

DEVELOPMENT OF UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES IN PAKISTAN

MUHAMMAD SADIQ

Faculty of Pharmacy, Gomal University, Dera Ismail Khan (NWFP) Pakistan

ABSTRACT

Importance of University Library maintained systematically, arranged on modern and scientific principles that have been framed after careful consideration and concentration by the Philosophers is self-evident. The research Scholar thus brings to light the hidden efforts of his predecessors OR the secrets of nature and presents to the world a material and matter for enhancing thoughts and action of the people inhabiting the great globe. The dramatic increase in the flow of books and periodicals has brought huge problems of organizing and control in University libraries, and equally sizeable problems both for the research worker trying to keep pace with his subject and for almost any other library user trying to find particular material. As a result the majority of libraries are now moving out of what has been called their museum era to take an increasingly positive role in the provision of information. The University libraries play very important role to provide books, journals and other needed written materials to the teachers, students, scholars, researchers and doctors etc.

INTRODUCTION

The history of the University libraries in our country goes back to a century when Punjab University Library was established in 1882, by a Special Act of Incorporation by the Government of India. This was the fourth university library established in the subcontinent after Bombay, Calcutta and Madras which were established in 1857. Upto 1904 these universities remained only affiliating and examining polies. The Indian Act 1904 made an important change and enlarged the functions of the university libraries. Now 37 University libraries have been established in Pakistan, which are fully equipped with modern books, journal, periodicals, manuscripts, diskettes, movies, maps and audio visual materials etc. The situation of University libraries is much better / satisfactory as compared to other types of libraries.

In fact the Punjab University Library, Karachi University Library, Peshawar University Library and said University Library are the biggest of the Pakistan Libraries with a collection about 650 thousand books and 350 thousand other journals and written materials. The Punjab University Library is the biggest with 350 thousand books followed by Karachi University with 300 thousand books.

Division of University Libraries: According to collection, Staff and Services offered, the University library can be divided into following three categories:

The libraries of the university established prior to 1958. Those established between 1958 and 1978.

Those established after 1978.

1. The libraries of the University established prior to 1958 are four in number.
Punjab University Library, Lahore, 1908.
Peshawar University Library, Peshawar, 1950.
Sind University Library, Jamshoro, Hyderabad, 1951.

Karachi University, Library, Karachi, 1952.

The libraries of these universities are well organized and have responsible collection of books and journals. The staff is suitably qualified. They have their own buildings.

2. The University libraries established between 1958 and 1978 are eleven in number.

University of Engineering and Technology, Lahore, 1961.

University of Agriculture, Faisalabad, 1961.

Quaid-e-Azam University, Islamabad, 1963.

University of Balochistan, Quetta, 1970.