



Public Library Face to Face with COVID-19: Challenges & Opportunities

Fatemeh Pazooki | The spread of COVID-19 has deeply challenged public, cultural, and economic activities and programs worldwide and has become a threat to global health. Since public libraries are a place for community gatherings, and most of their actions are done in groups, many of these institutions' daily activities have changed, interrupted, postponed, and even disrupted.

Most public libraries have been closed initially by the national or regional administration's commands. They promoted "stay home" while there was no definite reopening date. Gradually, after around a month (shock period!) Libraries resumed their activities, even though in a new format, new instructor and based on the web. Furthermore, librarians afforded to support the health care process and confront fake news. In most libraries, employees worked from home. However, in some cases where employees were present in the library buildings, it was necessary to keep social distancing and pay attention to health requirements. In large cities where telecommuting infrastructures were proper, librarians respond to their members via email or chat. They also presented book clubs, story-

telling, social services, reference services, and book introductions via online social networks.

One of the librarians' commendable measures in the public libraries in Iran was the preparation of the document of Guidelines for reopening libraries entitled: Iran Public Libraries responding to COVID-19". To prepare this document, 20 active and interested librarians from

all over Iran formed an electronic group and provided some guidelines for reopening public libraries and providing services following health protocols. This document has presented guidelines in 7 parts: Staff, Collection, Areas, Technologies, Programs, Services, Information Dissemination. Fortunately, this document was confirmed in the evaluation by IFLA

and placed in the IFLA COVID-19 Library.

Let me please, as the last part of my note, let's take a step back and look at this crisis from a more general perspective.

In my opinion, the most critical effect of the Coronavirus on public libraries is not the use of masks and hand washing and the need to disinfect library resources, but the emphasis on "social distancing". However, in the last decade, emphasizing the concepts of meeting and "inspiration", the phrase "library as space" has become popular. However, currently, this strength and emphasis has become the Achilles heel of public libraries during the Corona crisis.

This problem could be even more severe when numerous public library users are children and adolescents. Now, their education

and homework have been done online, so they spend (actually waste!!) lots of time on computers, tablets, cell phones and so on, it might be that they or their parents are not pleased to be over online to use the library programs further.

Another issue is "costs". Of course, I do not know how much the Internet services payments in your country are. But in Iran, you have to pay a considerable charge to use the Internet. When someone registers in a library, s/he pays (often a little) membership fee for one year, which includes all the resources, services, and programs. But in the online space, they have to pay for each minute. so...!

Another difficulty is that the existing platforms have not been built for public library services, so they are not customized for library services. In other words, there is no integrated system for presenting all public library activities online. For example, the user has to use the library database to search for resources, go to the zoom app to use the workshop/training course, go to Instagram for chat-based apps, and so on. This scattering differs from the "organization" nature of the public library (which was even an umbrella ... [continued to Page 4]



Tuti Books in the list of Bologna

Tuti Books (Children and Adolescents Books, Fatemi Publications) from Iran was included in the list of selected children's publishers at the Bologna Book Fair and will compete with publishers from China, Japan, and South Korea to receive the 2020 Asian Award for Children's publication.

This is the first time that a publisher from Iran has been shortlisted for this prestigious award. The award is a great opportunity



to introduce leading publishers who have come up with creative and new ideas and content for their books throughout the year.

The award is given to the first six selected publishers from Africa, South and Central America, North America, Asia, Europe, and Oceania who have vivid and professional ideas and thoughts.

The winners will be annually announced at the opening ceremony of the Bologna Fair, and the selected books of the selected publishers will be announced in catalogs, newspapers, and social networks.

This year, the voting will be online and the results will be announced on May 4, 2020.

The Role of Libraries in Crisis Management

Shiva Rezaei - On 23 and 24 March 2020, Iranian Library and Information Association – the southern branch of Iran- and the Scientific Association for Information Science and Knowledge of Shiraz University, with the participation of directors, faculty members, librarians, and library staff as well as students, held a specialized virtual meeting entitled "The Role of Libraries in Crisis Management", in which the role and mission of libraries and librarians during a crisis was addressed. In this two-day meeting, the vital role and position of libraries and librarians, which will be much more significant during various crises that society inevitably faces, was initially discussed.

As a result, it is a need for libraries to have a plan for crisis management in order to have an authoritative performance during crises.

It is clear that depending on the type of crisis, the role of libraries will be different. In the current situation and due to the worldwide epidemic, libraries are closed.

Nevertheless, librarians continue to do well not as a librar-

ian but as an informant in society.

Then, the necessity of evaluating the information in cyberspace, training librarians, and their practical and mental preparation and performing pathology in this field, providing information

about health issues, and paying attention to the context of social networks were discussed.

In addition, some other important issues raised by the members in this meeting about the role of libraries in crisis management are as follows:

- Providing infrastructure and forming a user community;
- Paying attention to the capacity of virtual media;
- Providing information services in the context of digital libraries;
- Including the relevant contents to crisis management in educational topics;
- Production and collection of appropriate and creative content and its presentation to users in crisis situations such as audiobooks, etc., considering the copyright laws;
- Holding motivating reading events and competitions to promote reading habits in society;
- Collaboration with other organizations to provide library programs.



Corona Prevention Application

The first university coronavirus prevention application has been presented by the Deputy of Research and Technology, Qom University of Medical Sciences.

Dr. Mehran Dasht (Head of Medical Information and Scientific Resources Department of Qom University) announced the news and added that the application had been designed by the university engineers in March



2020, at the same time as the identification of the Coronavirus in Iran.

In order to achieve the latest scientific achievements in this field, librarians are in charge of the upload of resources and the production of content.

A noticeable feature of the application is the provision of scientific documents and its up-to-date data.

This application can be downloaded on the main page of the Qom University of Medical Sciences website at <https://www.muq.ac.ir/index.aspx>

Iran's Flag on the NLB

On April 2, at the initiative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Belarus, an event in support of the states that are currently most severely affected by COVID-19 infection was launched on the outdoor electronic light board of the National Library of Belarus. A graphic image in support of the efforts being put into the fight against the virus will be displayed on the Library until April 8. It depicts the flags of the USA, Italy, Spain, China, Germany, France, Iran, Great Britain, Switzerland, Belgium, as well as the flag of Belarus as a sign of solidarity and sympathy. The image is accompanied by the symbolic appeal "Stay Strong! Together we will win!" in the Belarusian language and the official languages of the countries mentioned. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs believes that only through joint efforts of the entire international community we will overcome this challenge. Solidarity and consolidated efforts are of particular importance. And our symbolic call "Stay Strong! Together we will win!" will touch the hearts of our compatriots and foreign partners.



Library and Archival Collaborations: Iran & France

Boroujerdi, the president of NLAI, and Philippe Thiébaud, the French ambassador to Iran, discussed cooperation in the field of archiving, document digitization, and librarianship on May 20, 2020.

During the meeting, Boroujerdi after explaining the structure of the NLAI and the measures taken by the organization referred to the partnership for book exchange with France and said that the National Library of France has Persian manuscripts and due to the implementation of some provisions of the memorandum of understanding between the two libraries, we request to follow up the unimplemented provisions of that memorandum of understanding.

Thiébaud also announced the readiness of his country to exchange books between the National Library of France and Iran. Boroujerdi, proposing a scientific exchange between Iranian and French scholars hosted by NLAI, said, "France has clear-sighted scientists and Iran also has prominent scholars." Boroujerdi further proposed holding joint exhibitions between Iran and France hosted by NLAI and added that in addition to exhibition cooperation, Iranian and French scholars can exchange information and talk with each other online.



Referring to Iran's membership in the international organizations of the International Council on Archives (ICA) and the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) and its continuous and effective presence in the meetings of these two organizations, he emphasized the copyright law as one of the important points in the field of activity of the National Library of Iran.

Thiébaud also after explaining the situation of Coronavirus in France emphasized the cooperation between the National Libraries of France and Iran.

Referring to the Institut Français de Recherche en Iran in Tehran and the prominent figure of "Henri Corbin" in the fields of Shiite and Iranian studies, Thiébaud added that their proposal was to use common capacities, especially in the fields of documents, books, and sending Iranian experts to France, which would be financially supported by the France embassy.

COVID-19 Visualizer system

The Covid-19 Visualizer system, which provides access to the latest scientific findings as well as analytical information and statistics on the coronavirus, was launched by the ISC.

"The ISC COVID-19 Visualizer is a system set up by the ISC that provides instant information about coronavirus 2019, including statistics and information on patients, statistical reports, and scientific papers," said Dehghani, head of the ISC.

This system aims to accelerate the process of information about new scientific findings about this disease and to assist researchers, health policymakers, and the public to respond appropriately to this global epidemic. The information in this database, which includes statistics on the spread of the disease sorted by the country and the latest scientific articles, are daily updated.

The system has a global map of the prevalence of Covid-19 disease, which can be searched to find the latest statistics on morbidity, mortality, treatment, and the ratio of patients relative to the overall population in each country. Access to this system is available at: maps.isc.gov.ir/covid19.

Dehghani added, "Currently, in this system, more than 18000 documents of the latest scientific findings about the Covid-19 virus in the form of full-text articles are available to researchers and scholars, and of course the information is daily updated."

Ambassador of Tajikistan in NLAI

Nizamuddin Shamsuddin Zadeh Zahedi, Ambassador of Tajikistan to Tehran, visited the Archives Organization and National Library of Iran and met with Dr. Ashraf Boroujerdi, Head of the National Library and Archives Organization of Iran.

Boroujerdi, at the beginning of the meeting, pointed out that it was necessary to improve the mutual cultural relations more than before with the cooperation of the representatives of Iran



and Tajikistan and this should be considered as an important issue in the field of books and librarianship as well.

She noted the launch of the "ECO site" in Tajikistan with the participation of 10 ECO member states, adding that this had positive effects on the countries' motivation to promote common cultural affairs.

She considered this meeting important from the two aspects of science and knowledge, which are very effective in raising the level of public awareness, as well as the library development (activities related to common documents).

Referring to the audio-visual resources available at the National Library and Archives of Iran, Boroujerdi added that sharing such resources with their counterparts in Tajikistan could be fruitful.

Video Conference: NLAI & NLC

On May 19, 2020, Boroujerdi and Rao Quan, Director of the National Library of China, via video call discussed strengthening the cooperation, the measures taken to deal with the COVID-19 crisis, how to provide services to clients and staff during the epidemic, and the upcoming program.

Referring to the reopening of the NLC after 109 days, Quan said that it was a sign of the country's fundamental success in controlling the coronavirus and expressed its willingness to share experiences with Iran. Emphasizing the libraries' unique role to encourage people to fight the disease, he added that China had succeeded in preventing the coronavirus by the use of an integrated system and by the cooperation of the people; and in this regard, online bookstores continued their activities and online communication to access databases was made possible by 30 sites; moreover, restrictions on internet access to resources were removed.

The head of the NLC referred to the previous agreements between the National Libraries of Iran and China and called for the expansion of such interactions.

In this video call, Boroujerdi said that

the national libraries of Iran and China, as two cultural institutions, should make the necessary efforts to develop the culture of the society, especially in creating hope among the people, and the effective actions of these cultural institutions should be also shared.



Considering the interactions with the national libraries of other countries, it can be said that the national libraries of countries have common ideas for managing such situations because many of the actions taken by the National Library of China have been performed in Iran as well.

Evaluating the importance of NLC's efforts to provide information to society in the situation of the Covid-19 outbreak, he said that in order to reach out to the public and provide the appropriate conditions for access to information, the NLC accelerated its digitization project so that people could access the resources they needed at their homes.

Boroujerdi mentioned that in the NLAI, they have allocated a section (room) to the NLC that contains information about the National Library of China and introduces some of the books.

Corona Effects on Book Industry

Annually, in late April, the Tehran International Book Fair (TIBF) led to the prosperity of the Iranian publishing market and consequently increased the revenues of the book industry.

However, this year, due to the epidemic of COVID-19, both bookstore sales reached the lowest level in its history and publishers could not offer their products due to the cancellation of the Tehran Book Fair.

The head of the Tehran Publishers and



Booksellers Union also called Corona's damage impacting to the book industry devastating and pointed out that 90 percent of Iran's book market had been damaged due to the Corona epidemic and only electronic publication could be successful.

Regarding the compensation of the book industry, he said that they had had meetings with the Ministry of Culture to find a solution to the problems arisen during this period in the field of books and publishing.

The Iranian Ministry of Culture also announced that booksellers, publishers, distributors (books, art books, posters) and postcard sellers were included in the list of corona affected businesses, and they, after completing online administrative forms, would receive the governmental support packages considered in this regard.

2020 Iran Book Capital

The closing ceremony of the sixth program for selecting and introducing the book capital of Iran and the sixth festival of book-loving villages and nomads of Iran with the presence of Salehi, Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance; Boroujerdi, Head of National Library and Archive of Iran; Mokhtarpour, Secretary General of Iran Public Libraries Foundation; Javadi, Deputy Minister of Culture and Islamic

Guidance, as well as more than 300 activists and promoters of reading from all over the country was held on February 8, 2020, in the conference hall of the National Library.

In this ceremony, the city of Shiraz was introduced as the book capital of Iran in 2020 due to the variety of book reading programs and special attention to creative cultural activities.

A city from Tehran province, Rafsanjan and Bam from Kerman province and Oz from Fars province were introduced as creative cities in the field of books. Previously, the cities of Ahvaz, Nishapur, Bushehr, Kashan, and Yazd had received this title. "47 bases in different parts of the city hold reading programs for the people according to the needs of each region.

Shiraz's cultural and literary potential has

allowed us to take a look at the title of World Book Capital," Manouchehri, Director General of Public Libraries of Fars Province, said on the sidelines of the ceremony, referring to the plans Shiraz has to win the title of World Book Capital. It is worth mentioning that the book capital of Iran is the title of a project in Iran, based on which a city is annually selected as the book capital of Iran.

Some parts of this project have been modeled on the world book capital program, but in terms of executive structure, it is very compatible with the cultural conditions in Iran.

Holding the event of Iran's book capital has been following a number of aims including increasing cooperation and partici-

participation of various governmental and non-governmental institutions in the field of books, attracting existing investments in the private sector, culturalizing the industrial and economic sectors, indirectly promoting futurism and planning in the field of culture, supporting new and innovative ideas in the field of books, emphasizing the cultural programs and cultural justice, promoting book reading, designing attractive and popular programs in the field of books as well as promoting the position of cultural directors in cities.



Public Libraries E-Services

Since the Coronavirus outbreak occurred, public libraries, like other educational and cultural centers, were announced to be closed. Due to the continuation of the social distancing and the implementation of the health recommendations of the National Headquarters of Adminstrating coronavirus, public libraries continued their cultural and educational activities in cyberspace.

A total-of-190-minute film of storytelling, painting, handicrafts, and reading classes for children and adolescents, which were side activities in public libraries, was produced with the cooperation of librarians and became available via cyberspace.

In this regard, the "Every librarian is a reader" campaign was held in order to promote the culture of reading and introduce books.

Librarians and enthusiasts who participated in the campaign were supposed to introduce a book in a less-than-5-minute film and upload it in cyberspace with the hashtag #everylibrarian_a_book_reader and tag the Public Library Foundation page (@iranpl).

The "Every house is a library" campaign was held in this regard as well.

Since there are, in personal bookshelves, usually the books that have been never

read, in this campaign, all people were invited to take a photograph with one of such books and send an audio or video file of a summary of what they learned from the book to the secretariat of this campaign.

Literary clubs were also welcomed by users in cyberspace and provided opportunities for interaction among successful writers, poets, and enthusiasts.

These days, in spite of all hardships, acted as a great maneuver.

The optimal use of capacities, which were previously less considered, is a notable achievement of these days.

Formerly, the use of cyberspace was mostly for information and public relations, whereas, currently, the need to use cyberspace to provide more services is more comprehended.

Eventually, after three months, the public libraries began their activities on May 30 without the presence of the patrons, and since June 21, patrons have been accepted considering all the hygiene standards.

In addition to emphasizing hygiene, the Public Libraries Foundation has informed libraries of some changes in the borrowing-returning books system and the use of library facilities.



ISC Executive Committee in Pakistan Video Conference

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the impossibility of holding face-to-face meetings, as well as to accelerate scientific, educational, research and technology interactions with national and international universities and scientific-research centers, a multilateral videoconference was held with the participation of professors from the Regional Information Center for Science and Technology (RICEST) and Islamic World Science Citation Center (ISC).

In this meeting, Mohammad Javad Dehghani, the President of RICEST and ISC, gave a brief history of the activities of the center since its establishment and introduced the Regional Scientific Information Resources Center and ISC bases including the Islamic World Science Observatory, Islamic World Scientific Publications System (EJCR) and the ISC World Ranking.

In addition, the new ISC product (Covid-19 visualizer) was introduced at the meeting.

As suggested by the ISC, the Pakistani universities could be provided with the system on their website in order to be used by the academic community.

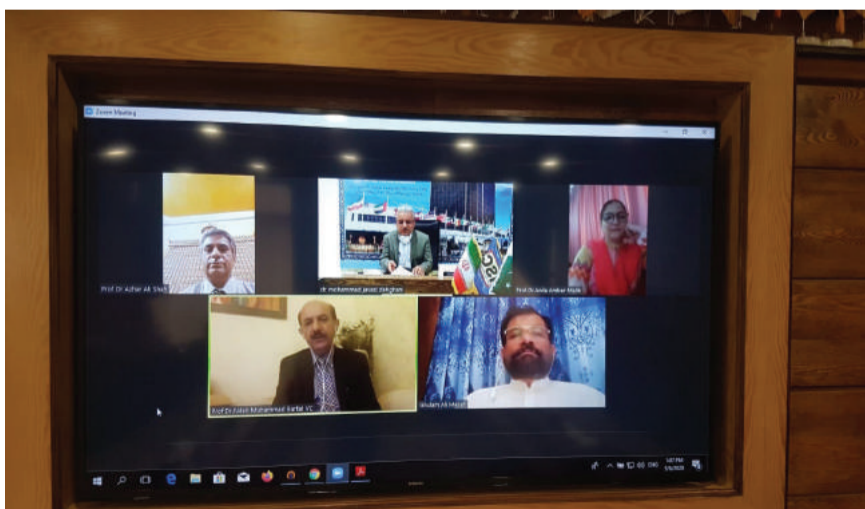
He also added, "ISC currently plays an active role in international scientific interactions and in the academic community and international organizations, including its interactions with D8 member states, ISESCO, OIC member states, ASAIHL, COMSTECH, etc."

Subsequently, the professors from Pakistan introduced their universi-

ties and their cooperation with ISC.

In addition, Dr. Mohammed Reza Falahati Qadimi Fumani, the head of President's Office and Consultant and ISC Director of Public Relations pointed out that given the new global conditions affected by COVID-19, ISC was ready to hold virtual workshops and webinars for the editors of Pakistani scientific journals in order to improve the Pakistani scientific journals rankings.

He also regarded the establishment



of a special ranking system for Pakistani universities as one of the priorities for their cooperation and indicated the the ISC's readiness to take action in this regard in the form of a joint plan.

In the end, Dehghani and Azhar Ali Shah, a member of the Executive Committee of ISC and the President of Sindh Science Society and University of Sindh Professor, reviewed the discussion and emphasized the following activities:

- Immediate action should be taken to establish a regional center branch in

Pakistan. Through the regional center branch at the university, faculty members, researchers, and university students will have access to the full online regional center scientific information resources for three years free of charge.

- Sindh University considered its promotion in the international ranking systems as one of its priorities and asked for ISC assistance in this regard. Accordingly, it has been decided to plan a training workshop and analyze the performance of the university.

- Sindh University has demanded the promotion of its scientific journals and in this regard, it has been decided to send their prestigious journals to the ISC in case of obtaining the necessary points. It has been also decided to hold a training workshop for the editors of Pakistani publications by ISC in order to improve their publication rankings.

- A member of the ISC Executive Committee should provide the information on the ISC COVID-19 visualizer at the level of the Ministry and universities of Pakistan and introduce the universities interested in using the visualizer to the ISC so that its link can be accessed by the applicants on the Pakistani universities website.

- A joint proposal, in order to an establishment of a separate system for Pakistani universities rankings, should be developed and followed up by a member of the ISC Pakistani Executive Committee at the Ministry of Higher Education.

E-Books in Corona Times

More than 236,000 e-books were sold in the Library-House project. In this campaign, which was held from March 20 to 8 April 2020, children and adolescent books were offered to the audience at the discount of 80% and adult books at a discount of 70%. In this campaign, the Taaghche, Fidibo, Ketabrah, Navear, Ketabika, Pajoha-haan, and Faraketab platforms participated.

Dehghankar, Executive Advisor of the Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance, announced the end of the 20-day library-House campaign and added, "This campaign was organized in cooperation with the Information Technology and Digital Media Center of the Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance and a group of electronic publishers.

This campaign aimed to strengthen the cultural basket of Iranian families during the stay-at-home period caused by the coronavirus during the New Year holidays. This campaign could introduce e-books and the world of digital publishing to a great number of book readers."

The executive advisor of the Deputy Minister of Cultural Affairs of the Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance pointed out, "Under no circumstances, are E-books competitors for paper books, but they are a good complement to encourage reading and ultimately selling more paper books.

The policy of the Cultural Deputy is the simultaneous support of paper and digital book publication."

"Fortunately, the electronic publishers have grown quantitatively and qualitatively compared to previous years, and this is one of the main reasons why the audience has welcomed the products," concluded Dehghankar.

Public Library Face to Face with COVID-19

[continued from Page 1]... for all kinds of civic services) and drives the user away.

But another challenge, I think, is that, in this structure, the number of public library "services" is reduced and such services change into more "programs" or events. As you know, services are provided continuously, with no specific start and end restrictions on a day or a few days a week, and are often provided by staff/librarians. In my opinion, the service gives the user a sense of belonging, security, and support. While the programs are unstable and the user has to coordinate his time with that event and be present at the appointed time, and that's it! Besides, leave these all matters in addition to extra problems, internet access, low internet speed, filtering restrictions, and so on. And also, most of people do not trust online play, especially in governmental platforms. They have heard many times about digital footprint and afraid about their activities in cyberspace can be tracked.

Evidence anticipate Corona will be with us for a long time or even live with us. The order of current civilization has proved that it has not handled all other human demands in various natural biological conditions, both scientifically and managerially I suppose that the Corona crisis discussion in terms of historical sociology can recognize Corona as a break from the old civilizational order to the novel.

What I mention at this meeting are just the hints to make us think more profoundly. As LIS professionals, especially public library lovers, all of us should consider and think and talk to each other more and more to be the lighthouse of public libraries all around the world in the rough and foggy crisis ocean...

Iranian Nominees for the Astrid Lindgren Prize 2021

The Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award is one of the most considerable world prizes for children and adolescent literature, awarded by the Swedish government in honor of Astrid Lindgren. It is the greatest and most expensive Children and Adolescent Literature Prize and the second great literature prize in the world after the Hans Christian Andersen Prize, which can be won not only by writers and illustrators but also by storytellers, promoters, and institutions active in the field of children's literature and book promotion. The purpose of this award is to enhance and raise the quality of children's literature and to pay more attention to children's rights in the world. Annually, more than 60 countries from around the world participate in this competition and the prize is awarded to one or more artists or promoters, regardless of their language and nationality. Accordingly, in Iran, the nomination committees for 2021 award are the Institute for the Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults, Children's Book Council, Research Institute for the History of Children's Literature and the Society of Children's Book Writers.

"Hamid Reza Shahabadi" as an author of books for children and adolescents and the mobile rural libraries of the Institute for the Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults in the book promotion projects section have been also nominated for the award 2021. Hamid Reza Shahabadi is a contemporary historian, novelist, and playwright. He is one of the writers in the field of adolescent and adult literature and one of the high-profile directors in the field of publication and an ex-manager of the publications of the Institute for the Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults and Al-Mahdi International Publication Institute. Last year, the Institute for the Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults nominated Houshang Moradi Kermani as an author and its mobile libraries in the field of book promotion projects for the Astrid Lindgren Prize. In the meantime, the "Peyk-e Omid" of the institute for the Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults in the sub-branch of the institute's mobile activities will be introduced to the secretariat of the award. "Peyk-e Omid" is an activity based on which the institute utilizes its potential and experienced instructors and the vehicles of mobile libraries and attends the critical areas such as flooded or earthquake-hit areas and low-income areas in order to run literary and artistic programs to improve the residents' mental health and morale, especially children and adolescents. Last year, the award went to Beak Hee-na, a children's book illustrator from South Korean.



IIDCYA & 2020 Bologna Children's Book Fair

In 2013, on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the Bologna Children's Book Fair, the Bologna prize for best children's publishers of the year was included in the program list of this event. The organizers of the Bologna Children's Book Fair, after holding 56 sessions of this cultural event, decided to hold the fair online from May 4 to 7, 2020, in order to prevent the breakdown of the global epidemic and with the cooperation of international publishers in the field of children's books. The



exhibition was organized by the help of PubMatch (A Book Rights Network for Global Book) and the publishers had registered at the Bologna 2020 Book Fair could participate in this virtual exhibition and introduce their works. All publishers and literary agencies who had registered as visitors for the 2019 and 2020 fairs were also invited to participate in the Bologna Children's Online Book Fair free of charge. In this fair, the Institute for the Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults, as one of the independent Iranian publishers that has been present in most of the periods of this fair, has uploaded 16 titles of its selected books among the recent publications and successful works; so along with its English catalog, a total number of 412 selected titles were introduced to enthusiasts.

Post Support During the Corona Crisis

The "Book Post" system has been launched by the Book House in cooperation with the Post Company of the Islamic Republic of Iran in order to provide cheap postal services to publishers, booksellers, and activists in the field of book publishing.

Membership in this system is free of charge and postal services are offered at a special discount.

In this plan, which was created in order to provide equitable access to books for all citizens and enriching the days of unwanted stay at home due to the threat of the coronavirus, by March 2020, 450 activists in the field of books and publishing, including publishers, bookstores and online stores had signed up, but this number has reached 811 members.

In the plan "Crossing the Corona with Books", which was implemented by the Book Post system, 53,962 packages (92%) belonged to cities, and 4,500 packages (8%) belonged to villages. In addition, the highest amount of book sending in this plan belonged to Tehran, Qom, and Khorasan Razavi and most of the book recipients were in the provinces of Tehran, Isfahan, and Fars.

Mohammad Ahmadi, Technical and Commercial Vice President of the National Iranian Post Company, at the unveiling ceremony of the Post Book Internet system, mentioned, "Today we are witnessing an effective action in the direction of cultural development as an effective factor in developing the country and providing cheap postal services to publishers, booksellers, and book publishing activities."

It is worth mentioning that the steps of membership, registration, and receiving the postal panel are described in the Book House system at www.ketab.ir

Corona Virus Data Management System

During the first days of the coronavirus outbreak in the country, Isfahan University of Technology proposed the design and creation of a system called "Corona Data Management" dashboard to the President of Isfahan University of Medical Sciences and after the announcement of his approval and support, the design process began. Dr. Ghadiri, Associate Professor at Isfahan University of Technology, pointed out that the emergence of coronavirus and its rapid spread along with the special importance of identification of suspected cases among those refer to medical centers across the country persuaded the Ministry of Health, Treatment and Medical Education to use the various systems available to record information and monitor suspicious cases in order to provide the targeted management of resources. He also added that the lack of data integration in the result of use of multiple software systems to record corona data, as well as the existence of differences and multiplicity in definitions, processes, and also users registering information on any of the systems created a challenge to achieve single and reliable statistics in order to analyze the current situation and make appropriate decisions.

Electronic Health Record System (SARS), Medical Care Data Monitoring System, Electronic System of Syndromic Care System of Infectious Diseases Management Center, System of Registration and Classification of Causes of Death and Hospital Information Management System (HIS) are the software

systems related to coronavirus outbreak in the National Health Care System; none of these systems independently provide complete information about the coronavirus outbreak, but by combining them in the form of "Coronet Management Dashboard", a more comprehensive picture of the outbreak will be obtained at the level of medical centers under the auspices of Isfahan University of Medical Sciences. The most important data indicators in this dashboard include the admission process for suspected COVID-19 patients based on the reasons for patient referrals,

the discharge process for suspected or confirmed COVID-19 patients based on the final diagnosis, the fatality rate for COVID-19 based on the final diagnosis and the PCR test results (performed for hospitalized patients who were fetched daily from

the Health Deputy System), the process of readmission and tracking of the suspected patients in all covered medical centers based on the patients' demographic information, the hospitalization rates in the covered medical centers sorted by the ward and the occupancy bed rates in the province in order to manage intensive care beds. In this system, in addition to the online aggregation of the information of all the covered medical centers, the indicators are provided in the form of tables and charts that can be separated based on each hospital and time interval; and the possibility of monitoring the current status of referral hospitals providing services to patients is created and if necessary, distribution of workload to other hospitals will be provided.



iBulletin is Official Periodical of Iranian library and Information Science Association incorporate with National Library and Archive of I.R.Iran.

ISSN 2588-6827

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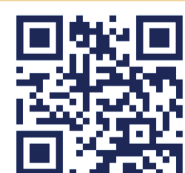
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