

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

Country Report
[Period Coverage: 1 January 2022 – 31 December 2022]

Name of Country : **Uzbekistan**
Name of Library : **National library of Uzbekistan named after Alisher Navoi**
Name(s) of National Librarian, Director-General and/or Director : **Director – Umida Teshabaeva**
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1 Facts and Figures

Sn	Item Description	Figures
a	Operating Budget i. Government ii. External Sources	No information
b	Total Staff (FTE) i. Graduate or Post Graduate with library qualifications ii. Other Qualifications	Total Staff: 193 184 9
c	Collection Size i. Physical collection ii. Digital collection preserved	General fund – 7,5 mln Physical collection - 7 032 804 Digital collection - 843 275
d	Visitorship (Annual) i. Physical visits to reading rooms ii. Digital visits to websites	Physical visits 561 989 Digital visits 132 326
e	Inter Library Loans provided (Annual)	Printed documents – 355 Electronic documents - 1805

2 Overview of Major or New Developments in Library Buildings, Collections, Access or Services

The building of the National Library of Uzbekistan has seven floors and it consists of a fund in two underground floors. There is also a modern mobile stillage to store books in a good quality. In the past, librarians spent for at least half an hour to bring a requested book or newspaper-magazine to the reading hall, but today this process is carried out by a 345-meter tele-elevator and a 100-kilogram supported elevator.

Along with the National Library of Uzbekistan, 14 regional information-library centers and 186 district information-library centers were established. Also, our republic has more than 11,000 information-library institutions with more than 100 million books in the system of various ministries and agencies, and more than 17,000 librarians work in them. As a continuation of these works, the construction of modern buildings for information-resource centers in Nukus and Beruni of the Republic of Karakalpakstan, Termiz State University of Surkhandarya Region, Uzbek State University of World Languages, Pedagogical University named after Nizomi can be cited as an example. These are one of the ways of the attention given by our government to the field of librarianship, as well as care for our people to be literate and educated. New, modern information-library centers are gradually rising in all regions of our country. For example, modern information-library centers were opened in Surkhandarya, Andijan, Namangan, Tashkent region, Dangara, Yozyovon, Fergana region, Beruniy district of the Republic of Karakalpakstan, Arnasoy district of Jizzakh region, Urgut district of Samarkand region, Middle Chirchik, Aqkurgan districts of Tashkent region, Davlabot district of Namangan region.

3 Collaborations with Libraries, Archives and Museums in your Country

Specialists of the National Library of Uzbekistan conduct memorial activities and also analyze the experience of information and library centers in this direction. Issues of organizing museum activities in libraries, its legal basis, problems of accounting and preservation of collections are discussed at seminars, conferences, round tables, and become the subjects of articles, monographs, scientific collections, and dissertation research.

The National Library of Uzbekistan works closely with museums. Large institutions such as the Abu Rayhan al-Beruni Center for Oriental Manuscripts and the Alisher Navoi National Library receive government support and operate at a high global level. However, provincial museums and libraries often do not have the means to reliably preserve materials that are valuable for the development of local history and culture. They need great support from regional authorities. This problem was raised by the leadership of the National Library of Uzbekistan. The solution to this problem was the gradual sponsorship of regional libraries in order to collect ancient book editions from the local population. As part of the cooperation of museums with the National Library, various spiritual and educational events and thematic exhibitions are regularly held. For example, library specialists, in collaboration with the Historical Museum, organized the exhibition “The Heritage of Navoi and Babur - Our Priceless Wealth”, “Uzbekistan is a Country of Interethnic Harmony and Religious Tolerance”, and the museum organized a book exhibition dedicated to the 150th anniversary of the National Library of Uzbekistan. A traveling exhibition “Human dignity is great - memory is sacred” was organized at the state museum in memory of victims of repression.

In 2021, the Uzarchive Agency hosted a signing ceremony of the Memorandum between the National Library of Uzbekistan and the Uzarchive Agency. As part of the Memorandum, the National Archives of Uzbekistan, on the basis of outsourcing, began work on the digitization of especially valuable documents. As an example of cooperation in this direction, the country's Main Library was presented with the first electronic resources that meet all the requirements and high-quality indicators of archival documents.

This year, within the framework of the annually held International Conference “Central Asia: Internet and Information and Library Resources in Science, Education, Culture and Business,” which takes place in various regions of the country, archival specialists in their reports noted the relevance of developing a unified information system for archival affairs in the Republic of Uzbekistan and need to use modern technologies when receiving, storing and using electronic documents in state archives.

4 International Collaborations such as Formal Arrangements for Cooperation with National Libraries

Nowdays, the National Library of Uzbekistan has signed memorandums of cooperation with 13 National Libraries. These are :

National Library of the Republic of Tatarstan

National Library of Armenia

National Library of Russia

National Library of the Republic of Bashkortostan named after Ahmed-Zaki

Azerbaijan National Library

National Library of Tajikistan

National Library of Belarus

National Library of the Czech Republic

National Library of Kazakhstan

Kyrgyzstan National Library

National Library and Archives of the Islamic Republic of Iran

National Library of Turkey

National Library of Korea