

Library Resources: Allocation and Usage Problems (Comparative Analysis of the World and Regional Practice)

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Abstract

The task of the article is to conduct comparative analysis of the allocation, staffing and the usage of the library resources in the world-wide, regional and local level. Analyzed are statistical data on the world's population by continent, the number of existing libraries for their different types, and based on these data, the provision of the population of these regions with libraries. The number of library employees by region of the world, the structure of the library collections of these libraries, checkout the activity of these libraries were also analyzed. The leading position of Europe and North America was revealed both in the number of libraries, in the degree of provision of the population with libraries and in the number of librarians and in their checkout activity. Similar features were analyzed for the Republic of Azerbaijan as a national level, which revealed a disproportionately large share of the capital city Baku and the Absheron region in all respects. The studied features are important for current and long-term planning, organizing library activities both on a global and national scale. In writing the articles, books of researchers, statistical collections on this topic were used, which is given in the list of used sources. For the activity of modern libraries gains in importance creating equal opportunities to use rich library resources for all groups of population. But unfortunately, some factors, primarily socio-economic and geographical factors, create inequality between different groups of the population in terms of obtaining benefits from library services. Most often, this inequality is associated with geographically uneven economic development both globally and within countries, between different regions of the country. Economic inequality between different continents and inside of countries which results in unequal opportunities for the population to use library services, has historical roots, when some continents of the world and regions inside of countries developed more intensively and earlier than others, while other continents and regions lagged far behind. In addition, while in some countries libraries have rich documentary collections, in other countries they do not have sufficient documentary resources. Often inequality is observed even within one country, between their different areas.

Keywords: library, resource, collection, population, allocation, employee, provision, checkout activity, usage, comparative analysis, efficiency, region, rational placement, Azerbaijan

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Бібліотечні ресурси: проблеми розміщення та використання (порівняльний аналіз світової та регіональної практики)

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Анотація

Завданням статті є проведення порівняльного аналізу розміщення, укомплектованості та використання бібліотечних ресурсів у світовому, регіональному та місцевому рівнях. Проаналізовано статистичні дані про чисельність населення світу за континентами, кількість існуючих бібліотек за різними їх видами та на основі цих даних забезпеченість населення цих регіонів бібліотеками. Також проаналізовано чисельність працівників бібліотек за регіонами світу, структуру бібліотечних фондів цих бібліотек, касову діяльність цих бібліотек. Провідне становище Європи та Північної Америки виявилось як за кількістю бібліотек, за ступенем забезпеченості населення бібліотеками, так і за кількістю бібліотекарів та їх касовою діяльністю. Подібні особливості були проаналізовані для Азербайджанської Республіки як національного рівня, що виявило непропорційно велику частку столиці Баку та Апшеронського регіону в усіх відношеннях. Досліджувані особливості важливі для поточного та перспективного планування, організації бібліотечної діяльності як у світовому, так і в національному масштабі. При написанні статей використовувалися книги дослідників, статистичні збірники з даної теми, що наведено у списку використаних джерел.

Для діяльності сучасних бібліотек важливого значення набуває створення рівних можливостей користування багатими бібліотечними ресурсами для всіх верств населення. Але, на жаль, деякі чинники, насамперед соціально-економічні та географічні, створюють нерівність між різними групами населення щодо отримання переваг від бібліотечного обслуговування. Найчастіше ця нерівність пов'язана з географічною нерівномірністю економічного розвитку як у глобальному масштабі, так і всередині країн, між різними регіонами країни. Економічна нерівність між різними континентами та всередині країн, що призводить до нерівних можливостей населення користуватися бібліотечними послугами, має історичне коріння, коли одні континенти світу та регіони всередині країн розвивалися інтенсивніше та раніше за інші континенти та регіони. Крім того, якщо в деяких країнах бібліотеки мають багаті документальні фонди, то в інших країнах вони не мають достатніх документальних ресурсів. Часто нерівність спостерігається навіть всередині однієї країни, між їх різними територіями.

Ключові слова: бібліотека, ресурс, колекція, населення, виділення, службовець, забезпечення, касова діяльність, використання, порівняльний аналіз, ефективність, регіон, раціональне розміщення, Азербайджан

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Purpose of the research

The main goal of the research is the systematic investigation of existing problems in this field. The main conditions for high-quality library provision is the presence of rich documentary collections, which makes it possible to more fully meet the information needs of subscribers, the availability of a sufficient number of qualified librarians. At the current level of global development one of the most important tasks facing the global library community is to eliminate this inequality. To solve this problem, it is necessary, first of all, to carefully analyze the current state of this matter in different continents of the world. To study the situation on a local scale, it is necessary to take one country as an example and investigate the named parameters of the library infrastructure, the degree of provision of libraries with documentary resources, and the issuance of documents for use. This makes it possible to compare the status of this case both globally and locally. Azerbaijan was taken as the study of these processes on a local scale. Study of the modern condition of the library infrastructure in the world, and allocation, usage of its resources, analyzing the development features in different countries may help create entire library landscape scene on the planet and correctly define its future perspectives. without such an analysis it is impossible to assess the current situation, identify shortcomings, and make sound recommendations for the development of librarianship both globally and locally. In terms of these, the presented article is one of the initiatives specifically directed to accomplish that mission.

The main purpose of the task of the article is to draw real scene of the allocation and usage of library-documentary resources in different countries, to determine the structure of library infrastructure in Azerbaijan Republic, regional allocation and size of information resources, and the level of staffing of the libraries in the different regions of the country. For this purpose, both the achievements obtained in the library field in different countries, and the results of the researches conducted by the international professional organizations have been used. The consistent patterns and management issues of allocation, usage and document flow, affecting this process have been also commented.

Objectives of the study

The study's objectives are as follow:

- (i) To study of features of location of libraries geographically on a global scale;
- (ii) To study of features of distribution of library employees geographically on a global scale;
- (iii) To study of features of location of documental resources-collections geographically on a global scale;
- (iv) To study of the above mentioned aspects concerning the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Review of literature

A number of studies, publications have been reviewed in this research to reveal the importance of

distribution of libraries and its recourses and their activity based on the territorial - geographical point of view. During the analysis of publications on this topic, a large number of articles in periodicals, books, official materials and other documents were revealed. Information and statistics on the state of development of libraries around the world are reflected in the publications of such global organizations as UNESCO and IFLA (Global Library, 2003; UNESCO, 1999). The data published in these editions allow us to have an idea of the situation of affairs both in regional level of the world and on a global scale. This kind of information but on a national scale is reflected in a special edition published by state bodies in Azerbaijan (Kitabxanaların fəaliyyəti, 2009). These publications not only help researchers obtain first-hand data, but also provide a basis for the research in this article. Statistics both on a global and local scale show a geographically uneven distribution and displacement of library resources which is undoubtedly the result of uneven socio economic development. Another official editions published by the Ministry of Culture and the National Library of Azerbaijan reflects the official documents, also order of the President of the republic on the development of librarianship state programs on the organization and development of librarianship in Azerbaijan and other official documents on development of a network of public libraries in the country (Kitabxana işinə, 2015; Azərbaycan kitabxanalarının fəaliyyətinin, 2015). The issue of the placement and development of the public library network is inextricably linked with the population geography, the principles of which are reflected in some published sources (Əfəndiyev, & Nağıyev, 2006).

The question of the allocation of library placement and development of their resources is also well studied in the articles and books of the prominent Russian library scientist N. Kartashov (Капашов, 2002, 2004, 2004a). The monograph of this scientist "Regional library science", which was published in 2002, is of particular interest for our topic. This book presents one of the first scientific monographs in the world, in which the scientific and theoretical foundations of regional librarianship are examined in detail (Капашов, 2005).

Among other publications on this topic, it should be noted an article devoted to the territorial distribution of public libraries in the United States and Holland in modern conditions (Donnelly, 2014; Huysmans, & Oomes, 2018).

Methodology

The theoretical methodological basis of this research is made up as inductive and deductive methods. These methods make it possible, on the basis of parts, to reveal the general picture of the development of librarianship on a global scale and, if necessary, on the basis of general reasoning about particular cases.

The study collected data from statistical sources of International Federation of Library Association

and Institutions. Found statistical material .processed using mathematical methods. During the identification, the collection of statistical data was addressed to the indicators and parameter that allows us to characterize the state of the library business at the time Similar information was collected by the Republic of Azerbaijan and the collected data was processed using the above mentioned methods.

Findings

According to the United Nation report, the population of the world has been estimated as 7.2 billion people in 2014. Conducted researches show that, throughout the history of humanity 107 billion people have been born on the Earth (calculations were done by Peter Greynbald, the Dutch scientist). More than 6% of them are currently inhabiting on the world.

Table 1.

Allocation of the world population by regions (continents)

	Region(Continent)	Population (million)	Share in World population(%)
1.	Asia	4223	60.01
2.	Africa	1081	15.36
3.	Europe	739	10.51
4.	South America	554	7.89
5.	North America	401	5.70
6.	Australia and Oceania	37	0.53
Total in the World - 7 035 million people			

This table shows that the majority of the population lives in Asia. It is followed by Africa, Europe. South and

North America. And in the next diagram we can see these data in a visual form.

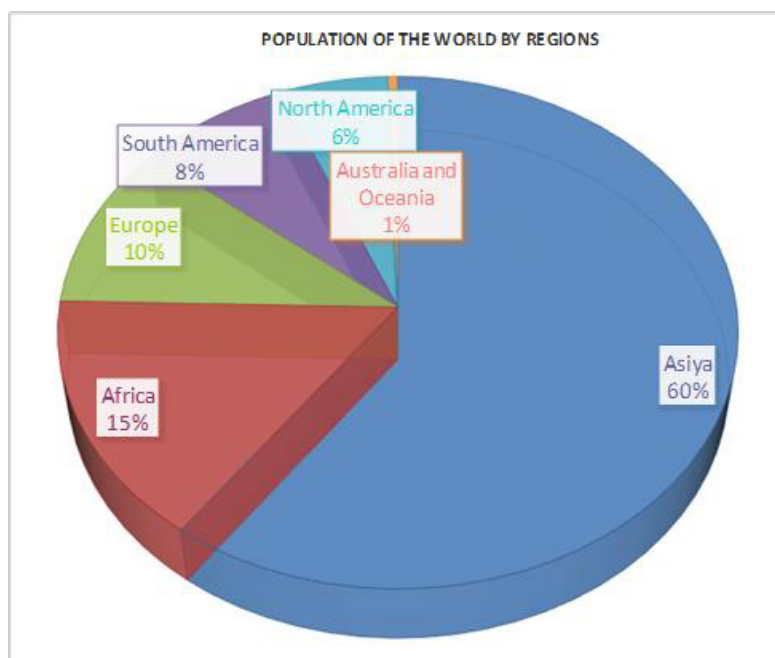


Figure 1. Regional allocation of the population on the World

As seen, more than 60% of Earth population are dwelling in the Continent of Asia, 15,36% in Africa, 10,51% in Europe, and 13,59% in the Continent of America. By country: 19.15% of world population are living in People's Republic of China, 17.60% in India, 4.46% in the USA, 3.84% in Indonesia, 2.84% in Brazil, 2.63% in Pakistan, 2.48% in Nigeria, 2.19% in Bangladesh, 2.04% in Russia, 1.77% in Japan, 1.12% in Germany, 1.08% in Turkey, 1.08% in Iran, 0.89% in Great Britain, 0.89% in France, 0.85% in Italy, 0.65% in Spain,

0.59% in Ukraine, 0.54% in Poland, 0.48% in Canada, 0.28% in Romania, 0.24% in Kazakhstan, 0.16% in Greece, 0.14% in Bulgaria, 0.13% in Azerbaijan, 0.062% in Georgia and etc. Thereby, 60.01% of world population is dwelling in the continent of Asia, up to 11% in Europe, 15.36% in Africa, 13.6% in America, 0.53% in Australia and Oceania. (Regionların kitabxana-informasiya, 2012)

It has been proved long ago that, libraries are the main institute of documentary-communication system which tasks are collecting, processing, storage and

provision by documents, where recorded by the people social important information created for transmitting this information from generation to generation. According to the researches, conducted by the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA), there are more than 569,6 thousand libraries in the world. (Əfəndiyev, & Nağıyev, 2006).

In terms of development of library networks, the continent of Europe occupies a key position. In this continent, there are functioning more than 440 thousand

libraries and in North America, there are more than 125 thousand libraries. The continent with the least number of libraries is Africa, where there are only 1.2 thousand libraries. (Байрамова, 2010).

For our research, it is very important to compare the degree of provision of the population of various regions of the world with libraries. For this purpose, it is necessary to compare the number of people in the regions of the world with the number of libraries available in these regions. This matching can be seen in the following table.

Table 2.
The amount of the libraries (Library Service Points) in the world (thousand)

Regions (continents)	Public libraries	Education libraries	School libraries	National libraries	Total	Share in total in the world (%)
Europe	205336	10161	164436	178	380111	66,6
North America	20081	11460	78773	50	110364	18,5
Asia	37063	6909	29992	66	74030	13
South America	3942	17	-	32	3991	0,7
Africa	797	266	51	15	1129	0,2
Australia and Oceania			2		2	-
Total	267221	28815	273254	343	569627	

Note: No figures for special libraries or Australia. The percentage of Australia and Oceania is very small

and for this reason we have not calculated this indicator. It can be visually observed on the diagram.

Libraries in the World

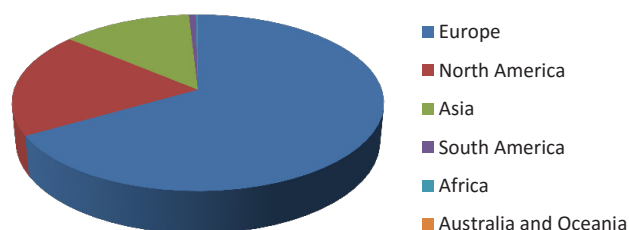


Figure 2. The number of the libraries in the world by regions (continents)

The data given on the two tables (#1 and 2) allow us to have new important information-to compare the share of the each continent in the world population and

the share of the libraries of this continent in total in the world. This matching can be seen in the following table.

Table 3.

The comparison of the share of the continent's population to the share of continent's libraries and coefficient of the availability

	Regions	Population (million)	Share in world population (%)	The amount of the libraries	Share libraries in total in the world (%)	Coefficient of the availability by libraries
1.	Asia	4223	60.01	74 030	13	4.6
2.	Africa	1081	15.36	1 129	0,2	77
3.	Europe	739	10.51	380 111	66,6	0.157
4.	South America	554	7.89	3 991	0,7	11.3
5.	North America	401	5.70	110 364	18,5	0.308
	Total in the world 7 035 million people			Total-libraries 569 625		

The smaller the coefficient of the availability to population of the continent by libraries, which obtained as a result of dividing the percentage of the population of the continent by the percentage of the number of libraries, the higher is the availability of the population of this continent by libraries. The results of the analysis reveal a huge difference in the coefficients between different continents. The best match coefficient is observed in Europe -0.157. The next place is occupied by North America-0.308. The population of Asia and South America are 60% and 7.89% of the world's population, respectively, then the number of libraries in this continent

is 13% and 0.7% of the number of world libraries, which gives a coefficient of 4.6 and 11.3, respectively. The best coefficient are observed in Europe and North America, respectively, 0.157 and 0.308. This situation is worst in Africa, where this coefficient is 77.

Another characteristic indicator of the development of librarianship is the number of library workers in the world, the distribution of this number by type of library, and the distribution of this number by regions of the world. There are more than 807 thousand library employees working at the libraries of the world. This matching is reflected in the following table.

Table 4.

The number of the library employees in the world

Regions (continents)	Type of Library					
	Public	Education	School	National	Total	Share in total in the world (%)
North America	138 210	104 020	44 592	6 182	293 004	36.3
Europe	98 726	28 336	135 484	21 912	284 458	35.2
Asia	112 394	77 281	19 116	2 238	211 029	26.1
Africa	4 396	5 403	89	348	10 236	1.4
Australia and Oceania	-	5 380	3	-	5 383	0.6
South America	3 023	230	-	522	3 375	0.4
Total	356 749	220 650	199 284	31 202	807 885	

As seen on the table, 36% of library employees of the world belong to North America, 35% to Europe, and 26% to

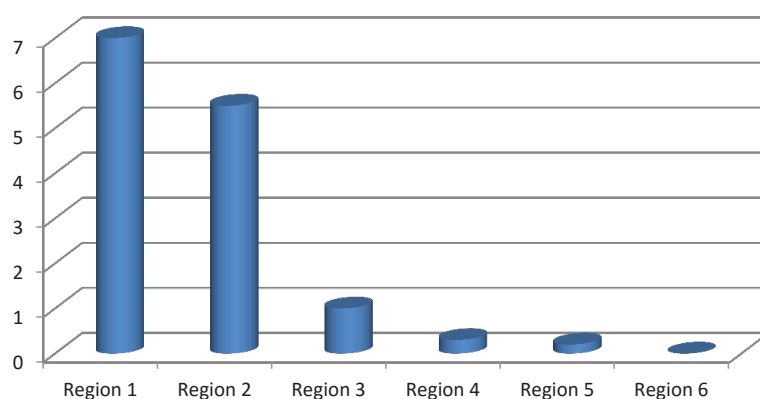
Asia. Half of them are working at public libraries and 25% are laboring in educational organizations. (Байрамова, 2014).

Table 5.

Traditional documentary resources of the world libraries (thousand copies)

Regions (continents)	Books	Microforms	Audiovisual documents	Other kinds of documents	Total	Share in total in the world (%)
1.Europe	5 638 092	19 602	6 540 788	2 681 982	14 880 464	50.89
2.North America	8 877 165	1 087 541	1 094 128	7 867 897	1 184 562 370	40.51
3.Asia	1 615 792	27 371	418 979	2 148 12 6	189 987 350	6.37
4.South America	461 160	1 972	212 925	393 039	46 919 164	1.6
5.Africa	52 260	146	38 779	89 618	5 368 997	0.62
6.Oceania	-	5 735	-	-	5 735	0.01
Total	16 644 469	1 142 367	7 679 331	3 688 411	2 914 884 200	

In the diagram below the condition of the regional allocation of the world library resources is reflected.



Region 1 - Europe; Region 2 - North America; Region 3 - Asia; Region 4 - Africa; Region 5 - South America; Region 6 - Oceania.

Figure 3. Traditional documentary resources of the world libraries (thousand copies)

As seen from the table and the diagram, the documentary resources of the world libraries is approximately amounting to 30 billion copies. 17 billion of these documents are books, more than 10 billion copies are periodicals, and 1.5 billion items are documents recorded on electronic carrier. 15 billion copies out of these resources are located in Europe, 12 billion copies are in North America, and 1.8 billion copies are in Asia. Evidently, more than half of all information resources of the world libraries have been accumulated in the Europe. There is such a pattern observed in allocation of library documentary resources that, in North America books and in Europe periodicals constitute more than half of all

resources in the library collections. The classification of the types and language coverage of the documents in the library collections of the Russian Federation are like this: 97.6% printed documents, 1.8% electronic resources, 0.6% audiovisual materials; 97.3% in Russian, 1.5% in foreign languages, 1.2% in slavic languages.

According to official sources, the number of the users, one of the main components of library resources is amounting up to 2 billion people. (Байрамова, 2010).

According to official sources, the number of the users, one of the main indicators of library activity is amounting up to 2 billion people. (Байрамова, 2010).

Table 6.

The number of the users in the world libraries (thousand people)

Regions (continents)	Libraries					
	Public	Academic	School	National	Total	Share of region in total world (%)
1.Europe	1 273 868.0	180 018.3	-	4 271	1 658 157.3	86.46
2.Asia	115 071.0	67 821.3	-	4 283	187 175.3	9.77
3.North America	57 840.7	8 894.6	-	935	67 670.3	3.54
4.Africa	335.4	3 592.2	-	24	3 951.6	0.2
5.South America	88.8	72.0	-	117	277.8	0.01
6.Oceania	-	551.0	-	-	551.0	0.03
Total	1 647 204.0	260 949.4	0	9 630	1 917 783.0	

Europe leads on this indicator. Thus, there are 1.3 billion library users in Europe, more than 115 million users in Asia and more than 58 million users in North America. The specialists have calculated that, in the world average library activity per year in the field of circulation services is near 1 trillion actions. In this

regard, the European libraries lead with the indication of 1.13 trillion, and then come the Asian libraries with 82 billion actions, and the North American libraries with 66 billion actions. It can be seen on the table indicating the circulation checkout activity of the world libraries by regions. (Байрамова, 2010).

Table 7.

Checkout activity of the world libraries

Regions (continents)	Libraries				
	Public	Academic	School	National	Total
Africa	2 635.02	8 870.00	410 597	43	422 145.02
Asia	941 745.00	134 508.80	71 580 559	34 328	72 691 140.80
North America	1 941 085.00	12 179.20	56 208 576	147	58 161 987.20
South America	39 693.00	690.00	-	2 045	42 428.00
Oceania	-	23 634.70	15 000	-	38 634.70
Europe	860 743.50	124 181.20	99 003 081	41 591	999 029 596.70
Total	3 785 901.52	304 063.90	227 204 313	78 154	1130 385 932.00

According to the calculations of the American National Center for Educational Statistics, there were 117341 libraries functioning in the country in 2004, out of which 93.8 thousand were school libraries, 9.2 thousand public libraries, 3.5 thousand academic libraries, 9.2 thousand private libraries, 2.0 thousand state libraries, more than 300 military libraries.

Another important indicator of library activity is the rate of library books per citizen. According to the information given by UNESCO Institute for Statistics, the number of the library books per citizen is different for each country. According to that source, the number of the books per 1000 people is 16335 volumes in Georgia, 2831 volumes in Iceland, 1114 volumes in Estonia, 1601 volumes in Lithuania, 667 volumes in Belarus, 598 volumes in Moldova, 576 volumes in Kyrgyzstan, 513 volumes in Russian Federation, 467 volumes in Azerbaijan, 249 volumes in Kazakhstan, 88 volumes in Ukraine. For comparison, it was also noted that, according to that indicator Israel is in the 28th place, Great Britain is in the 30th place, Germany is in the 31st place, Italy is in the 42nd place, Japan is in the 59th place. Average number of the library books for per 1000 people of world population is 832.5 volumes. (Байрамова, 2014)

Books occupy the main place among the documentary resources of the library, information carriers, which constitute the main part of library collection. For that matter, different contradictions are observed in various countries in the field of book publishing. It has been revealed that, approximately the ¼ of printed books in the world have been published in America. According

to the calculations, in the mid-90s there were published 101 thousand title books in People's Republic of China, 71.5 thousand books in Germany, 56.2 thousand books in Japan, 34.7 thousand books in France, 36.2 thousand books in Russia.

Allocation of the library networks and population density play an important role in efficient usage of library resources. For example, the average density of people in Russian Federation is 8.6 people per one km². Nevertheless, the 80% of population of the Russian Federation are located in European part and in Ural, which form 25% of whole territory of Russia. Population density in these regions is approximately 4 times higher than the average indicator for the country (36.7 people per km²).

At the same time, Siberia and Far East regions constitute 74.6% of Russian territory, and cover 21.4% of the population. Population density in these regions is 3.4 times lower than the average indicator for the country. (Kitabxanaların fəaliyyəti haqqında, 2009)

Azerbaijan is one of the regions, which is famous for its rich library landscape. Taking into account that there are half a million libraries in the world serving the world population, there are more than 12 thousand libraries functioning in Azerbaijan. (Azərbaycan kitabxanaları, 2007). Moreover, this constitutes the 2.4% of the whole world library resources. Printed documentary resources of the libraries of Azerbaijan Republic are currently estimated as nearly 150 million copies. Considering that the population of the country is 9 million people, one library is determined per 750 people, and 16.6 printed

document for each person. At the same time, the research on proper allocation and beneficial usage of the library-information resources across the whole country, and in its different regions is the actual issue. In the result of study the developmental directions on reflexing the primary documental flow of the information resources produced by the bibliographic information centers of the country, it was defined that the progress level of the bibliographic information resources basically meet the information demands of society.

The improvement of the library-bibliographic resources in Azerbaijan Republic is differentiated in two directions: library resources formed in the capital city and in other big cities stand in the first place, in the second place we can observe the resources located in the regions and other small settlements situated far from the center.

In Azerbaijan Republic, the population density for per km² is 103 people. (Bayramova, 2010) Absheron Economic region constitutes 6.4% of the land of the country, and 28% of population of the republic have settled in this area. 71.4% of population are dwelling in

the rest 93.6% of the country area.

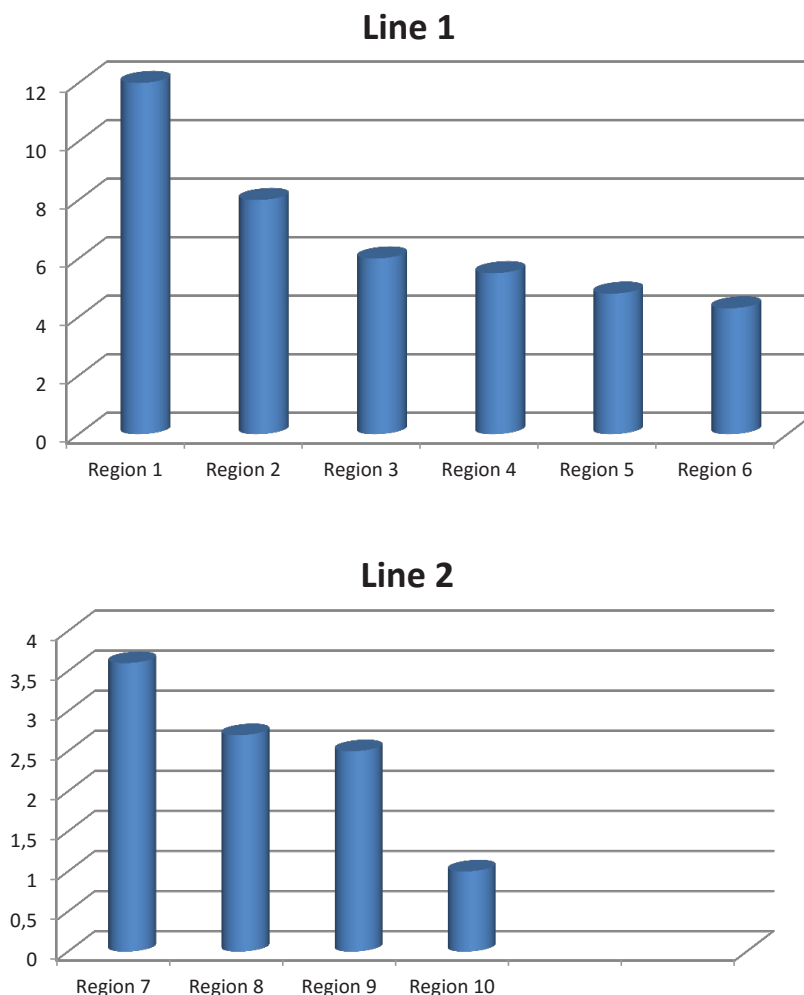
Population density in this economic region amounts to 139 people, which is higher than the average indicator of the republic. As we can observe, in Absheron economic region including capital city Baku, the main economic, cultural and infrastructural potential of the country have been accumulated. It is necessary to effectively allocate all resources, including library resources across the country.

According to the "State Program on the Development of the Library-Information Field in Azerbaijan Republic between 2008-2013 years" confirmed by the President of Azerbaijan Republic with the disposal numbered 3072 and dated October 6th 2008, Statistics Committee of Azerbaijan Republic issued a statistical bulletin in September of 2009 under title «About the Results of Statistical Examinations "On the Activities of the Libraries"». According to the results of that monitoring the condition of the allocation of the library resources in Azerbaijan Republic across the economical regions and Baku city was determined as below. (Bayramova, 2009).

Table 8.
Distribution of libraries by regions of Azerbaijan Republic

Regions (continents)	Public libraries	Libraries of scientific institutions	Academic libraries	School libraries	Others	Total by region	Share of region in total-country (%)
1.Aran	1 041	-	4	898	45	1 988	23.4
2.Ganja-3.Gazakh	652	5	4	591	22	1 265	14.9
4.Lankaran	479	-	2	503	12	994	11.7
5.Shaki-Zagatala	385	1	2	366	10	764	9
6.Baku city +Absheron region	88 51	56 7	39 1	444 121	90 2	717 182	8.4 2.1
Total	109	43	40	559	95	899	10.5
7.Guba-Khachmaz	356	1	1	332	8	698	8.2
8.Nakhchivan	234	2	3	250	2	491	5.8
9.Mountainous Shirvan	183	-	1	232	3	419	4.9
10.Kalbajar-Lachin	123	-	-	258	-	381	4.5
11.UpperKarbakh	220	-	-	378	10	608	7.1
Total	3 817	62	57	4364	207	8 507	

Through the diagram below the real scene of the allocation of libraries in the country can be observed.



Description: Region 1 - Aran; region 2 - Ganja-Gazakh; region 3 - Absheron; region 4 - Lankaran; region 5 - Shaki-Zagatala; region 6 - Guba-Khachmaz; region 7 - Upper Karabakh; region 8 - Nakhchivan; region 9 - Mountainous Shirvan; region 10 - Kalbajar-Lachin.

Figure 4. The allocation of the libraries by the regions of Azerbaijan Republic (lines 1-2)

Apparently, in distribution of the library resources across the economic regions, the area of the region, the number of the population and supporting carcasses of the dwelling play a great role.

According to the results of the monitoring, 27.3% of the libraries are situated in urban places and 72.7% of them are functioning in rural places. 50.7% of entire

library-information resources are under the Ministry of Education, 46.6% are in subordination of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, and 2.7% of the libraries are attached to the other institutions.

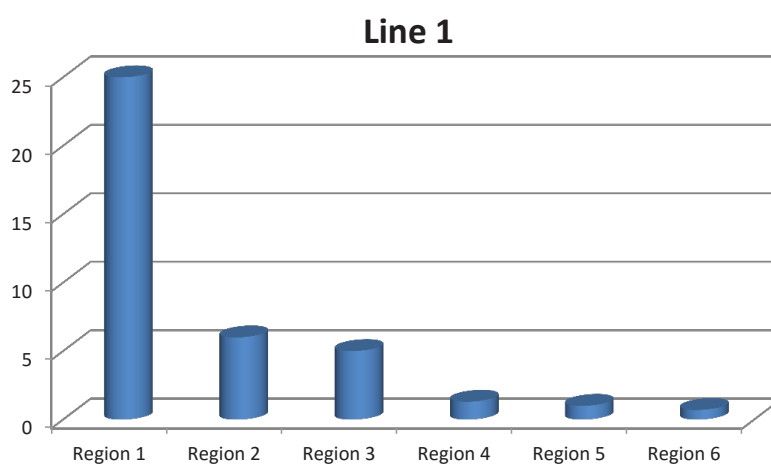
Researches show that there are some problems of distribution of the library-information resources in the regions of the country. It can be viewed on the table below.

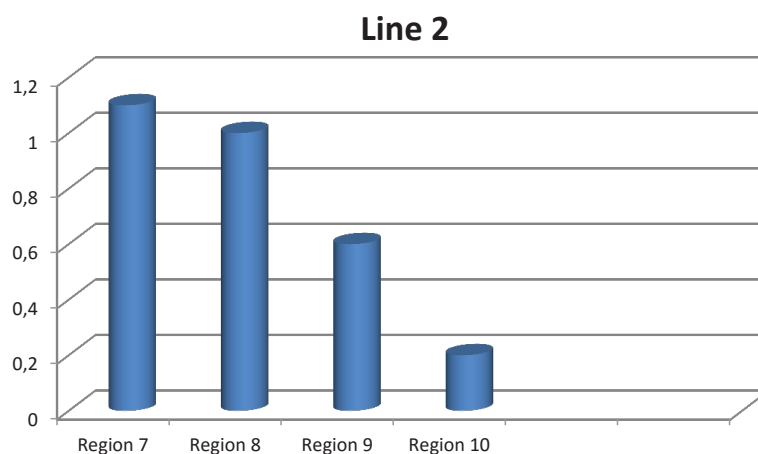
Table 9.

**The condition of allocation of library-documentary resources
in the regions of Azerbaijan Republic**

Regions	Library collection In general	Books	E-publi- cations	Journals, magazines	Newspapers	Other materials
Aran	13387267	13135972	1366	43743	131779	74407
Ganja- Gazakh	11773454	10775581	3804	128866	405513	459690
Lankaran	6578166	64852956	226	12851	57634	22159
Shaki- Zagatala	55155558	5434940	1423	3891	25914	49390
Absheron	58577860	38669644	67755	3642594	1353148	14844719
Guba- Khachmaz	4782603	4716679	168	28739	21821	15196
Nakhchivan	4696103	4569001	928	34171	55246	36757
Mountainous Shirvan	2554763	2525641	196	7630	9585	11711
Kalbajar- Lachin	10558	1052108	122	1035	1691	887
Upper Karabakh	2072714	2034665	126	9125	20548	8250
Total	110994331	89399527	76114	3912645	2082879	15523166

It can be visually shown that, the information resources of the libraries have been widely developed in Absheron economic region where the intellectual and cultural potentials of the country have been accumulated.





Description: region 1 - Aran; region 2 - Ganja-Gazakh; region 3 - Absheron; region 4 - Lankaran; region 5 - Shaki-Zagatala; region 6 - Guba-Khachmaz; region 7 - Nagorno-Karabakh; region 8 - Nakhchivan; region 9 - Mountainous Shirvan; region 10 - Kalbajar-Lachin

Figure 5. Library information resources of the regions of Azerbaijan Republic (lines 1-2)

Apparently, books constitute 80.5%, electronic publications 0.1%, journals 3.5%, newspapers 1.9%, and other publications 14% of information resources of the libraries. The total weight of the books in the library collections across the world is about 50%.

Obviously, the organization of effective usage

of the library-information resources directly depends on the level of the staffing of these libraries, as well as the specific weight of the qualified staff, their age, professional level, work experience and other factors (Azərbaycan kitabxanalarının fəaliyyətinin, 2015).

Table 10.

Library staffing of the regions of Azerbaijan Republic

Regions	Professional higher educ.	Non-prof. higher educ.	Vocational education	Voc.ed. in different fields	General educ.	Total
1.Aran	133	132	437	306	924	1932
2.Ganja-Gazakh	89	129	225	173	509	1125
3.Lankaran	53	43	125	158	355	734
4.Shaki-Zagatala	42	51	189	155	203	640
5.Absheron	1212	813	677	320	295	3327
6.Guba-Khachmaz	26	23	106	78	336	569
7.Nakhchivan	33	72	70	68	448	691
Mountainou Shirvan	11	22	69	64	170	338
Kalbajar-Lachin	23	61	84	66	135	369
Nagorno-Karabakh	33	56	147	94	230	560
Total	1579	1318	1767	1261	2802	8727

The level of staffing of the republic libraries is like in the diagram below.

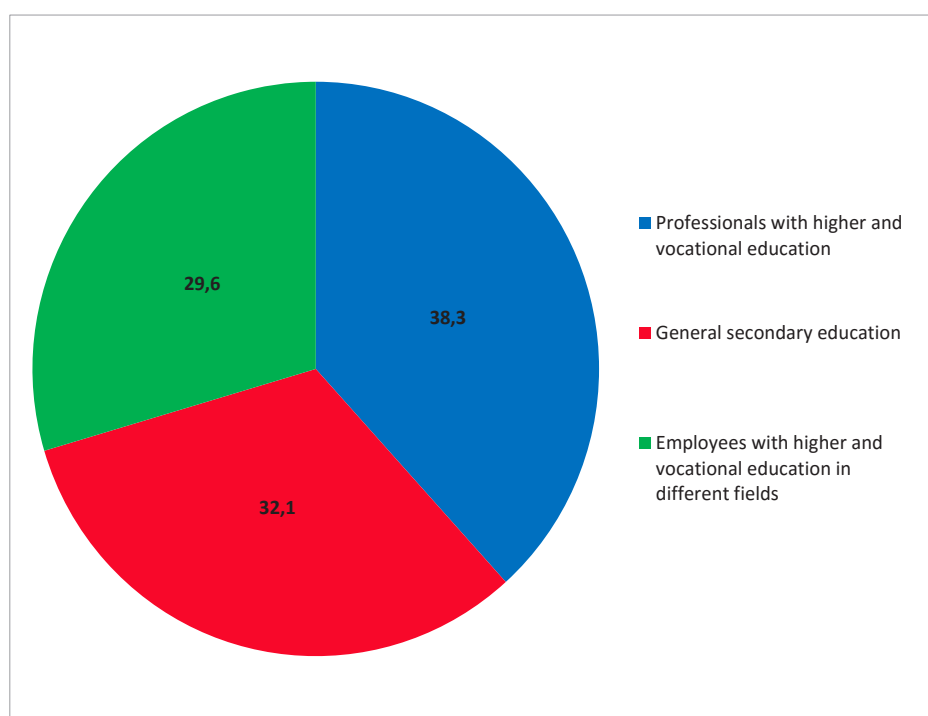


Figure 6. The differentiation of the library employees in Azerbaijan Republic by their education level

I. Professionals with higher and vocational education

II. Employees with higher and vocational education in different fields

III. Employees with general secondary education

The results of the monitoring show that, there are 12729 employees working in the libraries of the republic. The 8727 of them are professionals, and the 4002 are technical staff. The distribution of these employees in urban and rural places is as follows:

- In urban places – 45.7%;
- In rural places – 54.3%

Moreover, the allocation of the professional employees across the dwelling places is as below:

- Professionals in urban places – 52.7%;
- Professionals in rural places – 47.3%

General overview of the library employees according their educational level is as below:

1. Professionals with higher education – 1579
2. Employees with higher education in different fields – 1318
3. Professionals with vocational education – 1767
4. Employees with vocational education in different fields – 1261
5. Employees with general secondary education – 2802

Calculations show that, the professionals with higher education form 18% of whole library specialists, while the professionals with vocational education form 20.2% of all librarians. As a total, the professionals with higher and vocational education constitute 38.2% of entire

library employees.

As a result of education reforms going on in the country, continuous growth of the state care towards the development of culture, and the requirements of information society, it is possible, with the help of corresponding authorities, to organize additional professional education under the mentorship of the Library-Information School of Baku State University for non-specialists (their specific weight is 15%) working in the libraries of the republic. On the other hand, ministries and institutions, which have attached libraries, may meet their needs for highly qualified personnel by the help of professional librarians with Bachelor and Master Degrees graduated from that faculty.

Analysis show that, the 87% of highly qualified professional librarians is working in the libraries of urban places, while the 13% of professionals are working in the rural libraries. The employees with general secondary education constitute the main part (77.1%) of the rural librarians. This fact gives ground for thoughts about the level of the library service to the population in rural places.

Library collections of the country consisting of 111 million items are reflected with books in print format (80.5%), periodicals, such as newspapers and magazines (5.4%), and other library materials (14.1%). 72.8% of these resources are the property of the libraries functioning in urban places, while the 27.2% is allocated in rural places.

34.6% of the whole library collection of the republic is in the libraries of secondary schools, 32.0% is located

in the libraries attached to the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, 21.4% is in scientific and scientific-technical libraries and 12.0% is in the libraries of other institutions and organizations.

65.5% of the library collections are in Azerbaijani language, 31.1% is in Russian, 2 % of it is in English language, and 1.4% is in other languages. 71.98% of the collection, which is in Azerbaijani language, is with Latin scripts, while the 28.1% is with Cyrillic scripts.

In the first part of 2009, it was registered 4.8 million requests to the libraries, and 53.4 million books and other information resources were used. 39.6% of the requests were made by the children under 18. Only 3346 professionals (or 38.3%) out of 8727 employees of whole library staff of the country have higher and vocational education in Library Science, 2579 librarians or 39.6% have higher and vocational education in different fields, 2802 employees (or 32.1%) have general secondary education.

Other interesting question on library provision system of society in Azerbaijan Republic is place and importance of National Library in this system. Azerbaijan National Library named after M. F. Akhundov is main and one of richest libraries of republic established in 1922. More than 90 years of history, the National Library has played a major role in the development of the librarianship in

the Republic. The Role of this library as the main library of the Republic and the head organization of the state system of public libraries reflected in the "Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan on Librarianship", Statute and Charter of the National Library of Azerbaijan, on "State Program on Development of the Library-information Field in the Republic of Azerbaijan in 2008-2013 years", other official and regulatory documents.

Between fundamental tasks and functions of the National Library reflected in the "Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan on Librarianship" can be underlined that this library is main library implementing state library policy on librarianship, national cultural treasure and state book depository which tasks are acquisition, preserving national books and other printing materials and publicized abroad editions of azeri authors and editions about Azerbaijan, also world significance editions in foreign languages, leading scientific-research institution of country on library, bibliography and book science, coordinating and methodical center for all libraries of s, bibliographies, bibliographies, science and book research etc. (Bayramova, 2015).

Library has rich collection of various documents. The quantity of library collection and some other parameters of library collection in the end of 2017 year are reflected in following table.

Table 11.

Main indicators of library collection of the National library of Azerbaijan named after M. F. Akhundov

Collection(total) copies	From them Audio-visual documents	Language of the documents	
		Azerbaijani	Other languages
4 580 862	85 405	648 247	2 932 615

These figures show so diverse the collections of this library.

Thereby, it is the general view of the allocation situation and the prospective of the beneficial usage of the library resources in the regions of Azerbaijan Republic.

Conclusion

The issue of the territorial location of library networks and the development of their information and human resources are reflected in a number of scientific publications, the thesis of the dissertation, in the published materials of scientific conferences. For example, in 2015 in Baku by İ. Bayramova defended her PhD dissertation under title "Library and bibliographic information provision system of the regions of the Republic of Azerbaijan: current status and prospects (2000-2012)." This research work was the first dissertation reflecting the territorial aspects of the organization of library activities in Azerbaijan. This researcher has published a number of other interesting articles and conference abstracts on this topic. These publications revealing the patterns of development and improvement of library resources in

the region of the country, which are influenced by many social and economic factors.

When analyzing the development of the more than 150 countries of the world one fact drew attention of the researcher: in the countries where administrative-territorial (administrative-local) self-governing information network units prevail, in those countries the developed democratic societies have naturally been formed, at the same time the living conditions of the population have remarkably been improved. So, in the territory of the USA (approximately 9 mln. km²) the number of the administrative-territorial units (states) is 51 and the level of the life standard is 99%; similarly, Russia's territory is 17 mln km², territorial division is only – 79, the life standard is 80%; respectively in Japan: 0,4-61-99; in Germany: 0,35-24-98; in England: 0,24-92-98; in Denmark: 0,04-16-99; in France: 0,54-96-98; in Luxembourg: 0,003-4-99; in Belgium: 0,03-9-99; in Switzerland: 0,4-23-99; in Liechtenstein: 0,002-11-99%.

In the countries where information society exists, the freedom of each person is limited only with that, that he/

she cannot limit the freedom of other citizen. (Байрамова, 2010). The research shows that the above-mentioned factors can seriously have an affect on the allocation of the library-information resources. So, up to 80% of the whole library infrastructure of the world are allocated in Europe and North America, where 18% of the whole world population inhabit. But in Asia, where 60% of the world population inhabit, the level of provision of the population with library resources is very low. The same

process can be observed in the example of Absheron economic region within the scale of Azerbaijan.

As a result of research it was determined that, directions of the balanced development of the regions are not observed in the allocation of library infrastructure. One of the main missions is reconsideration of the allocation of the regional library infrastructure, beneficial usage of the resources, and the system of staffing of the libraries with professional librarians.

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