

FACULTY STATUS OF UNIVERSITY LIBRARIANS; A STATE OF AFFAIRS

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ABSTRACT

A survey and analysis of present status of University Librarians and efforts made by them both in the developed countries like U.S.A together with the prevailing conditions in Pakistan are the main topics of this study.

INTRODUCTION

During most period of its history, librarians focussed their all attention towards better library services. Therefore, they were more conscious for the development of libraries and their resources. As a result, they could not pay due attention for their own status and place in the society. But with the passage of time, like other professional associations, they started concerted efforts for obtaining improvements leading to better conditions of service. In fact, this move is in action all over the world. Even right now, the librarians in most of the countries are not enjoying the benefits and privileges enjoyed by the members of faculty in the same academic institution. This is an old demand of librarians for improvement in their conditions of service on the basis of equal ranks to different professionals in the academic library in comparison with different categories of teachers in the same educational institution.

Before stating the working conditions and status of the University Librarians in Pakistan, it seems relevant to take stock of the present status of the University librarians and the efforts made in this regard by them both in the developed countries like U.S.A and the developing countries that may be having comparable social and economic conditions.

At the annual convention of the American Library Association (ALA) at Atlantic City in June, 1959¹, the Librarians expressed concern over the Academic status and introduced a series of demands at the meeting of the Academic Status Committee of the University Libraries.