

**29<sup>th</sup> General Conference of Directors of National Libraries in Asia and Oceania**  
**1-2 November 2023, Wednesday & Thursday**  
**Doha, Qatar**

**Country Report**  
**[Period Coverage: 1<sup>st</sup> January 2022 – 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022]**

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**Name of Country** : Malaysia  
**Name of Library** : National Library of Malaysia  
**Name(s) of National Librarian,** : Salasiah binti Abdul Wahab  
**Director-General and/or Director**  
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**1. Facts and Figures**

<b>Sn</b>	<b>Item Description</b>	<b>Figures</b>
a.	Operating Budget i. Government ii. External Sources	i. RM46,588,453.00 ii. -
b.	Total Staff (FTE) i. Graduate or Post Graduate with library qualifications ii. Other Qualifications	i. 132 (3 Ph.D, 40 Masters, 89 Degree) ii. 325
c.	Collection Size i. Physical collection ii. Digital collection preserved	i. 239,804 ii. 6,504
d.	Visitorship (Annual) i. Physical visits to reading rooms ii. Digital visits to websites	i. 61,199 ii. 1,170,385
e.	Inter Library Loans provided (Annual)	708

## 2. Overview of Major or New Developments in Library Buildings, Collections, Access or Services [Please provide a maximum of 5 highlights]

### (i) Overview of Major and New Development in Library Buildings

#### Library Services Centralization Project, NLM (RMKe-11)

The Library Services Centralization Project was implemented on 29<sup>th</sup> August 2019 with a ceiling cost of RM12.8 million. This project aims to upgrade the library service space in the Anjung Bestari Building with an emphasis on the latest interior design to provide a more conducive atmosphere and comfort to library users. As of December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022, the progress status of this development project is 89%.

### (ii) Overview of Major and New Development in Collections

#### (a) NLM'S Collection 2022

NO.	PARAMETER	FIGURES (2022)
<b>NLM Collection</b>		
(a)	Deposit of Library Materials Act 1986 (unit)	174,903
(b)	Purchase (unit)	30,842
(c)	Gift and Exchange (unit)	39,341
(d)	Manuscripts (unit)	44
(e)	Digitized Materials (title)	1,178
<b>Total</b>		<b>246,308</b>
<b>Cumulative</b>		<b>6,355,021</b>

#### (b) Online Databases

In 2022, NLM subscribed to 22 online databases accessible through the u-Pustaka portal ([www.u-pustaka.gov.my](http://www.u-pustaka.gov.my)). The u-Pustaka portal offers access to the following online databases: Web Dewey Online, RDA Toolkit, LOC Classification Web, OCLC Connexion, EBSCOhost, Overdrive, PressReader, LawNet, e-Law, BERNAMA Library Infolink Services (BLIS), i-Learn Ace, e-Lib, Ookbee Buffet, J-Gate, ODILO, Me Books, Tutor Infiniti (Tutor A+), Alkem Digital Library, Emerald Backfiles Archives, Emerald e-Books, iG Library and Mason Crest. In total, it consists of 63,115 e-books, 114,446 e-serials and 552,397 e-learning.

**(c) Personal and Rare Book**

In 2022, National Library of Malaysia (NLM) acquired 294 materials from three (3) prominent figures, including two (2) Malaysian National Laureates and one (1) collector of Rare Materials. Among these acquisitions, 267 materials belong to the Personal Collections of two (2) National Laureates: Professor Emeritus Dr. Muhammad bin Haji Salleh and Dato' Dr. Noordin bin Hassan, and one (1) prominent figure, Mr. Haji Zainal bin Buang. Meantime, 27 Rare Materials were contributed by Dr. Muhammad Pauzi bin Abd. Latif.

**(d) Writer's Fund**

The Malaysian government provides incentives for the book industry and local writers by allocating RM1,000,000.00 in 2022 to purchase 83 titles or 36,077 copies of books directly from local writers. The total number of books purchased through this grant from the year 2007 to 2022 is 2,070 title, totaling 1,235,608 copies, at a total cost of RM27,336,046.72. Books purchased from this fund are selected from writers who have deposited their books with the NLM under the Deposit of Library Material Act 1986. To date, 1,727 writers have benefited from this government incentive. The books purchased from these writers are sent to all rural libraries in Malaysia as part of their collection, to be used by the local communities.

**(iii) Overview of Major and New Development in Access and Services**

**(a) Malaysiana and Foreign Reference Center**

The Malaysiana and Foreign Reference Center is one of the primary service sections at the National Library of Malaysia (NLM), providing reference collections. The Malaysiana Collection includes library resources published in any form, language, script, or date, with at least one chapter or 10% of the total text in the material dedicated to Malaysia and/or the Malaysian nation. These resources are published in or about the Malay/Malay language; and produced by Malaysian citizens.

Various types of library resources are available for reference purposes, including monographs, microfilms, newspapers, and databases. In 2022, a total of 69,758 users utilized PRMLN services, with 23,356 PRMLN collections being referenced by readers, and 7,302 referral questions received and answered.

Regarding foreign collections, in 2022, the center received a total of 595 foreign collections, including monographs, magazines, journals, and special collections. Additionally, 345 foreign collections were referred by readers, and a total of 96 referral questions were received and answered.

**(b) Interlibrary Loan**

In the National Library of Malaysia (NLM), Interlibrary Loan Services are known as Publication Distribution System. The system was launched in June 1998, and as of 2022, our registered members consist of 1,117 libraries. Libraries can obtain materials that are not in our collection from other libraries, both within and outside the country. We offer Interlibrary Loan (ILL) and Document Delivery services to facilitate library users as well as member libraries. Some materials, especially articles that are not available locally, may be obtained from overseas. Charges may apply for this service where necessary. In 2022, the total number of materials on loan by users was 1,323 units requested from 184 libraries. The most popular genre on loan by users is social sciences (46%), followed by language and religion. The Interlibrary Loan request can now be made online through the National Union Catalogue (NUC) Portal (<http://kik.gov.my>).

**(c) Digital Repository System (MyRepositori)**

MyRepository is a platform that gathers collections available at NLM as the nation's digital treasures in various digital formats to ensure they can be accessed without borders using the latest technology. Users can browse the digital content at <https://upnih.pnm.gov.my/myrepo-public/welcome>. Users can access the full display inside the PNM premises by using the Wi-Fi provided. Users who are outside the NLM premises, only get a preview of the first 10 pages. As of 2022, a total of 51,780 titles (2,353,426 pages) from the library collection have been uploaded into the MyRepository system. The library collection that was uploaded for user display in 2022 is 1,785 titles (264,994 pages).

NLM strongly encourages the sharing of information resources through collaboration with agencies that require a digital platform. This initiative is an effort to ensure that the digital resources of departmental or institutional collections can be delivered to users more effectively, and the duplication of digital information resources can be reduced. NLM implements collaboration or cooperation in the field of digitization, as well as sharing the MyRepository system platform. In 2022, the Federal Agricultural Marketing Authority (FAMA) shared digital resources on the MyRepository platform.

**(d) NLM Digital Kiosk**

NLM has developed a Digital@PNM Kiosk that utilizes the concept of mobility to facilitate access to digital materials in line with current technology developments. Through this mobile access, users can access this collection of digital materials using two (2) methods: through the Kiosk's touch screen or via a smartphone (using the Kiosk's Wi-Fi provided). The Digital Kiosk is located on Levels 10 and 11 of Menara NLM for readers' reference. The display of the digital collection format is

in the form of a flipping book, using new software called FlipCreator. The Digital@PNM Kiosk is frequently used in programs outside the department to promote NLM's Digital content and to attract the public's interest in learning about the country's unique intellectual heritage collections, such as Malay manuscripts, Rare Collections, and Personal Collections.

### **3. Collaborations with Libraries, Archives, and Museums in your Country [Please provide a maximum of 5 highlights]**

#### **(i) International Conference and Exhibition of Malay Manuscripts 2022**

The National Library of Malaysia, in collaboration with Universiti Pendidikan Sultan Idris (UPSI) and the Malaysian Youth Council (MBM), organized the 2022 International Conference and Exhibition of Malay Manuscripts (PAMM) with the theme "Malay Legal Manuscripts: Local and World Heritage Corpus" at the SITC Hall, Sultan Abdul Jalil Shah Campus, UPSI, Tanjung Malim from August 9<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

This three-day conference was officiated by YB. Deputy Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture (MOTAC), Datuk Seri Dr. Santhara J.P. Dr. Santhara while the keynote address of the conference was delivered by YAA Dato' Setia Dr. Mr. Na'im Hj. Mokhtar, Chief Syarie Judge, and Director General of the Malaysian Sharia Justice Department.

Various aspect of Malay manuscripts in the field of law were discussed by experts at the conference. This initiative is one of Malaysia's international engagement efforts in support of the nomination of the manuscript from the NLM collection, namely Hukum Kanun Melaka MSS23, for UNESCO's Memory of the World (MoW) 2022/2023.

More than 300 participants attended the conference, and a total of 23 presenters from Malaysia and other countries, such as the United States, Russia, Indonesia, and Brunei, presented their papers in eight (8) presentation sessions. Additionally, legal researchers from Brunei and the province of Aceh, Indonesia presented studies of their manuscripts. An exhibition of Malay manuscripts and book sales published by NLM was also held in conjunction with this conference.

#### **(ii) Let's Read Together for 10 Minutes**

This program is an annual NLM signature program, in collaboration with the Council of Directors Malaysia Public Libraries (MAPAM) and supported by Community Libraries, Special Libraries, Rural Libraries, Education Institutions, Private Sectors, and Non-governmental organizations. It was held in conjunction with the World Book and Copyright Day celebration. This program aims to promote reading, publishing, and copyright laws. The 'Let's Read Together for 10 Minutes' program is symbolic, with Malaysians across the country read simultaneously for 10 minutes. In 2022, a total of 4.1

million Malaysians participated in the program. This program has been carried out in a hybrid format.

**(iii) “Program Karya Kreatif Dunia Kecil Berjiwa Besar”**

PNM organized a Creative Writing Workshop in conjunction with the “Program Karya Kreatif Dunia Kecil Berjiwa Besar” on June 25, 2022 (Saturday). This program was held in collaboration with the National Association of Dwarves of Malaysia.

This Creative Writing Workshop aimed to provide opportunities for people with special needs to hone their talents and interests in the field of creative writing. During this program, PNM also launched the Media and Information Literacy Learning Portal, or e-LMM. The portal offers three (3) categories for literacy learning: Basic Level, Intermediate Level, and Advanced Level. For more information, please visit the e-LMM portal at <http://elmm.pnm.gov.my>.

**(iv) “Program Dariku Untukmu”**

“Program Dariku Untukmu” is a National Reading Encouragement Program implemented nationwide. This program is carried out by rural library staff who book lending services will be provided to selected primary and secondary school students, with a special focus on the B40 demographic. Participating students create book review video based on the selected reading materials, and the six (6) best participants in each category are chosen as winners. The book review competition took place from September 14<sup>th</sup> to September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

The objective of this program is to foster interest for reading within the local community and promote the National Library of Malaysia's (NLM) Reading Encouragement Program across the country. It involved a total of 81 schools located near rural libraries throughout Malaysia, with a participation count of 1,620 students. Activities conducted during the program include family library exhibitions, Media and Information Literacy sessions, u-Pustaka promotions, reading encouragement activities, and Jawi writing culture activities.

**(v) “Program Semarak Jawi 2022”**

“Program Semarak Jawi 2022” has been implemented to promote and preserve the tradition of Jawi writing among individuals of various ages and races. The program featured a range of activities, including the *Bengkel Klinik Dr. Jawi Series 1 dan Series 2*, the Jawi Doodle Competition, and Jawi Calligraphy Art Competition. The participants in this program consisted of civil servants and students from higher education institutes, totaling 342 people.

This program has successfully piqued the interest of the community in reading and mastering the Jawi script, particularly among young people and non-Muslim participants. It has encouraged them to learn, understand, and use the Jawi script in their daily lives, enriching the cultural tapestry of Malaysia's diverse population.

**(vi) National Media and Information Literacy Seminar 2022**

The National Media and Information Literacy Seminar 2022 was held from September 27<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> 2022, marking the first time it was organized by the Ministry of Tourism, Arts, and Culture through NLM in collaboration with the Faculty of Information Management, University Technology of MARA. The seminar's theme was 'Media and Information Literacy Creates a Wise and Rational Society'. A total of 421 participants attended this event.

The seminar aimed to bring together researchers, librarians, information services professionals, media experts, policymakers, and related stakeholders to exchange knowledge and experience, and discuss the latest developments and current challenges in terms of standards, techniques, theories, and best practices. It also aimed to promote Media and Information Literacy as a fundamental cultural element to support the government's initiative in equipping Malaysians with information literacy skills and encouraging lifelong learning for national development, fostering a knowledge-loving culture.

**(vii) Malaysian Publisher Talk Program 2022**

The Malaysian Publishers Talk Program 2022, organized by the National Depository Publication Centre (PPTN), was held live through the YouTube PNM TV Channel platform and Zoom Meeting from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2022 with the theme "High Quality and Impact Core of Book Publishing - Berkualiti dan Berimpak Tinggi Teras Kebitaraan Penerbitan Buku". A total of six (6) dialogue sessions were discussed by 11 panelists with experience in the national book industry.

**(viii) 'Semarak Membaca' Book Voucher Redemption Program**

The Ministry of Tourism, Arts, and Culture through NLM, in collaboration with the Malaysian Book Publishers Association (MABOPA) and with the support of the National Book Council of Malaysia (MBKM) and the Malaysian Booksellers Association (MBA), successfully organized the 'Semarak Membaca' Book Voucher Redemption Program from 1<sup>st</sup> April to 9<sup>th</sup> August 2022. This program had an allocation of RM1.9 million which was approved by the Malaysian Ministry of Finance through the Voucher and Discount Incentive for Arts and Culture Products 2022. This program involves 170 selected physical bookstores, one (1) online bookstore, and 200 e-commerce bookstores through the Shopee application, with a total of 190,000 vouchers available for redemption.

#### **4. International Collaborations such as Formal Arrangements for Cooperation with National Libraries [Please provide a maximum of 5 highlights]**

**(i) Asean Digital Library (ADL)**

NLM is also involved in sharing digital collections through the ASEAN Digital Library (ADL) portal, which is a regional project for sharing digital resources among ASEAN countries related to heritage, art, and culture. Sharing through this ADL portal facilitates the sharing of materials locally for resources related to regional countries.

NLM has contributed a total of 1,408 metadata records consisting of Malay Manuscripts, Rare Collections, and Personal Collections that can be accessed through the ADL portal. Various ongoing efforts are carried out by NLM to ensure that the collection of national heritage treasures is globally accessible and always available in digital format, thus preserving the national treasures for future generations' reference.

**(ii) The 87<sup>th</sup> IFLA World Library and Information Congress**

The largest annual conference for the librarian profession, the 87<sup>th</sup> IFLA WLIC, with the theme "Inspire, Engage, Enable, Connect," was held from 26<sup>th</sup> to the 29<sup>th</sup> July 2022 in Dublin, Ireland. Mr. Charles Brilee, Senior Deputy Director of Strategic Planning and International Division (BPSA), participated in eight (8) sessions online, along other officers from BPSA.

**(iii) IFLA 2022 General Assembly**

The IFLA General Assembly for 2022 was held in a hybrid manner on August, 25<sup>th</sup> 2022. During this assembly, IFLA's Annual Report and Financial Performance Report for 2021 were presented. Several important issues were also discussed, including motions and resolutions regarding the location and date of the assembly for the year 2023, the membership fee rate for the period 2023 to 2025, and the core values of IFLA. Madam Suhaila binti Abd Rahman, Director of Corporate Service represented NLM at this assembly.

**(iv) The 28<sup>th</sup> Conference of Directors of National Libraries Asia and Oceania (CDNLAO)**

A conference between the Directors General of the National Libraries in Asia and Oceania was held on 24<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> October 2022 in a hybrid format. Indonesia hosted this conference, and the theme was "Library Service Impacts on Community: Sustainability, Inclusion and Innovation". Madam Suhaila binti Abd Rahman, Director of Corporate Service represented NLM at this conference.



**(v) The 2<sup>nd</sup> National Libraries Summit in Sharjah, United Arab Emirates (UAE)**

The National Library Summit was organized for the 2<sup>nd</sup> time by the American Library Association (ALA) on November 6<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022 in Sharjah, United Arab Emirates (UAE). The conference discussed issues and matters related to the strategic plan of the national library, human capital development, the Act on Submission of Materials in the digital era, cyber security, and collection development collaboration. Mr. Edy Irwan bin Zulkafli, Deputy Director General of NLM has represented PNM at this conference.

**(vi) IFLA Regional Workshop: Towards a Sustainable Library Field in Asia-Oceania & UN Seminar**

This workshop was organized by IFLA from 14<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> November 2022, with the theme 'Libraries: Building a Sustainable Future.' The workshop provided a space and opportunity to discuss key issues that will support community development in the future. The workshop was attended by Madam Salasiah binti Abdul Wahab, Director General of NLM, and Mr. Charles Brilee, Senior Deputy Director of Strategic Planning and International Division (BPSA).

**(vii) The 18<sup>th</sup> Congress of Southeast Asian Librarians (CONSAL XVIII)**

The 18<sup>th</sup> Congress of Southeast Asian Librarians (CONSAL) conference was held online from the 29<sup>th</sup> to the 30<sup>th</sup> November 2022, with Cambodia as the host country. A total of 40 NLM staff members participated in this conference.

Mr. Edy Irwan bin Zulkafli, Deputy Director General of NLM, attended The 3<sup>rd</sup> CONSAL Executive Board Meeting and the Opening Ceremony on 29<sup>th</sup> November 2022, as well as the Closing Ceremony on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2022, which was followed by the symbolic event of handing over the CONSAL flag to Malaysia as the 19<sup>th</sup> CONSAL host. Malaysia was represented by Dr. Ghazali Mohamed Fadzil, President of the Librarian's Association of Malaysia (PPM).

**(viii) The 2<sup>nd</sup> Southeast Asian Librarians Leadership Convergence: A Roadmap for the Implementation of Mutual Recognition Arrangement**

The meeting of the Heads of Librarians in Southeast Asia took place in Manila, Philippines, from the 13<sup>th</sup> to the 16<sup>th</sup> December 2022. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the progress movement of the MRA agreement's implementation and share information about the educational situation in the field of libraries and librarianship. Malaysia was represented by Mr. Ali bin Rashid, Director of Subsidiary and Community Libraries (PCK), and Dr. Ghazali Mohamed Fadzil, PPM.