

# KAZAKHSTAN

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN

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## ANNUAL REPORT TO CDNL 2002 – 2003

The National Library of the Republic of Kazakhstan (NLRK) is the state depository, the research and methodological center and it coordinates library policy and professional activity both nationally and internationally.

The decision to open the Library was taken by the Verny Municipal Duma on December 31, 1910 and since then the Library has accumulated great experience. It now has influence and authority in the library sphere both in the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) and abroad.

To support the information needs of a secular and democratic society in Kazakhstan, the NLRK is implementing the following strategic priorities:

### THE IMPROVEMENT OF NORMATIVE –LEGAL BASIS

The following initiatives have been undertaken to improve the legal basis for libraries in Kazakhstan:

Laws have been drafted titled:

- *On the libraries of the Republic of Kazakhstan.*
- *On Legal deposit*
- *On the National Library of the Republic of Kazakhstan*

*The regulations about the activity of the library institutions of the Republic of Kazakhstan, 2002, have been approved by the order of the Ministry of Culture, Information and Public Concord of the RK. These regulations set standards for the creation of state libraries.*

### PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED

The tendencies of the development of informational society stipulate the formation of electronic and documentary fond and provision of access of readers to them. But the national legislations on copyright, prohibiting copying books without the consent of their owners, on free-of-charge basis, prevent access of readers to electronic book fond. Public libraries, realizing the person's rights for free access to information, is open for the widest strata of population most of whom cannot pay for copying services including author's remuneration put in the digitization of the book.

There is a discord between public interest and author's rights.

An international agreement is necessary on the concession of exclusive rights solely to the national libraries according to the plan of digitization of books.

In the Republic of Kazakhstan library activity is regulated by the law "On the culture in the Republic of Kazakhstan", but nevertheless the basic law "On libraries of the Republic of Kazakhstan" is necessary.

The adoption of the given Law will allow the system adjustment of both general principles and mechanisms, socially-guaranteed normative-legal basis of the libraries. This will allow Kazakhstan to integrate into the world informational library space and determine there its geo-cultural significance. The NLRK consistently defends its positions by the given law in the Parliament of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

The priority of the development of informational library technologies, based on high information and communication opportunities becomes the main trend in the library sphere of the Republic. The NLRK considers these technologies as decisive factor of national library measurement. As a matter of principle, one must say that the widening space of informational library technologies means intensive stimulation of corporate development of library resources.

## **OUR ACHIEVEMENTS**

### ***RALIS***

The NLRK launched a program to unify the libraries of the Republic with a common computer network – Republican Automated Library-Informational System (RALIS). At present the RALIS network includes more than 30 libraries country wide. The RALIS is supported by the Visial FoxPro software. The shared system can be used in any library despite it not belonging to one particular library. It is a very flexible system.

An initiative of the NLRK was the formation of the Kazakhstani Center of Corporate Cataloguing.

All participants create the Union electronic data-bank on Kazakhstan by supplying regional information. The locations and bibliographic details of new acquisitions are added to the databank.

Today the National Library of the Republic of Kazakhstan is one of the most automated libraries in the country. Over 100 computers are linked to the local network and satisfy library needs in automated technologies. In the Catalogues' hall there are 5 access points to the electronic catalogue of the NLRK.

Besides the automation of technological processes the following technologies are elaborated and used in the library such as the production and issue of own CD-ROMs, digitization of rare book editions, the automated identification on the basis of bar code and quite a number of others procedures.

The electronic bar code system has enabled book issue and book return tasks to be automated. Self adhesive books labels can also be generated by the system.

The electronic editions hall provides 17 points of access to Internet in the library for readers. Full text journal articles from scientific journals and popular periodicals of the data base of the EBSCO international agency (Budapest-Moscow) are available. A data base of electronic journals of the Springer and Blackwell international informational center for libraries, publishing houses and book trade through the mediation of the INTAS –TIB (Hannover-Berlin-Moscow), data base of Russian dissertations from 1970 of the Russian State Library.

Please see the NLRK website at [www.nlrk.kz](http://www.nlrk.kz) for the full description of the Library's activities and services.

#### **DEVELOPMENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL LIBRARY COOPERATION.**

Library measurement of Kazakhstani society owing to the objective laws of public developments and world geo-economic tendencies not only can be measured but self-develop completely without principle of openness and readiness to cooperation in all aspects of its vital activity with all world library subjects, organizations, communities.

The purpose of our consistent international policy is

the exchange of practice in the realization of innovational experience in the field of professional activity, library management, library technologies and transmission of the national spiritual wealth of the Republic of Kazakhstan into the world cultural-informational space. The supporting task is the integration into the world library space through the international informational electronic networks. The NLRK adheres to the principles of multi-pole library cooperation that corresponds to the general international policy of our state.

As one of the achievements we consider the implementation since 2003 of the Kazakhstani-Russian mega-project on the creation of the common internet resource. The NLRK deems no less significant the international action supported by the ministries of the Turkic languages countries the realization of the project "21 century. The world catalogue of the Turkic book", where the possibilities of the new informational-communicative technologies will be widely used as well.

The software priority of the librarianship development the National Library of the Republic of Kazakhstan considers as the task supporting the general trend. The implementation of the library programs gives dynamics to the self-sufficient development of library Kazakhstani space. The policy of initiation of the software is the result of creative search of inner resource of library strategy development.

The National Library of the Republic of Kazakhstan initiated and implement stage-by-stage the most important for the branches following programs:

- The National program of preservation of written documents "Zere-Sauyt" of the libraries of Kazakhstan
- The program "Musical heritage of Kazakhstan"
- The program of creation of the republican automated library informational system (RALIS)

#### **PROPOSAL FOR THE CDNL**

We consider that it is possible on the level of the 30-th CDNL Conference to take a decision and under the aegis of the IFLA to create **the Interstate Foundation of library initiatives**. The dominant policy of such Foundation is considered the implementation of projects aimed at support and widening of public libraries network for the poorly developed countries.

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