



FEATURES OF THE FORMATION OF LIBRARY COLLECTIONS IN MODERN CONDITIONS

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ABSTRACT

The article is devoted to the analysis of the features of the formation of library collections in the modern information society. The key factors influencing this process are considered, such as digitalization, open access to information, new document formats, changing user needs and the state of the book publishing market. The author explores the main trends in the acquisition of funds, as well as the problems and prospects for the development of library collections.

Modern libraries are undergoing a period of rapid transformation driven by the information technology boom and changing user needs. Their evolution is directly related to the resources available and the range of services provided, which go far beyond traditional book storage.

The active introduction of digital technologies has led to drastic changes in all aspects of library activity: from cataloging and storage to information retrieval and provision. Today, libraries are not just book repositories, but complex information and educational centers that provide access to a variety of digital and physical resources. The development of library infrastructure is determined by several key factors.

First, it provides access to high-speed Internet, which ensures uninterrupted operation of electronic catalogs, databases, and online resources.

Secondly, it is the constant updating of software and hardware necessary to process large amounts of data and provide users with a user-friendly interface.

Thirdly, the key role is played by the qualification of personnel who are able not only to work with modern technologies, but also to provide effective information support, train users to work with digital resources and conduct various events [1].

The range of services provided is expanding: from access to e-books and magazines to organizing creative workshops, lectures and seminars, providing access to 3D printers and other modern technologies. For effective functioning and competitiveness, libraries need to adapt to new realities, use innovative technologies, actively interact with the community and constantly improve their services, focusing on the needs of their users. This is the key to the successful future of libraries in the age of digitalization. The analysis of attendance data, the popularity of resources and user feedback is of great importance for the continuous improvement of library activities and services offered.

A library collection is not just a collection of books and other documents, it is the heart

and foundation of any library, its fundamental component. Without it, the library turns into an empty building, devoid of meaning and purpose. The fund is the basic function that determines all other aspects of the library's activities, from its type and profile to the range of users and the range of services provided. We can say that the library's collection is its genetic code, which determines its essence and potential. Its formation is a complex and multifaceted process that requires a deep understanding of user needs, analysis of demographic and social factors, as well as forecasting future trends in information and knowledge. It is important to take into account not only the quantitative indicators of the fund (the total number of storage units), but also qualitative ones: relevance, completeness, subject diversity of documents, their format (printed publications, electronic resources, audiovisual materials, etc.), linguistic diversity, and as well as the status of the documents themselves. The aging of the library, the lack of updates and the lack of relevant materials can seriously limit the library's functionality and its ability to meet the needs of users. For example, a specialized scientific library will need an in-depth collection on a specific scientific discipline, with an emphasis on scientific journals, monographs, and documents with limited access. While a public library for a wide range of users should offer a more diverse collection covering various fields of knowledge, entertainment literature, as well as resources for children and adolescents.

In addition, modern libraries increasingly include electronic resources in their collections: e-books, magazines, databases, audio and video materials, which requires special knowledge and technology to catalog, store and provide access. Proper formation and management of the electronic fund has become one of the key factors for the successful operation of a modern library. The problem of forming a library fund also includes issues of budgeting, acquisition and selection of documents. It is necessary to optimize the cost of replenishing the fund by choosing the most valuable and sought-after materials. The process of secondary selection of outdated or damaged documents in the library's collection also requires a careful approach in order not to lose important information. Modern libraries are increasingly resorting to digitalization of their collections, which allows them to provide access to more materials, preserve rare and valuable publications, and expand the geography of users. Thus, the library fund is a dynamic and continuously developing system that requires constant attention, professional management and adaptation to the changing needs of society and technological innovations. The success of the library as a social institution and its ability to fulfill its main mission – to provide access to information and knowledge – directly depends on the effectiveness of solving the tasks of fund formation and management.

Libraries are currently going through difficult times for both subjective and objective reasons. Namely: a steady decrease in the volume of new receipts to the fund, the lack of novelty in both industry and fiction literature, which led to a decrease in the efficiency of using library funds, an increase in the number of unclaimed old books, an increase in refusals to issue, and a decrease in readership.

In addition, unlike libraries in metropolitan areas, regional libraries are in a more vulnerable position, as they have much less developed financial support, bookselling and book distribution. In this regard, there is a problem of depreciation of document funds in comparison with new purchases.

In conditions of constant underfunding of libraries, the specialists of the acquisition departments face the need to carefully select documents to ensure the high quality of the

fund. They should choose the most appropriate document management system. It is important to have complete information about which publications have already been released and are available for purchase, as well as about the materials planned for publication and where to purchase them.

According to statistics on publishing output, Uzbekistan is showing fairly good performance compared to other countries. More than 67,000 titles of books and other printed materials are published annually in the country, which allows Uzbekistan to occupy a place among the ten largest publishing countries in Asia. However, it should be noted that the United States and China remain the world leaders in this field, where the annual output of books exceeds 300,000 titles.

This highlights the significant difference in the scale of book publishing between these countries and Uzbekistan. In Uzbekistan, about 1,700 publishing houses are registered in the Uzbek Book Chamber, which indicates the presence of diversity in the field of publishing. Nevertheless, there are significantly fewer active participants in the market, who produce at least 12 books per year - only 230.

Many publishers are unable to maintain a stable production volume, which may be due to various economic and social factors, including competition and changes in consumer preferences. Competition in the publishing sector in Uzbekistan is quite high, which leads to trends in mergers and acquisitions. This, in turn, contributes to the formation of large publishing groups that begin to dominate the market. In such conditions, it becomes difficult for small publishers to survive, which can negatively affect the diversity of works on the market.

However, despite the presence of publishing houses and a high level of competition, statistics show that the demand for book products is decreasing. Over the past ten years, the number of books published per capita has decreased from 5.35 to 3.2 copies. This may be due to changes in the reading habits of the population, as well as the growing popularity of digital media and entertainment. At the same time, the total turnover of the industry decreased from 80.9 billion soums to 77.1 billion soums, which also indicates the difficulties faced by the market. Interestingly, the volume of the publishing market could have fallen even more if it had not been for rising book prices and active marketing efforts on the part of publishers. Many of them have started to implement new promotion strategies to attract readers and increase sales. For example, some publishers have started actively using social media and online platforms to promote their books, which allows them to reach a wider audience. Despite the current difficulties, certain market segments show potential for growth.

In particular, there is a growing interest in electronic publications and children's books. E-books are becoming increasingly popular among young people, which opens up new opportunities for publishers. At the same time, children's literature continues to be an important segment, as parents increasingly seek to instill a love of reading in their children, which creates demand for high-quality children's books. Thus, although Uzbekistan is facing a number of challenges in the field of book publishing, there are also opportunities for development. Success will depend on publishers' ability to adapt to changing market conditions and find new ways to attract readers [2,3].

This information is necessary for the library to optimally allocate financial resources and accurately determine the range of purchased materials, which allows it to take into

account the information needs of users. Currently, not only traditional books and brochures in printed form are available on the market, but also electronic editions on compact discs, which include text, audio and video materials, multimedia works and full-text databases. In modern conditions, the collectors of public libraries use a wide range of modern sources and methods to replenish library collections, which allows them to choose the most economical and appropriate ways of acquisition.

Over time, the library's document supply system has undergone significant changes: there are practically no public sources left, most of them have become private, the methods of acquiring documents have generally remained the same, but the content of these operations and methods have changed, the range of acquisition sources has expanded significantly and libraries have been able to independently and consciously choose sources based on economic feasibility and effectiveness of cooperation. In addition to budget financing, libraries began to attract funds from extra-budgetary funds for the purchase of specialized printed materials, and the importance of additional sources of acquisition increased, such as various organizations and individuals donating books, as well as readers compensating for damage to funds. In addition, various channels and forms of charity are actively used in library and information practice.

Electronic resources (ER) play a significant role in the library acquisition process. They can be accessed either remotely via the Internet or locally. This creates a number of new problems that library professionals have not previously had to deal with when choosing and purchasing traditional materials. In this regard, libraries need to develop clear rules and technologies for the effective selection and management of such resources.

First of all, it is important to distinguish between offline and online documents. An electronic document that exists only in a tangible format, that is, its information is stored on an offline (local) medium – a synthetic film, flexible or hard polymer disk (such as a CD-ROM, CD-ROM, DVD or hard disk of a computer located in this library, and so on), is called an offline document.

The key characteristic of an offline document is its clarity and physical material. Using an offline document, you can perform various physical actions: apply library data to it, move it from one place to another, store it, and register it as an accounting unit, and so on.

Online documents are considered part of this collection only if they are posted on the library's website or portal, and the library assumes legal responsibility for them.

When forming a fund using electronic resources, several additional criteria should be identified. These include: functionality and reliability of the system, technical specifications, availability of support from the manufacturer, terms of supply of the resource and licensing issues [4].

In the process of completing electronic documents, the issue of compliance with intellectual property rights is increasing. The library gets the status of the owner through an agreement with the previous owner. This agreement documents the transfer of rights to an electronic file to a new owner, as well as specifies the responsibilities that he assumes.

When distributing digital publications, copyright holders seek to control the continued use of these materials by libraries and individuals. In particular, they are trying to restrict the copying of texts, the transfer of documents to third parties, as well as the access of readers from other libraries, and the like. Licensing is a key element in organizing access to a resource,

as it defines the terms and conditions of its use.

Modern libraries are developing a new field of activity - the formation of their own electronic information resources based on traditional collections. The process of creating electronic archives requires a thorough preliminary assessment of both the qualitative and physical characteristics of the existing library stock, as well as an analysis of the work carried out in other institutions. Don't forget about important user requests either.

This work requires the involvement of highly qualified specialists in the library staff: experts in scanning documents, processing digital texts and graphic materials, as well as professionals involved in creating the structure and content of electronic collections. In addition, specialists are needed to ensure the legal aspects of the activity, such as registration of license agreements with copyright holders and clarification of the rights to copy publications released many years ago.

Thus, the formation of electronic collections based on library resources is a modern direction of library work, which contributes to the creation of funds offering scientific sources of information at a qualitatively new level. This ensures not only improved user information services, but also the safety of valuable publications.

In conclusion, it is worth noting that in modern conditions, the formation of electronic resources by the library is an important aspect of acquisition and is aimed at prompt and complete satisfaction of readers' requests.

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