

**NATIONAL AND UNIVERSITY LIBRARY "KLIMENT OHRIDSKI" - SKOPJE,  
REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA**

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**ANNUAL REPORT 1999**

During 1999 the activities at the National and University Library "St Kliment Ohridski" were carried out in accordance with the program tasks under circumstances of big political changes taking place in the Republic of Macedonia. At this period the new Law for Culture, in which the Library Act is incorporated, was implemented.

At the beginning of the second trimester a new director general was appointed by the Ministry of Culture, who set up a new Managing Board of the Library.

Under these conditions, and with very modest funding by the Ministry of Culture as well as with drastically decreased funding by the Ministry of Science, which usually participated with 20% in the total financing, the NUL managed to carry out the regular operations.

**ACQUISITIONS AND LIBRARY HOLDINGS**

**LEGAL DEPOSIT, PURCHASE, DONATION AND EXCHANGE**

The main sources of acquisitions by which the Library increases its stocks are: legal deposit, purchase, gift and exchange.

**legal deposit:**

monograph publications 1.500

periodicals 5.018

cartographic materials 1

manuscripts 20

music scores 38

fine arts(drawings &graphics) 4

### **purchase:**

The NUL subscribed to 120 titles of serial publications in 1998 however, in 1999 the situation was changed. There was a decrease in the number of subscriptions, and also very small number of books was bought. It looked as follows:

periodicals subscription to 87 titles

monographs 42 titles

CD-ROM databases 5

The reduction in the number of purchased foreign periodicals and monographs was due to poor economic conditions and decreased funds.

### **exchange and gift:**

The cooperation of NUL in the field of exchange and gift of publications with about 180 libraries went on, thus in this way the NUL enriched its stocks as follows:

periodicals 130 titles (1554 issues)

monographs 2 486 units

CD-ROM 8

As a keeper of the national heritage, the NUL was particularly concerned with completing the collections of special and non-book material, which represent a valuable national treasure. The Manuscript collection was enriched for 20 items.

At the end of 1999, the NUL's stocks looked as follows:

monographs 741.635

serials(newspapers and periodicals) 1.435.681

old manuscripts 250

microfilms 4.666

old printed and rare book materials 4.350

cartographic materials (maps, atlases) 7.867

music materials (music scores, records) 40.518

fine arts (drawings, graphics, postcards) 242.341

CD-ROMs 341

## **IT AND NEW TECHNOLOGY**

The process for the automation of library processes recorded qualitative and quantitative increase especially in terms of providing new equipment for the Library Information System (new server and some parts for expanding the capacity of the current server, which at the moment functions only as WEB server). The Ministry of Culture provided the funds for it (55%) and the Ministry of Science (45%).

- During 1999 the Library carried out its automated processes with the help of the rented software (COBISS) from Information Institute Maribor, Slovenia, which supports one part of Library processes (processing of library material, OPAC, Internet access to our bibliographic database).

The overall hardware and software equipment had qualitative and quantitative functioning regime.

- Unfortunately, the question about the development of the automated integrated library system was not completely solved the responsibility for which partly belongs to the Library. The project for automation and integration of libraries throughout the Republic was accepted two years ago, however its fulfilling was delayed. Therefore, the activities concerning this plan will be globally defined in 2000 Plan and program and the NUL will pursue its finite realization.
- Within the framework of the Library program, the project for establishing a Training Center for librarians and users was realized with the funds granted by the Open Society Institute. The computer equipment is expected to enable professional support and training of librarians according to the international standards, which is especially important for the future construction of shared catalogue system. The center was a necessity due to the fact that there is a lack of formal library education. It was already put to use in the purposes for staff training and professional education in terms of keeping pace with the world novelties in the field of librarianship.

## **PROCESSING OF LIBRARY MATERIALS**

In the course of 1999 the electronic bibliographic database was enriched with about 13.000 new bibliographic entries. At the moment the total number of records amounts to 160.000. From 1996 onwards the database is on line accessible. Out of the bibliographic database only two national bibliographies are automatically generated, they are:

Macedonian current bibliography (monographs)

Macedonian current bibliography (articles of periodicals)

However, the up-to-date was not achieved in the generating process of the Bibliography of Macedonian serial publications, whose preparation was still in a classical way, due to the necessary modification of the software for automated processing of this kind of bibliographies.

A specific group of professionals was organized in order to elaborate a concept for the bibliography "Makedonika" as well as for Retrospective bibliography of Macedonia since there was big delay in the publishing process of these bibliographies.

## **PUBLISHING**

The NUL continually publishes in form of printed material the following national bibliographies:

Macedonian current bibliography (monographs)

Macedonian current bibliography (articles)

Macedonian current bibliography (periodicals)

With the help of additional support by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Macedonia, the NUL published two more publications:

"Who is Who in the science in Macedonia" (printed edition).

"Old Slavonic Manuscripts in Macedonia" Vol. I (the first CD-ROM produced by the Library).

## **DIGITIZATION**

In the course of 1999 a project team was founded in the NUL that worked on digitization process of one part of the collection of medieval manuscripts in Macedonia. As a result of the teamwork, the first CD-ROM was published which contains 13 oldest manuscripts of the collection.

By the end of 1999 the Open Society Institute granted funds for the project "Presentation of medieval manuscripts on Internet". The realization of this project is expected in 2000.

## **PRESERVATION**

As a Republic center concerned, besides other activities, with the preservation of the national cultural heritage, the Department for conservation and restoration of library materials at NUL concentrated its work on conserving old and rare monographic publications. Thus, 5.520 pages were conserved in 1999.

## **SERVICES TO READERS**

In 1999 the Library had about 3.400 registered new members, out of which:

students 2.273 (72%)

scholarly workers 309 ( 9%)

secondary school students 528 ( 7%)

other individual users 258 (12%)

The static number of users was probably due to the very poor new acquisitions, which would enrich the Library stocks, especially with foreign publishing production and electronic publications by which the users would be attracted. Also, it might be due to very low number of workstations available to readers as well as the unavailability of Internet access.

About 5.900 pieces of bibliographic information were given on users' requests. For the needs of individual and collective users, the Referral Center at the NUL made: 46 on-line researches on scientific, technological and other information from international databases with the help of information service DIALOG; 230 bibliographic searches from various fields, mainly from natural and applied sciences through the obtained CD-ROM databases, such as: Science Citation Index, Social Citation Index, Medline, Perinorm, INIS, etc. searches in 65 databases through OCLC were made.

### **ASSEMBLIES, SEMINARS, ROUND TABLES**

The NUL together with the Macedonian Library Association supported by the Open Society Institute organized an international round table under title: "How to Organize Library Education in the Republic of Macedonia", which was a step forward in the attempts for establishing professional education of future librarians in our country. Many interesting papers were presented by lecturers from Great Britain, Denmark, Croatia, Bulgaria, etc. from which useful conclusions were induced.

In the second part of 1999, the realization of the joint project "Development of Academic Library Network" started, which was financed by TEMPUS program for 1999/2000. Two workshops were organized within this project. The lecturers were experts in the field of librarianship and information studies from the Royal School of Library and Information Science from Denmark and the Faculty for Librarianship and Information Science from Loughborough University from Great Britain. At the same time several short training seminars were organized for the members of the Project team. Thus, two librarians from the NUL visited the Libraries in Copenhagen where opinions and experiences on certain topics in librarianship were exchanged. More detailed reports were prepared for these professional stays. The Project will continue in the year 2000.

### **INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**

The NUL being a member of IFLA, CDNL, CENL, GABRIEL, ISBN, ISSN, IAEA, IAML, UNAL-UNESCO, managed to participate in some of the conferences and meetings organized by the above mentioned organizations.

### **CULTURAL EVENTS**

Several cultural events were held in the premises of the Library for the promotion of cultural, scientific and scholarly works through exhibitions on part of the book holdings, works from Macedonian and foreign authors, promotion of new publications, "portraits" of particular authors through their works, etc.

Traditional exhibitions were organized among which were:

**"Authors and their works '99"**

**"Drawings exhibition '99"**

**"Graphics exhibition '99"**

**"St Jovan Kukuzel"** traditional concert in honor of Slavonic educators Ss Cyril and Methodius.