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REPLENISHMENT OF LIBRARY COLLECTIONS IN LIBRARY AND INFORMATION INSTITUTIONS OF UZBEKISTAN: PROBLEMS AND SOLUTIONS

Abstract: This article examines the critical issues involved in the formation, replenishment, and management of library collections in the newly established Information and Library Centers (ILCs) in Uzbekistan. The article highlights the importance of meeting readers' growing information needs and ensuring that libraries maintain a well-organized and relevant collection. The study identifies several challenges related to library fund acquisition, such as outdated procurement procedures, delays in financial allocations, and inefficient communication between libraries and publishers. The article further discusses the necessity of improving the legislative framework, strengthening the role of the National Book Chamber, and addressing the need for specialized equipment in libraries. Ultimately, it emphasizes the importance of adapting library services to meet the demands of modern readers while ensuring continuous collection development and efficient resource management.

Keywords: Library collection management, Information and Library Centers (ILCs), book acquisition, library funding, reader needs, National Book Chamber, library equipment, Uzbekistan, library legislation, collection development.

The most important aspect in the formation of the fund of library and information institutions is the sorting and selection of the literature necessary for the reader from the world of books in such a way that the reader enjoys reading and reading the book he needs. In the future, the reader will be permanently connected to the library, which was able to provide such a service.

The largest tasks assigned to the newly created information and library centers (in the following places - ILC) in our country, there are 186 of them, are to fully satisfy the reader's daily growing need for information, help him find answers to all his questions, give him spiritual nourishment, an educated, intelligent person. Should I give you literature that helps to educate?

The main purpose of this article is to find out what it is and what it should be now, since the issues of filling, replenishment, in other words, compiling the fund, which is the main activity of today's existing libraries, are considered very urgent. It is being analyzed.

Currently, there are only 14 of all ILCs managed as a "Collection Service for information and library collections". First of all, let's analyze the terminological aspect of the collection service for private enterprises: "collecting" means collecting more literature in one place. The acquisition, replenishment and replenishment of the library fund actually means that the library gradually replenishes its fund throughout the year.

In our opinion, as noted above, the presence of the phrase "aggregation service" in the "Regulations" and "Job Descriptions" of all ILCs related to the provision of services had a serious impact on the activities of ILCs in this direction. For example, in accordance with the charter and job description, the library mainly carried out the issues of accounting, processing, storage of the fund, placement of literature received by the library in this service. In this service, only one head of the service was involved in the liquidation of the fund. In the Instructions approved by the Alisher Navoi National Library, the tasks of "concluding contracts with publishers, delivering books to the library" are assigned only to the head of the department, this is not the responsibility of a person. According to our data, this task is performed by the accounting department of libraries. For example, in the recent past, funds in the amount of 50 million soums were allocated to some large libraries of the republic for the purchase of literature. This tool could be used to obtain thousands of literature and periodicals from the above-mentioned publishers and bookselling organizations at the request of readers. However, the accounting department of the ILC (for



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example, the ILC named after "TURON") transferred this amount to one publishing house and replenished the library fund. However, most of this literature is Russian fiction, and electronic copies of such literature can be obtained by the library through the international book exchange service. There are many such examples. The problem is that even the funds donated to library institutions are not being used as planned.

Another problematic issue is that funds allocated to libraries from financial institutions that need to be distributed throughout the year usually arrive at the end of the year. This is a bad decision, since the library studies readers' requests throughout the year, and books that are often read, in some cases become unusable and may even be lost. In this situation, if the librarian has the means, he can buy these books at a bookstore or a publishing house. Especially popular books will be sold out at the end of the year. Another example is the purchase of literature recently started through a tender. The duration of the tenders for the purchase of books is extremely burdensome for a library that does not have funds. For example, one of the central library of Kashkadarya village had to pay 100,000 soums to receive one inventory notebook by tender, while in a bookstore such a notebook costs 20-25 000 soums.

The content and volume of the library's information institutions fund determines the further activities of the library. Then the process of selecting, searching (extracting) or integrating documents continues. Then the process of accounting, processing, placement, and storage is carried out. Information about the execution of these processes is analyzed and then corrections are made. The process of forming the fund of a library and information institution ends with the withdrawal of a document from the fund.

The process of moving documents into and out of the background is called a background process. The formation of a fund of library and information institutions is considered an ongoing process, and this process will continue until library and information institutions finish their work. As the size of the fund increases, the formation process becomes more complicated.

In practice, more importance is attached to filling the library and information fund, since a well-organized fund is considered the basis for the development of library work.

The acquisition of the library fund is considered one of the most important processes in the activities of library and information institutions.

The library collection is the basis for the organization of the library fund, and library activity begins with the receipt of books in the library.

The selection process primarily takes into account the spiritual, educational and economic potential of the area where a particular library is located, the composition of the population living there, and their interests. After that, the book sources are determined and the sorting process begins.

The acquisition of the fund of library and information institutions was planned during the Soviet era. The libraries were mostly filled with literature promoting Soviet systems. In other words, librarians were supposed to promote only the ideology of the Soviet government. The library collector created at that time worked directly with publishers and bookselling organizations, acquired ideologically and politically suitable literature for libraries, selected literature with the same name for all libraries and distributed it to libraries on the basis of an agreement.

The Centralized Library System (CBS), which was established under Soviet rule (1974) and united more than 10,000 libraries located at that time in different regions of the republic, was filled with the same amount of literature, despite the fact that the libraries were large or small.

Since independence, the system of library acquisition has changed radically. When replenishing the library fund, attention was paid to the interest of readers, the region in which the library is located, and the economic and social potential of the region. As a result, libraries have abandoned the library collector, which distributes unnecessary literature at its own expense. The then regional Universal Libraries (USL) or centralized library systems could communicate directly with publishers and booksellers to get the books they needed. At that time, it was the only way to finance libraries. However, today the number of publishing houses (there are more than 200 of them) and bookselling organizations is increasing in our republic, and the circulation of the literature published by them is sharply increasing, but there is no operational information about the literature published by them. It's time to divide institutions between



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libraries and publishing houses, bookselling organizations, which will facilitate the process of buying books.

Another issue is the receipt by the library institution of information about literature, press releases, newspaper and magazine articles published in recent years, which are often requested by readers. In 2003, the National Book Chamber of Uzbekistan was joined to the Bibliographic Department of the National Library, specializing in facilitating the search for such literature and information about it, which operated until 1994. The then Book Chamber employed more than 60 full-time staff. Currently, 2-3 employees of the National Library are engaged in the work of the organization, who take into account all literature published in the republic, newspapers, magazines and their articles, down to a simple booklet. Earlier, the National Book Chamber published more than 10 editions such as "matbuot salnomasi", "matbuot yilnomasi", "gazeta va magazine makolalari salnomasi", etc., and distributed them free of charge among libraries. It is a pity that there is still no state accounting and registration authority that provides complete information about literary and printed publications published in the republic and provides monthly information about them. For your information, book chambers operate throughout the CIS. For example, about 1,000 employees are involved in all these works of the State Book Chamber of Russia.

Do library and information institutions today have the necessary information fund to fully fulfill their social tasks, are they equipped at the level of modern requirements, does the content of the information fund meet today's requirements, do newly arriving literature meet the needs? the number of readers constantly coming from the population, and the requests of readers are timely, whether this is being done, whether there is enough literature in libraries that fully meets the reader's interest.

The analyses show that the library collections are not in a satisfactory condition to be filled with population surveys, books and various sources of information that meet the reader's interests. The shelves of some libraries are empty because of books that have become obsolete over the years and have been withdrawn from the library stock for other reasons.

Firstly, the fact that a library institution establishes direct contact with publishers and bookselling organizations is considered a positive situation, secondly, competition between publishing and bookselling organizations in a market economy, as well as the fact that these institutions do not coordinate their work among themselves, and libraries exist throughout the year - The fact that they receive literature from only one or two organizations, and the fact that local budget funds are not allocated and are not given out at the end of the year, severely limits the ability of libraries to use their funds as planned. At the end of the year, the library is replenished with necessary and unnecessary literature in accordance with an agreement concluded with a publishing house or bookselling organization. In addition, publishers sell literature at the desired price, and delivering a book to the right address is the task of the library itself. In addition, the lack of cars in libraries, and those that are, have fallen into disrepair, in some cases the library is forced to involve all employees and spend a lot of money to bring a book from a publishing house.

For example, the information and library center of the Samarkand region was completely renovated in 2020, which is certainly a positive situation. In total, this RPI then received 8 million allocated funds. However, due to problems with the tender, the literature was received very late (it arrived at the end of 2020) at the library. As a result, the library, located in the center of the region, surrounded by universities, institutes, professional colleges and academic lyceums, could not receive any literature or periodicals for 9 months in 2020.

Analyzing the activities of ILCs located in 14 districts of the republic, in order to meet the needs and needs of readers in literature, the fund of IRCs located in the centers of the regions, according to the fund and the readership, should be replenished with new published literature on an ongoing basis. To carry out these works in full, the IRC should have sufficient funds and capabilities.

Unfortunately, literature published in regional publishing houses must necessarily go to the funds of the ILC. However, oral and written appeals to the heads of publishing houses are ignored. For example, in 2018, 438 copies of literature on 254 titles were received with funds allocated by the ILC of the



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Samarkand region over the past years. As mentioned above, as of 2020, not a single literature or timely publication in the press has been received. According to the head of the collection service of the information and library fund of the Samarkand Regional Library: "If you subscribe to periodical publications, you can get from 50 to 60 titles in one copy. By the end of the year, some newspapers in a single copy reach the point where they cannot be divided into lines. We have to shorten names if we want to subscribe to the required number of copies of newspapers for the allocated funds.

Another important issue is that the regional scientific information center is considered the largest scientific information center in the region. Therefore, it is necessary to have dissertations and abstracts of scientific papers in libraries. The issue of the origin of dissertation abstracts for the "Scientific Department" of libraries is very acute. Electronic copies of dissertations defended abroad are received by technological institutes. However, obtaining defended dissertations and their abstracts has become a big problem in our republic. There are no dissertations defended in one region, even in the ILC. In order to meet the need for literature that is interesting to the reader and is often read by the reader from bookshelves in the center of the region, work is underway to collect (replenish) literature and select literature. However, the allocation of necessary funds from the regional Department of Finance and Treasury is delayed for up to 6 months. During this period, books put aside on the bookshelf are sold.

This problem exists not only when buying literature, but also when subscribing to periodicals. Unfortunately, literature does not cause big problems. The list of literature put up for auction does not always meet the requirements and needs of the library. In addition, incoming literature is very expensive. Another problem of the IRC is the slowness of delivery of library equipment (library equipment) to the library, over the years the publications of the press used by the reader are in an unusable condition. Due to the lack of special equipment for repairing and gluing damaged literature and periodicals, as well as the lack of funds for them, a newspaper with a single copy remains unsuitable for gluing at the end of the year. Also, old age, scarcity and lack of modernity of copying and photocopying equipment reduce the possibilities of electronics of the general fund.

The above-mentioned problems exist in all regions. For example, the central information and library center of the Karshi district of Kashkadarya region in 2020 was repaired for 770 million, but no funds were allocated for books and newspapers. In 2021, 30 million soums were allocated for the purchase of books, in 2022 no funds were allocated for the purchase of books. A serious problem is the purchase of library equipment in this library and in other IRCs of the region. Today, no organization has assumed responsibility for the development and supply of library technologies to libraries. Publishers working with libraries sell substandard library equipment. Since the library equipment does not meet the standard requirements, for example, the catalog card or its cardboard separator is not adapted to the catalog box.

Over the years, the withdrawal of books from the library's collection for outdated, worn-out and other reasons and their replenishment with books that do not correspond to the profile of the library and do not meet the needs of readers leads to a moral impoverishment of library funds.

In our republic, there is a Provision "On free and paid mandatory copying", approved by a resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers. However, due to the fact that publishing houses and bookselling organizations do not comply with the requirements of the Regulation within the established time limits, only regional closed limited liability companies receive mandatory copies, and some do not receive them at all.

Despite this, the development of modern technologies, new technical equipment coming to the library, solves the problems of libraries at the level of capabilities. However, as we mentioned above, e-book playback does not always work well. The lack of copying and multiplying equipment in the library and the insufficient number of specialists who use them, even if they exist, do not make it possible to replenish the electronic fund.

The tasks in the following are very important:

- "It is advisable that the collection period of the "Information Library Collection Service" be defined in the job descriptions of private educational institutions of the republic.
- To staff the IRC fund liquidation services with qualified specialists;



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- in order to establish effective work of the IRC with the population, provide them with high-quality information, develop special vehicles for delivering literature to their homes in order to meet the needs of elderly readers-pensioners, women with young children, disabled readers. through book deliverers at the request of the reader;
- In connection with the absence of the Law "On compulsory copies" in the republic, to request the National Library. "approved by the resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers, which is currently in force;
- to restore the activities of the National Book Chamber of Uzbekistan, which operated until 1994, or dramatically strengthen the activities of this department under the management of the National Library;
- to request the Ministry of Finance and its territorial divisions to transfer funds intended for the purchase of literature for the IRC to the treasury of the IRC immediately from each quarter of the year;
- to establish that the regional research centers are the largest scientific and information centers in their territory, to determine that collections of scientific research, dissertations and their abstracts conducted in the territory of the region should be obtained;
- The conclusion of authorized contracts between the Institute of Arts and Culture of Uzbekistan and the Tashkent University of Information Technology, which supply highly educated specialists to create conditions for students to complete all professional practices in libraries. To ensure that talented students who have completed an internship at the library will be employed at this library for the first time in the future.

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