

# PHILLIPINES

## THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF THE PHILLIPINES

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ANNUAL REPORT TO CDNL 2007

### LEGISLATION

- Royal Order 689, August 12, 1887 - Established the Museo - Biblioteca de Filipinas, the cornerstone of The National Library
- Act No. 96, March 5, 1901 - Marked the foundation of public libraries
- Act No. 2572, January 31, 1918 - The Philippine Library and Museums
- Act. No. 3477, December 7, 1928 - The National Library
- Executive Order No. 94 series 1947 - Bureau of Public Libraries
- Republic Act No. 3873, June 18, 1964 - The National Library

### ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

The National Library of the Philippines (NLP) originated from the Museo-Biblioteca de Filipinas which was established in 1887. It was inaugurated in 1891 with Don Pedro A. Paterno as its first Filipino director.

The National Library of the Philippines is an attached agency of the National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA) of the Office of the President by Executive Order No. 80 dated 5 March 1999.

### MANPOWER

There are 11 divisions of NLP grouped into non-reading areas namely: Administrative, Bibliographic Services, Catalogue, Collection Development, and the Publications and Special Services (Copyright Office) and; the reading areas which are: Asia and Oceania, Filipiniana, Government Publications, Library for the Blind and Reference Divisions, and the Public Libraries Division, the Multi-Media Center and the Information Technology Center. As of March 2007, the Library has a total of 172 employees: 69 professional librarians, 81 support services staff and 22 contracted hirers.

### LIBRARY USERS

The National Library of the Philippines, implemented in July 2000, the use of a reader's card which is a requirement before a library user can avail of themselves of library resources. The reader's card fee is P50.00 or equivalent to US\$1.00 and is a lifetime membership card. Our database shows that 33,505 library users have applied for a reader's card. These patrons are mostly students and professionals.

During the year 2006, readership in NLP's reading rooms totalled 94,728, while materials used were 235,841 items.

On the other hand, during the same year the 39 public libraries located in different parts of the country served 626,451 readers and loaned out 878,364 volumes of library materials. No data is available for the majority of public libraries.

## **COLLECTION PROFILE**

Accession numbers are about 181,562 volumes of books; 36,889 government publications; 12,334 microforms; 26,144 audio/visual materials; 415 CD-ROMS; 65,321 theses and dissertations; serials (subscription and donations) newspapers 101,637 and journals 4,808.

Special collections: 14,722 volumes rare books; 880,000 manuscripts and presidential papers; 53,193 photographs; 2,194 maps; 9,198 music; and memorabilia collection.

### **The Rare Books and Manuscripts Collections**

The Filipiniana (Philippine) collection has a rich array of both printed and manuscript materials written in major Philippine languages such as Tagalog, Ilocano, Cebuano, Bikol and Hiligaynon.

### **Bibliographies and Indexes Published**

The National Library of the Philippines serves as the national bibliographic agency in the country. In this regard, its Bibliographic Services Division publishes every quarter with annual cumulation the Philippine National Bibliography (PNB). Other publications prepared by the Division are special bibliographies such as Philippine Bibliographies, Manila Bibliography, Bikol Bibliography and the Bibliography of the following Presidents of the Philippines such as: President Gloria A. Macapagalet, Corazon C. Aquino, Fidel V. Ramos and Joseph E. Estrada.

The National Library also published the following publications:

- TNL Annual Reports, TNL Newsletter, TNL Research Guide.
- Series; Directory of Printers and Publishers.

### **National and Special Databases**

The National Library of the Philippines has the following national databases under the framework of its Philippine Library Information Network (PHILIN):

Name of Database:	PNB Database
Total No. of Records:	Records
gathered annually :	2,000 titles
Frequency:	Quarterly and Annual
Status of Database:	Library Domain
Subject Coverage:	Filipiniana covering all areas of knowledge
Type of Databases:	Bibliographical
Local Online/ International Online:	Local Online
Access and Availability:	Printing

## **SERVICES**

### **Reference and Information Services**

A total of about 94,728 researchers were served in year 2006 in the various reading rooms. Library hours are from 9.00 am to 5.00 pm from Monday to Saturday except on holidays.

### **Lending Services**

#### ***Online Public Access Catalog (OPAC)***

OPAC is one of the Library's computerised projects. It aims to provide adequate and efficient services to the reading public. This was implemented in 1997 at the Filipiniana Division.

### ***Inter-Library Loan and Exchange Services***

Library networking and exchange of materials among member countries (formerly NLDC) in Southeast Asia. It links member country collectively and cooperatively towards a free flow of information in any part of the world.

### **National Bibliographic Services**

The National Library of the Philippines is mandated to provide an efficient access to its information resources and services and one of these is an up-to-date Philippine National Bibliography (PNB) and a National Union Catalogue. The Bibliographic Services Division (BSD) undertakes these activities:

#### ***Philippine National Bibliography (PNB)***

A very important reference tool for librarians, scholars, publishers, researchers, etc, the PNB is a collection of bibliographic records of the country's national literature that truly reflects the intellectual and cultural growth and development of the Filipino people. It includes monographs, first issues of periodicals, printed music scores, government publications and conference proceedings and non-book materials such as sound recordings, maps, CDs, etc.

#### ***Cataloguing-in-Publication Program (CIP)***

NLP thru its Bibliographic Services Division has been implementing Cataloguing-In-Publication (CIP) Data as part of the expansion of the PNB System. This program provides a bibliographic description in advance of publication. CIP as a cataloguing tool for librarians minimises unnecessary duplication of cataloguing data.

### ***Standard Numbering Systems***

It is the responsibility of the National Library to conform, establish and maintain national and international standards in library and information services.

#### **International Standard Book Number (ISBN)**

An internationally recognised system whereby code numbers are assigned to books for easy identification and speedy exchange of information among all segments of the book industry and allied sectors.

#### **International Standard Serials Number (ISSN)**

It is a standardised international numeric code, which allows the identification of any serial publication independently of its country origin, its language or alphabet, frequency, medium, etc. Assigning ISSN to 440 serial publications as of December 2006 does not only allow accessibility to periodical literature but also advertise them through the Philippine ISSN Register.

#### **International Standard Music Number (ISMN)**

A standardised international numeric code for the identification of music publication can be used wherever information needs to be recorded or communicated.

### **Reading Promotion/Information Literacy Programs**

The promotion of books and good reading habits is a project of government institutions like the Committee on Libraries and Information Services under the National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA) and non-government organisations like the Philippine Board on Books for Young People (PBBY) and the Reading Association of the Philippines (RAP). The Director of the National Library of the Philippines is one of the Commissioners of NCCA.

Likewise NLP is an instructional member of PBBY while in RAP, the Director is The National Auditor of the Association.

## Acquisition, Donation and Exchange

### *Acquisition*

The National Library acquired 1,173 titles and 11,375 volumes of books and 25 sets of encyclopedias for the calendar year 2006. Of the number of titles purchased, 680 titles are Filipiniana while 493 titles are foreign.

### *Gifts and Donations*

The National Library received through gifts and donations 910 titles/5,430 volumes of books ; 1,639 titles/5,760 copies of serials ; 1,067 titles/1,068 volumes of theses, 253 titles/volumes, 253 dissertations, 39 titles/70 copies of Braille materials, tapes and CD's.

### *Exchange*

The Gifts/Exchange Section of the Collection Development Division was the recipient from several exchange partners of materials that help enhance the National Library's collection. This year, the Office was also able to send 149 titles/272 volumes of books, 123 titles/1,444 copies of serials and 51 titles/55 copies of CD-Rom to foreign exchange partners.

### *Legal Deposit*

Another method of acquiring library materials is through implementation of Legal Deposit Law known as PD 812 wherein all government offices including those in the provinces and municipalities, government owned or controlled corporations are directed to furnish the National Library for at least two or 50 copies of the publications for exchange commitments for both national and international as well as for preservation in the Heritage Collection of the National Library.

Due to the high cost of publishing, only local newspapers, magazines and government publications are continuously being received by the Collection Development Division totaling 1,243 titles consisting of 6,685 copies.

## Special Services

### *The Library for the Blind*

The National Library of the Philippines caters to the blind and visually handicapped Filipinos. House Bill No. 5397 authored by the late Congresswoman Estelita G. Juco provided for the Establishment of a Braille Department in The National Library".

### *Training and Study Visit on Library Services for Visually Impaired Person*

The Christian Foundation for the Blind in Thailand under the Royal Patronage of H.M. the King sees the importance of providing constant training to visually impaired people and personnel working with vision related organisations to improve their lives and the working system in an institution to mainly provide the direct benefit to the visually impaired people.

NLP representative to the training and visit on library services to visually impaired on "Digital Audio Information System (DAISY) at Bangkok, Thailand, 4-15 September 2006 is Ms Maria Lea Vilvar, Librarian I of the Blind Division, NLP.

The Digital Audio-based Information system (DAISY) is ultimately the next generation of the worldwide standard of digital talking books. Its potential to bridge the information gap between the blind and the sighted people is being increasingly publicised. With DAISY, preceding problems of too many cassette tapes which had to be taken at a time for a certain book is no longer a problem as you can keep several files in a CD which means you can have one book in just one CD-Rom or even several short books in one CD-Rom. Moreover, one main reason on why DAISY is becoming more popular in libraries is because of its durability and its low cost.

## PROJECTS

### Seminars, Workshops, etc

The management does not only consider the collections or the sophisticated equipment or financial support as its important resources, but also the warm bodies, the human beings who manage and utilise these resources. Management therefore places a premium on the development of its professional librarians and support staff. NLP invests some funds when the management gives them training locally or abroad so that the learning and experiences that staff gain can contribute to the development and improvement of the Library's service programs. The management also encourages its staff to pursue higher studies in their special field of interest, join professional associations and concern themselves with their continuing professional education.

### AFFILIATIONS, COOPERATION, MEMBERSHIP (LOCAL AND FOREIGN)

NLP is involved several conventions, programmes and activities at national, regional and international level.

At the national level the NLP has maximum participation with library, book and reading promotion programmes, such as:

- Public Libraries Information Network (PUBLIN) - a networking project of the NLP which provides access to all library materials and promotes resource sharing among public libraries nationwide.
- National Commission for Culture and the Arts-National Committee on Libraries and Information Services (NCCA-NCLIS) - through this entity, all library and information-related projects of library associations and institutions are coordinated for the development of libraries and information services in the country.

A Union Catalogue of Materials about Ilocos Region is one of the projects undertaken by the Committee.

NCLIS also undertakes technical assistance program to local government units and other agencies which need help in putting up libraries and information centers in the country.

- Reading Association of the Philippines in its mid-year conference and other related activities.
- Philippine Board on Books for Young People when celebrating the Annual National Children's Book every July.
- The regular storytelling every Saturday at the NLP Children's Library in cooperation with Alitaptap Storytellers, an association promoting storytelling for young children.

At the regional level the National Library takes part in:

- CONSAL (Conference of Southeast Asian Libraries).
- CDNLAO (Conference of Director of National Libraries of Asia and Oceania).

At the international level, the National Library is a loyal member of IFLA (International Federation of Library Association).

## LIBRARY AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL

### Library Associations

Aside from the Philippine Librarians Association, Inc. (PLAI) which is the national association of librarians from all types of libraries, there are other library associations whose membership is nationwide too, and are identified according to the type of libraries from where these librarians are working. Among them are the Philippine Association for Academic and Research Libraries (PAARL), the Philippine Association of Teachers of Library Science (PATLS), the Association of Special Libraries in the Philippines (ASLP), Agricultural Libraries Association of the Philippines (ALAP), Philippine Group of Librarians (PGLL), Philippine Association of School Librarians (PASL), Medical and Health Libraries Association of the Philippines (MAHLAP) and the Public Librarians Association of the Philippines (PLAP).

### Academic Libraries

The first academic library was the Library of the Colegio de Sto Tomas. Established in 1611, the college was founded by Fray Miguel de Benavidez, O.P. Archbishop of Manila. The initial book collection was from his personal collection.

Academic libraries are directly under the institutions of which they are a part and these educational institutions are in turn directly linked to the Commission on Higher Education (CHED). State colleges and universities, however have their own separate charters and governance of their respective libraries are covered by their respective charters.

There are about 2,901 academic librarians listed in a Directory published by the Philippine Association of Academic and Research Libraries of the Philippines (PAARL).

### Public Libraries

The National Library of the Philippines acts as the central node of the public library system throughout the country.

It also provides guidance and technical assistance to local government units (LGU) in the establishment, development and maintenance of public libraries and plans and conducts training programs, meetings, seminars and conferences for public librarians.

At present it has 1,133 affiliated public libraries situated in the different provinces, cities, municipalities and barangays. For the year 2006, 39 additional public libraries were affiliated, which can be broken to two city libraries, two provincial libraries, nine municipal libraries and 26 barangay libraries and 14 bookmobiles.

The National Library and the local government units execute a Memorandum of Agreement to effect the establishment and operation of these public libraries.

Public Library	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Regional	1	1	1	1	1	1
Congressional	1	1	1	1	3	3
Provincial	48	49	49	49	49	51
City	78	82	82	82	89	88
Municipal	498	511	520	523	536	545
Barangay	288	318	350	359	419	445
<b>Total</b>	<b>914</b>	<b>962</b>	<b>1,003</b>	<b>1,015</b>	<b>1,097</b>	<b>1,133</b>

Total of local government Units per category	Total of public libraries set up as of June 2006	Percent Accomplishment
17 regions	1 regional library (ARMM)	
209 congressional libraries	4 congressional district lib.	
80 provinces	50 provincial libraries	
99 cities	87 city libraries	
1,150 municipalities	529 municipal libraries	
41,933 barangays	472 barangay libraries	
	1,151 Public Libraries	

### **Special Libraries of Private Firms/Institutions and Department Libraries of Government Agencies**

Special libraries are libraries of different government and private agencies or companies which are fairly autonomous and responsible only to the corporations and institutions which they serve. These types of libraries and documentation centers in the country are mostly located in Metro Manila although a few are sparsely organised and maintained in some provinces and cities.

### **Digitisation Project**

In the last decade, every library has experienced tremendous advances in all areas of information technology. Now that we are in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, the National Library of the Philippines has undertaken activities that will preserve primary source materials such as historical documents, presidential papers, and literary manuscripts which are part of our cultural heritage that must be preserved for posterity.

Digitising these valuable Filipiniana collections is one of the main projects of NLP provide Filipinos worthwhile and enduring access to these treasured cultural and historical resources.

However, digitising the whole of the Filipiniana collection needs adequate funding so, NLP as the Project Management office has been given priority attention from the e-government funds of ICT through the Philippine eLib project.

Currently, NLP staff have digitised 21,365 Filipiniana photo collections of the Filipiniana Division.

Despite limited financial resources, the NLP management was able to become more productive. It has never ceased in its efforts to upgrade the Library's collections and its library system applications and sought ways to improve the library services as well. NLP has successfully continued its search for more effective methods to increase and encourage readership responding to the government's call for a well-informed Philippine society. The management, likewise, has endeavored in protecting and preserving the Library's priceless collections that embody our culture and heritage as Filipinos.

### **Developments in the Library**

#### ***The Philippine eLib. Project***

Philippine eLibrary is a collaborative project of five government institutions, namely: Department of Agriculture, Department of Science and Technology, Commission on Higher Education, The National Library and the University of the Philippines.

The Project is now operational after it was officially launched on 19 April 2005. Philippine eLib has stored in its file servers more than a million bibliographic data, digitised more than 25 million images of Philippine materials including rare books and manuscripts, these and dissertations and maintained a subscription to eleven online databases that provide more than 29,000 full text journals. Also uploaded in the data bases are the bibliographies and indices produced by the partner institutions.

#### ***Data Center Project***

The Data Center Project is at the National Library of the Philippines with its Director as the Project Manager.

#### ***Philippine eLib Kiosk***

It has more than a hundred kiosks nationwide deployed in selected public libraries of NLP, all campuses of the University of the Philippines, zonal research centers of the Commission on Higher Education, and regional offices and research institutions of the Dept. of Agriculture and Science Technology. Resources and facilities of the Project can now be accessed by students, faculty members, scholars, researchers, farmers, out-of-school youth and ordinary housewife. Philippine eLib can also be accessed internationally.



### ***Establishment of Centralised OPAC***

NLP OPAC. The completion of the bar coding activity of the collections, NLP has slowly put into semi-retirement the cabinets of the traditional card catalogue and put the centralised online public catalogue (OPAC) at the second floor lobby.

### ***Establishment of swiping machine for the circulation of materials (charging and discharging of books)***

Putting up of the swiping machine for the easy charging and discharging of the library materials.

### ***Establishment of Children's Library***

To provide an opportunity for children to experience the enjoyment of reading and the excitement of discovering knowledge and works of the imagination. Children and their parents should be taught how to make the best use of a library and how to develop skills in the use of printed and electronic media.

#### **Children's Library**

- To support the process of learning to read, and to promote books and other media for children.
- To provide special events for children like story telling and activities related to the library's services and resources.
- To encourage children to use the library from an early age as this will make them more likely to remain users in future years.

## **INFRASTRUCTURE**

### **Dedicated Library Network Infrastructure**

PHILIN is an integrated library management information system wherein the various functions and services are modules or subsystems that make up the Library's total information system. Further, these modules can be a sub-network itself dedicated to providing access to library-based information.

### **Connectivity at the National Level**

The National Library's internet connectivity is thru Sky Internet wherein a 64 Kbps bandwidth with a committed information rate of 16kbps dedicated leased line.

Access points of the Philippine eLib Project are situated all over the Philippines namely: University of the Philippines campuses all over the country; Regional Offices of the Department of Agriculture and Department of Science and Technology; state, universities and colleges identified and selected by the Commission of Higher Education; and 19 provincial, city, municipal libraries; and The National Library.

You may visit the Philippine eLib at [www.elib.gov.ph](http://www.elib.gov.ph).

## **PRESERVATION**

Based on its inherent function to collect the national literature, NLP is tasked to preserve the cultural resources recorded in print and non-print forms. Its responsibility is to the nation and to future generations to preserve them for posterity. Primary source materials are of utmost importance and preventive measures and damage control have been a priority concern of the management especially of the Filipiniana materials. A policy and program for preservation and conservation of books, manuscripts and other unique items in the National Library have been formulated and implemented such microfilming the rare book collections, manuscripts as well as the Philippine Insurgent Records (PIR). The management has to prioritise the conservation and preservation processes due to the pilferage of thousands of historical documents that were uncovered in 1993 of which 8,221 documents were retrieved.



To better fulfill the Library's mandate to serve as repository of the country's records of its intellectual, scientific, cultural and humanistic records, the Filipiniana Division's Heritage Collection was originated. The Heritage Collection is comprised of current Filipiniana materials to ensure that one good copy is kept for posterity.

Out-of-print books were transferred and integrated with the rare books and rare serials collection. This is in support of the Library's aim to strengthen its heritage collection and to ensure future generations of the availability of at least one good copy of these publications.

## EDUCATION AND TRAINING

### Continuing Education for Librarians

With Republic Act 6966 known as the "Philippine Librarianship Act", a law regulating the practice of librarianship and prescribing the qualifications of librarians, the quality of librarians entering the profession has improved. However, they are still encouraged to take a continuing education program in order to be developed, to upgrade and broaden the base of skills of information workers. Seminars, workshops, conferences and other training programs held locally or abroad sponsored by library associations are vital in providing opportunities for professional growth and keeping abreast with the latest techniques in information service.

### Licensure Examination and Registration

The Board for Librarians was created by PD No. 6966 and conducted its first licensure examination on 3 December 1992. Two years later, it launched the full computerisation of the librarian licensure examination.

Qualified librarians shall be required to undergo a written licensure examination to be given by the Board in such places and dates the Commission may designate subject to compliance with the requirements prescribed by the Commission.

## COPYRIGHT AND LIBRARY ACT

### Philippine Law on Copyright

Copyright in the Philippines can be traced back to 1879 when the Intellectual Property Law of Spain was enforced in its colonies including the Philippines. Similarly, the US Copyright Law was enforced in the Philippines after the country was handed by Spain to the United States of America in 1898. On 4 March 1924, the Philippine Legislature enacted Act 3134, the first Philippine Law on Copyright. Then Presidential Decree 49 otherwise known as the Decree on Intellectual Property was issued and took effect on 6 December 1972. The Decree repealed Act 3134.

NLP implements Book IV, Law on Copyright of Republic Act 8293 known as Intellectual Property Code of the Philippines which took effect on January 1998. The Library disseminates information to intellectual creators with regards to creator's rights, protection and remedies available to them under the law.

The Philippines is a signatory to the Berne Convention, Universal Copyright Convention, Rome Convention, World Trade Organisation (WTO), WIPO Copyright Treaty (WCT) and WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty (WPPT) (both internet treaties)

### Library Professional Act

#### *Philippine Librarianship Act*

In 1990, Republic Act No. 6966 entitled "An Act Regulating the Practice of Librarianship and Prescribing the Qualifications of Librarians", otherwise known as **Philippine Librarianship Act**, was enacted by the Philippine Legislature on 19 September 1990.

Fourteen years later, the law was repealed by Republic Act No. 9246, entitled: "**An Act Modernising the Practice of Librarianship in the Philippines**".

*Code of Ethics for Registered Librarians, Resolution No. 02, Series of 1992*

Librarians are imbued with lofty of service to people through books and other records of knowledge, a service they believe is their best way to serve humanity, enrich people's lives and attain self actualisation.

Through the years the profession of librarianship has developed, and a codification of ideal practices and relationship has become necessary to guide the practitioner in maintaining standards of ethical behavior in his relation with state and society, with clients, with profession and colleagues, with agency, and with oneself.

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