



FASLNAME-YE
KETAB 72

Vol. 18, No. 4 Winter 2008

LIBRARY & INFORMATION STUDIES

The Quarterly Journal of the National Library and Archives
of the Islamic Republic of Iran

ISSN: 1022-6451

Managing Editor & Chief Editor: Dr. Fariborz Khosravi e-mail: khosravi@nlai.ir

Executive Editor: Farzaneh Shadanpoor e-mail: f_shadanpur@nlai.ir

Address: National Library and Archives of the Islamic Republic of Iran

P.O.Box: 15875-3693

Tel / Fax: 98-21-88644098

E-mail: faslname@nlai.ir

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Editor' s Note



The Editor's Note

Presuming

It is for many years that the floating and pleasant music of the movie *The Prophet*, has fixed its place in the minds of us, the Iranians. Probably at the time when Maurice Jarre was composing it, and other pieces like *Omar Mokhtar*, *The Soul*, and *The Last Flight*, he could not think of his son, Jean- Michel Jarre, goes a different way in creating his own works. However, the wave of change was so powerful that his son was able to innovate a new genre of music called “electro-acoustic”.

Such developments in our era are not limited to the area of music. From politics to economics, from art to mysticism, and from religion to philosophy, diverse areas are exposed to the wind of change. That requires that intellectuals and the elite of each

nation foresee the routes their nation should cross in every domain of knowledge and practice. Delay in this respect will lead to collateral damage to the future generations. Mr Gorbachev is said had warned the President of the former East Germany Erich Honecker in 1989 by saying: “Those who delay, will be punished by life”. Failing to understand and plan for change would result in the punishment of the present, and in particular, the next generation.

One of the areas that have been deeply affected by recent developments is the LIS. Definitions of information and its vehicles as well as ways of handling it are rapidly changing. Metaphors like “information explosion”, “information avalanche” “information flood” are no longer valid in face of the speed of

change.

In 1994, the number of people using the Internet was 13 millions. Six years later, that is in the year 2000, that number increased 2300%. This trend is continuing for many years to come. No other aspect of human life has experienced such a rate of increase. This phenomenon is affecting human life in almost every aspect.

Now, the question is whether the speed and the quality of our decisions match with these developments and the bulk of information we are facing. Enormous amounts of resources in libraries and archives around the world are not identified and nor bibliographic record is available for them. Even in countries such as Iran and Turkey with highest number of old manuscripts in the world, comprehensive catalogs of this heritage has not made ready. While conventional approach to acquisition, processing, and dissemination has not been helpful for the past heritage, how could it overcome the challenge of the huge amount of new information? Shouldn't 'we “wash our eyes to see things differently”’?

Toffler has employed the term “presuming” in many positions. This term is defined as simultaneous

1 . <http://flickr.com/>

production and consumption, or in another word a condition in which producer and consumer become one. ATMs and digital cameras are examples that he uses. When we use an ATM for our different transactions, we are playing the role of the bank’s agent. Similarly, when we use a digital camera we perform functions of editing, developing and printing by self. The question that remains for LIS is how this would happen to our field? Where do the systems and routines in our fields are heading?

It is now for many years that, LIS has started moving towards a “productive client” concept, where the client themselves performs activities such as the selection and processing of information. These days expert systems measure user’s behavior accurately and develop fluid algorithms for storage and retrieval. It is not only the matter of measurement that has become a source of change. Even generation of information and bibliographic information is not relegated the end user. The development of the Internet is based on the same concept. This is an example:

There is a website by the name of Flickr¹ that allows people to share

photos with others. Contributors should add some brief data about each submission. An intelligent system processed this data. While putting these words on the paper, I check the site. It says over the past 60 seconds, 4150 pieces of photography has been added to Flickr. Over the past one and half a month, 2.5m photos have been added to the site and all retrievable. This is when still some libraries and archival centers have not been able to organize two to three thousand frames of photos for many years.

Protecting the cultural heritage of

past generations is necessary. Equally important is protection of the present generation's heritage for the benefit of the prosperity. We need to have a viable planning for that. For that purpose, we need to understand the fluidity as well as the expansion of new environment. In particular, where training of the human agents is at stake, and we want them to response to the new knowledge sphere. Lest not to forget that delay in this respect will have dire consequences for generations to come.

Fariborz Khosravi



*eArchives of pre-print articles:
a developing tool in scientific communication*

By: Alireza Bahmanabadi

Abstract: Scientific journals have a substantial role in scientific communication among researchers. However, the Web and the Internet and their added values have created a challenge for this role. *eArchives* of pre-print articles, despite all the weaknesses that they may have, are becoming a part of the process of communication among researchers. This article, while describing the concept of *eArchive*, discusses their advantages and disadvantages, and, introduces some examples. The substantial role that these archives play in creating scientific relations between South and North countries is also discussed. In the end, some reservations that may exist in relation to development and use of such archives in Iran are brought into consideration.

Keywords: pre-print articles, scientific journals, scientific relations, Iran

Feasibility study of distance education in library and information science in the Islamic Azad University

By: Leila Seyfi

Abstract: The present research was conducted to study the feasibility of establishment of distance education in Library and Information Science in Islamic Azad University. Using the descriptive survey method, data were collected by means of a questionnaire. The research population included academic staff of departments of Library and Information Science, and IT managers in the university branches. The collected data were analyzed by SPSS. Results of the study revealed that there is a 51.15% readiness to establish Distance Education programs in Library and Information Science in the Islamic Azad University.

Keywords: feasibility study, distance education, internet, library and information science, Islamic Azad University

Examination of the relationship existing among the press agencies via examination of their websites

By: Amir Reza Asnafi , Dr. Farideh Osareh

Abstract: this article aims at examination of the extent the Press Websites relate to each other by Webometric techniques. In-links and co-links are analyzed to identify the extent of the Websites visibility as well as their collaboration. 21 Iranian Press websites were studied and analyzed for the purpose of this study. Yahoo! was used to identify in-links and co-links, and clustering method and Multivariate analysis were used in the analysis of the collected data. As a result, the number of websites with more links and co-links was reduced to 17 from 21. the findings of the study revealed that all the 17 Iranian press agencies are grouped in 5 clusters and communicate with each other by means of their websites. Also, it was revealed that those agencies with more identical subject areas show a closer relationship as well. None of the ANA (or IRPANA) and Mojenews do participate in any cluster, but other press websites show relationship with each

other and seem to communicate in a way.

Keywords: Webometrics, Iranian press agencies, websites, visibility of websites

Study of the present state of the websites of the university libraries under jurisdiction of MSRT

By: Narjes Vara' , Dr. Zoheyr Hayati

Abstract: The present research, using analytical survey method, aims at study of the websites of the university libraries under jurisdiction of the Ministry of Science, Research and Technology. A comprehensive checklist was made of 27 items which were arranged in three categories of criteria for homepage contents, searching, and utilities. The websites under study were compared against this checklist. Results of the study showed that 27 universities had library websites that considered 56.6% of the criteria. Universities of Mazandaran, Shiraz, Kashan and Sharif stayed on top of the list. Also, as a result of the study, some other criteria were added to the checklist to form a model to be used in the future studies.

Keywords: homepage, websites, university libraries

Towards establishment of educational materials centers

By: Mohammad Reza Deymari

Abstract: Educational Materials Centers are actually new school libraries that collect and organize audio-visual materials in addition to printed materials. Due to fast growth in population, on the one hand, and public welcome of the public education, on the other hand, some problems have emerged as shortages in teachers and educational space. Furthermore, due to changes in education technology as well as the requirements of meeting the needs of students in regards with their individual differences, it is necessary to consider the establishment of centers for educational materials.

Keywords: educational materials centers, school libraries, multi-media centers, media centers, resource centers, learning resource centers

The digital heritage

By: Farzaneh Shadanpour

Abstract: Emergence and widespread use of computer technology and networking caused creation of new forms of information sources, and significant changes in techniques, methods, and methodologies of collection, preservation and dissemination of these sources. National libraries and national archives, as the main bodies in charge in this area, are facing great challenges. In dealing with these challenges, what can lead to reasonable and useful actions are the right perception of the world conditions and progresses, as well as logical, realistic and futuristic managerial and technological approaches. Some of the dimensions of this issue are dealt with in this article with an eye on what has been done by the National Library and Archives of Iran.

Keywords: digital heritage, national digital heritage, management, preservation

Citation analysis of Persian articles published in arts during 1374 and 1384 (1995 – 2005)

By: Sa'adat Ahmadzadeh

Abstract: This article is investigating the citations of Persian articles published in *Fine Arts* journal. Using citation analysis method, it is aimed at examining the behavior of Arts researchers in using information sources. In 21 issues, 224 articles and their 3931 citations were examined. Results of the study show that on average each article has 17 citations. The majority of citations refer to Town Planning, and the minimum number of citations refer to Music. Again, the majority of citations (87.9%) refer to books of which 56.8 percent refer to authored works. In terms of language of the

scripts, majority of citations refer to Persian works, while in Architects and Town Planning, the majority of works are non-Persian (54.6% and 55.5% respectively). The Mean Half Life of Persian books is 13 years, and that of non-Persian books is 18 years. Also, results reveal that there is a positive correlation between publication year and the number of citations. The cited journals correspond to Bradford's Law, by which the core journals and semi-core journals.

Keywords: citation analysis, arts, articles, core journals, semi-core journals, *fine arts*

Self citation in journals of Ettela Rasani: Information Science Quarterly and Faslname-ye Ketab during 1374-1383 (1995 – 2004)

By: Parviz Shahryari , Esmail Afghahi

Abstract: The aim of the present research is to investigate the status of self-citation and it's comparison in the articles of two journals of *Oloume Etela' Resani (Information Sciences)* and *Faslname-ye Ketab (Book Quarterly)* during Hijri years of 1374 and 1383 (1995-2004 a.d.). The study analyses indexes and criteria such as: the number of self-citations, the ratio of self-citation, the ratio of articles with self-citations, self-citing authors, and the relationship between journals and self-citation, academic rank of self-citing authors, types of cited document, and self-citation lives. Results of the study revealed that not only the self-citation ratio is very low in both journals, but also there was no significant difference in both journals. Also, there was no correlation between "journal" and the "ratio of self-citing"; however, there exists relationships between journal and academic rank, type of the cited document, and self-citation lives.

Keywords: citation analysis, self-citation, *Faslname-ye Ketab, Oloume Ettela' Resani*, The National Library of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Information and Scientific Documents Research Institute

Organization of non-book materials in the National Library of Iran

By: Roya Aminol Ro'aya

Abstract: The present study aimed at identification of organization methods of non-book materials in the National Library of Iran. The results of the study revealed that descriptive cataloguing is performed according to Anglo-American Cataloging Rules but analytical cataloguing is done according to the Persian Dictionary Thesaurus (ASFA). A combination of numeric codes and register numbers is used for retrieval of the sources. In terms of assigning the proper title, general designation, author and co-author, publication details, and notes, organization of non-book materials has been a complete success. However, in other areas it has been a little more than 60% successful.

Keywords: non-book materials, organization, Anglo-American cataloging rules, National Library of Iran, descriptive cataloging, analytical cataloging

A study of the usage and the ways in which physicians of the hospitals of Tabriz University of Medical Sciences access the drug information sources

By: Fatemeh Sadeghi Ghyasi

Abstract: The present study, using the survey method, aims at identification of the ways in which physicians employed in Tabriz University of Medical Sciences access and use information sources. A questionnaire was devised for the purpose of this study and data was collected from 100 physicians employed in the target hospitals who were selected randomly. SPSS software and Chi Square (χ^2) and ANOVA were used for the analysis of data. According to the results of the study, printed sources were used more than other sources (89.4%), and pharmacologists with 33.8% and newspapers with 33.4% were used less than other sources. Among printed sources of drug information, textbooks with 62% and the Iranian Generic Drug Manual with 51.1% were the highly used sources whereas in electronic sources, Medline with 35.2%

and MedScape with 28.5%, were the highly used sources. All in all, 30% of users used electronic and Internet sources of drug information. Also, there was no significant difference among three groups of specialists, residents and general practitioners in terms of usage. In terms of lack of usage, the most important reason was asserted to be “lack of access to sources” (58.3%) and “shortage of time” (50%). 99 percent of the physicians used the information sources for treatment, and only 38% used them for research. Information about side effects (86.2%), dosage (82.8%) and new drugs (80.8%) were the most important information needed. 45.5% of the physicians consulted the Tabriz Drug Information Center to acquire information, and the most important reason for those who didn’t consult this center was unfamiliarity with the center.

Keywords: physicians, drug information sources, usage, Tabriz University of Medical Sciences

Library and information science: in search of a new identity

By:Dr. Gholamreza Fadaie

Abstract: This article points out to the deficiency that exists in the theoretical foundations of Library and Information Science, while considering the importance of the discipline. In the western world, libraries regained their splendor due to the new industrial evolutions and increasing need for information. However, emergence of the new information technologies and increase in the power of dissemination of information by modern electronic and optical tools are challenging this splendor. Perhaps this is due to [the fact that] this branch of science is not based on the realistic human needs to knowledge classification and retrieval requirements; rather, it has looked for a container in which sciences are held. In other words, Library Science owes its necessity to the need to the library itself. The library, however, is the result of human need to retrieval of knowledge in the light of its classification; that’s why sometimes it is called a social service the goal of which is satisfying the library clientele. It is suggested that the name of the discipline changes

to “Epistemology and Information Science” so as to be more indicative of scientists’ viewpoints about human knowledge and its classification, as well as being more relevant to Information Science as the main axis for development. Therefore, the subject of the discipline would be classification of sciences and study of the relationships that exist among different areas of knowledge – whether be longitudinal or latitudinal. Naturally, according to this definition of the discipline, one of the most important grounds of the emergence of the discipline is the library; that is, library is the product of this viewpoint, and not its *raison d’être*.

Keywords: library and information science, epistemology, classification, philosophy, philosophy of science, identification

Book therapy: principles and methods

By: Ebrahim Salmani Nodoushan , Shafie’ Habibi , Alireza Akbari

Abstract: In this article book therapy is introduced as a preventive and therapeutic method. Also, situations in which book therapy is applied are discussed, as well as aims, current approaches, different stages and limitations of book therapy. In the end, specifications of appropriate sources in book therapy and criteria for selection of such sources are discussed.

Keywords: book therapy, methods, principles

Electronic journals and scientific communication

By: Niloofar Barahmand

Abstract: Scientific journals are the most important tools of communication among scientists. Printed journals have played an essential role in scientific communication for years. However, emergence of the Internet and ejournals changed the nature of scientific publications. This article describes scientific communication and the place of scientific journals in the communication cycle, as well as the role of electronic journals in scientific communication.

Keywords: scientific communication, scientific journals, electronic journals, ejournals, peer review, grading system

Illustrating information

By: Fariborz Doroudi

Abstract: Illustration of information is a non-conventional way of presenting information in a graphic interactive fashion. It is carried out using graphic and colored 2 and 3 dimensional motion pictures. Such illustrations can demonstrate the construct of information and let the user to guide it and do refinements by graphical interactions. Illustration of information is a branch of computerized graphics and user interface which relates to interactive display and/or digital motion pictures. It means using interactive and sensitive display of abstract data to support human perception. One of its applications is in geographic illustration, as it is used in geographic information systems (GIS) . Web-based illustration is another important technique in information illustration.

Keywords: information illustration, geographic illustration, web-based illustration, information storage and retrieval

Examination and comparison of interfaces of international book-oriented databases

By: Rahim Alijani , Leila Dehghani

Abstract: In this research, with a preliminary study, four databases of *ebrary*, *Netlibrary*, *Questia* and *Safari* were selected out of the available book-oriented databases. A check-list was devised including four aspects of “information”, “search terms”, “display options”, “Storage and Retrieval” and “unique specifications”. In addition to analytic library method such as study of documents and database guides, comparative survey method was used to acquire preliminary information about the quality and function of each interface, as well as identifying its specifications. Results of the study revealed that Netlibrary and Questia are ranked first each with 40 points, and

ebrary and Safari, each with 36 and 35 points respectively, are ranked 2nd and 3rd. However, in general, it is recommended to observe all criteria presented in the user-oriented model suggested in this research, in designing a user interface for a book-oriented database.

Keywords: ebook, database, digital library, user-interface, ebrary, Netlibrary, Questia, Safari

Comparison of Yahoo, InfoMine, and LI directories in terms of returned items, display format, subject relevance, and overlap in Education and Psychology

By:Dr. Abdolrasool Jowkar , Tahereh Jowkar

Abstract: Subject directories are databases that index selected websites according to some predefined criteria. Since indexing sources takes place by human beings[=, the quality of retrieved items depend highly on the skill and specialty of the indexer. Considering the variety of the directories and their differences, this study aimed at comparing the three different directories of Yahoo!, InfoMine and LI. Results of the study revealed that although Yahoo returns more items in comparison with other two directories, the returned items by InfoMine and LI prove to be more relevant respectively than those returned by Yahoo!

Keywords: subject directories, business directories, academic directories, search tools

An examination of the role of research deputies of Islamic Azad University branches in Region 8 in the management and progress of libraries

By: Manijeh Torabi Alamooti

Abstract: The aim of the present research was to examine the awareness of the research deputies of the Islamic Azad University branches in Region 8

about libraries, and the impact of this awareness on to the administration and progress of libraries. Another aim of the research was to trigger the cognition of deputies of libraries and to attract their support of libraries and taking their problems serious. In line with the research method which was descriptive, a questionnaire was made up of 30 items which was distributed among 45 deputies. Each questionnaire consisted of 4 sections: the library specifications, the deputy's general information, the deputy's views, and the present status of the library under investigation. The data collected was analyzed and compared with available standards. The results of the study revealed that the majority of deputies believed there were sufficient resources, facilities, space and staff in their libraries. This is while comparison of the present state of libraries with available standards revealed these libraries were quite lower than the standard library measures. Therefore, one can conclude that the target deputies were not aware of their libraries' conditions. It was also revealed that the Rey branch library held the highest, and the Shahryar branch library held the lowest ranks in comparison with the available standards.

Keywords: library, management, progress, research deputy, Islamic Azad University

***A Study of cost-beneficence and usage of the English books
purchased from Tehran Book Fair by Jihad Keshavarzi
Research Institute***

By: Fatemeh Tasviri Ghamsari , Mohammad Reza Jahan-nama

Abstract: The present research aimed at identification of the degree of usage of the English books purchased from Tehran Book Fair for research groups and the Vice President of the Jihad Keshavarzi Research Institute. A checklist was used that included a list of the purchased books and the times they were used during the years 1380 and 1383. Items were arranged according to year and research group. Results of the study revealed that there were no distinctions among books provided for the three research groups within these four years. In all groups the frequency of books that were not used even one

time was greater than that of other books. In total, 41.1% of the books were not used even one time. The Chi-Square test showed no significant relation exists between the cost of books and their usage. Cost per each usage was also calculated according to year and research group.

Keywords: Cost-Benefit, Tehran Book Fair, purchase, usage, Jihad Keshavarzi Research Institute

An examination of the degree of overlap in Namayeh and Nama databases in 1384 (2005)

By: Homa Ebrahimi

Abstract: The present study, using a survey method, aimed at investigation into the degree of overlap in the articles presented in Namayeh and Nama databases. Systematic random method was used to select the sample articles, i.e., each 3rd sub-category subject was selected in each of the 10 main subject classes in the Dewey Classification. Results of the study show that the majority of records (56.8%) belong to Namayeh database, and the majority of periodicals (57.9%) belong to this database as well. The results also indicate that selection of the database relies on the subject needs of the searcher. However, since both databases include a large number of records and there is little overlap in them, one needs to perform a comprehensive search in both databases for a better result.

Keywords: databases, overlap, Namayeh database, Nama database

Serving the older adult

By: Celia Hales-Mabry

Translated by: Farideh Rafi'ee Moghaddam

Abstract: historically, serving the older adult in libraries, has been either very insignificant, or non-existent. Publication of the results of Cleveland studies in 1971 and 1973, and its renewal in 1984 by Betti Trook, and studies by

Celia Hales-Mabry in 1980 to 1981 supports our claim. Guidelines published by the American Library Association in 1987 have assumed an extended role for libraries. To implement these guidelines, librarians have to be involved effectively. Also, investments should be made to support modern services. The four guidelines (suggested in this article) that have been assessed thoroughly, are directly effective in providing services for the elderly people.

Keywords: the old adult, services, library

Making information literacy a compulsory subject for undergraduates: the experience of the University of Malaya

By: Sai-noi Chan

Translated by: Ali Khosrowjerdi

Abstract: User education to acquire information literacy has been an integral function of libraries in the University of Malaya for a long time. Introduction of computers to libraries increased the necessity for information literacy so that the National Council for Higher Education obliged all universities to adapt to IT skills in their undergraduate programs. Librarians have had a significant role in these programs. This article is analysing the feedback received from students, lecturers and librarians, as well as assessing the International Information Literacy Certificate.

Keywords: education, research, students, the University of Malaya, information literacy, International Information Literacy Certificate, information seeking skills