

National Library in Digital Information Service System for Users

UDC: 930.25(005.92)(479.24)

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.15421/172472>

Khalafova Seyda Abasgulu

Ph.D., Assoc. Prof., Head of the Department management of library-information resources,<https://orcid.org/0009-0008-7508-0507>, sevdaxalafova@bsu.edu.az

Ismayilov Nadir Islam

Ph.D., Assoc. Prof., Head of the Department of document management,<https://orcid.org/0009-0008-5541-280X>, Nadir_ismayil@gmail.com**Baku State University (Baku, Azerbaijan)**

Abstract

During the new state-building years of the independent Republic of Azerbaijan, the global informatization processes, which spread to all areas of human life, led to the further increase of the role of libraries, which are providers of our national culture, knowledge, science, education and information. In the context of the general development of the information society, the formation and placement of libraries equipped with information technologies, providing a high level of service to the population, and having book funds, which are the main component of our national-cultural heritage, plays an important role. In a modern information society, libraries have the task of providing the population with high library and information services, ensuring the right of people to use libraries, which are universal resources, in the socio-economic, political and cultural development of the republic, in the promotion of democracy and national self-awareness, Azerbaijan statehood, and the ideology of national Azerbaijaniism.

In modern times, the development of library work in Azerbaijan is connected with the name of the great leader Heydar Aliyev and his worthy successor, our honorable President Ilham Aliyev. Adoption of the Laws of the Republic of Azerbaijan "On Culture", "On Library Work", "On Information, Informatization and Information Protection" and "State Program on the Development of the Library and Information Sector in the Republic of Azerbaijan in 2008-2013", "Azerbaijan On the approval of the National Strategy for Information and Communication Technologies for the Development of the Republic (2003-2012)", "State Program on the Development of Communication and Information Technologies in the Republic of Azerbaijan in Accordance with Modern Requirements (2004-2012)", "In Azerbaijan "On improving the activities of libraries", the decrees of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan are of exceptional importance, and they determined the main directions of the activities of the libraries of Azerbaijan, including the priorities of the application of computer-internet technologies to the practice of libraries.

Keywords: library, innovation, electronic service, Bibliography Apparatus, bibliographic service

Національна бібліотека в цифровій інформаційній системі обслуговування користувачів

Халафова Севда, Ісмаїлов Надір

Бакинський державний університет (Баку, Азербайджан)

Анотація

У нові роки державотворення незалежної Азербайджанської Республіки глобальні процеси інформатизації, що охопили всі сфери людського життя, призвели до подальшого підвищення ролі бібліотек, які є постачальниками нашої національної культури, знань, науки, освіти та інформації. В умовах загального розвитку інформаційного суспільства формування та розміщення бібліотек, оснащених інформаційними технологіями, що забезпечують високий рівень обслуговування населення та мають книжкові фонди, які є основною складовою нашої національно-культурної спадщини, відіграє важливу роль. У сучасному інформаційному суспільстві перед бібліотеками стоїть завдання забезпечити населення високим бібліотечно-інформаційним обслуговуванням, забезпечити право людей користуватися бібліотеками, які є універсальними ресурсами, в соціально-економічному, політичному і культурному розвитку республіки, в розвиток демократії та національної самосвідомості, азербайджанської державності, ідеології національного азербайджанства.

У наш час розвиток бібліотечної справи в Азербайджані пов'язаний з ім'ям великого лідера Гейдара Алієва і його гідного наступника, нашого шановного президента Ільхама Алієва. Прийняття законів Азербайджанської Республіки «Про культуру», «Про бібліотечну справу», «Про інформацію, інформатизацію та захист інформації» та «Державної програми розвитку бібліотечно-інформаційної сфери в Азербайджанській Республіці на 2008-2013», «Про затвердження Національної стратегії інформаційно-комунікаційних технологій для розвитку Республіки Азербайджан (2003-2012)», «Державна програма розвитку комунікаційних та інформаційних технологій в Азербайджанській Республіці відповідно до сучасних вимог (2004-2012)», «Про вдосконалення діяльності бібліотек в Азербайджані», укази Президента Азербайджанської Республіки мають виняткове значення, вони визначили основні напрямки діяльності бібліотек Азербайджану, зокрема пріоритети застосування комп'ютерно-інтернет-технологій у практиці бібліотек.

Ключові слова: бібліотека, інновація, електронний сервіс, бібліографічний апарат, бібліографічний сервіс

Стаття надійшла / Article arrived: 09.06.2024

Схвалено до друку / Accepted: 28.08.2024

Introduction.

A digital library (also called an online library, an internet library, a digital repository, a library without walls, or a digital collection) is an online database of digital objects that can include text, still images, audio, video, digital documents, or other digital media formats or a library accessible through the internet. Objects can consist of digitized content like print or photographs, as well as originally produced digital content like word processor files or social media posts. In addition to storing content, digital libraries provide means for organizing, searching, and retrieving the content contained in the collection. Digital libraries can vary immensely in size and scope, and can be maintained by individuals or organization. The digital content may be stored locally, or accessed remotely via computer networks. These information retrieval systems are able to exchange information with each other through interoperability and sustainability.

The purpose of the article is to study the history of electronicization of library-information service in Azerbaijan and the world, inquiry-bibliography apparatus, to put forward scientific theoretical proposals to speed up the process of electronicization of the service activities of the National Library by determining the current situation and perspectives in this field.

Research methods of the article.

When writing the article, the principles of systematicity and comparative analysis were guided, learning, analysis and synthesis methods were used here.

Scientific novelty of the article.

For the first time in the article, the history and modern problems of electronicization were comprehensively investigated, the types of inquiry-bibliography apparatus were noted, the theory and experience in this field were studied and summarized, and new approaches and methods of analytical information analysis were proposed for the electronicization of the library-information service.

Research results.

The early history of digital libraries is not well documented, but several key thinkers are connected to the emergence of the concept. Predecessors include Paul Otlet and Henri La Fontaine's Mundaneum, an attempt begun in 1895 to gather and systematically catalogue the world's knowledge, with the hope of bringing about world peace. The visions of the digital library were largely realized a century later during the great expansion of the Internet.

Vannevar Bush and J. C. R. Licklider are two contributors that advanced this idea into then current technology. Bush had supported research that led to the bomb that was dropped on Hiroshima. After seeing the disaster, he wanted to create a machine that would show how technology can lead to understanding instead of destruction. This machine would include a desk with two screens, switches and buttons, and a keyboard. He named this the "Memex". This way individuals would be able to access stored books and files at a rapid speed. In

1956, Ford Foundation funded Licklider to analyze how libraries could be improved with technology. Almost a decade later, his book entitled "Libraries of the Future" included his vision. He wanted to create a system that would use computers and networks so human knowledge would be accessible for human needs and feedback would be automatic for machine purposes. This system contained three components, the corpus of knowledge, the question, and the answer. Licklider called it a procognitive system. (Licklider, 1965).

Claiming that the library consists of four structural elements, according to Kartashov N. S. "in the conditions of automation, the inquiry bibliography apparatus... turns from an auxiliary element into an independent element, in which case its work is not only concluded with the library fund, but at the same time, that element performs the function of generating information resources in other libraries, information systems, and countries". From all these mentioned, it can be concluded that the electronic inquiry-bibliography apparatus is an independent element of the library, and its role is constantly increasing with the introduction of new information technologies to libraries (Tahirov, 2013).

In Azerbaijani librarianship, due attention has been paid to the problems of world national libraries. The first initiative dedicated to this topic in the country was Mirza Ansarli's book "US Library of Congress" published in 1999. In the following years, this issue was the subject of the researches of professor A. A. Khalafov, professor K. M. Tahirov, associate professor E. Y. Ahmadov, associate professor K. I. Aslan, the outstanding organizer of library work, and these scholars published monographs and methodical materials, teaching materials, and articles related to this topic. (Ansarli, 1999).

Another official document that is important for the reconstruction of the National Library in accordance with the requirements of the time, and for the application of the world's advanced technology and work methods, was the new charter of the library prepared based on the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan "On Library Work". This important normative document, which focuses on the issues of library service and information provision, is important for the library's activity in this field and is of exceptional importance for the National Library, was approved by Resolution No. 30 of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan on March 6, 2000, of the National Library of Azerbaijan and the Republic of Azerbaijan There were exemplary Regulations of the Scientific-Field Library (Report of the National Library, 2004).

Electronicization of the National Library.

In Azerbaijani librarianship, the role and place of information-search systems of libraries, including electronic catalogs, their functions, and issues of improvement have been brought to the level of research only recently. In this regard, certain researches are conducted in our country, books are written and scientific

articles are published. For example, prominent researcher, professor Karim Tahirov has written about the work done in the National Library in his books and articles (Tahirov, 2013; Tahirov, & Abdullayeva, 2015).

It is known that the library catalog reveals the contents of the literature fund of each library and guides readers in the service process. Service to readers and all other activities of the library are based on it (Tahirov, & Abdullayeva, 2015). Nowadays, electronic catalogs are replacing traditional library catalogs, as the rapid increase and obsolescence of information in modern times dictates the provision of services to readers regardless of operational and geographical distance (Tahirov, 2013).

The electronic catalog allows readers to familiarize themselves with the contents of the library's literature fund through the network, to receive prompt and remote answers to their queries without the help of a librarian bibliographer, and to order literature remotely. For libraries, the electronic catalog provides real accounting of the library fund, statistics of readers, determining the scope of interest, tracking the movement of the book (i.e. who owns the literature, when it is returned, for what period of time, etc.), the completion and updating of the literature fund according to the reader's request, to the readers at a modern level. It allows you to organize the service "online" (electronic sending to readers and libraries, methodical guidance, etc.) (Ismayilova, 2016).

Globalization, which is the main attribute of the information society, is a clear issue that cannot be bypassed by libraries. That is, libraries can fulfill their functions in accordance with modern requirements only by establishing creative relations with other libraries or consortiums. Mutual relations and mutual interests are established on the basis of electronic information exchange. Electronic information exchange can be carried out only through the electronic directory. The electronic catalog also ensures the efficient use of human and financial resources of the library by automating the work of catalogers and bibliographers. This is one of the important factors for the transition period of Azerbaijani libraries.

On the other hand, since the electronic catalog requires librarians to know modern library-information technologies, it creates an incentive for raising the intellectual levels of librarians. One of the main advantages of the electronic catalog over the traditional library catalog is the more complete fulfillment of the reader's request. Thus, the electronic catalog provides the use of Authoritative texts, the description of the literature can be carried out on the basis of wider bibliographic elements. Today, the development of digital technology allows the information on paper to be converted into electronic form, so the reader using the electronic catalog can not only get bibliographic information about the availability of the literature in the library according to his needs online, but also get its electronic version (Ismayilova, 2015).

In 2004, work on grant projects was continued with the financial support of individual public organizations in the field of computerization, informatization, material-technical and software base creation. The creation of the library's electronic catalog was continued under the project financed by the Eurasia Foundation, the Soros Foundation and the US Embassy in Azerbaijan. The problem on the server of the library was resolved and the program was uploaded virtually to the server (Ismayilov, & Khalafova, 2023a).

It is possible to see statistical data on the improvement of the electronic catalog in the National Library in 2013-2022 from the table below (table 1).

Table 1.

**Development dynamics
of the electronic catalog in
the National Library**

Years	Electronic bibliographic description
2013	81108
2014	107922
2015	68790
2016	26831
2017	28066
2018	53354
2019	72463
2020	74567
2021	78546
2022	84890

The table was compiled by the author

Electronic Query Bibliography Apparatus.

Due to the wide distribution of electronic bibliographic sources, the problem of modernizing the structure of the library query-bibliography apparatus (SBA) and determining its elements arises.

According to scientist O. P. Korshunov "library catalogs have an accidental feature because they are created later and can change their form depending on the formation of the library fund. The attributive elements of the library are those elements without which it is impossible to imagine the activity of the library" (Tahirov, 2013).

According to Azerbaijani scientists, regardless of the size of the library fund, the type and type of libraries, the composition of the inquiry-bibliography apparatus includes the following parts (Mammadov, & Ismayilov, 2023):

1. Sorag bibliographic publications fund;
2. Catalog and filing system.

Depending on the type of library, the Inquiry-bibliographic publications fund (SBNF) located in the bibliography department or the reading room is a part of the inquiry-bibliography apparatus and at the same time the library fund, it is a set of normative, inquiry and bibliographic publications separated from the general fund of the library (Ismayilov, & Khalafova, 2023a).

Documents included in SBNF can be divided into four groups:

- basic and directive materials, official documents, generalized scientific works and textbooks;
- information publications, encyclopedias, dictionaries and calendars;
- bibliographic resources, index of bibliographic resources, i.e. bibliography of bibliography;
- fund of paid references.

Conclusions.

The role and place of libraries in the modern information society is determined not by the number of documents in the fund and the level of automation of library processes and operations, but by the library-

information service provided to the reader. At this time, libraries should take into account other information intermediaries that compete with it. These include individual organizations that create digital libraries and databases, publishers, as well as browsers that allow searching the Internet. In general, modern users require libraries to provide access to information sources and to respond to requests as quickly as possible. In modern times, traditional libraries are unable to meet these demands. This problem can be overcome only with the help of modern effective tools of the library service. The electronic catalog is the basis of the library-information service. Therefore, the efficiency of library activity is related to the cataloging process (figure 1).

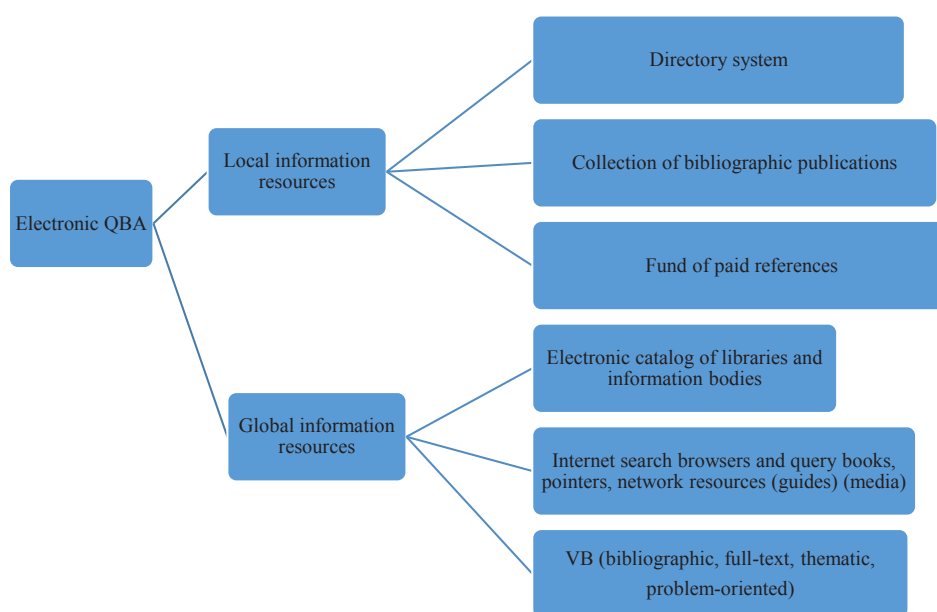


Figure 1. Composition of electronic SBA

In the survey and bibliographic publications fund, information publications have a special place, and information publications are divided into the following groups according to the topic, volume, structure and purpose (Ismayilov, & Khalafova, 2023b).

1. Publications of statistical information;
2. Mass-political information publications;
3. Scientific-information publications;
4. Production information publications;
5. Mass information publications.

In order to implement these issues set before the libraries, first of all, issues such as strengthening their material and technical base, enriching the composition of the fund with electronic information carriers and electronic resources, recruiting highly qualified library personnel, which is one of the main attributes of libraries, etc., should be resolved. It should not be overlooked that highly qualified personnel play an important role in the

future development of libraries. Because only qualified librarians are able to manage library bibliography processes, work with computers, organize the gradual transfer of traditional catalogs to electronic catalogs, etc. are specialists with skills.

Further development of work with traditional and electronic resources in the National Library can be associated with the creation of new types of publications and defining their characteristics. Because of this

- deepening and expanding the classification of new forms of electronic media and electronic publications;
- emergence of uniform standards for e-books;
- emergence of new forms of organization of service to readers;
- expanded work should be done in the field of further development and improvement of the legal aspects of activities related to electronic publications.

REFERENCES

- Ansarli, M. M. (1999). *US Library of Congress: 200 years of development*. Baku: Ağrıdag.
- Ismayilov, N. I., & Khalafova, S. A. (2023b). On the typology of document information resources in the field of economy. *Universidad y Sociedad Journal, Cuba*, 15, 224-1232.
- Ismayilov, N., & Khalafova, S. (2023a). The Modern Situation of Using Bibliometric Methods in Library-Information Activity in the Republic of Azerbaijan. *Scientific and Theoretical Almanac Grani*, 26(2), 106-110. <https://doi.org/10.15421/172333>
- Ismayilova, A. I. (2015). *The main directions of service to readers in the National Library under the conditions of building an information society*. *Scientific Works (Bur. 7, 30-36)*. Baku: National Library of Azerbaijan.
- Ismayilova, A. I. (2016). *The main directions of service to readers, the experience of applying innovative innovations (based on the experience of the National Library of Azerbaijan)*. Baku: National Library of Azerbaijan.
- Licklider, J. C. R. (1965). *Libraries of the Future*. Cambridge: The M.I.T. Press. Retrieved from https://worrydream.com/refs/Licklider_1965_-_Libraries_of_the_Future.pdf
- Mammadov, A., & Ismayilov, N. (2023). National Libraries: Typology, Main Functions and Modern Directions of Development. *Scientific and Theoretical Almanac Grani*, 26(1), 15-20. <https://doi.org/10.15421/172302>
- Report of the National Library of Azerbaijan for 2004*. (2004). National Library of Azerbaijan named after M.F. Akhundov. Fund 1, Case 82.
- Tahirov, K. M. (2013). *National libraries of the world. Azerbaijan National Library named after M. F. Akhundzade*. (Teaching materials). Baku: Baku University Publishing House.
- Tahirov, K. M., & Abdullayeva, A. T. (Eds.). (2015). *Official documents related to library work: (Collection of legal and normative legal documents)*. 3rd improved edition. Baku.