



Country Report
[Period Coverage: 1 January 2019 – 31 December 2019]

Name of Country : Malaysia
Name of Library : National Library of Malaysia
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1. Facts and Figures

Sn	Item Description	Figures
a	Operating Budget i. Government ii. External Sources	RM 162,357,162.59 n/a
b	Total Staff (FTE) i. Graduate or Post Graduate with library qualifications ii. Other Qualifications	
c	Collection Size i. Physical collection ii. Digital collection preserved	5,598,236 186,420
d	Visitorship (Annual) i. Physical visits to reading rooms ii. Digital visits to websites	457,781 276,388

e	Inter Library Loans provided (Annual)	878
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Overview of Major or New Developments in Library Buildings, Collections, Access or Services [Please provide a maximum of 5 highlights]

(i) Library Buildings

(a) Upgrading and Centralization of National Library Services

Under the 11th Malaysia Development Plan (2016-2020), NLM has received RM12.8 million to upgrade Anjung Bestari (old building) and expected to be completed in 2021. To date, the project construction is 8% completed.



(b) Construction of Sabah State Library (Kinabatangan branch) New Building

The construction of Kinabatangan library building in Sabah began in April 2018. To date, the construction is 78% complete and expected to be completed in April 2020. The new building design and concept inspired by book stacking and mangrove rainforest and wetland to provide a sense of identity that is significant to the community.



(ii) Access or Services

(a) Enhancement of u-Pustaka Services

The enhancement of u-Pustaka as National Information Hub project under the 11th Malaysian Plan completed on 13 December 2019. The enhancement involved various improvement and value-added services such as enhancing of u-Pustaka Portal to web responsive design to optimize and easy-to-read format across a variety of devices and web browsers on different platforms. It also

involved enhancement of three main components including the development of a new National Union Catalogue with special features such as robot harvesting and lightning fast search engine. The second component is National Repository System that allows wider storage and more effective digital content management with flexible e-book preview. The third component is the expansion of u-Pustaka services to another 4 state libraries that is, Melaka, Terengganu, Kedah and Perlis.

(b) e-Book Beacon Zone

Beacon Zone's e-Book service through the Smart Tourism facility allows users to download digital material about Malaysia in digital form to their personal smartphone using Beacon technology. Beacons are small wireless devices using Bluetooth 4.0 technology. Users with the Reader application will have access to the e-book through their smartphone when they are in the Beacon coverage area. NLM has successfully installed the Beacon Zone's e-Book service at ten locations which are the focal point of foreign tourists and local citizens.

(c) Radia Bukit Jelutong Community Library

The National Library of Malaysia has collaborated with Sime Darby Development Sdn. Bhd. to provide a community library services at the Radia Bukit Jelutong Commercial Center, Shah Alam, the state capital of Selangor. The community library was opened to users in September 2019. The library covers more than 8,000 sq ft, thoughtfully designed to be inclusive with spaces like kid zone, family lounge, digital hub, interactive zone, augmented reality corner and braille section. The library was built to foster a deep sense of community and cultural richness, and become the chosen place for social gatherings and entertainment.



(iii) **Collection**

(a) **NLM'S Collection 2019**

NO.	PARAMETER	FIGURES (2019)
NLM Collection		
(a)	Deposit of library materials Act 1986 (unit)	179,437
(b)	Purchase (unit)	13,942
(c)	Gift and Exchange (unit)	26,809
(d)	Manuscripts (unit)	86
(d)	Digitized Materials (title)	4,977

(b) **Online Databases**

In 2019, NLM has subscribed 15 online commercial databases and e-book consisting of 39,309 titles. The databases that available in U-Library portal is Library Press Display, BERNAMA Library and Infolink Services (BLIS), iG Library, Emerald Ebooks Collection, Alkem Digital Library, Overdrive e-book, EBSCO Host and Zinio e- magazine.

(c) **Personal and Rare Book**

In 2019, 1,936 books were obtained direct from two laureate figures Dato' Dr. Noordin bin Hassan and Dato' Dr. Haji Ahmad Khamal bin Abdullah and national cartoonist Tuan Haji Zainal bin Buang and two (2) rare book collectors.

(d) **Writer's Fund**

The Malaysian government provides incentive for the book industry and local writers by allocating Ringgit Malaysia more than RM999,000.00 in 2019 to purchase 92 titles or 33,854 copies of books direct from local writers. The total books purchased through this grant from the year 2007 to 2019 were 1,808 titles or 1,123,709 copies while the total cost of the government incentive involved RM24,338,042.22. Books purchased from this fund are selected from writers who deposit their books with NLM under the *Deposit of Library Material Act 1986*. To date, 1,478 writers have benefited from this government incentive. The books purchased from the writers were sent to all rural libraries in Malaysia as part of their collection to be used by local communities.

3. Collaborations with Libraries, Archives and Museums in your Country [Please provide a maximum of 5 highlights]

a) World Poetry Recital Night

World Poetry Recital Night was held on 14 September 2019 at National Library of Malaysia. The event was organised by the National Library of Malaysia collaborated with the Malaysian Translation and Book Institute. Along with the poetry recital, the participants also involved with the poetry seminar, knowledge sharing session, poetry writing workshop, street poetry adventure, national laureate exhibition and publishing of poetry collection. The objectives of the event was to supporting linguistic diversity through poetic expression.



b) International Conference and Exhibition of Malay Manuscripts

More than 400 participants from five countries attended the International Conference and Exhibition of Malay Manuscripts which took place from 15 to 17 October 2019 in National Library of Malaysia. The countries were Malaysia, Brunei, Indonesia, United Kingdom and United States of America. Under the theme Characters, Manuscripts and the Civilizations of the Malay World. The conference involved 28 presenters from various professional background such as researchers, lecturers, librarians, curators, historians etc. The exhibition were exhibit from October to November 2019



c) National Reading Programme

The National Library of Malaysia (NLM) acts as the Secretariat for the National Reading Promotion. Throughout 2019, NLM has collaborated with various government agencies, government link companies (GLC), private companies and Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to carry out reading promotion programme throughout the country to inculcate reading habit among Malaysians. NLM also conducts various reading programs through smart partnerships with ministries and other agencies in Malaysia such as Ministry of Education, local universities and others. Apart from that in 2019, NLM also actively involved in Kuala Lumpur World Book Capital 2020 programme and the National Reading Decade 2020-2030 and act as one of the secretariat and play a major role.

d) Let's Read Together for 10 Minutes

This programme is an annual library signature programme jointly organized by the National Library of Malaysia and the state public libraries in Malaysia in conjunction with the World Book and Copyright Day celebration. The aim of this programme is to promote reading, publishing and copyright laws. 'Let's Read Together for 10 Minutes' programme is symbolic where Malaysians in the whole country read simultaneously for 10 minutes. In 2019 a total of 6.42 million Malaysians participated in the programme. Various activities such as book talks, book review, exhibition, book sale, e-storytelling, puppet show, jawi script innovation exhibition and coloring activity were carried out during the programme.

e) WORLD#QuranHour

The National Library of Malaysia in collaboration with the state public libraries also organized the WORLD#QuranHour programme during fasting month. This programme involves Muslims reading and reciting al-Quran for one hour concurrently. The objective of the programme is to appreciate and experience the pleasure of reading Quran in a simple and relaxed manner. The programme also involves also all libraries in Malaysia comprising Ministry and government departments, statutory bodies, companies, non-governmental organizations, mosques and schools. In addition, reading activities were also conducted such as book donations, media literacy workshops, lectures and book reviews. In 2019, a total of 341,206 participants from all over Malaysia participated in this programme.

4. International Collaborations such as Formal Arrangements for Cooperation with National Libraries [Please provide a maximum of 5 highlights]

(a) ASEAN-ROK Joint Project on Reading Culture

The National Library of Malaysia in collaboration with the National Library for Children and Young Adults, Republic of Korea, the National Library of Cambodia, the National Library of Indonesia, the National Library of Laos, the National Library of Myanmar, the National Library of Philippines, The National Library Board (Singapore), the National Library of Thailand and the National Library of Vietnam were involved in reading campaign namely All Together Reading Campaign: Read Me a Book. The joint agreement was signed held in Seoul, Republic of Korea on 6 November 2019.

(b) Involvement in IFLA

The results of the 2019 IFLA elections showed that three person from Malaysia has appointed as standing committee from three section; Education and Training, Management of Library Associations and Government Libraries.