

# ANNUAL REPORT 2006

July 2005 - June 2006

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BIBLIOTHECA ALEXANDRINA



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## PROFILE

- ▷ *To be a center of excellence for the production and dissemination of knowledge, and to be a place of dialogue and understanding between cultures and peoples.*

## MISSION

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- ▷ *To be the world's window on Egypt*
- ▷ *Egypt's window on the world*
- ▷ *An instrument for rising to the challenges of the digital age*

## OBJECTIVES

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- ▷ *A center for dialogue between peoples and civilizations*



# C ONTENTS

<b>Foreword</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Acronyms and Abbreviations</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Introduction</b>	<b>13</b>

---

## **I**   **Highlights**

**17**



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## **II**   **Nine Themes**

**Theme i**   Leader in the digitization, preservation,  
and management of heritage

**63**






**65**

**Theme ii**   Center of excellence on  
specialized topics

**71**



<b>Theme iii</b>	Actor in the sustainable development of the city	83	
<b>Theme iv</b>	Innovator in cultural and artistic interaction	91	
<b>Theme v</b>	Incubator for children's talents	97	
<b>Theme vi</b>	Promoter of science and technology	103	
<b>Theme vii</b>	Catalyst for reform in the region	121	
<b>Theme viii</b>	Apex for networks and partnerships	133	
<b>Theme ix</b>	Meeting point for dialogue and understanding between people	155	
<b>III Support Departments</b>		161	

<b>IV</b>	<b>Financial Statement</b>	<b>Financial Statement</b>	<b>179</b>
<b>V</b>	<b>Calendar of Events</b>		<b>189</b>
<b>VI</b>	<b>Statistical Snapshots</b>	<b>Statistical Snapshots</b>	<b>205</b>
<b>VII</b>	<b>Board of Trustees</b>	<b>Board of Trustees</b>	<b>219</b>
<b>VIII</b>	<b>Meet the Management</b>	<b>Meet the Management</b>	<b>233</b>
<b>IX</b>	<b>BA Friends</b>	<b>BA Friends</b>	<b>259</b>
<b>X</b>	<b>Publications</b>		<b>271</b>



**HE Mrs. Suzanne Mubarak**



## FOREWORD

I am delighted to see the progress being made by the Bibliotheca Alexandrina (BA) as this fourth Annual Report attests. It conveys an image of a much more mature organization than one would have expected from so young an institution. Indeed, since the inauguration in October 2002, our enterprise has grown rapidly. However, I am happy to note that quantity of output did not displace quality. Indeed, if anything, our young staff is becoming more experienced and our activities more focused.

This year, of the myriad activities we undertake, the report highlights three areas:

First, the documentation of heritage, where innovation and the use of the most modern digital technologies have brought to life many great chapters of our history for the delight of general visitors and specialist scholars alike.

Second, the launch of the new Institute for Peace Studies (IPS). Established by the Suzanne Mubarak Women's International Peace Movement (SMWIPM), hosted at the Bibliotheca

Alexandrina. This initiative, the first of its kind in our region, will open a whole new field of activity using the BA facilities.

Last, but by no means least, is the nurturing of our children's talents. From music and art to computer and science, the Bibliotheca Alexandrina is actively providing training and opportunity for our children. They are our most precious resource, and it is heartwarming to see thousands of children who flock to the Library with their teachers or their families.

These three highlighted areas of interest are but some of the many activities that our staff are undertaking. Their endeavors are giving shape to our "university without walls, registration or degrees", where the pursuit of knowledge, the nurturing of talent and the promotion of a culture of peace go hand in hand. It is an instrument to help us and the rest of the world in creating a better future for our children.

**Suzanne Mubarak**

Chair, Board of Trustees

## **A**CRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

Please note the following abbreviations which may be used in this report

<b>ABA</b>	Academia Bibliotheca Alexandrinae
<b>Alex-Med</b>	Alexandria and Mediterranean Research Center
<b>ARF</b>	Arab Reform Forum
<b>ASEST</b>	Arab Society for the Ethics of Science and Technology
<b>BA</b>	Bibliotheca Alexandrina
<b>CSSP</b>	Center for Special Studies and Programs
<b>CULTNAT</b>	Center for Documentation of Cultural and Natural Heritage
<b>DF</b>	Dialogue Forum
<b>DLF</b>	Digital Library Federation
<b>ISIS</b>	International School of Information Science
<b>OCR</b>	Optical Character Recognition
<b>OPAC</b>	Online Public Access Catalog
<b>PSC</b>	Planetarium Science Center
<b>SMWIPM</b>	Suzanne Mubarak Women's International Peace Movement
<b>TWAS</b>	The Academy of Sciences for the Developing World



## I NTRODUCTION

The Bibliotheca Alexandrina (BA) is proud to present to the world its Annual Report for 2006. Covering the period from 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006, the report highlights three areas, while still presenting our hundreds of activities grouped under nine thematic headings. This year's three highlights are (1) The Documentation of Heritage; (2) The new Institute for Peace Studies, established by the Suzanne Mubarak Women's International Peace Movement (SMWIPM) and hosted at the BA; and (3) Nurturing Children's Talents.

We have selected these three areas to recognize a domain where the BA has excelled in the past and is now becoming an acknowledged international leader (Documentation of Heritage); to underline the new and very important change that we are undertaking (the Institute for Peace Studies); and to bring to light an area where the BA is doing much, but that is not sufficiently well-known by the general public (nurturing children's talents). Beyond these three highlighted areas, the myriad activities undertaken by the BA and its constituent parts are

grouped under the nine themes presented in previous years, namely that the BA should be a:

1. Leader in the digitization, preservation and management of heritage
2. Center of excellence on specialized topics
3. Actor in the sustainable development of the city
4. Innovator in cultural and artistic interaction
5. Incubator for children's talents
6. Promoter of science and technology
7. Catalyst for reform in the region
8. Apex for networks and partnerships
9. Meeting point for dialogue and understanding between peoples.

A brief statistical snapshot is worth introducing here.

The BA has a workforce of 1608 members including 613 security and custodial workers (predominantly males) and 995 staff members (61 percent women). These are managed by 163 managers (72 are women and 91 men). The average age is slightly over 28 years old, and over 79 percent of the staff are under 35 years of age. Only 26 individuals are over 55. This number includes a massive increase of 341 individuals to undertake the maintenance of our facilities in-house. This task was previously outsourced, but the new arrangement was found to be more economical (see Chapter 4, Support Departments).

In the 12 months under review, the BA has received 750,000 visitors and welcomed to its Reading Hall some 230,000 readers, a total approaching one million. In addition, 539 events were undertaken within its facilities (see Chapter 5, Calendar of Events).

Above all, under-girding all these activities is the enduring commitment to excellence and the unshakable determination to produce and disseminate knowledge to a wider public. Our mission statement and our four main objectives are presented at the outset of this report.

We invite the readers of this report to come and visit the BA. The space itself exudes a special atmosphere with its young and motivated staff, eager to recapture the spirit of openness and scholarship of the Ancient Library of Alexandria. The visitor will be pleased to discover that the BA, our New Library of Alexandria, is much more than a library.

It contains:

- A library that can hold millions of books
- A center for the Internet and its archive
- Six specialized libraries for (i) audio-visual materials, (ii) the blind and visually impaired, (iii) children, (iv) the young, (v) microforms, and (vi) rare books and special collections;
- Three museums for (i) antiquities, (ii) manuscripts, and (iii) the history of science
- A planetarium
- An exploratorium for children's exposure to science
- Seven permanent exhibitions covering (i) Memory of Alexandria: The Awad Collection, (ii) The World of Shady Abdel-Salam, (iii) Arab Muslim Medieval Instruments of Astronomy and Science, (iv) Arabic Calligraphy, (v) History of Printing, (vi) The Artist's Book, (vii) Mohie El Din Hussein and the World of Ceramics
- Four art galleries for temporary exhibitions
- A conference center for thousands of persons
- Seven research institutes covering (i) manuscripts, (ii) documentation of heritage, (iii) calligraphy and writing, (iv) information sciences, (v) Mediterranean and Alexandrian Studies, (vi) arts, and (vii) scientific research
- A discussion forum.

As explained in our Highlights section, we are now hosting the Institute for Peace Studies.

This latter is important as the Library is becoming increasingly recognized as the beacon for the values of openness, tolerance, pluralism, rationality, dialogue, and understanding. These values go into building a culture of peace, a peace built on mutual respect, justice for all, and the unfailing obligation to reject violence. We hope that our Bibliotheca Alexandrina will, indeed, be a space of freedom for all those who believe in the best of the human spirit, in the value of knowledge and learning, in the rationality of argument and in the civility of discourse. It is our ardent hope that all such people, whether they come in person or through the Internet, will make this institution their own.

**Ismail Serageldin**

Librarian of Alexandria

Director of the Bibliotheca Alexandrina

Alexandria, 23 July 2006

**This year, we celebrate the Bibliotheca Alexandrina's commitment to the past and the future, by highlighting the notable efforts and achievements in Heritage, Peace, and Children.**

- **Celebrating the Past:  
Heritage**
- **Welcoming Peace:  
Institute for Peace Studies**
- **Embracing the Future:  
Children**





# Highlights



## HERITAGE

The Bibliotheca Alexandrina places special emphasis on the documentation, preservation, and digitization of heritage. By engaging in the process of managing heritage, the BA contributes to the dissemination of knowledge about our culture in a world that is increasingly becoming a smaller place; a place where achieving cultural dialogue and understanding entails honoring cultural diversity and recognizing the distinctive and specific characteristics of our heritage.

Both tangible and intangible heritage are intrinsically created in a socio-cultural context, and are, therefore, selected, valorized, interpreted, preserved, and managed by successive generations through varying sociopolitical conditions. Consequently, individuals, communities, governments, and civic groups are partners in the transmission and management of heritage.

Shouldering the responsibility, the BA plays a significant role in the preservation of Egypt's heritage with all its splendor and greatness. Over thousands of years Egypt has shared, exchanged with, influenced, and was influenced by, many other cultures in the region. Its heritage is, therefore, the heritage of the Mediterranean and that of the Arab and Muslim worlds. Thus, documenting such heritage will promote

intercultural understanding, reveal human creativity, and disclose the processes behind social change and development.

The incorporation of heritage into the efforts made to achieve sustainable development in our community is of paramount importance. The financial costs incurred in the conservation of cultural heritage and the broad spectrum of development projects deserve serious consideration. One of the main targets of documenting heritage is to link heritage to the development of the city, the country, or the region through projects where cultural heritage can become a source for development. Therefore, the BA has set out to actively take part in the documentation, preservation, and digitization of heritage, linking its endeavors to the development goals of the community.

In pursuit of its goal to become a leading institution of the digital age, the BA has applied technology to the documentation and preservation of heritage. Four new specialized centers were created focusing on the different aspects of tangible heritage and the documentation, conservation, and management of intangible heritage. These newly formed centers develop digital registers, archives, and databases.

### **Alexandria and Mediterranean Research Center (Alex-Med)**

The mission of the Alexandria and Mediterranean Research Center (Alex-Med) is to document and disseminate Alexandrian and Mediterranean tangible and intangible culture; encouraging, in the process, dialogue and mutual understanding. This involves research, acquisition, archiving, publications, seminars, conferences, exhibitions, projects, as well as exchange and development programs.

Alex-Med is an active latecomer in a consortium of European and Mediterranean partners within the framework of the Strabon program. The web portal aims to raise awareness and share the cultural heritage of the countries surrounding the Mediterranean basin. Alex-Med is to present the heritage of Alexandria on the Strabon portal with the following projects:

- Alexandria mosques
- Digital reconstruction of the 3D model of the Pharos Lighthouse
- 3D reconstruction of the Serapeum at Kom El Dikka
- Video interviews with selected individuals talking about memories of Alexandria and the materials from Med-Voices project that had been already published, such as the “Cities in Times of Crisis” video.



A Model of Pharos

The digitization of the drawings of the Alexandria Waqf archives is an ongoing project scheduled for completion during 2006. There are at least 500 antique drawings of mosques and other religious buildings in Alexandria included in the project that were scanned for further work.

As one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World, the Pharos Lighthouse has always been a great curiosity for historians and the public. The Digital Reconstruction of the Pharos Lighthouse project produced a virtual model of the lighthouse, visualized from extensive research of existing hypotheses/theories regarding its initial design, and certain specific issues that were investigated. The same type of work is being carried out for the Serapeum at Kom El Dikka. In addition, a to-scale model of each site was created. The two projects have many applications and will be shared with appropriate partners such as the Euro-Med Strabon project for downloading on the Internet. The output will be in the format of a CD and it will be uploaded on the Internet on the Strabon portal as well as being accessible through the BA website.

The Moroni project carried out an architectural survey of four endangered buildings selected by the Heritage Team at Alex-Med, and are on the Governorate's "list of endangered buildings". The work entails precise recording of the buildings' dimensions to create an accurate blueprint, collection of historical details, photographic documentation of the building, and an in-depth analysis to recommend necessary conservation procedures for the preservation of the site. It introduced the new generation of young architects and the city's residents to the value of Alexandria's cultural heritage.

Despite the richness of Alexandria's cultural and historical heritage, the lack of knowledge of its value is a major persistent problem. The promotion of Alexandrian heritage seems to be one of the most important challenges facing the city. The Alexandria Cultural Map project developed seven thematic itineraries to raise awareness of the importance of Alexandria's cultural heritage in order to ensure a better visibility of the city among the tourists and the local population. The itineraries are presented in the format of a map, for walking and motorized tours, along with additional scientific and cultural information about the sites. Alex-Med is working with other stakeholders to develop the sites into tourist attractions.

A no less important cultural resource is Egypt's movie industry that was one of the first motion picture industries worldwide. In fact, Alexandria was the cradle of Egypt's cinematographic activity. The AlexCinema project aims to demonstrate how rich and cosmopolitan this activity was through a website and exhibition tracing the history of Alexandria's cinematographic creation since its initiation in the early 20th century until now. The project reveals how the interaction between Egyptian and

European cinematographers contributed to the emergence of a cinema school in Alexandria.

### Antiquities Museum

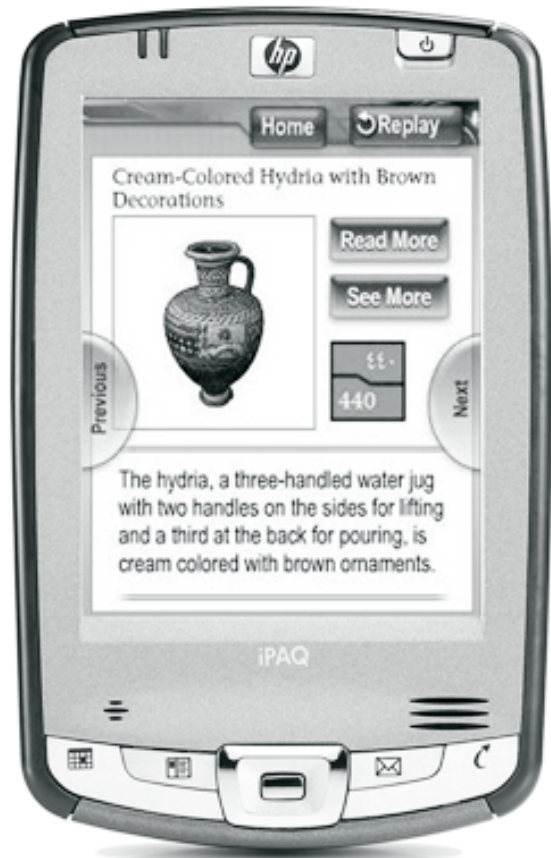
The Antiquities Museum has set a mission with specific goals in order to promote interest in cultural heritage. The museum has started on a project to create a digital guide that will enhance the visitor's experience, provide access to Eternal Egypt content inside the BA, and allow visitors to take thematic tours of the museum. The digital guide enables the creation of a personalized printed record of the visitor's experience. Other steps will be taken to set up a special laboratory to conserve the papyrus in the near future.

To provide an interactive experience of cultural information for its visitors, the BA has commissioned IBM to develop a digital guide for its Antiquities Museum, under the supervision of CULTNAT and as an extension of the award-winning project [www.EternalEgypt.org](http://www.EternalEgypt.org). The digital guide is a multilingual PDA device providing information and zoomable high-resolution images of the Museum collection together with information on related artifact, characters or archeological sites. It also illustrates animations of the way some artifacts were used by ancient Egyptians.

Other achievements by the Antiquities Museum can be found under the various themes of the BA.

### Arts Center

Throughout the past year, the Bibliotheca Alexandrina Orchestra (BAO) has presented a series of outstanding performances. It also developed and completed several musical projects that were prompted by a keen interest in Egyptian and global cultural and musical heritage. Likewise, assorted CD collections have also been recorded with the aim of reviving our traditional musical heritage and documenting contemporary Egyptian musical compositions and performances.



Antiquities Museum  
Digital Guide

### **250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Mozart Mozart Documentary in Arabic**

In 2006 the world celebrates the 250th anniversary of the birth of the legendary Austrian composer Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. The BA Orchestra embarked on producing the first Arabic language documentary about Mozart. The film includes samples of his most important compositions spanning different musical genres, including sonata, quartet, concerto, and opera, along with scientific material about his life and style prepared in Arabic by key Egyptian music theorists; in addition to a translation of Mozart's comic one-act opera *The Impresario* which will be performed, in Arabic, at the closing of the film. The Mozart documentary will be made available to Arab audience by end 2006. The pieces the BAO recorded on a CD-ROM may be purchased separately or with the film.

### **The Ten Adwar of Sayyed Darwish**

Sayyed Darwish was one of the most influential artists in the history of Egyptian music. The chronology of Egyptian music history was classified into pre-Sayyed Darwish and post-Sayyed Darwish, owing to his unmistakable and indelible influence in revolutionizing oriental music forms, and his simple but studied composition style. The *Ten Adwar*, which he composed during his short lifetime, form a prodigious legacy; given that a *Dor* is the richest and most sophisticated oriental music form that is both hard to compose and perform. The fact that Darwish's *Adwar* were not recorded accurately during his lifetime, and do not even contain correct musical notes, has triggered the idea of reviving the Ten Adwar by compiling all available recordings that bear the voice of Sayyed Darwish or one of his contemporaries, and working out the musical annotation for these *Adwar* by professionals. This project has been developed in partnership with the Center for the Documentation of Cultural and Natural Heritage (CULTNAT). A number of trial copies were recorded and printed, and the collection was published in 2006 on five CD-ROMs bearing the old recordings and the modern orchestrated version. This project is a first-of-a-kind initiative to revive and manage Egyptian heritage by applying modern scientific methodology.

### **Egyptian String Compositions**

For two years, the BA Orchestra has been fostering initiatives for the documentation of contemporary music composition in Egypt. It commissioned Egyptian composers from different generations to develop new compositions especially for the BAO, to be recorded on CD-ROMs spanning different present-time composition styles and approaches. To date, twelve recordings have been completed, featuring leading contemporary composers namely: Halim El-Dab', Ateyya

Sharara, Rageh Dawoud, Sherif Mohie Eldin, Ahmed El-Hennawy, Mohamed Saad Pasha, Ramez Sabri, and Bassam Nureddin. The last of these recordings were completed by end-April 2006, and the two-CD collection is due to be published by end 2006.

### **Egyptian Soloists**

An equivalent amount of attention has been granted to the documentation of instrumental performances by Egyptian soloists, who represent a great cultural wealth to their country. The Arts Center has selected the most prominent Egyptian soloists spanning different generations for each instrument (string, wind, percussion) and diverse opera voices (soprano, alto, tenor, bass). Over 20 solo and orchestra performances have been recorded for the first time, to appear in two CD-ROMs.

### **Calligraphy Center**

The Calligraphy Center is mainly concerned with the study of the emergence and evolution of writings in all cultures and civilizations. The center brings together experts in research and analysis of writings and inscriptions, thereby creating a scientific dialogue. It also aspires to document and archive writings and inscriptions worldwide. The center has launched its initiative to help develop heritage documentation, and promote this through presentation programs that are operated by people of shared cultural identity interested in learning from their past.



Speakers at the Calligraphy  
Cultural Season



The pilot project for the digital archiving of inscriptions and writings in Alexandria is one of the main endeavors of the Calligraphy Center. It aims to build an integrated digital library for Alexandria's historical writings and inscriptions as part of the efforts to preserve the cultural and historical heritage of the cosmopolitan identity of Alexandria. Focusing on the most important monuments, from the calligraphic and epigraphic point of view, the project will involve the recording, transcription and translation of unpublished inscriptions in approximately 500 monuments in Alexandria (Pharaonic, Greek, and Islamic). This will be a major reference for researchers and students in various disciplines such as history, archeology, anthropology, geography as well as for epigraphers and philologists.

Numerous monuments are in a rapidly deteriorating state and therefore documentation has become a matter of urgency. The situation became critical because of the rising water table (UNESCO, 1980). The limestone of which the monuments of Alexandria are built is porous and thus, water is absorbed gradually upwards, and the salts within it crystallize on the exterior of the stone and cause it to become frail. A definite example is found in Kom El Shoukafa catacombs, where the destruction of all decorative details below this level could occur if no conservation measures are taken.

Erosion factors and sea salt have damaged much of the inscriptions found on many monuments. These inscriptions are valuable not only for their very considerable artistic content, but also for the important historical, paleographic, and philological information they contain. Ninety percent of the previous archeological studies concentrate on the historical and architectural view, while only ten percent of these studies are dedicated to study the inscriptions and writings on these monuments. Thus, the main interest will be recording lapidary inscriptions, in addition to many, which have been preserved on wood and stucco, concentrating on historical, votive, religious, and administrative writings.

With the help of the ICT Department, a specialized software program was designed for documenting the inscriptions, to contain details such as name, number, date, and provenance. The Pharaonic and Islamic phases have been completed and the web designing is currently underway; simultaneously, the Greek monuments are in the process of being recorded.

The first of the annals *The Marvels of Arabic Calligraphy in Al-Busayri Mosque* has been published. This mosque is unique because of the richness of its walls with inscriptions and old engravings, including ninety-four verses from Al-Burda, the eulogy poem of the Prophet Mohammed (peace be upon him) by Al-Busiri. Sixty-four verses in

Nasta'aliq (Islamic script) are inscribed on the walls of the prayer area and another thirty verses on the walls of the mausoleum.

The Calligraphy Center is issuing a series of CD collections; the first of which was produced in collaboration with the Zaid Center for Heritage, and it bears the best Arabic calligraphies. Work is underway to produce an educational CD in the ancient Egyptian language, serving both specialists and non-specialists. The CD will include information about the development of the writing and the deciphering of the ancient Egyptian language and a brief informative encyclopedia of sociological, geographical, and political aspects of ancient Egypt. A special section is devoted to children. It will also provide an easy and simple way of learning hieroglyphs for both lay people and beginners who may be already acquainted with the ancient Egyptian language. Similarly, an Arabic CD describing ancient Egyptian culture will be produced for the first time. Its aim is to increase awareness of ancient Egypt, and offer wider community access to the language of the ancestors.

The Calligraphy Center is also working in collaboration with the American University in Cairo to produce a CD covering Cairo's monumental epigraphy. The project involves recording, transcribing, and translating the unpublished inscriptions in pre-1800 monuments in Cairo. In addition, a sample of published inscriptions will be photographed, and those in serious danger from water table damage will be fully recorded.

The center helped develop programs on community awareness of tangible heritage through organizing educational courses on 'ancient Egyptian language' and 'Arabic calligraphy' for both adults and children. The Electronic Library of Calligraphies, another project, is planned to increase cultural awareness of national and international heritage, and supplement the education system by rendering information available to all.

### **Center for Documentation of Cultural and Natural Heritage (CULTNAT)**

The Center for Documentation of Cultural and Natural Heritage (CULTNAT) strives to apply the latest technological innovations to document Egypt's cultural heritage: tangible and intangible, as well as Egypt's natural heritage, which includes information about the natural areas and their organic components.

The award-winning work of CULTNAT, from the impressive world's first nine-screen interactive multi-layered digital "Cultural Panorama", called the CULTURAMA (patent pending), to Eternalegypt.org, a unique trilingual portal, to many other activities, has been providing a

new multimedia means for people worldwide to learn more about Egypt. CULTNAT has contributed toward the documentation and dissemination of information related to heritage by:

- Implementing the documentation program set out in the national plan of action, making use of the most up-to-date information technology in collaboration with the national and international specialized organizations
- Increasing public awareness of cultural and natural heritage using all available media
- Capacity-building for professionals in the fields of conservation and documentation of cultural and natural heritage.

As the world becomes more interconnected in the digital age, new technologies are becoming important tools, CULTNAT is working simultaneously on various programs for documenting Egypt's cultural and natural heritage:

- The Archeological Map of Egypt, providing easily accessible detailed information on the archeological treasures of Egypt, building on layered databases including maps, images, text and video simulations



Documentation of Natural Heritage

- The Architectural Heritage of Egypt, providing similar treatment to the listed architectural monuments in Egypt's main cities
- The Natural Heritage of Egypt, its biodiversity and protected area
- The Egyptian Folklore by text, image and sound
- The Musical Heritage of Egypt, by documenting the integral works of the Egyptian musicians and producing these works in a form of books coupled with CDs

- The Photographic Memory of Egypt, compiling all the valuable old photographs of Egypt, from postcards to private mementos
- The Scientific Islamic Manuscripts Heritage, presenting in digital format the treasures of Egypt's national library and archives.

In addition, CULTNAT has succeeded in developing impressive ways to communicate its research findings to the public. Online, the award winning trilingual website ([www.eternalegypt.org](http://www.eternalegypt.org)) presents a treasure trove for anyone interested in Egypt and its history. The website allows visitors to see Egypt, both as it was thousands of years ago and as it is today. It offers guided tours that go through the story of the Pharaonic, Greco-Roman, Coptic and Islamic periods of Egypt's history.

www.eternalegypt.org was recognized internationally by several awards from Stockholm, to Vancouver, to Geneva, to Tunis, and most recently won the "Best e-Content World Summit Award" during the World Summit of Information Society (WSIS).

The CULTNAT premises (www.cultnat.org) offers a set of exhibitions and projections where all projects are on display to the public. It also publishes material in printed and CD formats. Most notable of these is the series of archeological atlases providing exhaustive maps, locations and descriptions of the archeological sites in Egypt, governorate by governorate.

In 2006, CULTNAT was involved as an active partner in three new projects with the EU alongside three other international projects. The European Space Agency project: HORUS (Heritage of Observation and Retrieval Under Sand), the main objectives of which are to identify archeological sites covered by sand and illegal excavations; the Italian risk map of Sakkara and Fayyum; and the hosting and 'Arabization' of the Global Egyptian Museum on the Web, which envelopes the Egyptian objects collection in eleven European museums.

The EU projects are:

- Medcult: which aims to establish a stable network of experts able to become, in a mid-term perspective, a type of observatory that will deliver information and practical resources to cultural and educational institutions that are keen to improve quality in their website projects.
- InfraArtSonic: the scope of the project is the development of an integrated portable analytical system for the non-destructive sampling and characterization of paintings and polychrome objects, to determine its layers of painting as well as the pigments within each layer.
- INFOMAN: the goal of this project is to safeguard and generate interest in the Arabic manuscript collections distributed among Euro-Mediterranean countries as part of the regions combined effort to reserve its cultural heritage. It is a specific support action project led by CULTNAT.



Best e-Content Award

Furthermore, CULTNAT has also been actively engaged in a variety of national projects:

- National Archives

This four-year project commenced on 1 July 2005. Its objective is to create a database with 25 million records covering 90 million documents, in addition to the scanning of 100,000 of the most important documents. The project is financed by the Ministry of Communication and Information Technology; CULTNAT is managing the project, and the executive agencies are a consortium of IT companies headed by IBM, applying a new technology named "Audio-Based Solution". One of the project outputs will be a website for the National Archives of Egypt, allowing users to search within the database to view scanned documents.

- Mural Decoration in Ancient Egypt

With thousands of mural paintings inscribed by the ancient Egyptians on the walls of tombs, temples, and pyramids, and the lack of complete registry of such paintings, this project is developing a bilingual database to document all the scenes and writings on the mural decoration from the Pharaonic period. The project will document all bibliographic and descriptive data, in addition to aesthetic, religious, and social aspects.

- Documentation of Egypt's Press Heritage

With its first official newspaper in 1828 (al-Waqa'e al-Misreya), Egypt became the first Arab country producing newspapers in the nineteenth century. Since then, many newspapers and periodicals were published registering political, economic and social aspects of Egyptian daily life as well as events around the world. The project documents Egypt's press heritage during the period 1828-1952 by scanning and cataloging the press of that period. The project will then provide such wealth for electronic reading, producing specialized and thematic publications.

- The Postal Museum project

This project documents the museum's possessions, Egyptian stamps and equipment in a photographed database. In addition to developing some electronic products such as an encyclopedia for Egyptian stamps and the treasures of the Post Museum. Through the duration of the project employees will be trained on the usage of the PC to be able to continue the documentation and archiving process of all the possessions in the Museum.

- Documentation of Bank Misr

CULTNAT in collaboration with Bank Misr, will celebrate eighty-five years of the inauguration of the Bank. This will involve the

documentation of rare papers, books, and photos of both Bank Misr and Talaat Harb, which are currently in the possession of Bank Misr and the National Library and Archives of Egypt. The aim is to present Egyptian economic life, (1920–1940), using the collected data, and emphasize the important role and successes of Talaat Harb for the independence of the Egyptian economy.

- Coptic Heritage Documentation

An essential need was to document the Coptic Culture parallel to the on-going programs in covering the ancient Egyptian, Islamic, and Greco-Roman heritage. CULTNAT initiated a liaison with senior officials regarding the conservation of the Coptic Culture. This resulted in the creation of a database of the Coptic monasteries and churches in Egypt, including the artistic elements within each church and the sketch of the site plan. Detailed documentation of the Coptic arts will also be included (Coptic music, icons, wall paintings, and wood). The program will produce a Coptic heritage map of Egypt and a guide for tourists.

- Presidential Palaces of Egypt

The documentation of the presidential palaces of Egypt began with Abdeen Palace as a pilot project setting the documentation criteria for the other palaces. The aim is to conduct a thorough study of the development of the architecture, artifacts and landscapes associated with the palaces, and highlight the social history of the era and the important events that took place in Egypt. A detailed complete catalog and a guide will be available for tourists.

- Luxor

This project aims to develop the Mubarak Cultural Center hosting the CULTURAMA in addition to the Mubarak Public Library. The development phase will focus on consulting IT to exhibit Egyptian culture. The project will be accomplished in two phases; phase one (finished by June 2006), includes the CULTURAMA and the multimedia room, and phase two, the remaining Center is in process.

- Arabic Papyrus

The Arabic Papyrus Project aims at documenting, digitizing and disseminating available information on the rare collection of Arabic papyrus at Dar el Kutub to the Arabic papyrology scholarly community, to young researchers, and the public. In so doing, the project digitizes the 3,500 folios found at Dar el Kutub, produces scanned images of each papyrus and enters the available information in the MARC format, and publishes it on the Internet. The outcome of the project is a comprehensive database that will act as an archiving information system, a CD of selected papyri, and a publication.

In May 2006, a new project commenced for the documentation of the Port Said Governorate with respect to:

- Historical Buildings
- Photos
- Folklore Heritage
- Geographic Information Systems (GIS).

### **CULTNAT Activities**

During the year 2005/2006, CULTNAT hosted and organized four regional conferences:

- Workshop on “Digitizing Arab Memory”, November 2005
- Regional workshop on “Documenting Arab Folklore”, December 2005
- Launching the Folklore Thesaurus (in Arabic), December 2005
- MedCult Workshop: “Culture for Web, Web for Culture”, April 2006

CULTNAT has also participated in twelve international conferences and events:

- Shaduf Project Meeting, Valencia, Spain (July 2005)
- Future of Museums in the Digital Age Conference, Rome, Italy (September 2005)
- Virtual Reality at Work in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Conference, Ghent, Belgium (October 2005)
- Cost and Cultural Heritage: Crossing Borders, Florence, Italy (October 2005)
- Digital Learning 2005, New Delhi, India (October 2005),
- Virtual Retrospect 2005, Biarritz, France (November 2005)
- Meeting of Network of Expertise Centers, Pisa, Italy (November 2005)
- International Colloquium on Digital Heritage and Preservation, Dundee, Scotland (November 2005),
- 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Baltimore Alexandria Sister City Committee, Baltimore, USA (November 2005)
- Final Conference for EU Project Patrimoines: Partagés, Brussels, Belgium (November 2005)
- UNESCO’s Regional Meeting, Abu Dhabi, UAE (December 2005)
- International Symposium on Nonlinear Dynamics, Shanghai, China (December 2005)



HE Kofi Annan,  
Secretary-  
General of the  
United Nations,  
signing the guest  
book at  
CULTNAT.

Multiple local, regional, and international agreements and protocols were signed:

- Protocol with MCIT regarding the initiative of building the “Egyptian Geographical Network” (December 2005)
- Protocol with Cairo Governorate regarding the development of its IT infrastructure (December 2005)
- Protocol with the Egyptian Geographical Society regarding the digitization of cartographic archives, historic books, and photographs in possession of the society
- Protocol with the Jordanian Documentation Center to work jointly on documenting the Jordanian cultural heritage (September 2005)
- Protocol with the Center for Computer-aided Egyptological Research, the Netherlands regarding the Global Egyptian Museum project (November 2005)
- Protocol agreement signed between CULTNAT and the Heliopolis Company for the documentation of the Company’s archives (April 2006).



## Manuscript Center and Manuscript Museum

Much of the Manuscript Center's work is related to the preservation, digitization, and management of heritage. The center also displays manuscripts from its collection at the Manuscript Museum. There, visitors can encounter touch-screen technology through a sophisticated virtual browser that allows the user to turn the different pages of the original manuscript with a simple touch of the finger, and gives full control options such as magnifying and minimizing the image. Other digital presentations include a virtual visit to the museum and the detailed text information on the available manuscripts in six languages (Arabic, English, French, German, Italian, and Spanish).

The Digital Manuscript Archive project aims to produce digital copies of the entire BA manuscript collection numbering more than 6,000 titles, as well as rare books, maps, and important documents. These are available for consultation and study at the Manuscript Reading Room. During the past year, 490 manuscripts were digitized.

In addition, the center publishes CD series of seven manuscripts per collection, including selected valuable manuscripts. Every set comprises seven CDs, each bearing a complete unabridged rare manuscript. Two have been released and the third is underway. These are made available to scholars at a nominal cost.

Within the framework of a bilateral cooperation agreement concluded between the two countries, the Manuscript Center has produced a digital copy of selected Arabic manuscripts held at Uppsala University Library, Sweden, where six rare manuscripts run on a sophisticated virtual browser. The Manuscript Center held two successful conferences and participated in several events:

- IFLA Annual Conference – BA pavilion, Oslo, Norway (August 2005)
- International Symposium and Exhibition: Mohamed Ali and the World (November 2005)
- The Italian Grant Launching Ceremony (November 2005)
- Celebration of the release of the Uppsala Collection (December 2005)
- International Symposium and Exhibition of the Suez Canal: Cities Born in the Desert (12–13 December 2005)
- Heritage and Cultural Development exhibition, in collaboration with the Dialogue Forum of the BA (January 2006)
- Commentary Manuscripts Conference (March 2006)



‘Commentary  
Manuscripts  
Conference’  
Exhibition

Additionally, the center has continued its project to compile over more than 100,000 copied manuscripts from various world libraries, as more than 5,000 copied manuscripts were collected during the reported period. The Arabic collection found at the Institute of Arabic Manuscripts. 3,259 manuscripts and 8,939 rare books were entered on the BA’s VTLS database. Research was conducted and data extracted from manuscript copies of the works of the following authors: Ibn Sina, al-Razi, al-Nabulsi, Ibn al-Bitar, Ibn al-Nafis, Ibn al-Haytham, Ibn Rushd and al-Sayuti as part of the project to document the bibliographies of major authors of Arabic heritage.

The Manuscript Museum took great strides in the preservation of heritage through its Restoration Laboratory. There, manuscripts are restored manually with careful precision. Rare books receive manual treatment and are automated through the leaf-casting machine. A total of 24,030 folios were automatically restored (9 manuscripts, 176 rare books, and 5 papyri). Chemical treatment was undertaken for 7 manuscripts and 98 rare books.

Following the tradition of the ancient Library of Alexandria in which renowned scholars were invited for the exchange of knowledge, expertise and wisdom, the Resident Scholar Program (RSP) was established. The aim is to invite accomplished heritage scholars from all over the world to stay at the Bibliotheca Alexandrina for a period of time, during which the invited scholars meet heritage specialists and academics from Egypt. Such interaction ensures a dynamic milieu of research and a conservation of established traditions of academia. During their stay (no less than two weeks) RSP participants deliver a

number of lectures in their fields of knowledge, and the lectures will be documented and provided to the public on CDs.

There were a number of positive responses to the program in 2006. The opening episodes of the program consisted of Ramazan Sesen (Turkey), Abdul-Hamid Sabra (USA), Roushdi Rashed (France) and Mahmoud Ali Makki (Egypt). Syrian poet and critic Adonis and Professor Abullah al-Ghoneim will be the center's resident scholars during November and December 2006.

### Special Documentation Projects

#### Archiving Documents Pertaining to the Family of Boutros Ghali Pasha, Former Prime Minister of Egypt



Boutros Ghali Pasha

This project began end-2004. Many members of the Boutros Ghali family held key positions in the Egyptian Government throughout the modern history of Egypt.

Boutros Ghali Pasha played a significant role in historical political events that took place toward the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century and the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. He was the first Egyptian Copt to become a Mirimiran, and was appointed Prime Minister on 12 November 1908.

There was much blame on Ghali Pasha as he had signed the Sudan Agreement in 1899. He headed the special court for the Denshway incident, re-enacted the Publication's Law, attempted to extend the Suez Canal Concession, and encouraged the policy of Khedive Abbas Helmi in oppressing the Egyptian patriotic movement.

With over 15,000 pages, this huge collection is considered one of the largest both in quantity and content. The project will attempt to digitize the entire multilingual (Arabic, English, French, German, Italian, Latin, Ottoman, Persian, and Turkish) collection and make it available in a searchable form for historians, politicians, and researchers.

#### Archiving Documents Belonging to the Family of Mohammad Mahmoud Pasha, Former Prime Minister of Egypt (four times during the period 1928–1939)

The family of Mohammad Mahmoud Pasha is one of the most prominent families in modern Egyptian political and economic history. Mahmoud Soliman Pasha participated in the 1919 Revolution and was a member of the Egyptian delegation headed by Saad Zaghloul. His son was also one of the prominent members of the Egyptian delegation and its foreign spokesperson, especially in the United States.

Mohammad Mahmoud Pasha was appointed Prime Minister four times: July 1928–2 October 1929; 30 December 1937–27 April 1938; 27 April 1938–24 June 1938; and finally 24 July 1938–18 August 1939.

The archive contains more than 10,000 documents, divided into several categories. The archiving process began in April 2005 and to-date the documentation accomplished is as follows:

- More than 800 personal photos of Mohammad Mahmoud Pasha, including celebrations, inaugurations and other occasions he attended as a Prime Minister.
- More than 6000 Arabic, English, and French manuscripts.



Mohammad  
Mahmoud Pasha

### **The Legacy of Late President Mohammad Anwar Al-Sadat**

Late President Sadat was a politician who played an important role in the history of Arab-Israeli conflict. He was awarded the the 1978 Nobel Peace Prize. In the context of preserving the modern history of Egypt, this project aims at digitizing and documenting Sadat's epoch, to raise national awareness and enhance internal solidarity necessary to confront globalization challenges. The project will provide the entire collection in a searchable form for historians, politicians, and researchers to represent the most important transitional periods in the history of Egypt.

An agreement has already been concluded with President Sadat's family to digitize the collection and negotiations are currently taking place with newspaper agencies, museums and others to receive their collections. One team will be in charge of indexing the pictures collection and another team will sort and evaluate documents and other information resources available. A workflow was developed and is currently being tested for the digitization of the pictures, documents, audio and video recording, and other resources, associating metadata with each item, and incorporating the output into the Digital Assets Repository (DAR).

The project is divided into several categories aiming at a comprehensive compilation of every aspect of the late President's life:

- Press archive of Egyptian, Arab, and international news items
- Television and radio interviews, speeches, and personal belongings
- Collection of all documents pertaining to important events in his life.

The project began during the first half of 2005 by archiving press material published in Al-Ahram newspaper (1970–1981) and transcribing video tapes of the President's speeches.

### Legacy of Egyptian Architect Ramses Wissa Wassef

Ramses Wissa Wassef is one of the prominent 20<sup>th</sup> century Egyptian architects. He contributed to modern Egyptian architecture with his outstanding designs.

The works of the great architect are being compiled and documented with all the drawings, designs, and a thorough analysis of the concept behind his designs.

### Unpublished Works of the Egyptian Architect Farid Shafei

Farid Shafei is one of the most eminent researchers of Islamic architecture and archeology who left a treasure of valuable researches, scientific findings, and modern theories on the subject. Some of his works were never published. A team from the BA staff, in collaboration with Farid Shafei's family, is devoted to preparing his unpublished works to come to life.

Two volumes covering Arab architecture in Islamic Egypt during the Fatimid era (Civil Architecture, Islamic and Military Architecture) are to be published to complete and complement the first volume entitled *Arab architecture in Islamic Egypt (The Age of Sovereigns)*, presenting a complete series for scholars all over the world.

### History of *Rose Al-Youssef* Magazine

On 26 October 2005, the Egyptian press celebrated the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of *Rose Al-Youssef* magazine, one of the most respected Egyptian press foundations, that contributed to Arab journalism. The project's aim was to document and record important events that marked the history of the magazine:



Opening of the  
*Rose Al-Youssef*  
Exhibition

- An exhibition presenting the works of the magazine caricaturists, and rare acquisitions such as photos of prominent journalists that contributed to the legacy of the magazine.
- A comprehensive documentary catalog of the magazine's history, publications, and its most prominent writers was launched.

### **Arabic Translation of *Architecture for a Changing World***

This book covers projects that were awarded the Aga Khan Prize in architecture in 1998. The publication is available in three languages: English, French, and Spanish. The aim is to introduce Arab readers to the fascinating world of architecture and the awarded projects.

### **Conservation and Development of Ottoman Architectural Heritage in Alexandria**

The Alexandria and Mediterranean Research Center (Alex-Med) made a survey of the mosques of the Turkish Town, documented and analyzed them in blueprints, architectural drawings, and photographs in a forthcoming publication.

## I NSTITUTE FOR PEACE STUDIES

The Bibliotheca Alexandrina celebrated the inauguration of the first Institute for Peace Studies ([www.peacestudiesinstitute.org](http://www.peacestudiesinstitute.org)) in the region, on 15 and 16 February 2006. This Institute, which is a joint endeavor by the Suzanne Mubarak Women's International Peace Movement (SMWIPM) and the Bibliotheca Alexandrina, is hosted at the BA.

Recognizing the need for such an Institute in a world of increasing violence and conflict, and believing in people's ability and duty to create a better world for themselves and for future generations, Her Excellency Mrs. Suzanne Mubarak outlined the importance of establishing such an entity, saying: "We need to shape our own destiny. We need to forge the kind of world we want for ourselves and generations to come. We must spare no effort to create a world of peace, where mutual respect and civility in discourse is the norm".

A group of distinguished guests joined Mrs. Mubarak in the inauguration ceremony. Among the guests present were Nobel laureates Betty Williams and David Trimble; HE Emil Constantinescu, Julia Marton-Lefèvre, George Abi Saab, Assia Alaoui, Nabil El-Araby, Ghassan Salamé, as well as several renowned guests and public figures from Egypt and the world. They gathered to welcome the new initiative and engage in discussions related to issues of peace and human security.



HE Mrs. Suzanne Mubarak

Among these issues was the victimization of women in conflict areas, which was examined in the roundtable discussion: *Women in an Insecure World: The Challenge and the Response*.

Mrs. Mubarak addressed the audience highlighting the importance of founding this institute and explaining the value of having an academic and training facility that will enhance the SMIWPM's efforts toward peace-building on the national, regional, and international levels. Likewise, Professor Julia Marton-Lefèvre, Rector of the University for Peace in Costa Rica (UPEACE), a major partner institution of the Institute for Peace Studies (IPS), gave a most inspiring speech, emphasizing that the "UPEACE already has a great deal in common with the new Institute for Peace Studies", and confirming that the university is looking forward to "a long and successful partnership" with the Institute for Peace Studies. Following Professor Marton-Lefèvre's speech, HE Dr. Emil Constantinescu, Former President of Romania, addressed the audience, eloquently stressing the values of peace, tolerance, and understanding. The inauguration ceremony also included video messages from Nobel Peace Laureates Mohamed El Baradei and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.





Julia Marton-Lefèvre

In his speech, Ismail Serageldin, BA Director, outlined the mission, objectives, and program of the institute. He explained that the Institute seeks to undertake studies and research, prepare material and case studies, and help the SMWIPM ground its actions in well-studied material. He defined the objectives, of the institute as follows:

- Create an up-to-date database of international peace studies, research, and documents
- Conduct project studies in cooperation with international institutions specialized in peace studies
- Cooperate with Egyptian and regional institutions to host and organize seminars, lectures, conferences, and symposia in this area
- Receive world scientists, lecturers, and scholars involved in peace studies
- Publish scientific bulletins and research on peace studies
- Enhance postgraduate studies and research in the field
- Encourage youth involvement and interaction by providing programs and initiatives
- Develop case study material for the promotion of peace and empowerment of women
- Enhance public understanding of peace and conflict management

Based on these objectives, the institute will focus on six clusters of issues and seek to incorporate these in its work program:

- Law, ethics, and human rights
- Conflict resolution and post-conflict areas
- Mediation and negotiation theory and practice
- Human security and peace
- Promotion of a culture of peace
- Gender and peace-building

Through its Research Unit, the institute will work to develop an updated database of international peace studies, academic research, and documents. Additionally, it will publish scientific bulletins and research papers in the field, and develop teaching/training materials. The Research Unit will also be responsible for the supervision of the Suzanne Mubarak fellows during their stay in Egypt. Hosting the ten candidates of the fellowship program, the institute will provide them

with academic supervision and help them with the necessary materials and research tools they need. One of the functions of the Research Unit will involve executing some short-term and long-term studies on the issues covered by the six clusters. It will welcome visiting scholars who will participate in teaching and research for periods varying from one week to six months.

Initially, no formal degree granting will be envisaged, only the gradual buildup of coherent programs in each of the six areas. Many of the students will be selected from Egypt and the region, and some graduate students from the University of Alexandria may undertake part of their academic work in the institute in agreement with their supervisors.

The Training Unit will work with the SMWIPM to develop appropriate training materials, focusing on capacity building, awareness raising, and networking. It will also organize, with international bodies, opportunities for training Egyptians and others from the region, abroad, as well as organize workshops, seminars and conferences on the national, regional, and international levels.

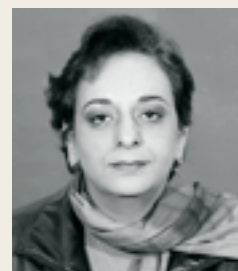
## Institute for Peace Studies

Aly Maher El-Sayyed studied Law at Cairo University. He also holds a Certificate of Distinction from the International Institute for Administration, Paris, and a Certificate from the Institute of Diplomatic Studies. He joined the Egyptian Foreign Service and served in London, Tehran, Canberra, and Paris. He was appointed as Ambassador to Tunisia (1987–1992), Egypt's permanent representative to the Arab League (1988–1992), and Ambassador to France (1992–2002). In 2002, he was appointed Aide to the Minister of Foreign Affairs and was later appointed as Secretary General of the Arab Thought Foundation in Beirut (2003–2006). In 2006, he was appointed Director of the SMWIPM Institute for Peace Studies.



**Aly Maher**  
Director

Azza El-Kholy is a Professor at the Department of English Language and Literature, University of Alexandria. She was Executive Director of the TAFL Center and Director of the Language and Translation Unit at the Faculty of Arts of the University of Alexandria. Her research includes American literature and history, as well as translation and feminist criticism.



**Azza El-Kholy**  
Advisor for Special  
Projects



**Shahinaz El-Hennawi**  
Head of Unit

## C HILDREN

**T**oday's children are tomorrow's leaders, and investing in their education guarantees competent future leaders. Egypt is a nation that currently nurtures thousands of future doctors, engineers, scientists, artists, politicians, and teachers. In Egypt, 34 million individuals are under the age of 15, a number that equals almost half the population which totals nearly 70 million. Unfortunately, only half of this group is enrolled in schools, leaving approximately 17 million without formal schooling.

To ensure a better future, Egypt is to gain much by investing in children. However, the government's ongoing efforts to provide schools and universities with the necessary tools of quality education must be corroborated by the diverse social entities that exist in the country. With this belief in joining all efforts to support the younger generation, the BA takes on an active role toward achieving this goal. The establishment of the Children's Library, the Young People's Library, as well as the multitude of other artistic, scientific, and cultural activities dedicated to the young, illustrates the BA's commitment to sharing in the process of creating Egypt's future leaders.

As the journey into the 21<sup>st</sup> century begins, the ever-increasing globalization is empowering youth on many fronts; shaping their identities, value systems, social roles, and influencing their decisions

on educational choices, employment, and health. It is, therefore, very important for young people to have access to the knowledge that will prepare them for their future roles in society. Consequently, in a nation where 16.7% of the population live below the national poverty line, the public library is one of the greatest equalizers in society.

### **Outreach**

To promote the activities and programs of the BA, schools are targeted as part of the outreach programs implemented by the Library Sector, the Tours Department, PSC, and Arts Center. The result of this public outreach policy is the successful participation of many governmental and private schools, as well as national clubs and youth organizations, in the BA activities and programs.

Within the framework of cooperation between the PSC and governmental schools in Alexandria, a team from the PSC, including a resident astronomer and at least one ALEXploratorium specialist, visited schools to conduct simple presentations of what can be expected when visiting the PSC. The visit includes an introduction to the importance of astronomy and an overview of the Planetarium shows. The team also conduct a workshop as an example of the activities of the ALEXploratorium.

In addition, the Antiquities Museum's expert staff, through their public outreach program, visited schools, explaining the museum's programs to teachers and encouraging them to include class visits to the museum as part of their educational agenda.

### **Places of Interest**

#### **Children's (CH) Library**

The Children's (CH) Library provides educational, recreational, and cultural resources for children, aged 6 to 11. The mission of the CH Library is to develop children's reading, research, and creativity skills through different programs and activities. It contains a collection of more than 13,542 volumes including picture books, easy-to-read books, reference materials, and multimedia materials. This collection is available in many languages, covering a plethora of subjects. A computer lab is also provided to explore many exciting websites and learn how to conduct research in a library.

To encourage children to love reading, librarians engage them in activities and games that cultivate creativity and promote the learning process. Activities such as public readings, hosting children's literature authors, puppet shows, role-playing, and workshops on arts and crafts, are ongoing events offered by the CH Library twelve months a year.



Storytelling with  
Sarah Suhail

### **Young People's (YP) Library**

The Young People's (YP) Library offers a vast world of knowledge, entertainment, culture, and information for youth, aged 12 to 16. It introduces young adults to the latest advanced information technology, develops their global awareness and knowledge, encourages social interaction in and out of the library, and develops their reading and research skills. The YP Library collaborates with BA exhibitions, museums, and the ALEXploratorium to offer youth a wider and more comprehensive array of intriguing activities. The YP librarians examine school curricula to ensure the availability of supporting material to help students prepare their research assignments using the BA resources in print and non-print formats. The collection of 14,379 materials in the YP library encompasses the same subject areas covered in the Main Library, taking into consideration young adults' needs and interests. The YP Library allows its young patrons to use different books, periodicals, multimedia and electronic resources, and offers free access to the Student Resource Center database.

### **Planetarium Science Center (PSC)**

The PSC is an ideal place for children and youth to enjoy a day of fun learning. The goal of the PSC is to stimulate and cultivate awareness, interest and understanding of science through three sections, each of which approaches science in a different manner that is relatively unconventional to the Egyptian community.

### **Planetarium**

The Planetarium offers a diversity of fascinating scientific shows that cover a variety of age groups; the shows are equally entertaining and

informative. Although the Planetarium shows cover a variety of science fields, such as Biology (*Human Body*) and Geology (*Ring of Fire*), priority is given to Astronomy, which the Planetarium covers in numerous shows that include the live Stars Show, the video panorama *Oasis in Space* and the IMAX film *Cosmic Voyage*. Shows such as *BIG* and the upcoming *DarkStar Adventure* are ideal for the younger visitors.

### ALEXploratorium

The ALEXploratorium is a hands-on science facility dedicated to children and youth. It aims to make science more accessible, more understandable, and far more interesting through innovative and interactive activities that not only explain scientific facts, but more importantly demonstrate the presence of science in almost everything in our daily life. Its activities cover most of the principal science fields, such as Physics, Chemistry, Biology, and Astronomy, with special emphasis on the themes related to school syllabi.

The ALEXploratorium activities include a variety of rotating interactive exhibits, practical workshops, borrowed or rented exhibitions, simple documentary films, and a diversity of informative lectures and festivities related to concurrent science-related events.

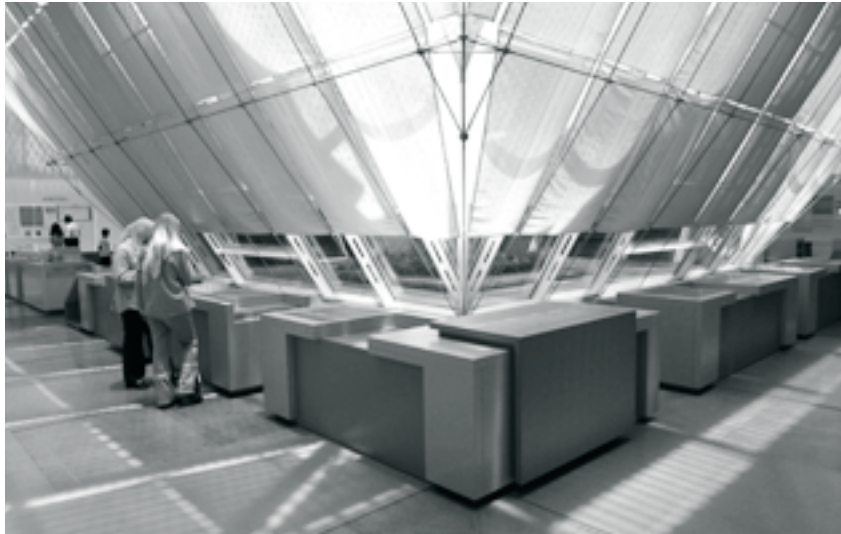
Owing to the efforts of the PSC team in reaching out to school students of all ages in governmental and private schools, the ALEXploratorium is constantly busy during the school year with an average of three school visits per day. During summer time, a special three-month program is organized for children 8 to 16 years of age who pay a nominal fee to become members. The program was very successful during the summer of 2005 with more than 200 members attending weekly workshops, in addition to various interactive activities.



ALEXploratorium

### History of Science Museum

The History of Science Museum introduces the young to the regional figures and events that had a great influence on the evolution of scientific discovery in the whole world, such as Euclid, Archimedes, Eratosthenes, Ptolemy, and Galen (Hellenistic era) and Al-Khuwarazmi, Ibn-al-Haytham, Al-Idrisi and Ibn Al-Nafis (Islamic era). It highlights the historical aspect of science in Egypt during the



History of Science Museum

Pharaonic and Hellenistic eras, and, during the supremacy of the Arab Islamic world. The museum also highlights the fundamental role of translators in transmitting science among the ancient civilizations.

The History of Science Museum is not just a traditional museum; it integrates a variety of activities targeting school children in particular and

in general, the public, in addition to the traditional museum tours. Within the mission and strategy adopted by the PSC, these activities aim to convey facts in a simple and fun manner to the visitors.

### Place for hosting children under 6 years old

To foster new generations, the BA not only offers activities and programs for children and youth, but is also in the process of preparing to host younger children while their parents or older siblings are visiting the Library. Recognizing the need for a facility similar to a nursery to host toddlers, the Tours Department is currently overseeing the construction of such facility.

## Services

### Membership Services

Becoming a member of the CH or YP Libraries gives a sense of belonging to the BA. A member of the BA is equal to a citizen of a society; the sense of belonging soon develops pride and respect for one's surroundings, thus creating a sense of responsibility toward their community. Such unique benefits increase membership numbers. (See the *Statistics* Chapter of this report)

### Computing Services

The BA is endowed with a clear mission to instruct and train young people to adapt to the new digital age. Both the CH and YP Libraries offer complete computer services. In addition to the numerous PCs available to the users, both the CH and YP Libraries have a number of special PCs for the visually impaired.

All PCs are fully equipped with:

- Free Internet connection for library patrons;
- Assistive technology for the impaired user
- Access to the BA catalog, where users can search using the author's name, title, keyword, or subject
- Free access to the Encyclopedia Britannica Online and Student Resource Center.

### Equipment Usage

Library	Monthly Average (# of reservations)	Total Annual Computer Usage (# of reservations)
CH Library	538	6453
YP Library	850	10,207
<b>Total</b>	<b>1388</b>	<b>16,660</b>

### Multimedia Services

As part of the Library's mission to introduce new forms of data representation, multimedia equipment is available to all users including youth and children who can choose from a variety of DVDs, CDs, videos, and language kits. Likewise, the BA youth can choose from a wide selection of documentaries, educational, cultural, and popular films. Televisions are also available with satellite services allowing youth to flip through sitcoms, sports, and news programs (e.g. CNN, TV5, Al-Jazeera, BBC, Mehwar).

### Total Annual Multimedia Equipment Usage

Library	Monthly Average (# of uses)	Total Annual Multimedia Equipment Usage (# of uses)
CH Library	236	1652
YP Library	318	3821
<b>Total</b>	<b>554</b>	<b>5473</b>



### **Circulation Services**

Although this service has not yet covered the entire library, and only selected titles are available for loan within the YP Library, this fiscal year witnessed a total of 3182 circulation transactions, 2761 checkouts (1237 fiction books and 1524 nonfiction books) and 421 renewals. Circulation services will be made available for the CH Library by July 2006.

### **Orientation Tours**

The Tours Department supports the BA's active role in instilling the joy of knowledge in young people by making their visit to the BA a pleasant and interesting one. To this end, a presentation was designed in three languages (Arabic, English and French) about the ancient Library of Alexandria, the revival project, and the vast complex of the current Bibliotheca Alexandrina (Library, Planetarium Science Center, Conference Center, Exhibitions, and Museums). The presentation is simplified for children aged 4-9 by animated cartoons and music. Following this, children are taken on a tour of the Library and those above 6 years of age are able to visit the Children's Library.

Both the CH and YP Libraries are continuously inviting community area schools to explore the world of libraries firsthand, offering opportunities to children who might not otherwise have the means to visit the BA. During these tours, CH and YP librarians provide detailed explanations of the variety of services and activities offered, thus igniting sparks of interest in our future leaders.

### **Children's Programs and Workshops**

An effective way to encourage young people to enjoy reading is to engage them in activities, games, and programs that promote the educational process. In the CH and YP Libraries, many activities are offered by the Library staff on a daily basis.

In addition to the services the librarians offer, associations of friends have been established and include active, permanent members who have comprehensive knowledge of the library sections, services and collections. These members help in breaking the ice between the librarians and any reluctant children, channeling the latter to the best use of the library resources, and eventually, facilitating direct interaction with the librarians.

These workshops and programs include:

#### **Research-for-All Program**

This is an information literacy program that aims to teach young people how to develop their competency to recognize information needs, and locate, evaluate, and prepare scientific researches using different

sources of information such as books, reference materials, periodicals, web sites, and e-resources. Participants are then asked to prepare a research report on a subject of their choice to be evaluated and discussed in a peer group and put into PowerPoint presentations.

The objectives of the program are to:

- Encourage youth to understand what they read
- Establish creative writing, research, and presentation skills
- Develop correct and effective library user skills
- Motivate individual and/or group research and teamwork
- Learn proper usage of print and non-print sources of information

### **My Book, Digital and Printed**

This project was launched in October 2003, and has reached more than 225 schools and 11 associations in Alexandria. It is designed to enable the community to relate to both printed and digital information in a seamless fashion, and to bring the marvels of the digital age to the less fortunate part of the community. The Bookmobile associated with this project serves as a literary carrier, bringing renowned and loved classics to audiences at orphanages, hospitals, and schools within the Alexandrian community.

The objectives of the program are to:

- Teach children that written words can be transformed from digital to printed format, and then bound into books and vice versa. This process eliminates the concept of duality that some children have when they combine the material they see on computer screens with the printed material in books.
- Make books more attractive to children, allowing them to print, bind, create, and finally, get to keep the books as their own.



My Book Digital  
and Printed

- Use the digital technology of the Million Book Project and the Internet Archive to make the production of the human mind permanently accessible to billions of people all over the world (For further details see Theme viii of this report).

The Bookmobile visited almost thirty schools in the past year, while the permanent workstation available in front of the CH Library received twenty-three visits.

### Animation Workshop

A creative workshop designed to encourage children and young people's creativity through imagining a story and its characters then producing an animated film using a storyboard, paper cuts, colors, and a special video camera that records the motion of each scene to form an animated film. All of this is created and designed by young people. This successful workshop has produced films designed by fifty-three young participants.

### Arabic Calligraphy Workshop



Practicing  
Arabic  
Calligraphy

The Calligraphy Center and the Library Sector at the BA conducted a workshop to teach children and young people the history of Arabic calligraphy, its types and forms, how to write it, and the different kinds of tools used. Fifty-two participants from the CH and YP Libraries attended the workshop of six lectures on Sundays and Wednesdays. The young patrons' work was exhibited at the CH Library entrance, from 15–30 September 2005.

### Hieroglyphic Workshop

Similar to the Calligraphy Workshop, children and youth learn the Pharaonic symbols and their meanings in the world of ancient Egypt.

### “Me” Book Workshop

This activity aims at making books a record of history where the child records all his/her thoughts and dreams, what s/he likes and dislikes until s/he gathers enough personal data to make a book representing his/her personality in a book called “Me”.

### **Book Talks**

This involves weekly book talks presented by librarians, where two different books are presented in each session. Eighty-eight participants attended this program. Young adults were invited to present their own book talks throughout the program as a way of encouraging them to read and develop their presentation skills.

### **Paper Work**

This is a project where young adults design small booklets on different topics such as ancient Egyptian monuments, the Seven Wonders of the World, oceans, team sports, reptiles. Young users design the small booklet using their handwriting, rather than the computer and the Internet, with books as their only source of information.

### **The Sundial Workshop**

The Sundial workshop is the first in a series of interactive activities that the History of Science Museum team are preparing to conduct in the “Kids Corner” that is currently being set inside the museum. A special showcase will be set to display the outstanding results achieved by participating children. Targeting upper primary and preparatory school students, the workshop is a practical activity designed to facilitate the idea and use the ancient time measuring device.

### **Lectures**

The Young People’s Library organized, in collaboration with other experts and subject specialists, a set of lectures in different areas with open discussions to increase the interaction between young adults. These included “Drawing Imaginative Maps”, “Educate Yourself”, “Alexandria Monuments”, “Storytelling”, and “How to Write a Story”. Over 100 young adults attended these lectures.

### **Total Solar Eclipse – March 2006**

The first step by the PSC to launch an extensive program on space related sciences was taken in March 2006 for the Total Solar Eclipse observed in Egypt on 29 March. The Multinational festivity of the Total Solar Eclipse was to target several ages, among them children. The two-day public “Culture and Astronomy” series of lectures organized by the Planetarium Science Center targeted promising preparatory and secondary school students and the interested unspecialized public. Twelve lectures were delivered by a group of highly acclaimed astronomers from COSPAR, the Paris Institute for Astrophysics (IAP), the French Ministry of Higher Education and Research, Paris Observatory, Max-Planck-Institute for Astrophysics, Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics, Boston College, St. Andrews University, the Kwasan and Hida Observatory, the Virtual Laboratory

for Archaeometry, and Ain Shams University. The young students showed great enthusiasm and curiosity. They were not shy to ask questions, and the speakers were very impressed and equally enthusiastic to answer.



Viewing the Total  
Solar Eclipse at  
the BA Plaza

### **PSC Educational Programs**

The Planetarium Science Center (PSC) creates special programs to enhance the public's scientific awareness, targeting school students in particular.

A series of science enrichment programs were conducted to complement science teaching and learning in schools. The special emphasis on hands-on experiments aims at attracting students and activating their imagination while highlighting essential scientific concepts and methods.

The PSC offers these enrichment programs to more than 50,000 students throughout the school year. These programs include conferences, lectures, workshops, festivities, and competitions. Special arrangements are also made to conduct activities during summer and mid-term vacations.

### **The World Year of Physics Celebration**

During the year 2005, the PSC organized several events in celebration of the international World Year of Physics starting with the Einstein Symposium 2005, which was followed by renowned Nobel Laureates lectures: Leo Esaki, Douglas Osheroff, and Walter Kohn.

Among the festivities was the “Einstein Exhibition” which included a special “Children’s Corner” with several fun activities that helped children understand some of Einstein’s major scientific breakthroughs.

### **The KEO Exhibition**

An international project, the KEO time capsule is a humanitarian endeavor that aims to relay the world of today to future generations. The History of Science Museum was selected to represent this global project in Egypt and to promote its message among the Egyptian public, particularly the children and youth whose horizons we aim to expand through the exquisite idea of preserving our individual identities for thousands of years to come. According to UNESCO, the KEO project is considered the Project of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

### **Flight Festivity 2006**

For two months, two ALEXploratorium specialists supervised a group of bright children fascinated by airplanes and flight, on a weekly trip to the Alexandria Flight Club, situated in El-Nozha airport, where flight specialists explained the basics of that field and worked with them on workshops where they assembled different airplane models.

Each member of the group was awarded a certificate for his/her outstanding achievement. The workshops were part of a festivity that took place on 26 January 2006, the “National Flight Day”, which marks the anniversary of the first engine-powered airplane flight over Egyptian territory by the Egyptian pilot, Mahmoud Sedky.

The festivity included a lecture by Pilot/Engineer Mohamed El-Shazly, an exhibition of different airplane models provided by the Alexandria Flight Club, a workshop on airplane modeling, and, finally, an outdoor show with a remote-controlled chopper flight.

### **Eratosthenes Annual Festivity**

In celebration of the global scientist Eratosthenes, who excelled in most ancient fields of science, mostly in the ancient Library of Alexandria, the History of Science Museum organizes an annual festivity, based on a shared effort between school students in both Alexandria and Aswan, to determine the circumference of the Earth using the method developed by Eratosthenes, nearly 2000 years ago.

In 2006, the festivity included, among other activities, lectures by Denis Savoie, Head of Astronomy and Astrophysics Department in the Palais de Decouverte, and Mireille Hartmann, author of *Mesurer la Terre est un Jeu d'enfant*, followed by two workshops; the “Measurement of the Earth's Circumference” and the “Sundial”.

### **The SEED Corner**

The Schlumberger Excellence in Educational Development (SEED) is a non-profit organization, volunteer-based program, which provides a channel for members of Schlumberger's workforce to share their expertise and passion for science, technology, and learning with youth in developing communities. The program focuses on students aged 10-18 years.

The SEED program and the PSC join forces to achieve their common goal of raising scientific awareness and enhancing the understanding of science among the children and youth of Egypt by launching the "SEED corner" in the ALEXploratorium to host a series of scientific hands-on activities that starts with Water Analysis and Robotics.

### **The "Astronomy Day" Festivity**

An annual international event, the Astronomy Day, takes place on a Saturday, sometime between mid-April and mid-May, just before the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter moon; this year it was celebrated on 6 May 2006. To celebrate the occasion, the PSC organized a festivity, targeting upper primary and preparatory schoolchildren. The event included:

- One lecture; "From Alexandria to the Milky Way",
- Two Workshops; the "Sundial" and the "Solar System",
- An Observation of the "Sky of Alexandria", and finally
- A Videoconference with NASA, "Our Solar Neighborhood".

### **The Super Science Show (SSS)**

A new outreach program, the Super Science Show is a new program that targets children 7-12 years of age. A two-person team of ALEXploratorium specialists, arrange visits to schools, and social and sports clubs where they guide the children to conduct a variety of simple, yet dynamic, experiments in different fields of science with materials such as balloons, bouncing balls, balance board, water and soda cans.

### **The Creativity Program**

On 20 July 2005, the PSC organized a lecture entitled "Creativity" by an expert in creative thinking. After the lecture, two workshops were conducted, entitled the "Six Hats", with upper primary and preparatory school students; the workshops were a practical exercise that explained the methodical steps leading to creativity. Due to the success of the event, the PSC decided to launch a Creativity Program. This will be an annual festivity on 20 July of every year entitled "Creativity Day in Egypt" which will include regular lectures and workshops for young schoolchildren in the form of a "Thinking Club", and a special program for professionals, such as schoolteachers, entitled "Train the Trainers".

### The “Did you Know?” Presentation

The History of Science Museum prepares a variety of PowerPoint presentations that are inspired by the themes of the museum and offer additional relative information in an animated simple fashion.

### Arts School

Given the fact that the promotion of artistic education is the responsibility of all community institutions, the Arts Center plays a leading role in that domain as it bases its policy on two major concepts:

- The artistic/creative context: The organization of visiting or in-house performances, whether local, international, or joint
- The training/educational context: The application of scientific methodology to the arts.

The center seeks to promote openness to contemporary cultures and arts, especially in Europe and the Mediterranean, thus promoting self-expression and self re-definition. This exchange of knowledge widens the work scope of the Arts Center, which chiefly focuses on four main arts namely: music, theater, cinema, and plastic arts. Moreover, the Arts Center has managed to direct its art programs to serve the interests of both adults and children. The Arts Center dedicated a considerable part of its activities to children, focusing on child tutoring programs in diverse art forms. Hiring special tutors that combine artistic creation with education, the center has succeeded in conducting programs that teach the technicalities of art and promote the moral and human values inherent in it.

### Domains of Creative Education and Training in the Art School

- Children’s Choir (ages 6–12): Admission is based upon audition results. Each course (quarterly) comprises 20 training sessions.
- Ballet (ages 7–12): Admission is based on physical fitness tests and bodily expression skills. Each course (quarterly) comprises 12 training sessions.
- Suzuki Violin (ages 3–10): Children are admitted in groups. Each course (quarterly) comprises 20 training sessions. The Suzuki philosophy is based upon the idea that children can learn music in the same manner they learn their native language through repetitive listening. Children then try to acoustically assimilate the music and, at a later stage, read musical annotations.
- Oud (ages 10–18): The aim of this training program is to teach oud on a scientific basis, according to a curriculum that covers Egyptian and Arabic musical heritage and relates it to contemporary composers’ musical oeuvre.



- Singing (ages 14–21): This program aims at developing vocal skills in general, and fostering talents. Singing tutorials are accompanied by piano. Admission is by audition.
- Plastic Arts (ages 4–18): This program aims at developing plastic arts/visual skills, whether in drawing, painting using different materials, or plastic sculpture. Children are also trained on basics and elements of art and perspective studies.

The role of the Art School is to provide enrolled students opportunities for real-life practice. A closing ceremony is held where a demo of the achievements of each course are presented in the presence of an audience to train the children to freely express themselves in front of others.

#### Number of Students Enrolled in the Present Course

Activity	Number of male students	Number of female students	Total
Children Choir	5	22	27
Ballet	--	12	12
Piano (Iman Nureddin)	2	6	8
Suzuki	7	6	13
Vocal training	1	11	12
Junior Orchestra	--	11	11
Amateurs Orchestra	5	10	15
Piano (Marcel Matta)	3	8	11
Painting	1	10	11
Acting	3	12	15
<b>Total number of students</b>			<b>135</b>

#### Main Objectives of the Art School

- Nurturing children's creative imagination and challenging stereotypical instructional teaching strategies offered in Egyptian schools that limit children's artistic competences, typecast them, and subsequently cultivate a defeatist frame of mind.
- Helping children acquire actual knowledge through free artistic expression and self-pride, with the aim of developing remarkable cultural personalities.
- Encouraging children's social participation, engagement in work groups and exchange of qualitative expertise as a major goal of modern education; in addition to accentuating creative thinking and countering the culture of submission.
- Reviving optional education in an open atmosphere and a democratic ambience.

- Training children to be more sensitive to knowledge problems, shortcomings and flaws; and helping them determine difficulties, find solutions, forge theories, test them and make necessary modifications to obtain new results that would enable them to communicate with others in society.
- Promoting children's creative resources and linking them to the local and international social context, and drawing on these creative sources and their ability to present genuine creative output, rather than adopting the spirit of imitation derived from ready-made patterns.

## Competitions

### Reading Competition

The Young People's Library organized a weekly reading competition in the form of questions and multiple choice answers. The competition took place during the mid-year and summer vacations and for school visits in various subject areas, such as Geography, Art, Computer, Discoveries, Inventions, Sports, and Literature. Over 400 young participants took part in this reading competition and over 28 young adults received a certificate of appreciation and books as a reward.

### Reading Passport

The young users reading passport is a way to travel mentally to different places by reading twenty different books, where young users are asked to write reviews of the books they read in one volume. Books were distributed among the participants as a reward.

### Around the World Competition

Young adults gathered information on 140 different countries all over the world, by answering fifteen questions for each country concerning capitals, language, currency, population, area, famous cities, main customs and traditions. This program teaches youth how to research using the resources available at the YP Library. Eventually, young



users will apply this information to design a website, applying FrontPage, presenting their creations at the end of the summer program. Eighty participants from the young adults were involved in this competition and received certificates of appreciation and books as the competition reward.

Around the  
World at the  
BA

### **Book of the Month**

Participants borrow a book for three days and return it with a book review, which is then presented by a team using Microsoft PowerPoint within a discussion group. Fourteen winners were awarded certificates of appreciation and books for producing good book reviews and presentations.

### **“Future Programmers Competition” for Youngsters (August 2005)**

This annual competition, conducted and organized by the Information Technology Institute at the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, consisted of a set of tasks that depended on the age group. Tasks included the design of an Internet site, a short film, computer software or game, a poster/card or a presentation, applying several computer programs such as FrontPage, Flash, 3DMAX, Java, PowerPoint, Adobe Photoshop and others.

Two groups from the Young People’s Library participated in the category aged 13–15 years, and came in second and fifth place for the design of a website of a youth magazine and another about “The Solar System”. In addition, two groups within the category aged 16–18 years, achieved second place for the design of a website entitled “Around the World”, and another group achieved fourth place for their design of a short film entitled “The Environment”. The winners received scholarships and monetary awards.

### **Great Scientist Competition**

The Children's and Young People's Libraries organized a competition among twenty language schools in Alexandria in April 2006. The competition took place in the BA Conference Center where participants presented information on a number of 20<sup>th</sup> Century “Great Scientists” through a theatrical performance. The Young People’s Library prepared a bibliography about many of the scientists and discoverers available in the BA collection to guide participants to use these resources. Winners were awarded an annual membership to the BA as well as books.

### **FIRST LEGO League 2005**

The FIRST LEGO League (FLL) is a result of an impressive alliance between FIRST and the LEGO Companies. The FLL is an international hands-on, sport-like, robotics program for children 9-14 years of age. Guided by mentors and their own imagination, FLL students solve real engineering challenges, develop important life skills, and learn to make positive contributions to society, enhancing characteristics such as team-building, problem-solving, analytical thinking, and creativity.

Every September, a new challenge is unveiled and over the course of eight weeks, the FLL international teams strategize, design, build, program, test, and refine a fully autonomous robot capable of completing the mission. During the process, the teams also search the web, talk to scientists, visit the Library and develop compelling presentations that relate to a problem or opportunity facing the world of today.



FIRST LEGO League  
2005 Winners

On 9 February 2006, the first FLL in Egypt Competition was organized by the PSC in cooperation with the IEEE GOLD Egypt. The aim of the “Ocean Odyssey Challenge” was that the participants apply science and technology to better understand the world's oceans; the importance of which was tragically enhanced by the tremendous losses associated with the recent Tsunami in the Indian Ocean.

Four school teams, each including five students and one supervisor, participated in the Challenge. They trained for two months in the RoboAlex lab in the ALEXploratorium and on the day of the event presented the results. All participants received medals and a special LEGO trophy was awarded to the leading teams.

### **The Search and Find Contest**

The History of Science Museum prepares a variety of contests for schoolchildren of different levels of education. The contest resembles a quiz that focuses on one of the themes from the museum where the children have to search and find the right answers to the historical and scientific questions. On completing the tasks in the quiz successfully, the participants are awarded a certificate of achievement.

### **Kids and Computers**

One of the aims of the Kids and Computers educational program is to develop teamwork, time management, and presentation skills applying software such as Microsoft Publisher, PowerPoint, and FrontPage.

### **PowerPoint presentation**

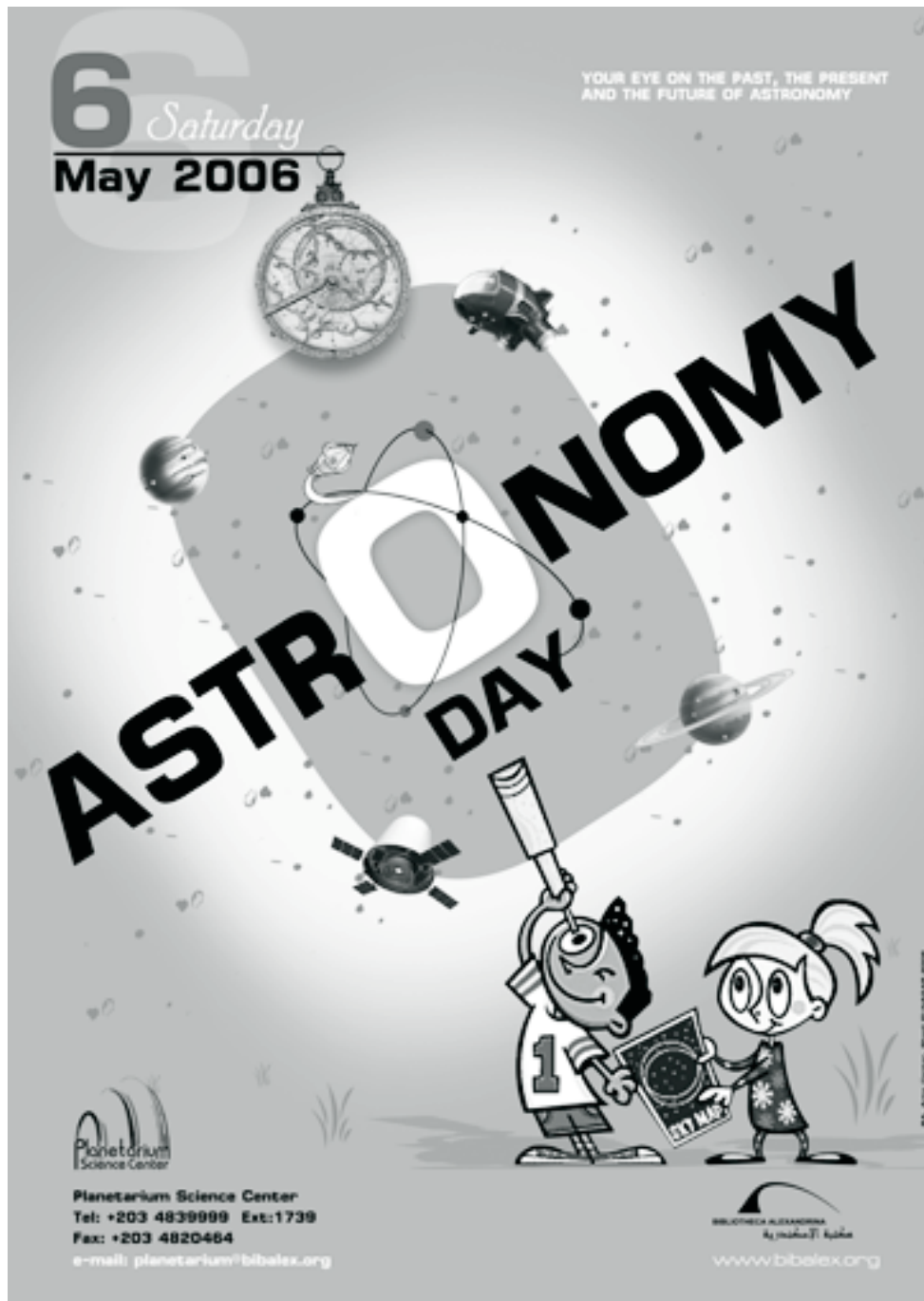
Young adults prepared more than twenty-six PowerPoint presentations in different subjects such as satellites, Ahmed Zewail, Naguib Mahfouz, solar energy. Participants had to work in teams to compile information from different resources, answer all questions in the activity plan, complete the work in five hours and make a presentation. The YP Librarians evaluated their work. Books were awarded to the winning teams.

### **FrontPage**

Young adults undertook the same research tasks as with the PowerPoint group, concentrating on subjects such as: the Nobel Prize, Taha Hussein, Deserts. However, for this group participants had to work in teams to prepare fourteen websites applying FrontPage. Books were awarded to the winning teams.

### **Publishing**

The young adults created a newspaper entitled “Young Weekly Newspaper” under the supervision of YP Librarians. It covered national, international, and sports news. The newspaper is available at the Young People’s Library information desk.



Astronomy Day Poster

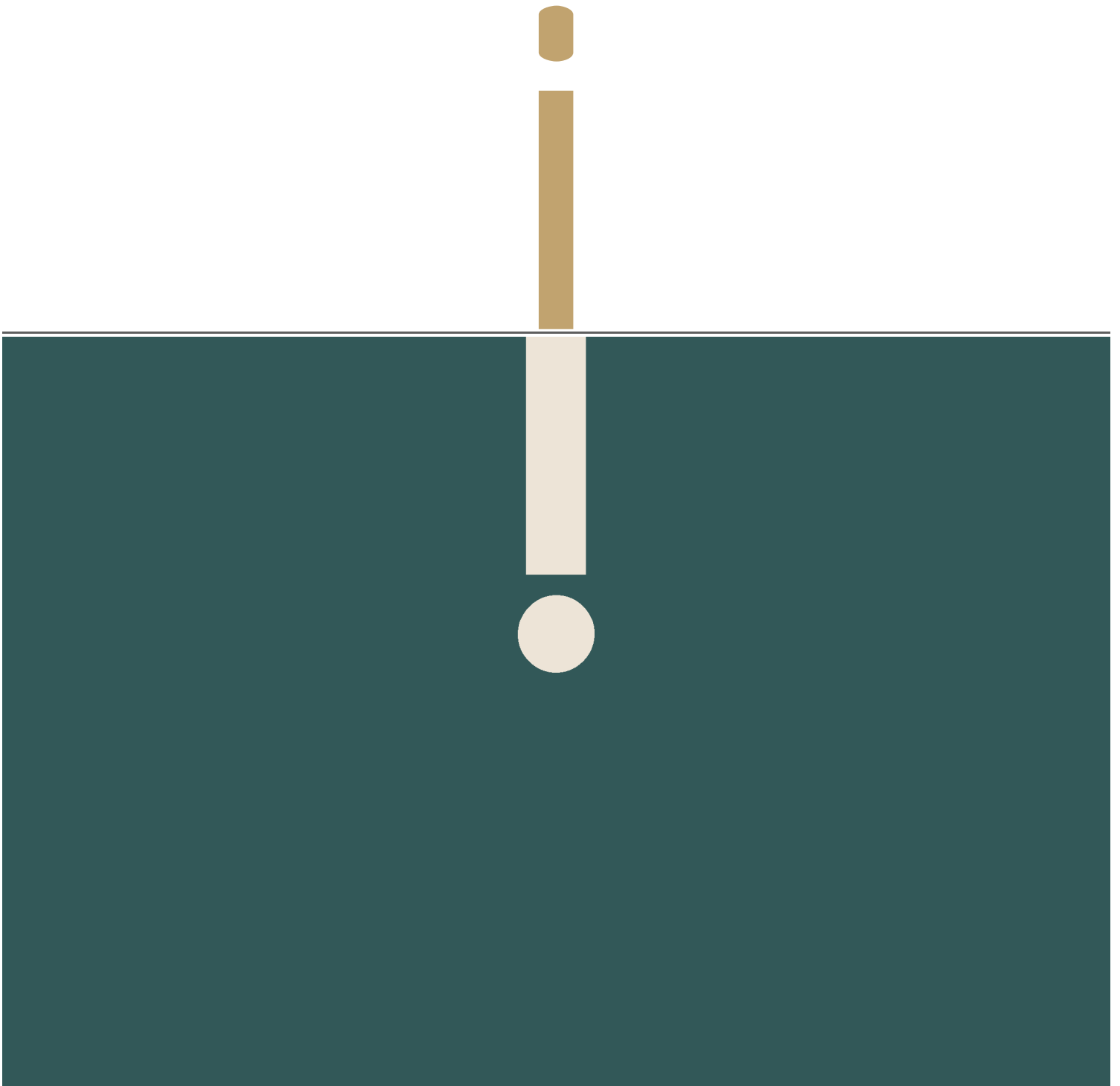


**Nine Themes**

**2.**

**5.**





# Leader in the digitization, preservation, and management of heritage

The Natural Heritage of Egypt  
تراث مصر الطبيعي

## Little Green Bee-eater

*Merops orientalis*  
(Cleopatra Nicoll)  
خضير مصري

The Little Green Bee-eater is a fairly common breeding resident, which is usually seen in small groups in farmland of the Nile Valley and Delta. It is fed on large flying insects such as bees, wasps and dragonflies, which it catches in the air.

الخضير المصري طائر شائع مقيم في وادي النيل و الدلتا. يكثر وجوده في المزارع التي تنتشر فيها الحشرات الطائرة الكبيرة.



## i

## Leader in the digitization, preservation, and management of heritage

**A**s a leader in the digital age, the Bibliotheca Alexandrina applies the latest information technology in the digitization, preservation, and management of heritage. This leadership is supported by activities such as the CULTURAMA, which is the first interactive nine-screen show of its kind worldwide, designed by the Center for Documentation of Cultural and Natural Heritage (CULTNAT). The presentation covers the history of Egypt and is made available by the Tours Department for free in Arabic, English, and French, on Sunday, Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday. Similarly, the department provides an overview of the archeological sites of Alexandria including various monuments, through a plasma screen in the entrance of the Library.

The international forum on “Calligraphy, Inscriptions, and Writings in the World throughout the Ages” was first held in April 2003, and again in April 2005. World renowned writing specialists discussed the evolution of this field from pre-history to the latest research and innovations.

## The Digital Library of the Modern History of Egypt

The Digital Library of the Modern History of Egypt is an ambitious long-term digitization project managed by the International School for Information Science (ISIS), in cooperation with CULTNAT and Alex-Med. This integrated digital library will include the collection of specialized libraries belonging to eminent Egyptian politicians, authors, and historians, as well as content from all over the world related to the modern history of Egypt encompassing the past 200 years. The project scans, catalogs, indexes, and Optical Character Recognition (OCRs) the collection, to present it in a searchable form. Agreements are being negotiated with several individuals, foundations, and libraries to provide the content of specialized collections for scanning. The Nasser Collection, *Description de l’Egypte*, and the Boutros Ghali Family Collection are outcomes of such agreements.

### Description de l’Egypte

*Description de l’Egypte* was the outcome of the collaboration of more than 150 prominent scholars and scientists who accompanied Napoleon in 1798, and some 2000 talented artists and technicians. For over 20 years, they systematically examined almost every aspect of contemporary and ancient Egyptian civilization, producing 20 volumes of text and plates of unmatched accuracy and detail of antiquities, natural history, and the modern states of Egypt. These engravings became the most comprehensive record and inventory of Egypt’s land and monuments.

This valuable collection has been fully digitized and integrated on a virtual browser to preserve and make it publicly accessible. The collection includes 11 volumes of original plates owned by the BA, as well as 10 volumes of text lent by l’Institut d’Egypte. An application was developed to publish books in the standard Extended Markup Language (XML) high-resolution format.

In October 2004, the first stage of the project was completed in which the application was published on DVD with English and French interfaces. Text and images were digitally cross-referenced.

*Description de l’Egypte* was nominated for two awards by the jury of the 2006 Stockholm Challenge Award as a finalist in the Culture category, as well as the WSIS (World Summit on the Information Society) Challenge Award.

The Stockholm Challenge Award searches for the initiatives that most accelerate the application of information technology to socially and economically benefit citizens and communities. Of the 1155 projects registered in 6 categories, 151 finalists from 53 countries were selected ([www.stockholmchallenge.se](http://www.stockholmchallenge.se)).

The WSIS Challenge Award for African projects is an associated event within the Stockholm Challenge program that attracted 128 registrations, of which 118 were accepted for evaluation. Out of these, 30 finalists were selected.

During the awards ceremony the ICT Sector Head received on behalf of the BA, a Diploma for Excellence in the application of Information Technology, in the Culture category of the Stockholm Challenge 2006.

### **l'Institut d'Égypte**

The Bibliotheca Alexandrina is reviving l'Institut d'Égypte organization built in Cairo by Napoleon Bonaparte over 200 years ago. l'Institut d'Égypte owns over 35,000 volumes of rare and ancient references, books, and periodicals in five languages (Arabic, English, French, German, and Russian). The BA proposed nine projects to revive the institute, among which is to digitize its entire collection, preserve it, and make it available to the public.

The effort began by the digitization of 10 volumes of *Description de l'Égypte*. Other special collections were also digitized, such as the complete works of Voltaire (69 volumes), *Des Mille Nuits et Une Nuit* (16 volumes), and *Géographie Universelle* (15 volumes).

### **Nasser Digital Library**

The collection is being updated continuously (<http://nasser.bibalex.org>). Recent updates include:

- 138 poems, 1217 songs, and 3 books about Nasser
- “Handwritten” section, 143 documents containing 593 pages
- A “Happened on the Same Day” section (not yet accessible)
- The Nasser News Archive (more than 4000 articles, approximately 10,500 images). The archive is being reviewed by the Nasser Foundation prior to publishing.

### **Al-Hilal Digital Edition**

*Al-Hilal* is the oldest cultural journal in the Arab world, and the only journal that has been issued regularly for more than 100 years. It played a leading role in modernizing Arab intellectual thinking, and opened new cultural collaborations.

This project has digitized volumes 1 to 50 (approximately 51,000 pages) of the issues of *Al-Hilal* magazine since its first publication in 1892. Following an agreement between the BA Manuscript Center and Dar Al-Hilal, the magazine publisher, the issues of each decade will be compiled on a CD.



*Al-Hilal* magazine  
virtual browser

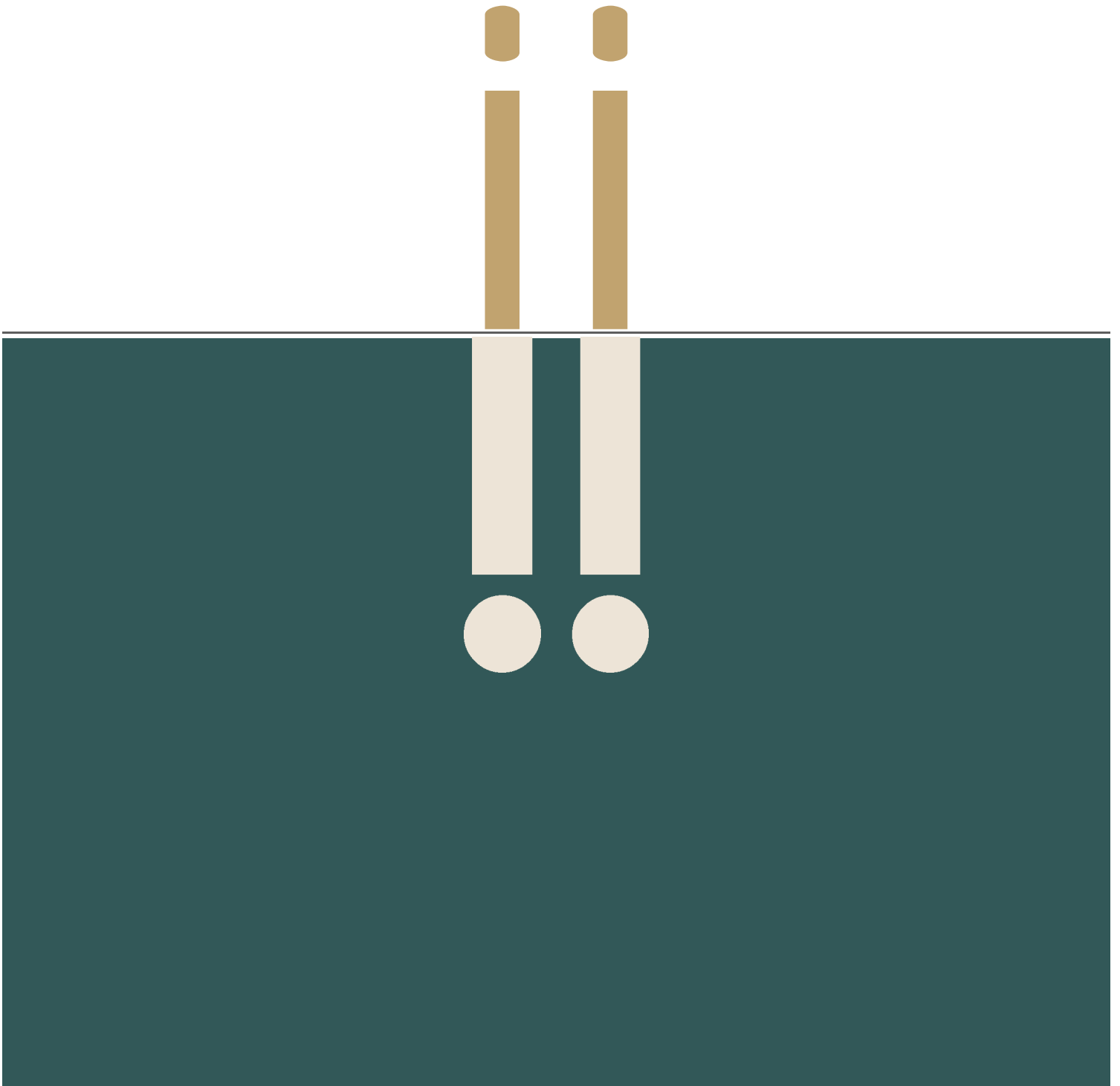
### **Documentation of Alexandria Monument Scripts**

The ISIS team has developed a system to document scripts written on Pharaonic, Greek, Coptic, and Islamic monuments in Alexandria. The database encompasses pictures, transliterations, and translations (see *Highlights*, Heritage section).

### **Digitizing Arab Memory: A Framework for Cooperation (Cairo, 27–28 November 2005)**

The collective memory of the Arab world is facing unsurpassed challenges that undermine a common Arab heritage and a unified self-image. A roundtable was envisioned to enhance regional cooperation to preserve Arab heritage through maximal IT applications. The event was executed upon the collaboration of CULTNAT and UNESCO on CULTNAT premises in Cairo.

The participants defined priorities for Arab world heritage issues, made a set of plausible recommendations, and formed workgroups to follow-up the progress of work and become the building blocks of the forthcoming 2007 Arab Reform Forum.



# Center of excellence on specialized topics

BIBLIOTHECA ALEXANDRINA

THE ZOGHEBS

AN ALEXANDRIAN SAGA

Edited by





## ii

## Center of excellence on specialized topics

Alex-Med conducts research and documents the Alexandrian and Mediterranean tangible and intangible culture while encouraging mutual understanding and sharing experiences related to issues of common interest in the Mediterranean basin. In this manner, the Alexandria Database and Web Portal project (now under construction) is a specialized library reference tool that documents and archives all available data on the city of Alexandria in different formats. The project emphasizes Resources and Documentation, History and Archeology, Art and Literature, Architecture and Urban Planning, and Economy and Development.

The Alexandria Database will help generate information for the Alexandria Almanac, Facts and Figures Book, to provide data about the city useful for business, the government and the public. The Almanac will cover history, government, the environment, the cityscape, society, culture, economy, future prospects of the city, general statistics, maps, and bibliographies.

Conferences, seminars, lectures, and proceedings on Alexandria and the Mediterranean are organized to promote scholarly and public interests in Alexandria and other Mediterranean societies through the dissemination of research results and encouragement of debate.

The conferences include:

- Med Voices Closing Conference (11–13 November 2005)
- “Bicentenaire de l’Ascension au Pouvoir de Mohamed Ali” (15–17 November 2005)
- Aga Khan Forum (20 November 2005)
- Round-table discussion on “Dialogue between Cultures in the Mediterranean area” and “The Euro-Mediterranean Partnership: mid-term perspectives” (10 December 2005)
- 9<sup>th</sup> International Literature Symposium “KAVAFIA 2005” (21 December 2005)
- The Second Congress of the Mediterranean Society of Comparative Education (MESCE) (4–6 February 2006)
- Philosophy during the Hellenistic period in Alexandria Conference (8–10 March 2006)
- Architectures Modernes en Méditerranée Conference (19–20 April 2006)

## Alex-Med Projects

### Monograph Series

Alex-Med publications include the Monograph Series and other publications that promote the city of Alexandria. The monographs cover significant persons and/or places in Alexandria throughout the city’s history. The Center’s second monograph *The Zoghebs: An Alexandrian Saga* is comprised of these autobiographical texts written by various members of this Syro-Lebanese family, reflecting the social life of cosmopolitan Alexandria.

### Cemeteries Projects

A close study of three important Alexandrian cemeteries (Chatby, Pompey’s Pillar and Alamein) will involve both the tangible and intangible heritage of Alexandria. Thus, an examination of the architectural styles of the monuments and tombs, and the narratives and memories of concerned individuals, certain patterns regarding migration, social history, class distinction and status, and religious traits will emerge. A map of the socio-religious history of modern Alexandria can be drawn. This is part of the EC-funded RAMSES II project.

### Patrimonial Itineraries

The Patrimonial Itineraries of Alexandria will promote Alexandrian heritage through seven cultural maps prepared by Alex-Med. They arrange the site grouping of archeological, historical, or artistic importance into thematic tours to be proposed to visitors and inhabitants of the city. The project will develop special signage for specific points

on each tour, and any necessary renovations to the sites. This project is developed in cooperation with various local and international stakeholders.

### **The Hammam Project**

The Hammam Project began in March 2006, through the research of Mohamed Ali Abdel-Hafeez to locate the 27 hammamat (baths) mentioned in his paper. Four of these hammams are still standing, but they are in a poor condition, and because they are privately owned, access to them is difficult. After locating the hammamat, efforts will be made to survey and document them. Only after this is completed, will it be possible to consider conservation and restoration possibilities.

### **Other Projects**

The “Artists Project” research seeks to document the life and work of Alexandrian painters. To date, videotaped interviews with eleven artists have been recorded.

The Syrian and Lebanese communities played a major role in the cultural activities of Alexandria during the cosmopolitan age. The on-going research is currently concerned with the Syro-Lebanese role in the press and in the development of the theater.

### **Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE) Leading Your Career, Leading Your Society (10 September 2005)**

The CSSP, in cooperation with the IEEE Arab Academy Section, hosted the inauguration of the “Leading Your Career, Leading Your Society” event in September 2005. This seminar aimed at inspiring young graduates and senior students by providing them with the information and guidance to be effective contributors to their society, be it through participation in educational institutions, government agencies or corporations.

### **Taha Hussein Library for the Blind and Visually Impaired**

The original proposal for this specialized library was designed prior to the BA building completion. The plans for the Taha Hussein (TH) Library included the latest achievements in assistive technology to enable disabled persons to read, write, access the Internet, and thereby gain additional independence and control over their lives. Since its inauguration, the BA has experienced an increase in demand for these unique resources and services from different users, including scholars, researchers, educators, secondary school and university students, and children.

Originally, the TH Library consisted of an area of about 47 m<sup>2</sup>, including a reading area to accommodate only 14 users, and two individual study rooms. However, the overwhelming popularity that this specialized library received in the past three years required its expansion. The expansion included an additional reading area with accommodations for 20 users and a separate training room to be used for computer training and seminars. The BA applies to expand its resources using the state-of-the-art tools and most well-rounded collection of Braille printed material.

### **Talking Books Project**

The Talking Books Project, introduced by the TH Library and the Digital Library Services Section, is intended to facilitate access to information for the print disabled users by enabling them to read/hear a book just by the click of a mouse. The project will involve pre-recording books, magazines, or newspapers in a staff member or volunteer's voice and then archiving the recording, or audio book, for later retrieval by the user. This will greatly encourage special learners to read the variety the BA collection has to offer.

The current facilities that the BA offers for the visually impaired are limited to a volunteer or a staff member reading a desired book to the user or using scanners where the Optical Coherence Tomography (OCT) is still far from perfect. This is a problem due to the scarce number of staff members/volunteers dedicated to this purpose and the lack of efficient Arabic text to voice technology.

In addition to aiding visually disabled users, the Talking Books Project will meet the needs of children, youth, users that have difficulty reading, users with learning disabilities such as dyslexia, and their educators. The Talking Books will be a reading tool, allowing the users to follow along the text of the books while listening to its vocal transcription.

As part of the mission of the Talking Books Project, the BA is participating in the International Daisy Consortium, establishing international standards and implementation strategies for the production, exchange, and use of Digital Talking Books in both developed and developing countries, with special interest in the Arabic language.

### **Arabic Union Catalog**

The project's main objective is to adapt and 'Arabize' the international cataloging and bibliographic tools, create new specific language Arabic tools, and expand the current bibliographic descriptive standards to describe and address the print and multimedia Arabic heritage collections.

The project is divided into four phases:

- Formation of a cooperative regional organization to manage the effort of building an Arabic Union Catalog
- Development of a complete set of standardized bibliographic tools
- Coordination of activities among system providers
- Building a comprehensive Arabic Union Catalog System.

Through preliminary meetings between the BA and other Middle Eastern libraries, in Alexandria and in Kuwait, the BA and the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research (KISR) agreed to take the responsibility for the project. The BA took the lead on the proposal writing and the application to a funding agency. The proposal was sent to the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development (AFESD) and the BA followed up on the funding process through two visits to Kuwait city headquarters of the Arab Fund. In late March 2006, KISR was formally informed that the sum of KD300,000 (one millionUS\$) will be allocated toward the first phase of the project and requested detailed documents of the first phase cost and deliverables.

This document is currently under preparation. After approval, 20 percent of the mentioned sum will be granted, the BA will then begin the process of implementation. It is anticipated that the project will be completed in five years and will cost five to seven million US dollars.

### **The Journey of Writing in the Land of the Pharaohs**

The exhibition targets different cohorts to increase cultural awareness in the community through exploring the various stages of the development of writing in Egypt. One of the main objectives is to be able to tour the world's most famous writing museums to raise their awareness of Egyptian culture and its major contribution to mankind. In addition, the exhibition is organizing a writing workshop for children, to improve their skills and make them aware of various writings known to originate from Egypt. The exhibition catalog will be a major reference as it will include articles written by specialized Egyptian and foreign scholars. The exhibition will be digitized and placed online to guarantee universal access. Moreover, there will be electronic access through the publication of the exhibition on CD, including an audible commentary on various artifacts on view.

This exhibition is the first attempt to take a closer look at the writings, which appeared in Egypt. It will deal with the ideogram, consonant, and syllabic writing systems, thereby covering the following: Graffiti, Hieroglyph, Hieratic, Demotic, Coptic, Meroitic, Greek, Latin, Hebrew, Proto-Sinaitic, Carian, Aramaic, Cuneiform, Arabic, Armenian, and Georgian. The display itself will apply the technology provided by CULTURAMA.

Work began in January 2005, and is expected to take two years for completion. To date, the compilation of scientific data in Arabic and English, the objects that are planned to be displayed in the catalog have been selected, the translation of this data into English has been completed, and cooperation with CULTNAT began on the application of CULTURAMA. Primary agreements have also been made with some centers abroad to host the exhibition. The Calligraphy Center has invited scholars to write specialized articles, such as Professor Lucas Van Rompay. The major challenge in this project will be the acquisition of the originals of the selected pieces on display.

### Digital Assets Repository (DAR)

The Digital Assets Repository (DAR) is a system developed by ISIS to create and maintain the Library's digital collections. It acts as a homogeneous representation for all types of digital material.

One of the major objectives of DAR is the automation of the digitization workflow and its integration with the repository.

The workflow automation system was completed and has been fully functional during 2005. The Digital Assets Keeper first version was deployed in July 2005, with some aspects still in the beta version.

A new version of the BA's digital viewer displays the digitized books output from the digital library based on image-on-text technology. The viewer features full text (morphological) searching within the book's title, subject, keywords, and content. It also includes some extra security features such as saving the books or sample pages based on the user's access level, and protecting copyright by preventing the user from copying or printing the entire book. Over 22,700 books and 21,280 images are now available at <http://dar.bibalex.org>, but protected with a username and password due to copyright.

### Universal Digital Book Encoder (UDBE)

For the electronic publishing of digitized material, UDBE was devised as a framework for the universal encoding of multilingual image-on-text documents, binding images and text in a compound format that allows



DAR Frontpage

retrieval systems to search the text layer and highlight hits on the original page images.

During the past year, enhancements were made to the UDBE, including overall enhancements to the operation of the encoding system, PDF linearization for accommodation of clients with low bandwidth, and protection of documents to accommodate legal issues. The system is continuing to be applied in the encoding of image-on-text documents that are being published through DAR.

### **Online Access to Consolidated Information on Serials (OACIS) for the Middle East**

Initiated by Yale University Library, OACIS creates a publicly and freely available electronic union list of serials, journals, and scholarly literature from or about the Middle East. The mission of OACIS is to improve access to Middle Eastern serials in libraries around the world in the United States, Europe, and the Middle East.

The OACIS system was launched in November 2003 and comprises 20 partners (fifteen US universities, one German, one Jordanian, one Syrian, one Lebanese, and the BA), 42 languages (with the top collections in Arabic, Persian, and Turkish) and 38,500 unique title records.

The BA has been acting as a major Middle Eastern partner in OACIS since August 2004. The BA catalog records have been incorporated in the OACIS catalog with quarterly updates taking place since January 2005. The BA also directed a digitization discovery project, which helped significantly in planning for the future online delivery of journal article content through OACIS. Scanning, processing, and OCRing of the BA and Yale University Library copyright-free collections has been taking place.

In January 2005, a mirror site of the system was launched at the BA. The project ended September 2005 with a commitment from all partners to regularly update the database on a quarterly basis through to the end-2008, with the option to renew for a further 3-year period. The project's sequel is the Arabic and Middle Eastern Electronic Library (AMEEL) project, which commenced at end-2005.

### **Arabic and Middle Eastern Electronic Library (AMEEL)**

Project AMEEL is the next logical phase following OACIS. AMEEL and OACIS tie closely with the BA's strategy for expanding global activities and becoming a widely recognized digital center of excellence in the Middle East and beyond the region.

Initiated by Yale University Library, this project aims to develop an Arabic and Middle Eastern Electronic Library (AMEEL) containing a large collection of significant Middle Eastern resources. The project will bring together a unique group of partners who will embrace digital representations of traditional materials. This will offer users unprecedented clarity and structure to guide them in accessing the best and most reliable of historical, cultural, scientific, and other materials from and about Middle Eastern cultures.

The project received a fund of US\$750,000 over four years starting 1 October 2005. This grant was awarded under the US Department of Education's Title VI TICFIA (Technical Innovation and Cooperation for Foreign Information Access) Program.

### **Digitization of Arabic Language Books Workshop and Conference (21-25 February 2006)**

In cooperation with the BA, Stanford University has received a grant funded by the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, to foster the development of an international cooperative effort for the digitization of Arabic language books. The conference took place 21–25 February 2006, during which the organizing and planning group met for a public discussion with leaders of Arabic librarianship and digitization experts from Egypt, the wider Middle East, the UK, and the USA. The organizing group included members from the BA, Stanford University, Yale University, the British Library, Oxford University, and others. The group is to scope a project, including both technical and collection aspects, and draft a proposal for its funding.

([www.bibalex.org/DigiArab](http://www.bibalex.org/DigiArab)).

### **The Integrated Digital Library Services**

The Integrated Library System (ILS) offers the basic modules of cataloging Online Public Access Catalog (OPAC) and posts its services on the Web. The multimedia system (MmediaView) contains several databases, offering a printing service for the public and a booking system that permits the reservations of study rooms or PCs on reading tables. Payment for library services is automated through a prepaid card system. The membership system was developed to issue cards to the patrons of the Library. Online self-registration for library visitors as well as automatic notification of the arrival of any new material is also available.

Many tools and applications have been developed to help facilitate the work of the librarians, including Cataloging Performance Tracking application, Dynamic Reporting web tool, Automated Circulation Overdue Notices system, Print Special Subject Bibliographies application, Ancient Library Bibliographic Database application, and Gifts Database system.



## The Digital Laboratory

ISIS has built its own Digital Laboratory equipped with state-of-the-art technologies offering specialized digital services. The Laboratory's staff is composed of 51 well-trained members, working seven days a week, two shifts per day, digitizing various media including slides in multi-formats, negatives, books, manuscripts, pictures, maps, audio, and video.

Current Digital Lab statistics are shown below:

Digital Lab production (as of 30 June 2006):

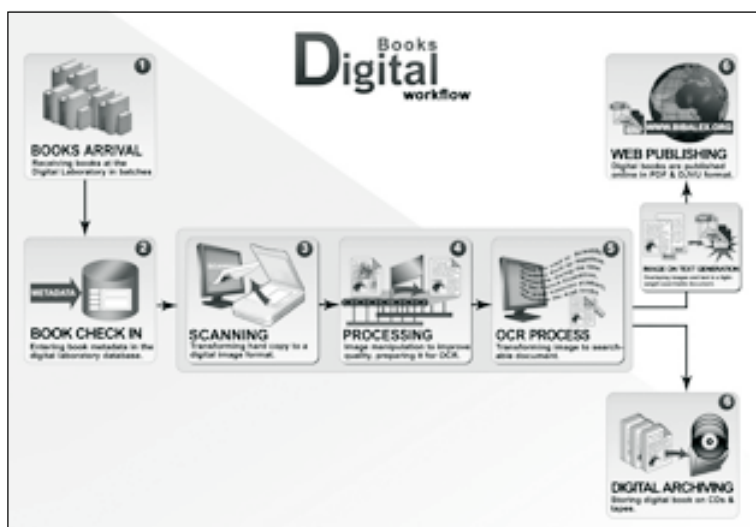
- 25,861 digitized and processed books (8+ million pages)
  - 21,357 Arabic books (6.7+ million pages)
  - 4642 Latin books (1.3+ million pages)
- 18,660 OCR'd books (5.7+ million pages)
  - 14,837 Arabic books (4,585,942 pages)
  - 3823 Latin books (1,070,350 pages)

New daily rates (single shift)

- Scanning  $\approx$  1600 – 2000 pages/person
- Processing  $\approx$  1600 – 2000 pages/person
- Latin OCR  $\approx$  4000 pages/person
- Arabic OCR  $\approx$  1500 pages/person

Images: 27,376

Digital Lab Collections (as of 30 June 2006):



Digital Lab  
Workflow

- Collection of 1890 Italian books
- Collection of 592 images of Mohamed Mahmoud Pasha, in cooperation with the Media Department
- Collection of 213 issues of Aalam Al-Bena', in cooperation with the Library Sector
- Collection of approximately 700 plans of Al Awqaf, in cooperation with Alex-Med
- Collection of 53 manuscripts, in cooperation with the Manuscript Center
- Collection of 20 slides of painting of Mounir Canaan, in cooperation with the Arts Center.

An account of the BA's achievements in the area of digitization of Arabic content has been published as a paper in the journal of Zhejiang University SCIENCE and presented at the First International Conference on the Universal Digital Library in China in November 2005: The Million Book Project at the BA.

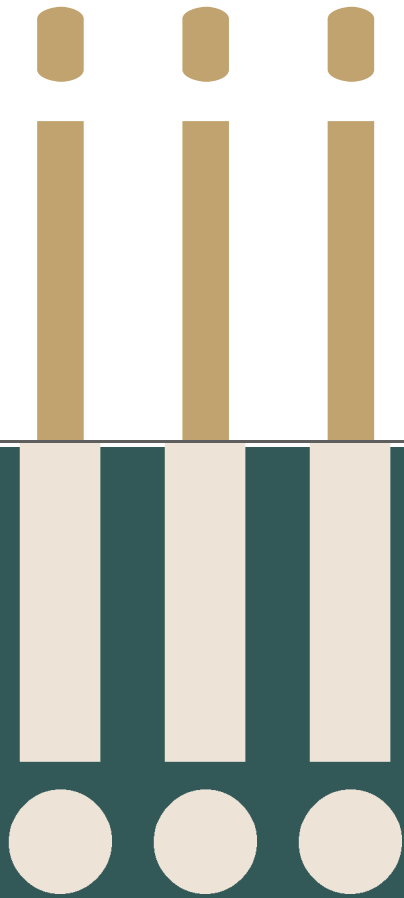
([www.zju.edu.cn/jzus/2005/A0511/A051122.pdf](http://www.zju.edu.cn/jzus/2005/A0511/A051122.pdf))

### **BA Joins the World Digital Library Project**

Initiated by the Library of Congress, the project aims to create a World Digital Library, with content related to the history and culture of peoples and countries around the world.

On 11 May 2006, the two libraries signed a memorandum of understanding by which the BA agreed to play a role in the planning for a World Digital Library and to contribute some of its own collections to the project. The BA and the Library of Congress will exchange information and ideas on issues such as standards, selection and presentation of content, multilingualism, and system architecture. They will also embark on completing a joint digital library project that will serve as one of the building blocks of the future digital library, and that will be applied to develop and test standards, technologies, and procedures. The project will involve the digitization of rare and unique materials from the collections of the BA relating to the history and culture of the city of Alexandria, Egypt, and the Middle East in general.

The two institutions will also create two identical mirror websites, one to be hosted at the Bibliotheca Alexandrina, the other at the Library of Congress. These websites will present to the public, free-of-charge and in multilingual format, the digitized collections. The agreement, when finalized, will also cover issues such as standards, copyright, maintenance of the sites, the relationship between these sites and the future World Digital Library, and financing and other support for the creation of these sites.



# Actor in the sustainable development of the city





## Actor in the sustainable development of the city

**T**he Alexandria and Mediterranean Research Center (Alex-Med) is an active partner in the rejuvenation of the city of Alexandria by preserving its great heritage and promoting its urban, economic, and intellectual development in a sustainable and comprehensive manner.

During 2005, negotiations resulted in a “Memorandum of Understanding” signed between the Alexandria Governorate and the Bibliotheca Alexandrina for the formation of the Alexandria Development Agency, paving the way for the future urban renewal of the city in the Eastern Harbor, while protecting and preserving important tangible heritage.

### **The Alexandria Street Atlas**

The Alexandria Street Atlas is a complete and updated street map listing all street names of the city in Arabic. An existing map of Alexandria is being updated to include newly developed areas and districts of the city. To-date the city center areas have been completed using satellite images and advanced computer technology, and through research and extensive surveys. An English version of the Atlas will follow.



Forming the  
Alexandria  
Development  
Agency

### **Villa Antoniadis**

The Onassis Public Benefit Foundation is a major sponsor of the preservation of a cultural icon in the city of Alexandria, opening opportunities for all lifestyles to enjoy the beautiful and historic Villa Antoniadis and its Gardens. The renovation of the Villa will include the new headquarters for Alex-Med; a visitors and researchers guesthouse; a museum and exhibition space; thematic gardens and horticulture center; an outdoor theater; and an art center comprising ateliers, meeting and workshop facilities, and an exhibition area. Work began on the documentation of the building in preparation for the restorative work.

### **Aquarium Project**

Plans for the construction of an Aquarium on the Alexandria waterfront are in progress following an agreement signed at end-March 2006 for professional studies for the project to begin. The Aquarium will be a complex of exhibits of sea life, a marine research center, space for special activities and public services, a hotel, and a conference center. Alex-Med has prepared maps showing current usage and ownership of a possible site, and submitted initial design proposals for the project.

### **Local Economic Development**

The Governorate of Alexandria organized a two-day Local Economic Development (LED) workshop with the cooperation of the World Bank and the Cities Alliance. The workshop focused on three main issues, upgrading of squatter settlements, addressing the environmental problems of Lake Mariout, and developing a long-term local economic development strategy for heritage under Alex-Med's responsibility. The policy workshop pooled relevant case studies from the international scene to exchange experiences with local stakeholders.

## Alexandria and BA Guide

The BA Tours Department worked on providing essential information regarding Alexandria (hotels, restaurants, travel agents, archeological sites, and other important information) to its visitors. In addition to the Alexandria Guide, a PowerPoint presentation of Alexandria's monuments is shown in the BA Auditorium, giving a general overview of the historic sites of this great city. The BA Guide is a similar project that provides useful information regarding the facilities and plethora of activities offered at the BA.

## Marketing

During the past 6 months (July–December 2005), the Tours Department executed a public outreach marketing strategy in order to promote the BA and its services. This resulted in an increase of 20,777 visitors. Other governorates in Egypt will be targeted in the near future.

The Tours Department representatives undertook field representations at schools in Alexandria and Cairo as well as orphanages, hotels, clubs, scouts, banks, culture centers, colleges, churches, syndicates, and companies, to promote visits to the BA.

The Antiquities Museum promotes the historic role of Alexandria through its production of booklets, flyers, and postcards. Public awareness about history and culture has also been stimulated through media and electronic publications. During July 2005–June 2006, the Antiquities Museum became one of the main attractions of the culturally diverse city of Alexandria, receiving more than 100,000 non-Egyptian and Egyptian visitors.

## CULTNAT – A Member of the Network of Expertise Centers

The Center for Documentation of Cultural and Natural Heritage (CULTNAT) has become a member of the Network of Expertise Centers falling under the Excellence in Processing Open Cultural Heritage (EPOCH) Network of Excellence.

This network is an Information Society Technologies project within the sixth Framework Program of the European Commission, with 83 European cultural institutions and over 40 affiliated worldwide partners seeking to improve the quality and effectiveness of the use of Information and Communication Technology for Cultural Heritage.

EPOCH aims to have a lasting effect on the cultural heritage domain, and therefore wants to establish structures that continue work already begun. To improve the labor market with a view to growth, employment and the competitiveness of companies, one main objective is to create a

structure to support, encourage and train Small to Medium Enterprises (SMEs) involved in the cultural heritage sector. A core principle of the program is to transfer innovation and experience, improve quality, and create standards for the cultural heritage domain.

Group objectives are to create a strong community of experts in cultural heritage who trust and support each other to develop, identify, discuss, and suggest solutions on specific needs faced by different actors in the implementation process of information technology in cultural heritage.

The launching event was held in Brighton at the Centre for Research in Innovation Management (CENTRIM) on 11 and 12 January 2006, after which two meetings have been held, one hosted at CULTNAT on 20 and 21 March 2006.

### **Introducing the Entrepreneur e-Corner**

Traditional economy markets in Egypt are predominantly overrun by small, private, and family-owned businesses. The Egyptian entrepreneur is just as significant as any multinational when speaking of market share or competition. In the past, family-owned businesses were conglomerates housing everything from petroleum companies and agricultural fields to industrial factories and textiles. The BA recognizes the great effort exerted by these past entrepreneurs and will create a comprehensive collection of resources pertaining to all the aspects of entrepreneurship in Egypt to pass on to the entrepreneurs of the future.

The journey to becoming a successful entrepreneur is a long and difficult one; therefore, most prospective business-owners attempt to be properly prepared before commencing their ventures. The BA Entrepreneur e-Corner will provide informational guide to success packages, customized and designed to the request of the user. These packages will include various aspects of business information, such as:

- Legal structure for business start-ups, permits, and licenses
- Market research featuring current competition and market share
- Methods of raising venture capital
- Techniques of establishing a working financial record-keeping system, setting prices, costs and profits
- Selection of consumer target groups and establishing customer profiles
- Means of selecting effective benchmark competitors and studying their strategies.

Through the e-Corner, entrepreneurs will gain a well-rounded view of their desired market from the perspectives of both the producers and the consumers, and a historical view of details of product visibility, raw



materials, and competition. This raises the level of business awareness amongst the Egyptian business community, and in turn, increases their competitive advantage with respect to the global market.

### Library Learning Center

As the Bibliotheca Alexandrina ushers the 21<sup>st</sup> century, the explosion of information is breaking records. The amount and dispersion of information are growing ever stronger with the new medium of information technology. The appearance of yet unforeseen possibilities of widespread access to both information and its interchange is astounding. In such an environment, it is vital that children, young people, and adults become more information literate. Information literacy is defined as an individual's ability to:

- Recognize a need for information
- Identify and locate appropriate information sources
- Know how to gain access to information contained in those sources
- Evaluate quality of information
- Organize information
- Apply information effectively.

The demand for information literacy in Egypt is high. More Egyptian households own computers with Internet connections, but do not possess the proper skills to use them. There also exists a lack of familiarity with libraries, research tools, and information centers. Within the BA, reference and instructional librarians have found a large gap in the research knowledge of users, who require recurring assistance in repeated basic searches, not encouraging independence in information seeking. The BA believes the most efficient solution to this problem is to train users providing sufficient basics to help them explore and research on their own.

Previously at the BA, information literacy courses were run in two different locations. The PowerPoint presentation lecture and was conducted in the main auditorium, while practical training took place on the entrance level public computers. The demand and location of these programs were becoming unmanageable. Resources were inadequate to handle the increased demands of individual users and classes. The Auditorium alone did not offer any practical experience and the computers used for hands-on training were simultaneously assigned for public use, creating a trade-off in the efficient use of the computers.

Therefore, the BA established the Library Learning Center, a state-of-the-art computer classroom to be used solely for bibliographic instruction and improving the information acquiring capabilities of Library patrons. This classroom provides hands-on learning opportunities essential to the development of information seeking and computer utilization skills. Instruction classes focus on database/Internet research and proper writing skills covering all subject areas.

iv

## Innovator in cultural and artistic interaction



## iv

## Innovator in cultural and artistic interaction

Alex-Med attempts to bridge the gap between art and culture to make them available to the public. Alex-Med's strategy for cultural and artistic innovation thus includes projects, annual and seasonal events such as the performance of the Rentis Municipal Company Folk Dance Group and the ninth literature symposium "Kavafia 2005" which was hosted by Alex-Med. The symposium was held in collaboration with the Greek Embassy and Cultural Center and the Egyptian Supreme Council of Culture and presented a concert by the Orpheus Trio. In addition, Mohamed Awad, Director of Alex-Med was selected as a juror for the Alexandria Biennale 2005. Alex-Med also provided a lecture by the influential and internationally known architect Mario Botta.

Alex-Med will coordinate the organization of the Biennale for Young Creators from Europe and the Mediterranean (BJCEM) at the Bibliotheca Alexandrina in July 2007. A Steering Committee and working committees have been formed to begin the organization of all activities. This will involve Egyptian ministries, the Alexandria Atelier and other cultural centers and institutions in Egypt. The event is expected to involve 800 to 1000 participants with the cooperation of the Governorate of Alexandria.

## **The Cultural Season**

The Calligraphy Center hosts “Cultural Seasons”, covering particular topics, and inviting archeologists and calligraphers worldwide to lecture in the forum for learning and dialogue. The first season (May–December 2005) was concerned with Arabic Calligraphy and its pioneers and the different techniques of Arabic calligraphic art. The second season (February–May 2006), was concerned with different facets of Ancient Egyptian civilization.

## **The Aesthetics of Arabic Calligraphy Conference ( 9–11 May 2006)**

The conference on “The Aesthetics of Arabic Calligraphy” was held for three days 9–11 May 2006. This conference was organized in cooperation with the General Egyptian Society for Arabic Calligraphy under the auspices of Ismail Serageldin, Director of the BA.

The center invited a group of specialists, university professors, and the media. An exhibition of “Arabic Calligraphy Aesthetics” complemented the conference, which included the works of some famous calligraphers from Egypt, Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, and the United Arab Emirates.

Topics of the forum included:

- New technology and Arabic calligraphy
- Arabic calligraphy in Islamic architecture
- Ornaments of Arabic calligraphy
- Instruments and materials of Arabic calligraphic art
- The role of different cultural and educational organizations and authorities in the preservation of Arabic calligraphy
- Media and Arabic calligraphy
- Colors and Arabic calligraphy paintings
- Plastic arts and Arabic calligraphy.

## **Calligraphy School**

The of Arabic Calligraphy Day, 17 November 2005 marked the occasion of establishing the first Arabic Calligraphy School in Alexandria, 6 November 1936. It was organized in cooperation with the Arabic Calligraphy Association of Mohamed Ibrahim.

## **Hieroglyphics Courses**

The BA Calligraphy Center is a non-traditional research center that studies inscriptions, calligraphy, and writings in the world throughout the ages. Consequently, these courses raise awareness of civilizations and archeologies by introducing ancient cultures, particularly ancient Egypt.

Three-month courses began on 25 December 2005. Students from diverse social, educational, and economic levels enrolled, under the guidance of an Egyptologist from the Faculty of Arts, Alexandria University.

Furthermore, with the cooperation of the BA Friends Association, non-specialized courses are available to adults eager to study the ancient Egyptian language.

### **Arabic Calligraphy Courses**

The center also offers courses on Arabic calligraphy and its history. This two-month course began on 5 February 2006, and was taught by a renowned calligrapher and member of the center.

### **The Creative Forum for Independent Theater Groups (Europe-Mediterranean)**

The Creative Forum for Independent Theater Groups (Europe-Mediterranean) organized by the BA Arts Center, is a platform for contemporary and modern theater, dance and physical theater. It is also an opportunity for training, dialogue, experience, exchange, and networking between European and Mediterranean independent theater groups, aiming at developing the concept of partnership and cooperation to strengthen the movement of independent theaters on local and international levels. The forum is a practical demonstration of the “anti-



Performances from the Creative Forum for Independent Theater

festival” idea, as artists integrate with space and audiences, while official tones are not heard, only those of the energies of the theater makers, whether they are artistic/creative or educational/tutorial.

The creative forum focused on:

- Theater performances
- Forming and training workshops
- Round-table discussions
- Building joint projects
- Networking and publications.

### **The Arts and Multimedia Library**

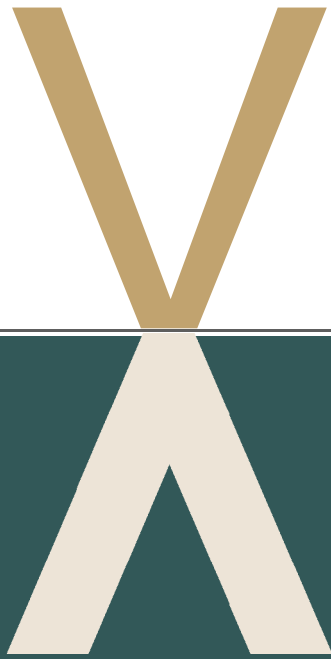
After incorporating fine arts and recreation books (the part of the Main Library Collection, which falls within the DDC 700s class) into the Multimedia Library and creating an Arts and Multimedia (AM) Library, it became apparent that new innovative approaches for serving the public are needed.

Creating an interactive art experience was the outcome. Interactive art is where art and technology intersect to create a new learning experience. Interactive art involves exchange between its originator, work, and participants, thereby emphasizing communication and the building of perceptual systems. Interactive art is usually (but not necessarily) computer-mediated. It may respond to audience input or, it may be continually created by its audience, thus blurring the line between artist and user. Interactive art can also be a static work that was collaboratively created as the result of an interactive process. There are many possibilities and the establishment of this specialized library is a work-in-progress.

### **International Librarians Visit the BA**

Due to the awesome nature of the BA, this year, the Library Sector received over one-hundred international librarians. From Bosnia to Greece, Spain to Malaysia, France to the United States of America; international librarians have been united in their quest to share experiences and culture at the BA.





# Incubator for children's talents



## V

## Incubator for children's talents

**B**ased on the highly innovative and successful experiments conducted in India, the Bibliotheca Alexandrina brings the children of the Alexandria community in direct contact with the cyber world and its infinite possibilities for education and learning. A fully functional kiosk consisting of three PCs customized for children was built and set-up in the BA Plaza. A new portal was designed holding some interesting sites for children with games, stories and educational tools.

During 2005, secure browsing was enabled within the kiosks to provide additional security and ensure inappropriate content is inaccessible by the children. Access is now restricted to a predefined list of applications, with no access to any other machine resources. Software was also developed to track the complete lifecycle of the kiosks and their activities. The software manages all types of environmental data, screenshots and web statistics, captures data sent by the kiosks, stores it in a database, and generates reports. The application will assist researchers by providing a single repository for all kiosk data. Equipment has been acquired for thirty additional kiosks and their locations have been selected by the Alexandria Governorate.

### Children and History

The Antiquities Museum performs a vital role in making the younger generation better acquainted with their own unique history and the treasures of their country, by organizing weekly educational programs and workshops.

During 2005, handicapped children participated in the Antiquities Museum program playing a substantially significant role in preserving the national and cultural identity of children and society. In this regard, great weight is attached to museological education, especially in the development of child awareness and attitude.



A Participant in the Antiquities Museum Workshop

### Youth for Environmental Sustainability and Better Understanding (YESBU)

The Youth for Environmental Sustainability and Better Understanding (YESBU) is an association that performs its activities under the umbrella of the Center for Special Studies and Programs (CSSP) at the Bibliotheca Alexandrina. The association was launched in 2002, and is formed of over 1000 students and mentors, 86 schools, and 16 faculties whose number is showing a remarkable annual increase. It raises environmental awareness among school pupils, instilling knowledge and ensuring the application of the actual definition of “Sustainable Development” through numerous activities including field trips, weekly lectures, and workshops.

Moreover, the Alexandria Environmental Youth Convention (AEYC) is a program between the YESBU and the Ministry of Education, Alexandria, in which the environmental awareness course, given by Lund University, is translated into Arabic and introduced to school pupils.

### **The Bibliotheca Alexandrina at the World Youth Congress**

On 26 October 2005 in Scotland, the CSSP at the Bibliotheca Alexandrina participated in the Third World Youth Congress which brought together 600 of the world's most dynamic young activists in the field of sustainable development from 120 different countries. The six young members who represented the center are participants in the educational training program, Modern Trends in Developing Education and Environmental Sustainability, held at the BA.

The congress tackled a number of issues to promote youth involvement and efforts in achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Youth were called upon to:

- Raise awareness of the MDGs and wider development issues among their peers on the local level



- Encourage and recruit active volunteers among their peers to complete low cost community development projects
- Seek active partnership with adult mentors with relevant experience
- Undertake adequate research so that planned projects are relevant, appropriate and sustainable for the community
- Create their own training program to ensure the viability and sustainability of their projects
- Engender a strong collaborative institutional culture within and between youth organizations.

### **Hieroglyphic and Arabic Calligraphy Courses**

The BA Calligraphy Center, with the cooperation of the Children's and Young People's Libraries, offers courses for juniors to study Hieroglyphic and/or Arabic Calligraphy during the summer vacation. At the end of the Arabic Calligraphy workshops, using different materials, the children display their work in an exhibition.

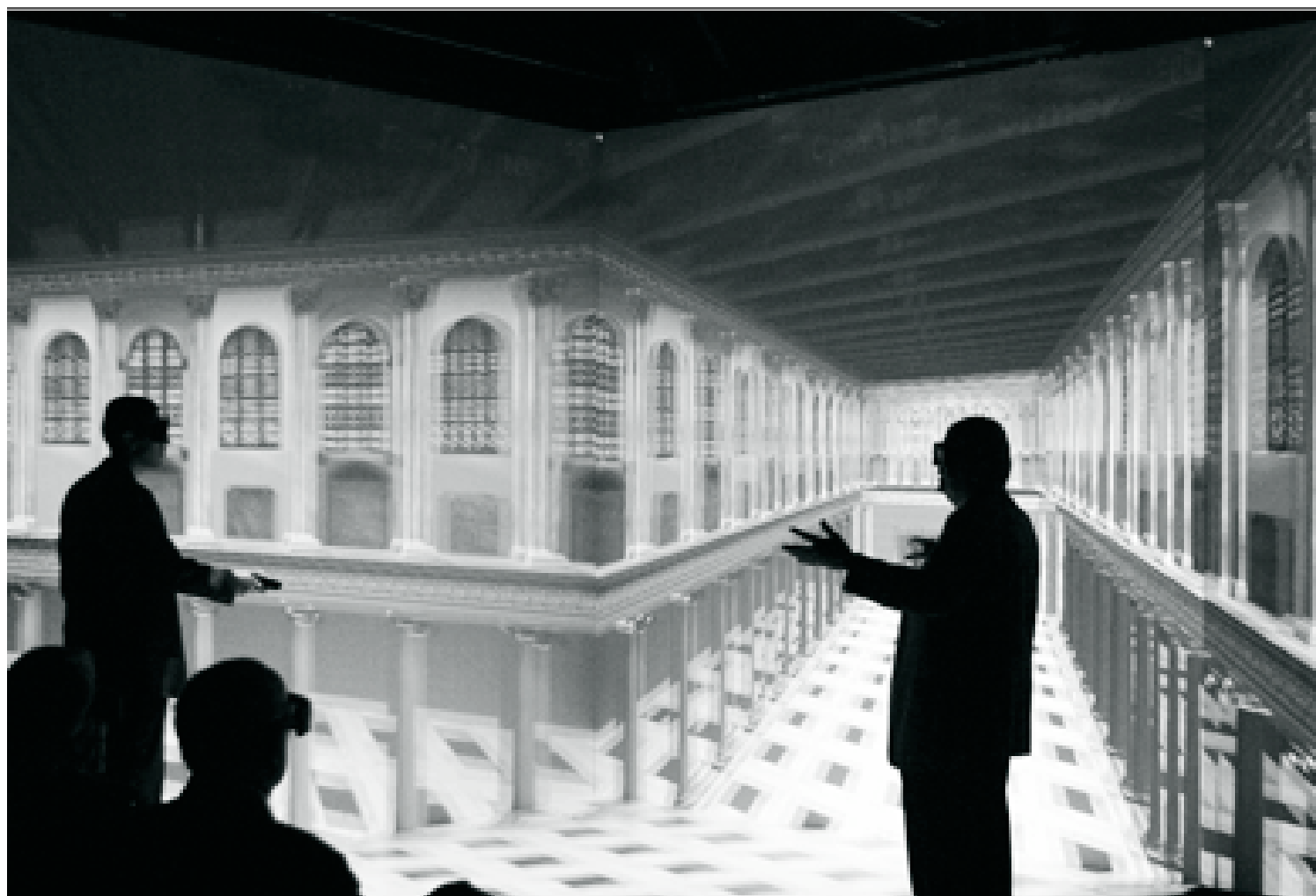


Participants of  
YESBU

vi

vi

# Promoter of science and technology





## vi

## Promoter of science and technology

The BA has always been a vibrant center of scientific and intellectual debate. At present, the new Library of Alexandria aspires to reviving its past historical scientific mission by bringing Egyptian young scientists to the frontiers of research to be recognized again by scientists all over the world as one of the best global linkage venues for eminent researchers and scientific institutions.

### North Africa and Middle East Science (NAMES) Center Network

The Planetarium Science Center (PSC) was chosen by the International Program Committee (IPC) of the World Congress of Science Centers to become a member representing North Africa and the Middle East. The role of the IPC is to direct the development of the program for each World Congress and to advise the host institution on all related matters.

For the PSC to play an active role in the IPC, it created a network that represents North Africa and the Middle East (NAMES) region. NAMES is to provide professional development for the science center field in the region. It promotes best practices, supports effective communication and strengthens the position of science centers within the community. It encourages excellence and innovation in informal science learning by serving and linking its members in the region and advancing their common goals. On 30 January 2006, the BA organized a one-day closed meeting to lay the foundation for the new network.



Viewing the Total Solar Eclipse in Al-Salloum

### Total Solar Eclipse 2006 Festivity

For almost a year, the PSC worked on organizing a festivity to be an inaugural event for the program tackling the issue of establishing a research program, in cooperation with the most prestigious international science institutes. In addition to children, the center also targeted other age groups.

The two-week “Frontiers of Astronomy” school/workshop targeted a selected group of international, regional and local under and post-graduate students. Those participants were given a rare chance to benefit from an exceptionally elite group of scientists who are at the top of their fields of study from the Canadian Institute for Theoretical Astrophysics (CITA), Max-Planck-Institute for Astrophysics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Caltech, Paris Observatory, University of California, Cambridge, Oxford, Princeton, Stanford, and JILA. The event was a success as all speakers showed great interest in the idea of a research program.

One of the strategies adopted by the PSC team is to take advantage of unique science-related events to create an unforgettable memory that would stay with the public and especially the younger portion with to stimulate them to search and learn. In accordance with this strategy, two other events took place simultaneously on 29 March 2006. The PSC

staff was divided to cover all possible aspects of the event that will not take place in Egypt again for another twenty-one years:

- Part of the PSC staff traveled with speakers from the first two events and the participants of the school/workshop on the 28 March 2006 to Al-Saleoum where a camp was arranged for the group to spend the night and be able to follow all the steps of totality in the morning of 29 March. The trip was an opportunity for the staff, the speakers and the participants to bond.
- The other part stayed in Alexandria where an observation of the partial eclipse was organized for the public in the plaza of the BA. The one-day event also included a lecture by one of the PSC resident astronomers, a videoconference with NASA and coverage of the observation of totality from Turkey.

### **‘Zero Carbon City’ Exhibition**

The majority of the world’s scientists agree that the earth’s climate is changing because of manufactured greenhouse gases. In cooperation with the British Council in Alexandria, the PSC hosted the “Zero Carbon City”, from 16 to 22 February 2006. Two relative workshops were organized during that period. An opening lecture was delivered to stimulate debate on international climate change and to illustrate the real impact of climate change on our world today and highlight the innovative solutions that are being developed in response to the challenges we face.

### **PSC Workshops**

Among the most popular workshops developed recently by the ALEXploratorium team are Paper Making, Blue Gold (water), Musical Instruments, Photography, Candle Making, and Rockets. Other interesting workshops include the now regular: Solar System, Human Body, Electricity, Light and Colors, and Excavation.

### **PSC Videoconferences**

In addition to traditional, yet interesting, lectures and presentations, the ALEXploratorium organizes videoconferences with international institutes, especially NASA, on a regular basis. School students are invited to participate by listening and watching as well as interacting with the international specialists by posing questions and making inquiries on the issues they find interesting.

### **Research Grants**

The Center for Special Studies and Programs (CSSP) helps researchers

and scientists obtain the best support needed to advance their work through international collaborations. Starting January 2004, the Bibliotheca Alexandrina has been offering annual research grants for young Egyptian postdoctoral researchers. Researchers through a newspaper advertisement were invited to apply for the BA/CSSP 2005 grants.

Eligible candidates must fulfill the following requirements:

- Hold a PhD degree obtained during the past five years in one of the following fields of study: Agricultural Sciences, Earth Sciences, Biology, Information Technology, Biochemistry and Biophysics, Mathematics, Chemistry, Medical Sciences, Engineering Sciences and Technologies, Physics and Astronomy.
- Currently work at a public/private academic or research institution in Egypt.
- Currently be engaged in, or can arrange to work on, a joint research project with a foreign counterpart(s) at a university or a research center abroad.
- Does not exceed 35 years of age by January 2005.

The results of the applications were as follows:

- 163 researchers applied
- 82 applicants 68 of which obtained their PhDs completely filled the online registration form
- 72 applicants 60 of which obtained their PhDs passed the primary check of data and their proposals were submitted to the online reviewing system.
- The BA/CSSP grants reviewing committee included 23 international and 33 Egyptian reviewers, of whom 17 live in the USA.

On 23 May 2006, an event was organized to announce the top listed candidates through the first phase of the research grants 2005.

### **BioVision Alexandria 2006: New Life Sciences: Changing Lives**

The BA promotes active exchange of biotechnological information, innovation and new ideas to contribute to the development of Life sciences that are beneficial to human kind. Thus, BioVision Alexandria 2006 Conference organized in partnership with the World Life Sciences Forum took place 26–29 April 2006 at the BA.

This is a continuation of the series of BioVision conferences held alternatively in Alexandria and Lyon since 1999.



BioVisionAlexandria  
2006 Website

The conference was attended by experts of the highest caliber, Nobel Laureates, distinguished keynote speakers, and eminent scientists from all the world to establish constructive dialogues and exchange vital information relevant to the field of Biotechnology. Of these 116 speakers, five were Nobel Laureates. There were 1080 Egyptian and international participants. Over the course of the three days, the conference tackled vital issues related to health, agrifood, the environment, drought, diabetes, and ethics.

Alongside the conference, a number of events took place including: the launching of the Arabic website of “La Main à la Pâte”; “BioFair @BioVisionAlexandria 2006”, an exhibition that gathered publishers, institutions, organizations, and industrial companies involved in life sciences and related topics to display their publications, services, and products; and a poster session focusing on health discoveries and agrifood and environmental discoveries in which 61 young researchers in the fields of Agriculture and Health presented their scientific posters.

The closing ceremony asserted that the BA celebrated science, youth and Nobel Laureates, by opening to the world through the language of science irrespective of differences in religion, gender or race. Ismail Serageldin pointed to the common information among countries that keeps us close, and allows us to accept each other’s opinions to create a considerate society that ensures the respect of the other.

### **First Regional Meeting of the World Academy of Young Scientists Arab Regional Unit**

The Bibliotheca Alexandrina hosted the First Meeting for the Arab Regional Unit of the World Academy of Young Scientists (WAYS), 28–29 November 2005, organized by the Academy of Sciences for the Developing World-Arab Regional Office (TWAS-ARO). The meeting discussed major science and technology issues, emphasizing upon the situation and role of young scientists in the Arab region.

This meeting was a first step toward the establishment of a regional office for WAYS. It addressed major issues of importance to science and Arab societies; facilitating interaction among scientists across all disciplines and from all Arab countries; promoting the participation of all young scientists, and defining the work plan of WAYS-ARU.

Among the attendees who participated in the lectures and discussion were Mohamed El-Faham, Director of CSSP; Mohamed Hassan, Executive Secretary of TWAS; and Gaell Mainguy, President of WAYS.

The first day witnessed a DVD show: the Library of Alexandria, and lectures by Gaell Mainguy on the role of WAYS; Hany Sweilam, Egypt's representative, on the status of research in the Arab region; and Farouk El-Baz, Director of the Center for Remote Sensing, Boston University, who highlighted the challenges facing young Arab scientists. Medhat Haroun, from the American University in Cairo, also gave a lecture on motivating scientific research, presenting the AUC model. The President of the Arab Network for Women in Science and Technology (ANWST), Rafia Obaid; and Farida Allaghi, ANWST member, were also among the attendees and gave an overview of the ANWST initiatives and future prospects.

### **First Meeting of the Arab Network for Women in Science and Technology**

The Bibliotheca Alexandrina hosted the first meeting of the Arab Network for Women in Science and Technology (ANWST) on 29 November 2005.

The meeting was attended by the ANWST Board of Executives, and Mohamed Jameel Arazaak, Director of UNESCO, Cairo Office; Amr Azouz, Senior Regional Advisor for Engineering Science and ICDL Program Director; Farouk El-Baz, Director of Center for Remote Sensing, Boston University; Masha'el bint Mohammed Al Saud, King Saud University; and Farida al-Ala'qi, International Development Expert at UNDP.

During the sessions, a number of issues about the promotion of women's role in science and technology in the Arab world were discussed. Participants also highlighted ANWST activities and functions; ANWST future challenges and perspectives; and concluded the sessions with recommendations and conclusions.

### **TWAS 16<sup>th</sup> General Meeting**

Under the auspices of HE President Hosni Mubarak, the Bibliotheca Alexandrina hosted the Academy of Sciences for the Developing World (TWAS) 16<sup>th</sup> General Meeting (30 November–3 December 2005).

President Mubarak gave a speech in the opening ceremony during which he called for "the interaction of science and scientists in dealing with the challenges in science and technology in Egypt, the Arab world, and the developing countries".



Award and  
Medal  
Winners at  
TWAS

President Mubarak highlighted Egypt's efforts in expanding the base of scientific research through five main points. First, "developing policies for supporting scientific research"; second, "developing human resources by improving education"; third, "building new state-of-the-art and independent research centers while supporting existing ones"; fourth, "enhancing the relation between the country, the private, public sectors, and civil society organizations to finance the scientific researches", and finally, "facilitating appropriate means for the transfer of technology from the advanced nations while creating North/South and South/South cooperation".

The opening ceremony witnessed the presentation of awards and medals to outstanding researches in various fields including agricultural sciences, engineering sciences, biology, earth sciences, medical sciences, mathematics, chemistry, and physics.

The workshops that took place during the meeting opened discussions on social sciences and economics, biotechnology for developing countries, and the International Year of Physics: the TWAS Perspective.

### **How to Write a Successful Research Proposal Workshop**

The CSSP organized a workshop on "How to Write a Successful Research Proposal" which was held in the BA (8–10 December 2005).

The aim of the workshop was to deliver the "writing research proposals" skill quality training for young Egyptian researchers. It targeted all researchers currently proposing for postgraduate, doctoral and postdoctoral studies or competing for national and international grants.

### **Explore the World Project**

The BA, Egypt's very own cultural complex, was built to be "Egypt's window to the world". Through the Leveraging Landsat satellite imagery and the Shuttle Radar Topography Data, BA users are now able to view any location in the world, in 3D images, by the click of a mouse.

The “Explore the World” Project focuses on introducing scientifically sophisticated data, usually used by Earth geologists or professional researchers, in an easy, interesting way through a user-friendly interface. Techniques previously used by scientists for studying Earth’s history, surface; nature and temperature are now available for all users by utilizing Geographic Information Systems (GIS). GIS is a form of data representation that can be used to view and analyze such data from a geographic perspective. This program will encourage BA users to explore their homes, neighboring cities, buildings, or streets and then fly away into the galaxy to peek at what scientists have recently discovered as the furthest star from Earth.



NASA Explore  
the World  
program

### **Final EUMEDIS International Conference: Closing the Digital Gap in the Mediterranean Region (11–13 June 2006)**

The Egyptian Minister of Communication and Information Technology, Tarek Kamel opened the EUMEDIS Final International Conference held at the Bibliotheca Alexandrina from 11 to 13 June 2006.

The main objectives of the Conference were to present the results and best practices of the EUR64 million “Euro Mediterranean Information Society” – EUMEDIS – Program launched by the European Commission in 1999 to create working relations among countries in the Mediterranean area. It is the largest initiative ever undertaken by the European Commission in the development of the global Information Society to foster a peaceful Mediterranean environment. Twenty-one pilot projects were selected to act in five priority sectors: (i) Healthcare Networks; (ii) Electronic Commerce; (iii) Tourism and Cultural Heritage; (iv) Industry and SMEs, and (v) Education.

The conference opened a door for an inside look at the achievements of the 21 pilot projects carried out under the EUMEDIS Program, placing their results in the spotlight. It also launched a common reflection on the future of projects in the fields of Information Society in the Mediterranean region. The overall objective of the projects has been “...to contribute to the expansion and qualitative improvement of the Euro-Mediterranean Information Society in the pursuit of the overall



economic development, quality of life and mutual comprehension...”. A group of ICT experts and local and international policymakers, private enterprises and NGOs were present to support and guide the conference activities.

### **The World of Electronic Resources**

The primary goals for the past two years were to build the BA electronic core collection, optimize access to electronic information resources, and maximize the Library Sector’s budgetary resources.

#### **Summary of Accomplishments:**

- Establishing strong and long-term relationships with vendors of databases and publishers of electronic information resources
- Increasing the BA’s collection to reach 33 bibliographic and full text databases from the authoritative core titles, over 25,000 electronic journals, and more than 20,000 electronic items including e-books, reports and maps
- Maintaining subscription to 550 scholarly print journals and 90 newspapers and magazines while enhancing the journal subscription management
- Increasing the visibility and enhancing access to all of the Library’s electronic resources.

### **Building the BA Electronic Core Collection**

As usage of the electronic resources continued to grow steadily throughout 2004/2005, the Library Sector has substantially expanded and developed the electronic collection offered to its patrons. The criteria used in the selection of the electronic resources has taken into consideration authoritativeness, comparison of competitive products, evaluation of different platforms, resources reviews, peer consultation, quality and uniqueness of information, target audience, depth of coverage, usage statistics, and users’ feedback.

The 2005’s plan focused on acquiring the major abstracting and indexing databases considered as the chief sources of information in the subjects they cover and to subscribe to some leading full text research databases. The 2006 efforts were geared to increasing the number of full text scholarly journals offered to BA patrons to support quality education and research. Electronic collections added in 2006 include the entire JSTOR archive, providing access to the back runs (non-current issues) of scholarly journals in sciences, humanities and social sciences; The Electronic Library of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) and the Institute of Engineering and Technology (IEE) provides full-text access to IEEE and IEE journals, magazines,

transactions and conference proceedings and active IEEE standards. In addition, the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) Digital Library provides instant access to the ACM's rich and varied literature.

Usage of the e-resources continued to grow throughout the year. BA users performed over 108,080 searches and retrieved more than 50,622 full-text documents. This substantial growth in usage demonstrates the dependency of the researcher community built on the BA as a major supplier of scholarly information.

### **Introducing a New Business Model in Egypt**

A substantial increase in the electronic resources budget, and the desire to build strong and long-term relationships with the international vendors and publishers, have enabled the Bibliotheca Alexandrina to introduce a new business model in Egypt, where the relationship with the publisher is direct, fees are paid in local currency and no room for middlemen is allowed to monopolize the small Egyptian market. The result was the signing of multiyear agreements between the library and some of the major vendors and providers of electronic resources, with special prices, and favorable license terms.

By signing these agreements, the BA has increased its electronic collection by 18 research databases, 8 government and statistical databases, two students' multimedia databases, three general references, one current awareness tool, and more than 25,000 electronic journals in leading full-text databases including Academic Search Premier, Business Source Premier, and Science Direct, in addition to the purchase of eight back file packages (journals archives) from peer reviewed high-impact scientific journals including The Lancet. A special donation from e-brary corporation has enabled BA patrons to access more than 20,000 academic and general interest e-books, along with reports, large maps and many musical scores; free-of-charge to the Library.

### **Optimizing Access to Electronic Information Resources**

Efforts are made to enhance the accessibility of electronic resources to the users. Several points of access are provided: through the Library's catalog, via the Intranet, and through the Electronic Resources webpage available at the public access workstations. This is, in addition to providing linkages between all of the electronic resources in a seamless fashion, including linking from bibliographic databases to full text databases and online journals, to the Library's OPAC (Online Public Access Catalog), or to reliable topic related Internet resources. This allows users to follow an article citation in one database where the full text is not available, to the full text of the same article in another resource where it is available.

### **Maximizing the Library Sector's Budgetary Resources**

One of the major achievements in the serials and electronic resources areas was the contracting of the print journal subscriptions to an international subscribing agency. This, along with the direct dealing with the international vendors of databases, has resulted into saving about 25 percent of the budget while quadrupling the number of resources made available. Moreover, by outsourcing the day-to-day administration of the print subscriptions, the Library has saved time, reduced workload on the librarians, gave full control over all the subscriptions from a single point of contact and consolidated invoicing and a timely delivery of journal issues only a few days after their release.

### **Looking Ahead**

The Electronic Resources Unit is looking ahead to achieve even more developments. Next year plan includes:

- Making the electronic resources remotely accessible to Library's patrons
- Developing and implementing a Binding Policy for BA periodicals in cooperation with the Technical Services Section
- Developing an e-resources collection of Arabic titles
- Evaluating some commercial serials management systems, to provide a single entry point to all of the Library's electronic journals
- Promoting open access publishing among librarians and users
- Designing and implementing an active training program for reference and instruction librarians to optimize the use of electronic resources
- Starting a Serials Exchange Program to fill the gaps in the print journals collection and weed low usage and out of scope titles.

### **Cyber Library Project**

The Digital Library Services Section took the initiative in preparing the information architecture and collected the relevant content for designing and developing a website that provides students, researchers and the public with access to the BA print and online resources. The website will also serve as a guide to the BA services, policies including hours of operation, donation procedures and other information that answers most of our visitors' inquiries.

The website also incorporates sub-sites especially for young people, children, and the blind and visually impaired. Focus groups from the CH and YP Libraries members were formed to get their input and suggestions for the content and design of the new websites. The websites will include sections entitled "For Kids by Kids" where kids

could post their book reviews, art works and works they have performed at the library and share it with other kids. Children and Youth will be able through this website to recommend books, read book reviews, and other creative works of other kids and submit their comments. The website will also offer many online resources for children where they can gain information on different subjects and receive help in their homework.

### **Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy**

The Academic and Cultural Affairs Sector has taken great strides toward fulfilling the BA's mission to promote scientific research. It was agreed that the BA, in collaboration with Sir Magdi Yacoub, the eminent cardiac surgeon, would initiate a Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy Project.

This project will take place in three phases:

- (a) Molecular Biology Research Unit
- (b) Institute of Tropical Diseases
- (c) High technical Medical Research Center

The BA began by implementing the first phase. The site for the Molecular Biology Research Unit has already been selected and prepared on the Shallalat BA premises in Alexandria and will start operation by September 2006. The genetic research in populations at risk will help early detection of potential patients and their early management.

Under the umbrella of the BA, the need to establish a tropical Medicine Institute in Alexandria and a high-tech Medical Research Center was expressed. Therefore, the Governor of Alexandria promised to allot ten feddans (42,000 square meters) in the region of Borg el Arab for this project (to be included in an area of 50 feddans allotted to the BA). The Sawiris Foundation will share in funding this project.

This project will establish a community-based national service (open to all citizens) relating to a very well defined neglected group of patients. These patients suffer from Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy (HCM), an adult onset genetic disease, which can cause sudden death in young adults and much suffering at any age. Apart from offering services to these patients, the project entails establishing an advanced molecular research unit, applying the latest genetic tools for medical service and training young Egyptian Scientists and doctors. This research unit will be linked to several sub-units within Egypt for the detection of HCM patients on a national level. Moreover, it will also be attached to the Magdi Yacoub Research Institute in London and other centers in Oxford (UK) and Florence (Italy).

## La Main à la Pâte



This project was initiated in 1996 by Georges Charpak, Nobel Prize winner for physics in 1992, managed by the French Academy of Science, and given the support of many partners. La Main à la Pâte aims at the renewal of the teaching of science in primary schools by inciting teachers to place children in a position whereby they can experiment, observe, query, and reason. In 1999, a French educational website for science and technology was created to promote the methodology and invite the contributions of different parties.

The BA has contributed to the project by developing and launching the Arabic website with the same structure as the original; translating and adapting the material to the Egyptian curriculum, adding back-ends, new

functionalities and administrative functions; building a network of Arabic scientists who will be contributing to the discussion forum, and promoting the use of the Arabic site within the Egyptian community. The following has been accomplished so far:

- Adaptation of the various modules of the system to the Arabic language, which is in progress
- Addition of several back-end modules, in coordination with the LAMAP team in France, offering
  - Multilingual support updates, and
  - Management of documents, pages and events
- Phase I of setting up the mirror site with the same structure as the current website was completed in September 2005 (this phase included coordinating with the LAMAP team in France to incorporate their updates in the implementation of the website according to their new activities)
- Interface elements have been translated into Arabic
- An authoring tool was developed to facilitate adding new formatted documents and pages to the website
- 1000 pages (out of 5,000) were selected and translated, constituting Phase I of the translation process
- Revision and adaptation of translated documents is in progress.

The site was officially launched on 27 April 2006. The launching ceremony was attended by Georges Charpak, Member of the French Academy of Sciences and Nobel Laureate in Physics, and

Ismail Serageldin, Director of the BA; alongside numerous Nobel Laureates and eminent scientists attending the International BioVision Conference hosted by the BA.

The project's first phase is fully supported by a generous grant from the International Development Research Center (IDRC) of Canada.

### **Virtual Immersive Science and Technology Applications (VISTA)**

The BA installed a CAVE (Computer Aided Virtual Environment) system known as VISTA (Virtual Immersive Science and Technology Applications), to meet the digital challenges of today. On 15 February 2006, VISTA was inaugurated by HE Mrs. Suzanne Mubarak. Managed and operated through ISIS, VISTA is the latest generation of FLEX™ visualization systems. The FLEX™ is the world's first commercial re-configurable visualization solution for those whose viewing,



Mrs. Mubarak inaugurates the VISTA

collaboration, and presentation requirements cannot be met within the confines of a single visualization technology. Virtual Reality is one of the very practical tools of visualization during research. This walk-in virtual reality system enables interactive work within three-dimensional computer-generated models and environments.

The system is ideal in a vast number of applications in fields as diverse as medicine, engineering, architecture, socio-economic analysis, seismic interpretation and well planning, biotechnology research, manufacturing and design, fluid dynamics, and chemistry. The BA is the first in Africa and the Middle East to provide researchers with such advanced visualization tools.

With virtual reality, or immersive visualization, researchers are able to experience the simulation of natural or human-engineered phenomena in a way that provides new insights and understanding. Often eliminating the need for physical models, work within a virtual environment has been shown to save time and resources in both commercial and scientific research.

Installation of VISTA has been completed and new software engineers were recruited and trained to manage VISTA hardware. All equipment is now up and running and new applications are being developed. The new staff has been working on the customization of existing demos and performing technical updates. In addition, two applications were developed, installed and customized. The applications deal with UN Data and Losch theory.

### **The Supercourse**

The concept of the Supercourse is building a “metaschool” of a variety of themes that could train students through the Internet. Lectures are selected and available on the Internet and shared among scientists and teachers for personal use. Supercourse currently has a network of over 32,000 faculty members in 151 countries sharing a library of over 2500 lectures. By building a strong network of participating institutions and individuals, the target is to increase the collection to 10,000 lectures within one year and to one million lectures in a three-year timeframe.

The BA maintains a mirror site of the Supercourse, thus ensuring high availability and reliability ([www.bibalex.org/supercourse](http://www.bibalex.org/supercourse)). The website receives over 500,000 hits per month. In April 2006, a new updated DVD was released during the BioVision Conference with 2500 lectures. A new search facility was implemented to replace Google search with the following advanced features:

- Morphological search for the HTML lectures’ comments and the PowerPoint lectures original data
- Organized search results output where each lecture slides are grouped together
- Directly linking to the PowerPoint slide which matches the search keyword
- Frequent update of searched data upon content modifications.

### **Lecture on Information and Knowledge Society**

In contribution toward the Knowledge Society and promoting Science and Technology through intercultural dialogue, groups of eminent speakers have been approached by ISIS to deliver lectures on Information and Knowledge Society. The lecture series was initiated by ISIS board member Hisham El-Sherif.

The series started in May 2004 with the first lecture given by Vinton Cerf, Senior Vice-President of Technology Strategy for MCI, widely known as one of the “Fathers of the Internet”.

The second lecture was delivered on 16 January 2006 by distinguished guest John Gage, the Chief Researcher and Vice-President of the Science Office for Sun Microsystems. The lecture entitled “Bibliotheca Alexandrina: A Digital Library of the Middle East” took place as part of a plenary session on “Building a Digital Library of the Middle East”.

### **Environmental Physics: A Series of Lectures on “Radiation: Health and Environmental Impacts and Protection**

Types and sources of radiation, ionizing radiation and the physical properties and biological effects of radiation were discussed during these lectures. The beneficial and peaceful uses of radiation were also highlighted. The structure of the atomic bomb used at the end of World War II and its immediate results and impacts were recalled to discuss the biological effects of radiation. Tools and instruments used in measurement and evaluation of radiation and their operation theories were identified. These subjects and more were discussed during a series of fourteen lectures given twice a day, two days a week for three-and-a-half weeks. Lectures were given by Nobel Laureate Douglas Osheroff, Yehia Halim Zaki, Head of the Academic and Cultural Affairs Sector of the BA and Salah Soliman, Special Advisor at the BA.

### **Computer Science Workshop**

The senior team of Youth for Environmental Sustainability and Better Understanding (YESBU) special program and GUC students organized a four-part workshop in Computer Science and Programming Languages. Thirty students aged 14–18 years attended the workshop series to build up their scientific and technical capacity and background in the fields of new computer technology. New concepts such as computer algorithms, programming languages and techniques were introduced to these young students. They also had the opportunity to learn how to write and execute their first computer program using JAVA programming tools.

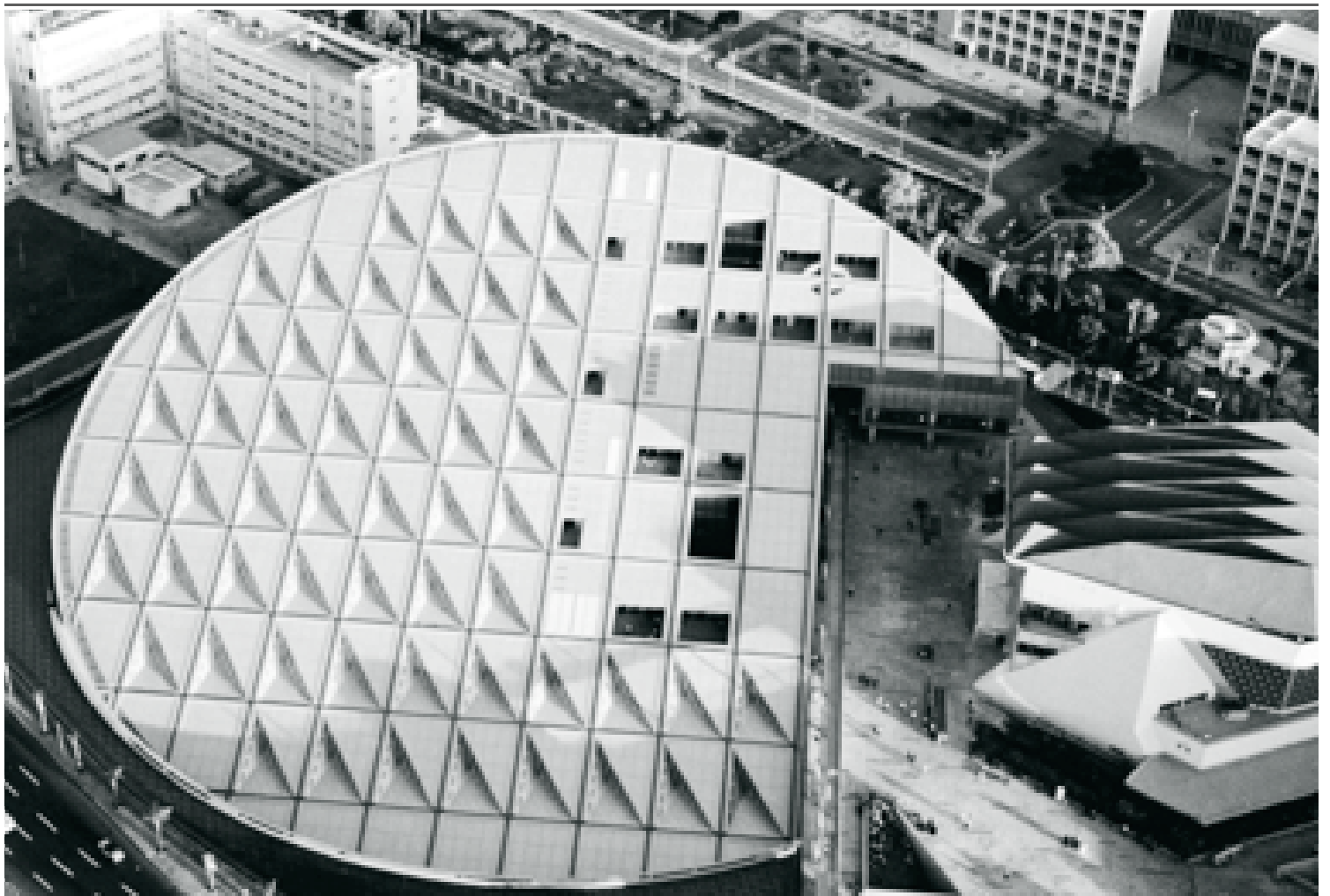
The workshop ideas discussed subjects that were adopted from well-known and accepted university courses and tutorials. Student brought their own laptops and created their own small lab, to be able to write the JAVA program.

When the course was completed, each student received a CD containing all the presentation given during the workshop and some well received e-books and tutorials covering different areas of computer technology.



Wii

# Catalyst for reform in the region



## vii

### Catalyst for reform in the region

**T**o recapture the spirit of openness, tolerance, rationality, and debate, the BA has provided a space of freedom, and a forum for discussions covering:

- Political reform
- Economic reform
- Social reform
- Cultural reform
- Transformation of the religious discourse
- Media discourse
- Public discourse.

#### Dialogue Forum

The BA Dialogue Forum provides many opportunities for the meeting of talented, creative, and sophisticated thinkers, authors, and writers from Egypt and the Arab world to discuss various issues affecting modern societies. Dialogues are followed by open question-and-answer sessions for exchange of ideas.

During the reported year, the Forum organized twenty events covering a wide range of topics that met the current evolutions in the Arab world, such as Human Rights and Islam in Our Times, in addition to other scientific and medical topics raised, such as Avian Flu in Egypt.

### Arab Reform Conferences

In March 2004, 160 distinguished Arabs from 18 Arab countries, gathered at the BA to firmly and unambiguously state their positions on all issues of reform. In less than 48 hours of deliberations, the participants drafted what is now known as the “Alexandria Declaration”.

A second conference, exactly one year after the Alexandria Declaration was attended by some 500 delegates from 16 Arab countries, presenting some 120 “success stories” of the actions of the civil society.

The third annual conference was entitled “Challenges and Concerns facing Civil Society”, 1–3 March 2006.

The conference set benchmarks to measure the progress of reform by learning about best practices elsewhere. Participants covered several themes, including Women Empowerment, Youth Employment, and Microfinance. The conference discussed Transparency, Environment, and Organizational Framework for Civil Work: Legislation, Management, and Funding Human Rights.

The Alexandria Declaration focused, on socio-cultural, economic, in addition to political reform. The hardest and arguably the most important will be the socio-cultural dimensions of Arab reform.

Tradition needs to be respected and integrated into the present and applied as a foundation for launching a better future. A critical approach needs to be fashioned that interprets tradition in contemporary terms. There is a need for new discourse which is critical, open and tolerant of the contrarian view, and which will be the basis for the creation of a mode of cultural expression. A new language that permeates the arts, letters and the public realm that incorporates the new but anchors it in the old.

Science must be regarded as an integral part of culture, to be informative and affect behavior, while promoting fundamental ethical values.



Ismail Serageldin at the Arab Reform Conference

### **The Arab Reform Forum**

The Arab Reform Forum has a four-pronged program to deepen and strengthen the reform current in Egypt and the Arab world:

- Human rights, freedom of expression, and the meaning of citizenship
- Country-specific issues (the Bibliotheca Alexandrina has placed the reform of education in Egypt at the top of its list, followed by youth and economic reform)
- Inter-Arab economic integration
- Strengthening of Arab civil society.

### **Arab Reform Initiative (ARI)**

The birth of the Arab Reform Forum (ARF) was an immediate product of the first Arab Reform Conference. The ARF is expanding its activities and efforts to cooperate with other similar reform activities inside and outside the region. One of the most important efforts is the involvement of the ARF with the Arab Reform Initiative (ARI). This cooperation started with Al-Ahram Center for Political and Strategic Studies in Egypt. Founding members of the network include besides the ARF several Arab Institutes from Egypt, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine, and Saudi Arabia.

The Arab Reform Initiative is a network of Arab research and policy institutes with partners from Europe and the United States who provide assistance as well as intellectual backing for the project. The research agenda includes thematic monographs, policy briefs, public opinion surveys, workshops, annual reports and websites, all with the aim of formulating policy recommendations that can advance reform in the Arab world.

It is important to note that this initiative is based on a comprehensive definition of reform, which privileges issues of democratization, good governance, while addressing issues of socio-economic and cultural transformation and social justice. The network takes into account the particularities of the region, and the internal variation among Arab countries.

### **Arab InfoMall (Website portal project)**

Proposed by the Arab Reform Forum, the Arab InfoMall is a tri-lingual web portal (Arabic, English, French), which provides web access through which the Arab NGOs can contribute, observe and participate in published reform activities. Arab nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) present their activities. A dedicated workspace for each NGO displays the organization's name, contact information, activities, areas of interest, and all related information and reports.

On 16 November 2005, messages from UN Secretary-General Kofi Anan, Minister of MCIT Tarek Kamel, and Director of the BA Ismail Serageldin, officially launched the website during the World Summit on Information Society (WSIS) (Tunis Phase). The website sheds light on NGO/CSO activities, successful projects and contact information, providing the opportunity for their local, regional and global exposure. The bulletin board for each NGO publicizes its news and events. A common bulletin board is also available for the entire mall. A search facility searches within all organizations' information, news, events and reports. Private and public discussion forums provide the opportunity for interested individuals to exchange opinions, contribute and share published reports through a discussion forum. InfoMall users are able to participate in discussions blanketed under a user uniformity erasing all prejudice against age and gender. This encourages capacity building and provides linking and networking opportunities.

The website interface was translated into Arabic and French, and a web-based back-end application was developed to allow NGOs to enter their data/news/events/etc. The database is being fed with NGO data collected by the Dialogue Forum personnel. Data from over 480 organizations are currently available under 13 themes from 20 countries. The project is supported by a generous grant from the Embassy of Finland in Cairo.

## Youth

From 8 to 10 February 2006, the ARF organized the Arab Youth Forum: Thought and Reform. Youth from 18 Arab countries gathered to discuss the issues and problems of their countries.

The forum raised a number of issues through four panels, culture of democracy and the political participation of youth, Arab youth employment, the making of young Arab leaders, and youth and future visions.



Youth  
Reform  
Poster

## **Mohamed Ali and the World Conference**

**(15–17 November 2005)**

In collaboration with the Egyptian Society for Historical Studies and the Supreme Council for Culture, the Mohamed Ali and the World Conference was organized by the Arab Reform Forum and Alex-Med, on the bicentennial Mohamed Ali. The proceedings revolved around three major issues:

- Mohamed Ali and International Relations
- Mohamed Ali and Alexandria
- Mohamed Ali and the Establishment of the Modern State.

The three-day conference delved into the life of Mohamed Ali Pasha and his ruling of Egypt. Some of the topics explored were “Napoleon Bonaparte and Mohamed Ali”; “Mohamed Ali and the Greeks”; “French and the medical services during the reign of Mohamed Ali”; and “Popular Opinions on Mohamed Ali in Istanbul”. Discussions included topics about printing during the reign of Mohamed Ali, the Waqf document of his properties, the military during his reign, and the development of Alexandria in addition to Mohamed Ali’s relations with Al-Jabarti and Rifa’a Al-Tahtawi. Education, infrastructure, politics, art, architecture, and the impact of the French culture on education in Egypt were also discussed. Representatives from outside Egypt, such as France, Greece, Sudan and Turkey, ensured a rich and lively debate.

Valuable visual aid for both participants and visitors culminated in an exhibition accompanying the conference, displaying photos of people, documents, the Bulaq Press and Egypt during the reign of Mohamed Ali.

## **Commemoration of Imam Mohamed Abdou**

**(4–5 December 2005)**

This conference commemorated Imam Mohamed Abdou, one of the Egyptian pioneers calling for reform and change. Imam Abdou’s ideas still pulse with life today, and are pondered upon by many humanitarians, politicians, and thinkers.

The conference discussed various aspects, including the Imam’s social roots and cultural background, his interests in institutional reform, his views about Islam and modernization, his political role, his support for dialogue, his opinions regarding women’s issues, and his contributions to the public.

### **The International Conference on Cultural Heritage and Development (20–22 January 2006)**

This three-day international conference on Cultural Heritage and Development set recommendations concerning various aspects of tangible and intangible heritage:

- Setting up a national committee concerned with the dissemination of archeological awareness among decision-makers and civilians
- Supporting archeological site management processes through archeological documentation, surveys, and restoration
- Establishing an academy for heritage concerned with human capacity building, archeological sites development and management
- Encouraging the role of civil societies in the cultural development process
- Developing mechanisms to enhance heritage
- Formulating marketing and quality control plans through a fund to support and conserve heritage
- Spreading awareness among civil societies on heritage issues as an integral part of the sustainable development process
- Developing national policies for heritage conservation and management.



Cultural Heritage and  
Development Exhibition



### **The Arab Child Subject to Different Cultural Influences (25–27 September 2005)**

This conference was co-organized by the Arab Reform Forum, the UNICEF Regional Office in Amman (Jordan) and the Supreme Council for Family Affairs in Sharjah (United Arab Emirates) under the auspices of HRH Prince Talal bin Abdel Aziz, President of the Arab Council for Childhood and Development (ACCD).

Experts in children's education discussed over thirty research topics revolving around the different sources of the Arab child's culture, the positive and negative effects of globalization on the Arab child's language, the impact of local and foreign media on his/her identity, and how the Arab child expresses himself/herself.

The conference recommendations included the following:

- Promoting the use of the child's mother language
- Providing appropriate media for all age groups
- Considering aesthetic and creative criteria in children's publications and education.

In addition, they appealed to intellectuals to encourage dialogue and tolerance with children, and participation in public affairs. New technologies to develop the skills and culture of children with special needs were called for, as was their integration in all activities and programs.

The creation of an electronic network between associations and institutions concerned with children for the exchange of expertise, knowledge and the documentation of related works was encouraged. The importance of promoting the value of reading and the provision of public libraries for children was also emphasized, as well as Arab cooperation and investment in quality entertainment for children.

### **First Annual Education and Employment Alliance Summit (30 November–1 December 2005)**

The First Annual Education and Employment Alliance (EEA) Summit was organized in collaboration with the International Youth Foundation. The two-day summit brought together representatives from USAID, civil society, and the corporate sector from EEA country alliances to explore and discuss the following topics:

- Status of EEA global and country activities:
- Lessons learned about how to build strong and effective partnerships and alliances
- Youth education and employment initiatives from around the world
- Private sector involvement in youth education and employment.

### **UNESCO Forum: Academic Freedom Conference and Third Regional Scientific Committee Meeting (10–13 September 2005).**

Organized by the UNESCO Forum Regional Scientific Committee for Arab States in cooperation with the Arab and African Research Center (AARC) in Cairo, the Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa (CODESRIA), and the Swedish Institute in Alexandria, the BA hosted the Academic Freedom Conference and Third Regional Scientific Meeting.

The key event brought together Arab and African scholars from different academic disciplines and backgrounds, as well as policy-makers, practitioners, institutions, and organizations concerned with higher education to critically engage with key issues and areas of common concern.

Economic realities and impacts on academic freedom, and how it is affected by globalization was discussed at the conference, as well as the development and modification of the concept of academic freedom in Arab and African states.

### **Publications**

#### *Arab Reform Observatory: Problems and Indicators*

This publication sets out various concepts and indicators for any political, economic, social and cultural reform in the Arab region and explains the concepts and objectives of the Arab Observatory. It identifies and highlights the common features and areas of interest that bind the Arab civil societies. The book recounts experiences, benchmarks and lessons gained from the experiment of observatories in various parts of the world.

#### *Educational Reform*

This publication deals with educational reform in Egypt and identifies the focal points around which education reform is based. These points deal with all educational levels, encompassing pre-school, pre-academic, academic, and higher education, scientific research, the identity of education, and illiteracy eradication to the role of libraries in developing educational institutions.

#### *Freedom of Expression*

The Alexandria Declaration is echoed in this publication, arguing for guaranteed freedom of expression, including freedom of the press, audio-visual and electronic media and terminating any form of censorship of intellectual and cultural activities. The publication also confirms the need to exempt the Arab cultural production from any kind of censorship or customs regulations in all Arab countries.

### *The Role of Youth in Reform and Renovation*

This publication highlights the importance of the participation of youth in the reform process, as well as pinpointing the abilities they possess in converting ideas to reality and directing these abilities to renovate, create and forge the future.

### **World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS)**

In Tunisia 15–19 November 2005, the BA participated in the World Summit on Information Societies (WSIS) Phase II, in partnership with the Ministry of Communication and Information Technology (MCIT). Egypt had participated in Phase I in Geneva 2003 with a high level of delegation headed by HE President Hosni Mubarak.

The BA participated in four main events during Phase II:

1. Connecting the World Pavilion: the Arab InfoMall database and website was launched (16 November) and partnership with the Development Gateway was announced (17 November 2005).
2. The ICT-4-All Exhibition: A multi-stakeholder event with representatives from the UN, private sector, governments, civil societies, international organizations and NGOs. The exhibition and partnership area was divided into five themes and the Egyptian pavilion was within the Inclusive Access theme zone. The Egyptian pavilion was divided into a further five themes and the BA and CULTNAT represented Egypt in the e-Content theme. CULTNAT contributed by exhibiting its state-of-the-art CULTURAMA in which visitors were taken on virtual journeys across the different eras in Egyptian civilization with panoramic views of the most popular cultural places in Egypt. ISIS contributed with the following projects:
  - Gamal Abdel Nasser Collection
  - Million Book
  - DAR: Digital Assets Repository
  - Description de l’Egypte
  - Virtual Browser of Manuscripts (with translation)
  - UNL: Universal Networking Language
  - Arab InfoMall Database and Website

3. A panel discussion: the BA's role in building the information society.
4. The World Summit Award (WSA), a parallel event at the WSIS: CULTNAT was awarded the WSA for its portal Eternal Egypt as the best e-content in the category of e-Culture. Eternal Egypt was also showcased among the winning productions at the Austrian e-Content Pavilion during the entire duration of the ICT-4-All exhibit with a ten-minute presentation on the portal.



Launching the Arab InfoMall at WSIS



# An apex for networks and partnerships



## viii

### An apex for networks and partnerships

Many of the Alexandria and Mediterranean Research Center's (Alex-Med) activities are carried out with partners (especially Euro-Med), and outcomes are disseminated through conferences, international networks, websites and databases. The Strabon program and Ramses2 project mentioned earlier are examples as well as those listed below.

Alex-Med has been designated the head of the Egyptian National Network for the Anna Lindh Euro-Mediterranean Foundation for the Dialogue between Cultures. The network will create and mobilize civil society institutions to generate joint proposals of programs and activities that fulfill the objectives of the Foundation and the Barcelona Process. The National Network in each country has been defined by the Euro-Med partners to engage each other in joint work. Alex-Med is already working to link Network members in Egypt to those in both the north and south networks.

Ramses2 is an international Research Network in social sciences and humanities funded by the European Commission. The network assembles 33 partners belonging to 16 different countries located North, South and East of the Mediterranean area. It is coordinated by the "Maison Méditerranéenne des Science de l'Homme" in Aix-en-Provence. The aim of the network is to develop a new field of studies

and comparative analysis: “Mediterranean Studies” involving archeology, history, the study of ancient texts, anthropology, sociology, social and political sciences, among others. Alex-Med is involved in two projects: Memory in the Mediterranean, and a series of lectures on the Mediterranean.

The Pyramid Project is developed in cooperation between Alex-Med and the Hellenic Leadership Institute (Athens) that will enhance relations between Egypt and Greece and provide opportunities for substantive development of cultural institutions. This is achieved by reinforcing the role of the media. Participants from the BA, Egyptian and Greek media convened at a conference in Athens to discuss the next steps to be followed. Recommendations from the conference have now led to the implementation steps. A future conference is planned to take place in Cairo.

A unit for Hellenistic studies to research the Hellenistic period of Alexandria, to be developed in cooperation with the Onassis Foundation is another step in Egyptian-Greek relations. The study of the art, culture, literature, philosophy, history, and civilization of the Hellenistic period will raise awareness on the historic links between Egypt and Greece and support joint efforts for a future Euro-Mediterranean dialogue, partnership and exchange.

The Alex-Med Center was elected to the Board of Directors of the Association for Young Creators in Europe and the Mediterranean, to coordinate the activities of the BJCEM at the Bibliotheca Alexandrina in 2007. The Anna Lindh Euro-Mediterranean Foundation for the Dialogue between Cultures (ALF) will be a major supporter of the event.

### **Workshop on e-Resources Licensing and Consortium Building (5–6 March 2006)**

The Library Sector organized a national workshop on licensing and acquisition of e-resources, and the building of a sustainable library consortium. This was in cooperation with Electronic Information for Libraries (eIFL.net), an independent foundation supporting and advocating for the wide availability of electronic resources by library users in transition and developing countries. The workshop gathered decision-makers and stakeholders of Egyptian libraries to build a local capacity supporting the creation, growth and strengthening of a national consortium. During the two-day workshop, eminent international speakers addressed several issues pertaining to consortium building and management, including:

- Consortium strategy and business planning
- Targeting internal and external stakeholders
- Budgeting and cost sharing among consortium members.



e-Resources  
Workshop  
participants



Representatives of all types of libraries in Egypt including national, public, academic and research libraries as well as library networks convened, thus providing an extensive view of the Egyptian library status. After two days of intensive lectures and discussions, Egyptian participants were able to produce a Strength, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats analysis of building and/or joining a national consortium. Other deliverables of this national workshop were the definition of common goals and objectives to be achieved by the future consortium, and agreement on the next steps towards building a national library consortium.

### **World Bank Public Information Center**

On 19 July 2005, the Bibliotheca Alexandrina took a step toward a new information society, by partnering with the World Bank establishing the BA Public Information Center (PIC). In the presence of an esteemed audience representing businesses, academies, NGOs and civil society sectors, Emmanuel Mbi, World Bank Country Director and Ismail Serageldin, BA Director, signed a mutual agreement, launching the new-shared venture.

The World Bank Public Information Center is the focal point for providing access to World Bank publications, reports and other development-related materials. It operates as a one-stop public access point for information on a wide range of socio-economic and development issues, as well as a meeting place for public discussions on development topics. The PIC will become a tool for disseminating knowledge, where BA patrons can share development information and activities. Knowledge will then be culminated into interactive workshops and roundtables, allowing an open and limitless dialogue on social development and concerns.

The PIC will meet the demand for information literacy through its many tailored services:

- Online access to World Bank project documents, publications and reports
- Access to a special collection of CDs and videotapes on development
- Access to development sites on the Internet

### Signing agreements

The BA Library Sector works actively to form partnerships with well-established international libraries from all over the world. This global mission has resulted in the signing of over one-hundred different agreements with national, public, and university libraries from Belarus to Greece, and Japan to Ukraine. In January 2006, the BA had the honor of hosting a meeting between BA Library representatives and those of predominantly French libraries, such as the Bibliothèque Publique d'information (Paris), Alcazar (Marseille) and Bibliothèque de Limoges, as well as representatives from the French Ministry of Culture. This meeting resulted in additional relationships that will add to the future mutual benefit of all libraries involved.

Collaboration between the Centre Rene-Jean Dupuy for Law and Development and the Center of Research on Market Laws and International Investment (CREDIMI) resulted in an international colloquium entitled “l’Ethique dans les Relations Economiques Internationales”. This was held in memoriam of Philip Fouchard who perished with his family in an airplane crash near Sharm El Sheikh in January 2004, and whose last research was entitled “Law and Ethics in the International Economic Relations”. The colloquium revolved around three main topics: Ethics and Firms; Ethics and Trends in International Trade; and Solutions. It was attended by a number of professors of international economic law and deans of faculties of law from Egypt and France. Boutros Boutros Ghali and Ahmed Sadek El-Kosheri are President and Vice-President of the Centre Rene-Jean Dupuy for Law and Development, respectively.

The Antiquities Museum organized the conference of ICOM (International Council of Museums) 21–24 September 2005. This conference supported the cooperation between the working group of the International Association of Egyptology and the creation of an archive of scholarly Egyptological websites and other electronic publications. Representatives from museums worldwide promoted collaboration among colleagues for the preservation and protection of Egyptian limestone, wood and bronze collections, as well as monuments and sites.

Between May 2006 and January 2007, the Antiquities Museum participated in the exhibition “Sunken Treasures of Egypt” in Germany and France in collaboration with the Supreme Council of Antiquities and the European Institute of Underwater Archaeology. The exhibition includes a collection of artifacts discovered from the excavations in Alexandria's Eastern and Abu Kir harbors, engaging visitors in the cultural heritage dialogue and introducing them to Egyptian culture while allowing them to tour the world's most famous museums of antiquities.

The Antiquities Museum has also developed cultural relations with the International Institute of Papyri in Italy. This agreement aims at supporting study, research, and exchanged experiences and particularly in restoration, preservation, and display of papyri.

### **The Internet Archive**

Donated by the Internet Archive in San Francisco, the Internet Archive is a complete snapshot of all web pages on every website since 1996 until today. The operational archive mirror site maintained within the BA has been accessed by over 13 million hits during the past year.

On 31 August 2005, an agreement was signed with the San Francisco team to build second-generation machines for web archiving the Petabox. The necessary hard disks for two Petabytes have been purchased (5,000 disks, 400 Gigabytes each). In March 2006, 3700 hard disks were delivered and reached the Internet Archive in San Francisco to build and load with data. The machines assembled in San Francisco will accommodate 1.5 Petabytes of data and are expected to be installed in the BA during 2006; holding the collections of 2002, 2003, 2004, and 2005. The first assembled rack holding 64 Terabytes has already been shipped to the BA.



The Petabox

Machines for the new collection will be designed and manufactured locally at the BA. The 1300 hard disks were delivered for these machines, and are used for the storage of material digitized at the BA.

Recent project achievements include enhancing the system, particularly in the areas of cluster management and security. Experimentation with the building of digital collections at the BA through television capturing and web crawling took place during the 2005 Egyptian presidential elections. Transition to the Petabox system is being planned.

### Million Book Project

Initiated by Carnegie Mellon University, with partners from China, India, and the USA, the Million Book Project aims to digitize one million books within three years and publish them as a searchable collection on the Internet. The project has provided a test-bed supporting research on improved scanning techniques, Optical Character Recognition (OCR), intelligent indexing, machine translation, and information retrieval. The BA has taken the lead in scanning and digitizing 75,000 Arabic books in a three-year period. By end-June 2006, over 25,800 books (8 million pages) had been digitized and processed, and over 18,600 (5.7 million pages) had been OCRed.

To improve quality in the scanning, processing, and OCR phases, a database for the books, metadata, and status has been designed and implemented and standards have been set for the process of digitization. The database was further expanded to accommodate scanned images and slides. In addition, research was carried out in cooperation with Arabic OCR producers to achieve efficient, high-quality recognition for mass OCR production. An implementation of an encoding system for multilingual image-on-text DjVu and PDF has been completed and evaluated, including Arabic. A design of a framework for the universal encoding of image-on-text documents has been instigated. Previously, 12 OCR fonts were constructed and tested for accuracy, where accuracy exceeded 90 percent for 11 fonts. Additionally, three font groups are currently under construction.

During 2005, alternative OCR systems capable of recognizing Arabic text to Sakhr's Automatic Reader were investigated. A modified strategy for the OCR phase of digitization is being examined. The new tools being examined include VERUS from NovoDynamics, iRDS SDK from IRIS, CiyaOCR/ICR from CiyaSoft as well as OCR research work at the University of Buffalo, focusing on the recognition of Arabic machine-print as well as handwriting. In May 2006, the BA and NovoDynamics established a research partnership in order to advance NovoDynamics' VERUS professional product through testing and

Digitizing One  
Million Books



evaluation in return for a full product license. Within the agreement, the BA will also provide NovoDynamics a license to apply the BA's book digitization technology.

### **Universal Networking Language (UNL)**

The mission of the UNL program, initiated within the United Nations and devised by the Universal Networking Digital Language (UNDL) Foundation, is to enable people to generate information and access cultural knowledge in their native languages. UNL is an artificial language attempting to replicate the functions of natural language in communication. Currently, 15 languages have been involved and a number of institutions have begun work on their respective native languages.

By June 2006, progress was made in the following aspects:

- Analyzing grammatical features of Arabic lexemes located in the Arabic Database (ADB):
  - 4000 Arabic words translated from the current UNL corpus were fully analyzed
  - All verbs (10,162) have been fully analyzed in the ADB
  - The Arabic root, pattern, gender and count were added to all the Arabic nouns in the ADB (44,845)
- Implementing the UNL Library Information System (LIS) Query Engine has been completed.
- Arabic Corpus: the corpus refers to a large collection of texts annotated with Meta information describing usage of the language vocabulary. Designing and developing a data source layer for the Annotation Graphs was completed and tested.

- Development of the Arabic Deconversion (Deco) Rule Version II was completed. The Deco Rules cover the complete de-conversion of the six UNL Corpus documents obtained from the UNL Center, namely: Description de l’Egypte, Naguib Mahfouz biography, Kenzaburo Oe biography, Louis de Broglie biography, Tsunami (Part I) and Tsunami (Part II).
- Development of the Enconversion (Enco) Rules Version I was completed. The rules cover 700 Arabic questions that query the UNL LIS.
- Three applications were designed and developed:
  - The Language Server Software, which is responsible for receiving user requests for the Deconversion and the Enconversion, processing these requests and sending the reply back to the user.
  - The UNL Proxy Server software, which filters web requests for pages containing UNL expressions. These UNL expressions are extracted from HTML pages and sent to a language server for the Deconversion into a natural language.
  - The UNL Integrated Development Environment (UNL IDE), which is accessed to enable users and developers to view the UNL semantic network, search the UNL documents, write rules, check their syntax, debug and watch the Deconversion and Enconversion output for given rules and dictionary, and insert annotations for the Universal Parser.

From 16 to 18 November 2005, the Bibliotheca Alexandrina participated, with the UNL LIS project in the World Summit for Information Science (WSIS) Conference in Tunis.

In March 2006, the BA presented the UNL team’s progress to Abdel-Latif Al-Hammad, President of the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development, Kuwait, and the Project’s supporter. In April 2006, the UNL project manager and the senior linguist participated in training new UNL members on UNL concepts and orientation on using the UNL Integrated Development Environment (UNL IDE).

## Internet2

The Internet2 is a not-for-profit consortium led by universities and research laboratories working in partnership with industry and government to develop and deploy advanced network applications and technologies. The BA was approached by the Egyptian Ministry of Communication and Information Technology (MCIT) to join its Internet2 connection. The Internet2 and its members are developing and testing new technologies, such as the Internet Protocol Version 6 (Ipv6), multicasting and Quality of Services that will enable revolutionary

Internet applications. These new technologies will enable completely new applications, not possible on today's Internet.

The Bibliotheca Alexandrina's participation in Internet2 comes as a natural step in the digital road it has mapped for itself. The new infrastructure of Internet2 will pave the way for a huge range of new applications (wireless video conferencing, distance learning, video transmission) to serve Bibliotheca Alexandrina users worldwide. A link of 6Mbps is currently being implemented.

### **The Development Gateway**

The Development Gateway of the World Bank is an interactive portal for information and knowledge sharing, on sustainable development and poverty reduction. The Gateway offers users access to the most comprehensive database of development projects, an international procurement marketplace and knowledge sharing key development topics.

The Bibliotheca Alexandrina agreed with the World Bank to collaborate on this project by creating the Arabic portal within the Development Gateway's global portal on development, by translating and augmenting the Development Gateway's collection of information resources relevant to the region. The BA will also launch an online community of practice that will exchange information and connect with peers to address social, economic, political and cultural reform in the Arab world. This broad array of targeted information resources and services will be accessible through an Arabic language home page and translated navigational tools.

Two phases are involved:

1. To take ownership of the main Gateway site in Arabic and be responsible for the Arabic translation, similar to the current functionality of the French and Spanish Gateway versions.
2. To design, develop, and host the Egypt Country Gateway in Arabic, similar to the China Country Gateway.

In March 2005, a memorandum of understanding was signed between the BA and the Economic Research Forum (ERF) for the selection, translation, and quality control of selected material, both linguistically and substantively for the material produced. Approximately 90 documents in five different topics were translated by the ERF.

On 17 November 2005, the Bibliotheca Alexandrina and the Development Gateway Foundation announced the project. The portal, a preview of which was presented at the World Summit on the Information Society, addresses the existing shortage of development information for the Arab world.

In March 2006, the agreement between the BA and the Development Gateway was finalized and the two parties will collaboratively start fund-raising for the project.

### **Iraq Re-collection**

Yale University invited the BA to become a partner in the Iraq Re-Collection project. The project is to digitize a select group of the most important scholarly humanistic Iraqi journals held by Yale University and the University of Pennsylvania, which will be fed into the AMEEL database. The aim is to create an electronic archive of these digitized files that permits retrieval and display via the Internet, and integration into other existing electronic systems, such as the OACIS search engine. Scholars in Iraq and around the world would easily gain access to this important segment of Iraq's print heritage. The project also proposes to develop best practices for scanning Arabic and Middle Eastern language-based humanistic content, in order to facilitate access to scarcely held and disappearing materials, for a key world region.

### **Workshop on Building a Digital Library of the Middle East (15–18 January 2006)**

With generous support from the US/Egypt Joint Fund and the National Science Foundation (NSF), the BA collaborated with the US Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) and the MCIT to hold a workshop in Egypt. The workshop, organized by ISIS, helped lay the foundation for the development of a core infrastructure and creation of the initial content for the Digital Library of the Middle East, and for the implementation of dedicated linkages to global science and technology networks. Workshop sessions included experts from Egyptian and US universities, libraries, museums and research and commercial institutions. The workshop's final report is to be presented to potential funding organizations. The workshop website provides more information about the event ([www.bibalex.org/EgyptDLW](http://www.bibalex.org/EgyptDLW)).

Following the workshop, IMLS participants were asked by the Coalition for Networked Information (CNI) to give a presentation about the workshop at the CNI Task Force Meeting, 3–4 April 2006.

### **World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) Pre-conference: “Libraries–The Information Society in Action” (9 November 2005)**

Her Excellency Mrs. Suzanne Mubarak, First Lady of Egypt and Chair of the Bibliotheca Alexandrina Board of Trustees, inaugurated the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) Pre-conference. The conference was held within the framework of the WSIS Phase II, which



took place in Tunisia, 15–19 November 2005. It was organized by the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) in cooperation with the BA.

Over one-hundred delegates from all over the world, participated at the conference. The conference presented the best library practices around the world in areas of health, education and training, media literacy, and preservation of cultural heritage.

Over the two-day event, presentations included Internet governance, social inclusion, proactive assistance, cultural diversity, health information, the development of the IFLA success stories database, a discussion interview between Claudia Lux of Erlin (President-Elect, IFLA) and Matti Ryynanen, a Finnish former Member of Parliament and MEP. Presentations also highlighted libraries' efforts in Botswana, Canada, Chile, China, Egypt, Ghana, Iraq, Slovenia, and throughout the European Union.

At the closing of the conference, Alex Byrne launched IFLA's Alexandria Declaration, reminding delegates that two major WSIS issues remained unresolved, intranet governance and the creation of a digital solidarity fund. The final document was endorsed by the participants and posted on IFLA's site in a number of languages.

### **High-level Colloquium on Information Literacy and Lifelong Learning**

From 6 to 9 November 2005, 30 participants from 17 different countries, representing all the major geographic regions of the world, met at the Bibliotheca Alexandrina, to build upon the recommendations made at the Information Literacy Meeting of Experts held in Prague, Czech Republic, in September 2003.

Sponsored by the United Nations Education, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), National Forum on Information Literacy (NFL) and IFLA, the colloquium addressed six propositions regarding information literacy as well as other illiteracies such as health and ICT. It issued recommendations on learning and education, health and human services, economic development, and governance and citizenship in relation to information literacy.

The meeting culminated with the creation and adoption of the Alexandria Proclamation, which urges governments and international organizations to pursue policies and programs to promote information literacy and lifelong learning, as they are essential to inclusion, economic development and quality of life in today's Information Society.

## **Bibliotheca Alexandrina Cooperation Agreements with World Organizations (1994–2006)**

### **Argentina**

National Library of the Republic of Argentina

### **Armenia**

Mashots of Ancient Manuscripts-Maternadaran

### **Austria**

ARS Electronica Center

### **Belarus**

National Library of Belarus

### **Belgium**

nWave Distribution S.A

### **Bosnia**

Gazi Husrev Bey Library of Bosnia and Herzegovina

### **Bulgaria**

Government of the Republic of Bulgaria

### **Canada**

Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie (AUF) Montréal

Bibliothèque Nationale du Québec (BNQ)

Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)

Université de Montréal

### **China**

Shanghai Library

### **Costa Rica**

The University of Peace

### **Denmark**

The Danish Egyptian Institute for Dialogue

**Egypt**

Alaa El-Din Abdel Aal Abdel-Hamid  
Ateyat El Abnoudy  
Amr Mohie Eldin Abdelsalam Abou Zekra  
Alexandria Atelier  
Alexandria City Center  
AMIDEAST  
Arab Academy for Science and Technology  
Cairo and Alexandria Stock Exchanges  
Center for Architectural and Engineering Design  
Cervantes Center  
Compaq Computer Egypt  
Coptic-Anglican Institution for Services  
Dar El Kalam Press - Anna Lindh Foundation  
Dar El-Helal Society  
Mohamed Hassan Darwish  
Economic Research Forum  
Egyptian Association for Local Heritage  
Egyptian Publishers Association  
Egyptian Scientific Assembly  
Egyptian-American Center  
Emeco Travel  
Farag Hussein Farag  
First Biennale BibAlex Book Art  
Foreign Affairs Ministry  
Gaber Abdel Moneim Hegazy - Arts University  
Geographic Egyptian Association  
Governorate of Alexandria  
Governorate of Cairo  
Faten Hamama  
Hazem Mohamed Ahmed Abdel Aal  
Heirs of artist Youssef Greiss  
The Supreme Council for Culture  
Hossam El Din Abbady  
IBM World Trade Corporation  
ICARDA- Cairo Office  
Institut de l'Egypte  
Ali El Kassar  
Link Media  
Ministry of Communication and Technology  
Ministry of Culture/Telecommunication and Information System  
Misr Al Gadida for Housing and Development

Museum of Fine Arts  
The Nasser Foundation  
National Institute of Books and Documents  
National Institute of Cultural Development  
New Horizons Egypt  
Nile on Line  
Oracle Egypt  
Quality Standards for Information Technology  
Rashid Mashreq Group  
Second Biennale Imagining the Book  
Mohamed Shehab Eldin  
The Suzanne Mubarak Women's International Peace Movement  
UNESCO Cairo Office  
Video Cairo Sat

### **European Commission**

#### **Finland**

Helsinki City Library

#### **France**

Agence Régional du Patrimoine Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur (PACA) (ARP)  
Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie (AUF)  
Association Française des Volontaires du Progrès (AFVP)  
Association Friche Théâtre/ ECM- Friche de la Belle de Mai  
Bibliothèque de Marseille à Vocation Régionale  
Bibliothèque Francophone Multimédia de Limoges  
Bibliothèque Publique d'information  
Centre Culturel Français d'Alexandrie (CCFA)  
Centre Culturel Français de Turin  
Centre de Culture Scientifique et Technique Industriel de Marseille (CCSTI)  
Centre d'Etudes Alexandrine (CEAlex)  
Centre d'Etudes et de Documentation Economique Juridique et social (CEDEJ)  
Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS)  
Centre National d'Enseignement à Distance (CNED)  
Centre National du Livre (CNL)  
Ecole du Louvre  
Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Sciences de l'Information et des Bibliothèques (ENSSIB)  
Edition Flammarion

EI Audiovisuel  
Espace Culturelle Multimédia  
Fondation Maison des Sciences de L'Homme  
Government of the French Republic  
L'Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Lyon (IEP)  
Institut du Monde Arabe (IMA)  
Institut Français d'Archéologie Orientale du Caire (IFAO)  
L'Académie des Sciences de l'Institut de France  
Le Carrefour des Ecritures de l'Association Alphabets  
Le Réseau Français des Petits Débrouillards  
Librairie Artheme Fayard  
Midi Pyrénées (Conseil régional)  
L'Orchestre des Jeunes de la Méditerranée  
S.A Chadwick Healey France  
Service Inter établissements de Coopération (SICD)  
Université de Lyon  
Université de Nice Sophia Antipolis  
Université Paris VII Denis Diderot  
Université Paul Cézanne de droit et de sciences politique  
Université Senghor d'Alexandrie

### **Germany**

The Foundation Research Center Borstel (FZB)  
German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ)

### **Greece**

Alexander S. Onassis Public Benefit Foundation  
Technological Educational Institute (T.E.I)  
Technological Educational Institution of Athens  
University of Patras

### **India**

Hole in the Wall Education Limited

### **Ireland**

The International Federation of Library Association (IFLA)  
Desmond O'Grady  
Microsoft School Agreement

**Italy**

Armando Milani  
Fondazione Piccolo Teatro di Milano  
Directorate General for Development Cooperation (DGCS)  
Architect Giancarlo Bertocchini  
Istituto Internazionale del Papiro Museo Del Papiro (SIRACUSA)  
Italian Government  
Lecce University  
Mediterranean Laboratory Foundation  
Ottavia Bassetti  
Studio Bertocchini and Ruggiero

**Japan**

The Japan Foundation  
Japan International Cooperation System  
Mitsubishi Corporation

**Jordan**

Royal Jordanian Documentation Center

**Korea**

Government of the Republic of Korea

**Kosovo**

National and University Library of Kosovo

**Kuwait**

Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development (AFESD)  
Islamic Organization for Medical Sciences  
Kuwait National Council for Arts and Culture

**Mongolia**

Government of Mongolia

**Multilateral Organizations**

Association of Egyptian-American Scholars and Baltimore Friends  
The Council of Europe  
Economic Research Forum (ERF)  
Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)  
Institute of International Education (IIE)  
International Association of Universities (IAU)  
International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA)

International Center for Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD)

International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)

International Maritime Organization (IMO) Information Center

Leadership for Environment and Development (LEAD)

UN Habitat

UNESCO

UNIFEM

United Nations (UN)

World Bank Group

World Health Organization (WHO)

### **Netherlands**

electronic Information For Libraries (eIFL.net)

Center for Computer Aided Egyptological Research

Elsevier B.V

Prince Claus Fund

### **Norway**

Government of the Kingdom of Norway

Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD)

Norwegian Ministry of Culture/Norwegian Library Association

Oslo Public Library

Stein Roger Bull (SRB)

### **Panama**

National Library of Panama

### **Portugal**

Biblioteca Nacional, Lisboa

### **Russian Federation**

Center of Egyptological Studies, Russian Academy of Sciences

Central Public Library of Moscow

International Union of Bibliophiles, Moscow

The Margarita Rudomino All-Russia State Library for Foreign Literature

Russian State Library

### **Saudi Arabia**

Islamic Science, Education, and Culture Organization (ISESCO)

**Slovakia**

University Library in Bratislava

**Spain**

Bibliotheca Maria Vayerda d'Olot  
El Senado De Espana  
Research and Development Center  
Universidad de Almeria  
Universidad de Cordoba

**Sweden**

The Anna Lindh Foundation for the Dialogue between Cultures  
Göteborg University Library  
International Institute for Industrial Environmental Economics (IIIEE)  
Scandinavian Committee  
The Swedish Institute in Alexandria (SwedAlex)  
The Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA)  
Touch and Turn AB (T&T)

**Switzerland**

International Labour Organisation (ILO) Library  
Universal Networking Language – UNDL Foundation

**Syria**

Abdel Salam Eid  
The Scientific Heritage Institute in Aleppo University

**United Arab of Emirates**

Arab Sciences and Technology Foundation (ASTF)  
Juma Al Majid Heritage and Culture Center

**Ukraine**

V. Vernadsky National Library of Ukraine

**United Kingdom**

Encyclopaedia Britannica Online  
The British Museum Company  
Gale Group  
Menasce Family  
University of North London (UNL)



### **United States of America**

American Library Association (ALA)  
The American Museum of Natural History (AMNH)  
Art Science Research Lab (ASRL)  
Carnegie Mellon University  
Center for Sustainable Development, Office of International Programs, University of Maryland, College Park  
Development Gateway  
EBSCO Information Services  
Education Development Center  
Fake Space Systems  
Gale Group (A Thomson Company)  
IDEA Inc.  
Institute of International Education  
International Science and Technology Practice and Policy Center (InSTePP) of Applied Economics  
International Science and Technology Practice Policy Center, University of Minnesota  
The International Monetary Fund (IMF)  
International Youth Foundation (IYF)  
Internet Archive  
JSTOR archive license®  
Macgillivray Freeman Films  
Nevraumont Publishing Company  
R. R. Bowker  
SPITZ, Inc.  
Stanford University  
Target Corporation  
Thesaurus Linguae Graecae  
The University of Maryland, College Park  
USAID  
Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University (referred to as Virginia Tech)  
VTLS  
Yale University

### **Uzbekistan**

Oriental Studies Institute, Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Uzbekistan



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# Meeting point for dialogue and understanding between people



## ix

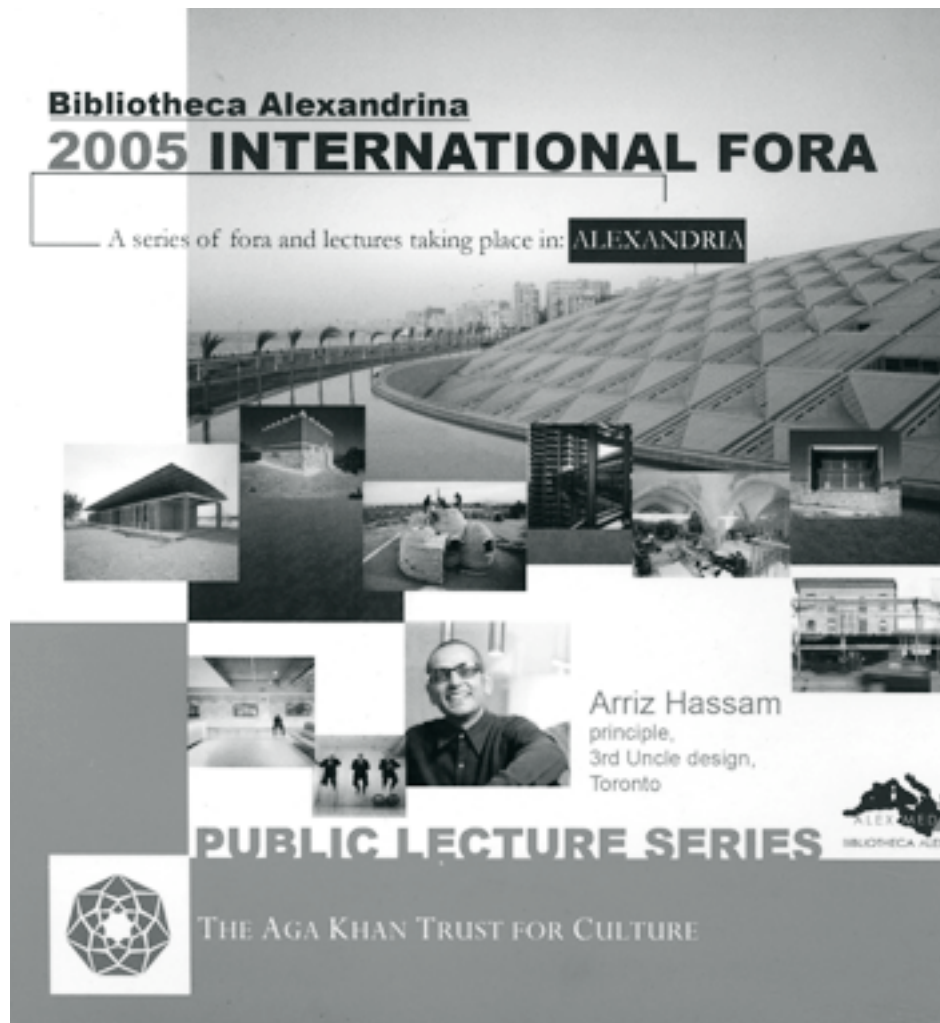
## Meeting point for dialogue and understanding between people

Alexandria has historically been the cosmopolitan city par excellence: the vision of its founder Alexander the Great was to create a culture of pluralism and diversity, while the modern city of Mohamed Ali and his successors revived that legacy of ethnic and cultural integration. Today, with the resurrection of the Library of Alexandria, that spirit is returning to Alexandria for the third time.

Through international conferences, concerts and plays, Alex-Med has managed to fulfill the BA's mission to be Egypt's window on the world and the world's window on Egypt. Joint programs mean collaboration and exchange of ideas between Egyptian researchers and their foreign counterparts to promote a better understanding in the Mediterranean basin. Conferences such as Dialogue between Cultures in the Mediterranean Area and the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership: Mid-term Perspectives, with Catalan colleagues from IEMed, have covered pertinent issues related to the Mediterranean.

Alex-Med also organized the 2005 Aga Khan Forum in conjunction with the Aga Khan Trust for Culture. The Forum researched architectural trends and thinking in various parts of the Muslim world. It included a DVD presentation featuring the 2004 Master Jury of the Aga Khan Award for Architecture, and was followed by a round-table

discussion on four critical areas of social meaning addressing the challenges and promise of architecture in the Muslim world as it confronts modernity in all its diversity.



Aga Khan  
Forum 2005

### Ramses2 Network

The principle objective of the Ramses2 Network is to define the field of Mediterranean Studies. Alex-Med is coordinating one project, “Penser la Méditerranée” the general public communication with a common theme “Thinking the Mediterranean”. This is a cycle of seven conferences which started in May 2006 and will continue until September 2007. The event organizes vibrant discussion focused on the Mediterranean legacy and its strength as a melting pot zone of exchanges and cultural interaction. Some of the themes discussed in this cycle are related to the ancient Mediterranean, the Mediterranean among Cultures, and the Mediterranean in narratives.

### **IAU Executive Committee and Board Meeting, First Global Meeting of Associations and International Conference: Sharing Quality Higher Education Across Borders: Role of Associations and Institutions**

The BA has become an affiliated member of the International Association of Universities (IAU). The BA and the Arab Academy for Science, Technology, and Maritime Transport (AASTMT) co-hosted the Global Meeting of Associations of Universities (14–15 November 2005). This meeting was followed by an International Conference, (15–16 November 2005), under the theme of “Sharing Quality Higher Education across Borders: Role of Associations and Institutions”.

The conference brought together more than 100 specialists in the field of higher education, to discuss the role of educational institutions and international organizations in promoting the quality of education to enhance academic excellence, as well as new trends of education, the opportunities and risks of cross-border education.

The participants included Abdallah Barakat, Secretary-General of the Supreme Council of Universities (Egypt); HE Amr Salama, then



Speakers at the IAU Conference

Minister of Higher Education (Egypt); Ismail Serageldin, Director of Bibliotheca Alexandrina (Egypt); Goolam Mohamedbhai, President, IAU, former Vice-Chancellor, University of Mauritius (Mauritius); Juan Ramón de la Fuente, Rector, National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM) (Mexico), Vice-President, IAU; Gamal Eldin A. Mokhtar, President, Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport (AASTMT) (Egypt); Abdullah Al-Faisal, Rector, King Saud University (Saudi Arabia), IAU Administrative Board Member.

The conference and the meeting were open to the heads of national, regional, and international associations of universities or their representatives, all higher education institutions, organizations and associations and other stakeholders.

### **Children's Library Workshops for Egyptian Libraries**

The Library Sector has taken up the mission to initiate open dialogue among librarians all over Egypt to discuss the possibilities of the field's future. The Children's and Young People's Libraries invited librarians to discuss pertinent issues to the practice of librarianship. Topics discussed included children's rights, presence of parents in the library with the child, children and application of computer technology, means of making the library more appealing to children, cooperation between school libraries and public libraries, and methods to reach out to new groups.





# Support Departments

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## SUPPORT DEPARTMENTS

A vast complex of interlocking parts, the Bibliotheca Alexandrina implements its projects through the cooperation of all its units. The Bibliotheca Alexandrina works cohesively as a corporate team to ensure the fulfillment of its goals. This section introduces the departments that provide continuous support to the service of the Bibliotheca Alexandrina as a whole.

### **Publishing Department**

The Publishing Department protects the BA's image as a center of excellence, through peer review, translation, editing, and maintaining the BA website.

In the 2006 fiscal year, the department has processed 18 books in Arabic, 13 in English, and 1 in French. The Publishing Department is responsible for one of the major publications of the BA, which is the Annual Report; highlighting the progress of all the BA activities each year.

### **Peer Review Unit**

The Peer Review Committee (PRC) comprises numerous experts from an array of fields including science, literature, art, and history.

During 2006, the PRC received seven publications from different centers including the Arts Center, Manuscript Center, and Alex-Med. Two publications were issued to date, namely *The Zoghebs: An Alexandria Saga*, and *The Proceedings of the Millenary Manuscripts Conference*.

### Translation and Language Control Unit

This unit is responsible for the translation, proofreading, editing, and revision of all Bibliotheca Alexandrina publications, in the three official languages: Arabic, English and French. The unit works to maintain a high standard of accuracy and consistency and to keep in line with the BA spirit of becoming a true center of excellence.

The unit has:

- Translated 926 pages: 68 percent from/into English, 32 percent from/into French
- Revised 14,460 pages: 72 percent in Arabic, 22 percent in English, 6 percent in French.

Major translations during the period included the Arabic translation of publications such as *Quand Google défie l'Europe*, *Trafficking of Women and Children*, *Women in an Insecure World*, and *Illicit*.

### Bibliotheca Alexandrina Website Unit ([www.bibalex.org](http://www.bibalex.org))

The BA website is a tool to enhance the BA's presence on the Internet and broaden its recognition worldwide. Maintained in the three official languages, the website has received over the past year an average of 3.4 million hits per month, 113,400 hits per day.

### Finance Department

The Bibliotheca Alexandrina issued its fourth final accounts, audited according to Egyptian and international accounting standards. Monthly and quarterly financial reports were routinely produced.

To assist in fundraising, the BA applies flexible budgeting techniques that are linked to strategic planning modules. In addition, the Bibliotheca Alexandrina manages and keeps track of large projects in cooperation with international organizations, such as the World Bank, UNESCO, the European Commission and other donors (see Theme viii). Funds received are audited, and cost deposits are produced and forwarded to donors. (For details, see Financial Statement).

## Administration Department

The Administration Department serves BA staff and visitors through the following sections/units:

### Conference Center Halls Section

The Bibliotheca Alexandrina Conference Center (BACC) coordinated 539 events over the past year (For details, see Calendar of Events). The Conference Center Halls Section consists of two units: the Halls Preparation Unit and the Coordination and Follow-up Unit.

### Conferences, Exhibitions and Events Section

Over the past year, the section earned EGP791,345 and US\$10,782 from external events. It responded to 2390 requests to reserve conference halls:

- 710 external events (local and international)
- 1680 internal events (staff meetings, educational courses, painting workshops, rehearsals – including ballet, Suzuki, BA Children's Choir, BA Choir, BA Orchestra, and others).

In cooperation with the ICT Department, the section updated and expanded the electronic reservation system.

### Travel and Transportation Section

The Travel and Transportation Section is responsible for the travel and accommodation arrangements for BA staff and guests locally, nationally, and internationally.

The section responded to 5793 requests (2643 Travel Unit and 3150 Transportation Unit). It is equipped with:

- Three vans
- Three 15-seater buses
- Two 28-seater buses (donated by Chrysler)
- Eleven cars
- One Book Mobile
- Two small motorcycles.

### Inventory Unit

The Inventory Unit controls and monitors all stock items and materials procured by the Bibliotheca Alexandrina. Following the main inventory, fourteen specialized sub-inventories were set up. All of these inventories (made at the BA, Shallalat, CultNat, Antoniadis and Moharram Bek) are shared through the ORACLE system.

### Registry and Archive Unit

The Registry and Archive Unit manages all mail and archives important documents.

#### Mail managed by the Registry and Archive Unit

Incoming		Outgoing	
Surface mail	5907	Surface mail	1262
Registered mail	2677	Registered mail	792
Incoming faxes	12,255	Special courier	2172
Special courier	1500		

### Sales Unit

Over the past year, the Sales Unit earned EGP1,580,957 resulting from book and souvenir sales at the BA Bookshop and other activities. The unit currently deals with eighty-two book and gift suppliers with an increase of seven suppliers than the year 2004/2005.

Plans are underway to establish three bookshops at Port Said Street, BA Plaza, and the BACC.

The booth of the BA Sales Unit at the Sharjah International Book Fair received many visitors and earned EGP65,252.

### Purchase Section

Out of the 88 tender and bid meetings, 118 purchase orders and 8 maintenance contracts were issued. The Custom Clearance Section cleared 112 shipments.

### Personnel

The Personnel Department ensures that clear visions and goals are disseminated among its most valuable resource.

In October 2006, the Library of Alexandria completed three years of age, and this represented the expiry of the contracts of some of its staff members and a chance to weed out the weak elements. By June 2006, 761 contracts were renewed and 29 were not (approximately 3.81%).

On the operational level, the Personnel Department, with the help of the ICT Department, integrated the Oracle HR with an in-house designed payroll system.

To improve the efficiency of the biannual staff evaluation process, the Personnel Department is developing an electronic appraisal system in cooperation with the ICT Department.

Over the past year, the BA provided English courses for its staff; the total number of staff members who received training is 818.

The BA has subcontracted an HMO to provide quality healthcare coverage and services for BA staff. A General Practitioner was assigned to provide primary care inside the BA clinic, which receives an average of 20 cases per day. Four local private hospitals also provide primary and specialized care.

The Personnel Department released the first issue of its monthly newsletter in May. It was created to foster communication among staff within the BA.

### **Internal Security Department**

The Internal Security Department works to provide optimal, around-the-clock security coverage for the BA facilities (and annexes including Shallalat Building, Antoniadis Palace, and Medical Research Institute). A security scheme was developed using a hybrid system of state-of-the-art security devices (X-Ray security screening, explosive detection, car bomb detection, manual and automatic fire fighting equipment).

All entryways are secured by electronic access controls. One hundred twenty fixed, mounted cameras are used to monitor the BA building through the Control Room. Lost items are recovered at the Lost and Found Room.

The Internal Security Department pursues an effective training in security devices used to raise the security awareness of its staff. Several staff members have completed the advanced course of crisis management and negotiation at the Nasser Higher Military Academy (NHMA) in Cairo.

Work is in process to develop an evacuation plan to ensure safe escape from the building in the event of an emergency.

Over the past year, the department provided security coverage for numerous major events, including:

- Third Arab Reform Forum
- Einstein Symposium
- Mohamed Ali and the World Conference
- BioVisionAlexandria Conference
- Hans Christian Andersen - attended by the Prince of Denmark

The Internal Security Department plays a major role in securing the visits of presidents, kings, princes and ambassadors, as well as the visits of President Hosni Mubarak and Mrs. Suzanne Mubarak.

## **Engineering Department**

The BA has terminated its contract with the foreign Facility Management Contractor (FMC) to be replaced by Egyptian staff. This was a demonstration of confidence in Egyptian caliber and saving up to four million Egyptian Pounds.

Accordingly, the functional duties and responsibilities of the Engineering Department expanded. It evolved from a supervisory department performing minor civil works and monitoring the FMC, into a productive department responsible for maintenance and operation as well as the implementation of the BA expansion projects.

There was a subsequent rise in the engineering staff to 401, including engineers, administrators, technician and workers. The changes also involved a structural reshuffling as the department was split into two main divisions: one responsible for facility management and the other for new structural projects. To ensure compliance with worldwide standards, a quality control and safety audits section was established.

## **Information and Communication Technology Department (ICT)**

In pursuit of the BA's goal to become a library for the new digital age, the ICT Department uses the latest digital computing and telecommunication services and technologies.

### **Infrastructure and Connectivity**

By June 2006, about 990 staff workstations and over 360 public workstations were installed. Approximately sixty-four servers provide these workstations with a wide range of electronic services available around the clock, and are protected by daily backups. Additionally, the security of the BA internal system is supported by the necessary hardware and applications.

During the past year, wireless Internet access using Wi-Fi Hotspots for visitors was planned. The equipment specifications were developed and are to be acquired in the near future. The hotspots will be installed at the Library's open area, the BACC, the Plaza, and other locations.

### **Staff Computing Services**

The BA staff are provided with an array of electronic services including e-mail, secure Internet browsing, centralized printing, and shared document storage.



### **The Intranet**

The BA Intranet provides automated services and important information to assist staff, including the telephone directory, bulletin board, contact database, hall reservation for events, international event database, statutes, standard BA forms, discussion forums, travel and project reports, tutorials, and much more.

### **Internet Access**

Internet access from within the internal BA network is available for BA staff at a speed of 155 Mbps, and is protected against insecure downloads or other threats to the internal network.

### **E-mail and Office Services**

Over 950 secure personal e-mail accounts are available for BA staff to facilitate internal cooperation. File transfer protocol (FTP) service is also available allowing authorized users to exchange documents, files, programs, and other archived data with BA staff and external parties through the Internet. To fulfill further work requirements, all staff workstations are equipped with cutting-edge operating systems and applications software.

During the past year, the BA managed to free up its e-mail system resources and to re-direct them towards the productivity applications.

### **Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP)**

Oracle Financial Applications (OFA) are currently used for the automation of the general ledger, payables, receivables, purchasing, inventory of internal requisitions and fixed assets. Advanced reporting tools (Oracle Reports Builder and Oracle Discoverer) are also used to facilitate the process of creating customized reports and data analysis.

### **Human Resources**

During the past year, Oracle Human Resources Management System (HRMS) was installed and customized for the management of staff data which includes presenting staff tracking and attendance reporting. A web-based payroll system was also implemented. A new module was integrated with HRMS in order to manage and report staff positions counts in the BA.

### **Performance Appraisal**

The Performance Appraisal System automates the BA employee-evaluation process, through a user-friendly interface. The system helps achieve multiple goals, organizing the interaction between employees and managers, communicating the results of staff appraisals, enabling

grouping of staff members according to their job description and responsibilities and assigning weights to Performance Measures according to their importance and priority for each group of employees.

Rating of actual performance against agreed performance measure and standards is much facilitated and the overall performance is automatically calculated, thus privacy is guaranteed.

The click accessible lifetime archiving system keeps track of employees performance needed by managers to monitor status.

### **Access Control and Ticketing Systems**

Thirty-two automatic gates distributed across twelve different locations within the BA have been installed for the automation of ticketing control used by visitors and access control for BA staff, thus controlling also the revenue, and staff access monitoring the number of visitors. The system is integrated with the Enterprise Resource Planning and membership systems and the circulation module in the Library Information Systems (LIS).

### **Archiving and Document Management**

An automated web-based system will soon provide the BA with an integrated solution to administer the growing amount of non-structured information found in documents. This involves capturing information from all sources (paper, microfilm, fax, e-mail, text, HTML, etc.), Optical Character Recognition (OCR), indexing, and finally providing this information in a searchable form for any authorized user. In the meantime, an archiving application has been developed and deployed for indexing registry correspondences.

### **Automated Fax Service**

This service allows every authorized computer user to send/receive faxes through his/her workstation. Thirty fax accounts are currently distributed among BA departments, and twenty are reserved for future expansion.

### **Training**

A complete program has been designed to train BA staff in-house on the major software packages required, based on the International Computer Driving License (ICDL) curriculum. Training labs, course scheduling, trainee registration, attendance tracking, course evaluation and lab reservations have been automated and published through the BA Intranet. Eight courses are offered enrolling over 1570 employees since June 2004 (542 since July 2005), and more than 1217 (501 since June 2005) have passed. Ninety employees have successfully completed and received the ICDL certificate.

### **Technical Support**

Technical support is provided for the use of computers and peripherals across the BA community, with services ranging from software installation, troubleshooting and support for desktop applications. Dispatching of requests and statistical reporting are easily done through the IT Support Call Center application available through the BA Intranet.

### **System Automation**

Automating and developing tools and applications is a constant process to facilitate the BA's workflow. Examples include the "Visits" application, the "BA Friends Newsletter", the "CSSP Newsletter" the "ICT Inventory System Manager", "BA in the Press", the "BA Bookshop Point of Sale", and most recently, "BA Contracts and Agreements" with other partners and donors.

New systems include the "Netcore" application, which fully documents the network infrastructure core that provides useful reports. The "Web Domains" systems holds detailed information about web domains acquired by the BA in addition to expiry notifications.

### **Telecommunication Services**

#### **Video Conferencing (VC) and Web Casting**

The BA has established Video Conferencing facilities enabling the participation of up to four parties in live conferences. The system operates using both IP and/or ISDN technology. Fixed VC systems serve the Board of Trustees (BoT) meeting room and the four main halls of the BACC, while a mobile unit with two plasma screens provides VC services at various locations in the BA. The technology deployed will be extended to build a distance-learning center. During the past year, over 11 VC sessions for various conferences, workshops and exhibitions took place.

The web-cast system provides real-time transmission of encoded video under the control of a dedicated server to multiple recipients simultaneously. Conferences, lectures, and other multimedia content can now be broadcast to users worldwide through the Internet with the help of the recently developed web-casting portal. This has also facilitated interactive participation in video conferences through the web. The system also offers broadcasting of archived events.

#### **The Telephone System**

The telephone system comprises 100 external lines, 1020 programmed extensions, four operator consoles, 25 PremiCell devices, 200 Direct Inward Dialing (DID) numbers, a hunting group of 20 incoming lines

and 1000 voice mail accounts. A new advanced IP support was installed at the Shallalat site with a capacity of 24 external and 160 internal lines. An application is used for telephone administration and management. The system monitors voice and data communications traffic throughout the network by measuring, managing and reporting on their status. The application also features checking system integrity and performing maintenance procedures and tasks. An “auto attendant” feature was activated since January 2005. In June 2005, the system software and hardware was upgraded to provide a more powerful processor, external and internal caller ID support, increased backup memory capacity, support for new editions of digital telephone sets, and support for IP capabilities.

### Plasma/LCD Screens Display System

This system originally consisted of three plasma screens (50-inch each) located at the Entrance levels of the Main Library and the BA Conference Center (BACC). Three other plasma screens were installed to serve the Internet Archive and the Hole-in-the-Wall projects. Portable screens have been used for various BA events. Eighteen new screens were recently added to the BA display system: Six 50-inch Plasma screens and six 40-inch LCD screens, of which twelve are equipped with their built-in driving PCs.



Plasma Screens  
at the BA

An LCD screen is installed next to the Antiquities Museum entrance. Four plasma screens are installed at the BA main entrance to display the Digital Guide tutorial video.

The screens are controlled by the ICT Department using Scala InfoChannel IC2000 software. The system is applied to display multimedia shows to announce and focus on conferences and other BA activities.

Two applications were recently deployed to manage and efficiently utilize the entire display system. The first displays the schedule of events taking place at the BA halls, previously stored in the BA event reservation database. The second application displays the detailed schedule of specific events, such as conferences and workshops, and a live stream of the sessions of these conferences. A new database and web application were implemented to enable the user to store the detailed schedule of each conference. An option exists to create a synchronized pair of plasma screens in order to display the schedule on one screen and a live stream of this specific event on the other.

### Teleprompting System

A teleprompter is a display device that prompts the person speaking with an electronic visual text of a speech or script. This method saves presenters the effort of having to read from a hard copy. The BA has purchased and installed two mobile 20-inch LCD double set Conference Teleprompting systems with prompting software that supports Arabic. Flat screen technology is employed for use with the Teleprompting system, offering a low profile look.

### Web Services

The BA website ([www.bibalex.org](http://www.bibalex.org)) sheds light on BA services, its complex, research centers, acquisitions and material, introducing BA policies and its ongoing activities. Web statistics show an average of over 3.4 million hits per month and 113,400 hits per day since July 2005 until June 2006.

Additionally, separate websites were created during the past year to serve the BA conferences, projects, and centers, including:

### Conferences:

- WSIS Pre-Summit Conference: Libraries – the Information Society in Action, October 2005  
[www.bibalex.org/WSISALEX](http://www.bibalex.org/WSISALEX)
- Einstein Symposium Part 2, November 2005
- BA's internationals symposium under the title "Does Nature Play Dice?"  
[www.bibalex.org/Einstein2005/](http://www.bibalex.org/Einstein2005/)
- CSSP Workshop, November 2005B  
[www.bibalex.org/CSSP/workshops](http://www.bibalex.org/CSSP/workshops)
- Total Solar Eclipse, November 2005  
[www.bibalex.org/eclipse2006](http://www.bibalex.org/eclipse2006)
- Knowledge Society Symposium (KSS), January 2006  
[www.bibalex.org/KSS2006/](http://www.bibalex.org/KSS2006/)
- Middle East Digital Library Workshop, January 2006  
[www.bibalex.org/EgyptDLW/](http://www.bibalex.org/EgyptDLW/)
- Digitization of Arabic Language Books Conference, February 2006  
[www.bibalex.org/DigiArab/](http://www.bibalex.org/DigiArab/)
- BioVision 2006, April 2006  
[www.bibalex.org/bioalex2006conf](http://www.bibalex.org/bioalex2006conf)
- Colloquium on Information Literacy and Lifelong Learning, September 2006  
[www.bibalex.org//infolit2005/](http://www.bibalex.org//infolit2005/)

### Projects:

- Arab InfoMall  
[www.arabinfomall.org](http://www.arabinfomall.org)
- The BA Supercourse  
[www.bibalex.org/supercourse](http://www.bibalex.org/supercourse)
- Bulaq Press Website  
[www.bibalex.org/bulaqpress](http://www.bibalex.org/bulaqpress)
- Digital Assets Repository  
[www.dar.bibalex.org](http://www.dar.bibalex.org)
- Gamal Abdel-Nasser Collection  
[www.nasser.bibalex.org](http://www.nasser.bibalex.org)
- Internet Archive  
[www.archive.bibalex.org](http://www.archive.bibalex.org)
- Online Access to Consolidated Information on Serials (OACIS)  
[www.oacis.bibalex.org](http://www.oacis.bibalex.org)



### Centers:

- The Academy of Sciences for the Developing World – Arab Regional Office (Twas-ARO)  
[www.bibalex.org/twasaro](http://www.bibalex.org/twasaro)
- Alexandria and Mediterranean Research Center (Alex-Med)  
[www.bibalex.org/English/researchers/AlexMed/alexmedcenter.htm](http://www.bibalex.org/English/researchers/AlexMed/alexmedcenter.htm)
- The Anna Lindh Euro-Mediterranean Foundation for the Dialogue between Cultures and Peoples  
[www.EuroMedAlex.org/](http://www.EuroMedAlex.org/)
- Calligraphy Center  
[www.bibalex.org/CalligraphyCenter](http://www.bibalex.org/CalligraphyCenter)
- Institute for Peace Studies (The Suzanne Mubarak Women's International Peace Movement)  
[www.peacestudiesinstitute.com](http://www.peacestudiesinstitute.com)
- International School of Information Science (ISIS)  
[www.bibalex.org/isis](http://www.bibalex.org/isis)



## External Relations Sector

### Visits Department

The Visits Department organizes free guided tours every 15 minutes in Arabic, English, French, Spanish, Italian, and most recently, German. The department has archived all VIP visits since the inauguration of the BA to the present date, and documented visitors' details, including name and position, supported by photographs of the entire visit.

### Public Relations and International Contacts Department

The Public Relations and International Contacts Department is responsible for the promotion of the BA nationally, regionally, and internationally. The Public Relations Unit works to raise public awareness of what transpires within the walls of the BA. It deals with issues such as image shaping and the public's perception of the BA mission. In addition, public opinion is constantly monitored and gauged to ensure that the BA is fulfilling its obligations toward its visitors in terms of quality and service. Responding to visit requests from different institutions (academic, diplomatic, or public) is also part of the unit's work scope. Not only the creation, but also the maintenance of a contact database falls within the responsibilities of the Public Relations Unit. Relevant information is continually entered and existing data updated. Whenever an important event is scheduled, the contact database is an important source of information. It simplifies the process of establishing rapid contact and supplies general information to ensure either the participation of speakers or audience attendance.

The International Contacts Unit is mainly responsible for maintaining and tracking the activities of International Friends Associations. Their Eighth Annual Meeting, held in December 2005, was attended by over two-thirds of their members. Participation from the four corners of the world guarantees exposure to a wealth of knowledge, and provides an opportunity to conduct vibrant intellectual discussions. Preparations for the ninth Annual Meeting are underway, as more emphasis will be given to specific areas of support, especially fund-raising activities.

Seeking to gather support for the BA programs and activities, the Public Relations and International Contacts Department contacts sponsors and fund-raisers, and holds meetings with prospective supporters.

Due to the paramount importance of quality service, the department developed an Agenda of Activities covering all the activities to be held in the BA. The agenda is emailed to all BA patrons three months in advance. This would ensure that knowledge reaches a wider scope of the population, to keep pace with novel ideas and perceptions. Creating, building and maintaining rapport with local and international entities, not only fosters stronger ties, but also provides a base from which public projects can be implemented.

## **Media Department – Local and Arab Media Department**

The Media Department is responsible for developing the BA communication policies and practices. It produces materials and publications and provides information about the BA to the public through a variety of outlets.

### **Digital Betacam Archive**

The department has established the Digital Betacam Archive to document major events and activities taking place at the BA, to achieve three goals:

1. Create a digital archive of all BA events and activities
2. Present BA activities on local and international television
3. Fulfill the BA role of disseminating culture by producing documentary programs and films about the BA.

Throughout the reported year, the Media Department has documented more than fifty events, the most important of which were:

- BioVision Alexandria Conference
- Commentary Manuscripts Conference
- Third Arab Reform Forum
- Opening of the Alexandria Book Exhibition
- Arab Youth Forum for Thought and Reform
- Cultural and Developmental Heritage Conference
- Lecture given by Dr. Ali Mazrui
- The Suez Canal: A City Born Out of the Desert
- Hans Christian Anderson Ceremony
- Imam Mohamed Abdou Conference
- Academy of Sciences for the Developing World (TWAS) Meeting
- White Safety Cane Ceremony
- Miramar Opera Concert
- Ancient Mediterranean Cities Exhibition
- Rose al-Youssef Ceremony and Exhibition

### **Media Archiving Unit and Press Center**

This unit monitors and documents all material about the BA published in newspapers and on the Internet, and sends it to all staff via email on daily basis. The Media Archive documented over a thousand news clips. The unit published a printed version of the news archives covering the official inauguration of the BA in 2002. Work is now in process to produce a digital version of a comprehensive news archive.



The Press Center, on the other hand, has coordinated over seventy visits from both local and international television stations, and sent over a thousand press releases to an enormous and growing mailing list of all the journalists and news writers in Egypt and the Arab world.

### **Editorial Unit**

The Media Department is also responsible for editorials including press releases often published 'as received'; monthly paper/electronic newsletters published in Arabic and English; press kits that comprise all the necessary material covering a certain event; and the Visual Information Channel providing valuable information about activities held by various BA sectors.

### **Photography and Archive**

Photography plays an essential role in the visual documentation of all the activities held at the BA. Photographs taken of keynote speakers, performances, and exhibitions, are archived supported by captions, forming a depositary of photographs for all BA departments and units. The Photography Unit supply other BA departments with photographs for their different publications.

### **Special Publications**

*Rose al-Youssef: Eighty Years of Journalism* is the latest Arabic catalog published by the Media Department. The catalog documents the history of one of the most renowned press organizations in Egypt throughout eighty years.

*The Bulaq Press* tells the story of the emergence of press in the world, the Arab world, and Egypt. It is the first and oldest press in Egypt and it had a great influence on the Egyptian cultural life throughout history.

A new version of *Culture and Development: The Challenge and Response* has also been published in English, which includes a section on the Bibliotheca Alexandrina.



Rose Al-Youssef publication



Bulaq Press publication



# Financial Statement

4.



## DONOR SUPPORT

The Bibliotheca Alexandrina expresses its deepest gratitude to its donors for their invaluable support since July 2002. Many of the activities detailed in this and previous annual reports owe their existence to those who believe in the mission and vision of the Bibliotheca Alexandrina community. Through the generosity of those donors, we have taken many strides toward achieving the goals set by the leaders who signed the Aswan Declaration.

Aarhus University  
Hatem Abdel-Maaboud  
Academy of Scientific and Technological Research  
American Chamber of Commerce (AmCham Egypt)  
American Library Association (ALA)  
Anna Lindh Foundation (ALF)  
Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development (AFESD)  
Arab Sciences and Technology Foundation (ASTF)  
Association of Egyptian-American Scholars (AEAS)  
Samir Bassily  
Mohamed El-Bayar  
Bibliotheca Alexandrina Baltimore Friends Association  
Biennale des Jeunes Créateurs d'Europe et de la Méditerranée  
(BJCEM)

BioSciences - New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD)  
Business Development Services Support Projects (BDSSP)  
Cairo Barclays Bank  
Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)  
Centre Français de Culture et de Coopération (CFCC)  
Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS)  
Commercial International Bank (CIB)  
Council of Europe (COE)  
Danish-Egyptian Dialogue Institute (DEDI)  
Gupreet Dhillon (Information Institute)  
Education Development Center (EDC)  
Egypt BioTechnology Information Center (EBIC)  
Egyptian Ministry of Culture  
Ein El-Sokhna Port  
Electronic Information for Libraries (EIFL)  
Electric Machine and Equipment Company (EMECO)  
Embassy of Finland  
Embassy of the United States of America  
European Commission (EC)  
European Space Agency (ESA)  
European Jewellery Technology Network (EJTN)  
Fargo Enterprises, Inc.  
Fondation des Maisons de Sciences de l'Homme (FMSH)  
Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)  
Ford Foundation  
German School in Alexandria (DSB)  
Global Movement for Culture of Peace  
Goethe Institute  
Göteborg University  
Government of Italy  
Government of Norway  
Government of Sweden  
Harty Tours  
Heliopolis Rotary Club  
Industrial Modernization Center (IMC)  
Institute of International Education (IIE)  
Inter-Academy Council (IAC)  
International Association of Universities (IAU)  
International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA)  
International Center for Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD)  
International Development Research Center (IDRC)  
International Horticultural Congress (IHC)  
International Youth Foundation (IYF)  
Japanese International Cooperation System (JICS)  
Kriti Oil and Gas  
Leadership for Environment and Development (LEAD) International  
Macmillan Publisher Ltd.  
MobiNil  
Mubarak City for Scientific Research

Chuck Malick  
Yassin Mansour  
Diane Peason McMillen  
Luciano Moroni  
National Science Foundation (NSF)  
Nature Magazine  
Norsk Bibliotekforening (NBF), Norwegian Library Association (NLA)  
Norwegian Ministry/Norwegian Library Association  
NovoNordisk  
Open Society Foundation  
Onassis Foundation  
Prince Claus Fund for Culture and Development  
Hosna Rashid  
Rashid Mohamed Rashid  
Research and Development Center  
Research Institute for Development (IRD)  
Sawiriss Foundation  
HH Sheikha Fatma Bent Mubarak  
Stanford University  
Strategic Foresight Group  
Summerland and District Credit Union (SDCU)  
Swedish Institute in Alexandria  
Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA)  
Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)  
Telecom Egypt  
The Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP)  
Union Market  
United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT)  
United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (UNCHS)  
United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM)  
United Nations Development Program (UNDP)  
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization  
(UNESCO)  
United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)  
United States Agency for International Development (USAID)  
Université François-Rabelais de Tours  
University of North London  
University of Westminster  
Vodafone Egypt  
The World Bank Group  
World Diabetes Foundation (WDF)  
World Scientific Publishing Co., Inc.  
Wyeth



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Alexandria

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Telefax : (203) 485 32 50  
E-Mail : alex@kpmg.com.eg

#### AUDITORS' REPORT

#### To The Members Of The Board Of Trustees Of Bibliotheca Alexandrina

We have audited the accompanying Balance Sheet of Bibliotheca Alexandrina as of June 30, 2006 and the related statements of revenues and expenses, and the cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Bibliotheca's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Egyptian Standards on Auditing and in the light of provisions of applicable Egyptian laws and regulations. These standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We have obtained the information and explanations, which we deemed necessary for our audit. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above together with the notes attached thereto present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Bibliotheca Alexandrina as of June 30, 2006 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the financial year then ended .

KPMG Harem Hassan  
Public Accountants & Auditors

Alexandria in September 13, 2006



Member Firm of  
KPMG International





## Statement of Revenues and Expenses for the Financial Year Ended 30 June 2006

<b>Revenues</b>	<b>Note no.</b>	<b>30/06/2006 EGP</b>	<b>30/06/2005 EGP</b>
<b>Governmental Revenues</b>			
Grants from Ministry of International Cooperation (channeled through the Ministry of Finance)		8 957 228	19 966 294
Allocation from National Budget		46 286 742	39 317 681
Miscellaneous		211 483	264 565
		<u>55 455 453</u>	<u>59 548 540</u>
<b>Other Revenues</b>			
Financed Projects Revenue	(1)	13 707 234	7 791 204
Revenues from Operating Activities	(2)	5 710 913	5 628 375
Interest Income	(3)	10 840 948	9 995 773
Miscellaneous	(4)	2 739 535	2 040 288
Foreign Exchange Differences	(5)	(66 412)	(806 676)
		<u>32 932 218</u>	<u>24 648 964</u>
<b>Total Revenues</b>		<u>88 387 671</u>	<u>84 197 504</u>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Salaries and Wages		(38 104 023)	(34 207 976)
General and Administrative Expenses	(6)	(47 829 602)	(45 230 365)
Provisions		(1 000 000)	(1 000 000)
Reversed Provisions		1 000 000	---
Depreciation	(7)	(40 745 422)	(44 118 009)
Transfer to Reserve Fund Fixed Assets		40 745 422	44 118 009
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<u>(85 933 625)</u>	<u>(80 438 341)</u>
<b>Surplus/(Defecit)</b>		<u>2 454 046</u>	<u>3 759 163</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements and to be read therewith.

- (1) **Financed Project Revenue** represent donations from international and national institutions, businessmen and individuals.
- (2) **Revenues from Operating Activities** represent entry tickets, memberships, book fair, museums, and other artistic activities.
- (3) **Interest Income** represents the funds earned on the EGP 100 million restricted deposit plus interest on other minor deposits.
- (4) **Miscellaneous** represents venue rentals and miscellaneous use of assets charges.
- (5) **Foreign Exchange Differences** represent the result of foreign currency/transactions revalued at the date of the Balance Sheet.
- (6) **General and Administrative Expenses** represent all operation costs such as conference expenses, utilities, exhibitions, taxes, travel and others.
- (7) **Depreciation** represents the calculated depreciation on the Bibliotheca Alexandrina Fixed Assets applying the Straight Line method.

## Balance Sheet as of 30 June 2006

	Note no.	30/06/2006 EGP	30/06/2005 EGP
<b>Assets</b>			
<b>Current Assets</b>			
<b>Cash in Banks and On Hand</b>			
Current Accounts and Cash on Hand	(1)	18 820 546	33 050 090
Time Deposits	(2)	25 957 631	21 900 888
Restricted Time Deposits	(3)	100 000 000	100 000 000
		<u>144 778 177</u>	<u>154 950 978</u>
Accounts Receivable (Debtors & Other Debit Balances)	(4)	16 274 699	6 959 987
Inventory	(5)	5 045 509	2 783 480
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b><u>166 098 385</u></b>	<b><u>164 694 445</u></b>
<b>Long-term Assets</b>			
Fixed Assets (net)	(6)	1 161 629 546	1 174 446 552
Projects in progress	(7)	20 014 611	11 238 498
Purchased Collections	(8)	780 196	726 064
Other long-term assets (International Communication Circuit Usage Contract) (NET)	(9)	10 864 841	11 669 643
Investment in Subsidiaries	(10)	238 750	---
<b>Total Long-term Assets</b>		<b><u>1 193 527 944</u></b>	<b><u>1 198 080 757</u></b>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b><u>1 359 626 329</u></b>	<b><u>1 362 775 202</u></b>
<b>Liabilities &amp; Reserve Fund</b>			
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Bank Overdraft	(11)	12 673 303	3 174 409
Provisions	(12)	3 000 000	3 000 000
Suppliers	(13)	15 548 163	14 584 585
Creditors-Fixed Assets	(14)	74 746 334	65 144 786
Retentions		16 954 233	17 277 221
Accrued Expenses		8 283 681	10 718 745
Creditors and other Credit Balances	(15)	<u>10 233 698</u>	<u>8 539 390</u>
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<b><u>141 439 412</u></b>	<b><u>122 439 136</u></b>
<b>Reserve Fund</b>	(16)	<b><u>1 118 186 917</u></b>	<b><u>1 140 336 066</u></b>
<b>Restricted Donations</b>		<b><u>100 000 000</u></b>	<b><u>100 000 000</u></b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Reserve Fund</b>		<b><u>1 359 626 329</u></b>	<b><u>1 362 775 202</u></b>
<b>Contra-accounts</b>	(17)	<b>87 365 649</b>	<b>86 529 400</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements and to be read therewith.

## Footnotes for Balance Sheet

### (1) Current Accounts and Cash on Hand

EGP17.2M funds available by the Government to settle the contractors invoices, fees and retention monies, plus EGP1.6M available in the private accounts to meet operational requirements.

### (2) Time Deposits

The figure includes US\$188,000 restricted funds for future projects that will be completed in the forthcoming year. The remaining balance is a basket made of local currency, US Dollars and Euros. It is meant to be used as a hedge fund.

### (3) Restricted Time Deposits

Money endowed by the Ministry of International Cooperation. Principal is restricted for unlimited period while yield is used to finance various operational and maintenance activities.

### (4) Accounts Receivable (Debtors and Other Debit Balances)

Balances of prepaid expenses, accrued revenues and imprest accounts used to speed up the operations.

### (5) Inventory

Valued at cost, moving average is the pricing policy.

### (6) Fixed Assets

The figure includes the net historical cost of the assets plus what has been brought into use during the year including but not limited to land, buildings, books, vehicles, electronic devices, etc. Straight Line method is used to calculate depreciation.

### (7) Projects in Progress

Down payments for the procurement of microfilming equipment, software licenses, audiovisual equipment, translation equipment, etc. will be brought into use when the deliveries are made or assets are substantially completed.

### (8) Purchased Collections

Investments in rare collections, scripts and artworks. They will be re-evaluated periodically by a specialized committee.

### (9) Other Long-Term Assets

The figure indicates BA usage contract of the International Communication Circuit (NET).

### (10) Investments in Subsidiaries

According to the Board of Trustees decision approving the establishment of three companies to handle the BA's interests in commercial ventures involving the long-term resource mobilization strategy.

### (11) Bank Overdraft

This figure includes EGP10.2M of governmental current accounts covered by the Ministry of Finance. The other EGP2.4M are of private current accounts according to the Board of Trustees decision, approving a bank overdraft from special accounts.

### (12) Provisions for Contingent Liabilities

Worldwide techniques adopted for intangible liability management

### (13) Suppliers

This figure includes accounts payable to suppliers at the time of the balance sheet.

### (14) Creditors, Fixed Assets

Represent amount due to contractors, consultants and other suppliers.

### (15) Accounts Payable (Creditor and other credit balances)

Balance of prepaid rent, creditors restricted donations contributions and other credit balances.

### (16) Reserve Fund

Funds provided by the Government to finance the capital cost of the project and the acquisition of new assets and adjusted by the net result of the operations activities and fixed assets depreciations.

### (17) Contra-accounts

Includes EGP 36.89M value of donated rare collections, manuscripts and artwork, and EGP 50.48M value of letters of guarantee received.



# Calendar of Events

5.

2.

JULY 2005

### Celebrations

HE Mrs. Suzanne Mubarak celebrates the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Reading-for-All Festival

Alexandria Epilepsy Day

### Competitions

Launch of Ashoka's Citizen Based Investment Competition (CBI)

### Lectures

Modern Trends in Developing Education and Environmental Sustainability

Alexandria and the Interaction between Civilizations in the Past and Present

Environmental Physics: Radiation and Environmental Protection

Presentation for the Children

The Legend of the Destruction of the Great Library of Alexandria by the Arabs:

A Historical Forgery

Lecture by Nobel Laureate, Douglas Osheroff

Mounir Amer and Egyptian Journalism

Smoking Effects on Human Health

The French University of Egypt

Creativity Lectures



### Meetings

Second Meeting of the Scientific and Drafting Committees of the Egyptian Figures in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Centuries Encyclopedia

### Performances

WAMA Band

Al-Mousseleya Musical Concert

Wust El-Balad Band

Mawaweel Group

Bikya Electronic Rock Musical Concert

Aragid Musical Concert

Nesma Abdel Aziz Concert

Nassir Shamma

Dans Kias and "Exposition Corps" (modern theater)

The Rentis Municipal Company for Athletics and Culture (modern theater)

Neveen Allouba and her Musical Group

Folkloric Dancing: Malawy Stick Arts Center

Folkloric Singing: El-Tanboura for Folkloric Heritage

Salma El-Assal

Guitarist, Emad Hamdy, Accompanied by BA Chamber Orchestra

Omar Khayrat Accompanied by BA Chamber Orchestra

Manal Mohie Eldin - Harp

Sobhi and Friends

BA Chamber Orchestra "Musicals"

Masar Egbary Musical Concert

Simple Musical Concert

### Programs

The Research-for-All

### Seminars

Modern Dancing Theater: Its Dimensions and Goals

Islam and the Modern Era

Monthly Seminar of the Alexandria Writers Union

### Workshops

Learn Hieroglyphic at the Bibliotheca Alexandrina

**AUGUST 2005****Celebrations**

Canadian International College and Cape Breton University Collaboration  
Prize Ceremony of El-Shouna International Biennale for Children's Art

**Lectures**

Presentation for the Children  
Presentations by the Youth  
Arabic Calligraphy and Plastic Arts

**Meetings**

Peace Culture Promotion among Youth Project  
Third Meeting of the Scientific and Drafting Committees of the Egyptian Figures in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Centuries Encyclopedia

**Performances**

Nail Polish Band  
Les Compagnons  
The Dream Group  
Salima Hirèche and Attia Sharara  
Final Concert of the Fourth International Summer Arts Festival (Tamer Hosny, Shaza, and WAMA)

**Programs**

The Research-for-All

**Seminars**

Issues of Democracy  
Women and Cultural Heritage  
Monthly Seminar of the Alexandria Writers Union

**Workshops**

Educational Development in Egypt Conference's Recommendations  
Computer Science (Part 1)  
Computer Science (Part 2)  
Training Course on Media Skills for the Communications Officers of NGOs





## SEPTEMBER 2005

**Celebrations**

Prize Distribution Ceremony for the YP Library's Summer Programs  
 Celebrating the Publishing of History of Writing  
 Launch of the Euro-Mediterranean Schools Network Program

**Cinema**

East and West Dialogue: Egypt and Africa:  
 The Egyptian Pharaoh  
 The Four Feathers  
 Out of Africa  
 Cleopatra

**Competitions**

Awards of the Future Programmers Competition

**Conferences**

Academic Freedom Conference: Problems and Challenges in Arab and African Countries  
 Einstein in Egypt  
 International Council of Museums Conference (ICOM)  
 The Arab Child is Subject to Different Cultural Influences  
 ASAIC 2005  
 Optical Alex 2005

**Exhibitions**

100 Days – 100 Imachinations  
 Ballade Photography Exhibition

Exhibition of Drawings of Artists, Plantu and Mostafa Hussein (France/Egypt)

Einstein Exhibition

For Health 2005 Exhibition

Children's Calligraphy Artwork

**Lectures**

Rocket Science (videoconference lecture)  
 The Chinese Experience  
 Modern Trends in Developing Education and Environmental Sustainability  
 Diabetic Patients and Safe Fasting in Holy Ramadan  
 Types of Arabic Calligraphy

**Meetings**

Peace Culture Promotion among Youth Project  
 Unilever Company Meeting  
 Fourth Committee Meeting of the Egyptian Figures for the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Centuries Encyclopedia  
 Intellectuals Annual Meeting

**Performances**

Al-Mousseleya Group  
 BA Chamber Orchestra Soloists  
 Ghassan Al Youssouf, Lute Concert  
 Closing Concert of the 2nd Youth Musical Meeting "Remix"  
 BA Orchestra for Amateurs  
 The Constant Prince by Etha Theatre (UK)

**Seminars**

The Egyptian Constitution  
 Iraqi Literature, Sara Al-Suhail  
 Health Development in Egypt for Health 2005  
 Leading Your Career, Leading Your Society  
 Monthly Seminar of the Alexandria Writers Union

**Workshops**

Computer Science (Part 2, 3 and 4)  
 The Way to Communicate  
 The Role of Youth in the Modernization and Reform in Egypt  
 Train the Trainers



## OCTOBER 2005

**Celebrations**

Professor Mostafa El-Abbadi's Honorary Doctorate

Launch of Business Start-Up Simplification Project in Alexandria

**Cinema**

The Centenary of Chinese Cinema:

Life on a String

Those Left Behind

The King, the Cow and the Banana Tree

**Exhibitions**

Contemporary Panel Exhibition about the Book Kalila wa Demna from the works of the artist Professor Yehia Abdo (Dean, Faculty of Fine Arts, Helwan University)

The Logic of Bird and Animal — The Vision of Egyptian Children. Exhibition for Children's Paintings aged 9-12 years

Robert Massin Exhibition

The Centenary of Chinese Cinema

**Lectures**

Lecture by Professor Yehia Abdo about his contemporary paintings of the Book Kalila wa Demna

Traditions and New Voices from the Mediterranean Poems and Songs

Poetry Reading: "Voice of the Mediterranean" Poems and Songs

Impressions of Egypt in Seventeenth Century Rome

Kalila wa Demna, Dialects of Animals and Birds

Ramadan Crescent Observation

Carlo Lizzani's Cinema Productions

Robert Massin

International Experience with GM Crops – How Can Egypt Secure Similar Benefits from Agricultural Biotechnology?

Pioneers of Arabic Calligraphy, Sayed Ibrahim

**Performances**

The Centenary of Chinese Cinema

BA Arts School Concert

The Logic of Bird and Animal (theatrical puppet show)

I, François Villon (play)

"Caresses au Chat Noir" (musical theater)

BA Orchestra

**Seminars**

Monthly Seminar of the Alexandria Writers Union

Music, Writing and Printing by the French Artist Robert Massin

Kavafia 2005

**Workshops**

Freedom of Expression Conference Report



## NOVEMBER 2005

**Celebrations**

A Director from Egypt: Togo Mizrahi  
 White Cane Safety Day Celebration  
 Reception for the Italian Grant Inauguration  
 First Arabic Calligraphy Day

**Conferences**

Med Voices Closing Conference: Turning  
 Back to the Mediterranean  
 The International Conference for Peace and  
 Sports  
 Mohammed Ali and the World  
 International Conference of the International  
 Association of Universities (IAU)  
 Olympic Armistice Conference for Peace  
 (Closing Session)  
 WSIS Pre-Summit Conference

**Exhibitions**

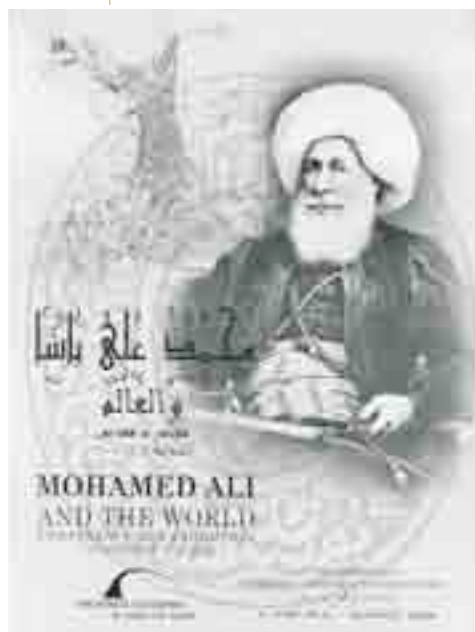
Togo Mizrahi (Photo Exhibition and  
 Documentaries)  
 "Toledo" photos of Toledo city in Spain  
 Arabic Calligraphy

**Forums**

Aga Khan Trust for Culture: Architecture  
 Forum in Alexandria

**Lectures**

Architectural Heritage in Modern Alexandria  
 Einstein's Achievements  
 Greek-Egyptian Elements in the Hellenistic  
 Portraiture of the Ptolemaic Times  
 Lecture by Nobel Laureate Walter Kohn  
 Avian Influenza and its Effect



Information Literacy and Lifelong  
 Learning

**Meetings**

GWP Committee Meeting  
 YESBU Meeting  
 Pre-Conference Meeting: Arab  
 Network for Women in Science and  
 Technology  
 TWAS 16th General Meeting  
 Education and Employment Alliance  
 Meeting  
 Regional Assembly of the World  
 Academy of Young Scientists for the  
 Arab States  
 YES Meeting – SDA Euro-Med  
 Activity  
 Executive Committee and Board  
 Meeting of IAU

**Performances**

Togo Mizrahi (1901-1986) – A  
 Director from Egypt, film festival  
 Art and Myth in Ancient Greece  
 (Concert)  
 Mahi Mahmoud Concert  
 Italian Tenor Raffaele Schettino  
 Concert  
 TOCAI TRIO and Les Gitans du Nil  
 Group  
 German Rap Band "Blumentopf"  
 (Concert)  
 BA Orchestra Concert  
 Piano Duet  
 Theatrical Performance by Visually  
 Impaired Students

**Projects**

SWEBA Project

**Seminars**

Arabic Calligraphy  
 Monthly Seminar of the Alexandria  
 Writers Union  
 Current Status of Uterine Fibroid  
 Ambulation  
 Best Practice for e-Learning  
 Effectiveness

**Workshops**

Pre-Conference Workshop for the  
 Youth Role in Reform and  
 Modernization Conference  
 Blumentopf Workshop  
 Promoting Civil Societies and  
 Activating their Role  
 Digitizing Arab Memory: A  
 Framework for Cooperation

## DECEMBER 2005

**Celebrations**

The Launching Ceremony of the Third Collection of the Digital Library (Uppsala University Collection)

End of Year Celebrations in honor of the School of Arts

Channel 5 celebrates its 15th Anniversary

Future Generation Foundation – Alexandria Training Unit Graduation

Launch of the Zogheb Family Monograph

The 23rd Biennale of Alexandria (Mediterranean Cities)

Book Donation by Catalan Bibliotheca to the Bibliotheca Alexandrina

**Cinema**

Celebrating Naguib Mahfouz's Birthday:  
Thaman Al Horreya (Price of Freedom)  
Dalal El Massreya (Dalal the Egyptian Lady)  
Al Ekhteyar (The Choice)

**Conferences**

Centennial of Sheikh Mohamed Abdou

Exploration of the Solar System  
Videoconference

Cities Born of the Desert: An International Conference about the Suez Canal

First Mediterranean Conference on Critical Care and Emergency Medicine

Closing of the Consumer Protection Conference

Building true success "Leadership Conference"

Mediterranean Dialogue on Adult Education

**Exhibitions**

The 23rd Biennale of Alexandria

Opening of the Documentary Exhibition

**Lectures**

Introducing the Book: The Life of Lieutenant General Ismail Pacha by the Greek novelist Rhea Galanaki

Beyond Einstein (Live Broadcast)

Modern Trends in Developing Education and Environmental Sustainability

Introduction to the Bibliotheca Alexandrina

Toledo-Alexandria Beacons of Humanity

A Day at a Daily Journal

Youth, Sustainable Development, and the Scientific Approach

Architecture in the World of Globalization and Cultural Identity

A Voyage to the Sun

**Meetings**

The 8th Meeting of the International Friends

CMA CGM for Navigation Meeting

African Foundation for International Law

Modern Methods to Administrate Libraries and Information Centers by Comprehensive Quality

Fifth Meeting of the Scientific Committee: Egyptian Figures in the 19th and 20th Centuries

Meeting with World Banks Representatives

Intellectuals Meeting

**Performances**

Stories by Novelist Naguib Mahfouz

Miramar Opera – Premiere

Gala Piano Concert by the International Pianist Antonio Rosado

Kavafia Musical Event

Poetry Reading: The 8th Meeting of the International Events

**Seminars**

The 23rd Biennale of Alexandria

My Experience as a Novelist

Albin Michel

Classical Studies

Monthly Seminar of the Alexandria Writers Union

Palestinian Training

**Symposiums**

The 23rd Biennale of Alexandria (Mediterranean Cities)

The Golden Jubilee – Transparency of the Universe and Charm of the Mediterranean

Annual Hepatology

Symposium

**Workshops**

How to Write Successful Research Proposal Workshop

Hans Christian Andersen Workshop

Documenting Arab Folklore

Launching Event of Folklore Thesaurus

Tools of Artistic Painting and How to Make Them

Learn Hieroglyphics at the BA



## JANUARY 2006

### Celebrations

Flight Festivity  
French-Egyptian Cooperation Agreement  
The Creative Forum for Independent Theater Groups (3rd edition)

### Cinema

Celebrating Stanley Kubrik: Lolita  
Dr. Strangelove  
A Space Odyssey  
A Clockwork Orange  
Barry Lyndon  
The Shining  
Full Metal Jacket  
Eyes Wide Shut

### Conferences

International Conference on Cultural Heritage and Development

### Exhibitions

Artist Samir Rafea  
Stanley Kubrik – A Director from the USA

### Forum

Arab Youth Thought and Reform Forum

### Lectures

BA: A Digital Library of the Middle East, by John Gage  
Afrabia: Is Africa Merging with the Arab World? By Ali Mazrui  
A Flight to Venus  
Development of the Arabic Mirror Website of La Main à la Pâte  
Avian Influenza

Cosmopolitan Alexandria  
Modern Trends in Developing Education and Environmental Concepts

### Meetings

Meeting with Michel Botrous Ghaly, Hoda Sawiris and Harvard University  
International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO)  
North Africa & Middle East Science center Network

### Performances

Arts School Musical Concert  
Choral by the Arab Music Troupe  
Examination of the Higher Institute for Theatrical Arts  
German Brass Band

### Seminars

Monthly Seminar of the Alexandria Writers Union  
BioVision Alexandria 2006 Pre-Conference Seminars  
Youth: Scientific Knowledge and Thinking

### Workshops

Building a Digital Library of the Middle East  
Learn Hieroglyphics at the BA  
What Do You Know About Alexandria's Artifacts?



## FEBRUARY 2006

### Celebrations

HE Mrs. Suzanne Mubarak inaugurates VISTA

HE Mrs. Suzanne Mubarak Launches the Institute for Peace Studies

Celebration of the Graduating Class from the Faculty of Medicine

### Cinema

European Cinema, the Second EU Film Festival: Calling Hedy Lamarr

Word of Honour

Up and Down

The Five Obstructions

The Three Rooms of Melancholia

The Chorus

One Day in Europe

A Touch of Spice

Kontroll

The Keys to the House

Guernsey

Body

The Forest

It Will Stay Between

In the Limitless City

A Breach in the Wall

The Mighty Celt

### Competitions

First LEGO League

### Conferences

Digitization of Arabic Language Books

Mediterranean Society of Comparative Education Conference

Armenian-Egyptian Historical and Cultural Relations

International Conference of the Alexandria Allergy Society

### Exhibitions

The BA Plastic Arts Studio

### Forum

Alexandria CDS Partnership Forum

Arab Youth Thought and Reform Forum

### Lectures

Coptic Art

A Model for the Promotion of Human Development in the 21st Century

Storyteller: Sherine El Ansary

Modern Trends in Developing Education and Environmental Concepts

Recent Projects

Alex SCOPES

Dry – Life without Water

The Ancient Egyptian Language

The Paradigms and Challenges of the Biology of Development

Safety of Food of Animal Origin

Training Lecture about Dentistry, Egyptian Association for Continuing Education and Training

### Meetings

Rotary Club de Maison-Laffitte

Egyptian Network Meeting

### Performances

Sami Yusuf Concert

A Valentines Eve Surprise Concert: The Best of Om Kalthoum

The Cultural Palace Arab Choir

The Captives (Theatrical Performance)

Modern Music, Oriental Fusion

### Seminars

Monthly Seminar of the Alexandria Writers Union

Youth, Sustainable Development, and the Scientific Approach

From Imitation to Innovation

BioVision Alexandria 2006 Pre-Conference Seminars

Development Objectives for the Third Millennium

Discussion about the Status and Future of Petrol in the World and the Middle East

### Symposiums

Knowledge Society Symposium

### Workshops

Digitization of Arabic Language Books

Learn

Hieroglyphics at the BA

YESBU Meetings

Suggestions on

Learning English as a Foreign Language

Zero Carbon City



## MARCH 2006

### Celebrations

Opening of the Rose Al-Youssef Exhibition  
 Total Solar Eclipse  
 Arab Academy for Science and Technology  
 and Maritime Transport Graduation  
 Ceremony  
 Celebration and Award Distribution to  
 School Students

### Cinema

International Women's Day, Lebanese  
 Director Jocelyne Saab:  
 Le Liban dans la tourments  
 Les enfant de la guerre  
 Jamais plus  
 Sud Liban  
 Le Sahara n'est pas a vendre  
 Lettre de Beyrouth

### Conferences

Arab Reform Conference  
 Third International Manuscript Conference:  
 Commentary Manuscripts  
 Philosophy during the Hellenistic Period in  
 Alexandria  
 Egypt in the New World of Science and  
 Technology  
 Sport is a Human Right for Better  
 Motherhood and Childhood (Alexandria  
 University)  
 The 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Scientific Congress on  
 Medical Research  
 Third Conference of the International  
 Society for Arabic Papyrology (ISAP)  
 The Fourth International Mediterranean  
 Offshore Conference (MOC)  
 The Third International Conference for the  
 Francophone Year, Alexandrie Metaphore de  
 la francophone  
 The Annual Conference of the National  
 Council for Women

### Exhibitions

Fourth Bibliotheca Alexandrina Book Fair  
 Aquarelles of Ancient Cities, by Jean Claude  
 Golvin  
 Works of Egyptian Artist Mounir Kanaan  
 Rose Al-Youssef  
 Tutankhamen's Wardrobe  
 Commentary Manuscripts

### Forums

Shadi Abdel Salam  
 Exchanging Experiences between Children's  
 Libraries in Egypt

### Lectures

Music in Ancient Egypt, by Khairy El-Malt  
 History and Us, by Lotfy Abdel Wahab  
 Artistic Values and Commitment in Arabic  
 Calligraphy, by Mohamed Haasabllah  
 Lecture by Ali Fahmi Khoshim  
 Lecture by Zahi Hawass  
 Book Fair: Lecture by Fathi Saleh  
 Modern Trends in Developing Education and  
 Environmental Sustainability  
 Trafficking Humans and Human Organs  
 Book Fair: Digital Modern History of Egypt  
 Between Mathematics and Optics, by Rushdi  
 Rashed  
 Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic  
 Pollutants  
 Arabic Calligraphy  
 Kyoto Protocol  
 Presentation by Artist Jan Cardell  
 Resident Scholar's Program  
 Senghor, the Black African Experience and  
 the Francophonie at the Beginning of the  
 21<sup>st</sup> Century  
 Egypt in the New World of Science and  
 Technology  
 The Future of the Tourism Industry in Egypt

### Meetings

Monthly Meeting for the Network of  
 Expertise Center, hosted by CULTNAT  
 Signing of Agreement with Development  
 Gateway Foundation to Create an Arabic  
 Web Portal  
 Monthly Meeting of the Diabetes and  
 Cardiology Doctors (ICOM)  
 Alexandria City Development: Strategy  
 Creating Tools for Local Development  
 Meeting of Distinguished Cultural Figures at  
 the BA  
 YES Meeting – SDA Euro-Med Activity  
 The 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Scientific Committee  
 of Egyptian Figures for the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>  
 Centuries  
 Network Meeting of Children's Libraries

### Performances

Crimson Haze, Musical Concert  
 On Thronez, Musical Concert  
 BA Orchestra celebrating Mozart's 250th  
 Anniversary  
 Resonance, Musical Concert  
 Mother's Day Concert, Rehab Motawea  
 Wind Instrument Recital  
 BA Orchestra – Maestro Ahmed El-  
 Hennawy

Cultural Palace Arabic Choir  
 Nubian Folkloric Arts Show  
 Russian Bass and Baritone Singer  
 Viacheslav Kobzev  
 Violin Virtuosos Works

### Seminars

Science, Technology and Medicine  
 Youth, Sustainable Developments, and the Scientific Approach  
 BioVisionAlexandria 2006 Pre-Conference Seminar  
 Environment of Alexandria  
 Talking Books  
 La transmission des connaissance des saviors et des cultures: Alexandria, métaphore de la francophonie (in collaboration with Senghor University)  
 Scientific Thinking and Human Development  
 Sustainable Development and Learning in Egypt and the Mediterranean, Exploring the Possibilities  
 Scientific Associations Week  
 Monthly Seminar of the Alexandria Writers Union  
 The Greenhouse Phenomenon  
 Hazardous Industrial Waste  
 Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants  
 Deterioration of the Ozone Layer  
 Textile Cultural Heritage

### Symposiums

World Space Environment  
 Discussion of the Global Program of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-Based Activities

### Workshops

Musical Interpretation of the Baroque Era  
 Electricity  
 Towards a National Consortium: Workshop on Electronic Resources Licensing and Consortium Building  
 Economic and Urban Development of Alexandria  
 Avian Flu  
 Learn Hieroglyphics at the BA  
 Learning English as a Foreign Language  
 Chemistry  
 Total Solar Eclipse 2006: Frontiers of Astronomy  
 Energy  
 Scientific Methodology and the Study of Environmental Problems  
 Scientific Associations Week





**APRIL 2006**

**Celebrations**

Independent Music Festival  
Launch of LAMAP Project  
Gift of the French Friends Association  
Pioneers Language School End of Year Party

**Cinema**

Shakespeare's Day:  
Othello, Oliver Parker  
Othello, Tim Blake Nelson  
Macbeth, Akira Kurosawa  
Macbeth, Roman Polanski

**Conferences**

BioVisionAlexandria 2006: New Life Science – Changing Lives  
Shakespeare Now  
Ninth Congress of the Egyptian Society of Endocrinology and Obesity (ESEO ALEX 2006)  
Rare Calligraphies in Egypt  
The Arab Science and Technology Foundation (ASTF)  
The Fourth International Mediterranean Offshore (MOC)  
The Fifth Annual Conference, Faculty of Tourism and Hotels

**Competitions**

Great Scientists

**Exhibitions**

BA Second International Biennale for the Artist's Book

**Forums**

Land Degradation as a Major Environmental Problem  
Global Program of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land Based Activities (GPA)  
The Increasing Phenomenon of Water Scarcity  
The Defence Systems in the Mediterranean Coasts Project (SIDLIM)  
Biodiversity as a Major Environmental Problem  
Municipal Solid Waste Land Filling  
Acid Rain as a Major Environmental Problem  
Industrial Hazardous Waste Disposal  
Persistent Organic Pollutants  
Deterioration of Agricultural Soil  
BA Second International Biennale for the Artist's Book  
Sources and Hazards of Dioxins



**Lectures**

Development of the Egyptian Economy from the French Expedition to the Economic Operations, by Mohamed Dowidar

A New Aspect in the Aesthetics of Arabic Calligraphy, by Mohamed Abdel Sitar

The Democratic State and Islam

What is New on Avian Flu?

Science, Technology and Medicine

Activities of the Russian Science Academy in Egypt

The Role of Tourism Awareness in Improving the Image of Egyptian Tourism on the World Map (Faculty of Tourism and Hotels)

Queries about Sexually Transmitted Diseases

**Meetings**

Scientific Discussion with Young People about the Sources and Hazards of Dioxins

Monthly Meeting of the Diabetes and Cardiology Doctors (ICOM)

Pre-Meeting for BioVision Alexandria 2006

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting for the Scientific Committee: The National Atlas of Egypt

Annual Meeting of the Morsi Arab Social and Cultural Foundation

**Performances**

Wind Instrument Recital

From Here and There – Modern Music Concert

BA Orchestra with Khaled El-Showeikh

Omar Khayrat Concert

Fusion of Moroccan Rhythms and Electronic Music

Modern Egyptian Songs

Cultural Palace Arabic Choir

Independent Music Festival

**Seminars**

Muslim Mentality and Renewing the Islamic Discourse

Monthly Seminar of the Alexandria Writers Union

BioVision Alexandria 2006 Pre-Conference Seminar

Architectures modernes en Méditerranée

Digitizing Philosophy

Global Program of Action

Why Heritage?

**Symposiums**

The Fourth Symposium on Scientific Research Outlook in the Arab World (SRO IV)

Diabetes Care in Developing Countries

**Workshops**

Culture for Web, Web for Culture: Medcult

Bibliotheca Alexandrina Second International Biennale for the Artist's Book

Agriculture

Quality of Cultural Websites

Learn Hieroglyphics at the BA

## MAY 2006

**Celebrations**

End of School Year for El Quds Language School  
 Annual Celebration of the New Sidi Gaber Boy's Language School  
 Annual Celebration of the New Sidi Gaber Girl's Language School  
 Astronomy Day  
 Research Grants 2005 Day

**Cinema**

Cinema and Arts: Dancing, Acting and Painting

**Conferences**

Arabic Calligraphy Aesthetics Conference  
 Our Solar Neighborhood (Videoconference)

**Exhibitions**

Arabic Calligraphy Aesthetics  
 BA Second International Biennale for the Artist's Book

**Forums**

Health Care Hazardous Waste  
 Problem of Solid Waste Disposal in Cities  
 Impacts of Global Warming on Our Environment  
 Use of Pesticides as an International Environmental Problem  
 Oil Spills, Control and Decontamination  
 Bases of Scientific Thinking and Scientific Methodology  
 Waste Incinerators  
 Radon Gas

**Lectures**

Ramses II  
 Ferdinand de Lesseps, the Unknown  
 The Ancient Egyptian Port on the Red Sea Coast, by Abdel Moneim Abdel Halim  
 Coptic: A Stage of the Ancient Egyptian Language, by Abdelhalim Nureldin  
 Ancient Aspects of the Egyptian Cultural Changes, by Mostafa El- Abbadi  
 Modern Archeological Discoveries in



Monastery of Bishop Paula and Bishop Antonius, by Shaza Gamal Mohamed  
 Modern Trends in Developing Education and Environmental Sustainability  
 Incineration of Hazardous Waste  
 What is New in Recycling Waste? by Salah El-Hagggar  
 Penser la Méditerranée: la Méditerranée entre les cultures  
 The Importance of Intercultural Dialogue  
 Hands on the Moon  
 The Repercussions of the Increasing Phenomenon of the Greenhouse Effect  
 Back Pains  
 Dale Carnegie Soft Skills Lectures

**Meetings**

Annual Alexandria University Radiological Meeting (Radio Alex 2006)  
 Monthly Meeting of the Diabetes and Cardiology Doctors  
 Discussion with Young People about Radon Gas: Risk Assessment  
 Egyptian Association for Friends of the Bibliotheca Alexandrina  
 Global Environment Facility  
 European Initiative for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR) Information Meeting  
 Meeting with the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Dubai

**Performances**

Alexandria Language School Musical Event  
 Arts School Concert  
 BA Orchestra  
 The Hostages Theatrical Performance  
 Incarnation Musical Concert  
 Cultural Palace Arabic Choir  
 Guitar Duets – Spanish Classical Music

**Seminars**

Dialogue Forum  
 Monthly Seminar of the Alexandria Writers Union  
 Interpretation between Religion and Philosophy  
 Preparing Youth for Holding Leading Positions  
 Deepening the Dialogue: The Future of Muslim-Christian Relations  
 From Craft to Design

**Workshops**

Cinema and Arts: Dancing, Acting and Painting

## JUNE 2006

### Celebrations

Launching a Program for Reaching a Sustainable Environment and Better Understanding

Schutz American School Graduation  
Eratosthenes 2006

SEED Corner Inauguration

### Cinema

Iraq Before and After the War:

The Station

Static Life

Between Borders

Naheda Al Ramah

My Country

Baghdad in, Out

Tarik Leghoroub Akal

The Musical Sculpture Papyrus Making

### Conferences

Final EUMEDIS International Conference:  
Closing the Digital Gap in the Mediterranean Region

Effectuation of Dialogue of Alexandria's Goals of the Millennium

Cardio Alex 2006

### Exhibitions

Arabic Calligraphy

Jorge Luis Borges

Tutankhamen's Wardrobe

### Lectures

Ramses II

Penser la Méditerranée: la Méditerranée entre les cultures

New Trends of Environmental and Educational Concepts in Development

Nature and Environmental Relations

Mediterranean Narratives

Biodiversity and Environmental Concerns

Search for a Better Future

Viewing the Life of Jorge Luis Borges

Sunken Antiquities

Abdel-Rahman Badawi

Presentation on Transition Lenses

Health and Population Growth

A Voyage to the Sun

### Meetings

Seventh Meeting for the Scientific Committee: Egyptian Figures for the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Centuries

Meeting of the General Managers of Hilton Branches in Egypt

Monthly Meeting of the Diabetes and Cardiology Doctors

Commencement of Alexandria Media Men

### Performances

BA Orchestra, Conducted by

Ahmed El-Seedy

Examination of the Students of the Higher Institute for Theatrical Arts

Fete de la musique

BA Orchestra

### Seminars

The Difficulty of Translating Shakespeare

Globalization and the Dismantling of Ethnic Groups

World Environment Day

New Internationalism and Nationalities Fragmentation

Precautionary Management of Environment and Choosing Topics of Research

Ways of Choosing and Evaluating Environmental Problems Solutions

Precautionary Management of Environment in Common Activities

### Workshops

Fete de la musique

Fifth International Summer Festival

Scientists Role in the Development of the Alex Society



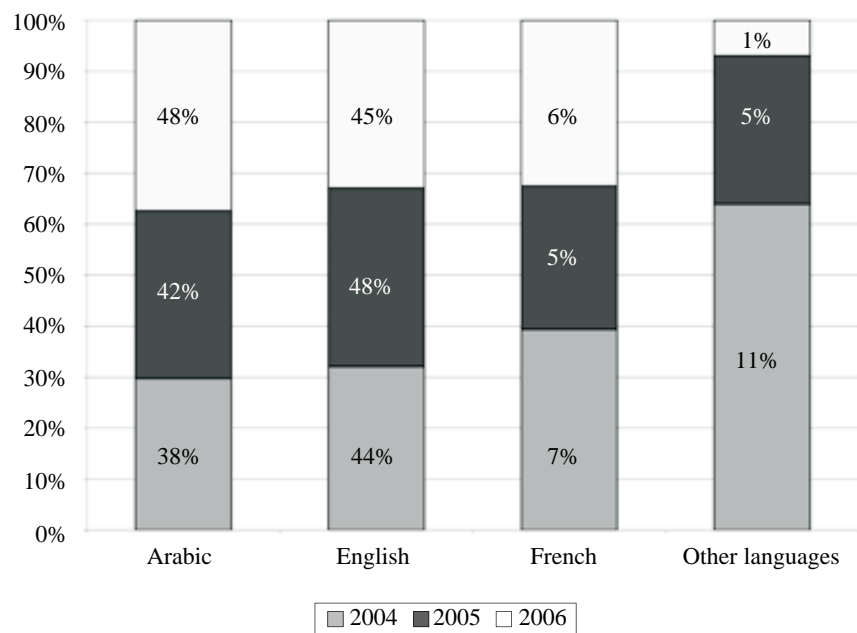


# Statistical Snapshots

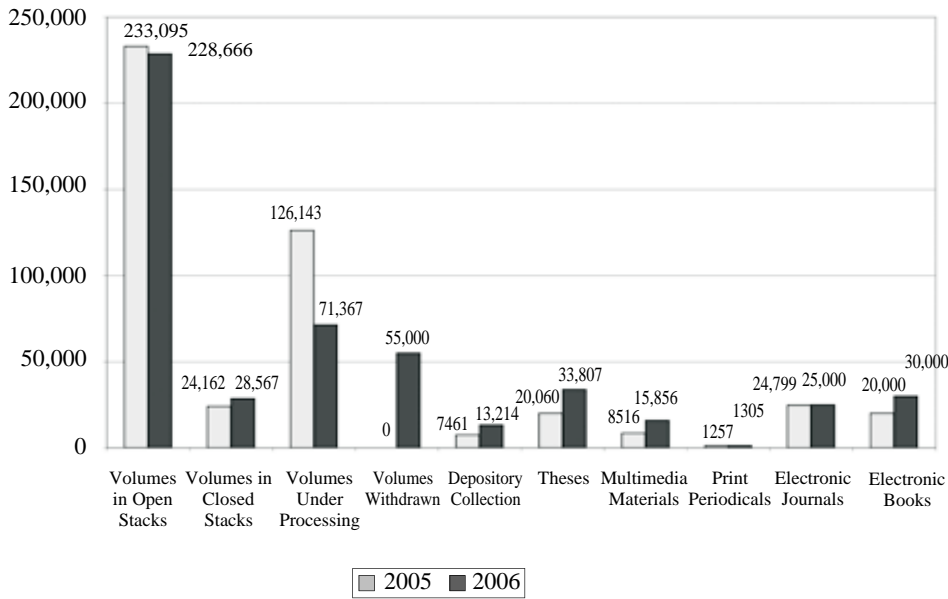
6.

## LIBRARY SECTOR

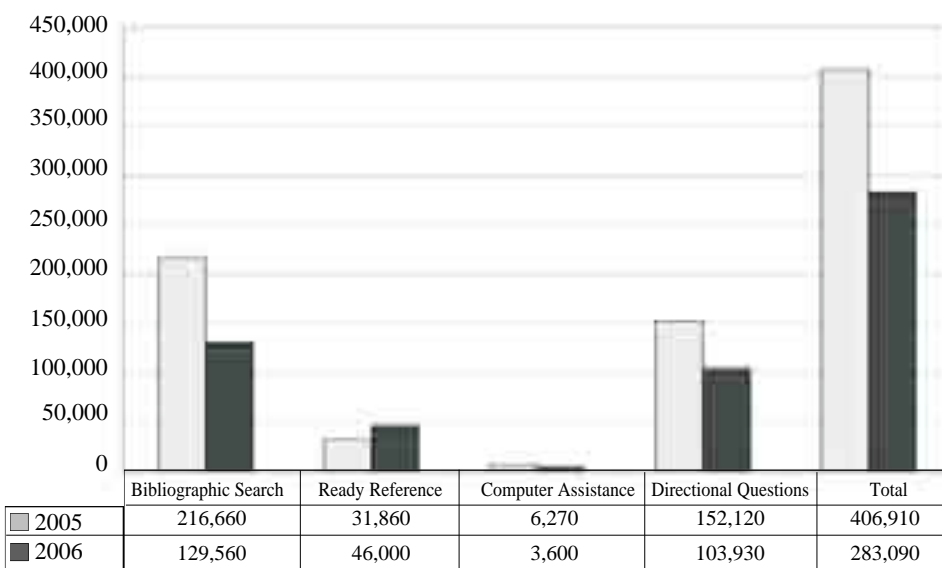
Total Library Acquisitions by Language



### Collection Growth

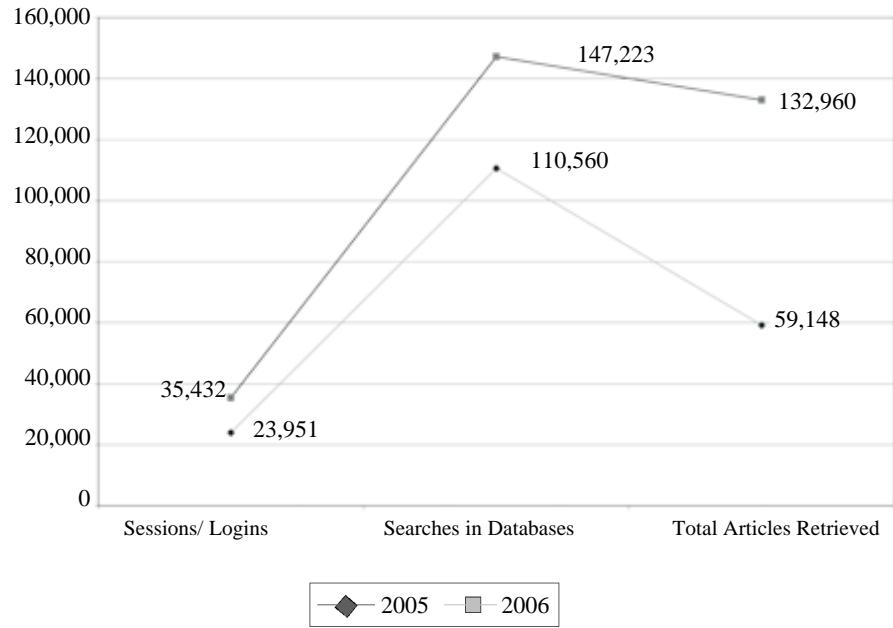


### Reference Services

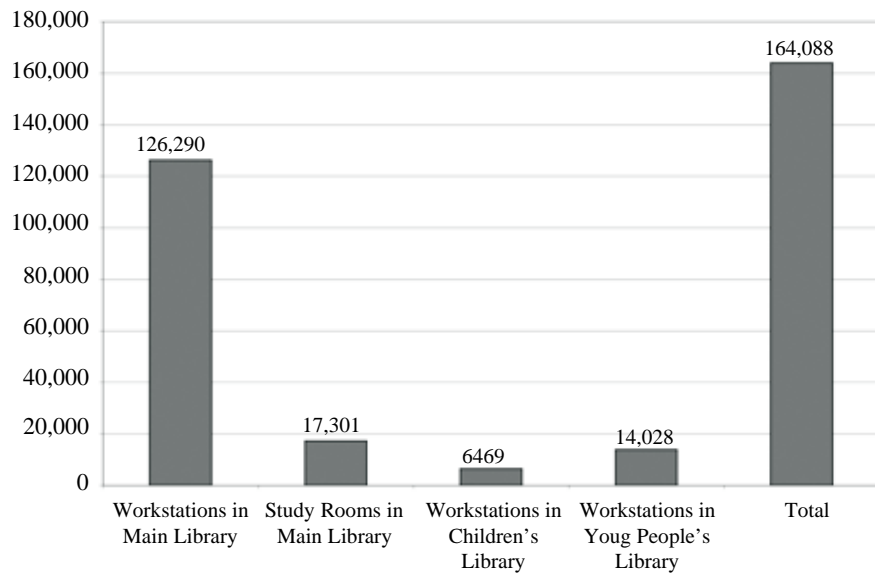




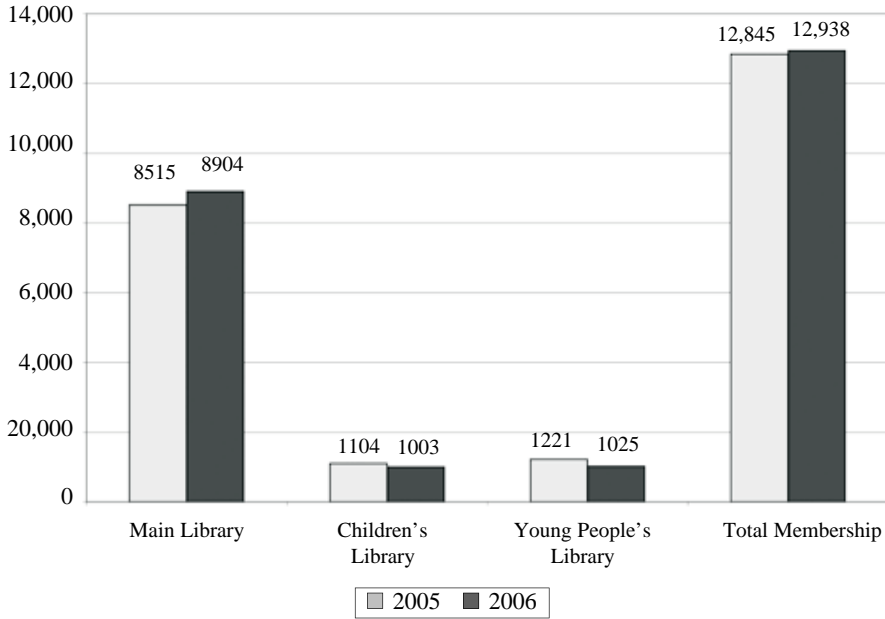
### e-Resources Usage



### Computers and Study Rooms Reservations

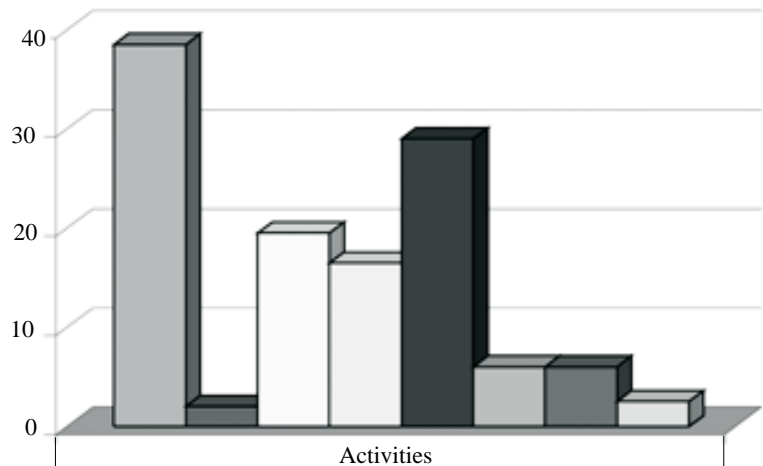


### Total Library Memberships



# ARTS CENTER

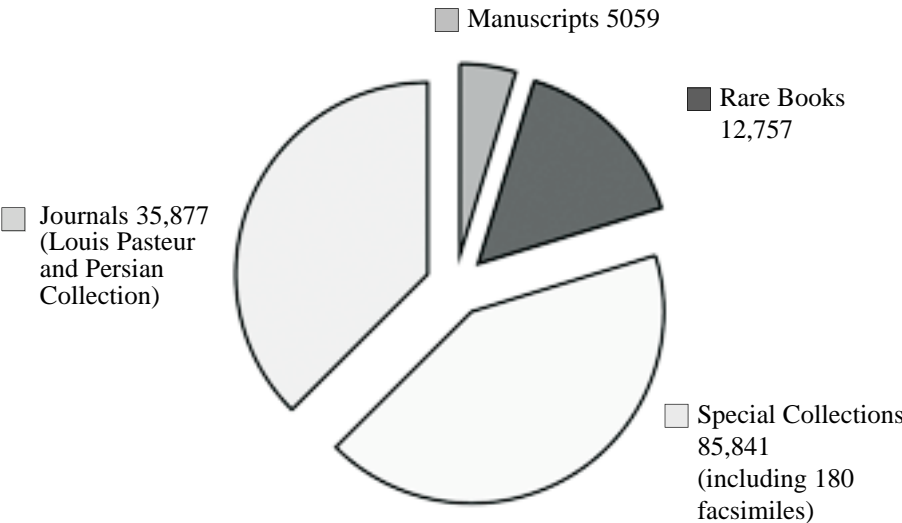
Arts Center Activities



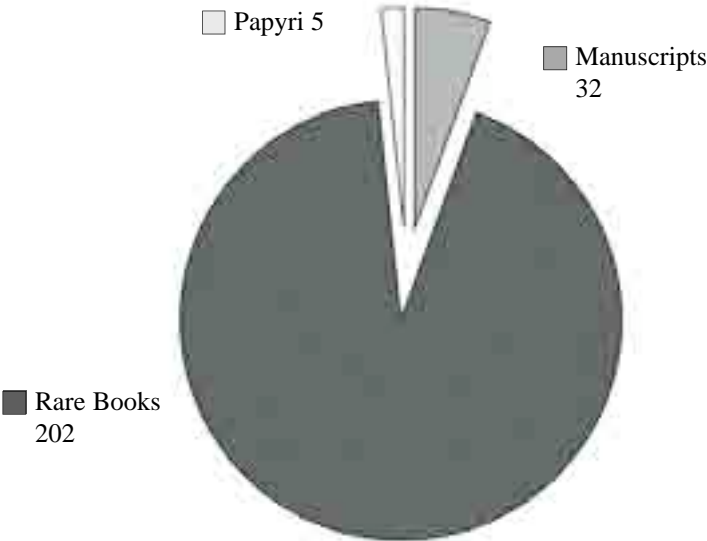
Activities	
Music	77
Amateur School	4
Theater	39
Exhibitions	33
Cinema	58
Workshops	12
Dialogues	12
Seminars	5

# MANUSCRIPT CENTER

## Manuscript and Rare Book Collections



## Restorations

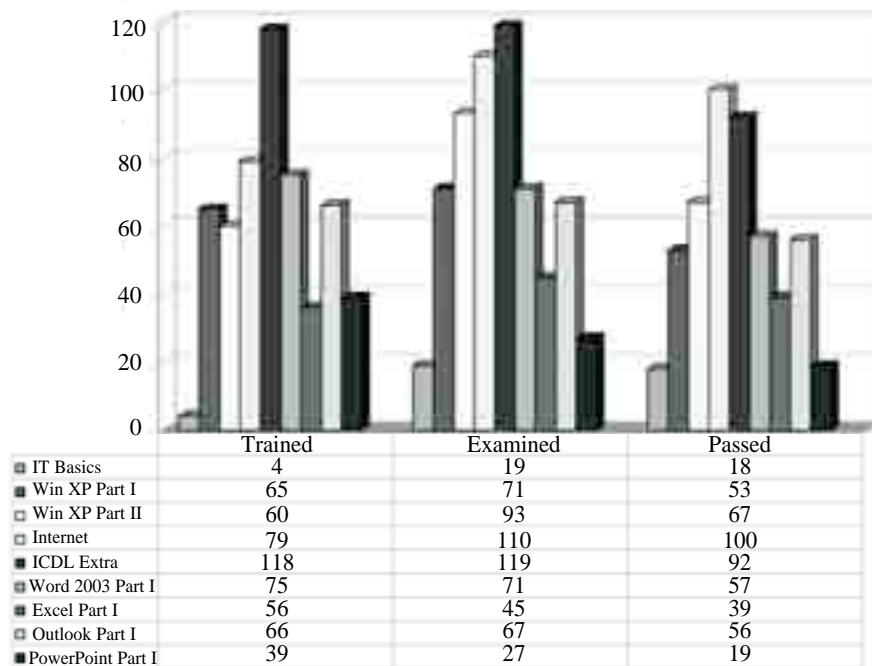


# ICT SECTOR

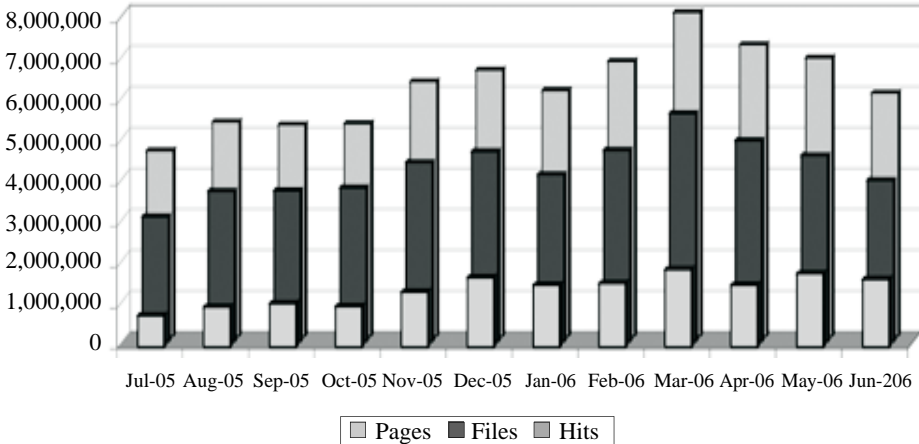
## ICT Infrastructure

	Quantity
■ Network outlets connecting the whole complex	3215
■ Computers serving the staff	990
□ Computers serving the public	360
□ Servers	64
■ Internet Cafés	1 (7 PCs)

## ICT Training

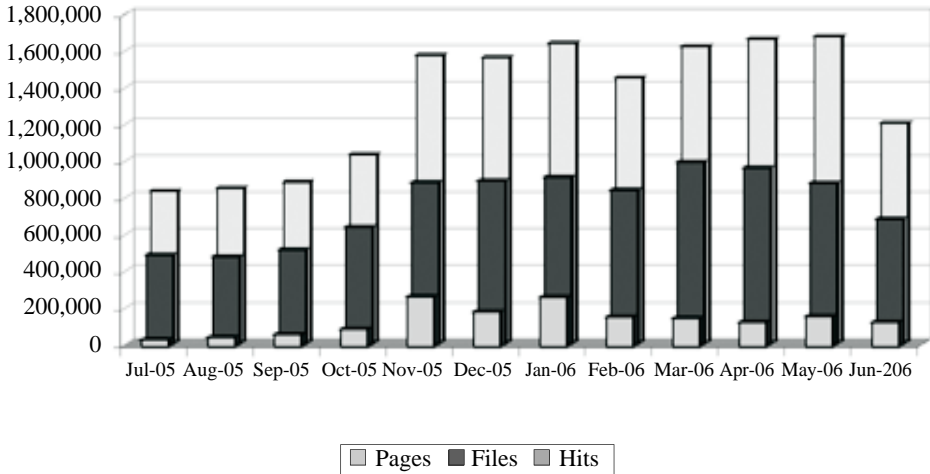


### Usage Summary for BA Websites



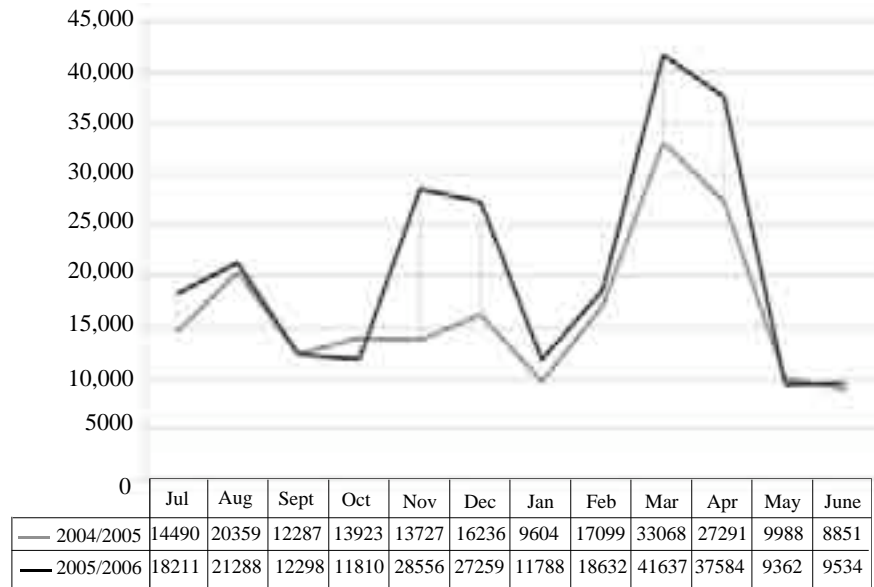
Websites include: BA Website, Nasser, ARF, InfoMall, Institute for Peace Studies, Internet Archive, and DAR

### Usage Summary for Internet Archive



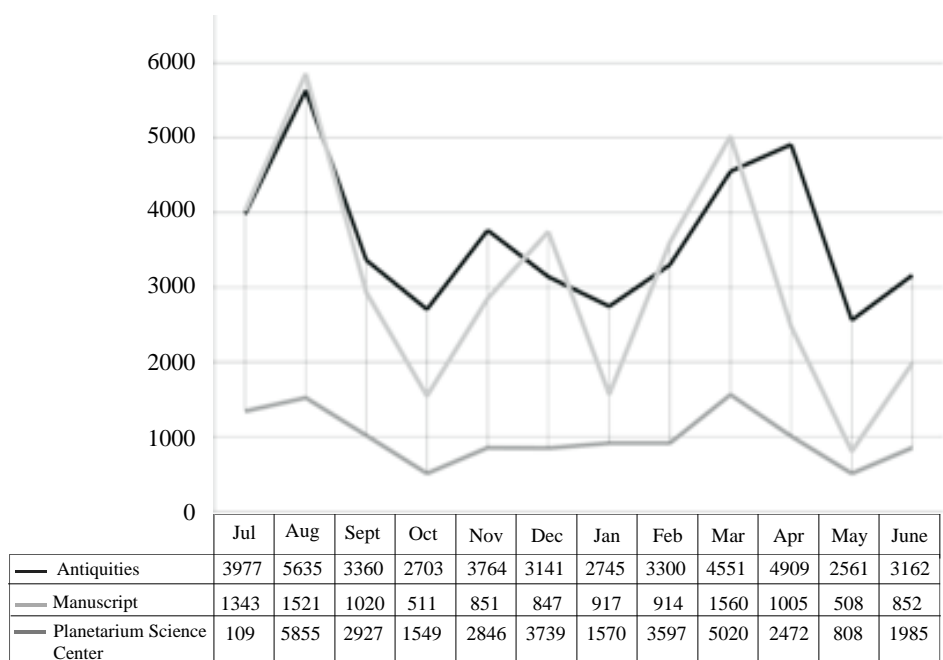
# VISITORS

## Total Guided Visitors



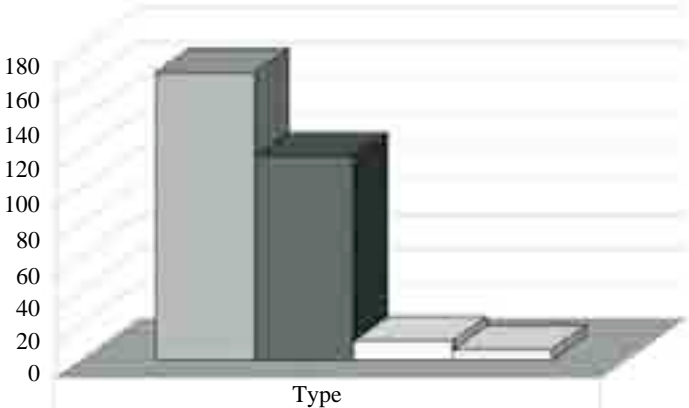
Comparison 2004/2005 to 2005/2006

## Total Visitors to BA Museums (figures based on number of tickets sold)



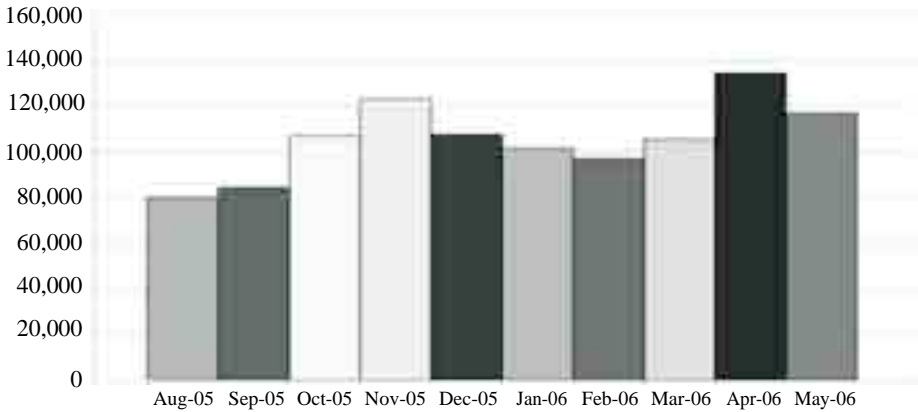
# CULTNAT

## ICT Infrastructure



Type	Count
Network outlets connecting the whole complex	167
Computers serving the staff	118
Computers serving the public	11
Servers	6

## Usage Summary for Eternal Egypt Website





# STAFF

## Job Categories by Male & Female

(Cut off date 1-9-06)

	Sr. Manager	Jr. Manager	Staff	Consultants	Custodial & Security	TOTAL
Females	16	56	405	8	47	532
Males	27	64	427	23	566	1107
	43	120	832	31	613	1639

## Age Range

(Cut off date 1-9-06)

Age	No. of Staff
> 19	1
19 - 25	235
26 - 35	549
36 - 45	124
46 - 55	60
> 56	26
<b>Total</b>	<b>995</b>

Excluding Custodial Staff 613  
Consultants 31

## Job Categories by Sector

(Cut off date 1-9-06)

Sector	Staff	Managers	TOTAL
Academic and Cultural Sector	340	60	400
Director's Office	53	12	65
External Relations Sector	33	8	41
Finance and Administration Sector	732	48	780
Information & Communication Technology Sector	123	15	138
Library Sector	164	20	184
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1445</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>1608</b>

Excluded consultants 31



# Board of Trustees





**Mrs. Suzanne Mubarak**

Chair

Suzanne Mubarak has received a number of awards, honors and medals in appreciation of her distinguished efforts in the fields of women's and children's rights, activities for the disabled, promoting of education and health services as an integral part of the development process, and supporting the "Reading-for-All" campaign, and has participated in many international and regional conferences, meetings and round-table discussions on development, peace, children's rights, women's issues, environment, health and education. Mrs. Mubarak is the Founder and President of the Suzanne Mubarak International Women for Peace Movement, the Founder of Egypt's National Women's Committee and the Arab Women's Council, and chairs the Board of Trustees of the Bibliotheca Alexandrina.

## **B** BOARD OF TRUSTEES

### **Ex-Officio Members**

Ahmed Abul-Gheit, served as Egypt's Permanent Representative to the UN (1999-2004) and assumed the post of Minister in July 2004. Over the past 30 years, Ahmed Abul-Gheit has served Egypt in numerous diplomatic roles, including: Assistant Foreign Minister of Egypt for Cabinet Affairs; Egypt's Ambassador to Italy, Macedonia and San Marino; Chef de Cabinet; Political Advisor to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Egypt; and Political Counselor, Embassy of Egypt in Moscow. Ahmed Abul-Gheit is a graduate of the Faculty of Commerce, Ain Shams University, Cairo, 1964.



**Ahmed Abul-Gheit**

Minister of Foreign Affairs

Hany Helal, former President of l'Université Senghour, assumed the post of Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research in January 2006. He is a graduate of the Faculty of Engineering, Cairo University, 1974, and is a Professor of Rock Mechanics and Engineering Geology. He is National TEMPUS Coordinator and is member of several committees and associations. Hany Helal is the recipient of several awards, including the Special Prize of the Egyptian Academy for Scientific Research and Technology in the Field of Management and Conservation of Historical Sites, 1993. He became Secretary General of the Education Development Fund, Egypt, in July 2005.



**Hany Helal**  
Minister of Higher Education  
and Scientific Research

Farouk Hosni was previously the Cultural Attaché and Director of the Egyptian Cultural Center in Paris, and Director of the Egyptian Academy in Rome before his appointment as the Minister of Culture 18 years ago. Some of his notable achievements have been: initiating the transferal of the current Egyptian museum to the other side of the Pyramids Plateau, to create the largest museum in the world; developing and restoring Dar El-Kutub; and establishing the 'cultural development fund' responsible for producing and promoting cultural products and subsidizing creative institutions and individuals. He received an Honorary Doctorate and was awarded the Prize of Culture of Peace, from Soka Gakai International University, Japan. He is one of the leading contemporary abstract painters and has held many national and international exhibitions.



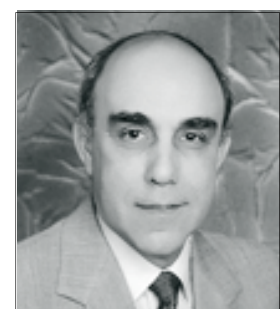
**Farouk Hosni**  
Minister of Culture

Adel Ali Labib, current Governor of Alexandria, former Governor of Qena and Beheira, earned his BSc from the Police Academy. He spent over 33 years of service in the Ministry of Interior Affairs, State Security, and was the Deputy Head of National Security. He has engineered innumerable environmental achievements which culminated in the plan to innovate the infrastructure of Beheira. He received many awards, and was granted the Decoration of Excellence of the First Order. In 2006 he was nominated a member of the ABI Hall of Fame.



**Adel Labib**  
Governor of Alexandria

Hassan Nadir Kheirallah was born in Alexandria, Egypt. He holds a BSc in Electrical Engineering, Alexandria University; and an MSc and PhD in Electrical Engineering, Carleton University, Canada. He specializes in microwave communications. He is the former Dean of the Faculty of Engineering, Beirut Arab University; and is currently Alexandria University President. He was the recipient of the University Award for Scientific Encouragement in 1991. He has held various posts at the university and has numerous publications in the field of education development.



**Hassan Nadir**  
President of Alexandria  
University



**Ahmed Kamal Aboulmagd**

Egypt

## Individual Members

Ahmed Kamal Aboulmagd is a Professor of Law at Cairo University, Egypt, a practicing lawyer in the fields of constitutional and administrative law, a member of the Royal Moroccan Academy; member of the Institute of Islamic Research at Al-Azhar, member of the National Council for Women's Affairs, and Vice-President of the National Council for Human Rights in Egypt. In 2001, he was selected by the UN Secretary-General to co-author a document, endorsed by the General Assembly, entitled "Crossing the Divide" on dialogue among civilizations. He is author of several books and articles on legal philosophy, constitutional law, and Islamic reforms, including: Dialogue Not Confrontation and A Contemporary Islamic Viewpoint.



**Martti Ahtisaari**

Finland  
member as of 2004

Martti Ahtisaari is former President of the Republic of Finland (1994-2000). Upon leaving office, Mr. Ahtisaari founded the Crisis Management Initiative, where he is the Chairman of the Board, and in 2005 he was appointed UN Special Envoy for the future status process for Kosovo. He is a member of the Joint Advisor's Group of the Open Society Institute and the Soros Foundation, and serves as Chairman of the Balkan Children and Youth Foundation, and Global Action Council of the International Youth Foundation, as well as the board of WSP International. Martti Ahtisaari maintains his commitment to improving the international commitment to prevent crisis and conflict.



**Assia Bensalah Alaoui**

Morocco  
member as of 2004

Assia Bensalah Alaoui is "Ambassador at Large of HM the King of Morocco. Professor of International Law, Assia Bensalah Alaoui serves on a variety of committees for Near-Eastern peace and on a number of Board of Trustees of International Organizations. She served also, as co-President of the High-Level Advisory Group established by the President of the European Commission on "Dialogue between Peoples and Cultures in the Euro-Mediterranean Area" (2002-2003). A world renowned specialist in international economic law, she has written extensively on such diverse topics as Food Security, European Union, Maghreb and the Arab world, Disarmament, and Conflict prevention. She is the author, among other things, of Green Power and Red Peril; and World Food Security.



**Lourdes Arizpe**

Mexico  
member as of June 2005

Lourdes Arizpe is Former Assistant Director-General for Culture at UNESCO (1994-1998), Secretary of the Mexican Science Academy (1992-1994) and Director of the Institute of Anthropological Research at the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM). She is presently Professor and Researcher at its Regional Center for Multidisciplinary Research and President of the International Social Sciences Council (2005-2007). She is author of 13 books, including The Cultural Dimensions of Global Change: an Anthropological Approach (UNESCO: 1995), and The Cultural Challenges of Mexico (2004). Her honors include Fulbright and Guggenheim fellowships and honorary memberships in the Royal Anthropology Institute, England. She is also a member of the Academic Faculty of the Global Economic Forum in Davos.

Adel El-Beltagy is Director-General, ICARDA, Syrian Arab Republic, since 1995. He earned his PhD (1974) in Stress Physiology, University of Wales, UK. He served as Professor of Arid Land Agriculture at Ain Shams University, Cairo; First Under-Secretary of State for Land Reclamation, Egypt (1987–91); Director and Board Chair of Agricultural Research Center, Egypt (1991–94); Chairman of the Executive Board, ACSAD (1989–95); and a Member of the CGIAR Genetic Resources Policy Committee (1994–99). He is President of the Scientific Technical Council of the International Sahara and Sahel Observatory (1993–2002); and Chairman Elect of the International Dryland Development Commission, since 1987. He is a member of international and regional scientific societies and author of over 100 scientific publications in Egyptian and International journals. In 1993, he was honored distinguished Fellow by the University of Wales.



**Adel El-Beltagy**

Egypt  
member as of 2006

Margaret Catley-Carlson is active in organizations that apply science and knowledge to national and international problems in freshwater governance, health, agriculture, environmental protection, and development finance. She is Chair of the Global Water Partnership, Vice-Chair of the International Development Research Centre, Canada; outgoing Chair of ICARDA Agricultural Research in Dry Areas, Syria, and a member of the UN Secretary General Advisory Panel on Water. Margaret Catley-Carlson has been President of CIDA, Deputy Minister of Health in Canada, and Deputy Director of UNICEF, with the rank of UN Assistant Secretary-General. She has received eight honorary degrees and in 2002, became an Officer of Order of Canada.



**Margaret Catley-Carlson**

Canada

Michael Cernea, Research Professor of Anthropology and International Affairs at George Washington University, has served for two decades as the World Bank's Senior Advisor for Social Policies and Sociology, and on the CGIAR's Science Council and TAC (1998-2003). He was elected to Romania's Academy of Sciences (1992) and is Honorary Professor and Chairman of the Science Board, Social Development Institute, Hohai University, China. For his pioneering applications of sociological and anthropological science to formulating development policies and programs, and his work on public social policies, Prof. Cernea received the Bronislaw Malinowski Prize and the Solon N. Kimball Award from the American Anthropological Association, as well as other scientific prizes. His most recent books are *Cultural Heritage and Development in Middle East and North Africa* (2002) and *Researching the Culture of AgriCulture* (2006).



**Michael M. Cernea**

Romania /USA  
member as of 2003

Hans-Peter Geh is former President of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions and Emeritus Director of the Württembergische State and University Library in Stuttgart. He is a member of UNESCO's International Commission for the Revival of the Ancient Library of Alexandria. Hans-Peter Geh held numerous positions in German libraries and literary associations and institutions, as well as international organizations. As Visiting Professor he lectured in several countries. He also served as co-editor of national and international journals.



**Hans-Peter Geh**

Germany





**Susan Greenfield**  
United Kingdom  
member as of 2006

Susan Greenfield is Director, Royal Institution of Great Britain; Fullerian Professor of Physiology; Senior Research Fellow Lincoln College; Honorary Fellow, St. Hilda's College, as well as Director of the Institute for the Future of the Mind and held the Gresham Chair of Physic. Baroness Susan Greenfield is an Oxford graduate, but her postdoctoral research was at the Collège de France, Paris, and the New York University Medical Center, New York. She developed a multidisciplinary approach to explore novel neuronal mechanisms in the brain, common to regions affected in both Alzheimer's and Parkinson diseases. She authored *Journey to the Centres of the Mind toward a Science of Consciousness* (1995); *The Human Brain: A Guided Tour* (1997); *Private Life of the Brain* (2000). Her latest book is *Tomorrow's People*. She received 28 honorary degrees and several awards. She was awarded the Michael Faraday medal by the Royal Society (1998); was elected to an Honorary Fellowship of the Royal College of Physicians (1999), and was awarded the Ordre National de la Légion d'Honneur (2003).



**Vartan Gregorian**  
Iran  
member as of 2006

Vartan Gregorian is the twelfth president of Carnegie Corporation of New York. He was the sixteenth president of Brown University for 9 years. He was born in Tabriz, Islamic Republic of Iran, of Armenian parents. In 1958, he graduated with honors from Stanford University, and in 1964 earned his PhD in history and humanities. He was founding Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences at the University of Pennsylvania and 4 years later became its twenty-third provost. He was president of the New York Public Library for 8 years; then was appointed president of Brown University. Vartan Gregorian is the author of *The Road to Home: My Life And Times*, *Islam: A Mosaic, Not A Monolith*, and *The Emergence of Modern Afghanistan, 1880–1946*. He is a recipient of numerous fellowships, awards and 56 honorary degrees and served on boards of various institutions.



**Abdel-Latif Al-Hamad**  
Kuwait

Abdel-Latif Al-Hamad is the Founding Director-General of the Kuwait Development Fund, and the Dean of Arab Development Efforts. He currently serves as Chairman and CEO of the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development (AFESD). He also serves on many international boards, most recently the World Bank and the World Commission on Water in the 21st Century.



**Jean-Noël Jeanneney**  
France  
member as of 2003

Jean-Noël Jeanneney is the President of La Bibliothèque Nationale de France and Professor of Political History and Media at Institut d'Etudes Politiques, where he graduated and received his PhD in History (1975). He was president of Radio France and Radio France International. He was at the head of the Committee of the French Revolution. He was Deputy Minister of Trade (1991-1992) and Deputy Minister of Communication (1992-1993). Jean-Noël Jeanneney is author of many publications, his latest being *Quand Google défie l'Europe*, 2005.

Kiyoshi Kurokawa, MD, is President of the Science Council of Japan, Governor of the American College of Physicians Japan Chapter; and member of the Committee for the Science and Technology Policy of the Cabinet Office of the Government of Japan, of the Institute of Medicine of US National Academies. He was Professor of Medicine, Schools of Medicine of UCLA, University of Tokyo and Tokai University; has been an executive officer of many prestigious national, international science and medical societies; served many advisory and academic committees of the Ministries of Japan and global community and is a WHO Commissioner.



**Kiyoshi Kurokawa**

Japan  
member as of 2004

Anne Marie Lizin is President of the Belgian Senate and an independent expert of the Commission on Human Rights on human rights and extreme poverty since 1998. She works extensively in the areas of women's and children's rights. She served as President of the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the field of Human Rights (1993-99). She represented the Belgian Government at the UN Summit for the Decade for Women and worked as a member of the UN Committee supporting women against Apartheid. She is a member of the Warburton Mission investigating the rape of women in the former Yugoslavia in 1991.



**Anne Marie Lizin**

Belgium  
member as of 2004

Julia Marton-Lefèvre became Rector of the University for Peace in San Jose, Costa Rica in 2005. She is also Vice-Chair of the World Resources Institute and a member of a number of boards and commissions, including: the Board of Directors of the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED) and former Executive Director of LEAD International, and the International Council for Science (ICSU). Other positions held include Program Specialist in Environmental Education, university teacher in Thailand as a Peace Corps Volunteer, and a staff member of the fund for Education and Peace in New York. Julia Marton-Lefèvre has co-authored numerous books and papers. In 1999 she received the AAAS Award for International Cooperation in Science. She is a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society, UK.



**Julia Marton-Lefèvre**

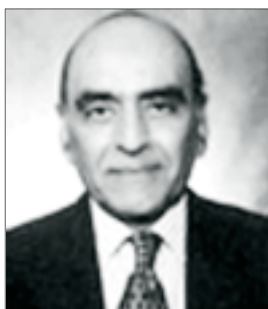
Hungary  
member as of June 2005

Mounir S. Neamatalla is Founder/President of Environmental Quality International (EQI), established in 1981. EQI is organized around three areas: Policy and Governance, Environment and Natural Resources, and Enterprise Development and Finance of Small and Micro Enterprises; which are concerned with the promotion of economic development regarding the region's natural heritage and protecting its rich cultural legacy and supported by five services. Mounir Neamatalla obtained his MSc (1971) and BSc (1970) in Chemical Engineering, University of Wisconsin, Madison; and his PhD (1976) in Environmental Health and Quality Management; Columbia University, New York. EQI received several awards, including the 2006 ICC-UNDP-IBLF World Business Award; the 2005 Condé Nast Traveler Green List Award; the 2005 Talents du Luxe Award; and the 1992 Rio de Janeiro Earth Summit Award.



**Mounir S. Neamatalla**

Egypt  
member as of 2006



**Moeen Qureshi**

Pakistan  
member as of 2004

Moeen Qureshi served as Prime Minister of Pakistan in 1993 where he initiated strong reform measures. He was Senior Vice-President and Head of World Bank Operations (1986-1991). Currently he is Chairman and Managing Partner of EMP Global; and a member of the Board of the American International Group's Global Trade and Political Risk Insurance Company. He has served as an advisor to several international institutions and has chaired a number of international commissions and committees dealing with international and public affairs. Moeen Qureshi has written extensively on international economic and political affairs.



**Roelof Rabbinge**

The Netherlands  
member as of 2003

Roelof Rabbinge is Chairman/Dean of Wageningen Graduate Schools in the Netherlands and University Professor for Sustainable Development and Systems Innovation. He led various missions and agricultural programs in developing countries and served as editor of several journals. He also served on the Board of Trustees of six centers of the Group of International Agricultural Research; was Chairman of the International Rice Research Institute Board of Trustees (1995-2000), and was co-Chair of the InterAcademy panel on Food Security and Agricultural Productivity in Africa. He is presently a member of the Senate of the Netherlands Parliament; Chairman of the Royal Institute of the Tropics; and serves on the boards of various international agribusiness firms.



**Mamphela Ramphele**

South Africa  
member as of June 2005

Mamphela Ramphele, a South African national, is Chairperson of Circle Ventures, co-Chair of the Global Commission on International Migration and recently joined the Board of Directors of Standard Bank South Africa Ltd. and Medi Clinic Corporations Ltd. She is former Managing Director of the World Bank (2000-2004), and led the formulation of the Bank's education and health policies, and was responsible for monitoring and evaluating the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Mamphela Ramphele was the first black South African and first woman to be Vice-Chancellor at the University Cape Town and has received numerous national and international awards, honorary doctorates, and the Medal of Distinction from Barnard College. She is a qualified medical doctor and holds a PhD in Social Anthropology, a BCom degree in Administration and several diplomas and is author of a number of books and articles.



**Ghassan Salamé**

Lebanon  
member as of June 2005

Ghassan Salamé is former Lebanese Minister of Culture (2000-2003). He has a Master in Law, 1974; PhD in Literature, 1975; and a PhD in Political Science, 1978. He was appointed Chairman and Spokesman of the Organization Committee for the Arab Summit (2002) and of the Francophone Summit (2002) in Beirut. At present, he is Professor of International Relations in Political Sciences at the Institute of Political Studies in Paris and a Senior Advisor to the UN Secretary General. Ghassan Salamé is or has been on the board of the International Crisis Group, l'Institut du monde Arabe, the Arab Thought Forum, and the Haut Conseil de la Francophonie, and member of several inter-ministerial committees, notable on the reform of the Higher Education System. Author/editor of a dozen books, such as: *Quand l'Amérique refait le monde*; *Democracy without Democrats*; *The Foundations of the Arab State*; and *The Politics of Arab Integration*.

Rhonda Roland Shearer is a New York artist who has been represented by the Wildenstien Gallery since 1996, and has had numerous solo museum exhibitions, including the Knoxville Museum of Art, Knoxville, Tennessee; the Jacksonville Art Museum, Jacksonville, Florida; and the Gibbes Museum of Art in Charleston, S.C. As Director and Founder (with the late Stephen Jay Gould), of the not-for-profit Art Science Research Laboratory, she has pioneered the development of both digital publishing and interdisciplinary scholarship. As an Associate of the Harvard University Department of Psychology (1998-2000), Rhonda Roland Shearer has published over 50 articles and lectured at leading universities (Harvard, Yale, Brown) on the historical importance of new geometries in the history of art and science.



**Rhonda Roland Shearer**

USA  
member as of 2003

Leila Takla is a Professor of Law and Management and a Legal Consultant, as well as the Founding President of the Egyptian Federation of Women Lawyers, and the National Association of the Preservation of the Environment. She holds LLB, MA and PhD degrees. She is a member of many boards and international committees for legal affairs, economic reform, education, environmental and women's issues. She is the first woman in the world to be elected to chair a meeting of the World's Parliaments. She is the President of the Board of Trustees of UN Human Rights Programs, a member of the Egyptian Council of Human Rights, and of the executive Board of the National Council of Women, the Supreme Council of Culture and the Egyptian Council of Foreign Affairs. Laila Takla is author of a number of books, and is a writer and political analyst for the Al Ahram Daily newspaper.



**Leila Takla**

Egypt

Marianna Vardinoyannis is UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador and a Representative of the UNESCO Director-General for the international promotion of the Cultural Olympiads. She is an active international figure in social and cultural issues, such as peace, children's protection and health. She serves as Board Member of the "Suzanne Mubarak Women's International Peace Movement" and of the MENTOR International Foundation; and Member of the President's Council of the Special Olympics "Europe-Eurasia". She is the Founder/President of the "Foundation for the Child and the Family" and of the "ELPIDA" Friends' Association for Children with Cancer in Greece. She received the Athens Academy Award (1997) and the Golden Cross of the Order of Benefaction by the President of the Hellenic Republic (2002).



**Marianna V.  
Vardinoyannis**

Greece

William Wulf is on leave from the University of Virginia to be President of the United States National Academy of Engineering. He founded and was CEO of a software company, Tartan Laboratories. He is a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and many professional societies: ACM, IEEE, IEC, AWIS and AAAS. He is also a Foreign Member of the Australian, Chinese, Japanese, Romanian, Russian, and Spanish Academies. William Wulf headed the Directorate for Computer and Information Science and Engineering (1988-1990), and was deeply involved in the development of the High Performance Computing and Communication initiative. He is the author/co-author of three books and over 100 papers, and holds two patents concerning computer architecture.

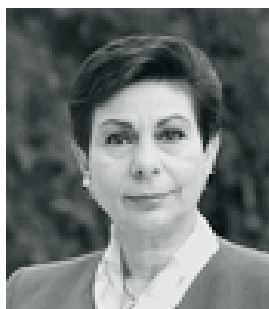


**William Wulf**

USA

## Eminent members of the Advisory Board

(formerly members of the Founding Board of Trustees)



**Hanan Ashrawi**  
member as of 2004

Hanan Ashrawi is presently the Secretary-General of the Palestinian Initiative for the Promotion of Global Dialogue and Democracy (MIFTAH). In 1996, she was elected to the Palestinian Legislative Council for Jerusalem. Hanan Ashrawi is well known as the Official Spokesperson for the Palestinian movement during the Madrid peace negotiations (1991-1993), and continues to be active in the efforts towards peace in the region. She was also a member of the Task Force on Higher Education convened by UNESCO and the World Bank.



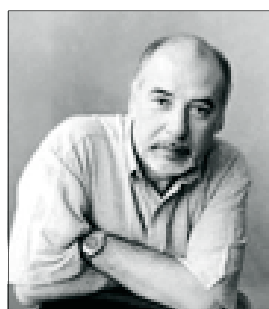
**Jacques Attali**  
member as of 2003

Jacques Attali is a leading French commentator on social and economic affairs. He is an economics theorist and a member of the Council of State in France. He is the Founder and President of PlaNet Finance, an international non-profit organization using the Internet against poverty focusing on structuring the microfinance sector.



**Farouk El Baz**  
member as of 2006

Farouk El-Baz, Research Professor and Director of the Center for Remote Sensing, Boston University, is a renowned pioneer in applying space photography to desert studies. His recommendations led to discovering groundwater resources in Egypt, Oman and U.A.E. He received numerous honors and awards, including NASA's Apollo Achievement Award, the Nevada Medal, and the Egyptian Order of Merit-First Class. He is a member of the U.S. National Academy of Engineering and the African, Arab, and Islamic Academies of Science, and TWAS.



**Tahar Ben Jelloun**  
member as of 2005

Tahar Ben Jelloun is a French writer and novelist of Moroccan descent. He has written many novels as well as books of poetry, prose and criticism. His works include *Solitaire*; *The Sand Child*; *The Sacred Night*, which received the Prix Goncourt in 1987, and *Error of Night*, which appeared in 1997. In July 2004, Taher Ben Jelloun received the IMPAC Dublin Literary Award for his novel *The Blinding Absence of Light*. He is a regular contributor to the French newspaper *Le Monde*.

Umberto Eco is currently the President of the Instituto Italiano di Studi Umanistici and Weidenfeld Lecturer, Oxford University. He has a number of honorary doctorates from Universities around the world and 16 literary awards and decorations. He is author of over 25 novels, including *The Name of the Rose*, which was enormously successful both as a novel and a film.



**Umberto Eco**  
member as of 2003

Vigdís Finnbogadóttir was President of Iceland for over a decade (1980-92), and is a well-known international figure. She is currently involved in many international activities and chairs UNESCO's World Commission on the Ethics of Scientific Knowledge and Technology. She is also a Distinguished Advisor for the International Youth Foundation, the UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador of Languages, and the Goodwill Ambassador for the Conference against Racism and Xenophobia.



**Vigdís Finnbogadóttir**  
member as of 2003

Yolanda Kakabadse is Executive President of Fundacion Futuro Latinoamericano, Ecuador, Member of the Board of Directors of the Ford Foundation, and former Minister of Environment for Ecuador. She was President of IUCN – The World Conservation Union from 1996 to 2004 and was the Executive Director of Fundacion Natura – Ecuador from 1979 to 1990. She coordinated civil society participation in the Earth Summit (1992) and has received numerous honorary orders and awards, including the “Global 500 Award” of UNEP (1992), the “Golden Ark Order” (1991) and the Zayed Prize (2001).



**Yolanda Kakabadse**  
member as of 2005

Brian Follett is Chairman of the Arts and Humanities Research Council and also of the UK's Teacher Training Agency. He is a Professor in the Department of Zoology at the University of Oxford. Previously, he was Vice-Chancellor of Warwick University (1993-2001) and Head of the Department of Zoology, University of Bristol (1978-1993). He was knighted in 1992, and served as Biological Secretary of the Royal Society (UK's Academy of Sciences) from 1987-1993. He has published approximately 300 scientific papers on biological clocks and seasonal reproduction. His involvement in libraries stems from chairing two national committees charged with improving academic library structures in the UK.

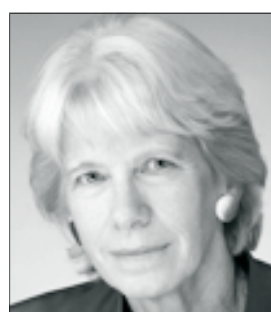


**Brian Keith Follett**  
member as of 2005



**Luis Monreal**  
member as of 2006

Luis Monreal is Professor of Museology at Barcelona University and presently General Manager of the Aga Khan Trust for Culture. He is a conservation specialist and a Professor of Art History. He has held many positions in many institutions, including Director at UNESCO; Director of the Getty Conservation Institute until 1990; and is a member of various archeological missions in Nubia, Sudan, Egypt and Morocco. He has been the Secretary-General of ICOM since 1974 and is author of numerous works on art and archeology. He is a board member of the Museo Nacional Reina Sofia and of the Gala-Salvador Dalí Foundation in Spain.



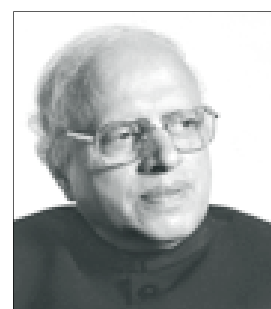
**Adele Smith Simmons**  
member as of 2004

Adele Smith Simmons is currently Vice-Chair and Senior Executive of Chicago Metropolis 2020 where she directs the not-for-profit organization's work on human capital. This work focuses on early childhood education and workforce development. She has been President of the MacArthur Foundation for ten years. In her tenure at the MacArthur Foundation, Simmons has overseen the distribution of over one billion dollars in grants. Four of the MacArthur grantees won Nobel Peace Prizes, including the leaders of the Oslo Peace Process. One of her major initiatives includes the establishment of the Energy Foundation.



**Wole Soyinka**  
member as of 2005

Wole Soyinka is winner of the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1986, and has authored more than 30 works in the medium of plays, novels, poetry and essays, many of which have received wide translation. He is active on both artistic and human rights organizations such as the International Theater Institute, the UN Commission on Human Rights, and the International Network of Asylum for Writers, of which he was the immediate former President. He is currently Dubois Fellow at Harvard University, Cambridge, Emeritus Professor of Comparative Literature at Obafemi Awolowo Nigeria, and Director of Literary Arts at the International Institute of Modern Letters, University of Nevada. Wole Soyinka has received many international honors, including serving as Goodwill Ambassador to UNESCO.



**Monkombu Swaminathan**  
India

Monkombu Swaminathan has been acclaimed by TIME magazine as one of the twenty most influential Asians of the 20th century, and one of only three from India, alongside Mahatma Gandhi and Rabindranath Tagore. A plant geneticist by training, his contributions to the agricultural renaissance of India have led to his being widely referred to as the scientific leader of the Green Revolution Movement. He has received many awards and honors including First World Food Prize; Fellowship of the Royal Society of London; and the Franklin D. Roosevelt Four Freedoms Award in 2000. He currently holds the UNESCO Chair in Ecotechnology at the M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation in Chennai, India.

Kazuo Takahashi is currently Professor, Division of International Studies, International Christian University, Tokyo, Japan. He was formerly Director of the International Development Research Institute of the Foundation of Advanced Studies on International Development in Tokyo and Visiting Professor at the University of Tokyo, Japan. Kazuo Takahashi serves on various committees of the Japanese Government and international bodies, such as the International Advisory Group for the World Bank, World Commission on Water for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, Japanese Ministry of Health and Welfare, Earth Council and Club of Tokyo.



**Kazuo Takahashi**  
member as of 2004

Carl Tham (born 1939) is presently the Ambassador of Sweden to Germany and has served in several Swedish Governments as State Secretary, Minister of Energy and Minister of Education and Science. Carl Tham was Director-General of the Swedish International Development Agency for ten years. He has served on many public commissions and committees and was a member of the task force on higher education convened by UNESCO and the World Bank. He was co-Chairman of the Independent International Commission of Kosovo and Member of the Commission of Human Security. He is currently chairman of the board of the Swedish Institute of Future Studies, Stockholm.



**Carl Tham**  
member as of 2004

Ahmed Zewail is the 1999 Nobel Laureate in Chemistry, for his pioneering development in the field of femtoscience. He is currently the Linus Pauling Chair Professor of Chemistry and Professor of Physics at Caltech (California Institute of Technology), and the Director of the Physical Biology Center for Ultrafast Science & Technology and the NSF Laboratory for Molecular Sciences. He holds thirty honorary degrees from around the world and has been widely recognized with honors and Orders of Merits. Ahmed Zewail is a member of the National Academy of Sciences, the Royal Society of London, the Russian Academy, and the French Academy among many other academies and societies.



**Ahmed Zewail**  
member as of 2006

## **In Memoriam**

Stephen Jay Gould was an active member of the Founding Board of Trustees of the Bibliotheca Alexandrina and was deeply committed to the ideals of rationality and ecumenism. He was a prolific writer and producer of scientific ideas, many that challenged theories about the mechanisms by which life has evolved and continues to evolve. He was one of the most well-known writers in science and among the few practicing scientists who had a continuing string of bestsellers on science for the general public, while remaining actively engaged with the most serious aspects of advancement of science. Science and humanistic values have lost a great champion and the Bibliotheca Alexandrina and its board lost a great friend. He will be sorely missed.

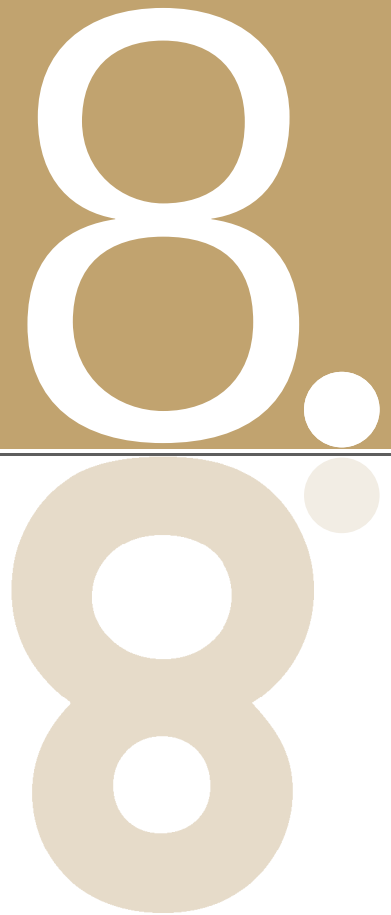


**Stephen Jay Gould**  
1941-2002

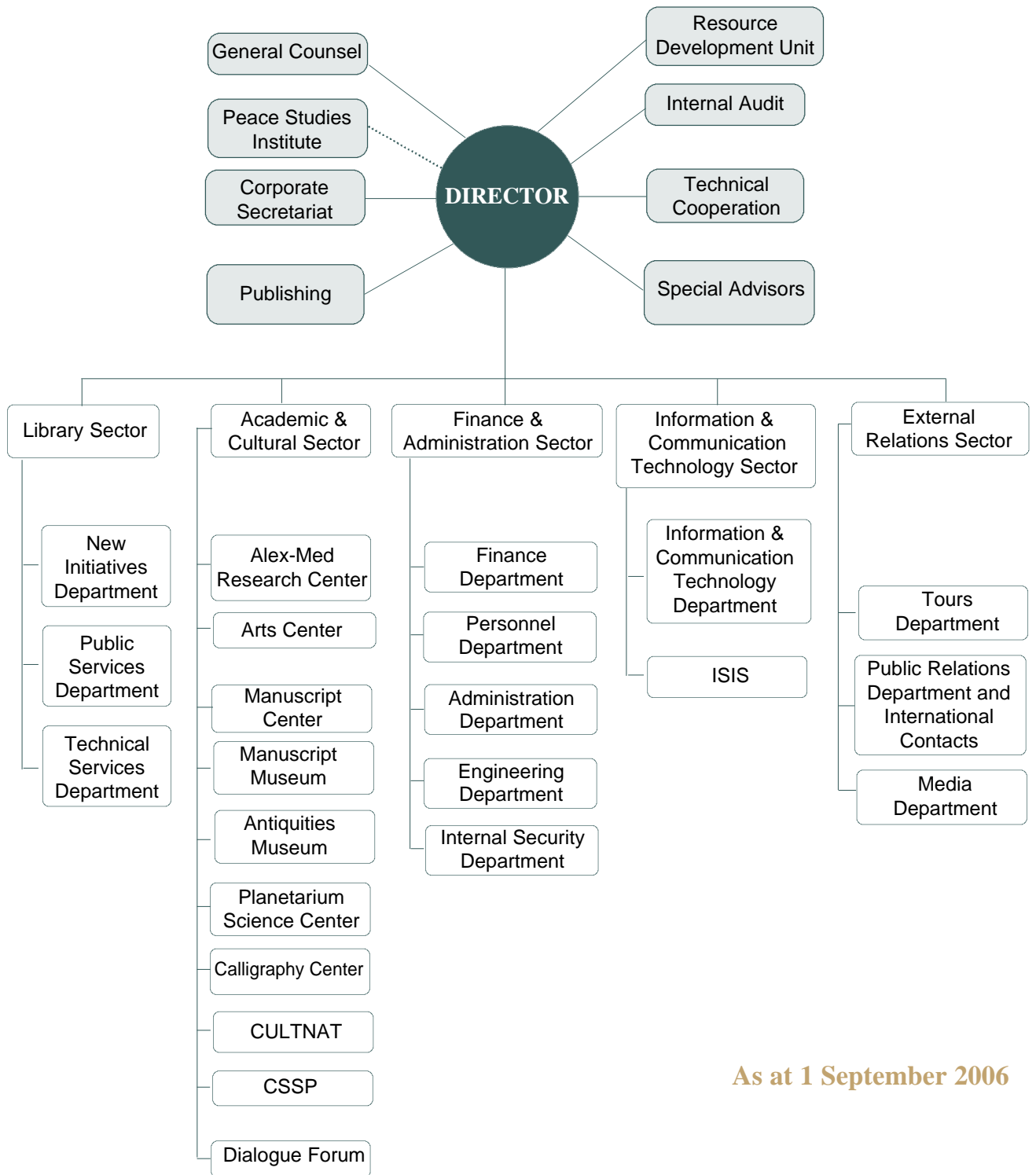




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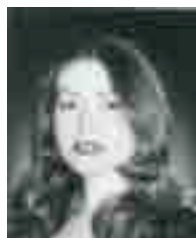


**Ismail Serageldin**  
Librarian of Alexandria  
BA Director

Ismail Serageldin, Director, Library of Alexandria, also chairs the Boards of Directors for each of the BA's affiliated research institutes and museums, and is Distinguished Professor at Wageningen University in the Netherlands. He serves as Chair and Member of a number of advisory committees for academic, research, scientific and international institutions and civil society efforts which includes the Institute d'Egypte (Egyptian Academy of Science), TWAS (The Academy of Sciences for the Developing World), the Indian National Academy of Agricultural Sciences and the European Academy of Sciences and Arts. He is Former Chairman, Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR, 1994-2000), Founder and former Chairman, the Global Water Partnership (GWP, 1996-2000) and the Consultative Group to Assist to Poorest (CGAP), a microfinance program (1995-2000). Serageldin has also served in a number of capacities at the World Bank, including as Vice President for Environmentally and Socially Sustainable Development (1992-1998), and for Special Programs (1998-2000). He has published over 50 books and monographs and over 200 papers on a variety of topics including biotechnology, rural development, sustainability, and the value of science to society. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Engineering from Cairo University and Masters' degree and a PhD from Harvard University and has received 18 honorary doctorates.

Mohamed Said El Dakkak is a Professor of International Law, Faculty of Law at Alexandria University, the former Vice-President of Alexandria University, former Dean of the Faculty of Law and Permanent Vice-President of the International Law Association based in London. He is the Secretary-General of the National Democratic Party in Alexandria, and was President of the Arab, Foreign Affairs and National Security of the Shura Council. Mohamed Said El-Dakkak is an active member of several societies, including the National Council for Human Rights.

After graduation from the Faculty of Law, Cairo University, Adel Azab was appointed to the State Council. He enjoyed an active career as he held several judiciary positions, until he was promoted to Chancellor, then Court Deputy Clerk at the State Council. His past appointments include President of the Administrative Court, Lecturer at the Faculty of Law. Adel Azab has been Vice-President of the State Council ever since 1995 and currently serves as Vice-President of the Administrative Judicial Court in Alexandria.



**Zeinab El-Ghoneimy**  
Attorney-at-Law



**Hala Essalmawi**  
Attorney-at-Law

Bernard Salomé has a diverse professional background in a wide range of international environments, including Deputy Director of the G7 Support Implementation Group in Russia and Head of the Economic Policy Office in Kosovo for the United Nations. An economist by training, Salomé graduated from the University of Paris with a degree in Business, and was awarded a PhD in Development Economics with honors from the Sorbonne, Paris. He is author of eight books on development issues and seven World Bank Reports.



**Hala Abdel Wahab**  
Head of Resource  
Development Unit

## Legal Department



**Mohamed Said El-Dakkak**

Director / General Counsel



**Adel Azab**

Consultant

## Resource Development



**Bernard Salomé**

Special Representative  
of the Director

## Technical Cooperation



**Abdel Latif Hassan**  
Director, Technical Cooperation  
(Head of Sector)

Abdel Latif Hassan was former General Manager of Administration and Financial Affairs at Alexandria University. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree and a Diploma of Education. He has been involved in carrying out the directions of the strategy of the BA Director in all fields, including leading the team prior to, during and following the inauguration of the Bibliotheca Alexandrina. Abdel Latif Hassan has vast experience in the fields of administration, finance and governmental affairs.

## Internal Audit Department



**Mohamed Mansour**  
Deputy Director

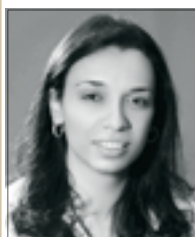
Mohamed Mansour graduated from the Faculty of Law, Alexandria University in 1983. In 1985 he was Financial and Administrative auditor for the Central Auditing Organization. Between 2003 and 2004, he worked as a consultant for the Director of the Bibliotheca Alexandrina and in October 2004 was assigned as Deputy Director for Internal Audit.

## Dialogue Forum



**Mohsen Youssef**  
Director Dialogue Forum,  
Senior Advisor for Special  
Projects

Mohsen Youssef was an Education and Human Resources Specialist at the World Bank and UNESCO. His professional career includes expert work in the fields of media and microfinance projects to help the poor, especially women. Mohsen Youssef is a major organizer of professional conferences and workshops on environment, sustainable development, and fighting poverty and hunger. He conducted several research studies on community development, labor migration, youth employment, microfinance, education, partnership, freedom of expression and information and labor markets.



**Mai El-Hennawi**  
Head of Advisors  
Unit



**Nazek El-Wakeel**  
Head of Advisory  
Committees and  
Special Projects Unit



**Hanan El-Rakkad**  
Head of Arabic  
Reform Forum  
Conference Unit



**Nayrouz Rizk**  
Head of InfoMall  
and Youth  
Activities Unit

Hanan Mounir has had extensive experience in various international and multinational organizations. Her last post was with the World Health Organization, Regional Office Alexandria, in Personnel and later in the division dealing with the World Development Program.



**Rania El-Bahtimi**  
Head of Secretariat Unit

Olfat Gafour holds a Diploma in Linguistics and Literature. She served in the World Health Organization, Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean, for a long time. She started her career as Supply Officer, and later in publishing setting up the Publications Control Section in the Regional Office. She acquired varied experience in the field of publishing through her dealings both locally and internationally.



**Hanan Mounir**  
Director



**Olfat Gafour**  
Director

Heba El-Rafey holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in European Studies (Italian and Management) from London University, 1995, and an Advanced Certificate in Marketing from the Chartered Institute of Marketing, 1998, UK. She has worked in both the UK and Egypt prior to her appointment at the Bibliotheca Alexandrina, where her career has progressed through a number of capacities, until her most recent position as Deputy Director of the Publishing Department. Heba El-Rafey has a multi-cultural background and can converse in five languages.



**Mohamed Abdelnasser**  
Head of BA  
Website Unit



**Noha Omar**  
Head of Translation &  
Language Control Unit



**Heba El-Rafey**  
Deputy Director

## Corporate Secretariat

## Publishing Department



# LIBRARY SECTOR



**Sohair Fahmy Wastawy**

Chief Librarian / Sector Head

Sohair F. Wastawy received her Bachelor of Arts, Masters degree and completed work towards her PhD thesis in Linguistics at Cairo University, Egypt. She also holds an MLS from the Catholic University of America and a Doctorate degree in Library and Information Management from Simmons College, USA. She has been a practitioner in the information field since 1975 and was previously the Dean of Libraries at Illinois Institute of Technology in Chicago from 1988 until 2004.

## New Initiatives Department



**Rehab Ouf**

Director

Rehab Ouf began her librarianship career at the BA in 1998 as a cataloger and later was in charge of launching and leading the Electronic Resources Unit. In 2004, she became the Technical Assistant to the Chief Librarian. She is an active professional who frequently participates in the organization of national workshops, training other librarians and publishing. She is the country coordinator for eIFL.net. Rehab Ouf holds a Bachelor's degree in French Literature and a professional degree in Library and Information Science from the ENSSIB in France. She recently received an achievement award from the Egyptian Library Association.

## Public Services Department



**Omnia Fatallah**

Director

Omnia Fathallah joined the BA in 1993 when the Library was in its inception stage. She participated in the implementation of the BA integrated library system and worked in a number of capacities as a cataloger, collection development librarian, information services specialist, leader of research and projects, and supervisor of the Documentation and Reserach teams. In 2001, she became the Reserach Unit Leader and in 2004, the Head of the Public Services Section. She was responsible for the organization of many international scholarly events and publications.



**Rania Shaarawy**  
Head of Depository  
& Government  
Collection Unit



**Manar Badr**  
Head of Reference  
Services Unit



**Suzanne Samir**  
Head of Instructional  
Services Unit

## Technical Services Department

Manal Amin has been associated with the `Bibliotheca Alexandrina since 1996. She began her career as a cataloger for English, Greek and Latin collections. In 1998, she became a senior cataloger and later worked in a number of capacities as collection development librarian, member of research projects and system librarian. She was responsible for the BA integrated library system and the database maintenance. In 2001, she became the Cataloging Unit Leader and in 2004, Head of the Technical Services Section. Manal Amin has a Bachelor degree in Greco-Roman Studies from the University of Alexandria.



**Manal Amin**

Director



**Amr Abdelmoneim**  
Head of Material Processing Unit



**Iman El-Arnaoute**  
Head of Gifts and Exchange Unit



**Hend El-Shinnawi**  
Head of Acquisitions Unit



**Gina Younis**  
Head of Integrated Library System Unit



**Azza Madian**  
Head of Arts & Multimedia Library Section



**Marwa El-Sahn**  
Head of Arts & Multimedia Library



**Ashraf Sakr**  
Head of Arts & Multimedia Processing Unit



**Ronya Naim**  
Head of Enabling Infrastructure Section



**Lamia Abdelfattah**  
Head of Digital Library Services Section



**Nermine Ghaly**  
Access Services Section



**Ingy Abdel-Kader**  
Head of Children's Library Unit



**Sherine Said**  
Head of Young People's Library Unit



**Osama Zakaria**  
Head of Taha Hussein Library Unit

## ACADEMIC & CULTURAL SECTOR



**Yehia Halim Zaky**

Sector Head

Yehia Halim Zaky is Professor of Radiology at the Faculty of Medicine, Alexandria University, and President of the Association of the French Speaking Physicians in Alexandria. He received his doctorate in radio-diagnosis in 1974, attended the Institut National des Sciences et Techniques Nucleaires, Saclay, France, and received a DEA in Science from Paris, France, in 1971. He is the former Dean of the Faculty of Medicine at Alexandria University. He is also a member in a number of social committees. His extensive experience and relations enables him to act as a link and coordinator between the University of Alexandria and its various faculties, the Governorate of Alexandria and the Bibliotheca Alexandrina.

### The Alexandria and Mediterranean Research Center (Alex-Med)



**Mohamed Awad**

Director

Mohamed Awad is an historian of architecture, a practicing architect, a conservationist, and the founder of the Alexandria Preservation Trust, an NGO for the documentation and protection of Alexandria's architectural heritage. Mohamed Awad also teaches at the Faculty of Engineering, Alexandria University. He publishes and lectures extensively, both in Egypt and abroad, on the modern history of Alexandria and its built environment. A leading expert in the field, Mohamed Awad has been campaigning for the past thirty years for the preservation of Alexandria's urban heritage.



**Sahar Hamouda**

Deputy Director

Sahar Hamouda is a Professor at the Department of English Language and Literature, Alexandria University, and was the acting chairperson at Beirut Arab University. Her publications include translations and studies on comparative literature, postcolonial issues, and Alexandrian modern history. Sahar Hamouda was the recipient of the 2004 Alexandria University Research Award.

## Arts Center

Sherif Mohie El Din received a degree in conducting from France, and a Master in Musicology from the Cairo Conservatoire, where he was appointed as instructor in 1987. He was the Artistic Director of the “Citadel Festival of Music and Song” (1989-2001). He is the founder of the Akhenaton and Cairo Chamber Orchestras, the former Arts Director and Principal Conductor of the first Chamber Orchestra in Alexandria, and former Managing Director of the Cairo Opera Orchestra. He was granted a Fulbright Scholarship for Arts Management at the American University in Washington D.C., 2004. He celebrated the 20<sup>th</sup> year of this musical career by releasing a set of CDs containing all his musical compositions, 2004.



**Sherif Mohie El Din**

Director



**Mahmoud Abou Doma**

Consultant of Arts Center Director  
& Head of Programs Unit



**Shady Abdel Salam**

Head of BA Orchestra  
Unit



**Mohamed Taha**

Head of Technical  
Unit



**Gamal Hosni**

Head of Exhibition and Art  
Collection Section



**Sherouk Talaat**

Head of Exhibition  
Unit



**Nancy Mamdouh**

Head of Art  
Collection Unit



**Mayada Wassef**

Head of Graphic and  
Printing Section



**Hany Saber**

Head of Graphics Design



**Ossama Khalil**

Head of Print Shop

## Manuscript Center and Manuscript Museum



**Youssef Ziedan**  
Director

Youssef Ziedan is a professor of Islamic philosophy and a renowned specialist in Arabic heritage. He published more than 45 books on different fields of Arabic philosophy, science and culture. Of his 45 books, his critical edition of Ibn al-Nafis' voluminous medical encyclopedia (30 volumes) stands out as a major academic achievement. He is also one of the early exponents of content industry related to heritage in the digital age. He prepared a number of multimedia products that illustrate the enormous scope of Arabic intellectual and scientific heritage.



**Hussein Kamal**  
Head of Rare Collections Section



**Ramy El-Gamal**  
Head of Academic Activities & Specialized Translation Section



**Mohamed Soliman**  
Head of Heritage Publishing Section



**Sherine El-Sawy**  
Head of Restoration Section



**Noha Amrawy**  
Head of Copying and External Exchange Unit



**Tharwat Hendawy**  
Head of Administration Unit



**Mohamed Mustafa**  
Head of Microfilm Section



**Sherif El-Masry**  
Head of Microfilm Archive Unit



**Ahmed Moussa**  
Head of Museum Display Unit



**Noha Hammouda**  
Head of Rare Possessions Unit

## Antiquities Museum



**Badreya Serry**  
Director

Badreya Serry is a specialist in Greco-Roman civilization. She was curator of the Coptic Department in the Alexandria Greco-Roman Museum for 25 years, where she took part in the renovation of the Greco-Roman Museum and its Coptic Department in 1984 and 1995 respectively. Joining the Bibliotheca Alexandrina in 1999, she was involved in setting up the Antiquities Museum, compiling, registering and cataloging the items to be displayed. She has held two exhibitions in France 1998 and in Italy 2003 and has participated in numerous conferences including the International Congress of Egyptology (France 2004) and the International Committee of ICOM (Egypt 2005).

## Planetarium Science Center (PSC)

Hoda Elmikaty received her Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Communication from the University of Alexandria, Faculty of Engineering, and a Masters degree in Parallel Processing from the University of Liverpool, England. She joined the Research Center at the Arab Academy for Science and Technology, where she assisted in various simulation projects. She joined the BA team in the Construction Monitoring Unit during the Library's construction phase, where she supervised the deployment of the Building Management System and Fire Alarm systems. In 2000, she took over the management of the PSC where she introduced the first hands-on facility for school children in Alexandria. She is a member of several scientific, cultural and social committees and societies.



**Hoda Elmikaty**

Director



**Omar Fikry**  
Head of Shows and Programs Unit (Planetarium)



**Ayman El-Sayed**  
Head of Design and Fabrication Unit



**Mohamed El-Sayed**  
Head of Events and Programs Unit (ALEXploratorium)

## Center for Special Studies & Programs (CSSP)

Mohamed El-Faham is a Professor of Electrical Engineering at the Arab Academy for Science & Technology, Alexandria. He received his BSc from Alexandria University and his MSc and DSc from George Washington University. He is a Senior Member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE), and is author/co-author of a number of publications. As Director of CSSP, he organizes a number of major annual scientific and technological conferences, and supports young Egyptian researchers through establishing sustainable networks of international collaboration.



**Mohamed El-Faham**

Director



**Amani Massoud**  
Head of Scientific Activities Unit



**Eiman Elmasry**  
Head of Grants and Research Activities Unit



**Omnia Darwish**  
Center Activities Coordinator

## Center for the Documentation of Cultural & Natural Heritage (CULTNAT)



**Fathi Saleh**

Head of Sector

Fathi Saleh is a Professor at the Department of Computer Engineering, Cairo University. He held the posts of Ambassador and permanent delegate to UNESCO (1997-99), Cultural Councilor at the Egyptian Embassy in Paris (1995-97), Chairman of the Computer Engineering Department, Faculty of Engineering, Cairo University (1993-95); and Professor of Computer Engineering, Faculty of Engineering, Cairo University (1980-93). He was a member of the UNESCO International Advisory Committee for Memory of the World Program, a World Bank listed consultant on developmental projects, and UNDP Consultant. He is also the President of the Herimed Associations for documentation, preservation and valorization of Mediterranean Heritage.



**Eglal Bahgat**

Senior Deputy Director

Eglal Bahgat is an expert in Documentation and Knowledge Management. She initiated and managed several national projects including: the implementation of the first Arabic software for Arab libraries, the National Project of Automating Egyptian Libraries and the Development of Egyptian Libraries Network. She now manages the Automation of the National Archives of Egypt Project. She is an active board member in a number of organizations related to libraries and documentation, such as the Integrated Care Society, the Mubarak Public Library, and the Maadi Public Library.



**Reem Bahgat**

Deputy Director

Reem Bahgat is a Professor of Computing and Chairman of the Computer Science Department at Faculty of Computers and Information Cairo University. She obtained her PhD degree from Imperial College, London University in 1991. Reem Bahgat published a number of papers and books in the past decade. In addition to her research interest in multi-agent systems, she has directed many projects in the documentation of Egypt's tangible heritage, including ones that won international awards. She is a member of several national and international committees on Information Technology and Communication.



**Hala Barakat**

Deputy Director

Hala N. Barakat has a PhD in Paleoecology from the University of Aix-Marseille III, France. She is an associate professor of Botany at the Faculty of Science, Cairo University. She is deputy director at CULTNAT and is in charge of the documentation of the natural heritage program as well as supervising the photographic heritage, folkloric heritage and musical heritage programs at CULTNAT.



**Mohamed Farouk**  
Head of Information  
Technology Section



**Ayman Khoury**  
Head of Imaging  
Section



**Yasmine Maher**  
Head of Intangible  
Heritage Section



**Malak Wahba**  
Head of Tangible  
Heritage Section



**Nabil Abdel-Azim**  
Head of Site  
Operation Section



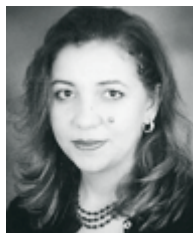
**Hind Mostafa**  
Head of International  
Relations Unit



**Eman Elshaboury**  
Head of Eternal  
Egypt Unit



**Tarek El-Hadary**  
Head of Finance  
Unit



**Lamia Fangary**  
Head of Public  
Relations Unit



**Ahmed Hassouna**  
Head of  
Folklore Unit



**Mohamed Nabil**  
Head of Research and  
Development Unit



**Mohamed Ali**  
Head of Technical  
Support Unit



**Moataz Mahmoud**  
Head of Culturama  
System Unit



**Sanae Amr**  
Head of  
Transportation Unit

Khaled Azab holds a PhD in Islamic Monuments from Cairo University. He has participated in several pertinent conferences and has published several books on archeology. Khaled Azab worked as an editor and correspondent in Al Hayat and Afaq newspapers as well as other Arab newspapers, and was Head of Archeological Inspectors between 1994 and 2001.

## Calligraphy Center



**Khaled Mohamed Azab**  
Deputy Director



## FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION SECTOR



**Yehia Mansour**

Sector Head

### Finance Department



**Mohsen Ali Shafie**

Director



**Khaled Mahdy**  
Deputy Director

Yehia Mansour was a former Contract Administrator for international companies in the Gulf States and Egypt. His experience in foreign and local management practices for finance, internal audits, project accounting, budgets and accounting has enabled him to run an effective and efficient financial operation.

Mohsen Shafie was a Financial Manager at EECC (Mitsushita) and Emedic for twenty years in Saudi Arabia and Egypt before joining the Bibliotheca Alexandrina. Among his chief responsibilities are preparing the annual operating and capital budgets, implementing the organizations costing systems, and controlling all banking activities.

Khaled Mahdy began his career with Americana Group as a cost accountant and worked his way up to the position of Assistant Financial Manager within six years. He has diversified experience in all fields of accounting and in computerized accounting systems. He is currently studying to obtain his CMA.



**Magda Hatata**

Supervisor Document Control



**Mahmoud Askar**

Head of Cashier Section



**Mohamed Akl**

Supervisor Banks,  
Revenue & Fixed Assets



**Noha Zakzouk**

Supervisor Government  
Accounting - Register and Payable



**Passant Moustafa**

Supervisor Pudget and  
Finaanced Project Accounts

Mohamed Metwaly is a general manager of accounting, Ministry of Finance. A graduate of the Faculty of Commerce, Alexandria University, he has held various positions in different authorities and governmental organizations, including: Alexandria University, landing authorities, the Ministry of Housing, Ministry of Supply, and Ministry of Health & Financial Inspection at the Ministry of Finance. He has been a member of the BA team since 1996.



**Mohamed Metwalli**  
Director, Government  
Accounting

## Personnel Department

Rafik Nakhla is a graduate pharmacist by training. He holds a Master degree in Quality Management from the University of Wolverhampton, UK. After five years of training and sales experience in the pharmaceutical industry, he became a management consultant. He is a lecturer of Sales and Marketing at the American University in Cairo since 1991, as well as a visiting lecturer with the Arab Academy Graduate School of Business since 2002. He participated in several conferences in the BA; Biotechnology voices of the north and the south in 2002, Ethical and Social Responsibility of Science and Technology 2002, Teaching Math and Science in the 21st century 2003 and BioVision Alexandria 2004.



**Rafik Nakhla**  
Director

Alaa El-Shinnawi is a retired colonel with extensive experience in administration, security and information systems. He is the former Head of the Computer Branch at the Military Hospital of Alexandria, the Financial Information Systems Branch at the Egyptian Naval Forces, the Information Systems Branch at the Alexandria Military Enlistment Zone, and the Military Research Branch at the Information Systems Institute. Alaa El-Shinnawi was also responsible for Personnel Management at all levels during his 24 years service with the Armed Forces.



**Alaa El-Shinnawi**  
Deputy Director



**Rania Nassar**  
Personnel Officer  
(Head of Unit)



**Marwa Wagdy**  
Head of Training  
Unit



**Naglaa Ibrahim**  
Head of Benefits Unit

## Administration Department



**Tawfik El-Nahas**

Director

Tawfik El-Nahas was formally the General Manager of Orascom Distribution Company and before a banker at the Arab International Bank. He has extensive experience in management, sales, marketing and financial management and is currently working on a PhD thesis on “The effect of internal marketing and employee’s behavior on customer satisfaction and organization branding” in the context of the Bibliotheca Alexandrina.



**Mohamed Elsamak**

Deputy Director

Mohammed El-Sammak has been a member of the BA family since April 1997 and supervised and followed-up the arrangements of all events held by the BA. He was Deputy Director of the Security and Administrative Affairs Department at the Paradise Inn, Montazah Palace (1995-1996). In 1973 he joined the Armed Forces and retired as a Colonel in 1994. He has extensive experience in administration, leadership, education, and public relation as well as electrical equipment maintenance.



**Mohammed Allam**  
Head of Conference  
Halls Section



**Rehab Ezz El-Din**  
Head of Coordination and  
Follow-up Unit



**Marwa Mahdy**  
Head of Halls  
Preparation Unit



**Eslam Youssif**  
Head of Purchasing &  
Custom Clearance Section



**Alyaa Aly**  
Head of Travel &  
Transport Section



**Omnia Abdel Tawab**  
Head of Travel Unit



**Ramadan Ahmed**  
Head of Transport  
Unit



**Hanan Abdel-Razek**  
Head of Conferences  
and Events Section



**Ingy Gad**  
Head of Sales Unit



**Yasser Elsis**  
Head of Stores &  
Inventory Control  
Unit



**Cherine El-Bakly**  
Head of Registry &  
Archive Unit

## Engineering Department

Tarek Yassin is a civil engineer who worked with Snøhetta/Hamza Consortium during the construction phases of the Library building; as Chief Field Engineer during Phase I and Engineer Representative during Phase II. He was Senior Field Engineer at Dillingham/ABBSUSA and held various engineering and management positions in Egypt and Saudi Arabia.



**Tarek Ahmed Yassin Essawy**

Director

Walid EL-Morsy is a civil engineer, graduating from the Faculty of Engineering Alex University in 1992. He joined several projects under the American Corps of Engineers Consultancy as a Paving Engineer Supervisor for several international construction companies such as Dillingham ABB SUSA-Contract International Incorporation. He was a part of the team involved in the two phases of the construction of the Bibliotheca Alexandrina, as a Senior Quality Control Structure Engineer. Walid El-Morsy also previously worked for ONYX complimentary services as Landfill Site Manager and as Owner Representative Engineer for Alex National Steel Dekhela (ANSDK) during the steel sheets factory construction period.



**Walid El-Morsy**

Deputy Director,  
Engineering Department

Mohamed Attwa is an Electro-Mechanical Engineer. He graduated from the Faculty of Engineering, Mansoura University in 1970. He joined civil companies as a Consultant Engineer in Alex Shipyard, for the repairing and maintenance department as the First Engineer and Shift Engineer in passenger and cargo ship between 1971-1989. He also worked as a Shift Engineer from 1989 to 2000 as Director of Engineering for Sheraton floating hotel in Luxor, and later from 2001 to 2006 as the Director of Engineering for the Sheraton hotel itself. He received a President Award from ITT International Cooperation in 1995, and again in 2002 from Star Wood International Cooperation. He is a member of the Society of Navel Engineers.



**Mohamed Attwa**

Deputy Director,  
Engineering Department



**Hassan Rihan**  
Head of QS Section



**Talaat Badawy**  
Head of Electrical  
Power Unit



**Lewa El-Din Hegazy**  
Head of Audio-Visual  
Unit



**Ahmed Khamees**  
Head of Garden and  
Landscape Unit



**Atef Milad**  
Head of  
Secretarial Unit



**Eid Zeidan**  
Head of Pest  
Control Unit



**Osama Abdel Kader**  
Head of Construction  
Unit



**Mohamed El-Sabagh**  
Head of Mechanical  
Unit



**Ahmed Abdel Aziz**  
Head of Low  
Current Unit



**Aly Hassan**  
Head of Material  
Control Unit



**Mohamed El-Ghayesh**  
Head of  
Chemical Unit



**Faten Merziban**  
Head of Interior  
Design Unit



**Hanaa Sharabash**  
Head of Exhibition  
and Conference  
Preparation Unit



**Ehab Abdel Rahman**  
Head of  
Electro-Mechanical  
Unit



**Radwa Elamir**  
Head of  
Secretarial Unit

## Internal Security Department



**Sherif Ammar**  
Director

Sherif Ammar has extensive experience in police and disciplinary works, legal and criminal investigations, and public tourist security and conference security arrangements. A holder of President Mubarak's Medal of Excellence, he has also received several awards from the Minister of Interior as well as certificates of merit from various Egyptian universities. His previous appointments include: Deputy Director, Alexandria University Security, Medical, Scientific and Engineering Faculties (2000-2001); Director/Assistant to the Minister of Interior Bureau, Alexandria (1991-2000); Head of Investigations Unit, Tourism and Monuments Police, Alexandria; and Head of Security Unit, Egyptian Museum, Cairo.



**Nagi Anas**  
Head of Internal Security  
Section



**Awadallah Fouda**  
Head of Industrial  
Safety Unit



**Salah Thabet**  
Head of Public  
Safety Unit



**Tamer El-Awa**  
Head of Keys and  
Reception Unit



**Mohamed Hashem**  
Supervisor Public  
Safety Unit



**Mohamed Hany**  
Head of External  
Aceas Security Unit



**Samy El-Leithy**  
Supervisor Public  
Safety Unit



**Hossam El-Din Mohamed**  
Supervisor Public  
Safety Unit



**Yasser Abdel-Rahman**  
Supervisor Public  
Safety Unit



**Mahmoud Abdel Salam**  
Supervisor Public  
Safety Unit



**Mohamed Alyan**  
Supervisor Public  
Safety Unit



**Mohamed Zaki**  
Supervisor Public  
Safety Unit



**Wael Shams**  
Supervisor Public  
Safety Unit



**Mahmoud Attia**  
Supervisor Public  
Safety Unit



**Mahmoud Nekheila**  
Supervisor Industrial  
Safety Unit



**Tamer Mohamed**  
Supervisor Public  
Safety Unit



**Ahmed Ali Ibrahim**  
Supervisor Public  
Safety Unit



**Mohamed Abou El-Yazid**  
Supervisor Public  
Safety Unit



**Ihab Fahmy**  
Supervisor Public  
Safety Unit



**Mohamed Eid**  
Supervisor Public  
Safety Unit



**Mohamed Abdel-Fattah**  
Supervisor Public  
Safety Unit

# INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY SECTOR



**Magdy Hussein Nagi**  
Sector Head

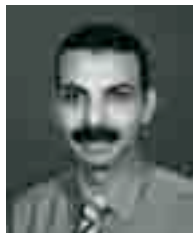
Magdy Nagi is a Professor in the Computer and Systems Engineering Department, Faculty of Engineering, Alexandria University. He obtained his PhD in 1974 from the University of Karlsruhe, Germany, where he was a lecturer in Computer Engineering. His research interests are in operating systems, database systems, data warehousing, data mining and mobile computing. He is author/co-author of over 80 scientific papers, and is a consultant in the field of informatics to quite a number of national and international firms.

## ISIS & ICT Department



**Noha Adly**  
Director

Noha Adly is Associate Professor at the Computer and Systems Engineering Department, Faculty of Engineering, Alexandria University, Egypt. She obtained her PhD from Cambridge University, and has been a research associate and visiting researcher at the AT&T Research Lab, Cambridge, UK. Noha Adly has been a consultant for information systems to several firms. She is author/co-author of over 25 publications in the field of Computer Science, a recipient of several awards, and a member of the IEEE and ACM as well as various scientific and cultural committees and societies.



**Youssef Salah**  
Head of Operation and  
Technical Support  
Section



**Ahmed Samir**  
Project Manager



**Youssef Mikhail**  
Head of System  
Administration Unit



**Shymaa Ibrahim**  
Project Manager



**Rami Rouchdi**  
Head of Digital Lab  
Unit (ISIS)



**Aleya Rashad**  
PR & Administrative  
Affairs Coordinator



**Mohamed Yakout**  
Project Manager



**Islam Moursy**  
Technical Project Leader



**Noha Khalil**  
Head of Training and  
Documentation Unit



**Mohamed Zaghloul**  
Head of Communication  
Unit and Technical Support  
Unit



**Mohamed Hafez**  
Project Manager



**Samer Barakat**  
Project Manager



**Youssef El-Dakar**  
Project Manager

## EXTERNAL RELATIONS SECTOR

Taher A. Khalifa is Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary. His career with the foreign affairs began in 1968, where he served in several departments of the MFA, including Cabinet Ministers offices and many Egyptian Embassies, and was the Ambassador for Egypt to Denmark, the Republic of Lithuania and the Republic of Chile. Taher A. Khalifa has received a number of decorations for his diplomatic service and distinguished awards.



**Taher Khalifa**  
Sector Head

### Tours Department

Sherine Gaafar has been associated with the Bibliotheca Alexandrina since 1995. She began her career as a cataloger at the Bibliotheca Alexandrina for French and Spanish books. Later, she trained in public relations and customer services in Paris, and became the supervisor, and ultimately, Director of the Visits Department, in 2002. Sherine Gaafar received her Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Alexandria, Faculty of Arts, Library and Information Science Department. She is a member of social committees and societies.



**Sherine Gaafar**  
Director



**Nourhan Abdel-Aziz**  
Head of Reception Unit



**Yasmine Alexan**  
Head of Visits Unit



## Public Relations & International Contacts Department



**Sherif Riad**

Director

Sherif Riad has an extensive background in public relations. He was the Chamberlain of the Presidency at the Office of H.E. President Mubarak, where he was a member of the team responsible for the Protocol of the Presidency. He is also the former Corporate Relationship Manager at Barclays Bank, Credit and Marketing Manager of Citibank for the Middle East and North Africa; and auditor at the Central Agency for Auditing and the Credit and Marketing Manager for the Egyptian American Bank.



**Mona El-Nashar**

Deputy Director

Mona El Nashar obtained her Bachelor of Arts degree in English Language and Literature from the University of Alexandria, and began her career as an English teacher and teacher trainer in Egypt and Iraq, and a translator at the Ministry of Planning, Baghdad, Iraq. She is a member of the Friends of the Environment and Friends of Classical Music and Arts Associations in Alexandria, founding member of the Egyptian Association for Friends of the Bibliotheca Alexandrina, and member of the CEOSS Alexandria Committee for the Dialogue of Cultures.

## Media Department



**Khaled Mohamed Azab**

Director

Khaled Azab holds a PhD in Islamic Monuments from Cairo University. He has participated in several pertinent conferences and has published several books on archeology. Khaled Azab worked as an editor and correspondent in Al Hayat and Afaq newspapers as well as other Arab newspapers, and was Head of Archeological Inspectors between 1994 and 2001.



**Mona Helmy**

Head of Archive and  
Press Center (Unit)

■ This department also comprises the following:

- Editorial Unit

## **Special Advisors to the BA Director**

**Layla Abdehady**  
**Abdelhalim Nureldin**  
**Salah Soliman**

## **Consultants to BA Sectors/Centers/Departments**

### **Alex-Med**

**Mostafa El-Arabi**  
**Yasser Aref**  
**Ahmed Attia**  
**Ali Bakr**  
**Mokhtar El Wessimi**

### **CULTNAT**

**Mohamed Abdel-Dayem**  
**Feisal Abdel-Halim**  
**Mohamed Abdel-Maksoud**  
**Mohamed Abdel-Rahman**  
**Heba Barakat**  
**Sherif Bahaa Eldin**  
**Mohamed Fekry**  
**Isis Gabrawy**

### **Library Sector**

**Moustafa El-Abbady**  
**Mona Haggag**  
**Mayssa El-Nayal**

### **Arts Center**

**Samir Farid**  
**Mustafa El-Razzaz**  
**Hussein El-Shaboury**

### **Dialogue Forum**

**Gaber Asfour**  
**M. Salah Eldin Fadl**  
**Kadry Hefni**  
**Iman El-Kaffass**  
**Maha Moaz**  
**Mohamed El-Sharnouby**  
**Elsayed Yassin**

### **Security**

**Mohamed Noaman**



**BA Friends**

9

9

# BA INTERNATIONAL FRIENDS

**T**he Egyptian Friends Association is only of thirty-four other BA Friends associations in the world. The associations are instrumental in:

1. Giving lectures
2. Raising funds for the BA
3. Providing grants to support training for BA staff
4. Organizing cultural events
5. Offering donations, mainly in the form of books

Among the thirty-four associations, the Moroccan Friends Association is the only other Arab association. The Mauritanian Union of Libraries is another Arabic speaking country currently in the process of establishing an association in Nouakchott, Mauritania. On the other hand, there are six associations in the United States and Canada alone.

Since the opening of the new Library of Alexandria, the International friends have established a tradition of holding an annual meeting at the Bibliotheca Alexandria to assess performance, witness the BA's new achievements and discuss ways of promoting the Library in their respective countries. This year, their ninth meeting will take place from 1–3 November 2006.

The Association of Friends mostly comprises academic professionals, high-level librarians, and executives. They constitute the mainstay of the Library as they provide the foundation for academic research, technical know how, and financial support.

Within the framework of the Library's goals, some friends have hosted librarians, provided internships for the BA staff, and provided bibliographies and meaningful book contributions. They have toured giving lectures, writing articles and helping bring about agreements with various libraries. An outcome of such an agreement culminated in the establishment of the Nobel Section of the Library, a donation by the Swedish Friends. They have even helped finalize an agreement for building an aquarium in Alexandria. Ismail Serageldin signed this agreement on behalf of the Governor of Alexandria during his last visit to the United States.

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BA Friends





**Publications**

**10.**

10.



# PUBLICATIONS

2005



## Books

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## CDs

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- مكتبة الإسكندرية. مركز المخطوطات. لوحات ريو: افتتاح قناة السويس: رحلة الملوك. قرص مدمج. الإسكندرية: مكتبة الإسكندرية، ٢٠٠٥.
- مكتبة الإسكندرية. مركز المخطوطات. لوحات ريو: رحلة عبر القناة. قرص مدمج. الإسكندرية: مكتبة الإسكندرية، ٢٠٠٥.
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## 2006

## Books

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