

Training:

The Department of Archives and Library provides training on archives record management and modern library management. Two training courses, under the title "Advanced Archival Records Management" and "Modern Library Management", were held during the year 2020-21. A total of 30 administrative officers and staff working in various Ministries, Offices and record rooms of the offices of Deputy Commissioners were given training during 2020-21. Similarly 31 librarians and Assistant Librarians working in various government colleges, universities and offices were also given training on "Basic course on Modern Library Management".



Professional Training Program

Brief statements of records preserved in National Archives of Bangladesh:

At present, the National Archives of Bangladesh has about 100 million pages of documents, and the figure is always on the rise. A few notable documents are mentioned below:

- Districts Records (1760-1900);
- Printed Proceedings/'A' Proceedings (1859-1955).
- Wooden Bundle/'A', 'B' and 'C' category records (1858-1964);
- Divisional Commissioner Records (1899-1960);
- Proceedings of the Legislative Council of India (1856-1861);
- Proceedings of the Council of the Lieutenant Governor of Bengal (1870-1910);
- Proceedings of the Bengal Legislative Council & Legislative Assembly 1937-1948 (Proceedings and Debates);
- East Bengal Legislature (1949-1953);
- East Pakistan Assembly Proceedings (1956-1957);
- East Pakistan Provincial Assembly Proceedings (1958-1967);
- Official Gazettes (1832 up to date);
- Maps of Division, District and Pargana (1778-1967).
- Records of the Cabinet Division (1971-1995);
- Dhaka Collectorate Records (1781-1938);
- Sylhet Proceedings (1874-1948);
- Records of Ministry of Public Administration (1973-2001);
- 12 Volume documents related to exchange of the Chit mahals;
- Copy of judgment of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman assassination case;

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- Copy of judgment of Emperor vs Masterda Surya Kumar Sen case;
- Copy of judgment of Agartala conspiracy case;
- Copy of judgment and documents related to the trials held by International Crimes Tribunals;
- Documents of the Nil mutiny which took place in Pabna district in 1857;
- Famine related documents (1878-1899);
- Document relating to the language movement;
- Architectural design of the National Parliament building complex.

Collection of National Library at a glance:

Original and creative publications, newspapers, collected under the Copyright Act, and factsheet etc. constitute the main repository of the national library. Besides, the library is enriched by purchase of standard books and donated quality publications. Currently, the collection stands at 5.5 lacs.

Few rare and notable books:

- Alaler Ghorer Dulal-Shree Tekchand Tagore, 1265 Bengali Calendar year;
- Description of Mymensingh- Kedarnath Majumder, 1907.
- Rajbala- Ramkrishno Mukhbaddhaya-1277 Bengali Calendar year;
- Special details of the country of Bengal-Shashibhusan Chattayapaddhay, 1902;
- Naba Charit- Rajanikantha Gupta, 1293 Bengali Calendar year;
- Yusuf Julekha;
- Hand-written Holy Quran Sharif, 1752;
- Glimpses of Bengal- Claude Campbell;
- Nakshi Kantha of Bengal- Sila Basak;
- Linguistic Survey of India.

Newspapers / periodicals and other important collections:

- Daily Newspaper (Bengali)- From 1961;
- Daily Newspaper (English)- From 1957;
- Periodicals (Bengali)- From 1972;
- Periodicals (English)- From 1991;
- District Gazetteer (Old), From 1878;
- Map (Various title), 1700 vol., (From 1892)
- Microfilm roll/ Microfiche 1559 vol., (From 1875);
- News Clipping 31 bundle, (From 1971);
- Calcutta Gazette (From 1861);
- Manuscript of rare books;
- Personal Collection of Dr. Muhammad Shahidullah;
- Collection from Bangladesh Secretariat;
- Collection of Nawab of Dhanbari, Tangail.

Digitization activities:

In order for permanent preservation of information and for providing of online information services, important archival documents are scanned and stored in computer server. During 2020-2021 a total of 1,42,978 documents were scanned for the stored purposes.

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Books and gazettes which are important but in decaying process, are being scanned and storage in the server for the purposes of long term preservation in national library and for providing online information and research services. During the 2020-2021 period, a total of 1,14,501 pages were scanned.



Digitization activities

Recent activities:

- Publication of Bangladesh National Archives Act, 2021;
- Publication of National Bibliography 2019;
- Publication of Record & Archive Management Manual.



Receiving the first place award by Ministry of Culture Affairs for APA implementation



District Record Room Inspection by the Director General

Opening Hour:

9 AM to 5 PM
From Sunday to Thursday
Government Holidays are Closed

Contact

Deputy Director (Archives) Phone : 02-8181227 Fax : 02-8181682 Email: tani.nlb@gmail.com	Chief Bibliographer/Deputy Director Phone : 02-8181445 Fax : 02-8181441 Email: jannal_nlb@yahoo.com
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National Archives Building

National Library Building



Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Department of Archives and Library
Ministry of Cultural Affairs

32, Justice S.M Murshed Sarani, Agargaon,
Sher-e-bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207.
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Under the direction of the father of the nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman the Department of Archives and Library was established in 1972, for the purpose of collection and preservation of important public records and creative publications of the nation and for the purpose of delivery of services related thereto. The Department of Archives and Library, by nurturing and conserving the cultural traditions and heritage of the people, and by fostering, improving the national language, literature and arts, is upholding the commitment and spirit enshrined in the Article 23 of the Constitution of Bangladesh. The Department is making important contributions to the enrichment of national history, culture and heritage, their preservation and delivery of related services.

Vision:

Building of a knowledge based nation aware of its history and heritage.

Mission:

As the legal custodian, safeguarding the repository of Archival documents and intellectual properties collected by National Archives and preserved in the National Archives and National Libraries and assisting building of a knowledge based nation by providing services relating to information and research.

What is Archives:

National Archives is an establishment or a repository where important public records and other documents of historical significance are systematically preserved.

Universal declaration on Archives:

Archives are a unique and irreplaceable heritage passed from one generation to another. Archives are managed from creation to preserve their value and meaning. They are authoritative sources of information underpinning accountable and transparent administrative actions. They play an essential role in the development of societies by safeguarding and contributing to individual and community memory. Open access to archives enriches our knowledge of human society, promotes democracy, protects citizens' rights and enhances the quality of life.

Archival content:

Archival records are of administrative, financial, authentic and historical significance; viz:

Record, manuscript, newspaper, latter, register book, map, chart, design, photograph, document;

Hand-written, illustrated, printed, presented in some other way and cinematographs, films, recordings, tapes, disks or any other material produced as part of the official work of a government office;

Leaflet, newspapers or papers relating to information printed in mechanical or any other method, state treaty, memorandums of understanding, commission reports and diaries of prominent persons.

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The National Archives of Bangladesh is mandated for collection, preservation and protection of important official documents of 25 years old and 30 year old archival document that are lying with various private persons or organization.

Necessity of Archives:

Bangladesh National Archives is the legal custodian of all archival materials and it is the central repository of country's intellectual property. Archives-

- Is the holder and carrier of history;
- Makes bridges between the past and the future;
- Collects, stores and maintains historical data;
- Is the focal point of the study of history;
- The mirror of the history of the nation;
- Traces the roots of the nation;
- Is the source of basic research;
- Prevents distortion of history.
- Mitigates the demand for basic information on any past topic;
- Assists in future planning and decision making;
- Ensures good governance, transparency and accountability.

Legal bases:

- Article 23 of the Constitution of the People's Republic of Bangladesh;
- Bangladesh National Archives Act, 2021;
- Bengal Record Manual, 1943;
- Rules of Business, 1996;
- Secretariat Instruction, 2014;
- Instruction from the Cabinet Division.

The National Archives of Bangladesh collects and preserves only 'A' and 'B' category important documents which has permanent value.

Sending documents to the National Archives:

- According to legal provisions, all Ministries, Departments, subordinate offices and agencies must submit important all records, documents, state treaty, commission reports etc. which are more than 25 years old, to the National Archives of Bangladesh.
- Enquiry Commission and Committees constituted by the government must submit copies of their report to the National Archives within three months of filing the same.



Meeting of National Archives Advisory Council



Archival Records Received by Director General

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National Library of Bangladesh:

National Library of Bangladesh is the central repository legally entrusted with the responsibilities of collection, preservation and providing services regarding information relating to original publications of nations intellectual practices and properties. Interested readers and researchers often visit the national library for the purpose of studying or finding required subjects or information.

The main responsibilities of National Library of Bangladesh including preservation, processing of information relating to creative and original publications, printed information and intellectual properties viz, books, magazine, periodicals, newspapers, manuscripts, maps, retrieved in electronic, computer and microfilming devices through state-of-the-art-technology and publication of National Bibliography.

Importance of National Library of Bangladesh:

National library is the yardstick for evaluation of a nation's literature, culture and intellectual practice. National library was established for the purpose of permanent preservation of nation's intellectual and creative publications, all printed information and intellectual properties along with publication of national bibliography. It is the repository and carrier of national language, literature, culture and civilization. Hence is the saying that national library is the university of all universities. As the biggest central repository of information, it is the last resort for all readers and researchers.

International Standard Book Number (ISBN):

National Library allocates ISBN on the basis of applications from authors and publishers. ISBN is an international standard code used for identification of books by specific title. At present, ISBN has a thirteen digit number. ISBN fee for both authors and publishers is Tk. 50/-.



Inauguration ceremony of online ISBN

Depositing Books under the Copyright Act, 2000:

Section 62(1) of the Copyright Act, 2000 provides that a copy of every book published in Bangladesh should be deposited with the national library. Likewise, section 63 of the Copyright Act, 2000, requires that copies of periodicals and newspapers must be deposited at their publishers' own cost, with the national library immediately after their publications. 1,08,588 books were collected till June 2022.

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National Bibliography:

National bibliography is a scientifically prepared list of books published in Bangladesh and those published abroad on Bangladesh affairs. Bangladesh national library compiles and publishes national bibliography of books collected by it during every calendar year. The bibliography helps in selecting appropriate subject, preparation of appropriate accession number and catalogue and providing a total picture of information regarding national publications and providing help in selection of books.

International Archives Day:

Every year the 9th day of June is celebrated worldwide as the International Archives Day. International Archives Week is also celebrated in Bangladesh on every year as per directives of the International Council on Archives (ICA). This year's (2022) theme of the Archives week was 'Archives Are You'. Seminars and special exhibitions were organized to mark the Archive week.



Seminar on the occasion of International Archives Day

Transfer of Archival Records



Member of International Organization:

National Archives of Bangladesh is a member of International Council on Archives (ICA) and South West Asian Regional Branch of the International Council on Archives (SWARBICA). Currently the National Archives of Bangladesh is the Secretary General of the SWARBICA.

National Library of Bangladesh is the member of the following international organization:

- International ISBN Agency.
- IFLA (International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions).
- CDNLAO (Conference of Directors of National Libraries of Asia and Oceania).
- CDNL (Conference of Directors of National Libraries).

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