



## **THE ROLE OF CULTURE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF LIBRARIES**

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### **Abstract**

This article analyzes the role of libraries in modern society from the perspective of culture. The study highlights the importance of libraries not only as traditional knowledge centers, but also as institutions that preserve cultural heritage, form a multicultural environment, and operate globally using digital technologies. Based on specific examples from Uzbekistan and world practice, the digitization of cultural heritage, the combination of traditional and modern methods, as well as the socio-spiritual functions of libraries are considered.

**Keywords:** Library, cultural heritage, digitization, rare manuscripts, multicultural environment, virtual library, national library, google books, blockchain, artificial intelligence.

### **Introduction**

Libraries are not only collections of books, but also centers of cultural heritage, knowledge, and social communication. Their importance in modern society is increasing, as new methods and technologies related to culture help to activate libraries. This article analyzes the role of culture in the development of libraries, its impact on society and promising directions. Reforms, plans and programs, practical efforts in various fields developed by our head of state and consistently implemented in life are all for man, his interests, comfortable life, safety and fulfillment of dreams, in a word, man and aimed at ensuring his happy life. This country and its people, which amaze the world in the fields of politics, science, culture, art, religion, and its people, due to independence, restore traditions and values, enrich and develop them based on the requirements of the times, realize their identity, and receive a decent education from the world community. is realizing great goals such as taking over. Poetic works created by representatives of classical literature are highly valued by our people as examples of high creativity [1].



Libraries as a center for preserving cultural heritage. Libraries are not only a repository of books and information, but also one of the main carriers of the cultural heritage of mankind. They have been preserving written and rare works, historical documents, manuscripts, publications and other cultural treasures for centuries. The role of libraries in preserving cultural heritage is manifested in several aspects: Preserving rare manuscripts and historical documents. Libraries, especially national libraries, work to collect and pass on to future generations unique manuscripts that form the cultural gene pool of countries. Any program should be short and concise, covering all aspects of the process.[2] For example: - The National Library of Uzbekistan stores manuscripts of such great scholars as Alisher Navoi, Beruni, Ibn Sina, as well as unique historical documents dating back to the 14th-19th centuries.

- World libraries (British Library, Library of Congress, Saltykov-Shchedrin Library in St. Petersburg) store copies of ancient books, maps, and archaeological finds.

## **2. Digitization and globalization of cultural heritage**

### **1. The importance and goals of digitization**

- Digitization is the process of automating and optimizing information and processes by converting them into digital form. Today, digitization is gaining importance in all areas of society and the economy. Great achievements and results achieved in a short period of time in history - glorified the fame of our homeland, our people, our rich history, our priceless national values and traditions, and our powerful spiritual and economic potential to the whole world.[3]

- Digitization simplifies business processes, saves time and resources, and reduces errors due to the human factor. In addition, digital systems ensure the security and transparency of information. This increases efficiency in public administration, education, healthcare, business, and many other areas.

- The main goal of digitization is to improve the quality of service provision, the effective use of information, the introduction of innovative technologies, and the development of a digital culture in society. At the same time, it accelerates economic growth, creates a competitive environment, and also has a positive impact on environmental sustainability.

- Thus, digitization is an integral part of today, one of the main factors of progress and modernity.

## **2. Main areas of digitization**

- Scanning of manuscripts and rare books:
- More than 10,000 manuscripts have been digitized in the National Library of Uzbekistan.
- High-resolution scanners (600 dpi and above) are used
- 3D modeling technologies:
- Creating virtual copies of historical artifacts
- Foreign example: British Library's "turning the pages" project
- Creating a metadata database:
- Detailed information about each digitized object
- Multilingual interface. This is the only way to achieve spiritual maturity and a rich cultural and spiritual heritage.[4]

## **3. Major projects in world practice**

- Google Books Library Project:
- More than 25 million books have been digitized
- Libraries from more than 100 countries participate
- Europeana:
- More than 50 million items of European cultural heritage object
- Cooperation of more than 3,000 institutions
- Uzbekistan projects:
- Electronic portal "Local Heritage"
- Digital library "Khorezmiy"

## **4. Difficulties of digitization**

- Technical problems:
- Scanning ancient papers without damaging them
- Storing large amounts of data
- Legal issues:
- Copyright restrictions [5]
- Intellectual property of cultural heritage
- Financial resources:
- Cost of purchasing high technologies
- Training specialists

## **5. Future prospects**

- Use of artificial intelligence:
- Automatic recognition systems
- Computer analysis of texts
- Virtual reality technologies:
- Types of virtual libraries
- Interactive exhibitions
- Blockchain technology:
- Guaranteeing the immutability of digital copies
- Protection of rights through smart contracts

## **6. Digitization work in Uzbekistan**

- Achievements in 2020-2023:
- More than 15,000 manuscripts digitized
- 7 large electronic resources created
- 5 projects implemented in international cooperation
- Digital library network:
- National Electronic Library of Uzbekistan
- Interregional digital archives[6]

## **3. Harmonizing traditional and modern culture**

Libraries store not only ancient works, but also achievements of modern culture. These include:

- Examples of modern literature (software products, audiobooks, multimedia resources).
- Promoting heritage through cultural events (manuscript exhibitions, literature days, poetry evenings).

## **4. Restoration and conservation work**

To extend the life of ancient manuscripts and books, libraries are equipped with special laboratories and archives. For example:

- Paper and parchment preservation technologies (humidity and temperature control).
- Chemical treatment (prevention of rust and decay).

## **2. Developing a multicultural environment**

Modern libraries are aimed at ensuring the harmony of different cultures. This includes:

- Expanding the collection of books in foreign languages - increasing interest in international literature.
- Organizing cultural events - (folklore festivals, international literature days).
- Creating a dialogue between national and foreign cultures (for example, meetings with foreign authors).

## **3. Supporting creativity and intellectual development**

Culture is not only about preserving the past, but also about encouraging new ideas. Libraries do this through:

- Artistic and scientific projects - (literary circles, competitions for young authors).
- Creative spaces - (3D printers, audiobook studios, creative rooms for artists).
- Improving speech culture (circles, poetry evenings).

## **4. Adapting to digital culture**

With the development of technology, libraries are also taking on new forms:

- Virtual libraries - (e-books, online lectures and exhibitions).
- Book recommendation systems using artificial intelligence.
- Libraries' activity on social networks (distributing news via Instagram, Telegram channels).

5. Their role in shaping the culture of society. Libraries are a place for people not only to read, but also to communicate, learn and relax. Approaches that help with this:

- Library-cafe concept (the opportunity to relax while reading a book).
- Family events (storytime for children, seminars for parents).
- Development of civil society (social projects, resources for research).[7]

## **Conclusion**

Libraries, as living centers of culture, play an important role in the development of society. They perform not only traditional, but also innovative functions by preserving cultural heritage, digitizing rare works, creating a dialogue between different cultures and using modern technologies. Projects implemented in

Uzbekistan (for example, the "Local Heritage" portal, the National Electronic Library) are a manifestation of active work in this area. In the future, the use of technologies such as artificial intelligence, virtual reality and blockchain can further increase the socio-spiritual significance of libraries.

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