

**ANNUAL REPORT TO  
THE CONFERENCE OF DIRECTORS  
OF NATIONAL LIBRARIANS (CDNL)  
2011-2012**

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**Mission Statement:**

The mission of the National Library of Turkey, NLT, is to support national cultural researches. In line with this purpose, we serve to gather all works and documents in the country and to follow the publications abroad that belong to Turkish culture; to follow and provide the publications around the world that are concerned with our country; to serve the researchers and readers in order to facilitate any kind of art and scientific work; to serve as the center of the national information; to provide information transfer at home and abroad; and related to all these, to help the national culture politics to be led independent of the politics.

The National Library of Turkey is the mirror of the Turkish culture, the repertory of the national culture and the memory of the Turkish people.

**COLLECTION (AS OF THE END OF JUNE 2012)**

The National Library of Turkey has a collection of 3,035,194 volumes consisting of books, periodicals and non-book materials. The number of books in the library is 1,282,363 volumes, while the periodicals collection contains 1,456,771 volumes. The total number of non-book material such as maps, posters, musical notes, sound recordings and pictures is 212,315 and that of rare titles and valuable manuscripts is 27,464. The total number of Old Turkish books is 56,281.

In early 2012, via the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, the National Library received an important Silk Road Photograph Collection of works by the Turkish photo artist, Arif Aşçı.

## **BUDGET**

The total budget of the NLT for 2012 is 14,765,000 TL (6,501,541 EUR). Within the total budget the released amount during the first six months of fiscal year 2012 was 9,148,390 TL (4,028,353 EUR).

## **STAFFING MATTERS**

Currently, 208 staff (50 of them seasonal) including 21 librarians, 16 experts and 2 assistant experts on different subjects are employed in the National Library.

## **CONSERVATION/PRESERVATION OF COLLECTIONS**

Since the establishment (2002) of the Pathology and Restoration Laboratory of the National Library, 36 manuscripts, six rare books, 25 books, 15 rare periodicals, 415 rare posters, and six non-book materials were repaired at the laboratory.

During the first six months of 2012, four manuscripts and five rare printed books, one Karagöz tambourine (a percussion instrument in Turkish traditional shadow theater) and 76 documents have been repaired.

In 2011/2012 the number of binding activities is approximately 6269, with 366.883 materials being printed in the National Library's Printing House Section.

In 2011, the Restoration and Conservation Laboratory of the National Library of Turkey has been equipped with new restoration materials and instruments.

## **PROJECTS**

- *Transferring Manuscripts and Periodicals Collections of the National Library into the microform environment*

This Project is aimed to transfer the manuscripts, rare books and periodicals into microform environment in order to reduce the damages as a result of overuse and serve researchers these works via microform.

In 2011, 180.000 poses of periodicals were transferred to the Microform environment.

- *Digitization of the Periodical Collection of the National Library of Turkey/ Periodicals Information System (PIS)*

It's aim is to digitize the entire periodical collection of the library and service it on the web. In 2011, 40.000 articles (written in Arabic script) were digitized and converted into the system. Image files have been matched with the transcriptions. In 2012, 300.000 pages (300.00 poses) of Turkish newspaper have been converted to the system, and an OCR search is now available online [<http://sureli.mkutup.gov.tr>]. Digitization process of periodicals written in Arabic script will continue by the end of the year.

- ***Computer Installation and Software Project***

This project is aimed to implement technological improvements to library services effectively, to develop databases of the National Library and to expand the role of the National Library in the initiative of e-library and e-state. The project is going to be continued until transferring all bibliographic identification tags to the database.

In 2011, bibliography cards of 30.431 books and approximately 4000 rare books have been transferred to database. For the first six months of 2012, 10.218 books were transferred to the database. By the end of 2012, 10.000 rare books will be transferred to the database.

The number of the National Library web site visitors was 546.271 in 2011 and 310.701 in 2012. 48.448 researchers in 2011 and 25.526 researchers in 2012 have accessed the Periodicals Information System (PIS) Web Page. 14.700 poses were downloaded for the first half of 2012. In 2011, this sum was 13.573.

664.108 library users have benefitted from 158.068 materials in 2011.

- ***National Library Additional Store Construction***

In order to meet the storage needs of the National Library, the construction of an underground triplex store building was started in November 2010. This repository will be equipped with air conditioners, security cameras, elevators and rail carriage systems.

- ***Digitization of Non-book Materials***

While sustaining digitalization of manuscript and periodicals, digitization of the non-book materials have been started in 2010, as follows:

***Phonographs:***

The digitization of voice records has been completed and 5500 songs of 2700 phonograph records have been in service since April 2010 [<http://www.mkutup.gov.tr/sesbankasi/>]

***Paintings***

The process of digitizing the 513 paintings by famous Turkish Painters, sheltered in the NLT collection, has now been fulfilled.

## **Posters**

Approximately, there are 25.000 posters in our collection. Seven thousands of them are movie posters; others are theatre, conference and commercial posters. The digitization process of the posters has been continuing.

The digitization process will continue until all other non-book materials are completed.

- *Talking Library*

The “Talking Library” department was established in December 2007. This studio was composed of six cabins; last year, increasing to eleven. The dubbing of books for the visually impaired is performed on a voluntary basis. There are about 100 volunteer audio-reader recording books in modern studios. Approximately 1.057 visually impaired readers make use of 5.000 books online [<http://www.mkutup.gov.tr/sesbankasi>] (membership required). The books to be dubbed are chosen upon the request by users.

- *The European Library*

The National Library of Turkey has joined the European Library, a Web service that offers access to the resources of 48 national libraries across Europe.

The Turkish National Library joining the international network means Turkish researchers will now be able study resources in European national libraries through a Turkish interface and that their European peers will be able to directly access Turkish sources.

[ <http://search.theeuropeanlibrary.org/portal/tr/index.html> ]

- *Access IT Project [Speeding up the Cultural Circulation through Varying Skills of Knowledge Technologies]*

After signing a Joint Protocol with European Digital library (EUROPEANA) Turkey became a part of it. As a member of the EUROPEANA the National Library shared its 40.000 digitized documents with other members.

- *European Newspapers Project*

A group of 17 European partner institutions have joined forces in the “European Newspapers” project and will, over the next 3 years, provide more than 18 million newspaper pages to the EUROPEANA service.

The European Newspapers project (funded under EC's CIP 2007 - 2013) aims at the aggregation and refinement of newspapers for the European Library and EUROPEANA.

As a participant in the project the National Library of Turkey will share 800.000 pages (now digitized) of old Turkish newspapers and journals printed in Arabic script (Old Turkish) in its catalogues.

## **CULTURAL ACTIVITIES**

- In June 2011, the National Library, in cooperation with the Eurasian Librarians' Association, organized a panel entitled, "Eurasian Libraries."
- In July 2011, within the Fourth Framework Programme, the Department of Strategy Development (under the Ministry of Culture and Tourism) organized a workshop entitled, "INDICATE – International Network for a Digital Cultural Heritage e-Infrastructure" in The National Library.
- In October 2011, the University and Research Librarians' Association (ÜNAK) organized a session entitled, "Industrialization of Information New Value Network Based on Innovation" in the National Library.
- In December 2011, the Indian Embassy, in cooperation with the National Library, organized an exhibition with digital copies of Rabindranath Tagore's paintings and the promotion of his Nobel Prize-awarded book, Gitanjali.
- "Poetry Days" are held on the last Friday of every month by the National Library; and in 2012, once again, different Turkish poets are presented and their poems are recited by famous theatre artists.
- In May 2012, the Symposium on "Council Libraries in Turkey; Current Status, Problems and Recommendations" was held in the National Library.
- The non-book materials, like paintings, Turkish film posters, figures of Turkish Traditional Shadow Theater, etc., were exhibited internally and externally on demand.

## **Inter-library Co-Operation**

"The Turkish National Bibliography" and "Bibliography of Articles in Turkish Periodicals" prepared by the National Library are sent to different libraries, institutes of Oriental Studies and information centers in the other countries. The National Library has agreed to cultural Exchange Programs with several countries throughout the world.

The Library has continued to focus on developing productive partnerships. The signing of General Agreements with other countries has established a partnership to work together on exchanging materials, experts and the consideration of joint development activities. Until the end of 2012, the Library is planning to sign agreements with National Libraries or Academic Libraries in Spain, Kazakhstan, Rumania and Egypt upon their requests.

Three thousand, one hundred and ninety-one books were donated to the libraries in other countries in 2011. As of June 2012, this number is was 1883. Thirty-six books were exchanged in 2011. Seven hundred and fifty-seven books were exchanged during the first half of 2012.

**The National Library of Turkey has been subscribed to the databases given below since 2006. Library membership is required to access the databases. These databases are chosen upon the request by users.**

#### **Ebrary Electronic Book Database**

It is required to be a member of the National Library to benefit internally or externally.

<http://site.ebrary.com/lib/milli>

#### **ProQuest Thesis Database (FULL TEXT)**

This database, the main reference for seekers of doctorate and post-graduate theses, covers all doctorate and post-graduate theses in all academic areas.

#### **ProQuest Periodicals Archive Online**

An online archive of digitized, full-image journal articles, Periodicals Archive Online (formerly PCI Full Text™) offers unprecedented access to international, scholarly literature in the humanities and social sciences disciplines from 1802 to 2000.

#### **Elsevier-Science Direct**

Elsevier-Science Direct database contains 512 books on different subjects.

#### **Springerlink**

Springer's e-book collections contain books about architecture and design, business administration and economics and social sciences and law.

<http://www.springerlink.com/>

### **Library Press Display**

Every day from 94 countries, 48 languages, more than 1,800 daily newspapers, a full-page original newspaper, available the same day. The Library Press Display is a unique collection of current newspapers on trial until October 6, 2011 and access database was opened.

<http://library.pressdisplay.com>

### **Bridgeman Education**

With over 370,000 images from museums, galleries, private collections and contemporary artists all copyright cleared for educational use, Bridgeman Education gives you access to the visual culture of every civilization and every period from Prehistory to the present day across continents and civilizations.

[www.bridgemaneducation.com](http://www.bridgemaneducation.com)

### **Brill**

Founded in 1683, Brill is a publishing house with a rich history and a strong international focus.

<http://brillonline.nl>

### **British Standards Online (BSOL)**

British Standards Online (BSOL) is a bibliographic, citation and full-text database of more than 50,000 standards. British Standards Online is rich in business-critical content covering a broad range of disciplines for all industry sectors.

<https://bsol.bsigroup.com>