

6th Information Science Experts Congress: We and Digital Transformation

Dr. Mitra Samiei, Faculty Member of Allameh Tabataba'i University, Board member of LIS Department, and Scientific Secretary of the 6th Annual Congress of Information Science Experts / The Annual Congress of Iranian Information Science Experts is held in November by the Iranian Library and Information Science Association in order to establish scientific and professional ties between information science researchers and librarians. This year, due to the coronavirus (Covid-19) Pandemic outbreak, the Sixth Congress of Information Science Experts will be held as a semi-presence (semi-virtual) meeting in May 2021.

The Congress of Information Science Experts is held in order to 1) reflect the scientific progress in our field and discuss and exchange views on its status, 2) discuss and exchange views on the problems community of librarians, students and graduates face with, 3) reflect the librarians' practical achievements in libraries and information centers, 4) get acquainted with the general issues of libraries and information services of the country, 5) hold a consultation between researchers, teachers, students,

librarians and administrators. Since 2015 to 2019, five congresses have been held to discuss and exchange views on librarians' and information activists' experience, whose main slogan and dates are as follows:

-The First Congress of Information Science Experts with the main slogan of "Information and Society: Library Services, Archives and Museums for National Development" on October 29-30, 2015.

- The Second Congress of Information Science Experts with the main slogan of "the Right to open Access to Information in Citizenship rights" on November 6-7, 2016.

- The third congress of information science Experts with the main slogan "Preservation and Dissemination of Written Heritage, Digital Heritage" on November 5-6, 2017.

- The 4th Congress of Information Science Experts with the main slogan of "Academic Education, Human Resource Empowerment, Professional Dynamics" on November 17-18, 2018.

-The 5th Congress of Information Science Experts with the main slogan of "We and the Future: Emerging Developments in Information Sciences, Libraries and Archives" on November 20-21, 2019

Fortunately, the Congress of Information Science Experts, like the IFLA Congress, has become part of our professional identity nationally and a platform for all members of the professional community across the coun-

try. In the Sixth Congress, it is intended to address the issue of "digital transformation", so our main slogan in the Sixth Congress is "We and the Digital Transformation". Digital transformation means recreating an entity to succeed in the digital age, or in other words, building an entity at the level of the digital age. This entity can be a country, a community, a government, an economy, an industry, an organization, a library, an archive, a museum, or even an individual.

Digital transformation in libraries, archives and museums means preparing them for success in the digital age. Digital transformation requires everyone to work together to build a new and better version of library, archive and museum, so that they understand the logic of this age and can survive and then grow. Although this is a fundamental change centered on digital technologies, digital transformation is more a social, human, and cultural issue than a technological one. Digital transformation has such a broader and more comprehensive look at information technology that it affects the ... [continued to Page 4]



Greece & Iran in UNESCO's MOW

On July 13, 2020, Zamani Advisor to Director of the NLAI, in a meeting with Nik-khah Qomi, Iran's new cultural advisor in Greece, said, "So far, more than 50 written works in the field of documentary heritage have been nationally registered; More than ten works in the world have been registered worldwide; several important works have been jointly and regionally registered in the UNESCO's Memory of the World Program; under such circumstances, if there are valuable Persian manuscripts in Greece, it may be jointly registered in the UNESCO's MOW"

The meeting focused on developing science, knowledge, culture, and the expansion of library activities based on a joint effort to deepen equal cooperation in the Library and archival fields. Zamani said that Greece is the cradle of thought in the modern world and the West; it could be expected that there might be works in Shiism and Islam in that country. He continued that previously, there had been a memorandum of understanding for cooperation between Iran and Greece, which already expired. However, they tried to extend this memorandum as the historical documents in Greece are of particular importance; the documents include correspondence, travelogues, commercial, political, and cultural contracts. "we are dealing with the Coronavirus pandemic; it would be possible for exhibitions of joint Iranian-Greek documents to be virtually held with the cooperation of the two countries." Zamani said. He added NLAI is one of the top national libraries in the world. Given the widespread outbreak of Coronavirus, we are trying to provide services to Iranians worldwide, as its motto is National Library is at every Iranian's Home. Nik-khah Qomi also welcomed the NLAI's cooperation to sign a memorandum of collaboration with the NLG and said that those valuable resources could be provided to our compatriots through the application with the cooperation of the NLAI.

The Library Publishing Coalition

The LPC is an independent, community-led membership association.

Its purpose is to support an evolving, distributed range of library publishing practices and to further the interests of libraries involved in publishing activities.

About the Strategic Plan. This strategic plan was created by the Library Publishing Coalition Board based on community input from the 2016 and 2017 membership meetings, a SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats) Analysis, and an environmental scan.

It also benefited from the contributions of a group of LPC community members who volunteered to support this work by serving on Board sub-committees, reviewing drafts, and providing input on the in-progress plan. The plan will be used by the Board to direct LPC's resources (human and financial) toward activities that will have the biggest impact on the organization and the larger community of library publishers, and it will be used by the standing committees to focus their work on high-priority areas. Specifically, action items in the plan will be mapped onto projects and activities to be undertaken by the organization.

Between January 2013 and December 2014, 61 academic libraries, in collaboration with the Educopia Institute, founded the Library Publishing Coalition (LPC). The project emerged from conversations between Purdue University, the University

of North Texas, and Virginia Tech regarding the need for a community dedicated to advancing the field of library publishing.

Academic libraries and the researchers and organizations they support are facing a new paradigm in scholarly publishing. The web, information and social media technologies, and the open source and open access movements are changing the framework in which scholarship is created, collected, organized, and disseminated. Yet, as shown by the highly regarded Strategies for Success project (funded by IMLS and led by Purdue University, the University of Utah, and Georgia Tech), library-based publishing groups lack a central space where they can meet, work

together, share information, and confront common issues. The Strategies for Success project laid a strong foundation for further action. The vision outlined

in that proposal was vetted by representatives from 18 major libraries and consortia in July 2012 before being released to prospective participants in August 2012. More than 50 academic libraries formally joined the project team before the project kicked off in January 2013. Over the next eighteen months, participants worked to produce the LPC's first deliverables, including the Library Publishing Directory and the inaugural Library Publishing Forum. At the request of the community, on July 1, 2014 the LPC formally launched as an ongoing membership organization, six months ahead of schedule.



Iranian Stonebooks & Manuscripts in NLAI

"In the past, to reproduce books, scribes copied from books and then calligraphed and engraved a calligraphy on the stone, and it was embossed, inked and finally printed on paper." Ojabi, Director General of Manuscripts and Rare Books of NLAI Said, He added that there is a complete stone book bank in this organization. Some libraries, such as the Marashi Najafi Library or the Astan Quds Razavi Library, specialize in focusing on religious books. Still, the NLAI, the Majlis, or the University of Tehran libraries possess a wide variety of manuscripts.

The book "Single Spice" consists of five volumes. It includes the knowledge of medicine and pharmacology of centuries ago, which belongs to the Andalusian physician and pharmacologist named Ibn Samagun, who had collected all the ideas of his previous and contemporary physicians with a critical approach.

The prominent biologist Sezgin identified the second to fifth volumes of this immortal work of pharmacology and published it as a facsimile, stating in the abstract that the first volume had not been found.

Fortunately, the General Directorate of Manuscripts and Rare Books of the NLAI found and purchased the first volume of this book, which belongs to the 6th lunar century.

In the end, Ojabi spoke about the purchase of several prominent copies in this organization, which are:

- Al-Amali manuscript of Al-Shaykh al-Saduq with the calligraphy by Ibn Sakun along with the printed books of the library of the late Abbas Qomi (in the field of religion);
- A small octagonal Qur'an with a diameter of 3/2 written in 784 AH;
- The second old Divan of Hafez and Kulliyat e Saadi (written in 989 AH); a complete version of Shahnameh related to the early Safavid era.

E-meetings in NLAI: Netherlands, Britannia, Lebanon, Bulgaria & Indonesia

On June 9, 2020, Broujerdi had a video conference with Knibbeler, President of the Royal Library of the Netherlands (National Library of the Netherlands). Referring to the outbreak of Covid-19 disease and the closure of the "IFLA 2020" World Congress, Broujerdi declared, "The closure of the IFLA World Congress did not prevent us from exchanging views and transferring experiences. To this end, the NLAI seeks to



establish online meetings and discussions with Library and information science professionals around the world."

Broujerdi pointed to the NLAI's increasing focus on children's resources and continued that this organization had digitized 23,000 children's books in the quarantine days during the coronavirus outbreak. Moreover, the digital availability of 700-year-old documents and 1,000-year-old books had also been of essential measures.

Knibbeler also stated that digitization of works was a necessity of the present age and that the actions had taken by the

NLAI in this regard are good ideas. She continued it was needed to mention that the National Library of the Netherlands had digitized 100 million books, documents, and magazines, and in coordination with publishers, these resources had been digitally uploaded to the library website and had become available to the public.

At the end of her speech, the head of the National Library of the Netherlands emphasized the necessity of holding online meetings on librarianship with experts and specialists due to the closure of the annual IFLA Congress and continued they would welcome the implementation of these meetings and attendance there.

On June 9, 2020, Broujerdi, President of the NLAI, in an online meeting with Roland Keating, Chief Executive of the British Library, and Mengoni, Head of Asian and African Collections, held by the library, described the technical cooperation and the exchange experience, joint programs, especially in the field of digitalization of resources; and discussed the exchange of Persian resources in the British Library.

Broujerdi noted that during the Coronavirus, the NLAI services were provided digitally. Besides providing services to scholars, authors, and students, information about the Coronavirus in the social, economic, and medical fields was documented. Explaining about the statistics of digitized children's books, dissertations, photos, and non-book sources by

the NLAI, Broujerdi said, "One of the important tasks of this organization is to catalog all manuscripts in Persian.

In the last two years, the major part of this project has been completed.

The NLAI is also carrying out the cataloging of Iraqi manuscripts, and in the next stage, it is the cataloging manuscripts in the Islamic world." Expressing his satisfaction with the NLAI's activities in the field of digitization and cataloging manu-



scripts, Keating declared that in the days of Corona, the role of books and the interest in reading books became more prominent among the people, and that was why the sense of responsibility of libraries to provide information increased. He added that the British Library was also closed during the Corona outbreak, but they planned to open its doors to visitors the next month.

In the continuation of this online conversation, Mengoni also referred to the 40 million sheets of the document that was available through the British Library website and to explain about cataloging and digitiza-

tion of Persian manuscripts in Britain.

He said that cataloging the Persian manuscripts by the NLAI was admirable all over the world. They would also welcome to benefit from the Iranian experience.

To confirm Mengoni, Keating said that they were interested in using the National Library of Iran experiences in cataloging manuscript, and they would like Iranians to share their experiences. He also pointed out another point was that the measures of NLAI were very encouraging. Especially since Iranians were transferring the rich history of Iran to their children, and the British Library would not hesitate to cooperate with NLAI in information exchange and digitization.

On June 6, 2020, Broujerdi, in an online talk with Saad, Executive Director of the Lebanon National Library, while explaining the library and documentation fields' activities, announced the readiness to exchange experiences and cooperation between the national libraries of the two countries.

Broujerdi, at the beginning of the video call, said, "In the current situation in the world, the NLAI activities have not stopped, and online access to the list of books, documents, papers, dissertations, exquisite books, newspapers, and journals is possible for all researchers, both inside and outside." The organization was established in 1922 under the auspices of the Lebanese Ministry of National Education and is currently run by the Min-

istry of Culture, said Saad, referring to the Lebanese National Library's history.

She added that the Lebanon National Library was responsible for inheriting Lebanese thought, which includes all writings, including books, magazines, manuscripts, and so on. "Unfortunately, many valuable books and valuable libraries in Lebanon were destroyed, burnt, and looted during the civil war between Muslims and Christian Arabs," he said. "Also, some other problems stopped libraries' services or minimized their progress. However, the development of



the Lebanon National Library has always been one of our long-term goals."

Referring to the National Library of Lebanon resources, Saad said the collection of that library included books, newspapers, magazines, manuscripts, cultural documents, encyclopedias, and the remaining microfilms. Magazines that belong to a century ago, as well as many old books, were available, but the number of old magazines was more, which in the future program would be open to clients for their online use.

Referring to Lebanon's printing problems, she said book publication in Lebanon was still in print, and electronic book publication was not typical yet. But since universities in Lebanon were connected to the National Library, the

output was published and made available in the National Library. And she added that she was delighted to benefit from the experiences of the National Library of Iran in the field of e-book exchange. At the end of the meeting, Broujerdi stated that it was possible to present and transfer the experiences of the NLAI to the Lebanon Library.

She added NLAI, with more than 80 years of history and activity in this field, has gained a lot of assets over the years, and we have the necessary preparations to transfer these experiences, including the restoration of manuscripts and the exchange of digital books, etc."

On June 1, Broujerdi had an online video conference with Aleksandrova, Director of the SS. Cyril and Methodius, National Library of Bulgaria. Broujerdi stated that the Coronavirus outbreak had influenced the activities of the NLAI and all libraries around the world.

She added, "In Iran, due to the importance of ensuring the health of staff, patrons and members of the National Library, some measures were taken to provide telecommuting conditions for a large number of the staff. Also, a significant portion of the resources was digitally made available to researchers, academics, and the public. Fortunately, the NLAI has provided a variety of services to applicants during this period, including books, documents, dissertations, etc. and accordingly, more resources were digitized."

Referring to the formation of a committee to collect information and documents related to the Coronavirus, Broujerdi declared, "The information will be monitored after being collected and finally kept as a

document for the future." Suggesting the share of Coronavirus related information between the National Libraries of Iran and Bulgaria, the head of the NLAI pointed to holding online discussions with experts.

He added, "National libraries can share their experiences in all areas, such as library management during Coronavirus days and prevention methods, as well as information in special meetings and committees." Welcoming the Bulgarian Library experiences, Broujerdi suggested setting up joint exhibitions in books and documents, providing educational services



in the area of document maintenance and exchange of information. and said, "The NLAI declares its readiness to advance this important issue, as we strive to provide more and qualified services to academics."

Aleksandrova referred to the measures carried out by the National Library of Bulgaria in the context of the outbreak of the Coronavirus. In addition to the preventive measures, the information obtained about this virus will be published through the website of this library, and we are ready to share this information with the National Library of Iran.

He emphasized, "After reopening and resuming servicing, the quarantine of books is of such special importance to us that books will be sterilized and quarantined for 72 hours."

Aleksandrova said that the National Library of Bulgaria's focus in the current situation was on online activities. In this regard, they would welcome the suggestions and initiatives by the NLAI to communicate online with the heads of national libraries of other countries.

On June 10, Broujerdi had a video conference with Syarif, Director of the National Library of Indonesia. In this meeting, Broujerdi mentioned, "We expected to meet you in Iran, but due to the outbreak of Covid-19, we postpone this meeting to the future."

Broujerdi also noted that the NLAI could have more interactions and discussions about documents and books with the National Library of Indonesia. "Because Indonesia is the largest country in the Islamic world, and its people adhere to the principles of Islam, and we can more easily reach an agreement on the use of resources written in the past by Muslim thinkers." Referring to the draft of the memorandum between the National Archives and the Library of Iran and Indonesian Library, Broujerdi pointed out, "This online conversation has been a good opportunity for us to focus on the memorandum and get it signed by the parties." Broujerdi stated that, in the NLAI, many documents have been digitized and placed on the site.

She added that digital resources such as children's books, manuscripts, dissertations, documents, and newly published books were made available to clients. Broujerdi then said that to reach a common ground between Iranian and Indonesian thinkers, there were a significant number of opportunities in cyberspace to have a conver- ... [continued to Page 3]



Abdolhossein Azarang [Writer and researcher; Member of the Great Islamic Encyclopedia]

[...Continued from previous issue] Thus, it is clear that in those times, the method we now call “editing” was well known, although they did not have a naming system, nor did they establish or perpetuate a tradition in this field.

Another example is the Legend of One Thousand and One Nights, whose stories have Indian, Iranian, Greek, Mesopotamian, and Egyptian origins and were translated from Middle Persian into Arabic. In transferring stories from one cultural environment to another, what that is now called cultural adaptation was put into action. In the phenomenon of cultural adaptation, a type of editing is used, which is also called rewriting, that is, writing again, taking into account the effective variables of the cultural environment.

After Islam, according to the available evidence, in Iran, the translation of Qur’an into Persian began at the end of the first century and the at beginning of the second century AH. With the reference to the remaining translations, it is clear that the most accurate type of editing translation was applied in some of them.

Here I will mention only one more example: the translation of Tabari’s commentary, which belongs to the middle of the 4th century AH. A number of scholars have con-

sidered the position of this book in terms of linguistic values to be equal to Ferdowsi’s Shahnameh. According to the narrations, more than 20 Arab and Persian scholars collaborated in translating this work, and a panel of translation experts carefully confronted the original text. The result of their work is a brilliant Transoxianian Persian text that may be considered as the first and most serious edited work in post-Islamist Iran.

Dastour-e-Dabiri is a work from the 6th century AH about secretaryship and its customs and conditions, with educational use. This work contains tips on calligraphy, grammar, font size, line spacing, and word spelling. There are other sources in the field of secretaryship in which you can also find points in the field of technical editing.

Mojmel-al-Hekma, a work probably from the 7th century AH, is a selection of Rasael-e-Ekhvan-al-Safa. Rasael-e-Ekhvan-al-Safa itself is a kind of encyclopedia. The editing instructions used in Mojmel-al-Hekma are as follows: selecting, summarizing, redundancy, deficiency, and annotating. So-called today, several editing variables were masterfully applied in this work.

In the Mongol and Timurid eras, because of the extent of the empire and court correspondence in several languages, editing translation was common. There is also a work from the Safavid era called Monshat-e-Soleimani in which the first attempt to discipline calligraphy is seen. According to Dastour-e-Dabiri and this work, it can be said that attributing calligraphy to the new period of Iranian history is a mistake, an error caused by the ancient and past heritages remaining unknown. Some types of editing were used in a number

History of Editing in Iran (Part2)

of Persian books in the Indian subcontinent in the Safavid era, which require a great deal of time to study and introduce, and I hope that young editors will make an effort to identify and introduce all the old works in which the types of editing had been applied.

The time of Mohammad Shah Qajar (1250-1263 AH / the middle of the 19th century AD) is important in terms of the history of editing in Iran .

Prior to this era, printing technology had arrived in Iran through the efforts of Abbas Mirza Qajar and his colleagues, and publishing had been formed based on that technology. During the reign of Mohammad Shah, the first Persian-language newspaper was published, and a few people, entitled “Writer”, or “Secretary” or “Corrector”, took on the duties of that newspaper, which we now call “linguistic editing” and “grammar editing”. In the Qajar era, the activity that we now call “editing” was called “correction”, “composition” and “writing”. The person we call “newspaper editor” today was called the “newsprint secretary.” News and reports were published in the newspaper with his corrections, changes and sometimes rewriting.

At the same time, one or two foreigners who did not know Persian well, but were fluent in the source language, translated the works into Persian, and writers and correctors rewrote their literal translations. If we are to set a starting point for the new editing in Iran, the period of Mohammad Shah Qajar can be defined as the beginning of the editing of the translation of foreign sources into Persian, that is, more than 170 years ago, which is in contrast with some sources in which the beginning of editing translation in Iran is in the

1950s, ie about 70 years ago. In fact, the difference between these two dates is a century.

After the establishment of the Dar-al-Tarjumah, Dar-al-Teba’e, and Dar-al-Fonun in the Nasiri era (1263-1313 AH / approximately from the middle to the end of the 19th century AD), a large number of books, about 1,000 books and pamphlets, were translated into Persian from several languages. As a result, the number of writers, whose job was editing the texts grammatically, linguistically, and sometimes rewriting them, increased in the same institutions. The most prominent was Mirza Mohammad Hossein Foroughi, Mohammad Ali Foroughi’s father, under whose supervision editing activities were carried out at the Naseri Translation Office, where he supervised the translators and secretaries.

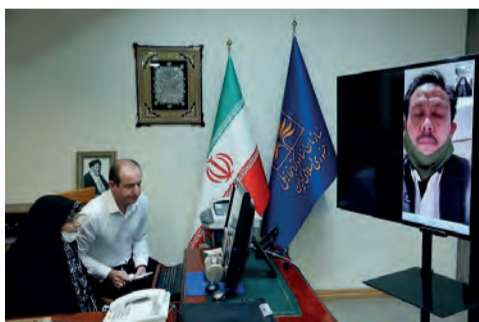
Among prominent figures in the non-governmental sector and among Qajar dissidents, Mirza Aga Khan Kermani and Sheikh Ahmad Rouhi Kermani, who edited each other’s works, can be named; They even edited Mirza Habib Isfahani’s translations and writings, the translator of Haji Baba Isfahani. A few years before the Constitutional Revolution, a number of Qajar modernists and dissidents established a publishing house in Tehran called the Book Printing Company, with public investment and with the aim of publishing useful books for the evolving society of that day. Mohammad Ali Foroughi and Mohammad Qazvini (later Allameh), at a young age, read samples (printed correction) and did linguistic and grammatical editing at that institute. These two people should also be considered as the pioneers of the new edition in Iran, in its modern meaning.

[To be continue...]

E-meetings in NLAI

[continued from Page 2] ... sation with each other, and the NLAI was ready to make the necessary preparations in this regard. Referring to the outbreak of the Coronavirus and the closure of the IFLA World Congress, Broujerdi called on the National Library of Indonesia to participate in the talks, like the NLAI, which seeks to hold online meetings and discussions with LIS professionals around the world.

The head of the National Library of



Indonesia also expressed hope at the beginning of the meeting that a visit to Iran would be possible soon. “We have invited Iran’s embassy in Indonesia to facilitate our cooperation with the National Library of Iran, and we are pleased to complete the preparations of the memorandum with you,” said Syarif.

About the management of the National Library of Indonesia, Syarif declined that they had wholly closed access to physical resources, and they only provided digital resources to clients. Anyone who wanted to access resources through the site could access thousands of resources while searching.

He continued that they had a page of the collections to provide information about the Coronavirus to the audience. He

also had other supplies that provided patrons information to the National Library of Indonesia, which kept them in touch with the National Library of Indonesia.

Regarding the number of libraries in Indonesia, Syarif said that the National Library of Indonesia was in contact with more than 1,500 libraries and had 10 million digital resources.

He added that there were also many libraries at the provincial level, which were located in 33 provinces; moreover, they had extensive connections with the country’s universities and 10,000 specialized libraries.

Asked by Broujerdi about the number of Islamic and manuscript sources in Indonesia, Syarif replied that the National Library of Indonesia also possesses Arabic sources, Arabic and Persian manuscripts, and sources on developments in the Middle East.

Broujerdi welcomed the exchange of such information in the form of the memorandum mentioned above. “Is there a place in the National Library of Indonesia where we can introduce Iranian culture?” In response, Syarif said that over the years, many countries had requested to have a coroner in the National Library of Indonesia, which was provided to them, and Iran could have this request so that they would make it possible.

In the end, the head of the National Library of Indonesia, referring to the good relations between Indonesia and Iran, expressed hope that cultural discussions between the two libraries would continue and that the Iranian Embassy in Indonesia would facilitate the connection between the two organizations.

ILISA & The Tragic Explosion in Beirut

Khosravi, president of the Iranian Library and Information Science Association (ILISA), in a letter to Abdallah, president of the Lebanese Library Association (LLA), expressed his regret and sympathy for the tragic explosion damaged valuable collections, libraries, and librarians. He declared the ILISA’s support, solidity, and readiness for any possible help in restoring the damaged libraries. The text of the letter and the response of Fawz Abdallah are as follows.



**Dear Fawz Abdallah,
President of the Lebanese Library Association (LLA)**

Our thoughts are with the people of Beirut and with Lebanese communities the world over. We stand in solidarity with our Lebanese librarians as the long road towards recovery begins.

Amongst the vast extent of destruction caused by the explosions, Iranian Library and Information Association (ILISA) is aware of libraries that have suffered various levels of damage throughout the city. These include the National Library of Lebanon, as well as multiple branches of the Beirut Municipal Library system. This is in addition to the damage being recorded at other cultural institutions, museums, and heritage sites.

However, in the wake of this disaster, there is also an urgent need to assess dam-

age to libraries. The spaces that libraries can provide and Lebanon’s cultural heritage, and the city of Beirut that they safeguard will play an essential role in restoring the city’s spirit. Together, these have an important role in bringing communities back together, rebuilding and re-establishing normal life in these most difficult times.

The ILISA expresses its immensely sympathy and presents readiness for any help and cooperation in rebuilt Beirut libraries.

Fariborz Khosravi
President of the Iranian Library and Information Science Association (ILISA)

**Dear Fariborz Khosravi
President of the Iranian Library and Information Association**

First, allow me to thank you for your kind words.

Your support is greatly appreciated because numerous libraries and archives with heritage collections were damaged and their collections in danger. We have asked each institution to prepare its Needs Assessment Report to identify the needs.

The Lebanese Library Association (LLA) is currently working with Blue Shield Lebanon on a Damage Assessment Report. Another assessment related to the collection will also be carried out soon.

Once we have all the necessary data, we will launch our call of donations and assistance. We will reach out to all our generous colleagues and supporters.

I have copied Ms. Randa Chidiac, LLA Vice President because she is coordinating with the national and international institutions.

Thank you kindly.

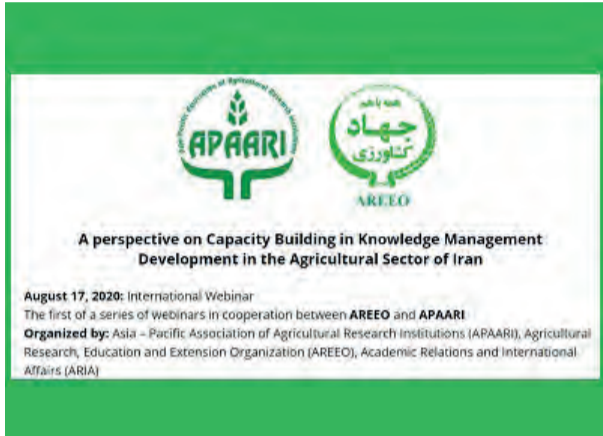
Respectfully,

Fawz Abdallah, LLA President

International Webinar on Agricultural KM in Iran

The international webinar on knowledge management in Iran's agricultural sector, entitled Capacity Building in the Development of Knowledge Management in Iran's Agricultural Sector, in collaboration with the Office of Scientific Communication and International Cooperation (ARIA), Agricultural Research, Education and Extension Organization (AREEO) and The Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI) was held on Monday, August 17, 2020, from 11:30 to 13:30 in current local time in Iran – Tehran. Given the travel restrictions due to the epidemic of COVID-19 and social distancing, the capacities to develop knowledge management systems in the agricultural sector of Iran were studied through a series of international webinars with the cooperation of the AREEO. The audiences of this webinar were specialists, experts, faculty members, students, agricultural promoters, and other specialists interested in knowledge enhancement and interlocution about successful processes, models, and tools of organizational knowledge management in order to make fundamental changes in knowledge management systems in Iran. The statistics on the participants in this in-

ternational event showed that about 70% of the participants had a professional doctoral degree, 25% had a master's degree, and 5% had a bachelor's degree in various fields of agricultural and related sciences. Participants were from all provinces of the country and 12 Asian and European countries such as India, Malaysia, Singapore, Taiwan, Philippines, Lebanon, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Cambodia, Austria, and the United Kingdom. In the first international webinar on knowledge management, AmirHosseini, Faculty member of Agricultural Research, Education and Extension Organization, analyzed internal and external factors in developing the conceptual model of Agricultural Knowledge Sharing Network of Iran among stakeholders and planners in the agricultural sector. The foundations and infrastructures of the formation of the Agricultural Innovation System based on the foundations of knowledge management in agriculture were examined by Spisakova (APAARI). Finally, the successful experience of development in the Agricultural Innovation System based on the knowledge-based foundations in explaining the National Agricultural Research Systems role in the Philippines was said by Abura.



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ternational event showed that about 70% of the participants had a professional doctoral degree, 25% had a master's degree, and 5% had a bachelor's degree in various fields of agricultural and related sciences. Participants were from all provinces of the country and 12 Asian and European countries such as India, Malaysia, Singapore, Taiwan, Philippines, Lebanon, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Cambodia, Austria, and the United Kingdom. In the first international webinar on knowledge management, AmirHosseini, Faculty member of Agricultural Research, Education and Extension Organization, analyzed internal and external factors in developing the conceptual model of Agricultural Knowledge Sharing Network of Iran among stakeholders and planners in the agricultural sector. The foundations and infrastructures of the formation of the Agricultural Innovation System based on the foundations of knowledge management in agriculture were examined by Spisakova (APAARI). Finally, the successful experience of development in the Agricultural Innovation System based on the knowledge-based foundations in explaining the National Agricultural Research Systems role in the Philippines was said by Abura.

Cultural Counselor of Iran in NLB

The Cultural Counselor of the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran, visited the National Library of the Republic of Belarus (NLB) and met Susha, Deputy Director of the NLB. Mokhtarian said, "Last year, following the book reading week, which was held in cooperation of the NLB management with the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran, a complete collection of publications in the field of culture and literature of Iran was donated to NLB." "The views and philosophy of Avicenna have had a profound and direct impact on Francysk Skaryna, a philosopher, author, researcher, and father of printing in Belarus," Susha said, referring to the book "Articles of the Conference in Honor of Avicenna" among the donated books. Referring to the available research books, dissertation, and works in the field of Oriental Studies, Iranian Studies, Islamic Studies, and Persian Language and Literature in the National Library of Belarus, Susha declared that there are a total of 1000 books in this field, some of which are manuscripts belonging to the 14th to 18th AD in Persian, Arabic and other languages, including Turkish. About the project of publishing a list of Islamic manuscripts, he said that

project was research on manuscripts in the National Library of Belarus, in which since it had begun 20 years ago with the support of the National Library of Belarus, a range of activities had been carried out including translation of some parts of the manuscripts, linguistic analysis of the manuscripts, archeology of the manuscripts, literary review of the manuscripts, and their illustration and preparation for publication in the collection of Islamic books. Moreover, the writing style, the type of ink used in the manuscripts, the paper's quality, and other details had been addressed.

NLB is the biggest library in the Republic of Belarus. This library is located in Minsk, the capital of Belarus. It houses the largest collection of Belarusian printed materials.

The National Library of Belarus is the main information and cultural centre of the country. Its depository collections include about 10 million items of various media. In 1993 the National Library of Belarus started to create its own electronic information resources. It has generated a collection of bibliographic, factual graphic, full-text, graphic, sound and language databases that comprise more than 2 million records.



The NLAI Director & Australian Ambassador

NLAI director, during her meeting with the Australian Ambassador to Iran, on July 27 emphasized the cooperation between the NLAI and the National Library of Australia (NLA). Referring to the NLAI's relationship with different countries and the exchange of information, the NLAI President said that one of the NLAI's approaches was to communicate with foreign countries and create exhibition spaces for the supply of books and manuscripts with other countries.

In manuscript restoration, to prevent damage, they had set up workshops where people from different countries could participate and learn how to restore the works. Sachs said that the NLA has valuable resources and that IFLA President, Christine Mackenzie, is also an Australian. She hoped they could have a unique desk and library at NLAI in Australian literature and resources and pave the way for more cultural collaboration. The head of the NLAI said, "The mission of the NLAI is to develop culture and create a ground for recognizing cultures, and libraries are inherently involved in the development of culture. Therefore, we believe that through cultural development, cultural diplomacy can be developed, and the basis in national libraries should be to create a space for dialogue and mutual understanding."



The Unveiling of 8 Works in the ECO Region

The second Symposium of Publishing Activities in the ECO Region was held on July 15 at ECO's international conference hall. In this meeting, which was dedicated to the introduction of Kheradgan Publications and the unveiling of eight published works in the ECO region, representatives from the Iran-Tajikistan Friendship Association, the Academy of Persian Language and Literature (APLL), the embassies of Tajikistan and Pakistan, and some Central Asian literature and research enthusiasts attended. In this meeting, Asadi (author of "the winner"), Tehrani (on behalf of the Friendship Association), Gharibi (head of International Relations of the Academy), and Shahmirza (Tajik poet and researcher), were the speakers. The last speaker of the event was Yousefi (CEO of Kheradgan Publishing), who spoke about the publication's background and goals. The final part of the program was the unveiling of books and a photo of the book authors' memorial and appreciation. Kheradgan Publishing received its license two years ago, and from the beginning, it focused on Central Asia. Kheradgan Publishing received its license two years ago, and from the start, it focused on Central Asia. It has published 14 books during these two years, eight of which are dedicated to ECO countries. The titles of these books are "Sarmaddeh", "Alright Dear Alright", "Earth of Mother", "Winner", "Seyhoun's Blue Imagination", "A Voice from Solitude", "Abai's Advice" and "Gray Wolf."



6th Information Science Experts Congress

[continued from Page 1]... entire organization and its functions. Information technology is part of the digital transformation umbrella that causes changes in the strategies and functions of libraries, archives and museums with the development of information technology in libraries, archives and museums. In this congress, we intend to examine the extent to which libraries, archives, and museums have been on the path to digital transformation, and what changes they have incorporated in their strategies.

ILISA was established in 1961. In, 1965 a group of Iranian librarians restructured ILISA with the cooperation of two American librarians who were teaching at Tehran University. The association activities lasted until the revolution and during this period was a successful forum and meeting place for librarians and a place for the education for librarianship in Iran, through holding courses and preparing educational materials. By the revolution of 1978, ILISA was closed some years. In 1979, a new constitution was prepared by the association. This period lasted for two years, and in 1979, ILISA was dissolved along with all other institutions. In 1998, a group of librarians came together to re-form the association, and after working for two years, the association was certified by the Ministry of Science. The first meeting was held in 2000. Along with the main branch in Tehran, other branches began to form in provinces. The association has conducted workshops and annual and monthly seminars in its new period of activities after the revolution.

ILISA is one of the most active scientific association in Iran and during the recent seven years has ranked as the top associations by Iran ministry of science.

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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سازمان اسناد و کتابخانه ملی جمهوری اسلامی ایران
National Library and Archives of I.R. IRAN

انجمن کتابداری و اطلاع رسانی ایران
Iranian Library and Information Science Association



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