

**Country Report**  
**The 23<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the Conference of Directors of National Libraries**  
**in Asia and Oceania (CDNLAO)**  
9-12 June 2015 Bangkok, Thailand

-----

Name of Country : Republic of the Union of Myanmar  
Name of Library : The National Library of Myanmar (Yangon)  
Name of Director : Ms. MyaOo  
Name of Contact Person for : Ms. MyaOo  
International Matters  
Mailing Address : No. 85 A, ThirimingalarYeiktha Lane, Kabar Aye  
Pagoda Road, Yankin TSP., Yangon  
Telephone : 95-1-662470; 663902  
Facsimile : 95-1-663902  
Web Address : [www.nlm.gov.mm](http://www.nlm.gov.mm) (under renewing)  
Email Address : nlmyanmar@yahoo.com  
Email of Contact Person : mya.myanmar65@gmail.com

### 1. General Overview of Recent Major Development

The Branch Library of the National Library (Yangon) was opened at the first and second floor of the National Museum (Yangon) on 20 January 2014. The Branch Library provides the current local publications since 2014, Books on Myanmar Collection, Current News Corner with hot news in publications and Internet, Subject books, free Internet usage, etc. Since the opening date, many people come to the Branch Library for their needs.

The National Library of Myanmar (Naypyitaw) has opened on 3 May 2013 at the new building in Naypyitaw, new capital city of Myanmar. About 200,000 volumes of collection have been moved to there. The National Library (Naypyitaw) is opened as repository library for State. Other two buildings are under construction.

### 2. Relationship to Government

The National Library of Myanmar is transferred under the Department of Historical Research and National Library, Ministry of Culture.

### 3. Key Facts and Figures

Printed Books	-	239920
Magazine	-	177980
Journal	-	126061
Newspaper	-	249705
Palm-leaf Manuscript	-	17564
Parabeik (Folded paper book)	-	2057
Kamawa (Religious order)	-	20
Hand writing	-	345
Rare publications	-	25468
Books on Myanmar	-	5908
Thesis	-	2527
Children collection	-	11864

ASEAN publication	-	769
United Nations Collection	-	11924
Special collection	-	14503
Old music disc	-	1164
Map	-	82
Disc player	-	2

#### **4. New Developments in Creation and Building Collections**

Local publications received from the Registration Office are now in National Library (NayPyi Taw). For the National Library (Yangon), we buy one copy of each local publication. In addition, as priority, we buy publications written about Myanmar in foreign languages to add the Books on Myanmar Collection. The Library also collects rare publications before 1962, especially gazetteers that mention the administrative functions of government in various departments. National Library (Nay Pyi Taw) has also developed her collection by collecting palm-leaf manuscripts from Upper Myanmar region, old music discs and private collections at the library.

#### **5. New Developments in Managing Collections**

The National Library of Myanmar (Yangon) has extended the period of its Rare Collection to 1965 because the materials are needed to preserve permanently. The materials are already digitized for the users and gradually made transforming into PDF files for users and toward open access.

#### **6. New Developments in Providing Access to Collections**

The National Library of Myanmar applies hybrid system for its users. Some are not familiar with computer system and prefer to use printed books and publications through card catalogue. For the general public, traditional library system i.e. card catalogues and printed materials. It also applies library automation system that was developed in Myanmar. Catalogues of library collections can be access as online catalogue through our website [www.nlm.gov.mm](http://www.nlm.gov.mm).

#### **7. Examples of Collaborations between the National Library of Myanmar and Other National Collecting Institutions (Libraries, Archives and Museums)**

The National Library of Myanmar is undertaking collaboration programmes with academic libraries in Yangon and Mandalay as well as National Archives. The National Library is sharing the resources that are very rare in Myanmar and valuable for researchers with Universities' Central Library (UCL), Yangon University Library (YUL) and Reference Library of Historical Research Department. For example, we borrowed some photos of Myanmar plays books published before 1948, of original books are only at the British Library in London, from the Universities' Central Library were scanned at the National Library. We also share copies of rare periodicals that were published before 1948 to the UCL and YUL for researchers. National Library and Reference Library of Historical Research Department are undertaking a project to collect resources of Myanmar Socialist Program Party (1974-1988).

In addition, National Library is implementing collaboration projects with ASEAN Member States as the Director of the National Library (Yangon) is Secretary of the National

Secretariat of ASEAN Committee on Culture and Information, Myanmar. Recently, National Library organized the ASEAN-Japan Library Development Forum on 25-26 May 2015 in Yangon by participating of 32 oversea library professionals including 6 speakers and 68 local librarians including 2 speakers. They discussed three topics such as a) Digital Literacy for library professionals; b) Preservation of library materials; and c) Library Services toward the digital library environment under the theme of “Libraries for Society toward the Digital Library Environment”.

#### **8. Examples of Collaboration Between the National Library of Myanmar and Publishers in Myanmar**

The National Library of Myanmar receives one copy of each printed publications of local publishers by the Printing and Publishing Law (2014). National Library Law is now being drafted coordinating with authors and publishers as well as other related department for legal deposit. Many authors and publishers value the National Library as their repository place of their publications. They usually use the library to find their publications and search information for their works and donate their publications to the library. As the Copyright Law is now being drafted in Myanmar, National Library and Myanmar Library Association is involving for exception and limitation portion for the fair use of library services.

-----