ottoman maps of Misak-ı Milli (National Pact) borders in early republic period from 1890 to 1960, maps of The Independence War and war plans, old housing and local plans, cartographic materials, stamps printed since 1933, coin collections, postcards, invitations, brochures, banknotes which had been put into circulation by Central Bank of Turkey, CD and DVD collection of songs, movies, and graphics, which are of great importance for researchers.

Non- book materials Information System: In 2013, 32,177 non- book materials including 20,406 posters, 5,723 musical notes and 6,048 maps were digitized and 386 visitors used 2,236 non- book materials. These materials are planned to be served to the users under the name of “Fine Arts” in the first quarter of 2014. Other materials will be digitized gradually.

For the microfilm archives the library examined 9,254 spools, transferred 12,435 pages to CD, made copies of 98.402 pages and served 4,632 readers in 2013.

PROJECTS

- **Purchasing publications and Cataloguing Project:** In the scope of this project, 6 books were purchased from abroad to broaden the collection. In Turkey, 2 manuscripts and 2 books were purchased for the collection. 7125 books and two kinds of 100 set encyclopedia sets were purchased for exchange. We subscribed for 17 different journals and 3 newspapers from abroad and 30 different journals and 38 newspapers in Turkey. Additionally, we have subscribed for digital copies of daily national newspapers for a year and 8 databases, also renewed expired subscriptions for databases according to statistics and funding possibilities.
Additionally 1000 postcards and 750 records (45-rpm disc) were purchased for the archives of non- book collection.
- **Pathology and Restoration, Book Binding:** In 2013, 281 manuscripts, rare printed words and non- book materials were conserved and restored in The Laboratory of Pathology and Restoration. 5.806 materials were bound in the printing house of the National Library.
- **Service for the visually-impaired:** In the scope of this project, poor quality audio- books were re-recorded with support of 145 volunteer readers in 2013. Also 277 books were added to our archive. 1500 visually impaired have benefitted this service.
- **Exchange and Donation:** 9249 materials were sent abroad on the basis of exchange and donation program in 2013.
- **Exhibition of Non- Book Materials:** Images, posters; illustrations, photos, and paintings which had been chosen carefully from the rich collection of our library were exhibited in Ankara and Istanbul with the support of various institutions and organizations.
 - In our library, *ALEPH 500* library automation program is currently used. There are 1,090,000 bibliographical records in the database. The staff our library enters bibliographic data of various materials and transfers bibliographic records of new materials to be added to the collection with “*The Data Providing Project*”. Our readers have online access to the database beside of using it with printing and CD.

Our database and website is used by 785,741 readers.

- Additionally, we are continuing to work on “*The National Library Draft Directive on Technical Work*” and “*Draft Directive on Volunteer Readership*”. The Regulation on “The Amendment of Regulation on Method and Principle of Using the Services of The National Library of Turkey” has been drafted and the final text has been published in the Official Journal, Nr. 28725 and put into force since 1st August 2013.

Website of the National Library of Turkey

With the project started in October, 2013, the website of The National Library of Turkey has been redesigned with new technology and trends. Within this scope, analysis of context and design has been conducted and interpreted on the new website.

Our readers have online access to visual materials such as online bibliographies, manuscripts, paintings, gravures, and Hacıvat-Karagöz (Turkish shadow theatre figures)

Additionally, the e-Membership system also provides to be a member of the library without coming to the library in person.

Facilities

As of 2013, The National Library of Turkey’s main building has a total 46,985 m2 usage area. With The National Archive, 4 major reading halls, a microfilm reading hall, a talking library for visually-impaired visitors, 8 multi-purpose halls, an interactive research hall and a non-book materials hall, 2 conference halls and an exhibition hall.



Activities in the halls of The National Library

88 activities were organized in the halls of our library. 56 of these activities organized jointly with our library and 33 were organized by other institutions and people.

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2013

2013 The Year of Piri Reis

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) declared 2013 ‘The Year of Piri Reis.’ As 2013 is the 500th anniversary of the Piri Reis World Map (1513). The National Library of Turkey organized many celebration activities, hosted many exhibitions and conferences.



As a rare world map from the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, Piri Reis World Map is an invaluable piece of the world’s documentary heritage as it provides insight on the history of its time. It is therefore part of the Memory of the World.

