

ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN
NATIONAL LIBRARIANS (CENL)
LONDON, UK, 27-28 September 2010

Name of Country : TURKEY
Name of Library : Milli Kutuphane (National Library of Turkey)
Name of Chief Executive: Tuncel ACAR, President

Recent developments and activities

- Parallel to development of information technologies, The National Library has started to digitize the Old Turkish Periodicals to be able to give better service to the researchers via internet. The first step of the project is to digitize a part of the Periodicals and will be extended to cover the whole collection. Full-text search on periodicals as well as the detailed information about the articles in those periodicals are available.
- The processes of digitalization of the voice records, which are one of the most important parts of our cultural heritages, have been finalized and now available for the researchers within the library. With the scope of this project, 5500 songs of 2700 phonograph record are digitalized and transferred to digital voice database.
- The Combined Meeting of The European Library was held in Ankara between the dates 2-3 November in 2009. 33 representatives from 18 different countries participated the meeting. It was the first European Library Combined Meeting
- The integration process to The European Library has been completed and as of the beginning of 2009, the collection of the NLT and Turkish interface are available on The European Library portal. The NLT participated. the Reading Europe: European culture through the book” exhibition with ten Manuscripts and the integration to this virtual exhibition to be held on September 2010 is in progress.
- The National Libraries’ Directors Meeting of Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) countries including Turkey, Pakistan, Iran, Azerbaijan, Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan will be held in the National Library of Turkey in Ankara the dates between 14-16 October 2010.

Collection (As of the end of May 2010)

National Library of Turkey has a collection of 2.892.966 volumes consisting of books, periodicals and non-book materials. The number of books in National Library is 1.182.749 while the periodicals collection contains 1.425.356 volumes. The total number of non-book material such as maps, posters, musical notes, sound recordings and pictures is 201.585 and that of rare titles and valuable manuscripts is

27.049. The number of Old Turkish books is 56.227.

Budget

The total budget of the NLT for 2010 is 12.212.001 TL (6.373.695,72 EUR). Within total budget the investment budget for 2010 is 5.202.000 TL (2.712.200,20 EUR)

Staffing Matters

Currently 212 staff including 16 librarian, 6 expert and 12 assistant-experts on different subjects are employed in The National Library.

Conservation / Preservation of Collections

A significant portion of the rare books and manuscripts in Turkey are preserved in NLT. Some of rare books and manuscripts have been deteriorated because of over usage and time. To make the restoration of these materials, a department is needed. So Pathology and Restoration Department which had been begun to establish in 2002 for the purpose of restoration and preservation our written cultural heritages, was opened in 2005 and started restoration activities. The Restoration and conservation works have been carried out by five staff in the framework of using all kind of pathological methods. In Pathology and Restoration Department, wet-dry cleaning of paper and leather works, deacidification, disinfection, removal of stains, pigment fixed, cleaning, strengthening, completing etc. works are done. Up to now eighteen rare manuscripts have been restored by five expert personnel. Improvements of the department in respect to equipments, place, number and education of personnel have been proceeding.

Projects

- *Digitization of Manuscripts and Old Turkish Periodicals*

This Project is aim to transfer the original appearance and bibliographic records of the Manuscripts and rare works in the collection of National Library to the computer environment in order to protect and make them available for researchers. Within this scope, 26.906 numbers of manuscripts were digitized together with their catalogue records and are available on the web (www.yazmalar.gov.tr).

The digitalization of the Old Turkish Periodicals has started in 2009. Totally 1186 number of old Turkish periodicals with 2167 volume has been digitized up to now. In addition, 10.000 number of article within periodicals are full-text accessible on the web page <http://sureli.mk.gov.tr/>.

- *Transferring Manuscripts and Periodical Collection of the National Library into the Microform Environment*

This Project is aim to transfer the manuscript, rare books and periodicals to microform in order to save the damages as a result of overuse and serve researchers these works via microform. Up to now, 8670 manuscript had been transferred to microform. Moreover, 2.300 Turkish newspapers and periodicals printed with Arab

alphabet have been transferred to microform. Also, 14 Turkish newspapers published after 1928 has been transferred to microform.

- *National Library Additional Store Construction*

Repositories of National Library have become not to meet the needs although the collection expands continuously. So in addition to existing repositories, the construction of an underground triplex store building has been started. The repository is equipped with air-conditioners, security cameras, elevators and rail carriage systems aimed at protecting of materials and put them into service underground by taking into consideration the current conditions, the types and number of material to be increased rapidly in the future and the extraordinary hazards (war, terror etc.).

- *Digitization of Non-Book Materials*

The digitization of non-book materials such as maps, posters, musical notes, sound and pictures has been started this year. We are planning to finalize digitization of the first part of the non-book materials and make them available on the web.

Cultural Activities

NLT has organized a cultural activity named as "Poetry Days" with the collaboration of TURSAB. This activity has become on last Friday of every month for three years. In every meeting, different Turkish Poems are presented and also his/her poets are recited.

Inter-library Co-Operation

National Library has agreed on Cultural Exchange Programs with several countries within the context of its Cultural Exchange Program. Turkish National Bibliography" and "Bibliography of Articles in Turkish Periodicals prepared by NLT are sent to different libraries, institutes of Oriental Studies and information centers in the other countries.

Address	: Bahcelievler Son Durak, 06490 Ankara /TURKEY
Telephone	: + 90 312 222 41 48
Fax	: + 90 312 223 04 51
Web address of library	: http://www.mkutup.gov.tr
E-mail	: tuncel@mkutup.gov.tr : info@mkutup.gov.tr