



Библиотека Александрина  
مكتبة الإسكندرية

# Annual Report

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JULY 2006 - JUNE 2007

BIBLIOTHECA ALEXANDRINA

### **Bibliotheca Alexandrina Cataloging-in-Publication Data**

Bibliotheca Alexandrina.

Annual Report/Bibliotheca Alexandrina. - V.1 (2004)-. - Alexandria:

Bibliotheca Alexandrina, c2004-

v. cm.

Annual

1. Bibliotheca Alexandrina -- Periodicals. 2. Libraries -- Egypt -- Alexandria -- Periodicals. I. Title.

027.0621 --dc21

2006255738

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Printed in EGYPT

2000 copies



# PROFILE

## **Mission**

*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.*

## **Objectives**

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





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HE Mrs Suzanne Mubarak





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# FOREWORD

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This year's Annual Report is very special as it will be coming out at the time of the celebration of the fifth anniversary of the Bibliotheca Alexandrina (BA). What an exhilarating journey those five years have been! A separate publication will recount the full array of achievements of these five momentous years: millions of visitors, thousands of events, a true meeting place for dialogue between people and cultures. From scientific seminars to concerts, from discussions of citizenship to the development of youthful talents, the BA, the New Library of Alexandria, is indeed a worthy heir to the Ancient Library of Alexandria.

As is traditionally done in our annual reports, we have chosen a theme to highlight. This year it is the world of Art, for it is a dimension of culture that is not usually associated with the BA and yet it is one where the BA has done much, and continues to do much.

Ultimately, whether through music, painting or other artistic means of expression, Art has a way of crossing boundaries, and speaking directly to people of different cultures. It reinforces the bonds of our common humanity, and brings us closer together where discussions of economics and politics can drive us apart. Art celebrates the human spirit, just by being Art.

Celebrating our fifth anniversary is reflected in the choice of the Report's cover. By our selection of this design we are making a point. The logo of the BA is made up of a mosaic of tiny portraits of the staff. This is a salute to our young and dedicated staff, for it is they who have made the BA what it is today. It is their interaction with our visitors, the public and readers, which created this unique atmosphere and ensured the genuine achievements of this institution. These achievements, when taken together over the five years, speak of peace and humanity, of culture and dialogue, of rationality and expression, of science and art.

As the Bibliotheca Alexandrina passes this important milestone, it seems well on its way to realize the ambitious goals we have set for it. I sincerely hope that all our visitors and readers will, by their presence, continue to translate our hopes into reality.

**Suzanne Mubarak**  
Chair, Board of Trustees





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# ACRONYMS & ABBREVIATIONS

Please note the following abbreviations used in this report

ABA	Academia Bibliotheca Alexandrinae
AEYC	Arab Environmental Youth Convention
AFESD	Arab Fund for Economics and Social Development
Alex-Med	Alexandria and Mediterranean Research Center
AMEEL	Arabic and Middle Eastern Electronic Library
ARF	Arab Reform Forum
ASEST	Arab Society for the Ethics of Science and Technology
AU	African Union
BA	Bibliotheca Alexandrina
CSSP	Center for Special Studies and Programs
CULTNAT	Center for Documentation of Cultural and Natural Heritage
DAR	Digital Assets Repository
DF	Dialogue Forum
DLF	Digital Library Federation
FLL	FIRST LEGO League
GEF	Global Environment Facilities
GEYC	Global Environmental Youth Convention
GHS	Global Harmonized System
IAP	Inter Academy Panel
IAPS	International Association for People-Environment Studies
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
IDRC	International Development Research Center
ISIS	International School of Information Science
ISSC	International Social Science Council
LYM	League for Young Master
MCIT	Ministry of Communications and Information Technology
NAMES	North Africa and Middle East Science centers network
OACIS	Online Access to Consolidated Information on Serials
OCR	Optical Character Recognition
POD	Print on Demand
PSC	Planetarium Science Center
SAW	Science Around the World
SEED	Schlumberger Excellence in Educational Development
SMWIPM	Suzanne Mubarak Women's International Peace Movement
TWAS	The Academy of Science for the Developing World
TWAS-ARO	TWAS - Arab Regional Office
UDBE	Universal Digital Book Encoder
UNL	Universal Networking Language
VISTA	Virtual Immersive Science and Technology Applications
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
XML	eXtensible Markup Language
YESBU	Youth for Environmental Sustainability and Better Understanding



Ismail Serageldin



# INTRODUCTION

It is with a certain degree of pride that I write this introduction to our Annual Report for the year ending 30 June 2007. In a few short months from now, since its official inauguration in 2002, the Bibliotheca Alexandrina (BA) will be celebrating its fifth anniversary. In a sense, the Report measures the significant strides we have taken and the standards we have achieved. It speaks of a young, dynamic institution on the march, and holds much promise for the realization of a mission articulated at the outset of this report.

Perhaps the most notable achievements continue to be in the digital domain. After having been accepted as a full strategic partner in the Digital Library Federation (DLF), we have continued our work in various domains and have succeeded in completing a very significant upgrade of our technical infrastructure. The Internet Archive Peta-Boxes, the largest mass-storage device configurations in existence, have been installed, and our websites received more than one-hundred-million hits this year.

In April 2007, I had the pleasure of signing a partnership agreement with the Library of Congress (LoC), whereby we will become their privileged partners in the development and deployment of the World Digital Library, an idea first advanced by the LoC in 2005. This is an enormous vote of confidence in the BA by the largest library in the world, as it embarks on a most ambitious digital project.

We have also succeeded in taking the first steps to launch the Arab Union Catalog, a major venture that will require the dedicated leadership of our Chief Librarian and the tireless efforts of her staff. Ultimately, the goal is to develop the most modern set of bibliographic tools in a contemporary Arabic format.

The BA has persistently proven to endeavor and excel in various domains, as highlighted in previous reports; our work is indeed advancing on many fronts. This year we choose to highlight our unique interest in the Arts; next year's report will highlight the Sciences.

## **Why the Arts?**

Art is as old as humanity, music is as old as the human race, and painting has graced the caves millennia before the first civilizations arose. Art has been the quintessential activity that has differentiates humans from animals. It has been the primary expression of all cultures and all civilizations. With such a background, it is not surprising that it should figure prominently in the work of the BA.



Without a doubt, science, literature, history, technology, and many other topics are still equally important to the BA. However, as we approach our fifth anniversary, it becomes necessary to update the world on the successes of the BA in reflecting the place of art in our global culture, and to reaffirm its importance as a primary vehicle for intercultural dialogue and mutual enrichment.

### **The Domains of Art at the BA**

Article 1 in Law No.1 for 2001, the law which created the BA, states that our mandate is: “All the products of the human mind in all languages, from all cultures, ancient and modern.” The formulation “...all languages”, is all-embracing since it includes: music, painting, sculpture and other forms of artistic expression.

The law goes further and states “... from all cultures, ancient and modern”. However, for purposes of this report, we shall make a distinction between a work of art, and an artifact that through the patina of age, has acquired the status of an antiquity, as these are treated differently. That primary relationship tends to be mediated by historians and archeologists, not necessarily contemporary artists and art critics; but great contemporary art is bound to become the heritage of tomorrow. There is undoubtedly a continuum that cannot be easily classified, and where boundaries cannot be easily defined.

In this year’s *Highlights* section, we shall focus on the work of our Arts Center, our specialized Library of Arts and Multimedia, and activities nurturing children's artistic talents. The domains to be covered will include the BA’s work in each of the following: music, painting, sculpture, pottery, theater, film, opera, singing, lithography, photography, folklore, and poetry.

Whether by organizing exhibitions for the work of living artists, or by working to present the best of the legacy of Egyptian artists of merit, the BA sees itself as a link between talented Egyptian artists and the public, just as it tries to broaden the outlook of the Egyptian public to better appreciate the art of other countries. In so doing, it is fulfilling its functions as the window of the world on Egypt, and Egypt’s window on the world.

### **Art Criticism**

The Library brings the best critics to participate in symposia, seminars and lectures, not just to help educate the public taste, but also to promote a deeper understanding of works of art. Indeed good critics are like prisms.

They help take the white light of a work of art, and break out the many colors of meaning that are hidden in it. They identify the rainbow of subtleties embedded in a work of art, and as such help the public to see it with fresh eyes. Art criticism also helps to define the canon in every discipline.



### **Art as an Intellectual Pursuit**

We also encourage established artists to hold workshops where young university students engage with the visiting artists in the creative process. The students work hand in hand with the artist as they produce their works of art.

### **Art as Dialogue between Cultures**

Art is a universal language; it transcends cultural and social borders thereby playing an important role in the promotion of dialogue between nations. The BA has hosted a number of events that capitalize on this aspect of art. Some of these events are international programs like: *Imagining the Book*, the *Creative Forum for Independent Theater Groups (Europe-Mediterranean)*, and the *Resident Artist*.

### **Music**

Music is central to the BA's Art program. Notable achievements include:

- The BA Orchestra: It consists of 14 string players who play symphonic chamber music works written in various epochs.
- The Choir: It offers quality music education and choral singing opportunities to children ages 6-14.
- Opera *Miramar*: It is an operatic adaptation of Naguib Mafouz's novel, the libretto was written by Sayed Hegab and the musical composition was set by the BA's Maestro Sherif Mohie Eldin. It premiered in Alexandria's Opera House in collaboration with the Soloists of the Cairo Opera Company.

### **The BA as Collector**

Our exhibitions introduce our visitors to the best of contemporary Egyptian art, as well as selected collections from the 20th century. Thanks to the collaboration of the artists themselves, their families, as well as the Ministry of Culture, various museums and private collectors, we were able to present the work of masters who transformed Egyptian art and founded the contemporary art scene in Egypt. They labored long and hard to define a style and content that was distinctly Egyptian, while remaining part of the international art scene. They were influenced by modern European masters, and some actually worked alongside the greatest. Some were instantly understood and appreciated by their contemporaries; some had to struggle incessantly until their due recognition finally came. All were true to their art, and their integrity shines through as their works speak to us across the decades. Some, such as Shady Abdel Salam and Mohie Eldin Hussein have their own permanent exhibitions on our premises. Others are only present by a small sample of their work that has found its way among the gifts forming our collection.

Just as we recognize leaders and established artists, we try to identify and help bring the young and unknown to the fore. We hold an annual *First Time* exhibition, where new artists exhibit their works for the first time.



### **Inter-generational Outreach**

The Arts School holds a prominent status amongst the activities of the BA Arts Center. It targets developing the child's interest and skills in ballet, Youth Orchestra, Amateur Orchestra, Piano, Lute, Guitar, voice training, Suzuki training, painting, modern dance, Yoga, drums, eurhythmics, and Solfege. To nurture children's artistic talents, the Arts Center, in cooperation with the Atelier of Alexandria, established a special unit concerned with the creative works of children and youth. This unit aims to activate training and creativity services, addressing this important age-group. It is planned to become an independent center due to launch its activities in the second half of 2007.

The children at the BA also use The Young Digital Creators (YDC) program part of UNESCO's portal DigiArts, which is designed for young people from different cultures to collaboratively construct a deeper understanding of each other's cultural values and shared perspectives on global issues of our time.

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

Through an up-to-date and classic collection, the BA Arts and Multimedia Library endeavors to engage the public by improving knowledge, providing greater exposure and experiences of the arts to develop an informed appreciation of some of the highest products of humanity of all times, places and peoples. This specialized Library is unique in Egypt in locating the core print collection supplemented by non-print audio-visual material, and recent periodicals on one floor, thus allowing the user to fully experience the combination of various domains.

### **Art Everywhere**

In the pages that follow, we will highlight how the BA has evolved its program of arts, from creating its own orchestra to hosting major annual artistic events that attract participation from all corners of the globe. We promote the training of children, as well as the collection of materials for scholars, and our own collection is growing and gracing our premises in a unique blend of art and scholarship.

Beyond formal exhibition spaces, works of art permeate the BA. The purity of form, the touch of color, speaks to our sensibilities with unmatched directness. Some science exhibits, such as that of the medieval astronomical instruments now in the Planetarium, show that precise instruments of scientific measurement can also be true works of art in their own right. This is also true of exhibits of artifacts from bygone eras but which are to be cherished forever.

Walking through the many spaces of the BA becomes an emotionally laden journey of discovery and remembrance. A perceptive viewer will see the reflections of a country transformed by modernization, moving from a rural past through an urban present to a digital future. The juxtaposition of the art pieces with the most advanced achievements of our digital technology, alongside our





reading spaces and our books, all reflect the multifaceted reality of the complex mission that we have set ourselves in establishing the New Bibliotheca Alexandria.

### **A Broad Multifaceted Program**

Moving from our highlights section to the rest of the report, the reader will find that our myriad activities continue unabated. For many items, such as the issues of Arab Reform, we are engaged in a relentless impassioned defense of freedom of expression and expanding the domain of democratic action by civil society. Despite the occasional setback in our region, we persevere, promoting the culture of peace, and standing up for the values of pluralism, dialogue, learning and understanding. In other domains, as we consolidate past achievements, we also explore the new and the uncertain.

It is fitting that the New Library of Alexandria, striving as it is to recapture the spirit of the Ancient Library of Alexandria, should host this unique blend of art and science, and perhaps more significantly, to show us parts of ourselves that we are not aware of, and even more, to show us that the relevant can also be the beautiful.

### **The Image on the Cover of this Annual Report**

Finally, a word about the cover of this report. It reflects the fact that the Annual Report will be issued at the time of the celebration of our fifth anniversary of the inauguration of the Library on 16 October 2002. We chose to show the logo of the institution made up of the faces of all our staff. These 1800 or so young people, with an average age of about 29, gender balanced, motivated and ambitious, are the BA! It is their collective work which makes the institution what it is. The cover presentation also underlines the collective nature of the enterprise. It is not the result of the work of any single person or small group of persons that the BA became what it is. It is through the collective efforts of all of the staff.

Speaking for myself and for all of them, we look forward to build on past achievements, draw strength from partners, supporters and the public who uses our facilities and our services, overcome the obstacles and remedy past shortcomings as we commit ourselves to ensure that the BA is the kind of place where all people who value peace, respect reason and rationality, appreciate art, and are devoted to pluralism, dialogue, learning and understanding will feel at home.

**Ismail Serageldin**

Librarian of Alexandria  
Director of the Bibliotheca Alexandrina



# III

*Life is short, art endures.*  
*(Vita brevis, ars longa)*

Hippocrates



# Highlights



## The Arts

The Bibliotheca Alexandrina's role is not only limited to Science and Technology; it devotes an equal forum to the varied expressions of the Arts. Through the promotion of creativity and artistic endeavors, the BA revives the spirit of the Ancient Library of Alexandria, encouraging dialogue between scientists, philosophers and artists alike.

The Bibliotheca Alexandrina Arts Center and Specialized Libraries foster artistic appreciation through active programs including workshops and training courses. This is to help both children and adults develop their creative skills and refine their various talents, by studying music, choir singing and painting, developing their appreciation of visual arts and basic principles of artistic criticism.



Euterpe (Muse of Music), Terpsichore (Muse of Dance), Erato (Muse of Lyric Poetry).

The Arts Center has become a pioneer in introducing new projects and events to the artistic and cultural community of Alexandria. This year it presented *Miramar*, the first Egyptian Opera to be composed in 40 years, and established international biennales on contemporary Egyptian art and culture; such as the *Artist's Book* and *Imagining the Book*, which have become active strongholds in the artistic world. It also held the annual *Creative Forum for Independent Theatrical Groups (Europe–Mediterranean)*, an equally unique activity in modern Egyptian culture and theater.

Through Art Collections, Plastic Arts, Exhibitions, Music, Theater and Cinema, the nurturing of the innate artist of a child, and the Arts and Multimedia Library, the Bibliotheca Alexandrina is a symphony of perfectly harmonized movements that resound across Egypt, the Mediterranean, and the World.





The Arts School, Suzuki Class

### Art Collections

Valuable works of art are acquired through different procedures and sources, such as:

- Preserving the collections donated to the BA from artists who participate in art exhibitions on local and international levels, such as the *Artist's Book* and *Imagining the Book*.
- Encouraging creative workshops held and sponsored by the BA in exchange for the acquisition of some of the resulting masterpieces.



Opera Miramar





El Sebo' - Ibrahim Eldesouky- Bibliotheca Alexandrina Arts Collection.

- Facilitating the Resident Artist Project through which the BA hosts distinguished artists on creative scholarships. At the end of the project an exhibition is held, and the artists donate some of their works to the BA.
- Supporting artists who participate in international exhibitions through grants and prizes. These artists also donate some of their artworks to the BA.

These procedures have led to the following results:

- Hosting eight resident artists at the BA which resulted in the acquisition of 38 original pieces distributed throughout the Library. This project is due to continue for a second round.
- The first round of the BA Symposium of Sculpture in Natural Materials (granite) produced 13 sculptures. These too have been distributed inside the Library and on its premises.





- The hosting of the Swedish artist Jan Cardell who resided in Alexandria and created a sculpture which is placed at the entrance of the BA Conference Center. The Arts Center also received the Belgian artist Jocelyne Mottouille, who in collaboration with Egyptian artist Gihan Soliman held an exhibition of her works. Their works have been added to the acquisitions of the BA.

The BA Arts Center has also been a partner to various cultural centers and social clubs in Alexandria through exhibiting a number of artistic works resulting from these projects, and other works created before the inauguration of the BA. The total number of artistic acquisitions of the BA to date has reached 1162 pieces.





The Inauguration of the Farouk Shehata Exhibition, Winner of the 2006 State Merit Award for Arts

### Plastic Arts

The agenda of plastic arts includes both local and international activities. Some of these are held regularly every year, such as the two biennales which alternate, *The Artist's Book* and *Imagining the Book*; the annual *A Panorama of 20<sup>th</sup> Century Egyptian Art*; *Resident Artist Forum*; *First Time Forum*; and the *Sculptures in Natural Materials Symposium*. Exhibitions are held to honor recipients of State Awards and the Mubarak Art Award. These exhibitions foster artistic and cultural exchange among Egyptian and foreign artists.

#### International Exhibitions

The BA International exhibitions represent modernist and post-modernistic trends in the fields of sculpture, painting, graphics, composite works, media arts, video arts, and digital arts. The Biennale of the *Artist's Book*, one of its kind in the Arab region, and that of *Imagining the Book*, represent the cornerstones of international exhibitions and forums hosted by the Arts Center. Works from both Biennales have reached 80 pieces and 188 artists' books which established the *Artist's Book* Permanent Exhibition in April 2007.

- *The Artist's Book* is concerned with the artists' creative work in books as pure art. The Biennale envisages the book as a result of a relationship between the text in its semiotic, poetic or narrative form on the one hand, and the creative artist's vision which includes a symbolic and visual significance on the other, producing the printed work of art through a manual printing technique.





- *Imagining the Book* reflects the trends of modern artists who broke free from the confinements of the conceptual frame, to produce work in vacuum, through video and media arts. This contemporary form transcends the idea of the book as a vehicle for knowledge, to another that perceives the book as synonymous with knowledge. These works combine the audio, the visual and the kinetic in a creative paradigm that reflects the book as a work of art.



Detail from the artwork of Egyptian artist Osama Hamza Zaghloul featured in the *Imagining the Book International Biennale 2007*.

### Local Exhibitions

Local exhibitions of pioneering Egyptian art movements, by young and middle generations, are equally encouraged by the Arts Center. The most important of these initiatives are:

- *Alexandrian Spectrums* Exhibition

The exhibition was an outcome of a forum held by four artists, each creating their impressions of Alexandria using their own expressive and technical styles.

- *First Time* Exhibition

Seventeen young artists under the age of 30 were offered the opportunity to present their techniques and aesthetic philosophy.



The *First Time* Exhibition, works of the Artist Karim Mahmoud Helmy.



- *The First Forum for the Resident Artist*

A guest artist is hosted by the Arts Center, and offered the opportunity to be fully devoted to the production of artistic works that reflect his or her visions, and influence the environmental aesthetics of Alexandria. These Residencies are held monthly, these artists leave a special imprint upon the Egyptian artistic movement, and their productions are added to the BA collections.

- *The Saqqara Exhibition*

This important exhibition was held in collaboration with the Louvre Museum and the Ars Latina Foundation. It included a rare collection of photographs of the different phases of the excavation at Saqqara undertaken by the Louvre Expeditions from France. The exhibition displayed valuable photos of archeological artifacts, as well as the progress of the excavation itself.

- *Farouk Shehata Exhibition*

This exhibition was held in honor of the State Award of Arts, 2006, received by Farouk Shehata. Previous exhibitions were held celebrating past recipients Mostafa Abdel Moaty, Ahmed Abdel Wahab, Hamed Oweis, and Abdel Salam Eid.

- *The Salah Gaheen Exhibition*

The Arts Center in collaboration with the Center for the Documentation of Cultural and Natural Heritage (CULTNAT), held an exhibition with the aim to activate the documentation of artistic heritage through the careful re-reading of a selection of caricatures by the late great artist Salah Gaheen, commemorating the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his death. This exhibition is of unique importance as it reflects a critical period of Egypt's socio-political history.

- *The Panorama of 20<sup>th</sup> Century Egyptian Art*

This project is a successive series of qualitative exhibitions, publications and books which record the course of the Egyptian Art movement as a whole.

## **Permanent Exhibitions**

### *Mohie Eldin Hussein: "A Creative Journey"*

The artist Mohie Eldin Hussein is a pioneer of contemporary Egyptian Art, in the fields of ceramics and sculpture. His distinctive style has succeeded in making ceramics the central arena for the plastic arts movement, after years of confinement to the Academia.

The permanent exhibition "A Creative Journey" of the works of Mohie Eldin Hussein was inaugurated on 28 February 2007. It houses a collection of 90 pieces donated by Hussein as a gift to the BA.





Opening of Mohie Eldin Hussein, A Creative Journey Exhibition

*The Raaya El-Nimr and Abdel Ghani Abu el-Enein Collection*

The jewelry and fashion collection of Raaya El-Nimr represents an important and vivid aspect of the material and non-material culture of Egyptian society. The artist has worked on collecting these items from various cultural areas in Egypt, exploring Egyptian and Arab heritage.

The collection includes items of jewelry and clothing of cultures that assimilated in Egypt, like that of Yemen and the Far East. It is a *mélange* of embellishments, symbols, and techniques of hundreds of artifacts that shed light on the lives of simple people.



Opening of Arab Folklore, The Raaya El-Nemr and Abdel-Ghani Abou El-Enein Collection





Opening of the Artist's Book Exhibition.

Furthermore, the oil paintings of Abdel Ghani Abu el-Enein are displayed alongside the collection of his wife Raaya El-Nimr, representing an amazing mixture of colors and textures. It is worth noting that the private library of Abdel Ghani Abu el-Enein was an equally valuable donation to the Bibliotheca Alexandrina, alongside the exhibition.

#### *The Artist's Book Exhibition*

At the international seminar held during the last round of the Biennale for the *Artist's Book*, in April 2006, international critics and artists expressed their enthusiasm towards establishing an exhibition of the wonders of the art embodied in books.

The BA already holds great numbers of high-quality artists' books; and its biennales have already succeeded in shedding light on the true value of these creations, overlooked by the artistic movement in Egypt, Africa and the Arab World. As a result, it is with pride that the BA inaugurated the exhibition in April 2007.

#### *The Abdel-Salam Eid Exhibition*

Abdel Salam Eid, one of the innovator of the Egyptian contemporary art movement, was honored with the State Award of Arts in 2004. He concluded an agreement with the BA in April 2006, to the effect that he would lend a number of his works for five years to the BA to be publicly exhibited.

His creative oeuvres have taken various forms, running the gamut from paintings (graphic), maquettes, composite works to murals, collages, and engravings. These works represent the artist's thoughts as voiced in the form of a book, and the composite artwork in which the aesthetics of painting and sculpture combine in an innovative synthesis.



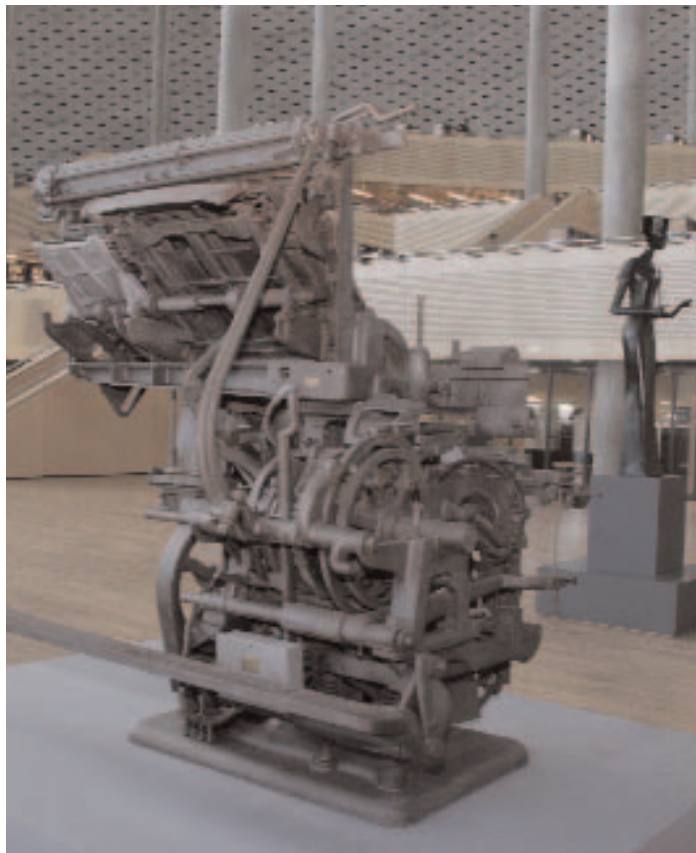


Opening of Abdel-Salam Eid Exhibition.

### *The History of Printing Exhibition*

The Bulaq Press was established under the rule of Mohamed Ali in 1820, while the assembling of machines began in 1821. The first publication by the Press was an Arabic-Italian dictionary issued in 1822.

The BA was naturally devoted to finding the Bulaq Press and everything related to it, consequently establishing a comprehensive museum that includes its printing presses, type-set machines and other contents, such as printed samples. The Bulaq Press was not merely a number of machines; it indicated the existence of a circulating book, thereby bringing Egypt into the light of knowledge, freedom, and awareness.



History of Printing Exhibition



*The World of Shady Abdel Salam*

Shady Abdel Salam succeeded through his films, whether through design or production, to highlight the cultural specificity of Egypt and the history of its people. Since its first showing at the International Venetian Film Festival in 1970, his only feature film *The Mummy* has contributed to placing Egyptian cinema on the map of world cinema. The film won the George Sadoul Prize in Paris in the same year.

His exhibition is considered a world attraction; it is visited by numerous artists from all over the world. This is the first exhibition of a cinematic artist in Egypt. Work on the exhibition began in 2002, and it was inaugurated on the occasion of the Diamond Anniversary (75 years) of the artist's birthday in Alexandria on 15 March 2005. The exhibition includes Shady Abdel Salam's private library, his original designs of costumes, decoration and accessories, as well as numerous cinematic shots from films he directed, and planned films he never produced.



Opening of the World of Shady Abdel Salam



## Music

### ***The Bibliotheca Alexandrina Chamber Orchestra***

Since the inauguration of the Bibliotheca Alexandrina, the BA Orchestra was formed with the target of enriching the Alexandrian music scene and creating activities and opportunities for Alexandrian musicians.

The Orchestra has since fulfilled its duties through monthly concerts and workshops, presenting a variety of musical styles and trends, ranging from Classical music, Opera, Contemporary Egyptian, Light music, and Egyptian Dance music.

The BA Orchestra has also produced a number of *recordings* during this reported year, documenting and celebrating important music events such as:

- ***Celebrating W.A.Mozart's 250<sup>th</sup> Birthday***

In 2006, the BA Arts Center produced its first Documentary film on Mozart, in the Arabic language. The film includes samples of Mozart's famous compositions and commentaries on his life and musical style by prominent Egyptian





Bibliotheca Alexandrina Orchestra

German language with Arabic subtitles.

The music soundtrack and Opera of the film were recorded by the BA Orchestra and are presented separately on a CD.

- *Egyptian Works for Strings*

A collection of compositions, written exclusively for the BA Orchestra, by eight of Egypt's most prominent contemporary composers .

*The BA Arts Center also co-produced :*

- The Opera "Miramar"

Miramar is the first Egyptian Opera composed in the past 40 years. An adaptation of Nobel Prize Winner Naguib Mahfouz's novel "Miramar", the Libretto was written by renown Poet Sayyed Higgab and music composed by Sherif Mohie El Din. The World Premiere was held at the Alexandria Opera House in December 2005 as a joint production with the Cairo Opera House.







The Opera is an *avant-garde* work that masterfully manages to harness the Egyptian dialect, the mixing of different styles and instruments of Arabic and Western music, ultimately sung by Opera singers.

The Opera has been recorded and will be released on CD at the end of this coming season.

- ***The BA Choir***

In Light of the Arts Center's role in fostering artistic talents, the BA Choir was established, and 90 singers were selected from hundreds of youth . Voice training, music appreciation and performances are planned as vital activities towards a music education for the choir members.

- ***The Amateur Arts School Orchestra of the BA***

Young amateur musicians perform side by side together with the professional musicians of the BA Orchestra, giving them an opportunity of training and experience. This year's training program was designed to display varied practical and technical backgrounds of the professional trainers and targeted intermediate and semi-professional trainees.





The Creative Forum for Independent Theatre Groups – Theater Performance

### **The International Creative forum for Independent Theatrical Groups**

Young generations of theater groups are given the opportunity to test their artistic potentials and place these on stage through collective international activities, building contexts for local performances and joint artistic projects.

#### Publications

The program of the fourth round of the Creative Forum 2007 produced two publications on theater. The first was the active translation of works from German contemporary theater plays published in collaboration with the Goethe-Institut. Playwrights were invited to witness the launching of their plays for the first time in Arabic . The works are *Der dritte Sektor* by Dea Loher, *Taglich Brot* by Gesine Danckwart, and *Fake Reports* by Kathrin Roggla.

The second publication raised the extremely significant issue of Arab dramatists who immigrated to Europe forming a bridge for Arab culture in European societies. Hence, the title chosen was *The Immigration Theater “Citizens/Strangers”*.

The book compiled five theatrical texts by Arab dramatists living in Europe as an alternate homeland, living and working within this cultural duality, thus familiarizing the audience in Egypt with their work. Immigration Theater included texts by the following dramatists:

- *Tolerance Exercises* by Abdel Latif Laâbi, Moroccan/French
- *The Murder of the Third Dream* by Awni Karoumi, Iraqi/German and Yassin El Nossayyr, Iraqi/Dutch



- *Darkness Lover* by Magued El Khatib, Iraqi/German
- *Disciplinary Committee* by Solimane Benaïssa, Algerian/French
- *The Lift* by Tarek Eltayeb, Sudanese/Austrian

### Activities of the International Creative forum for Independant Theatrical Groups

Item	1st Round 2003-2004	2nd Round 2004-2005	3rd Round 2005-2006	4th Round 2006-2007
Performances	10	12	14	12
Educational Workshops	2	9	7	17
International Classroom	–	–	–	1
Dialogue Program	1	2	4	6
Publications	–	1	1	2
Participating Countries	10	12	19	21
Number of Trainees in Workshops	20	60	91	97
Number of Participating Artists	80	120	160	179
Average Number of Audience	60	80	120	194

### The International Summer Festival

The International Summer Festival explores open-air performance, where formal mechanisms of indoor theaters disappear. Music is integrated with Plastic Arts, Cinema and Dance Theater.

This year, the 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the official inauguration of the Bibliotheca Alexandria is being celebrated. However, the International Summer Festival celebrates its 6<sup>th</sup> year having begun during the soft opening in the Summer of 2001.

Most recently, the “Alexandria Contemporary Dance Space” was launched in 2007, to become the first International Festival of Dance Theater in the city of Alexandria.



Creative Forum for Independent Theater Groups, Round Table.



## Cinema

The Arts Center organizes a monthly cinema program beginning the third Sunday of each month. The cinema programs cover many cultures of the world, and include multiple nationalities and genres. In September 2006, the Center began the monthly Forum for *Short Films* where Egyptian and International short films by both emerging filmmakers and pioneers are screened.

During the reported period, 20 books in the series of *Cinematic Studies* have been published and a total of 400 films have been viewed from around 30 countries from all over the world. These included long and short films, documentaries and feature. Accompanying these showings, were 19 exhibitions, displaying 296 documents and photographs. At the same time, 64 bulletins were published including information about the films and their producers.

## Art, Children and the Adolescent

### *Developing Artistic Skills Section*

#### *Arts School Unit*

The Arts School targets children from age 5 onwards, in the fields of learning and creativity. The school program has been designed according to an interdisciplinary method which fosters children's awareness and motivation to practice creative imagination, which in itself is a developmental objective. By liberating their imagination, children hopefully become immune to backward and extremist ideas that may influence an entire society negatively. Special care is taken in choosing well-qualified trainers and teachers who follow the strategic objectives set by the Arts Center.

The Arts School is financially self-sustaining and targets the middle class society. The goal is to develop the child's interest and skills in different artistic fields like Ballet, Contemporary Dance, Youth Orchestra, Amateur Orchestra, Piano, Guitar, Drums, Voice Training, Violin Suzuki Training, Painting, Yoga, Solfege and Children Choir. During its 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> round (February to September 2007), the Arts School conducted 14 various activities with 350 participants.

#### *Child and Adolescent Creative Unit*

After years of working with children in the BA "School of the Talented", greater steps in this field were found necessary. In cooperation with the Atelier of Alexandria, the BA Arts Center established the *Child and Adolescent Creative Unit*. The Unit launched its activities in June 2007 and is concerned with the development of children's interests and natural talents through the practice of Arts in various fields, covering Sculpting, Printing, Puppet Making, Photography, Story Telling, Graphic Design, Oriental Music and Musical creations using modern technology. The Unit targets the lower-middle class children with special needs. It also provides training for trainers.





Children's Choir

### **Children's Choir**

A Children's Choir has been established in collaboration with schools and social organizations. Through music, the chorus brings together children from the inner city and its suburbs to foster youth development, social healing, and community building. The plan is to form a high-quality chorus that will tour in Egypt and beyond.

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

In Egypt, for the past thirty years, state-run media has been providing and setting standards of Arts that cater for the entertainment needs of the common public, showing minimum interest in enriching their experience and enhancing their openness to world arts. At the same time, proper planning for education in the Arts at various levels of the educational system has been neglected. Given drastic cuts in the budgets of Arts libraries for research material in arts educational institutions, up-to-date textbooks and periodicals have become a rarity.

In cooperation with the BA Arts Center, the Arts and Multimedia Library works to fill this gap by rendering accessible a world-class, non-circulating collection of print and non-print materials on a broad spectrum of subjects to all its users.

Based on the view that all the arts are interconnected, the Arts and Multimedia Library undertook a new experiment to host all of the Arts in one library. The user is thereby able to find and gather in one area, written sources, musical scores, recorded works, audiovisual documentaries, and scholarly articles about a given composer.





The Opening of the Sixth International Summer Festival, The World Dances with Mahmoud Reda

The Arts and Multimedia Library Collection includes:

- 14,199 DVDs, VCRs, CD ROMs, Self-teaching Kits, Audio CDs, Audio Tapes and LPs.
- A Conference Collection covering 540 conferences held in the BA.
- Closed Stacks holding 3138 Books and 84 Periodicals.
- A book collection of 36,144 volumes.

A monthly program of group shows, usually 4 days per week, selects and displays material from the audiovisual collection and highlights selected feature movies, documentaries, operas, and also landmarks of music and plays. Music appreciation sessions are occasionally held, as well as the hosting of artists such as the Egyptian Jewelry designer Azza Fahmy.

Facilities of the Arts and Multimedia Library include 30 single study rooms consisting of independent rooms for researchers, Satellite Rooms, and rooms equipped for viewing and listening, as well as a Multimedia Processing Room equipped with a Professional PC, Data Show, DVD player, Video Player, Cassette duplicator and Animation System. These are in addition to 3 Group Show Rooms which can accommodate 40, 18, and 8 persons. Twenty-five PCs equipped with headphones are at the disposal of the Library's patrons. Occasionally, the English and French Departments of Alexandria University request the Arts and Multimedia Library to present group shows of movies or plays on masterpieces in literature (Shakespeare, Emily Brontë, Dickens, Molière, etc...)





Director Youssef Chahine, between Musician Farid El-Atrash (left) and Poet Hussein El-Sayed (right)

Open Stacks in the reading area hold 18,056 books and periodicals covering various fields of Arts (Architecture, Sculpture, Music, Cinema, Theater, etc...). The Library also houses the belongings of the iconic national Egyptian figure and musician Sayed Darwish (1895–1923), which were recently purchased by the Bibliotheca Alexandrina. Part of the collection is displayed in a small exhibition at the Arts and Multimedia Library, including his lute, pictures and paintings, and some musical documents of his operettas. Other collections of the Library include the complete works of the Egyptian composer Youssef Greiss (1899–1961) including his papers, books and memorabilia, a generous gift received with the aid of the Arts Center.

### *DigiArts*

To inspire the young, the “Young Digital Creators” (YDC) program of UNESCO’s portal DigiArts is designed for young people of different cultures to collaboratively construct a deeper understanding of each other’s cultural values and shared perspectives on global issues of our time. “Being creative and collaborative” is the motto of UNESCO’s YDC. The program incorporates the Internet and the Web to the benefit of young creators around the globe.

The YDC program provides young people with the opportunity to express their points of view on global development issues through digital art pieces. Young People participating in this project compose images, audio pieces (soundscapes, music), image collages and video pieces. Members of the Young People’s Library participated in this project three times and were the winners of the UNESCO Digital Arts Award in each instance.



The Library Sector of the BA has also been active in the promotion of young artists. The Children's Library offers a variety of creative arts and workshops covering crafts made with paper, drawing, and painting on paper, argil and many other mediums. It also includes a workshop where children learn many creative techniques to make puppets. The children are able to take home all the works they produced during their time at the Library.

The Children's (CH) and Young People's (YP) Libraries, along with the Calligraphy Center, organize Arabic handwriting and hieroglyphic script workshops during mid-year and summer vacations. In this manner, children learn about the history of Arabic Calligraphy and get a glimpse of ancient Egyptian life.

#### *Animate It!*

*Animate It!* is a creative workshop in which children imagine a story, write a film script and draw a picture on colored paper making facial expressions for their story figures. Children then cut out the figures and objects, with loose arms, heads and legs and place these pieces of paper under a video digital camera located on top of the "animation box". Everything they do can be seen on a TV screen connected to the camera. When the film is ready, the camera is taken down and kids record the sounds while they watch the film on the TV screen.

The *Animate IT!* Program was introduced to the Children's and Young People's Libraries by Erling Ericsson, an animator and TV producer at the Swedish



Opening of the Child and Adolescent Creative Unit





Educational Broadcasting Company. He has been working with children for over twenty years, teaching the process of making animated films.

*Discover and Express*

The BA Taha Hussein Library has adopted an outreach program entitled Discover and Express that teaches blind and visually impaired kids ways to discover the world around them and express themselves through creative arts. The program consists of a series of workshops targeting younger kids in grades 1 and 2 in El Nour School for blind children. This Arts Education program provides various teaching techniques and uses instruments such as argil, clay, puzzles and special painting boards.

The sessions include touching and examining different shapes such as fruits, and then learning how to draw the three-dimensional object on a flat sheet of paper using a special board that provides raised lines so that the children get a tactile picture. During the sessions the children also discover the features of the human face by touching each others faces and use clay to create a mould of the faces they touched. This program was introduced to the Taha Hussein Library staff by Fifi Zalat, a specialist in Arts Education for special needs, handicapped and blind children.



# II





# Nine Themes





*Time past and time future  
What might have been and what has been  
Point to one end, which is always Present.*

T.S. Eliot, Burnt Norton, 'Four Quartets'

# **Digitization, Preservation and Management of Heritage**



## **Digitization, Preservation and Management of Heritage**

Large tracts of the past continuously vanish as their traces in the present wither away. Thus, in the spirit of paying homage to the past, the Bibliotheca Alexandrina has set the digitization, preservation and management of heritage among its priorities. It affiliated the Center for the Documentation of Egypt's Cultural and Natural Heritage (CULTNAT), and established the Alexandria and Mediterranean Research Center (Alex-Med), the Center for Calligraphy, the Manuscript Center, Manuscript Museum and Antiquities Museum.

The Center for the Documentation of Cultural and Natural Heritage (CULTNAT) uses the latest state-of-the-art techniques to document Egypt's tangible and intangible heritage, rekindling a picturesque past, and offering a guiding light to coming generations. To this end, CULTNAT has launched a plethora of new momentous programs and projects. Programs include the Luxor Heritage Center, Eternal Egypt, Horus and InfrArt Sonic. On the international level, it has launched projects such as UNIMED, Patrimoines Partagés, Sid-Lim (Defense System in the Mediterranean), and Toward a Euro-Mediterranean Memory Expert Workshop on Information Systems for Arab Manuscripts (INFOMAN).

### **The National Library and Archives of Egypt**

CULTNAT has embarked upon the digitization of more than 90 million documents kept in the National Library and Archives of Egypt. Within a period of four years, using state-of-the-art audio technology and employing more than 600 highly trained fresh graduates, 25 million documents will be saved in a database, while 50,000 will be digitally photographed and published on a website.

### **The Egyptian Geographic Society Archives**

The documentation of the Egyptian Geographic Society (EGS) archives requires comprehensive listing, scanning and bibliographical indexing of EGS resources, maps, atlases, and images through an illustrated database to facilitate managing the archives. The highlight of the project comes with the dissemination of data in a variety of electronic and paper publications and the uploading of the database to the EGS website. Training of the EGS human resources on scanning techniques and database applications goes side by side with the documentation process.

### **Bank Misr and Tala'at Harb Possessions**

The digitization of the possessions of Bank Misr and Tala'at Harb (the first Egyptian economist) is the first attempt to document Egypt's economic heritage. CULTNAT took a multidisciplinary approach by creating several software programs: a virtual tour around Bank Misr Headquarters, a browser for the bank's documentary volumes, a map of the bank's locations across Egypt, in addition to a three-screen presentation displaying the banking industry in Egypt (1840–1940), the various



phases of establishing Bank Misr, the achievements of the bank's top executives in 20 years, a photo album of Tala'at Harb, as well as a quick display of the bank's giant leaps up until 2006.

### **The Presidential Palaces**

A database has been created to document and highlight selected presidential palaces in Egypt, such as 'Abdeen' and 'Ras Elteen', exploring their architectural and social history as well as their contents. A coffee table size historical book will complement the project outputs.

### **The Historical Maps and Arabic Papyri at the National Library and Archives of Egypt**

The National Library of Egypt harbors a gigantic and unique national wealth of rare historical maps and Arabic Papyri. CULTNAT, in collaboration with the National Library of Egypt, successfully initiated and completed the digitization of two archival collections of approximately 10,000 maps and 3500 Arabic papyri. The development of databases containing the digitized collections has made it easy for the National Library to better serve the visiting researchers and scholars.

### **InfrArt Sonic**

This project aims to develop a novel and integrated non-destructive portable system to determine the depth profile of the paint layers in an artwork as well as the distribution of the pigments in each of these paint layers. That system will unify two modalities, acoustic microscopy (AMAD) and UV-VIS-nIR-mIR spectroscopy (ISAD). Data acquired with the two modalities in the same areas of analysis are jointly processed and correlated to trace the depth profile of the paint layers (ultrasound modality) and to map the pigments in each respective paint layer (VIS-nIR-mIR spectroscopy).

### **INFOMAN**

The INFOMAN Portal organizes data found on the web related to Arabic Manuscripts within the Euro-Mediterranean region, in a systematic user friendly information system within a portal. This Pilot Portal will lead the researcher to accurate, precise and quick links in all fields related to Arabic Manuscripts.

### **Horus**

Horus aims to identify undiscovered or lost archeological sites using earth observation data superimposed with cartography in a GIS environment. It also monitors illegal excavations based on the comparison of maps and chronological satellite images.

### **Defense Systems on the Mediterranean Coast - SIDLIM**

SIDLIM aims to preserve and foster the economic and educational values of HDSMs preservation, management and promotion of waterfront military sites. For this purpose, the project shall define a methodology of intervention to restore Mediterranean fortresses.



### **The Bedouins of South Sinai**

This project maintains and develops the local community of South Sinai through activities consistent with the need to protect and preserve social, cultural and natural resources, and the development of appropriate environmental management systems. This is to be effected by the promotion of the initiative and entrepreneurial spirit of local communities participating in the activities.

### **Noesis**

CULTNAT has been equally involved in the Noesis project, to produce non-destructive, non-invasive, image-based processing techniques that aid the historical analysis and examination of significant Mediterranean collections of manuscripts. Digital images from the target manuscripts are captured in color. Visible, ultraviolet and monochrome infrared will be used to derive computational profiles of the ink and support the paper (papyrus, etc.) used. The final system will be hosted on an XML-based online database accessible via the Internet.

### **Eternal Egypt**

CULTNAT has also cooperated with the Egyptian Museum of Turin, Italy, agreeing to add masterpieces from the Museum collection to the website Eternal Egypt ([www.eternalegypt.com](http://www.eternalegypt.com)) set by the Center. It has joined efforts with the Center for Computer-aided Egyptological Research (CCER) in the Netherlands to host the Global Egyptian Museum (GEM) website in Egypt ([www.globalegyptianmuseum.org](http://www.globalegyptianmuseum.org)). The website was created between 2003 and 2006 to register an estimated two million artifacts from ancient Egypt, kept in around 850 public collections, dispersed in over 69 countries outside Egypt. Those artifacts constitute the cultural heritage of the Nile Valley and the Delta, 5000 years back in history. Furthermore, in collaboration with IBM, and to promote the ancient Egyptian heritage, the Center has given e-learning courses compatible with SCORM standards in three languages: Arabic, English, and French.



Eternal Egypt Website

### **CULTURAMA**

Touring various cities such as Paris, Berlin, Hong Kong, Tunisia and Frankfurt, CULTURAMA is the first fully interactive multimedia program displayed on a semicircle panoramic screen for cultural and natural heritage. The Academy of Scientific Research has awarded a patent for CULTURAMA, thereby granting intellectual property rights to the Center. The Luxor Heritage Center founded in 2005 and inaugurated in 2007, also contains this panorama of culture.





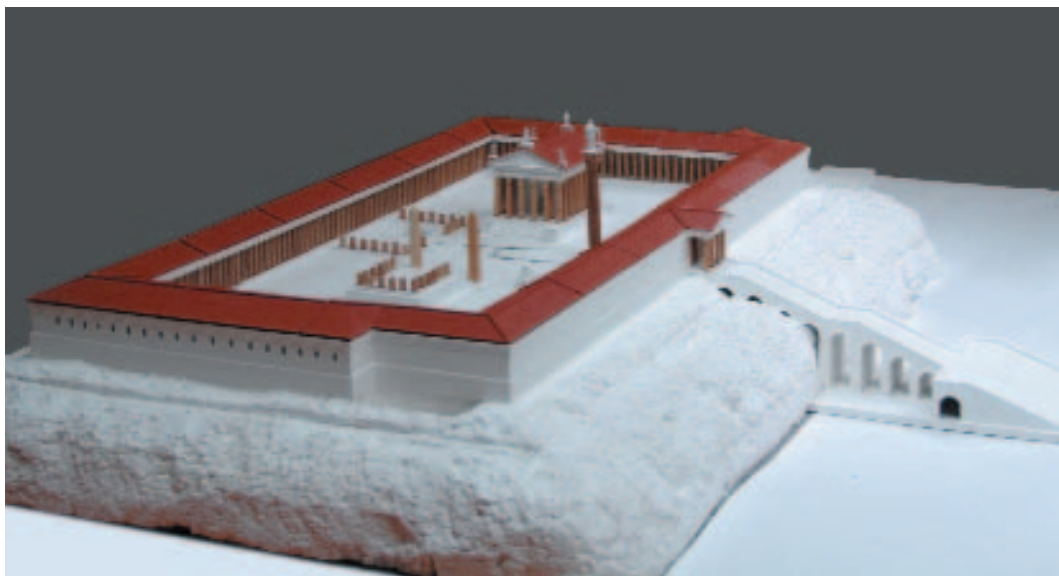
## Preservation of Historical Sites

The rich mosaic of diverse cultures inhabiting the Mediterranean and its tangible and intangible heritage have been the main subject of interest of the Alexandria and Mediterranean Research Center (Alex-Med). The Center researches, documents and manages the heritage of both Alexandria and the Mediterranean, and relates it to the sustainable development of the city, thereby encouraging mutual understanding between the different cultures inhabiting the Mediterranean basin.

The Center prepared a ten-page booklet entitled: *Documentation of Four Significant and Endangered Buildings*, related to the project sponsored by Luciano Moroni. It has also produced a complete photographic survey to digitize the existing historical Ottoman residential buildings and the old drawings at the *Mudiriyat el Awqaf* (Endowments Department) in Alexandria. While the originals will be kept in the BA, the digital format will be catalogued and made available to researchers. This ongoing project is scheduled for completion in 2007.

As part of the Center's commitment to Alexandrian heritage, it will produce 3D and scaled physical models of the ancient city Taposiris Magna of Alexandria which lies 45 kilometers to the west of the city and was founded by Ptolemy Philadelphos II (280–270 BCE). The sanctuary was built as a tomb and developed to become a temple of Isis. In 1798, during Napoleon's stay in Alexandria, the sanctuary of Taposiris Magna and its lighthouse, a small copy of the Pharos, were described. The Center will undertake a digital reconstruction of the Kom El Dikka site. A reconstruction of the serapeum has been finished.

The Center has produced seven maps, each with a different theme and area covered, that provide detailed tour routes highlighting the unique culture and heritage of Alexandria as well as contemporary attractions. These guides condense much of the city in a dynamic layout making them an essential companion for any visitor to Alexandria. These maps are the outcome of the EU funded project Med-Voices.



Model of the Serapeum



### **Egyptian Cinema**

Contrary to popular belief, the Egyptian cinema industry first began in Alexandria and not in Cairo. It then spread to Cairo, the Arab World and the Middle East. Alex-Med has been researching the beginnings of cinema in Alexandria and the role foreigners played in its rise. Using a local EU grant, Alex-Med has created the website [www.alexcinema.org](http://www.alexcinema.org). The Center will hold an exhibition on 31 July 2007, to commemorate 100 years of cinema in Egypt, focusing on Alexandria's pioneering role and contribution. This will be accompanied by the launch of two publications: *Birth of the Seventh Art in Alexandria* and *The Alexandrian Character in Egyptian Cinema* (Arabic).

### **Ancient Scripts**

Memories of times past may be garbled and inaccurate, but may be rendered verifiable through written records. Hence, the importance of the Calligraphy Center which conducts studies on inscriptions, calligraphies and writings of the world, from the pre-dynastic period to the digital age.

The Center has continued its progress as the “Digital Library of Inscriptions Project”, previously known as the “Documentation of Alexandrian Monuments’ Scripts”. It was originally developed to document scripts written on Pharaonic, Greek, Coptic and Islamic monuments of Alexandria, including pictures, transliterations and translations, and provide them in a web-based searchable form with both Arabic and English interfaces. The project’s scope has been broadened to include scripts from all over the world, focusing on inscription types rather than the historical eras. Twelve inscription types have been initially defined upon which all data will be classified.

The International School for Information Science (ISIS) designed and implemented a database for metadata, transliterations, translations and pictures. A workflow was also implemented and is being used for the documentation of the monuments’ metadata and their corresponding inscriptions. To date, 1500 monuments have been documented. The web-based application with both Arabic and English interfaces was implemented and tested and will be published in October 2007.

### **Digitizing Antiquities**

The Antiquities Museum was created to fulfill such a mission, to lure people’s imagination; through combining the aura of antiquity with modern state-of-the-art techniques to preserve a collection of 1079 pieces. The first museum to be incorporated within the premises of a library, it is the first of its kind in the world.

The Museum’s collection documents various epochs of the Egyptian civilization dating from the Pharaonic era up to the Islamic period, using digital technology to make the museum accessible to many people all over the world through the BA and Eternal Egypt websites. The BA currently participates in the Global Egyptian Museum website.





Official Launch of the Digital Guide

Similarly, the Digital Guide Project allows museum visitors to navigate the numerous artifacts, at their own pace, using a hand-held device describing the exhibits in Arabic, English, or French. This provides visitors with an informative, interactive, and entertaining experience using state-of-the-art technology.

### **Manuscripts and Rare Books Restoration**

The Manuscript Center is working on raising the level of the Manuscripts and Rare Books Restoration Laboratory to the highest standard. With the update of its equipment and tools, and the improvement of the restorer's skills, the lab is ready to compete as one of the state-of-the-art restoration labs in the region.

A generous Italian grant catapulted the restoration lab to unprecedented prominence. The lab has undergone a complete makeover. The necessary fibers and dyes are currently made in-house by restoration experts to meet the increasing demand on materials. Two leaf-casting machines have been manufactured in-house to ensure the quality as well as the rate of accomplished work, thus increasing the average number of restored rare books from 15 to 30 per month. The chemistry lab has also been refurbished and now operates with cutting-edge equipment. Nine restorers and two chemists from the Lab attended an intensive course in the Centro di Fotoriproduzione Legatoria e Restauro (CFLR), Rome.

Moreover, the French artist and book binder Jacky Vignon, with the collaboration of the BA Friends in France, gave the Lab staff an intensive course on book binding. Along the same lines, Bassam Daghistani, an expert in mechanical restoration, provided intensive training on leaf-casting and the preparation of organic restoration materials.



Since the beginning of July 2006, the lab has manually restored 22 rare manuscripts and 12 rare newspapers, as well as 144 rare books by leaf-casting. The lab has also provided restoration counsel and training to other centers in the region. It has inspected the rare book collection, of Dar al-Athar Al-Islamiyyah, in Kuwait, to determine its condition. This resulted in the agreement to send 103 rare books for restoration in the BA's lab. Another agreement was also concluded with the Supreme Council of Culture, Egypt, for the restoration of 1079 manuscripts of different manuscript libraries in the country. To date, the lab has received 290 manuscripts from Tanta Library.

#### **Digital Archive of Manuscripts**

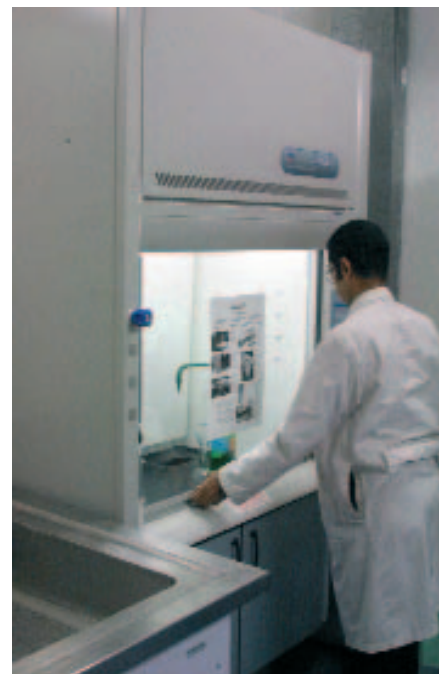
The Digital archive project aims at the production of digital copies of the manuscript collection numbering more than six thousand titles. The project will function in a double capacity; it will make the collections accessible to everybody around the world and it will act as a back up against potential loss. The CDs of the Digital Manuscript Archive will be offered within the exchange programs with other academic centers and international libraries. To date, 1961 titles have been digitized.

#### **Digital Manuscript Library**

The Digital Manuscript Library attempts to publish the manuscript treasures of Arabic heritage in digital form. The first collection includes seven manuscripts from the Alexandria Municipal Library's currently held by the BA. The second set represents seven rarities of the Islamic heritage collection in the mosque of al-'Arif bi-Allah Abul-'Abbas al-Mursi. The third collection, comprising seven manuscripts from the Religious Institute of Smuha, was recently released. The fourth publication contains a distinguished collection from Uppsala University Library, Sweden.

#### **Digital Library of the Modern History of Egypt**

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 spanning the past 200 years. The project will scan, catalog, index and OCR (optical character recognition) the collection and present it in a searchable form to its users, and thus benefit from the efforts exerted in the Million Book project. Agreements are being negotiated with several individuals, foundations and libraries to provide the content of specialized collections for scanning. The Nasser Digital Archive, *Description de*



A New Ducted Fume Hood for Chemical Treatments



*l’Egypte*, and the Botros Ghaly Family Digital Archive projects are outcomes of such agreements.

A web application which will act as a gateway to all these projects has been designed and implemented. ISIS is currently designing the web interface to be launched in October 2007.

#### *Gamal Abdel Nasser*

History is a permanent written record derived from the valuable remnants of the past, those documents that relate the history of a nation. In cooperation with the Nasser Foundation, the BA has digitized the collection of former Egyptian President Gamal Abdel Nasser and published it through an integrated searchable web-based system which is mainly intended for research and documentation purposes. The entire digital archive is freely available at <http://nasser.bibalex.org> and has been receiving an average of 1.5 million hits per month. The archive is divided into six main sections:

- Speeches
- Photo Archive
- Documentary Movies
- Documents
- Bisaraha Articles
- Abdel Nasser and Culture.

The collection is continuously being updated, recently including 43 speeches in video and audio, 276 stamps, 13 pamphlets released by the Free Officers Movement, 29 greeting cards, and 22 documents of the Cabinet meeting minutes (1176 pages) for the years 1955, 1961, and 1962. The Nasser News Archive was also updated with more than 4000 articles (about 10,507 images). A ‘Happened on the Same Day’ feature was also implemented, allowing users to view events, news, speeches, or documentary movies that happened in a certain year on the same day.

The major strength of Nasser’s Digital Archive lies in the integration of all the different information sources and media under a single interface and in a fully searchable form.

#### *Anwar El-Sadat*

The BA has also undertaken the documentation of President Anwar El-Sadat’s epoch. The entire collection will be digitized, rendering an important transitional period in Egyptian history accessible to researchers, politicians, and the public.

Agreements were finalized with President El Sadat’s family, newspaper agencies, museums and other associations to digitize the collections relevant to his presidency. Two teams are responsible for indexing the pictures and for sorting and evaluating documents and other information resources available.

Workstations with scanners were installed in two major newspaper agencies: Dar Akhbar El-Youm and Dar El-Hilal to help them digitize the material they have. To accelerate the process, a training course was conducted for the staff responsible for



the digitization. Meanwhile, the news from *Al-Ahram* newspaper relevant to the President is being digitized at the BA. Over 10,000 pieces of news have been digitized to date. An agreement was also finalized with the Egyptian State Information Service whereby 10,000 images were delivered to the BA. To date, over 6000 images have been digitized and associated with their metadata.

#### *Botroseyya Digital Archive*

The BA's has also finalized an agreement with the Botros Ghaly family to digitize their documents. The family held high and critical positions in the Egyptian government throughout the past 200 years, and thus contributed to formulating a great deal of Egypt's history. Family descendants have saved a large number of documents that trace their political role since the late 1800's (reports, letters, telegrams, articles, Egyptian and Foreign newspaper clips, invitations, photos, etc.). With over 15,000 documents (1–40 pages each), this huge collection is considered one of the largest collections with regards to both quantity and subject matter. The project attempts to digitize the entire multilingual (Arabic, Amharic, English, French, German, Italian, Ottoman, Persian, Latin and modern Turkish) collection and provide it in a searchable form for historians, politicians and researchers.

A team was formed and trained for the indexing and digitizing of the documents. To date, 2537 documents (6727 pages) have been digitized.

#### *Mohamed Mahmoud Pasha*

This project digitizes the documents pertaining to the former Egyptian Prime Minister Mohamed Mahmoud Pasha. His documents contain very rich and rare historical materials that have never been published. With the agreement of his family, the project will digitize the entire collection and provide it in a searchable form.

Equipment (two units) was installed in Cairo along with the software developed for the project, and training of two specialists for scanning and entering the metadata took place. The pictures available in the 14 albums (592 pictures) were digitized and associated with their metadata by the Media Department. Moreover, 2843 documents were completely digitized and associated with their metadata. The whole collection will be published through a browsing application featuring searching and navigation tools.

With regards to the Anwar El-Sadat, Botroseyya and Mohamed Mahmoud Pasha projects, a team was formed for each and trained on the indexing of the collections. A workflow was designed and deployed to digitize pictures, documents, audio and visual recordings, and other information resources, associating them with their metadata, and incorporate the output into the Digital Assets Repository (DAR).

#### *Al-Hilal*

The importance of the *Al Hilal* Digital Archive project stems from the historical significance of the journal itself. *Al Hilal* is considered the oldest cultural journal in the Arab world, and the only regular journal that has been issued for over one



hundred years, hence an eyewitness on both Arab and Egyptian history in the past century. It played a leading role in shaping, modernizing Arab intellectual thinking, and opening new vistas towards a cultural revolution.

Following an agreement concluded between the BA Manuscript Center and Dar-Al-Hilal (publisher), a digital copy of *Al Hilal* magazine since its



Al-Hilal interface

first publication in 1892, will be published. The issues of each decade will be compiled on CD and provided with necessary browsing and searching tools.

The ISIS team developed and implemented an application for browsing through the digital archive. The application provides searching facilities, and was recently updated to include a single interface for the entire archive. The volumes of the 115 years were completely scanned, processed, and indexed. Currently, all the volumes (approximately 176,000+ pages) have been integrated into the application.

### *L'Art Arabe*

*L'Art Arabe* is one of the most important books on the Islamic monuments of Egypt. The book consists of four volumes compiled by the French Orientalist Prisse d'Avennes, one of the greatest pre-20<sup>th</sup> century Egyptologists. It was published in 1877; therefore, many of the monuments figured in the book have since disappeared. The work postdates *Description de l'Egypte* by six decades and can be seen in some ways as a commentary upon it.

The BA aims to preserve this collection through digitizing the three-plate volumes (222 plates) and Index (388 pages). The digitized output will be integrated on a virtual browser and published on the Internet. The Related-Text feature will help in the understanding of the plates by relating them to the corresponding text.

ISIS scanned and processed the four volumes of plates and text (over 600 pages) in high resolution. The processing phase



L'Art Arabe Interface



included the treatment of the destroyed pages in an attempt to restore the original look. The Index volume has been OCRed to provide an index-based search facility.

### *L'Institut d'Egypte*

The BA is taking the initiative in the revival of the *l'Institut d'Egypte* built in Cairo by Napoleon Bonaparte over 200 years ago. The *l'Institut* owns a huge collection (over 35,000 volumes) of rare and ancient references, books, and periodicals in 5 languages (Arabic, English, French, German and Russian). The BA has suggested nine projects for its revival, among which is a project of digitizing its entire collection, rendering it available to the public.

The effort began with the digitization of the 10 volumes of *Description de l'Egypte*, followed by the complete works of Voltaire (69 volumes), *Des Mille Nuits et Une Nuit* (16 volumes), and *Geographie Universelle* (15 volumes). Eventually, the whole library of the *l'Institut* will be digitized, processed, catalogued, indexed and made accessible in a searchable form through the web. This will be the first attempt to digitize and publish a collection of such value.

### *Description de l'Egypte*

*Description de l'Egypte* is by all standards a colossal achievement. It is a valuable collection which 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. It contains images related to antiquities, natural history, and the modern states of Egypt, has been fully digitized and integrated on a virtual browser with the objective of preserving it and making it publicly accessible. The collection includes eleven volumes of plates owned by the BA, as well as ten volumes of texts, a contribution from *l'Institut d'Egypte*



*Description de l'Egypte* Web Version

The first stage of the project was completed in October 2004, where the application was provided on DVD in high resolution with French and English interfaces. The relation between the text and plate volumes was established and they were rendered in a searchable form. The project was on exhibition at the Grand Palais in Paris, France for three months beginning December 2006.

In April 2007, the second stage was completed, developing a web version to introduce the entire collection online in an integrated searchable form. The web version provides the enhanced functionalities, as in the case of *l'Art Arabe*. Two special features distinguish the new website, allowing users to view pages in high resolution without the need for a high speed connection, and full text morphological search with highlights for the book's 9000 pages.





## Historical Figures

History, with its facts and evidence, is also an interpretation of the past. The Special Project unit in the BA has thus undertaken the mission of writing and translating books that explore the past critically, through figures that made a difference in the world and as such in history.

The BA joined the Mediterranean community in celebrating the 600<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Ibn Khaldun's death. The book entitled *With Ibn Khaldun on his Journey*, was published, as well as the Arabic translation *Ibn Khaldun: The Mediterranean in the 14<sup>th</sup> Century, Rise and Fall of Empires*, originally published in Spanish and English.

An illustrated catalog of the life, cultural and scientific role of Ali Pasha Ibrahim, one of the most eminent Egyptian surgeons in the first half of the twentieth century as well as one of the most famous antique collectors, is also being issued.

After the stunning success met by the *Rose al-Youssef: 80 Years of Journalism* catalog, the Unit is currently preparing to publish an illustrated catalog on the history of Akhbar al-Youm Press Agency, covering the institution's history and role in the Egyptian and Arab media.

## Commemorative Publications

A multiplicity of catalogs on a variety of topics have been prepared, such as: *The Receptacle of Knowledge* catalog which explores the beginning of recorded history all the way to our contemporary world, tracing our journey of self-expression through written symbols, from cave walls to e-texts. *The National Archive (Dar al-Mahfouzat)* catalog investigates the history of the National Archive, its most important departments, and its



Egyptian Shura Council Building

historical role as a storehouse of the secrets of Egypt's modern history. The Arabic version of the *African Art* Catalog, explores the history and evolution of African art and customs. The *Bibliotheca Alexandrina* catalog offers insight into the internal make-up of the BA; its departments, research centers, and museums, providing the reader with a comprehensive introduction to the BA. Finally, the *Dar al-Hilal* catalog deals with the history of the press agency and its cultural role in Egypt and the Arab world.

To mark the 28<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of the Egyptian Shura Council (one of the two chambers of the Egyptian Parliament), a commemorative book is being prepared. The book deals with the history and evolution of the Council, in addition to shedding light on Egyptian parliamentary life.





*Excellence means being better tomorrow than you were yesterday.*

Brian Harbour, *Rising Above the Crowd*  
*Leading the Way* by Paul Borthwick, Navpress, 1989: 64

# **Center of Excellence on Specialized Topics**



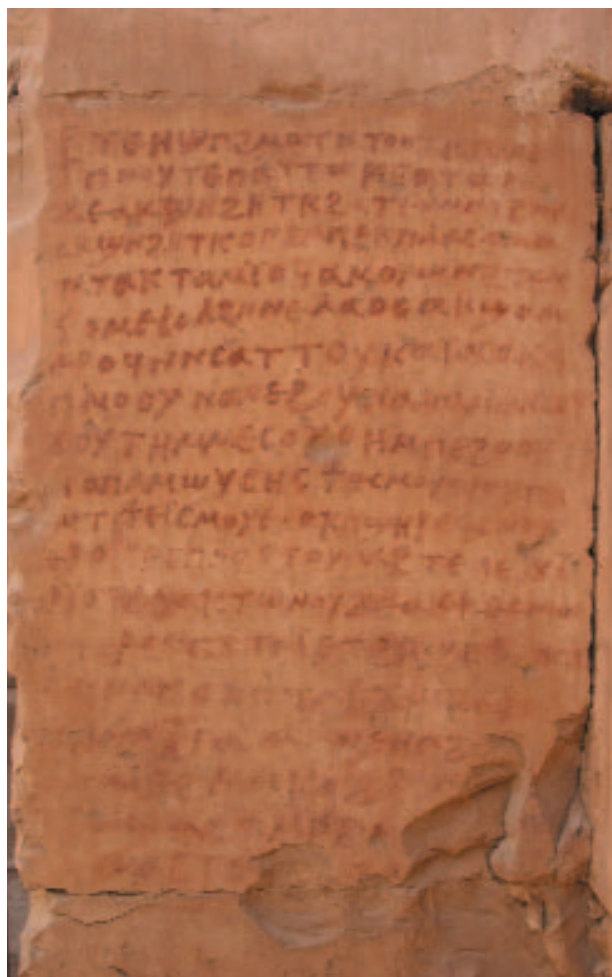
## Center of Excellence on Specialized Topics

The BA is determined to be both excellent and by all means, successful. It aspires to be a credible and dependable reference in certain areas such as the ancient Library of Alexandria, the city of Alexandria, Egypt and peace among others. There is also a special emphasis on certain subjects such as the ethics of Science and Technology, development and gender. This is often achieved through the publication of numerous books. Likewise, all BA departments strive to become recognized centers of excellence in their chosen fields of endeavor.

### History of Writing

The Calligraphy Center studies the four scripts of the ancient Egyptian language as well as other ancient scripts and languages. Through a series of educational courses, the Center encourages national awareness of the importance of studying the ancient Egyptian language to understand Egyptian history and civilization.

The Center brings together specialists and researchers in roundtable discussions and specialized conferences such as the Ancient Egyptian Calligraphy Conference and the Towards Better Arabic Calligraphy Conference. It has published several works such as *The Ancient Egyptian Language* by Abdelhalim Nureldin, and *The Writings on the Walls of Al-Hamra Palaces* by Mohammed El-Gammal. It also published the first specialized journal in the field of ancient writings and scripts entitled *Abgadiyat*.



Monument Inscriptions

*Lost Languages: the Enigma of the World's Undeciphered Scripts* (translated into Arabic by the Center) is a book by Andrew Robinson, literary editor of the *Times Higher Education Supplement*, conjures up a distant past obscured by the ravages of time and haunted by rapacious code breakers on the hunt for glory. The book begins with an incisive description of decipherment techniques and tells the story of three



great decipherments: the Egyptian Hieroglyphs in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the Mayan glyphs of Central America, and the Linear B clay tables of the Minoan civilization of Crete in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The book also demonstrates the continuous need to learn more about the past, and make many more discoveries, for there are many other scripts that have not yet been deciphered, such as the Indus script which is found on seal stones, pottery and copper tables excavated in Pakistan and India.

The Calligraphy Center also translated into Arabic *The History of Writing: from Ideogram to Multimedia*, a book by Anne-Marie Christin that traces all the systems of writing all over the world from ancient to modern times. Each chapter tackles a specific region of the world and focuses on the interplay of discursive elements that played a role in the evolution of writing and culture. Among such elements are the customs and traditions of the native population, the surviving antiquities of the era in question and above all, the intellectual activities of the time. The work also explores the steps of the decipherment of some ancient languages that have remained obscure and enigmatic for a long time. This book was awarded as the best book translated into Arabic in the field of Literature and Humanity, in 2006, by the Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Sciences (KFAS).

The BA Calligraphy Center issues *Abgadiyat*, a scientific refereed journal which documents the recent discoveries in calligraphy, writing and inscriptions throughout time. The first issue appeared in October 2006.

*The Journey of Writing in the Land of the Pharaoh* will become one of the permanent exhibitions of the BA. The exhibition will deal with three different types of writing systems: Ideogram (Arabic, Hebrew, Persian, and Turkish), Vocalic (Greek, Coptic) and Syllabic systems (Cuneiform). It aims to raise cultural awareness of the different writing that developed in Egypt, displaying the different phases of inventing writing. Work began on the project in January 2005. The gathering of scientific data is almost finished; the translation of the material into English is in progress.

### **Cultural Season**

The Calligraphy Center hosts archeologists and various calligraphers from Egypt and different parts of the world to give lectures that are both entertaining and enlightening. This Season was held in collaboration with various local and international institutions. The lectures given in the period between 2006 and 2007 were:

- ‘The History of Islamic Coins’, by Raafat El-Nabarawy, dealt with the history of Islamic coins and the inscriptions found on them.
- ‘The Lost Languages’, by Andrew Robinson, reflected upon the many lost languages of the world.
- ‘The Secrets of Arabic Calligraphy’, by Mosaad Khodeir, gave insight into the inner workings of Arabic Calligraphy, particularly how the artist prepares himself to start his work.



### **Studies Series**

The Calligraphy Center series *Studies* is a refereed scientific series that publishes specialized books and volumes concerning the study of inscriptions.

The Center is in the process of preparing a monograph: *The Fatimide Inscriptions and Writings on the Architectural Monuments* which is a study of the Fatimide writings and inscriptions. The research also demonstrates the development of Kufi Calligraphy: its origins, emergence, evolution and forms. The study focuses on the material on which the inscriptions were engraved. It also displays the relationship between the Fatimide inscriptions and the historical, economic and political evolution of the society, with a study on the Shiite doctrine through these Fatimide writings and inscriptions.

### **Exploring Alexandria**

The Alexandria and Mediterranean Research Center has collected and archived data and information covering all development sectors of the governorate of Alexandria, thereby establishing the Alexandria database. This will provide an insider's view of the city to all interested parties. The data is submitted in the form of text reports and maps after analysis.

The reports cover a variety of topics concerning Alexandria, including Transportation, Housing, Industry, State of the Environment, and Land Division (Center District).

Ongoing researches in progress about Alexandria include: Agriculture, Tourism, Accommodation, Leisure, and Land Division (East and Montazah District). Other research fields are: Infrastructure, Economy, and Services in Alexandria.

### **Alexandria Books and Monographs**

The Alex-Med Center has published *Voices from Cosmopolitan Alexandria*, an oral narrative of Alexandrians representing the communities and creeds that had for decades made this city their home. Together, they tell the tale of rich diversity, tolerance and cultural interaction that created a cosmopolitan city par excellence. The book was an outcome of the EU funded project "Med Voices: Oral History and Cultural Practices in the Mediterranean.

Other publications by Alex-Med include:

- *My Alexandria: Poems and Prose* by the Irish poet Desmond O'Grady
- *The Birth of the Seventh Art in Alexandria* which is a catalog of the role Alexandrians played in establishing the cinema in Egypt.
- *The Character of the Alexandria in Egyptian Cinema* by Sami Helmi, traces the way the Alexandrian character is portrayed in Egyptian films.





*Voices from Alexandria*



Desmond O'Grady signing the monograph *My Alexandria: Poems and Prose*



To facilitate trips to Alexandria and the Library, the Visits Department is currently in the process of publishing a guidebook including addresses, phone numbers and other services that tourists would need during their stay.

### Memory of the Arab World

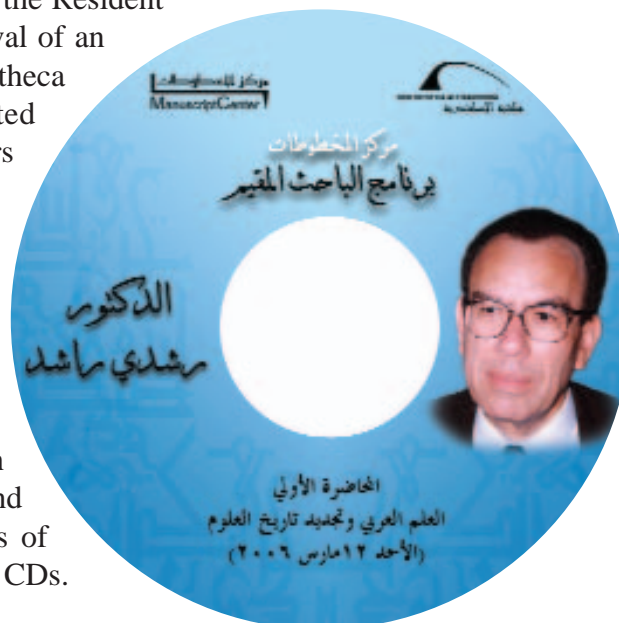
The Memory of the Arab World is concerned with developing a specialized portal on the Internet which uses the latest software to introduce the Arab civilization to the world and to contribute to the Arabic content on the World Wide Web. This bilingual gateway is intended to connect younger generations of Arabs with their cultural identity and to maintain the comprehensive memory of the people.

### The Arabic Diwan

The Arabic Diwan is a portal that publishes on the Internet Egyptian and Arabic contributions to the various fields of literature, science, history, social sciences, art and music. The Arabic Diwan will begin operation in 2008 with a basic collection of heritage books that are now being digitized in collaboration with the National Library and Archives of Egypt; in addition to the most important books produced by various publishers such as Dar Alma'aref as well as other institutions such as the National Egyptian Theater, Akhbar Alyoum Library and other local publishers. The gateway allows users to print a copy of any selected publication through their personal computers.

### Resident Scholar Program

The Manuscript Center has established the Resident Scholar's Program (RSP), another revival of an ancient tradition. The Ancient Bibliotheca Alexandrina used to be a celebrated meeting place for scientists and scholars from all over the corners of the ancient world. The Manuscript Center has been inviting eminent scholars in the fields of Arabic/ Islamic heritage to reside in Alexandria for two or three weeks delivering lectures and deliberating with young or already initiated scholars. The interaction incites a dynamic milieu of research and a conservation of established traditions of academia. The lectures are recorded on CDs.



RSP - Roshdi Rashed





The program was launched in March 2006:

- Professor Roshdi Rashed, Emeritus Director of Research at the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS) and the world's foremost authority in the history of Arabic mathematics and mathematical sciences.
- Professor Mahmoud Makki, a celebrated authority in the history and literature of al-Andalus (former Muslim Spain) followed in July 2006. His lectures were like a reader's guide to the political, intellectual, literary and scientific history of this magnificently exquisite episode of Islam.
- Adonis, the Arab poet whose Arabic poetry has been translated into major European languages and whose thought still defies many of our most entrenched intellectual observances, resided at the BA in November 2006.,
- Professor Abdullah al-Ghoneim, another pundit of Arabic science, regarding Arabic geographical thought and studies, himself a geomorphologist of the Arabian Peninsula.
- Professor Ahmad Shawki Benbin, is the one who disseminated the science of codicology in Arabic manuscript studies and a staunch proponent of scientific methods in the study of Arabic manuscripts.

#### *The Academia Bibliotheca Alexandrinae*

The Academia Bibliotheca Alexandrinae (ABA) was established to include 100 of the greatest minds of the contemporary world. A “virtual organization” established an international network of scientists, artists and scholars.

Lectures by eminent speakers and members of the ABA were recorded and made available for future use. No less than three such published lectures appear every year and sometimes there is substantially more.

A number of distinguished speakers have been invited to present a series of lectures in the BA during 2006–2007:

- **Klaus Ammann** - *Towards Organo-Transgenic Crops?*
- **Yolanda Kakabadse** - *Is Peace Achieved by Avoiding Conflict?*
- **Daniel J. Clancy** - *Indexing All the World's Books: Future Directions and Challenges for Google Book Search.*
- **Usama Fayyad** - *From Digital Libraries to Live User-Generated Community Repositories: The Challenges of the Internet as a Publishing Medium.*
- **David Gross** - *The Coming Revolutions in Fundamental Physics.*
- **Robert Putman** - *Community Engagement in a Changing America.*
- **Hans Blix** - *Weapons of Mass Destruction and Security in the Middle East.*
- **Sir Partha Dasgupta** - *Economics of Resilience in Ecosystems and Its Role in Sustainable Development.*
- **Karl-Goran Maler** - *Economics of Resilience in Ecosystems and Its Role in Sustainable Development.*



- **Charles Correa** - *The Language of Architecture*.
- **Bunker Roy** - *Barefoot College*.
- **Roald Hoffman** - *The Unity of the Arts and Sciences*.
- **John Barrow** - *Our Place in the Universe*.
- **Armando Milani** - *From the Eye to the Heart*.
- **Baroness Susan Greenfield** - *Selling Science to the Public*

### Institute for Peace Studies

Since its inauguration in February 2006, the Institute for Peace Studies (IPS) has engaged in several activities to activate its mandate to promote the culture of peace in the region; engage in a series of partnerships on regional and international levels and, develop training and research programs that will enhance human security and peace, as well as expand the role of women and young people in the process of peace building.

Starting July 2006, the IPS hosted the second group of research Fellows of The UNESCO/Suzanne Mubarak/Japan-Egypt Friendship Research Fellowship for the Empowerment of Women in Peace and Gender Studies. The Institute administered the program by providing housing facilities, transportation and



Global Extremism, Terrorism and Response Strategies

and academic supervision for the ten researchers from ten different countries to conduct research in the Bibliotheca Alexandria.

Committed to enhance human security, and determined to play an instrumental role in promoting reform in the region, on 6 and 7 August 2006, the IPS partnered with the Strategic Foresight Group in Mumbai to conduct an international workshop on “Global Extremism, Terrorism and Response Strategies”. The outcome of this workshop was summarized in a report and published by the IPS and the Bibliotheca Alexandrina, and presented to the European Parliament on 26 and 27 November in a meeting attended by Ambassador Aly Maher, IPS Director.

Following this workshop on 8 and 9 August, and in collaboration with the UN University for Peace in Costa Rica, the IPS held a Curriculum Development Workshop. The purpose of the workshop was to develop a course on “Conflict Resolution” within an Egyptian context.



In September 2006, the IPS Director joined a number of international personalities and organizations under the chairmanship of HE Mrs Mubarak in Paris to attend “The First Brainstorming Session on the Protection of Civilians during Armed Conflicts”. The Paris meeting decided that the IPS will coordinate with an expert working group that will prepare a report on the issue of protecting civilians and the mechanisms that could be implemented to ensure its conclusion. On 4 November, the expert group met in Cairo to discuss the progress of this report.

The final recommendations were presented to “The Second Brainstorming Session on the Protection of Civilians during Armed Conflicts” held in Alexandria on 9 January, 2007.

The 9 January meeting, presided over by HE Mrs Mubarak, brought together a group of international figures who discussed the report presented by the expert group and agreed to issue the Alexandria Plan of Action which summarized the conclusions of the meeting and recommended that the IPS should follow this up and take an active role in launching a campaign to ban the use of cluster bombs. The IPS took up this suggestion and called for a meeting of a group of experts to put together a plan for the campaign which resulted in issuing a document for signatures.

The document will be disseminated on the national and international levels to obtain support for the campaign. On 10 January, the first IPS board meeting was presided over by HE Mrs Mubarak, the Chairman of the Board, and attended by the newly appointed board members:

- **Abdalla, Amr**—Professor and Vice Rector for Academic Affairs at UPEACE (University for Peace in Costa Rica)
- **Abdel Moneim, Soliman**—Professor of Criminal Law and Executive Director of the Center of Studies and Legal Research at the University of Alexandria
- **Abi-Saab, Georges**—Professor of International Law, Former Chairman of the Appellate Body of the World Trade Organization and former Judge of the International Court of Justice
- **Bensalah Alaoui, Assia**—Professor of Law and Director of Studies, Centre for Strategic Studies, Faculty of Law, Mohammed V University, Rabat, Morocco
- **Bailes, Alyson J.K**—Director of the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute.
- **Elaraby, Nabil**—Former Judge at the International Court of Justice.
- **Hammad, Aleya**—Visiting Professor at New York University and George Washington University, and founding Member of the Suzanne Mubarak Women’s International Peace Movement.
- **Jonah, James**—Professor and Senior Fellow at the Ralph Bunche Institute for International Studies (CUNY Graduate Center in New York City).
- **Mani, Rama**—Executive Director of the International Centre for Ethnic Studies in Colombo, Sri Lanka



- **Salamé, Ghassan**—Professor of International Relations at the Institut d’Études Politiques in Paris and Senior Advisor to the United Nations Secretary General.

- **Serageldin, Ismail**—Vice Chairman of the IPS and Director of the Library of Alexandria.

- **Telhami, Shibley**—Anwar Sadat Professor for Peace and Development at the University of Maryland, College Park, and non-resident Senior Fellow at the Saban Center at the Brookings Institution.

- **Yassin, El Sayed**—Professor of Political Sociology at the National Center for Sociological and Criminological Research in Egypt.



Issuing the Alexandria Plan of Action

In the same spirit of seeking to become a major actor in activating peace in the region, the Institute hosted a lecture on “Weapons of Mass Destruction and Security in the Middle East” by Hans Blix, Chairman of the Weapons of Mass Destruction Commission on 22 January. In March, the IPS hosted an important seminar on “Steps towards a Nuclear Free Middle East” in collaboration with Greenpeace International on the occasion of the visit of the Greenpeace flagship, the Rainbow Warrior, to Alexandria. The seminar aimed to stress the dangers related to the proliferation of nuclear arms, and encourage a dialogue on all levels about how to increase security in the region.

On 12 May, the IPS in collaboration with the Preventive Child Mental Health Association and WHO, hosted an international conference on “The Management of Trauma among Children, Adolescents and the Community” to discuss Post Traumatic Stress Disorders with special reference to the impact of violence and wars on women and children.

The IPS academic program was launched in July 2007 and its initial three courses: Human Rights, Peace Education and Conflict Resolution have become available to the public throughout July and August. All three courses are taught by professional instructors from the University of Alexandria and UPEACE in Costa Rica. Simultaneously, the Institute has translated the Strategic Foresight Group report *An Inclusive World in which the West, Islam and the Rest Have a Stake* into Arabic and is planning to publish it before the end of 2007.



## **AMEEL**

On 19 October 2006, the BA and Yale University Library signed an agreement concerning the Arabic and Middle East Electronic Library (AMEEL), a project initiated by Yale University Library. It will bring together a well-chosen family of partners at the heart of an electronic library of Middle Eastern materials. This will embrace digital representations of traditional materials, “born digital” contemporary materials, and a service structure that will begin to enable some form of interlibrary loan and document delivery for traditional materials that have not yet been digitized. All will be folded into a portal interface that 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.

Both parties agreed on specific issues including: digitization, integration, training, consulting, and following Open Source software standards. The BA International School for Information Science (ISIS), having developed an advanced workflow for the digitization of Arabic material, will act as a key partner in this initiative. ISIS will be responsible for the digitization process through its Digital Laboratory. Images scanned either at the BA or Yale are OCRed. Moreover, a software engineer from the BA will be assigned to work at Yale on the AMEEL project on tasks such as integration, testing, developing a presentation prototype and evaluating all systems developed and vendor software. A pilot study has already begun to test the integration of the digitization workflow between the BA and Yale.

ISIS will assist in the development of a training course on digitization techniques and approaches that will be offered during 2007 to AMEEL partners. AMEEL and the Online Access to Consolidated Information on Serials (OACIS), tie closely with the BA’s strategy of expanding global activities and becoming a widely recognized digital center of excellence in the Middle East and beyond the region. The project is funded by the US Department of Education’s Title VI TICFIA (Technological Innovation and Cooperation for Foreign Information Access) Program.

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

Initiated by the Library of Congress, the World Digital Library (WDL) project aims to create world accessible content related to the history and culture of different peoples and countries.

In 2006, the two libraries signed a memorandum of understanding by which the Bibliotheca Alexandrina agreed to play a part 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 used to develop and test standards, technologies, and procedures. The project will



involve the digitization of rare and unique materials from the collections of the Bibliotheca Alexandrina relating to the history and culture of the city of Alexandria, Egypt, and the Middle East in general. As a first step, the Bibliotheca Alexandrina will contribute to the project with special collections. The preliminary selection includes the digitized copy of the *Description de l’Egypte* and the Awad collection of old Alexandria.

The two institutions will create two identical 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 two institutions also agreed on setting up a technical committee chaired by the BA to be responsible for preparing the ground for the infrastructure, system architecture and technicalities for implementing these mirror sites and maintaining them.

Moreover, the BA has been invited by UNESCO to an expert meeting in December 2006 to materialize the next steps for building a web portal prototype to be launched in October 2007 at the General Assembly of the UNESCO.

### **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 95 well trained members, working seven days a week, two shifts per day, digitizing various media including slides in multi-formats, negatives, books, manuscripts, pictures, and maps. The laboratory is equipped with the necessary tools used for scanning, processing, indexing, archiving and management, thus automating the entire workflow. Observing the remarkable progress achieved by the Digital Laboratory, Carnegie Mellon University was encouraged to donate to the BA five high-end book scanners (Zeutschel OS-5000) to extend the capacities of the digital laboratory.

The Lab has recently undergone major expansions in area, equipments, and personnel. New digital laboratory personnel are being recruited and trained to increase the Lab capacity to 120 specialists. The five new scanners donated by Carnegie Mellon University were installed, raising the total number of scanners to ten. Owing to this extension, the production rate of the Digital Lab will reach 120 books per day instead on 60 books per day.

Many of the projects conducted by ISIS are highly dependent on the Digital Laboratory to achieve their goals.



Current Digital Laboratory statistics are shown below:

### Digital Laboratory Production

(as at 30 June 2007)

		Arabic	Latin	TOTAL
Digitized and Processed	Books	29,440	4,653	34,093
	Pages	11 million	1.3+ million	12.3+ million
Images				30,126
OCRed	Books	23,188	4,650	27,838
	Pages	9+ million	1+ million	10+ million

	Books Cleared/Fixed	Remain to Be Fixed	TOTAL
Quality Assurance	28,269	332	28,601

Daily Rates (single shift)

- Scanning: 1,800 pages/person
- Processing: 1,800 pages/person
- Latin OCR: 4,000 pages/person
- Arabic OCR: 1,200 pages/person

- Digitized collections (as at 30/06/2007):

- 1,890 Italian books.
- 592 images of Mohamed Mahmoud Pasha—in cooperation with Media Department
- 213 issues of Aalam Al Bena (عالم البناء)—in cooperation with the Library Sector
- About 700 plans of Al Awqaf—in cooperation with Alex-Med
- 60 manuscripts (1147 pages)—in cooperation with Manuscripts Center



Renovated Digital Lab

- 20 slides of paintings of Mounir Canaan—in cooperation with Arts Center



- 703 images about the history of Alexandria and the Navy—in cooperation with Alex-Med
- 43 images about the history of cinema—in cooperation with Alex-Med
- 1679 slides were added to Dr Serageldin's collection, reaching 28,852 in total.
- Four volumes of *L'Art Arabe*
- The *Inauguration du canal de Suez: Voyage des souverains* written by G. Nicole and Edouard Riou in 1869
- 800 books scanned in India
- Issues of 115 years of Dar El-Hilal (since its first publication in 1892 to date)
- 7587 articles about El-Sadat, Mohamed Naguib and other famous figures from Akhbar Elyoum—newspaper agency
- 30 issues of Al-Mossawar magazine

### Digital Assets Repository (DAR)

The Digital Assets Repository (DAR) is a system developed by ISIS to create and maintain the Library digital collections. DAR acts as a homogeneous repository for all types of material digitized at the BA or acquired from other sources, preserving and archiving digital media, and providing public access to digitized collections through web-based search and browsing facilities. Another major objective of DAR is the automation of the digitization workflow and its integration with the repository.



DAR Interface

The architecture of DAR consists of two fundamental modules: the Digital Assets Factory (DAF), and the Digital Assets Keeper (DAK). The DAF module is responsible for the automation of the digitization workflow, while DAK acts as a repository for digital assets either produced by DAF or directly introduced into the repository.

During the second half of 2006, a new version of DAF (DAFv2) was designed and implemented to overcome the challenges faced by the first version. The system is open source and is deployed at the Digital Laboratory. DAFv2 manages the entire process of digitization. This version also supports workflow dynamic evolutions and deviation to allow for exception handling, and provides history tracking of actions and flexibility to simultaneously manage multiple projects with a diversity of materials. It allows easy integration of tools used to perform functions of the workflow, allowing collaboration with other institutions such as the Million Book project partners.





### **Universal Digital Book Encoder (UDBE)**

The Universal Digital Book Encoder (UDBE) system has been integrated with the new version of the Digital Assets Factory (DAFv2). The UDBE framework renders it possible to utilize OCR results of any engine to compile image-on-text documents in any valid target format by adopting the Common OCR Format (COF). It is possible to produce multilingual – namely, Arabic, Latin and Persian – image-on-text documents in an automated fashion.

The Digital viewer has advanced searching and navigation features as well as some main security features such as saving the book or sample pages based on the user's access level. In addition, a special concurrency control module was integrated to make sure that a book is viewed by only one person at a time. Over 29,217 books and 30,126 images are now available on <http://dar.bibalex.org>. All out-of-copyright books are available in full for Internet users. For books that are in copyright, Internet users can browse only 5% of the book. They are available from within BA though, with simultaneous access allowed to the number of physical copies available at BA. Content-based search is performed on all books. Several enhancements are being implemented in the publishing tool to provide more security for copyright protected books.

### **USAID Information Center**

On 27 February 2007, the BA officially welcomed the USAID funded Integrated Reproductive Health Services Project (the TAKAMOL project) to become part of its depository collection. TAKAMOL is a technical assistance project that aids the Ministry of Health and Population in promoting an integrated model to strengthen maternal health, childcare, family planning and reproductive health services.

The BA agreed to provide free access to TAKAMOL publications to local community users, including government agencies, academia, professionals, development institutions and organizations. The BA will also help plan, organize and facilitate trips and knowledge-sharing sessions among students, youth and other stakeholders from TAKAMOL intervention communities.

### **CyberBibAlex**

In February 2007, CyberBibAlex a new website for the Main and Specialized Libraries (Young People's Library, Children's Library, Taha Hussein Library for the Visually Impaired, and the Arts and Multimedia Library) was launched. The site was designed by Idée Click Media Company and funded by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA). The technical backend was developed by the BA ICT web-administrator.

The main objective of this website is to provide students and researchers, as well as the general public, with access to the BA's print and online resources. The website also introduces the library services, and policies including hours of operation, donation procedures, and ongoing programs and activities, as well as additional information that answer most of the visitors' inquiries.



### **Extended Library Hours**

Due to the high demand of its patrons, and to increase study and research opportunities, the Bibliotheca Alexandrina has extended its opening hours to the public. Old hours were limited to six days a week with a total of 40 hours. The new hours have been increased to 52 hours a week. However, the most dramatic difference was not in the number of hours that were extended weekly, but in the number of days where closure was minimized. Contrary to previously closing on Tuesdays and all official and major religious holidays, a total of 64 days per year, the BA will now only close six days per year. The new opening hours began on 27 October 2006 and was well received and lauded by the community.

### **Access to Knowledge A2K**

The Bibliotheca Alexandrina has developed a growing interest in issues relating to access to knowledge (A2K), and intellectual property (IP). In this context, in June 2005, the BA organized the “Arab Regional Dialogue on Intellectual Property Rights, Innovation and Sustainable Development” in collaboration with International Center for Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD) and United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). This was followed by a regional seminar entitled “New Tools for the Dissemination of Knowledge: Global Developments and Regional Challenges”, held in September 2006. The seminar witnessed a distinguished range of participants and keynote speakers, examining open collaborative models and open access initiatives in fields such as scientific research and open access publishing.



Participants in A2K Seminar

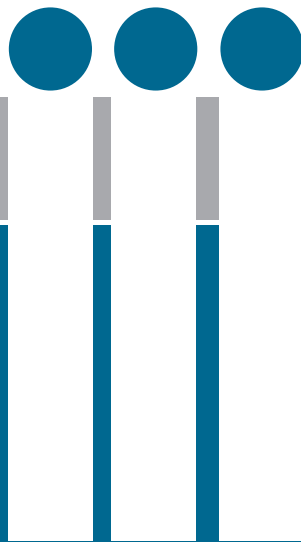


The participants recognized the importance of open collaborative models and open access initiatives in promoting creativity and innovation, particularly for developing countries, while contributing towards a wide dissemination of knowledge at a reduced cost. Such models and initiatives offered many opportunities to meet the challenges faced by Arab countries in promoting greater access to knowledge, developing research and improving education, and thus can positively contribute to their development process. Participants encouraged Arab countries to play a more active role in support of access to knowledge initiatives in international fora.

As a result, in May 2007, the BA, in co-operation with The International Development Law Organization (IDLO), organized two workshops on “Intellectual Property and New Tools for the Dissemination of Knowledge”. The first was held at IDLO’s new regional center, Ibrahim Shihata Training Center of Cairo, and the second at the Bibliotheca Alexandrina. The workshops discussed the notion and definition of Intellectual Property and the items/subjects it covers. Special focus was on copyright issues highlighting the exception and limitation to that exclusive right for the purpose of education and Access to Knowledge, introducing and explaining the open source and Creative Commons as new tools for the dissemination of knowledge. Sixty participants attended the workshops, including lawyers, judges, academics, researchers, diplomats, librarians and IT engineers.

The Bibliotheca Alexandrian signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Creative Commons Organization to translate and promote the creative commons licenses in Egypt. For more information and recommendations of the seminar please visit the website [www.bibalex.org](http://www.bibalex.org).





*A rock pile ceases to be a rock pile the moment a single man contemplates it,  
bearing within him the image of a cathedral.*

Antoine De Saint-Exupery (1900–1944)

*Flight of Arras*

# **Actor in the Sustainable Development of the City**



## Actor in the Sustainable Development of the City

The New Library of Alexandria was once a dream, now a vivid vibrating reality attracting people from all over the globe. Therefore, the Library has encouraged Alexandrians to develop a vision for their city, one that would only blossom into a reality through the collective efforts of the community, the government and civil society in inventing a future and defining a path to reach that vision. Public awareness about history and culture has also been fuelled by the Antiquities Museum, which introduces programs on Egyptian heritage through media and electronic publications. The Antiquities Museum has become one of the main attractions, not only of the Bibliotheca Alexandrina but also of the culturally diverse city of Alexandria.

### Villa Antoniadis

The Villa Antoniadis, founded in the late 1850s by Sir John Antoniadis—a British subject of Greek origin—witnessed a series of historical events such as the signing of the Anglo-Egyptian Treaty of 1936 between Nahas Pasha and the British as well as the founding of the Arab League in 1946.

In 2004, the Governorate of Alexandria donated the Villa Antoniadis and part of its gardens to the BA to host the premises of the Alexandria and Mediterranean Research Center. The rehabilitation of the Villa has begun, with the aim of promoting scientific development and exchange, through the activity of Alex-Med; cultural and artistic development and exchange, through hosting an open air theater, a cultural center, a museum and exhibition areas; and economic development, through the creation of thematic gardens, flowers and house plants exhibitions and various catering and leisure services.

### Geographical Information System

An active partner in the rejuvenation of the city and the preservation of its heritage by promoting its urban, economic and intellectual development, Alex-Med is currently conducting a complete survey of existing and previous street names and building numbers. This data will be used to build a geographical information system (GIS) for the city of Alexandria and produce a printed atlas to be used by citizens and tourists.

- Phase 1 (from Ras El Tin to the Suez Canal Road) has been completed
- Phase 2 (from the Suez Canal Road to the Glym area) is ongoing

### Architecture Competition

In collaboration with the Governorate of Alexandria and under the auspices of his Excellency the Prime Minister, an international exhibition and conference were held at the Bibliotheca Alexandrina 17–18 September 2006, to present and evaluate projects submitted for the development of the Eastern Harbor and the area surrounding the Bibliotheca Alexandrina, the Aquarium, Underwater Museum and



the new airport at Borg El Arab. The exhibition and conference constituted the first phase of the competition, which was concerned at this stage with the visions and architectural aspects.



Audience of the Architecture Competition Conference

Participants: Snøhetta, Gensler, Pei Partnership Architects, Mario Botta Office, “Skidmore, Owings & Merrill”, Jacques Rougerie, Peter Chermayeff, Borg El Arab Airport "JAC - Japan, ECG - Egypt, NACO - Holland", Dr Hammam Serageldin "Architecture Center" , Al-Takamol Co. and “Hamza and Partners”.

### **Stand Up Against Poverty**

The BA, led by Ismail Serageldin, Director, and Mahmoud Kabil, actor and UN Goodwill Ambassador, joined in the “cause against poverty” on 15 October. Over 1400 citizens of Alexandria were invited to gather in the BA Plaza to unite against poverty.

That day, the world came together and physically stood up to remind their governments that promises to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and help the billions living in extreme poverty by 2015, must be kept. The purpose was to raise awareness of the MDGs and to publicly demonstrate to policy makers the growing global support for the eradication of poverty. STAND UP is an initiative designed to coincide with the Global Call to Action against Poverty (GCAP) month of global mobilizations ([www.whiteband.org](http://www.whiteband.org)) around the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty. Numerous events were organized worldwide, where participants “stood up” while an anti-poverty pledge was read, and thus collectively set an official Guinness World Record for the greatest number of people ever to stand up against poverty and for the MDGs in a 24-hour period.





Stand Up! against Poverty

### **International Human Rights Day**

On the occasion of the International Human Rights Day, 10 December 2006, with the collaboration between the Arab Reform Forum and the Library Sector, the BA invited local area high schools to ABC's of Human Rights. To promote awareness of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights to high school students, the BA designed an active day of role playing, art, discussion, and much more. The event focused on human rights to life, peace, and equality within the boundaries of the Declaration and mobilized by the internationally celebrated Manifesto written by the Fundación Cultura de Paz (Culture of Peace Foundation), Spain.

The BA's mission was to invite 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students, from schools all over Alexandria, to participate alongside local NGO members, and BA staff, to understand the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.







Schools were asked to provide artistic impressions of the Declaration, including paintings, drawings, poetry, writings, theatrical performances, reflecting individual students' perceptions on the subject.

### **White Cane Safety Day**

White Cane Safety Day is celebrated in the United States annually on 15 October since 1964. The BA is taking the lead in Egypt by demonstrating the rights of the blind and visually impaired. On 14 December 2006, the Taha Hussein Library for the Visually Impaired organized a symposium entitled the *White Cane as a Tool for the Blind*. With this symposium, the BA aims at raising the awareness of blind people in Egypt, on the importance of using canes, and to rally support of the concerned parties for fellow visually impaired citizens.





*The purpose of art is washing the dust of daily life  
Off our souls.*

Pablo Picasso

# **Innovator in Cultural & Artistic Interaction**



## Innovator in Cultural and Artistic Interaction

Art is the culmination of human thought and feelings; it is the noblest expression, the most important validation of our humanity, a universal language and a basic constituent of a nation's culture. Alexandria has since time immemorial been rich with art, not only because of its fascinating geographical position on the Mediterranean but mostly as the product of the artistic interaction of diverse cultures and peoples within the cosmopolitan city. Since the inauguration of the BA which featured the participation of artists and musicians from five continents, the ongoing programs of hundreds of exhibitions, concerts and plays underscore the rich diversity of world culture. This year, the Library Sector welcomed over one hundred international librarians from Italy, Germany, the United States of America and Malaysia. International librarians have united in their quest to share experiences and culture at the BA.

### Qaitbey Exhibition

Alex-Med participated in the first exhibition of Arab books which took place at the historic fort of Qaitbey, from 24 August to 1 September 2006. The activities of the Center in the field of documentation of cultural heritage were exhibited, such as the documentation of the mosques of the Ottoman Town, Hammams, endangered buildings and the rehabilitation of the Villa Antoniadis. In addition, a multimedia presentation and digital reconstruction of the Pharos of Alexandria entitled "The Rise and Fall of the Pharos of Alexandria" was screened, and old photographs of the city's major squares and famous buildings during the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries were displayed. In August 2007, a second exhibition of this nature also took place at the fort.



Arab Book Exhibition



## Penser la Méditerranée

“Penser la Méditerranée” is a cycle of seven conferences organized by Alex-Med which began in May 2006 and will continue until September 2007. The events focus on the Mediterranean legacy and its strength as a melting pot for exchange and cultural interaction.

In order to foster dialogue, the conferences host prominent scholars and writers of the region. In this context, Alex-Med aims at reviving the role of Alexandria as a mediator for dialogue among cultures through the city’s spirit of diversity, tolerance and cooperation.

The conferences cover the following topics:

- The Mediterranean - a strategic question;
- The Mediterranean among cultures;
- Cities of the Mediterranean,
- The Mediterranean - a religious space etc.

The first lecture was presented by Christian Bromberger, ethnologist from the University of Provence (France) and Mohamed Tozy, political anthropologist from the University of Hassan Ain Chock, Casablanca. The discussion focused on “The Mediterranean among Cultures”, highlighting the Mediterranean as a system of complementary differences, a homogenous multicultural, multi-ethnic space with a unique identity of its own.

The second lecture, “La Méditerranée en Récits” was presented by the French writer and politologist Thierry Fabre from the Maison Méditerranéenne des Sciences de l’Homme (France) and Edwar El Kharrat, a well known Egyptian writer, novelist, playwright and critic. The discussion focused on “The Mediterranean in Novels”,



Lecture by Paolo Militello



highlighting Mediterranean literature as a mosaic of texts and imaginative narratives, novels, fairy tales etc, which reflects the diversity of cultural dimensions as a homogenous multicultural, multi-ethnic space.

The third lecture, “La Méditerranée Antique”, was presented by Aïcha Ben Abed, Head of the Department for the safeguarding of sites and monuments at the Institut National du Patrimoine (INP) of Tunisia, and Jean Yves Empereur, Director of the Centre d'Etudes Alexandrines which he founded in 1990.

The fourth lecture, “Mediterranean Strategies”, was presented by Rashid Khalidi, Edward Said Professor of Arab Studies in the History Department and Director of the Middle East Institute at Columbia University, since 2003, and Sayed Yassin, Counselor of the Al-Ahram Center for Political and Strategic Studies.

The fifth lecture, “La Méditerranée, Echelles et Figures de l’Histoire”, was presented by David Abulafia Professor of Mediterranean History at the University of Cambridge, and Edhem Eldem Professor at the Department of History of Bogazici University, Istanbul.

The sixth lecture, “La Méditerranée des Villes”, was presented by Jean Luc Arnaud, historian and researcher at the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS), Enrico Iachello, President of the Faculty of Arts and Philosophy, University of Catane, and Paolo Militello, Associate Professor of Modern History at the Faculty of Arts and Philosophy, University of Catane.

The seventh and last lecture for the first part of the program was entitled “La Méditerranée, Espace Religieux” and was presented by Habib Tawa, historian and journalist. He holds a PhD from the Sorbonne (1977) on Contemporary Egypt, and is Carmelo Giuseppe Conticello Researcher at the CNRS.

### **Suez Canal**

On the occasion of the golden jubilee of the nationalization of the Suez Canal, in July 2006, Alex-Med organized a seminar comprising lectures



Suez Canal Exhibition



and an exhibition bringing together historians and managers of the Suez Canal to explore its past, present and future.

The topics included were:

- Memories of the Suez Canal nationalization
- Suez Canal in favor of trading and international economics
- The effect of the Suez Canal on Egyptians and Egyptian values

### **Architectures Modernes en Méditerranée**

The first meeting of the GDRI Architectures Modernes en Méditerranée took place on 19 and 20 April 2006. This first meeting of representatives of the eight scientific institutions (CITERES, Alex-Med, Villes historiques de Tunisie, Dt. D'architecture de l'Université de Tizi Ouzo, Casamémoire Institute for Mediterranean Studies, Departamento de Historia del Arte de la Universidad de Malaga, Dipartimento de storia dell'architettura et della Città de l'Università di Firenze) who were following up on previous works and programming future activities based on the progress of the work and mutual interests and needs.

Alex-Med participated in the exhibition and conference sessions of the Fondazione Annali Dell'Architettura E Delle Citta Napoli. Alex-Med presented the session "Urban Landscapes of the Mediterranean" and investigated different urban development projects in several Mediterranean cities such as Alexandria, Algiers, Beirut, Genoa, Istanbul, Naples and Tripoli.

The outcomes of attending the conference may be summarized in the following:

- Promoting the Alex-Med Research Center.
- Promoting the Eastern Harbor urban development project.
- Making contact with other Mediterranean colleagues.
- Initial participation in the Palermo Exhibition.

### **College of Architects in Catalunya**

A group of 46 Spanish Catalan architects, representing the Col·legi d'Arquitectes de Catalunya visited Alex-Med, from 5–7 December 2006. During the three day visit, the group visited some of the restored and renovated buildings of the city such as the Swedish Institute, Alexandria Center for Creativity and the Greek Patriarchate.



### **International Course on Interventions to the Architectural Heritage**

The International Course on Interventions to the Architectural Heritage event took place in Barcelona, 14–17 December, 2006. Mohamed Awad presented a lecture entitled “Alexandria the Eternal Cosmopolitan” and Yasser Aref participated with a lecture entitled “Interventions in the Historic Center of Alexandria”.

### **Alexandria Tracing the Routes of Memory Exhibition**

An exhibition entitled “Metropolis of Hellenism, Alexandria: Tracing the Routes of Memory”, realized with the support of the Greek Ministry of Culture was inaugurated on 18 February 2007, and lasted until 17 March 2007.

### **International Forum of Calligraphy**

The Third International Forum of Calligraphy, “Writings and Inscriptions of the World throughout the Ages” was held in the period between 24 and 26 April 2007. Specialists from all over the world gathered to present new discoveries in calligraphy and tackle the calligraphies of:

1. Ancient Near East civilizations
2. Far East civilizations
3. Classical and Contemporary civilizations
4. Arab Islamic civilization
5. Africa
6. Latin America.

Graffiti was selected to be the main theme of the forum. The study of calligraphy in each civilization or geographical area is based on placing calligraphy within the context of:

1. Evolution and development
2. Patterns of calligraphy
3. Mutual effects
4. Aesthetics of calligraphy
5. Content of inscriptions
6. Modern research fields
7. Scientific terms in calligraphy and writing
8. Writing tools
9. The relation between form and content
10. Symbols
11. The modern techniques and research related to calligraphy.





### **International Librarians and Interns Visit the BA**

Librarians from around the world are drawn to the BA to experience firsthand the magnificence of the Library and its productions. This year, the Library Sector has welcomed over one hundred international librarians onto its grounds for a continuous exchange of library cultures from around the world.

Some of the trainers and interns include F. Woody Horton, a Fulbright Senior Specialist, from the United States of America who came to help train the managers and spent 42 days at the BA. Lambert Heller, an intern from Germany, also stayed for one month to assist the Collection Development Unit and the Ramses2 project. Paule Ruiz, an intern from France, who spent two weeks at the Library assisting the Collection Development librarians to assess the quality of the BA's French language collection.





*Every child is an artist. The problem is how  
to remain an artist once we grow up.*

*Pablo Picasso*

# **Incubator for Children's Talents**



## Incubator for Children's Talents

One of the BA's priorities is reaching out to children and nurturing their talents; it has taken several measures to build on children's natural curiosity and innate talents. Not only does the BA offer special libraries for children and youth, but it also offers special workshops in the arts, theater and music training, as well as music tutoring, mentoring, and special shows in the Planetarium.

### Capacity Building Program

The School Students Capacity Building Program was organized by BA Advisors for Special Projects in collaboration with the Egyptian Ministry of Education. This program was composed of a series of 14 lectures on Preventative Environmental Management.

Objectives were to:

- Encourage students to think in a scientific way in evaluating their surrounding environment, and to participate in finding solutions to its problems.
- Motivate students to choose a certain environmental problem affecting their lives, local or global, study it in a scientific method, through defining the problem, then identifying its sources, and finally describing how to overcome it.
- Develop the presentation skills of students.
- Improve the competition skills, team work and leadership capacities of students.
- Help students discover their talents and urge them to define their goals and objectives.

There were 4 waves of this series of lectures:

Date	Total number of students	Total number of involved schools
January 2006	206	28
March 2006	171	23
July 2006	86	14
January 2007	189	23

The third phase of this program included field visits to various environmental places in Alexandria where students suggested solutions to solve different environmental problems. The closing ceremony of the third phase was attended by state leaders including the Minister of Education and the Governor of Alexandria.



## YESBU and LYM

YESBU (Youth for Environmental Sustainability and Better Understanding) and LYM (League for Young Masters) are groups of young people who perform their activities under the umbrella of both the Advisors for Special Projects and the Center for Special Studies and Programs in the BA. YESBU is a special program targeting school students (13–18 years old) while LYM targets university undergraduates and young graduates (19–25 years old).

Forty-one lectures and four workshops have been organized for and by YESBU and LYM groups. These lectures raise awareness on global issues such as climate change, biodiversity, bioaccumulation of organic wastes, the impact of electromagnetic pollution, agricultural pests and disease carriers, renewable energy, management of solid wastes, drinking water from source to tap, minimizing consumption of water usage in agriculture, and the natural reserves .

Some local important environmental issues were also discussed, such as Lake Mariout; the high dam; and minimizing the consumption of water in homes and agriculture.

The groups also tried to highlight different environmental requirements for the disposal of hazardous waste; recycling wastes and the environmental commitment to the reconstruction of new cities.

Furthermore, a number of workshops were organized:

- *The 2nd Annual Computer Science*, which included algorithm and basic programming concepts; methods and recursion, data structures and object oriented programming paradigms. The workshop was attended by 30 students.
- *Sketch your Future*, which explained the most important information about Egyptian universities; faculties and departments; subjects studied in different faculties and work fields. It was attended by 220 students who have just graduated from high school.
- *Train the Trainers*, in cooperation with the Intel program which has been organized to develop skills in exploring computer application and to demonstrate how computers can contribute to improving education for sustainable development. It was attended by 50 persons.
- *Stock Market*, which explained the meaning of investment; security investment and the mechanism of trade in the stock market; the difference between stocks and bonds, and ways to build a portfolio. It was attended by 50 persons.

## Children and Science

The Planetarium Science Center (PSC) aims to be a pioneer in the field of scientific communication and popularization by changing the public's view of scientific knowledge, helping them realize that effective dialogue between scientists, the public and decision-makers is essential for the future of any country.



The Center puts special emphasis on children 8–16 years of age as a target group for most of its activities. It provides them with the knowledge and skills required to make decisions thereby fostering generations of successful learners, confident individuals, responsible citizens, and effective contributors.

To achieve this primary goal, the PSC appeals to schoolchildren through an increasingly diverse and widening span of activities. This year, the PSC has enhanced its activities through:

- Carrying on and expanding the range of the now-regular activities.
- Implementing new activities with emphasis on outreach and outdoor programs.

### *Planetarium*

Through the efforts of Planetarium specialists, an innovative technical modification of the Planetarium IMAX system now allows the BA Planetarium to offer a range of seven shows, four of which are IMAX films. This development makes it possible for the Planetarium to tackle larger scientific themes through a variety of cinematographic and graphic techniques. The Planetarium's most recent shows include: an exploration of the *Human Body*, a journey around the *Ring of Fire*, an unforgettable adventure of discovery to unravel the *DarkStar* cosmic riddle, and the epic story of the first team to navigate the waters of the blue Nile from its source to the sea to unravel the *Mystery of the Nile*.



Dark Star Adventure Poster

### *ALEXploratorium*

A hands-on science facility, the BA ALEXploratorium makes Science more accessible, understandable and far more interesting through innovative and interactive activities. Such activities not only explain scientific facts but more importantly demonstrate the presence of Science in almost everything we see, hear or touch in our daily life.



### *History of Science Museum*

The History of Science Museum, one of the components of the new Library of Alexandria, pays homage to the scientific acumen of ancient Egyptians, as well as that of great Greek and Arab scholars. The main objective of the History of Science Museum is to revive the scientific discoveries and great achievements of ancient scholars and their translators who helped preserve their writings and eternalized them in history.

However, within the mission and strategy adopted by the PSC, the History of Science Museum goes beyond a traditional museum, by implementing a variety of ongoing and special activities targeting schoolchildren and the public.

### *Science Programs and Events*

- ALEXploratorium Summer Festival

Workshops targeting schoolchildren are constantly being developed or adapted by ALEXploratorium specialists. A variety of workshops were organized in summer 2006, as part of the ALEXploratorium annual summer activities program. They tackled the following themes:

- Energy
- Making your own Electrical Board
- Agriculture
- Discover with Science
- Density
- Taking Care of Me
- Computers
- Weather

### *Microscopes of Physics* Exhibition, 6 August–10 December 2006

The BA ALEXploratorium hosted a hands-on exhibition owned by INFN (Italian National Institute for Nuclear Physics), *Microscopes of Physics*. The Exhibition explained what is known about the infinitely small and the infinitely large, using instruments adopted by physicists to investigate the two worlds. The Exhibition, organized in four showrooms, contained interactive exhibits and simulations that were particularly suitable for secondary schoolchildren, and a special area was set aside for interdisciplinary applications of nuclear and sub-nuclear physics.

- FLL Competition 2006 and 2007

The FIRST LEGO League (FLL) is the result of an impressive alliance between FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) and LEGO Companies. It is an international hands-on, robotics program for children 9–14 years of age. Guided by mentors and their own imagination, FLL students solve actual engineering challenges, develop important life skills, and learn to contribute positively to society, enhancing team-building, problem solving, analytical thinking and creativity.





Explaining Physics in the *Microscopes of Physics* Exhibition



Summer Workshops - Agriculture





In 2006, the competition was co-organized by the BA Planetarium Science Center (PSC) and the IEEE GOLD Egypt (Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers).

Annually, a new challenge is unveiled and over the course of 8 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 facing the world today. This year, the mission was the “Nano Quest”, covering a new scientific frontier of Nanotechnology expected to impact many facets of society; medicine, computers, and the environment.

Thirteen teams from different schools from all over Egypt, in addition to the BA team participated. All participating teams received honorary certificates for their active participation in the contest, and the four teams with the highest scores were awarded special trophies and medals. The highest score belonged to the team of Muharram Bey School from Alexandria, and was thus nominated to represent Egypt in the FLL 2007 International Competition.

The FLL 2007 Nano Quest World Festival, 12–14 April 2007, in conjunction with the FIRST Championship, was held at the Georgia Dome and Georgia World Congress Center in Atlanta, Georgia, USA. The Championship hosted 94 teams from 22 countries.

The Egyptian team was one of only three Arab teams participating in the competition, the others from Jordan and Saudi Arabia. The Egyptian team succeeded in three tests; presentation, technical skills, and team work and ranked in the ninety-first position with a total score of 148 out of 400.

The Creative Science Education Initiative (CSEI) is part of the Education Reform Project (ERP). It makes science education not only relevant but fun. Participants discover that Science can be learned through stories, art, music, and interactive activities. CSEI uses a series of fables containing messages that enable children to apply scientific knowledge as a creative tool.

A major theme of the CSEI is the introduction of “systems thinking”. Children learn that everything in the world is interconnected. Through these fables, children become aware of their value in society and that they can play an important role in developing innovative solutions to the challenges of the modern world starting with the local community level.

- Science Festivity, 18–20 April 2007

The BA Planetarium Science Center, in collaboration with the French Cultural Center in Alexandria and St. Marc College, organized the first “Science Festivity”, which is to become an annual festivity. The Festivity targeted the public in general and schoolchildren in particular, bringing Science closer to the public through an easy and fun manner. It was open to the public for free and took place over a course of three days; 18–19 April in the BA Plaza, and 20 April in the Shallalat Gardens.



This year, the theme was “Environment and Health” and the Festivity's activities included the Open Science Village, and the Super Science Show, in addition to a variety of lectures at the BACC and the French Cultural Center in Alexandria.

Other programs and events during the reported period include:

- *Search and Find* Contests
- *Did you know?* Presentations
- *Kid's Corner* Workshops
- *Eratosthenes* Annual Festivity
- Creativity Day Festivity
- End of Summer Festivity
- Zoom Earth Festivity
- Super Science Show
- Astro-Camp
- RoboAlex Center
- Fun with Science Program
- SAW (Science Around the World) Program,
- World Water Day

### PSC Outreach Activities

#### *Outreach Visits*

Within the framework of mutual cooperation between the PSC and both governmental and private schools in Alexandria, a team from the PSC, including a resident astronomer and at least one ALEXploratorium specialist, visit schools to conduct a simple presentation of what is to be expected during a visit to the PSC. The visits include an introduction to the importance of Astronomy and an overview of the Planetarium shows; the specialists also conduct a workshop as an example of the activities of the ALEXploratorium, and sometimes the visits include the Super Science Show. During summer time, the outreach program shifts to the sports and social clubs.



Super Science Festivity 2007



RoboAlex Workshop



### *Science Club Program*

The Science Club project promotes Science among school students. It establishes scientific corners in different schools and trains teachers to use innovative science communication methods through conducting workshops and researches.

### *Zoom Earth Program*

Zoom Earth is a program concerned with the observation of the Earth from space by means of satellites. The program includes lectures, workshops, and fieldtrips.

### **Read Write Now Youth Festival**

On 8–10 March 2007, in collaboration with the Tamer Institute in Palestine, Al Mawred in Cairo, NextPage Foundation in Bulgaria, and Escuela de Traductores de Toledo, Universidad de Castilla-La Mancha in Spain, the BA organized a youth literature festival for the Read Write Now program financed by the Anna Lindh Foundation.

*Read Write Now* is an initiative to promote reading and writing for young Arabs. It tackles the lack of quality original Arabic books for young adults, by stimulating interest in reading (via literature festivals) and supporting the development of new content (via authors' workshops and grants for books). In recent years, a number of projects targeting Arab children have emerged, but empirical and qualitative research point to the virtual absence of age-appropriate quality literature for young adults.

### **Antiquities Education Programs**

The Antiquities Museum organizes weekly education programs and workshops. In addition, the Museum's expert staff is engaged in a process of public outreach whereby they visit schools to introduce teachers to the Museum's programs and activities, and invite them to bring pupils to the Museum to further their education. In this regard, great weight is attached to museological education, especially in the development of child awareness and attitude. It plays a substantially significant role in preserving the national and cultural identity of children and society.



Antiquities Museum Children's Workshop



### Children's Presentation

A presentation organized by the Visits Department for children ages 4 to 9 years is displayed 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. The presentation is made vivid through animated pictures and cartoons for children. Following this, children take the tour of the Library and those above 6 years old visit the Children's Library.

### Calligraphies and Inscriptions

Emanating from the Calligraphy Center's unwavering conviction that the study of the ancient Egyptian Language is central to the understanding of the ancient Egyptian civilization; the Center organized, in cooperation with the Children's Library and the Young People's Library, courses on calligraphies and inscriptions, including the 2006 Hieroglyphic Course, which lasted for three months.



Teaching children about Ancient Civilizations

The course was designed to foster the value of understanding the ancient Egyptian civilization. Students were eager to learn and many of them produced creative artworks and handicrafts using colors, carton, clay and macaroni. Some students demonstrated remarkable acumen in painting and coloring, and showed proficiency in gathering data independently through research in books and the Internet.

A closing ceremony marked the end of the course in which certificates of merit and gifts were presented to the children who participated in the workshop. The children performed a play that addressed the importance of learning hieroglyphics, coupled with a scene sketching ancient Egyptian scribes, priests and female musicians. The ceremony was followed by an exhibition that included a collection of the handicrafts representing the Pyramids, Sphinx, Rosetta stone and royal crowns.

The Center launched two levels of Hieroglyphic Courses for children during the mid-year holiday. The first level catered for beginners, teaching them the principles of the script, while the second level was for those who already attended the course in 2006.

The Center also organized a cultural season for children during the mid-year holiday of 2006–2007. The first lecture covered the origin of writing in ancient Egypt and its development. The second spoke about the Royal signs of ancient Egyptian kings. The last lecture was on the beauty of Arabic Calligraphy in Egypt during the Islamic period.



### **Expansion of the Children's and Young People's Libraries**

Due to the increasing demand on both the Children's and Young People's Libraries, they were expanded this year. On 9 January 2007, the BA had the honor of welcoming HE Mrs Suzanne Mubarak, for the grand re-opening of the newly expanded Children's Library.



New Expanded Children's Library

The expansion project was funded by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) under the framework of SWEBA (Sweden and BA Library Development Program). The Young People's library expanded from 180 square meters to 240 square meters, accommodating 120 students instead of 100. The Children's Library increased from 200 square meters to 565 square meters, accommodating 200 children at any given time, instead of 120. The expansions included more room for book shelves, computers and reference materials which both libraries continue to acquire, as well as a new activity room.





*It is a pleasure to stand upon the shore, and to see ships  
tost upon the sea: a pleasure to stand in the window of a  
castle, and to see a battle and the adventures thereof  
below: but no pleasure is comparable to standing upon  
the vantage ground of truth... and to see the errors, and  
wanderings, and mists, and tempests, in the vale below.*

Francis Bacon

# **Promoter of Science & Technology**



## Promoter of Science and Technology

Science and Technology have transformed our lives by unearthing previously hidden truths about the world we live in. Thus, the BA has spared no effort in promoting the advancement of Science and Mathematics through the ALEXploratorium, the History of Science Museum, and the breathtaking films of the Planetarium. The BA also sponsors grants to enable young Egyptian scientists to work with established and renowned scientific institutions in the world, without having to leave the country. It promotes the ethical side of Science and Technology. The Arabic Society for Ethics in Science and Technology (ASEST) and The Academy of Science for the Developing World (TWAS) play an active role in global discussions and decision making on how far humanity can push Science and Technology without any adverse effects on the environment. Systematic outreach for dialogue is pursued, from small local seminars and the sponsoring of science clubs, to large international conferences introducing the most eminent scholars and scientists in the world.

### Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy

The BA is hosting the Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy project which has two main functions. The first is to establish a community-based national service (open to all citizens) relating to a very well-defined but neglected group of patients. These patients suffer from the genetic disease Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy (HCM) which can cause sudden death in young adults, suffering and mortality at any age. The second is to establish an advanced molecular Research Unit using 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. It will also be attached to the Magdi Yacoub Institute in London, and universities in Oxford, UK and Florence, Italy.

The examination station for Alexandria was set up at the Research Unit in Shallalat including all its equipment and the server which will collect and store all the ECG and the Echo machine records. These records will be accessed remotely from different authorized terminals for analysis.

The HCM Molecular Biology Research Unit and clinical station in Alexandria is almost complete. The Sawiris Foundation and Magdi Yacoub Institute (MYI) contributed to implement the project. The amount of £431,800 was donated by the Sawiris Foundation and transferred to the Magdi Yacoub Institute to cover the cost of equipment purchased by the MYI.

### La Main à La Pâte

The La Main à La Pâte (LAMAP) project was initiated in 1996 by Georges Charpak, Nobel Prize winner for Physics in 1992, and is managed by the French Academy of Science and given the support of many partners. LAMAP aims to renew the methods of teaching Science in primary schools by inciting teachers to place children in a position whereby they can experiment, observe, query and reason.





The first major milestone accomplished in this project was publishing the Arabic mirror website *Ektashef Benafsak* in April 2006. The mirror site has the same structure as the original with new back-ends, functionalities, and administrative tools. The BA was responsible for adapting the curriculum, and promoting the methodology within the Egyptian science community.

LAMAP interface elements were translated into Arabic, and incorporated into the website content. The ISIS team at the BA cooperated with the LAMAP team in France to develop various back-end modules.

The number of pages translated so far includes 5658 printed pages. Over 393 documents, 970 questions and 1288 answers were incorporated into the website content, whereas revision and adaptation of



LAMAP Arabic Interface

translated documents is still in progress. The Bibliotheca Alexandrina is promoting the website in the Egyptian educational community through training a number of Science teachers. The training was conducted in the BA for 180 teachers. Additionally, in collaboration with the Ministry of Education, the activity books for the first three primary levels were modified to match the LAMAP approach and methodology. The books will be printed and provided to pilot schools starting September 2007. Promotion of the site in Arab countries is also underway. In addition, the BA will make extensive use of its leading role in the North Africa and Middle East Science Center Network (NAMES) [www.bibalex.org/names](http://www.bibalex.org/names) to promote the site to science centers in the region through member countries of the network.

A new version of the website (Phase 2) has been tested and published by the French team. This version reflects the development made by BA team as well as the French development team such as internationalization, new interface, new administrative tools and bug fixes. Migration of this new version into Arabic is in process.

The first phase of the project was generously supported by a grant from the International Development Research Center (IDRC) of Canada.

### **Print-On-Demand**

Electronic publishing and Print-On-Demand (POD) have created fundamental changes in the production, management, dissemination, and use of all types of information. The main objective of the Print-On-Demand Espresso Book Machine project is to design and implement an innovative business model for the e-book supply chain for Arabic books, and to test the standards and protocols through building a prototype of POD.



A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between On Demand Books LLC (ODB) and the Bibliotheca Alexandrina to provide the BA with an Espresso Book Machine. The machine currently installed at the BA premises is the second machine worldwide and is equivalent to the unit installed at the World Bank InfoShop in Washington DC. This is a beta machine capable of printing and binding books of up to 500 pages in 20 minutes. It is intended for experimenting with the implementation of a new business model with publishers using the Print-On-Demand system inside the Library.

The machine's software was adapted by ISIS to deal with Arabic books and metadata, and a web interface was designed and implemented. The software is built upon open source platform where all the modifications and additions are shared with On Demand Books LLC through the Concurrent Versions System (CVS).

To help promote the use of this new machine in the Egyptian community, the BA signed an agreement with the Egyptian Publishers Union, Kotob Arabia [www.kotobarabia.com](http://www.kotobarabia.com), and Dar El-Shorouk [www.shorouk.com](http://www.shorouk.com). The agreement is expected to encourage more publishers to partake in the project.



Espresso Book Machine

In June 2007, a second MoU was signed between On Demand Books LLC and Bibliotheca Alexandrina, this time to form a joint venture to spread the use of the Espresso Book Machines manufactured by ODB, to serve clients in all of the countries or entities that are members of the Arab League, with catalogs of Arabic and other materials to be secured by BA.

## VISTA

To meet the digital challenges of today, the Bibliotheca Alexandrina installed a CAVE (Computer Aided Virtual Environment) system known as VISTA (Virtual Immersive Science and Technology Applications). Managed and operated through ISIS, VISTA is the latest generation of FLEX™ visualization systems. The BA is the first in the Middle East and Africa to provide researchers with such an advanced visualization tool.

VISTA displays 3D stereoscopic images generated from a state-of-the-art PC cluster, on three 10-ft x 10-ft vertical walls and a floor providing the environment of an immersive room as well as an L-shaped theater enabling viewing by a large audience. Five workstations are linked together to form a powerful data processor and image generator.

VISTA engineers who attended software training at Virginia Tech in July 2006 for two weeks are currently working on a set of projects:



1. Numerical Visualization of Low Speed Wind over the Great Sphinx in Immersive Virtual Reality Environments. This is a joint project between the Bibliotheca Alexandrina and IBM Egypt based on a study conducted by IBM's Center for Advanced Studies in Cairo (CAS). The CAS team is conducting research to study the effect of low speed wind on the erosion of the Great Sphinx. The study involves a large amount of multidimensional data related to wind flow. The VISTA team has designed and implemented an application to provide CAS researchers with efficient means of analyzing and interpreting their numerical results. This involved a group of scientific visualization methods displayed on the CAVE systems to make use of its virtually immersive nature in obtaining a better perception. The application also displays a model of the Giza Plateau, created by the CAS teams, on the CAVE system.

2. Medical Visualizations.

This project will study different methods of medical visualization based on Digital Imagery and Communications in Medicine (DICOM) data. The VISTA team started by obtaining various medical data from different sources.



VISTA Application

The next step was

designing and implementing a group of applications that provide different methods of visualizing and manipulating this data, thereby demonstrating the potentials of the system in dealing with this type of data.

3. A highly detailed 3D model of the Bibliotheca Alexandrina is being developed. Using the model, a visitor will be able to virtually tour the entire building and its facilities.

4. Adapting the Visual Molecular Dynamics (VMD) software to allow its integration in immersive systems using the open source package called DIVERSE (Device Independent Virtual Environments-Reconfigurable, Scalable, Extensible) developed by Virginia Tech. The VMD package is the most widely used open source analysis tool for molecular dynamics. Two applications were developed, installed and customized. The applications deal with UN Data and Losch theory.

ISIS is currently defining target groups to utilize VISTA resources and setting a plan for outreach to both academic and commercial researchers. In accordance, the website for the VISTA project is being built.



## Information and Knowledge Society

Following the series of distinguished lectures that began in May 2004 with the prominent lecturers Vinton Cerf and John Gage, ISIS invited Daniel Clancy, Director of the Google Book Search project, and Usama Fayyad, Chief Data Officer and Senior Vice President of Yahoo! Inc. to give two lectures on 19 November 2006.

Usama Fayyad gave a lecture entitled “From Digital Libraries to Live User-Generated Community Repositories: The Challenges of the Internet as a Publishing Medium”. He spoke broadly about the social aspects affecting the use of the Internet and how they help introduce new technologies and communities such as the Wiki community, and the increased use of web blogging which provides up-to-date content based on users’ interaction.

Daniel Clancy spoke about “Making All the World’s Books Fully Searchable” and the concept of digitization and availability of knowledge. He also tackled the problems met during the processing and scanning of books, such as copyrights, damaged books, and the high cost of techniques used to produce the best output.



Dr Usama Fayyad



Dr Daniel Clancy

## BA Supercourse

The BA Supercourse is based on building a “metaschool” of a variety of themes that can train students through the Internet. Lectures are selected and made available on the Internet and shared among scientists and teachers for personal use. The Supercourse currently has a network of over 45,500 scientists in 171 countries sharing a Library of over 3100 lectures for free.



Supercourse DVD Second Edition



Although there are 45 mirror sites of the Supercourse, the one maintained at the BA <http://www.bibalex.org/supercourse> is the most accessed and receives 6 million hits out of a total 30 million received by all the mirror websites. In April 2006, a new updated DVD was released during the BioVision Conference with 2500 lectures.

### Science Lectures

The Planetarium Science Center has been instrumental in the promotion of Science and Technology by organizing a variety of lectures, seminars and training sessions that targeted specialists, teachers, and students, as well as the general public.

- *Women in Science*,  
1 November 2006  
Ismail Serageldin,  
Director of the  
Bibliotheca Alexandrina
- *The Coming Revolutions  
in Fundamental Physics*,  
3 December 2006  
Nobel Laureate David  
Gross
- *Our Place in the  
Universe*, 3 April 2007  
John D Barrow,  
Professor of  
Mathematical Sciences at  
Cambridge University
- *Launch of an Egyptian  
Satellite*, 29 March 2007  
Mossalam Shaltout, Professor of Astronomy, Helwan Observatory
- *Selling Science to the Public*, 27 April 2007  
Baroness Susan Greenfield, Director of the Royal Institution of Great Britain
- *Astronomy Series of Weekly Lectures*  
Aymen Ibrahim, PSC Senior Astronomer  
This series of lectures is delivered on a weekly basis covering a variety of interesting astronomical themes, such as:
  - A Voyage to the Sun
  - A Trip to the Moon
  - A Flight to Venus
  - Neptune the Blue Giant
- *Marine Biology Series of Lectures*  
Ahmad Ibrahim, Professor of Marine Biology, the National Institute of Oceanography and Fisheries (NIOF) spoke about:
  - Mermaid, 14 March 2007
  - Lionfish, 28 March 2007
  - Sharks, 18 April 2007



Women in Science Lecture



## Seminars

*Red Tide and Human Health*, 20 November 2006

The seminar revolved around the term “Red Tide”, which refers to different types of harmful algal blooms (HABs). HABs naturally appear in cold and tropical waters worldwide and are caused by certain types of microscopic algae, collectively known as phytoplankton.

The seminar included lectures by:

- Mohamed Nasr El-Deen Gomaa  
Marine Toxicology, Research National Center
- Maged MA. Hussain  
Physical Oceanography Lab, NIOF
- Aly Mohamed Aly Abdallah  
National Institute of Oceanography and Fisheries, NIOF

It also included a video conference with American scientists:

- Donald M. Anderson  
Director of Coastal Ocean Institute, Woods Hole Oceanographic, NY, USA
- Dennis J. McGillicuddy  
Associate Scientist, Woods Hole Oceanographic, NY, USA

## Training

*LAMAP*, 25–31 August 2006

LAMAP training targeted primary school teachers and taught them how to use the Arabic mirror site of *La Main à la Pâte*, which comprises over 1000 informative web pages, methodological references, and class activities, thus, constituting an excellent tool for renewing Science teaching in Arab countries, especially Egypt.

*ZERI*, 6–7 November 2006

In order to help children develop their intelligence, it is important that educators are provided with activities and discussion strategies they can use with the children.

*Ionospheric Physics and Application*, 14–17 January 2007

In cooperation with Cairo University and the International Center for Theoretical Physics (Trieste), the BA Planetarium Science Center organized a scientific workshop on Ionospheric Physics and Applications (2nd Workshop on Ionospheric Physics). The Workshop featured guest speakers from the International Center, the Astronomical Observatory of Trieste, and the National Institute of Geophysics and Vulcan Logy Rome, Italy. It covered sessions for submitted papers and practical sessions on development related to the region.



### Research Grants

The BA/CSSP Research Grants managed by the Center for Special Studies and Programs (CSSP) offer Egyptian scientists the opportunity to advance their career in their own institutions and to help them establish connections with Egyptian and international scientists as well as researchers.

Starting September 2004, the BA has been offering annual research grants for Egyptian postdoctoral researchers. Annually, researchers are invited to apply for the BA/CSSP grants through a newspaper advertisement.

To this date, a total of 18 researchers have been granted the BA/CSSP Research Grants. The third round was announced in September 2006. The grants cover research in all fields of Natural Sciences, Mathematics and Information Technology.



Mohamed El Faham, Director of the CSSP, signing the grant contract with one of the RG2005/2006 Winners

### Diabetes Supercourse for the MENA Region

Diabetes Supercourse for the Middle East and North Africa region (MENA) is an initiative of the World Health Organization Collaborating Center at the University of Pittsburgh, in partnership with the Bibliotheca Alexandrina and supported by the World Diabetes Foundation. It is initially a two-year project that began in January 2007. The project's main aim is to raise public health awareness on diabetes prevention and control by providing top quality lectures about diabetes by key stakeholders in the entire MENA Region. A database of diabetes stakeholders in the region is currently being established to promote contact and exchange of knowledge, and provide the needed information to people who can use it to combat the disease. A website has been launched and will contain the aforementioned database. At a later stage, the lectures will also be available online, as well as on DVD, and distributed in the region. In 2008, a two-week training course will be held for young researchers and health professionals in the MENA Region on the Epidemiology of Diabetes.



### **Micro and Nano-fabrication System Workshop**

The CSSP hosted the “Micro and Nano-fabrication System” Workshop that took place at the Bibliotheca Alexandrina from 19 to 24 March 2007. The Workshop was supported by the US National Science Foundation and was funded by Cornell University.

This Workshop is the third activity of the Chemistry Bonds and was organized specifically for young undergraduates, graduates, and researchers (35 years or under) from the Middle East studying Chemistry, in which all instructors of the sessions were leading chemists in their respective fields. The Workshop was attended by 15 young scientists at the outset of their careers who had the opportunity to study alongside their counterparts from other countries in the region, while mastering cutting-edge topics in contemporary Chemistry.

### **Regional Policy Forum**

The Regional Policy Forum on Natural Resource Policies in the Near East and North Africa was hosted by the BA and jointly organized by the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) from 3 to 4 July 2006. The Forum gathered 70 participants including national policymakers, researchers, civil society organizations and major donors operating in the region.

The Forum tried to identify ways of achieving a more even playing field among natural resource users on the one hand, and between the state and grass-roots organizations on the other, to reach and enforce new agreements among legitimate parties.

Researchers representing different Near Eastern and North African countries played a facilitating role by providing a knowledge base for dialogue between policymakers and donors. Deliberations focused on the following questions: How can the rural poor be empowered to manage natural resources and to overcome poverty? and How should capabilities for decentralized natural resource management be measured?

### **New Tools Seminar**

The CSSP in cooperation with the Legal Department organized the New Tools Seminar, 7–8 September 2006. The Seminar was organized to implement the recommendations of the “Arab Regional Dialogue on Intellectual Property Rights, Innovation and Sustainable Development” which took place in June 2005 in cooperation with ICTSD and UNCTAD.

The Seminar aimed to:

- raise awareness about global developments in the areas of access to knowledge,
- establish collaborative models in the Arab world,
- launch a process of networking and partnerships between relevant Arab





stakeholders with an interest in issues such as government officials, scientists, academics, authors, artists and consumers and a number of global initiatives; and

- develop a regional research agenda in the area of access to knowledge that may contribute positively to development efforts in the region.

Open collaborative models and open access initiatives in the fields of scientific research and open access publishing were examined. A general understanding of how Creative Commons works was provided; the types of licenses used and implications on cultural production in developing countries.

The Seminar also considered the impact of global intellectual property norms on education and research particularly in view of the current trend towards the expansion of the terms and scope of intellectual property rights. It examined the current situation of the proposal for a Treaty on Access to Knowledge and Technology and the prospects of achieving progress in this regard. There were approximately 70 participants representing different Arab countries, Brazil, Europe, Indonesia, South Africa and the United States, as well as representatives of international and regional organizations and civil society.

### Congress of African Scientists

The theme of the January 2007 summit of Heads of States and Governments was “Science, Technology and Research for Africa's Development”, the Congress of African Scientists and Policy Makers met in Alexandria, Egypt, from 27 to 29 October 2006 to prepare the recommendations for the summit.

The Congress revolved around three themes: African solutions for African challenges through Science and Technology (S&T), growing and sustaining African human capital, and creating a conducive environment for S&T development. There were 108 leading African scientists, executives and decision-makers from industry, research institutions, government and academia representing 35 African countries. The African scientists' recommendations to the African Summit focused on dedicating more future African summits to issues of Science, Technology and Innovation.

### Problems of Scientific Research

The CSSP, in cooperation with the Arab Fund for Economics and Social Development (AFESD), organized a conference “On the Issues and Problems of Scientific Research in the Arab World”, 14–15 November 2006.

The Conference discussed ways of promoting Science and Technology research in the Arab world.



CSSP Conference Website Interface



It also emphasized improving incentives for the technology generation, access, and use; formulating a region-wide science agenda and marketing science and scientific discoveries. There were forty participants representing different Arab Countries and 10 participants representing France, South Africa, Sweden, and the USA, as well as representatives of international and regional organizations and civil society.

### **SESAME**

The SESAME Synchrotron facility that is being built in Jordan under the auspices of UNESCO provides an outstanding opportunity to boost Science and Technology in the entire region.

In cooperation with the Egyptian National Committee of Synchrotron Light Applications and the Academy of Scientific Research and Technology, CSSP organized the Fifth SESAME meeting from 27 to 29 November 2006. The aim of the meeting was to provide a forum for the exchange of knowledge and ideas in such high interdisciplinary fields and to discuss the latest developments in the project.

### **YESBU**

The Youth for Environmental Sustainability and Better Understanding (YESBU) is a program that raises environmental awareness among school students and gets them to know and apply the real definition of “Sustainable Development”. It performs its activities under the umbrella of both the Advisors for Special Projects and the Center for Special Studies and Programs in the BA.

The program is currently formed of around 318 students and mentors, 37 schools and 9 faculties whose number is showing a remarkable annual increase. The group performs numerous activities including field trips, weekly lectures and workshops.

Moreover, the Arab Environmental Youth Convention (AEYC) is a program between YESBU and the Ministry of Education, in which the Environmental Awareness course given by Lund University is translated into Arabic and introduced to school students. The CSSP youth training program seeks to promote youth’s self-education, touching upon modern trends of learning such as distance-learning and e-learning. One of its goals is also to raise their awareness with regards to the environment, its problems, and the means of solving such challenges.

A group of 17 YESBU members participated in the Global Environmental Youth Convention, Dubai 9–13 December 2006. The Convention “Environment and Peace for a Better Life” is the fourth global gathering of students and their teachers and mentors. Five hundred students and one hundred organizers participated. The program included project workshops, learning and interactive workshops for students and teachers, study visits, field work and special events.



The projects presented discussed different topics such as: Energy, Food and Agriculture, Mobility, Poverty, Production and Consumption, Waste and Water. The BA YESBU project on Fair Paper (Recycling) presented by Aliaa El-Zeiny, Sara Akl and Ahmed Gouda won first place.

A group of participating Arab teachers met to discuss the need for a similar Arab convention. A CD containing lectures of the program in Arabic was prepared in the BA and distributed to Arab participants. The CD was then reviewed and edited to complete processing the Arabic tutorial.



YESBU Egyptian Participants

### Visiting Scholar Program

In September 2006, the CSSP began its visiting scholar program. The program disseminates knowledge about up-to-date technologies in different fields of Science. This is to prepare Egyptian postgraduate students to meet the ever-increasing challenges of today's world in the field of Science and Technology research.

There were a series of interactive workshops, lectures and seminars conducted by renowned scientists. Some of the activities discussed the latest cutting-edge technologies. Other aims included raising public awareness, especially for youth and school students, the impact of the new applications of technology on their daily lives.

The CSSP first visiting scholar was Mohamed A. El-Sharkawi, Professor of Electrical Engineering and Director of the Computational Intelligence Research Laboratory, Department of Electrical Engineering, University of Washington, USA.



The 2-month program included: a three-day workshop on “How to write a successful research proposal”, for Engineering and Information Technology researchers and graduate students. It also included a seminar for Engineering undergraduate and postgraduate students focusing on the “Engineering practices and new paradigms for the 21st century”, in addition to a briefing on Engineering Research, practical ethics, changes in industry, and industry challenges. Another lecture targeted school students discussing the impact of Electrical Engineering on the environment and the new definitions of renewable energy. The program ended with a lecture on “Electrical Safety” emphasizing commercial and household safety while using electricity.

### **Emerging Paradigms**

The Bibliotheca Alexandrina hosted the General Assembly Meetings and Symposium of the International Social Science Council (ISSC) and the International Council for Philosophy and Humanistic Studies (CIPSH) from 5 to 10 November 2006.

The Symposium’s theme was “Emerging Paradigms in the Social Sciences and Humanities”. It promoted worldwide international cooperation across the whole range of social and human sciences disciplines and paradigms, from the quantified/empirical, to historical and philosophical approaches. Approximately 70 philosophers, sociologists, anthropologists, political scientists, economists, demographers, historians and geographers, attended the meetings and the Symposium.

### **Inter-Academy Panel**

The CSSP hosted the Inter-Academy Panel (IAP) General Conference "Unity of Science" and IAP General Assembly at the BA, from 1 to 6 December 2006.

The IAP on International Issues, launched in 1993, is a global network on the world's science academies. The IAP is particularly interested in raising public awareness as well as exerting a constructive influence upon policy makers regarding critical global issues of the day. It primarily hopes to create effective communication networks to facilitate its member academies to work together and also assist young and small academies to achieve their goals.

The Conference principally developed interdisciplinary interest among its member scientific academies as a means of advancing knowledge and technological progress. Distinguished speakers gave their speeches on different topics including Medicine, Mathematics, and Physics. Approximately 135 representatives of academies from different countries including Albania, Australia, Brazil, China, Cuba, India, Indonesia, and Italy participated in the Conference.

Over a period of 5 days, in addition to lectures and presentations, an election session took place where the new IAP co-chairs were selected by acclamation. The Conference concluded on 6 December with a visit to the *Institut d’Egypte* in Cairo.



## **TWAS-ARO**

On 16 November 2006, the TWAS Arab Regional Office (TWAS-ARO) hosted by the CSSP held its second annual meeting at the BA. The meeting discussed several issues regarding the achievements of TWAS-ARO since its inauguration in June 2005, and came up with conclusions and recommendations for future plans.

TWAS-ARO promotes scientific capacity and excellence for sustainable development in the region. The Arab members include 48 distinguished scientists residing in 12 different countries in the Middle East and abroad. Points of discussion included: establishing a system to identify eminent scientists in the region and nominate them for TWAS membership and prizes; identifying the types of organizations that should be considered as partners; suggesting how to enhance the visibility of TWAS among young and promising scientists, policy-makers and the media. Eight TWAS-ARO members were among the fifteen participants representing Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Sudan, Saudi Arabia attended.

## **Environment, Health and Sustainable Development**

The international conference “Environment, Health and Sustainable Development” was organized through the collaboration of the BA, the Global Environment Facilities (GEF) and the International Association for People-Environment Studies (IAPS) from 11 to 16 September 2006. This conference was organized to convey the eight developmental goals set by the United Nations for the new millennium, four of which address health related and environmental targets.

Practitioners, policy-makers and scientists exchanged their views and visions during the conference. Scholars from various disciplines were invited to submit abstracts and papers of their research findings and overviews.



Environment, Health and Sustainable Development Conference



The Young Research Workshop held prior to the conference, was intended to provide doctoral students of all disciplines the opportunity to discuss their dissertation proposal and their on-going work with leading researchers and professors in research areas related to their thesis. This also helped to build an international network with other doctoral students involved in environmental studies.

The Conference was attended by 250 international participants from 45 different countries in addition to 87 Egyptian participants. On the closing date of the Conference, two of the YESBU student members gave the presentation “Mines: a Generational Problem”, which discussed the problem of land mines in Egypt, particularly in the western desert.

### **Chemical Hazard Communication**

The Regional Workshop on Chemical Hazard Communication and Global Harmonization System implementation (GHS) for Arab Countries was held from 30 October to 2 November 2006. It was organized through the collaboration of the BA Advisors for Special Projects, the Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency, and United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR). It was the fifth in a series of regional and sub-regional GHS workshops coordinated and supported through the UNITAR/Global Harmonization System Capacity Building Program.

The Workshop was attended by 58 representatives from 19 countries from the Arab Region, including stakeholders from government, business and industry, public interest groups and resource persons. Through a series of working groups and plenary sessions, the Workshop developed recommendations for action towards GHS implementation at national and regional levels amongst stakeholders for the four sectors affected by the GHS (industrial workplace, agriculture, transport and consumer products).



Arab Participants in the Regional Workshop



## Electronic Resources and Services

Usage of electronic resources has increased substantially throughout 2006–2007, encouraging the library to invest more in the acquisition and licensing of electronic information. This strategy was inspired and dictated by the growing number of senior users and high profile researchers frequenting the library and becoming increasingly demanding and selective in terms of services and collections.

To this end, the BA has concluded many successful partnerships with leading online publishers of Science and Technology information, which give unparalleled access to a wide range of authoritative resources and cutting-edge services. The first of these partnerships was the agreement with the world leading STM publisher (Science, Technology and Medicine) Elsevier Science BV, entailing the subscription to the Scopus database, the largest abstract and citation tool of research literature and quality web resources. The BA is considered to be among the first 1000 libraries worldwide, and the second in Africa and the Middle East to provide its users with access to this indispensable research tool, thus ensuring its position as a world-class learning facility in support of quality education and research. This contract also included providing access to EMBASE (Excerpta Medica database), an essential database of Biomedical and Pharmacological information with unique features and extended search capabilities.

The library also finalized an additional agreement with Elsevier to purchase and permanently own all of the 30 Science Direct backfile packages through a five year easy payment plan. This is considered the most important electronic resources deal made by the BA until now, and a breakthrough in the Egyptian library and information society. This huge collection of full text scholarly journals from the most highly ranked titles, allowing the search of a historical archive of over 8 million articles back to Volume 1, Issue 1 and encompassing all domains of Science, Technology, Medicine and Social Sciences, has been made available to the library's users. It is worth mentioning that the BA had already purchased 8 of the 30 backfile packages three years ago.

In support of the newly established Institute for Peace Studies hosted by the BA, the library has also subscribed to the Thomson Gale's Arab-Israeli Relations 1917–1970 database, a digital archive of the most "historically significant" documents related to the Arab-Israeli conflict. Originated from the British Government files, currently preserved at the UK National Archives in Kew, the digitized collection offers researchers correspondence, diplomatic and cabinet papers, conference reports, treaties, declarations and arms deal reports, as well as hundreds of documents from the Mandate period through to the foundation of the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO). This source was highly received by library's patrons at both the research and the general public levels.

In addition to this wide range of e-resources, the BA obtained a site license to RefWorks, a widely used web-based citation manager, permitting researchers to create and manage their personal databases of citations, format references in many styles, and easily add them to their manuscripts. BA reference librarians appreciate this powerful bibliographic management tool which greatly facilitated the creation of subject guides and bibliographies and enhanced their workflow.





*What is a man born for but to be a reformer, a  
remaker of what has been made, a denouncer of lies, a  
restorer of truth and good?*

**Ralph Waldo Emerson**



# **Catalyst for Reform in the Region**



## Catalyst for Reform in the Region

Aspiring to play a leading role as a reformer, the BA hosted the first Arab Reform Conference which stimulates intellectuals and civil society in the Arab world. The meeting in March 2004 produced the Alexandria Declaration, which charted the directions for reform in the Arab world, in the political, economic, social and cultural spheres. This was immediately followed by the creation of the Arab Reform Forum (ARF), hosted at the BA and a four-pronged program to empower reformation in Egypt and the Arab world.

### Arab InfoMall Database

One of the projects created in the ARF was the Arab InfoMall Database and website, which is to emulate the role of a mall/center for non-governmental organizations (NGO's) and civil society organizations (CSOs) in a tri-lingual (Arabic, English, French) web portal where each organization is presented as a kiosk/boutique inside the mall.

The website <http://arabinfomall.bibalex.org> sheds light on NGO's/CSO's activities, successful projects and contact information, providing the opportunity for their local, regional and global exposure. A 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 give the opportunity for interested registered individuals to exchange opinions, contribute and share published reports.

The website interface was translated into Arabic and French and a web-based backend application was developed to allow NGOs to enter their data, news, and events. A user manual was developed to assist data entry personnel while working on the backend. The database is being fed with NGO data collected by the Arab InfoMall Unit established within the Dialogue Forum at the BA. Data for over 613 organizations are currently available under 14 themes from 34 countries (Arab and foreign).

The project is generously supported by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), and has also received a grant from the Embassy of Finland in Cairo to secure a server. The new server was purchased and delivered in December 2006.

Two new sections were added to the website: an "Opportunities" and "Voting" section. The Opportunities section is a space in which each organization displays the projects it is involved in and any available job vacancies. The Voting section was added to give users a chance to vote on different issues and then view the voting results. The project was realized with the contribution of the ISIS team.

### Democratic Transformation in the Arab Region

The Arab Reform Forum organized a workshop on "The Potential of Democratic Transformation in the Arab Region", with Robert Putnam as the keynote speaker.



Robert Putnam is a Harvard Professor of Public Policy and the recipient of the 2006 Skytte Prize, the counterpart of the Nobel Prize in Political Science and one of the most distinguished political scientists worldwide.

During the workshop, a selected group of young activists, participated in a discussion with Professor Putnam and a group of Egyptian intellectuals, journalists, and experts in the field of Political Science.

### **Transparency and Anti-Corruption in the Health Sector**

The ARF, in partnership with the Egyptian Alliance for Transparency and Fighting Corruption, organized a workshop on “Transparency and Anti-Corruption in the Health Sector”; taking into account the vital role the health sector plays in the lives of millions, especially the poor. During the Workshop, the Egyptian Minister of Health discussed the government’s position on fighting corruption. Representatives from the Ministry of Health, the Health Insurance System, the Pharmaceutical Sector, the Ministry of Investment, and civil society organizations, as well as journalists and media participated.

### **Henrik Ibsen's 100th Memorial**

As part of the extensive international program to celebrate the Ibsen Year 2006 worldwide, the Arab Reform Forum, in cooperation with the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, organized a seminar entitled “Nora's Sisters and Freedom of Expression” on 30 October 2006. During the seminar, Norwegian and Egyptian participants discussed Freedom of Expression and Acceptance of the Other, Freedom of Expression and Respecting Difference, The Limits to Free Expression, Freedom of Expression and Representations of Muslims in Non-Muslim Societies, and Gender and Freedom of Expression.

This event was a tribute to the playwright’s prominent position in the world of drama and represented a source of enrichment and inspiration for a new generation of citizens not only in Egypt, but also in other countries around the world.

### **Peace Expert Librarian Symposium**

A Memorandum of Understanding signed between the Suzanne Mubarak Women’s International Peace Movement, the Bibliotheca Alexandrina (BA) and the Anna Lindh Euro-Mediterranean Foundation for the Dialogue between Cultures, led to the fruition of a series of training workshops for librarians. This was achieved through the initial development of a curriculum as no readily available or applicable training material for the region exists. During a symposium held in Cairo, 13–16 January 2007, curriculum developers met to discuss the matter.

The organizers brought together 16 experts with different backgrounds from the Middle East and Europe to brainstorm the themes and topics of concern, meanwhile receiving feedback and new ideas on the contents of the training material to be developed. Experts in the domains of peace and culture were encouraged to come prepared with the theme(s) they wish to contribute in the form of a concept paper complete with suggestions.





*The only thing that will redeem mankind is  
cooperation.*

Bertrand Russell

# **Apex for Networking & Partnerships**



## Apex for Networking and Partnerships

Our existence and well being in this world is reliant on our coexistence and mingling with others. Globalization has rendered it impossible for countries or even institutions to work in isolation. The BA's powerful state-of-the-art information and communication technology allows it to be a digital center, while its projects draw experts from all over the world seeking partnerships and joint projects. The BA is already the host of the Anna Lindh Euro-Mediterranean Foundation for the Dialogue between Cultures and Peoples, and is collaborating with other institutions and organizations on joint projects.

### Egyptian National Network Meeting

As head of the Egyptian ALF Network, Alex-Med organized and supervised the 5th Egyptian National Network Meeting which took place at the Faculty of Economics and Political Science, Cairo University on 19 July 2006.

The meeting tackled topics and clarified issues that concerned network members, such as:

- Applying for projects under the Call for Proposal (CFP) deadlines along with the complications involved
- ALF related activities in which network members of the civil society can partake
- Best practices
- The projects accepted in the first deadline of 1 March 2006

The Egyptian Advisory Committee for Egyptian Networks, composed of 12 active members, had their first meeting in September 2006 where they were consulted on the Egyptian network state of affairs, member problems and other relevant issues. Another meeting took place on 12 November to receive feedback regarding the ALF program of the annual Heads of National Networks Meeting held in Tempera, Finland 25–28 November 2006. The 4<sup>th</sup> annual Heads of National Networks meeting in Tempera, allowed heads from the 35 Euro-Med Partnership countries to improve the working mechanism and functions of the ALF through different working groups.

### Alexandria: A History of Cultural Interaction

On 13 March 2007, Mohamed Awad gave a presentation on the closing day of a two-part international training program: Conservation and Management of Historic Buildings, sponsored by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA). The program's 26 participants from 16 countries had met earlier at Lund University in Sweden in September 2006. In this part of the program, the participants presented their individual work and visits to historic buildings in Cairo and Alexandria.



### **Survey of the Ottoman Town (Gomrok District)**

On 15 April 2007, thirteen Master students from l'Ecole Nationale Supérieure d'Architecture of Versailles and that of Paris-Belleville gave a presentation and an exhibition jointly with a researcher from Alex-Med on the survey of the Ottoman Town (Gomrok district).

### **Hellenic Leadership Institute**

Alex-Med organized with the Hellenic Leadership Institute a roundtable meeting to promote tourism entitled “The Hellenic-Egyptian Heritage and Prospects of Tourism in the Light of Economic Development” on 14 June 2007. This meeting focused on two main topics: Future Prospects of Tourism and Economic Collaboration; and the Common Heritage of Egypt and Greece in Alexandria today.

### **Restoration Partnerships**

The Antiquities Museum has been collaborating with several national and international organizations to ensure maximum mutual benefit between countries and institutions. It has developed cultural relations with the Antiquities Museum and International Institute of Papyri in Italy. This agreement supports the study, research, exchange and shared experience in the restoration, safeguarding and exhibiting of papyri.

A small ceremony at the BA Antiquities Museum was held in December 2006 to present the restoration process of a mosaic piece found at the BA site during the construction stage. BNP Paribas funded the restoration process carried out by L'Atelier de Restoration du Musee de L'Arles et de la Provence Antiques et le Centre d'Etudes Alexandrie.



BNP Paribas Celebrates with the Antiquities Museum



## Science in the Mediterranean

*Sciences in the Mediterranean* is one of the projects the Manuscript Center participates in with a number of European countries through ARISTHOT. The project aims to develop and disseminate our current knowledge of scientific heritage (books, manuscripts, archives, graphic documents, photographs, video and audio records) common to both sides of the Mediterranean, using IT tools. The Manuscript Center contributes to the project by uploading 200 digitized scientific manuscripts to the project's website.

The objective of *Sciences in the Mediterranean* is to develop cultural interdependences in the area of the Mediterranean by facilitating the access for all to a common heritage. The goal of this digitization of documentary heritage is a better dissemination of a common memory.

### Themes

- Sciences of Nature and Mathematics: Astronomy and Botany.
- Applied Sciences: Medicine, Pharmacy, and Veterinary.
- Traditional Sciences: Alchemy, Divinatory Sciences, Esotericism.
- Auxiliary Science of History: Archeology, Paleography, Codicology, Sigillography and Numismatics.

### Partners

The project is a partnership between the Centre de Conservation du Livre, France and a number of European Countries, namely; Spain, Italy, and Malta as well as Algeria, Egypt and Turkey.

### Work Plan

- Phase 1: ARISTHOT Virtual Library on Sciences in the Mediterranean: researches, localization and selection of documents, virtual exchanges, creation of notes.
- Phase 2: ARISTHOT Website on Sciences in the Mediterranean: Compilation of information on the project and partners, virtual galleries, virtual journeys, e-learning.
- Phase 3: Common rules for the online dissemination of digitized heritage (Copyright protection): studies, workshops and seminars, publications.
- Phase 4: Dissemination of the common scientific heritage: exhibitions, training, communication, conferences.

### Work Progress

- Launching meeting: 23–24 October 2006 in Arles, France.
  - Presentation of project partners, determining the role of each.
  - Signature of the agreement.
- Second Meeting: 22–23 February 2007 Bibliotheca Alexandrina, Egypt.
- Exhibition and Meeting: 20–22 June 2007 Murcia, Spain.





### **Inter-Library Networks**

One of the main goals of the BA Library Sector is to create working 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.

During 2006–2007, the BA had the honor of forging new relationships with libraries including: Senghor University in Alexandria, the Libraries Deanship of the United Arab Emirates University, the Hellenic American Union, the Hellenic American University, the Korean National Library, and many more.

### **Interconnection between Youth and Children's Libraries**

As a continuation to last year's meeting, the Children's and Young People's Libraries invited children's librarians from all over Egypt to discuss pertinent issues to the practice of librarianship on 27–28 November 2006. With the assistance of SIDA, the workshop proved to be a great success, opening the door to future open dialogue among librarians. Topics discussed included: building a network between Egyptian libraries, exchanging experiences and skills between children's libraries, discussing points of strength and weakness in, and discussing problems and their possible solutions.

### **eIFL General Assembly Meeting**

On 10–12 September 2006, eIFL.net country coordinators met in Amman, Jordan for the eIFL General Assembly Meeting. The Bibliotheca Alexandrina, eIFL.net member since January 2006, participated in this annual meeting as Egypt's country coordinator. The event took place in the language center of the University of Jordan, where country coordinators from more than 45 countries spent three days broadening their knowledge of eIFL programs, were introduced to new trends in electronic librarianship, and shared best practices for marketing their library consortia. The GA was also an occasion for a face-to-face meeting with some of the leading publishers and vendors of online information sources.

### **FAO BA Partnership to Produce Arabic e-Learning Content**

In June 2006, the BA entered in partnership with the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO) to convert and adapt into Arabic two e-learning modules of the Information Management Resource Kit (IMARK). IMARK consists of a suite of distance learning modules developed by FAO and made available free of charge on CD-ROM and the Internet. This is to train individuals and institutions worldwide on the creation of digital libraries and the effective management of agricultural information. FAO has initiated partnerships with many organizations worldwide to translate and adapt the content of the IMARK to its five official languages: English, Chinese, French, Russian, and Spanish, and has selected the BA to handle the Arabic conversion for its leading role in digital information production and dissemination.



The BA will translate and adapt the two IMARK modules entitled: “Management of Electronic Documents” and “Digitization and Digital Libraries”, including all menus, lessons, glossaries, resource material listings, knowledge assessment tests, study guides and instructional aids, as well as the vocabulary control through both modules. It will also create new and additional content as required. When released, the Arabic version of IMARK will offer a unique e-learning experience in the field of digitization and digital libraries for information professionals in the Arabic-speaking world.

### **NAMES**

The BA was selected to represent the North Africa and Middle East region in the International Program Committee (IPC) of the Science Centers World Congress (SCWS). The BA took the initiative to create the North Africa and Middle East Science centers network (NAMES), officially launched during the network’s second meeting, which took place on 9–10 November 2006 and was hosted by Tunis Science City, Tunisia. The BA currently hosts the regional office for the network.



NAMES First Board of Directors

During the meeting, the Memorandum of Understanding was signed. Resolutions of the meeting included the appointment of representatives for Egypt, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Tunis and Turkey.

The first meeting of NAMES Board of Directors in Kuwait was attended by representatives of the original five Full Members. The first General Meeting is to take place in October 2008. Other than the network’s members, eligible facilities and personalities within the region will be invited to attend, in addition to heads of the international Science Centers’ networks and other eminent international facilities and personalities.



The BA Planetarium Science Center is also a founding member of the newly launched Mediterranean Association for Science Advancement and Dissemination (MASAD), for which a Memorandum of Understanding was officially signed on 2 April 2007 in the Science City in Naples. MASAD acts as a network among people involved in the diffusion of scientific and technological culture in the Mediterranean area.

China, Egypt and France submitted their bids to host the International Planetarium Society (IPS) conference in 2010. The PSC won the bid by majority from the 29 members of the committee.

### **Ibrahim Shihata Arabic Universal Networking Language Center (ISAUC)**

The Universal Networking Language (UNL) program's mission, initiated within the United Nations and devised by the Universal Networking Digital Language (UNDL) Foundation, is to enable all people to generate information and have access to knowledge in their native languages. UNL is an artificial language attempting to replicate the functions of natural language in human communication.

Currently, 15 languages have been involved and a number of institutions have begun to work on their respective native languages. By May 2007, progress was made in several components.

An annotation tool, a filtering module, and a debugging module were developed, tested, and added to the UNL Integrated Development Environment (IDE). The HtmlTranslator package was implemented and tested. It is used to translate any natural language HTML file into another natural language. The Automatic Arabic Tagger module was developed and tested. Several accuracy enhancements were successfully applied. An Arabic Segmenter was also developed. The first phase of the Arabic Corpus application was implemented. The purpose of this application is to facilitate the management of large numbers of text files that are being edited for the purpose of building the Arabic corpus. The number of academic publications about the activities of the Arabic UNL Language Center was raised to four publications.

During the period from 4 to 7 May 2007, the Bibliotheca Alexandrina hosted the 1st International Workshop on Natural Language Processing: Using Universal Networking Language (UNL). The workshop's theme was "Breaking Down Language Barriers". The goal of this workshop was to provide a forum for linguists and IT professionals to exchange comprehensive views on the recent development and progress in natural language processing technology. The workshop created an ideal environment for all UNL language centers worldwide to exchange ideas, experiences, and in depth knowledge about their UNL programs. Recognizing the prominent role the BA plays to promote the UNL project, Ismail Serageldin was elected as a member of the UNDL board.



## Iraq ReCollection

The project will digitize a select group of the most important scholarly humanistic Iraqi journals held by Yale and the University of Pennsylvania. This 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 search engine of OACIS and AMEEL. 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 an approach and best practices for scanning Arabic and Middle-East language-based humanistic content, to facilitate access to scarcely held and disappearing materials. The output of the project will be fed into the AMEEL database.

On 19 October 2006, the BA and Yale University Library signed an agreement related to the Iraqi ReCollection. Both parties agreed on specific issues including: digitization, integration, training, consulting, and following Open Source software standards.

## ICUDL

During the period from 17 to 19 November 2006, the BA hosted the 2nd International Conference on Universal Digital Library 2006 (ICUDL 06). The first was held in China in 2005. This year's Conference was entitled "Towards Building the Globally Owned Universal Digital Library Where Human Knowledge is Equally Preserved and Accessed". The goal was to provide a forum for library and IT professionals to exchange comprehensive views on recent development and progress in digital library technology, to promote international cooperation in related fields, advocate universal access to information, and enhance the global impact of the Universal Digital Library Project (Million Book Project).

Experts in the fields of digitization, libraries, and digital libraries from China, Egypt, India, and the USA attended the Conference and discussed in-depth topics regarding: information storage and management, search engines, image processing, Optical Character Recognition (OCR), copyright laws and digital rights management. Visit [www.bibalex.org/icudl06](http://www.bibalex.org/icudl06) for more information.



ICUDL Conference Homepage



ICUDL Open Discussion



## Development Gateway

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



Development Gateway Website

The BA agreed with the Development Gateway Foundation to collaborate on this project, in three phases:

1. To take ownership of the main Gateway Arabic site and be responsible for the Arabic translation, similar to the current functionality of the Spanish and French Gateway versions. The Library will be responsible for translating and augmenting the Development Gateway's collection of information resources relevant to the region.
2. To create and maintain an Arabic-language Community "Arab Reform", which will be a pan-Arab portal containing key resources relevant to a broad spectrum of social and economic reforms currently underway in the Arab world. In particular, resources related to the governance sector will include human rights, freedom of expression, and the rule of law; economic reform, youth employment, poverty, trade, and regional and international integration with the world economy; social reforms, family education, health, and the removal of all forms of discrimination against women; and cultural reforms, religious and media discourse, and the promotion of research and scientific thinking. By the end of June 2007, resources (114 in number) created by the Dialogue Forum team and other community members were available online.
3. To design, develop and host the Egypt Country Gateway in Arabic similar to the China Country Gateway.

The BA's Dialogue Forum, with the technical help of ICT, is responsible for updating the website and its staff was trained on how to use the website's backend. To date, 182 printed pages have been translated. The ISIS team continuously maintains the Arabic web pages for phases 1 and 2 of the project and ensures that all information is correctly displayed. The Arabic version of the main Gateway, as well as the website for the Arab Reform community <http://topics.developmentgateway.org/arab>, was officially launched in March 2007. The project is generously supported by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC).



### Million Book Project

Initiated by Carnegie Mellon University, and 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 BA is taking the lead in scanning and digitizing 75,000 Arabic books in a three-year time frame. By the end of June 2007, over 34,093 books (over 12.3 million pages) were digitized and processed, and over 27,838 (over 10 million pages) were OCRed. 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 project uses the Digital Assets Factory (DAFv2) as a standardized digitization workflow. The outcome of the project is ingested into the Digital Assets Repository (DAR). OCR systems alternative to Sakhr's Automatic Reader, capable of recognizing Arabic text were investigated to achieve efficient, high quality recognition for mass OCR production.

The BA hosted the Million Book Annual Workshop on 19 November 2006. During the Workshop, each partner country presented a progress report. India reported the digitization of 350,000 books using 300 scanners, and China achieved one million books. It is worth noting that although the Bibliotheca Alexandrina achieved 26,855 books, which makes almost 7.7% of the books reported by India, it was



Million Book Digitizing

achieved with 1.6% of their resources. The meeting then addressed the challenges and possibilities of unifying the collections of the three countries. The process will start by gathering the metadata and unifying it while exchanging the digitized collections between the three countries is sorted out.

### 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 to date. The Internet Archive site maintained within the BA has been fully operational and was accessed by over 19 million hits during the past year.



Following an agreement with the San Francisco team, the BA Internet Archive has incorporated the second-generation machines for web archiving—the Petabox. The necessary hard disks for two Petabytes were purchased (5000 disks, 400 gigabytes each). The San Francisco team assembled and loaded 3700 hard disks with data. The machines assembled in San Francisco accommodate 1.5 Petabytes of data. They currently hold the web collections from 1996 through 2006; in addition to 25,000 digitized books acquired through the Open Content Alliance Consortium. The transition to the Petabox system is progressing quickly as the first assembled rack with a capacity of 64 terabytes has been shipped to the BA, installed, and tested. The second batch of Petabox hardware consisting of five racks and a main Ethernet switch arrived in December 2006. The remaining equipment reached the BA in January 2007. The networking infrastructure was thus reconfigured such that all nodes are allocated public IP addresses to enhance access and synchronization.



The Internet Archive

The new web collection was indexed on the URL level and is now available to the public through the Wayback Machine <http://archive.bibalex.org>. A domain categorization database has been put together during the process.

Machines for the new collection will be designed and manufactured locally at the BA. The BA received 1300 hard disks for these machines, of which 120 hard disks—together with the new rack—are holding a clone of the old Web collection (1996–2001) replacing 150 old HP computers.

A cluster software installation has been implemented on the new rack based on a system imaging technique as opposed to net booting. The rack of 40 “power nodes” is being prepared and configured to be used as a multipurpose computer engine.



The old Internet Archive collection of web pages has been cloned to new disks hosted in new as well as old machines. The replicated part of the Archive was tested with the Way Back Machine and demonstrated success. Work is in progress to compare and rearrange data on the old clone and new clusters such that a copy of all items exists on the new cluster and is available through the Wayback Machine. A synchronization job with the US cluster expected to transfer a large amount of data is currently underway. Data on the first rack to arrive has been mirrored onto a different rack, and the freed rack has been repurposed for use as a storage area for material digitized at the BA. Importing the 25,000 digitized books from Petabox storage into the BA repository is currently in progress.



Petabox Sideview

In September 2006, three software engineers visited the Internet Archive in San Francisco and received training in methods of maintaining large amounts of data files with various types (audio, video, images) and handling of the new Petabox hardware. In January 2007, an engineer from the Internet Archive in San Francisco in turn visited the BA and helped set up the Petabox.

### **Algiers Declaration**

The European Movement International, an NGO based in Brussels, actively encourages political dialogue between civil societies in Europe and countries south of the Mediterranean. The North-South and South-North Mediterranean Dialogue brings together national and international civil society organizations, other international and regional bodies and opinion-makers, to deepen understanding and cooperation in the Euro-Mediterranean region.

The “North-South Mediterranean Dialogue” Conference took place in Malta in November 2004, where BA representatives presented the Alexandria Statement issued in conclusion of the First Arab Reform Forum held in March 2004. The Conference started what has been called the “Malta Process”, a North-South Dialogue in the Mediterranean region involving representatives of civil society.

In February 2006, the Mediterranean Congress was hosted in Algiers and was co-organized by the EMI, the Algerian Committee, the Arab Reform Forum, and the Anna Lindh Foundation for the Dialogue between Cultures and Peoples. At the end





of the Congress, all the participants, both from North and South of the Mediterranean, issued the Algiers Declaration for a Shared Vision of the Future and agreed on a Common Action Plan. A follow-up committee comprising of representatives of the participating countries was formed to follow-up on the recommendations of the Declaration and the implementation of the Common Action Plan.

A follow-up meeting was held in Brussels, where the need for forming civil society networks in the concerned countries was emphasized, in order to act as a coordinating body and a platform for NGOs in the Euro-Mediterranean region. Networks have already been formed in some countries, including Algeria, Egypt, Tunisia, Morocco, and in European countries.

#### *The Egyptian National NGO Network*

The Egyptian network was established to be the counterpart responsible for the implementation of the Action Plan serving the cause of the Algiers Declaration in Egypt. Currently, the Egyptian National NGO network comprises over 18 NGOs active in the field of development in Egypt. The Arab Reform Forum is responsible for the coordination of the network's work and for communicating with the European Movement and all the members of the Algiers Follow-up Committee.

#### The Algiers Follow-up Committee Meeting at the BA

The second post-Algeria meeting was held in at the Bibliotheca Alexandrina from 31 October to 2 November 2006 with the purpose of defining follow-up procedures with members of the Algiers Follow-up Committee, as well as introducing members of the Egyptian National NGO Network. An important outcome of this meeting was the committee's decision to pursue the project of establishing the Euro-Mediterranean Observatory, a project the ARF is working on in partnership with the European Movement International in Brussels and the Algerian Committee in Algiers.

#### **STRABON**

STRABON ([www.strabon.org](http://www.strabon.org)) is a Euro-Mediterranean Scientific and Technical cooperation program that associates the Humanities and Social Sciences with Information Technologies. The main objective is to provide the Mediterranean region with a multilingual and multimedia information system that comprises consistent units of digital resources related to Euro-Mediterranean cultural heritage and ethical tourism. STRABON meets the needs of research, education, and cultural expectations of a very large audience. It comprises nineteen partners belonging to twelve Mediterranean countries, creating together a technological platform based upon the use of "Open Source software". CULTNAT has contributed to the project with a number of multimedia programs and has documented information on two significant Egyptian sites: the Giza Plateau and Abu Mina's ancient city.



## **MEDCULT**

MEDCULT is an EU/UNESCO project that aims to improve the quality of cultural websites across Arab countries through the dissemination of MINERVA (the Ministerial Network for Valorizing Activities in Digitization) guidelines and tools. MEDCULT provides the methodology and establishes a stable support network, where organizations from the cultural sector can find information, advice and tools on enhancing the quality of their websites. Cultural and educational contents provided through the web are vital in contributing to information literacy and capacity building.

### **The Information and Technological Infrastructure of Cairo Governorate**

Developing information and technological systems to digitally document Cairo's heritage is the cornerstone of the cooperation framework between CULTNAT and the Governorate of Cairo. Several projects stem from that framework including developing and updating Cairo's geographical information system (GIS), upgrading the Capital's management system with regards to the documentation of cultural and natural heritage, and also putting into effect the Governorate's participation in the Global Heritage Fund to protect heritage cities and provide the necessary information and data that would help qualify Cairo to fully benefit from the Fund's resources and the plans of the Organization of World Heritage Cities (OWHC). Training programs for the technical work force of the Governorate is also included in the cooperation framework.



**1- Argentina**

National Library of the Republic of Argentina

**2- Armenia**

Mashots of Ancient Manuscripts

**3- Austria**

ARS Electronica Center

**4- Belarus**

National Library of Belarus

**5- Belgium**

nWave Distribution S.A

**6- Bosnia**

Gazi Husrev Bey Library of Bosnia and Herzegovina

**7- Bulgaria**

Government of the Republic of Bulgaria

**8- Burundi**

National Radio and Television of Burundi

**9- Canada**

The International development Research Center (IDRC)

Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)

Bibliothèque Nationale du Québec (BNQ)

Université de Montréal

Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie (AUF) Montréal

**10- China**

Shanghai Library

**11- Costa Rica**

The University for Peace

**12- Denmark**

World Diabetes Foundation (WDF)

The Danish Egyptian Institute for Dialogue



### 13- Egypt

Arabic Office for Designs & Engineering consultations  
Veolia Environmental Services- Onyx Alexandria  
Mohie Eldin Hussein  
Dar El Sherouk/ Ebrahim El Moalem  
Sir Magdy Yacoub  
Farid Mahmoud Shafei  
Misr Al Gadida for Housing and Development  
Cairo & Alexandria Stock Exchanges  
Alaa El-Din Abdel Aal Abdel-Hamid  
Alexandria Atelier  
Cairo Governorate  
The Suzanne Mubarak Women's International Peace Movement  
The High Council for Culture  
Geographic Egyptian Association  
Ministry of Communication and Technology  
Center for Computer Aided Egyptological Research  
Governorate of Alexandria  
IBM World Trade Corporation  
Dar El Kalam Press  
National Institute of Books and Documents  
Ministry of Culture / Telecommunication & Information System  
Economic Research Forum  
Alexandria City Center  
Egyptian Scientific Assembly  
National Institute of Cultural Development  
Arab Academy for Science and Technology  
Egyptian Publishers Association  
Video Cairo Sat  
Aly El Kassar  
United Nation SCO Cairo Office  
Second Biennale Imagining the Book  
Institut de l'Egypte  
Egyptian Scientific Assembly  
America- Mideast Educational and Training Services (AMIDEAST)  
Ateyat El Abnody  
Farag Hussein Farag  
Heirs of Artist Youssef Gris



The Nasser Foundation  
International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA)  
Link Media  
Rashid Mashreq Group  
Hossam El Din Abbady  
Gaber Abdel Moneim Hegazy - Arts University  
First Biennale Bib Alex Book Art  
Mohamed Hassan Darwish  
Quality Standards for Information Technology  
Center for Architectural & Engineering Design  
Museum of Fine Arts  
Coptic Angelica Institution for Services  
Hazem Mohamed Ahmed Abdel Aal  
Emeco Travel  
Nile on line  
Amr Mohie Eldin Abdelsalam Abou Zekra  
Faten Hamama  
Oracle Egypt  
Compaq Computer Egypt  
Dar El-Helal Society  
Mohamed Shehab Eldin  
Egyptian American Center  
New Horizons Egypt  
Egyptian Association for Local Heritage

#### **14- European Commission**

Programme Support Unit (PSU) of the South Sinai Regional Development  
Programme (SSRDP)  
Kantor Management/ Danish Management.  
MEDA Programme

#### **15- Finland**

Embassy of Finland  
Helsinki City Library

#### **16- France**

Les Editions Odile Jacob  
Association du Souvenir de Ferdinand de Lesseps et du Canal du Suez  
Bibliothèque Nationale de France (BnF)  
L'Institut National de l'audiovisuel (ina)



La Bibliothèque publique d'information "Bpi"  
Agence Régionale du Patrimoine Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur (PACA)  
(ARP)  
Bibliothèque Publique d'information  
Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS)  
Librairie Arthème Fayard  
Centre National d'Enseignement à Distance (CNED)  
Université Senghor d'Alexandrie  
Fondation Maison des Sciences de L'Homme  
Université de Lyon  
Université Paul Cézanne de droit et de sciences politiques  
Edition Flammarion  
Le Réseau Français des Petits Débrouillards  
Centre Culturel Français d'Alexandrie (CCFA)  
Bibliothèque de Marseille à Vocation Régionale  
L'Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Lyon (IEP)  
Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie (AUF)  
Espace Culturelle Multimédia  
Centre de Culture Scientifique et Technique Industriel de Marseille  
(CCSTI)  
Le Carrefour des Ecritures de l'Association Alphabets  
L'Académie des Sciences de l'Institut de France  
Ecole du Louvre  
L'Orchestre des Jeunes de la Méditerranée  
Centre Culturel Français de Turin  
Centre d'Etudes Alexandrine (CEAlex)  
Association Friche Théâtre/ ECM- Friche de la Belle de Mai  
Université de Nice Sophia Antipolis  
Université Paris VII Denis Diderot  
Service Inter établissements de Coopération (SICD)  
Association Française des Volontaires du Progrès (AFVP)  
Centre d'Etudes et de Documentation Economique Juridique et social  
(CEDEJ)  
Government of French Republic  
Midi Pyrénées (Conseil régional)  
EI Audiovisuel  
Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Sciences de l'Information et des  
Bibliothèque (ENSSIB)



Institut du Monde Arabe (IMA)  
Bibliothèque Francophone Multimédia de Limoges  
S.A Chadwick Healey France  
Centre National du Livre (CNL)  
Institut Français d'Archéologie Orientale du Caire (IFAO)

#### **17- Germany**

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

#### **18- Greece**

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

#### **19- India**

The Barefoot College/ Business Men Association of Alexandria  
Hole in the Wall Education Limited

#### **20- Ireland**

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

#### **21- Italy**

Association of Biennale of Young Creators from Europe and the  
Mediterranean (BJCEM)  
The Abdus Salam, International Center for Theoretical Physics (ICTP)  
Italian National Institute for Nuclear Physics (INFN)  
Armando Milani  
Italian Government  
Ottavia Bassetti  
Fondazione Piccolo Teatro di Milano  
Istituto Internazionale Del Papiro Museo Del Papiro (SIRACUSA)  
Giancarlo Bertocchini Architetto  
Studio Bertocchini & Ruggiero.  
Mediterranean Laboratory Foundation  
General Directorate for Development Cooperation (DGCS)  
Lecce University



## **22- Japan**

The Japan Foundation  
Mitsubishi Corporation  
Japan International Cooperation System.

## **23- Jordan**

Royal Jordanian Documentation Center

## **24- Korea**

Government of the Republic of Korea

## **25- Kosovo**

National and University Library of Kosovo

## **26- Kuwait**

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

## **27- Mongolia**

Government of Mongolia

## **28- Multilateral Organizations**

International European Movement  
The Green Peace International  
The Food Aid Organization of the United Nations/ World Food Programme (WFP)  
International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)  
The Anna Lindh Foundation for the Dialogue between cultures (ALF)  
International Association of Universities (IAU)  
United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM)  
International Maritime Organization (IMO) Information Center  
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)  
World Bank (WB)  
International Center for Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD)  
Institute of International Education (IIE)  
Economic Research Forum  
Association of Egyptian American Scholars & Baltimore Friends.  
Leadership for Environment and Development (LEAD)  
International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA)





The Council of Europe  
UN Habitat  
World Health Organization (WHO)  
Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)  
United Nations (UN)

### **29- Netherlands**

electronic Information For Libraries (eIFL.net)  
Elsevier B.V  
Prince Claus Fund

### **30- Norway**

Norsk Bibliotekforening  
Oslo Public Library  
Norwegian Ministry of Culture/Norwegian Library Association  
Stein Roger Bull (SRB)  
Government of the Kingdom of Norway  
Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD)

### **31- Panama**

National Library of Panama

### **32- Portugal**

Biblioteca Nacional de Lisboa

### **33- Russian Federation**

Central Public Library of Moscow  
The Margarita Rudomino All- Russia State Library for Foreigner Literature  
Russian State Library  
International Union of Bibliophiles, Moscow  
Center of Egyptological Studies, Russian Academy of Sciences

### **34- Saudi Arabia**

Islamic Science, Education and Culture Organization (ISESCO)  
Islamic Development Bank

### **35- Slovakia**

University Library in Bratislava

### **36- Social Republic of Vietnam**

The Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam



### **37- Spain**

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

### **38- Sweden**

The Beijer Institute of Ecological Economics  
The Swedish Institute in Alexandria (SwedAlex)  
The Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA)  
Library of Göteborg University  
International Institute for Industrial Environmental Economics (IIIEE)  
Touch and Turn AB (T&T)  
Scandinavian Committee

### **39- Switzerland**

Geneva Center for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF)  
Open Society Institute Zug Foundation (OSI)  
The Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)  
Institute for Peace Studies (IPS)  
Universal Networking Language – UNDL Foundation  
International Labour Organisation (ILO) Library

### **40 - Syria**

Abdel Salam Eid  
The scientific heritage Institut in Aleppo University

### **41 - United Arab of Emirates**

Arab Sciences & Technology Foundation (ASTF)  
Center of Gomaa El Maged for Culture and Heritage

### **42 - Ukraine**

V. Vernadsky National Library of Ukraine

### **43- United Kingdom**

Ehsan Massoud  
Sir Magdy Yacoub  
Thams and Hudson Limited  
Britannica Online



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

#### **44- United States of America**

The Library of Congress  
The Regents of the University of California, on behalf of the Davis Campus  
Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University (referred to as Virginia  
Tech)  
Scopus- Elsevier  
OCLC Online Computer Library Center  
The Ford Foundation  
On Demand Books  
NovoDynamics, Inc., an Advanced Image Discovery Company  
Stanford University  
Development Gateway Foundation  
SPITZ, INC.  
Macgillivray Freeman Films  
International Youth Foundation (IYF)  
The University of Maryland, College Park  
The Internet Archive Association  
International Science and Technology Practice and Policy Center  
(InSTePP) of Applied Economics  
Center for Sustainable Development, Office of International Programs  
University of Maryland  
The University of Maryland, College Park  
JSTOR archive license®  
Fake Space Systems  
Education Development Center  
Yale University  
IDEA Inc.  
The International Monetary Fund (IMF)  
R. R. Bowker  
EBSCO Information Services  
Gale Group (A Thomson Company)  
The American Museum of Natural History (AMNH)  
Nevraumont Publishing Company



Target Corporation  
Internet Archive  
Thesaurus Linguae Graecae  
Institute of International Education  
Carnegie Mellon University  
American Library Association (ALA)  
Visionary Technology in Libraries Solutions (VTLS)  
United States Agency for International Development (USAID)  
International Science and Technology Practice Policy Center, University of  
Minnesota  
Art Science Research Lab (ASRL)

#### **45- Uzbekistan**


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



VOLUME 1:  
1000 HIGHLIGHTS

# EGYPTIAN TREASURES in Europe

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Cooperation between the Center for Computer Aided Egyptological Research and  
CULTNAT





*By traveling freely across cultures  
those in search of the human essence  
may find a space for all to sit [...]  
Where East is not strictly east,  
and West is not strictly west,  
where identity is open onto plurality*

**Mahmoud Darwish**  
*Edward Said: A Contrapuntal Reading*

**Meeting Point for  
Dialogue & Understanding  
Between Peoples**



## Meeting Point for Dialogue and Understanding Between Peoples

Positioned in the cosmopolitan city of Alexandria, literally and historically the melting pot of the East, the New Library of Alexandria like its ancient predecessor, has been promoting dialogue and understanding on national, regional and international levels. Through the universal appreciation of knowledge of which the BA is by all standards a brilliant center, the Library has successfully brought people from different walks of life, scholars and eminent figures together for the sole purpose of acquiring knowledge and understanding through dialogue.

### Sunken Treasures

In collaboration with the Supreme Council of Antiquities and the European Institute of Underwater Archaeology, the Antiquities Museum has been participating with 31 antiquities in the exhibition *Sunken Treasures of Egypt* that took place at the Grand Palais, Paris, France from 8 December 2006 to 16 March 2007 and then moved to Bonn, Germany, from March to May 2007. The exhibition included a collection of artifacts which were discovered during the excavations in Alexandria's Eastern and Abou Qir harbors.



Temporary Exhibition of the Al-Muahamara Antiquities at the Antiquities Museum





One of the main objectives of this exhibition is to be able to tour the world's most famous antiquities to engage people in the cultural heritage dialogue and to make them aware of the rich Egyptian culture.

The Antiquities Museum has also set up a new exhibition that covers the period of the Ptolemies and Romans and includes a unique collection of exquisite Greco-Roman sculptures discovered at the area of Sidi Bishr in Alexandria in 1973.

### **IATUL**

From 19 to 20 November 2006, the Bibliotheca Alexandrina hosted the International Association of Technological University Libraries (IATUL) Conference. Librarians, board members of IATUL, and other distinguished guests all participated in this conference entitled “Building the Digital Library: Trends, Opportunities and Challenges”. Attendees acquired knowledge about different libraries across the world, digital projects taking place in various libraries, as well as those in Egypt.



### Librarians Abroad

This year librarians of the BA have traveled to over ten different countries visiting libraries, attending conferences and participating in training courses. From the United States of America to Taiwan, and from Sweden to Jordan, the librarians have had many enriching professional experiences.

With the Swedish and BA Library Development (SWEBA) project ending, many BA librarians participated in the last training trips to Sweden. In addition, some traveled to Rome to work with the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations on the Information Management Resource Kit (IMARK) project; others to Seoul, South Korea to attend the annual IFLA conference; and to France to further academic studies.

### The 99 Comic Superheroes

On 31 May 2007, the Bibliotheca Alexandrina welcomed its patrons to the introduction of *The 99 Comic Superheroes*. *The 99* is a new concept that grew out of the identification of a significant void of culture in children's media in the Islamic world. The concept of *The 99* is one that taps the psychology of the Pokémon and superhero lover. Muslims believe in the 99 powers and attributes of God. These attributes, if existent in one being, deify that being, and Muslims believe that only God has all 99. The storylines featured in the adventures of *The 99* are team-based and involve character groups proficient in problem-solving and teaching skills.

The new character introduced on this day is named *Baqi*, the *Everlasting*. *Baqi* is a superhuman who found his power after he experienced an explosion while the Bibliotheca Alexandrina's foundation was being dug.



The 99 Comic Superhero – *Baqi*



### **The World of Publishing**

The Bibliotheca Alexandrina had the privilege of hosting a seminar on the Future of Modern Libraries featuring Leonard Kniffel, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher of American Libraries, the popular magazine of the American Library Association. In a second seminar, Leonard Kniffel also shared his years of experience in the publishing process with BA librarians.

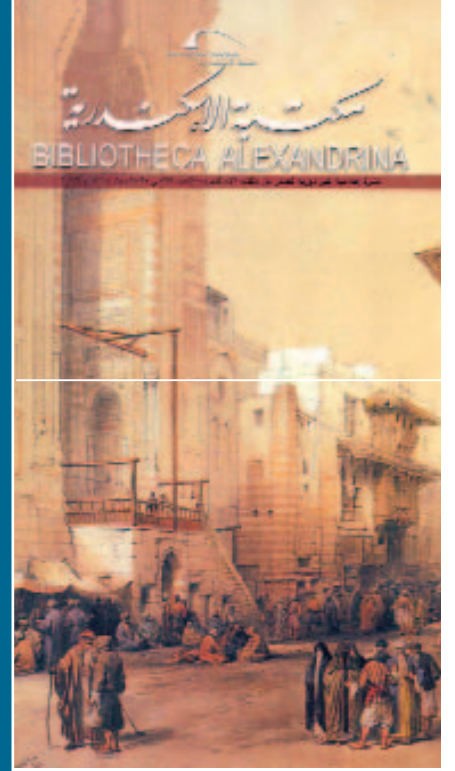
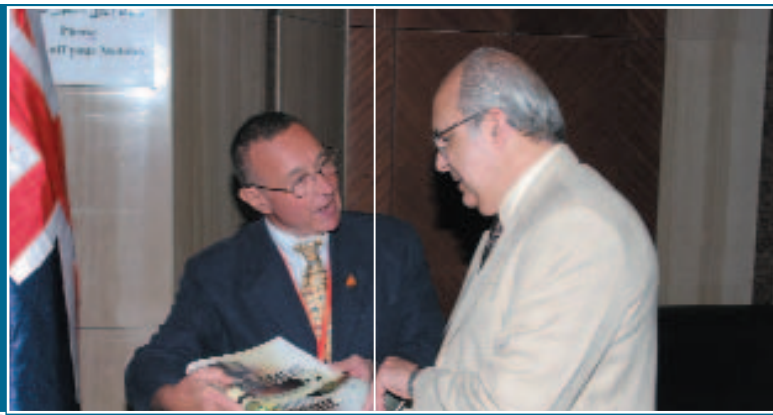
### **Information Fluency**

The Bibliotheca Alexandrina is committed to helping library patrons develop research skills that encourage and support critical thinking and lifelong learning, which are key components to information literacy. Therefore, it is taking the responsibility of teaching its users effective research skills, exposing them to various information resources and facilitating the understanding of the structure of information and methods of searching, gathering, and evaluating information. Over the last couple of years, the library staff has offered programs such as general library orientation, Online Public Access Catalog (OPAC) training, and Internet beginner courses, and has added a number of courses in e-resources, research methods, and much more. This year, due to the increase in demand, the Library Learning Center has added a total of six classes to establish a new roster of courses.





III



# Support Departments

## Support Departments

The BA's top management team is determined to make it a "second to none organization". Thus, it sets very challenging goals that can only be achieved through the highest level of efficiency and professionalism. These goals are transformed from the theoretical to the actual through BA employees who work with a high sense of pride and belonging. This section introduces the departments that provide continuous support to the service of the Bibliotheca Alexandrina as a whole.

### Publishing Department

The Publishing Department manages the BA's image as a center of excellence, through peer review, translation, editing and maintaining the BA website. It is also responsible for the Annual Report, which highlights the progress of all 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 who serve for a 3-year term. New members have been nominated for the new term. During the reported year, the PRC received eight publications from different centers including Alex-Med, Calligraphy Center and Special Projects.

### 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 in keeping with BA goals.

The Unit has monitored the:

- Translation of 1183 pages:
  - 580 pages translated in-house, 603 pages translated externally
  - 769 pages from/into English, 414 pages from/into French
- Revision of 3626 pages:
  - 1493 pages revised in house, 2133 pages revised externally
  - 2500 pages in Arabic, 706 pages in English, and 420 pages in French.

Major translations during the period included; *African Art Catalog*; *Women in an Insecure World*; *China Miracle*; and *Landmark Building* (into 2 languages).

### 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 period an average of 4.9 million hits per month, 161,423 hits per day.



## **Graphics and Printing Section**

The section for graphic design and printing is under the umbrella of the Arts Center. It services all the departments of the BA. No event is free of publications, whether they are flyers, brochures, booklets, invitations, or posters.

The Section is divided into two units:

### *Graphic Design Unit*

The Unit prepares a final conception of any given publication in its artistic layout, while tailoring the innovative designs to the individual needs of the event or publication.

### *Printing Unit*

The Printing Unit is responsible for producing any printed matter which covers the vast array of activities at the BA. An in-house photocopying center has mono and multicolored laser printers, photocopying machines, and binding and finishing lines. It also contains a plotter of 1.5 meters width, on which all the BA posters are produced. Publications which require higher printing quality are undertaken externally.

## **Finance Department**

The Bibliotheca Alexandrina has issued its fifth 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. Funds are audited, and cost deposits are produced and forwarded to donors. (See *Financial Statement* chapter)

## **Internal Audit**

The Bibliotheca Alexandrina Internal Audit function has expanded the traditional responsibility for supplementing the annual certification audit to conduct organization-wide evaluations. This is achieved through an operational audit to verify the efficiency of the Bibliotheca Alexandrina operations and effectiveness in achieving its objectives. In addition, it implemented a management audit which focuses on results, evaluating the effectiveness and suitability of controls by challenging underlying rules, procedures and methods.



## Administration Department

### *Conference Halls Section*

During the reported period, the Conference Hall Section catered to 580 events.

### *Events, Conference and Exhibition Section*

The Events, Conference and Exhibition Section managed and regularly updated the reservation module and also produced and updated general reports of internal and external events held in the BA.

The section earned EGP628,185, US\$1007 and Euro 4283 resulting from renting halls and equipments for external events. It responded to 2144 requests for the reservation of conference halls:

- 682 external events (local and international)
- 1462 internal events (staff meetings, educational courses, painting, workshops, and rehearsals – including BA Orchestra, BA Children’s choir, ballet, Suzuki, and others.

The section also assisted different BA departments in coordinating a number of international events, and worked as well as liaised with the organizers.

### *Travel and Transport Section*

The Travel and Transport Section attended to 2441 requests for the Travel Unit and 3725 requests for the Transportation Unit.

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

### *Registry and Archive Unit*

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

Incoming		Outgoing	
Surface mail	3436	Surface mail	21.718
Registered mail	1782	Registered mail	758
Incoming faxes	9659	Special courier	3806
Special courier	1807	Advertising mail	9604
		Printed matters	7366





### *Sales Unit*

Sales from the Bookshop amounted to EGP1,768,374.66 during the reported period, resulting from books and a variety of souvenirs sales. The Unit currently deals with 90 book and gift suppliers, with an increase of 10 suppliers than the previous year.

### *Purchase Section*

One hundred and ten tender meetings were conducted as well as 329 bid meetings. The custom clearance section cleared 150 shipments during the reporting period, while 10 contracts were issued.

### *Inventory Unit*

The Inventory Unit organized and adjusted the documentary cycle for storages and inventories, allowing the sharing of the 14 specialized sub-inventories (Library, Shallalat, CULTNAT, Antoniadis and Moharram Bek) as well as the main inventory.

## **Personnel Department**

Following the contract renewals which took place in October 2005, the Personnel Department conducted the first attitude survey across staff at all levels of the BA. Although non-renewals did not exceed 3% of the total staff, it was important to assess the level of uncertainty and general morale of its staff. The survey took place in two steps, first a pilot survey was conducted on senior and junior managers. Following their feedback and comments, step two involved the remaining staff members.

The staff survey began on 17 September 2006, for six consecutive days with a total of 18 data collection sessions. A high affluence was prevailing with more than 90 % of total BA staff taking the survey. Each data collection session was preceded with an orientation presentation. The team involved with the orientation and data collection were the same for the whole collection to ensure consistency and reduce personal bias.

Anonymity was highly stressed to ensure freedom of expression and despite that few people refused to reveal some identifiers as hiring year, gender, age, department and job categories, these identifiers were used for cross tabulation. The rate per identifier ranged from 4% to 6.3% of total replies.

The attitude questionnaire used a six point scale to avoid any central tendency and staff were asked about how much they agree or disagree with 90 statements, some of them were negatives to discriminate between reliable and unreliable answers. By using such an approach, the inclusion rate per question category varied from as low as 30 % to 84%, valid responses from 369 to 1008.

The following table represents the break up of the respondents based on hiring date:

2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	unknown
463	216	120	157	381	56



The survey revealed an overall positive attitude, the satisfaction index was 4.43, and this is the base line for comparison for the next survey that should be carried out annually. Data entry and data analysis were made with an in-house designed database developed by ICT staff.

The following table highlights the results of the categories of the questionnaire:

Category	Average
Commitment	5.27
BA	5.10
Management	4.70
Communication	4.64
Job Satisfaction	4.59
Training and development	4.57
Direct Manager	4.47
Trust	4.45
Work environment	4.29
Workload	4.27
Teams	4.23
Benefits	4.19
Performance appraisal	3.71
Promotion and career path	3.60
Decision making	3.43
Overall	4.43

The survey revealed some interesting positive facts:

- In the Pilot Survey, staff expressed great pride in belonging to the BA, with an overall average of 5.63
- This was maintained in the Staff Survey where staff produced an average of 5.52

### Internal Security

The Internal Security Department functions to provide optimal, around-the-clock security coverage for BA facilities (and annexes, including the Shallalat Building, Villa Antoniadis, 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 and 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 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.

The Department also plays a major role in securing the visits of dignitaries.

### **Engineering Department**

The Engineering Department's mission is to provide a safe and healthy work environment for employees and the general public in a cost effective and energy efficient manner. This is achieved by performing routine preventive and emergency corrective maintenance to the BA's facilities, as well as through the implementation of new expansion projects.

The Department is split into two main divisions, one responsible for Operation and Maintenance and the other for In-house Projects. To ensure compliance with worldwide standards, Planning, and Quality Control and Safety Audits sections were established.

#### *Operation and Maintenance Division*

This Division is mainly responsible for operating and maintaining the BA's facilities, equipment, and assets. Maintenance strategies have been developed to control all Operation and Maintenance Units. Engineering Risk Management is one important method used to classify the critical systems which control critical event operations.

#### *In-house Division*

This Division plays an important role in achieving challenging goals, of which time is of the essence. The In-house Projects Division is primarily concerned with what would be eventually recognized as the Bibliotheca Alexandrina image.

During the reported period, the In-House Division has worked closely on the success of the following:

##### 1- The New BACC Meeting Halls

Existing rooms were divided by sound proof walls to create new meeting rooms. The structure element of these walls is gypsum board while the isolation element is rock wool. The wall claddings are made of wooden panels.

##### 2- The Delegates Hall

The Delegates Hall can be considered the most technically sophisticated hall in Egypt. In this one and only electronic voting hall, one can vote on a certain topic and immediately see the voting results on a large central screen. Participants can give





The New Delegates Hall

their presentation from the place they sit rather than the podium. This presentation can then be viewed on a central screen and two screens on either side of the hall.

### 3- Upgrading the Great Hall

The Great Hall of the BACC was upgraded with fire fighting and fire alarm systems compatible with BA safety and protection measurements. This was designed by BA engineers and was implemented by the largest contracting company in Egypt. It included the lighting system, false ceiling, carpets and curtains. Additionally, a screen was installed at the back of the main theater stage for display purposes.

### 4- Upgrading l'Atelier d'Alexandrie

The upgrading included two workshops, an administration office, a projector show room, and a stores and utilities room (for plumbing, power supplies, and lighting systems). This upgrade allows for the maximum multipurpose functionality of the first floor.

### 5- The Expansion of the Children's and Young People's Library

Major modifications were added to the Children's and Young People's Library. Gypsum walls were added and some taken down, thus leading to modifications in the false ceiling. Doors were added and certain areas repainted. The covers of the chairs were changed from cloth to leather. Glass partitions were also added in addition to and specially designed wooden shelves were added.

### 6- The HCM Center



Many major changes took place to the apartment hosting the HCM Center, in order to meet the technical requirements of such a laboratory. Flooring was made of procelain and te walls were plainted with plastic. Fire rated doors were installed, and the latest in power lighting, communication and truncking systems were installed and inspected.

#### 7- The B1 Level Extension

New walls were constructed and appropriate lighting installed at level B1 to accommodate the new exhibitions hosted in this area.

#### 8- The Espresso Book Machine

The walls and cladding of the Espresso Book Machine Room were modified. The room was completely furnished and the necessary connection for power supply was also provided. A network was established and curtains installed.

#### 9- The Renovation of the Digital Lab

In the plan of developing the Digital Lab, a major expansion was undertaken. This expansion required some architectural work for the flooring of the lab and furnishing for new staff.

#### *Quality Control & Safety Audit section*

The Quality Control section is responsible for monitoring the quality of either Operation and Maintenance, or In-house tasks. It also checks the quality throughout the acquisitions process. Such procedure is implemented through inspection techniques applied to ensure that high quality is maintained throughout various stages according to given specifications.

Concerning safety, all possible danger areas are inspected regularly during the maintenance activities carried out within the BA and the BACC buildings. Safety measures are implemented to ensure the protection of people, property and the environment.

#### *Planning section*

The Planning section covers three main areas; Planning and Scheduling, Purchasing, and Contracts. Planning and Scheduling is responsible for preventive and corrective maintenance within the buildings. A complete master plan is generated for every unit, including all tasks that should be applied periodically on all equipment to prevent system failure or breakdown. Corrective work orders are issued for all unplanned tasks or system failures which appear within the Operation and Maintenance or In-house activities.

Responsibilities of this section include: preparing a procurement study for all purchasing requests of the Department according to technical specifications required; including the estimated cost of all items to be purchased locally or internationally; and reviewing and formatting contracts between the BA and the external parties.



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

The ICT Department is committed to develop, implement, and support all digital computing and telecommunication services that reinforce the BA's goal of becoming a library for the digital age.

### *Infrastructure and Connectivity*

The Library's network core has been completely replaced by new Ethernet switches capable of providing Voice Over IP (VOIP) solutions to meet new technology standards. The new switches are expected to handle the increase in network traffic. The upgrade was not only limited to hardware, but also included the installation of new firewall and intrusion prevention systems to secure the network.

Some portions of the current network are currently being upgraded to a 10G network to support increased traffic needs. The new upgrade is expected to be completed by August 2007 where the required devices will have been delivered and installed and the new fiber cabling extensions will have been laid.

As the ICT Department is committed to use the most recent and innovative technologies available, it has acquired a new Storage Area Network (SAN). The SAN provides centralized storage management to critical servers. It is designed to face the expected increase in the Library's storage demands. A new fiber network is being installed to connect the servers to the SAN. Moreover, a new tape library was installed to handle the increased size of backup. Additionally, some portions of BA servers are being replaced with blade server technology to enhance the overall performance and to preserve server room space.

Wireless Internet access using Wi-Fi Hotspots has been deployed throughout the Library, covering the Library's open area, the BA Conference Center, and the BA Plaza. The coverage of the Plaza will greatly enhance Library services as it will serve visitors, staff and students of Alexandria University (across the road), as well as the Alexandria community at large.

Over 580 computers have been upgraded to ensure the provision of adequate performance once the Windows Vista operating system is deployed, whereas 600 new computers were acquired to replace older ones. The replacement process is currently in progress.

### *The Integrated Library System (ILS)*

The ILS system has the basic modules of cataloging, circulation, serial and acquisition while the multimedia system (MmediaView) offers both printing and booking services to the public. Payment for library services is automated through a prepaid card system. The Membership System issues cards to patrons of the Library. Online self-registration for Library visitors and automatic notification of the arrival of new material are also available. Several tools and applications were developed to facilitate the work of librarians.



### *Staff Computing Services*

The ICT Department provides BA staff with a group of advanced electronic services including e-mail (over 1100 accounts) and office services, an Intranet, secure Internet browsing, centralized printing, FTP, enterprise resource planning (ERP), automated faxination, and shared document storage. These services are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and are protected by daily backups. Training and technical support for all services is provided. Services which have undergone major changes during the past year are outlined below.

- **Computerized Maintenance Management System (CMMS)**

CMMS is a system for enterprise assets management in which the major functions are separated into modules for ease of use, yet integrated to provide maximum utilization and optimization functionalities. Released in June 2007, the system automates the workflow of work orders and will be used by the BA Engineering Department.

- **Human Resources**

Oracle Human Resources Management System (HRMS) is being used for the management of staff data. New reports have been integrated within the system, and a new release of the web-based payroll system was implemented. Moreover, a new module to automate staff leaves and permissions was implemented and deployed.

In February 2007, there was a new release of the Performance Appraisal System, further modified in May 2007. The system automates the workflow of the BA employee-evaluation process through a user friendly interface and provides a lifetime archiving system.

- **Access Control and Ticketing Systems:**

With 38 automatic gates distributed across 13 different locations, the access control system regulates access of both staff and visitors whereas the ticketing control system with eight points of sale units manages the activities of the BA's daily visitors and members. Currently, a study for upgrading the system is being prepared. The study aims to avail more advanced technologies to the Library and achieve full integration with other systems such as the Library Information System VTLS, the HR database, Closed Circuit Television (CCTV), and the fire alarm systems.

Another solution is currently being studied to implement the latest technology in Library management using Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) technology both for inventory tracking of books and Library materials and circulation. RFID tremendously simplifies the circulation process and provides a more user friendly experience.

- **Archiving and Document Management:**

An automated system has been purchased and deployed to provide the Library with an integrated solution to administer the growing amount of non-structured information found in documents, and provide this information in a searchable



form for authorized users. In the meantime, an application for archiving and indexing registry correspondences has been developed and implemented.

- System Automation

Tools and applications are constantly being developed to help automate the work of different departments. A number of newsletters have been developed and are being released regularly.

Moreover, two applications have been designed and developed: the first for recording and managing BA graphic design and internal/external printing requests, and the second for indexing documents dated before October 2002.

#### *Web Services*

The BA website, [www.bibalex.org](http://www.bibalex.org), sheds light on the BA's services, news, research centers, acquisitions and material, policies and activities. Web statistics during the past year show an average 4.9 million hits per month, 161,423 hits per day.

Additionally, separate websites have been created during the past year to serve the various conferences organized by the BA, including the following:

#### Conferences

- Access to Knowledge  
<http://www.bibalex.org/A2K>
- BA Friends  
<http://www.bibalex.org/BAFriends>
- CSSP - Problems of Scientific Research in the Arab World  
<http://www.bibalex.org/PSRA2006>
- CSSP - Research Grants 2006  
<http://www.bibalex.org/CSSP2006>



CSSP-Problems of Scientific Research in the Arab World

- CSSP Workshop - How to Write a Successful Research Proposal for Engineering and Information Technology Researchers & Graduate (PhD/MSc) Students  
<http://www.bibalex.org/cssp/workshops2006>





- International Conference on Universal Digital Library (ICUDL 2006)  
<http://www.bibalex.org/ICUDL06>
- The 3<sup>rd</sup> International Forum on Calligraphy, Writing and Inscriptions  
<http://www.bibalex.org/calligraphy2007>
- BioVisionAlexandria 2008 (From Promises to Practice)  
<http://www.bibalex.org/bva08/>
- 1<sup>st</sup> MENANEE Conference on Environmental Economics and Sustainable Development  
<http://www.bibalex.org/MENANEE>
- Women in Science  
<http://www.bibalex.org/WIS2007>
- World Space Environment Forum (WSEF 2007)  
<http://www.bibalex.org/WSEF2007>
- The 1<sup>st</sup> International Workshop on Natural Language Processing Using the Universal Networking Language (UNL)  
<http://www.bibalex.org/unlworkshop07/>

#### Projects

- Youth for Environmental Sustainability and Better Understanding  
<http://www.bibalex.org/YESBU>
- Egyptology  
<http://www.bibalex.org/English/egyptology/overview.htm>
- North Africa and Middle East Science centers network (NAMES)  
<http://www.namesnetwork.org>



- Description de l’Egypte  
<http://descegy.bibalex.org/>
- Alex Cinema  
<http://www.bibalex.org/AlexCinema/>



- Diabetes Supercourse  
<http://www.bibalex.org/diabetessupercourse/>
- L' Art Arabe  
<http://lartarabe.bibalex.org/>
- Electronic Resources Center  
<http://www.bibalex.org/psc/electronicresourcescenter/>

#### Centers

- Center for Special Studies and Programs (CSSP)  
<http://www.bibalex.org/cssp>
- Library Sector  
<http://www.bibalex.org/Libraries>
- Planetarium Science Center  
<http://www.bibalex.org/psc>

#### *Telecommunication Services*

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

Two new videoconferencing applications were purchased with High Definition (HD) video quality and high bandwidth support. The applications enable the participation of up to four parties in live conferences. They use IP and/or ISDN technology. Fixed VC systems serve the Board of Trustees (BoT) room and the three main halls of the BA Conference Center, while a mobile unit with two plasma screens provides VC services at various locations. During the past year, six VC sessions took place with parties from several countries including Egypt, India, Kuwait, and the USA.

The web cast system provides real-time transmission of encoded video to multiple recipients simultaneously. Multimedia content, including archived events, can now be broadcasted to users through the web casting portal. This has facilitated interactive participation in video conferences through the web.

##### 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.

An advanced IP supported telephone system was installed at the Shallalat site with a capacity of 24 external lines and 160 internal lines. The system is managed by an application that monitors voice and data communications traffic throughout the network. It also checks system integrity and manages maintenance procedures and tasks.

The two telephone systems of the BA and Shallalat are connected through a leased line which enable internal calls between the main Library site and Shallalat (30 concurrent calls) without using external telephone lines.



### Plasma / LCD Screens Display System

The ICT Department developed a Plasma/LCD Display system to display events' schedules, details, videos, and live stream. The screens are distributed at the BA premises and the BA Conference Center (BACC). The table below shows the number of screens and their locations.

Screen Type	Number	Location
Plasma (50-inch)	Four	Library entrance
	Eight	BACC (four at E level and four at B1 level)
	Two	Internet Archive
	One	Library E level
	One	Hole in the Wall project
LCD (40-inch)	Six	One at the Antiquities museum entrance and five on mobile carts to be used in different events

Four video streamers were installed in the four BACC main halls to stream snapshots of events taking place inside the halls. The Plasma Display Player is used to manage and utilize the screens. The web-based application displays the schedule of events taking place at the BA halls, as well as the detailed schedule of specific events, such as conferences and workshops. It also displays live streams of the sessions of these conferences, enabling monitoring and synchronization.

### Teleprompting System

The BA has installed two mobile 20" LCD double set Conference Teleprompting Systems with software that supports Arabic. Flat screen technology is employed, offering a low profile look.

### **Visits Department**

The Visits Department is the first point at which BA guests and visitors are received and welcomed. The Visits Department organizes free guided tours every fifteen minutes in different languages: Arabic, English, French, Italian and Spanish. The Department has expanded its activities to fulfill the public's needs through the following:

- **Reception**  
The receptionists are responsible for reserving the guided tour for different individuals and groups either by phone, e-mail, fax or personal contact, and replying to queries, directing visitors to different sections of the Library and informing them about the free guided tours.
- **Tours**  
Tours are offered to different categories of guests, such as school groups, universities, dignitaries and tourists. The visitors are introduced to the historical



background of the Ancient Library, the efforts made to build the New Library, the significance and the concept behind this dazzling building, as well as other information about the different sections of the Library of Alexandria and the services offered to the public.

- Comments and Suggestions

The Visits Department is responsible for receiving different suggestions and comments from its visitors. During the reported period, 582 comments and suggestions have been received.

- Place for hosting children under 6 years old

Due to many suggestions to host a place for children under 6 years old, the Visits Department has provided a daycare center to entertain the children while their guardians tour the Library.

- Alexandria Guide

A guidebook for Alexandria, including addresses and phone numbers for important places and services tourists would need during their stay in the city, such as hotels, restaurants, and archeological sites, is in the process of being published.

- BA Guide

A guidebook is being developed to introduce the different sections and myriad of activities of the BA to its visitors and users. The booklet is intended to be a useful guide covering all the necessary information concerning tickets, times, and plans of the various activities in the BA, as well as answering many frequently asked questions by the Library visitors.

The Department planned a marketing strategy to promote the Library and its services. This has resulted in an increase of 44,566 visitors during the reported period.

The strategy includes a PowerPoint presentation about the Library sections and services for personal view at schools in Alexandria and Cairo. It also includes visits to hotels, social clubs, scouts, banks, cultural centers, colleges, churches, syndicates and companies and orphanages.

The Visits Department also orients guests to the CULTURAMA show on the BA site. The show is presented in Arabic, English, and French and is currently free of charge to the public. More than 17,000 visitors viewed the CULTURAMA show at the BA during the reported period.

### **Public Relations and International Contacts Department (PR and IC)**

The Public Relations (PR) and International Contacts (IC) Department is responsible for the promotion of the Bibliotheca Alexandrina nationally, regionally, and internationally.

The Public Relations Unit works to raise public awareness of what takes place within the walls of the Bibliotheca Alexandrina. It deals with issues such as image shaping





Exchanges with International Friends

and the public's perception of the BA mission. In addition, public opinion is constantly monitored and gauged to ensure that the Library is fulfilling its obligations towards its visitors in terms of quality and service. Responding to visit requests from different institutions (academic, diplomatic or public) is also a part of the Unit's work scope.

The creation and maintenance of a contact database is an integral aspect that falls within the responsibility 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 primarily responsible for maintaining and tracking the activities of the Associations of International Friends. Their Ninth Annual Meeting, held in November 2006, was attended by over half of their members. Already preparations for the tenth Annual Meeting are underway, as more emphasis will be given to specific areas of support, especially fundraising activities.

Seeking to gather support for BA programs and activities, the PR and IC Department contacts sponsors and fundraisers, and holds meeting with prospective supporters.

The Department developed an Agenda of Activities covering all the activities to be held in the BA, which is e-mailed to all BA patrons three months in advance. This ensures the reach to a wider audience.



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

The Media Department is the BA's window on its local, regional and international environment and vice-versa. The Department provides accurate and daily information, editorial support, press coverage, photographs, documentary films and media services for the BA's major activities and accomplishments to an increasingly large target audience all around the world, through a variety of outlets.

Since 2002, the Media Department has been organizing the "Alexandrina International Book Fair". This is held annually, highlighting different themes such as Children's Books, and Women and Children's Books. In 2006 the theme dealt with Books and Electronic Publishing, while 2007 covered a variety of topics without specific concentration.

#### **Fact and Figures for the 2007 Book Fair, 21 February - 5 March 2007**

<b>Publishers</b>	70
<b>Participating countries</b>	Saudi Arabia – Kuwait – United Arab Emirates – France – Turkey – Cyprus – Nigeria – Syria - Azrabijan
<b>Foreign Publishers</b>	13
<b>Egyptian Publishers</b>	57
<b>News Published</b>	64
<b>Visitors</b>	approximately 250,000 visitors
<b>Donations</b>	3223 books, periodicals pamphlets and CDs

In April 2007 the Department organized a Publishing Workshop in cooperation with the World Bank for professional publishers. This covered what publishing houses must do to cope with challenges which have been facing publishers over the last 10 years, including e-publishing. Attendees came from 30 publishing houses.

#### *Editorial Unit*

This Unit is responsible for editing the Media Department's paper and electronic publications. The materials produced by this Unit include:

- Press Releases: Arabic, English, and French press releases are issued daily, with approximately 700 press releases having been issued throughout the reported year.
- The BA English Quarterly: the third issue was released in July 2007.
- The Electronic-Newsletter: in addition to the English e-newsletter, the Arabic e-newsletter was recently issued. Both newsletters give a brief about the BA's latest and upcoming news and activities. Both are issued on a monthly basis and sent to an extensive contact database via e-mail.
- Press kits: these are prepared on demand for the BA's major events and activities in Arabic, English and French. Each comprises all the necessary material covering a certain event; including background papers and extended reports. Over 150 press kits for the BA major events throughout the reported year were prepared.



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

This Unit is responsible for maintaining and developing an up-to-date contact with local, Arab and international newspapers, television stations, radio stations, magazines, and alternative media. In this context this Unit carries out two main tasks: the first is the Media Archive, which acts as a medium for feedback. It mainly monitors and documents all materials published about the BA in both traditional media outlets as well as on the Internet, issuing the resulting report entitled BA in the Press via an e-mail to BA staff on a daily basis. Through the past year, the Media Archive documented over 1800 media clips, and recently published a comprehensive digital news archive on the BA website. Secondly, the Press Center is equipped with every means to facilitate a professional working environment for journalists, reporters and other media representatives. It contains a number of free Internet access computers, printers, fax machines, and photocopiers. Throughout the reported year, this Unit was responsible for organizing the external media coverage process for all of the BA events and activities.

The Unit is responsible for the BA Arabic Newsletter and Arabic Quarterly which highlights a variety of cultural and scientific topics, in addition to comprehensive reports about the BA's major recent events. It is distributed to an extensive contact list of intellectuals, international publishers, media representatives, newspapers, and members of BA Friends Associations. The Unit released the 21<sup>st</sup>., 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> issues of the Arabic Newsletter in July 2006, January 2007 and June 2007. Similarly, the Unit produces a monthly Arabic flyer which is addressed to journalists, the public and visitors detailing BA activities during that given month.

#### *Photography and Photographs Archive*

The Media Department's Photographs Archive 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 and supported by captions for the relative Centers and Departments, These form a depository of photographs which are available for all BA departments and units for use in their different publications.

#### *The BA Studio and the Digital Beta-Cam Archive*

The Media Department's Digital Beta-Cam Archive documents and digitally archives all the BA events and activities. This enormous digital video archive is used to produce documentary programs and films about the BA, and present BA activities on local and international television networks. Throughout the reported year, the Media Department has documented more than 400 events, and produced 5 documentary films about the BA.

The Media Department is planning to establish a TV Production Studio that fulfills this goal both on its regional and international levels. This is to be achieved through the production of cultural and scientific documentary films, and cultural programs that deepen the mutual understanding among peoples belonging to different civilizations by increasing their knowledge of each other.

The establishment of the BA TV Production Studio is only the first step on the path towards the achievement of a more ambitious goal of broadcasting a TV channel that will aid the fulfillment of the BA's cultural purposes.



# IV

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EGP

Financial  
Statement

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## Financial Donors

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 BA community. Through the generosity of those donors, we have taken many strides toward achieving the goals set by the visionaries who signed the Aswan Declaration.

Aarhus University  
Hatem Abdel-Maaboud  
Academy of Scientific and Technological Research  
Agrochem  
American Chamber of Commerce (AmCham Egypt)  
American Embassy  
American Library Association (ALA)  
Anna Lindh Foundation (ALF)  
Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development (AFESD)  
Arab Sciences & 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)  
Centre International de la Philosophie et des Science Humaine CIPSH  
Center of European Reform  
Commercial International Bank (CIB)  
Council of Europe (COE)  
Danish-Egyptian Dialogue Institute (DEDI)  
Gupreet Dhillon (Information Institute)  
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Education Development Center (EDC)  
Egypt Bio Technology Information Center (EBIC)  
Egyptian Ministry of Culture  
Ein El-Sokhna Port  
Electronic Information for Libraries (EIFL)  
Electric Machine and Equipment Company (EMECO)  
El HELB Company



Embassy of Finland  
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 Government of Italy  
 Government of Norway  
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 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 Social Science Center ISSC  
 International Youth Foundation (IYF)  
 Japanese International Cooperation System (JICS)  
 Kriti Oil and Gas  
 Joseph Hulse–International Development Association  
 Leadership for Environment and Development (LEAD) International  
 Macmillan- Publishers Ltd  
 Magdy Yacoub Institute (MYI)  
 Ministry of Environment  
 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  
 Norwegian Ministry for Foreign Affairs



NovoNordisk  
Open Society Foundation  
Onassis Foundation  
Prince Claus Fund for Culture and Development  
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Rashid Mohamed Rashid  
Research and Development Center  
Research Institute for Development (IRD)  
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HH Sheikha Fatma Bent Mubarak  
Stanford University  
Summerland and District Credit Union (SDCU)  
Swedish Government  
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)  
The World Bank Group  
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  
Veolia Egypt-ONYX  
Vodafone Egypt  
Women International Peace Movement  
World Diabetes Foundation (WDF)  
World Scientific Publishing Co. Inc.  
Wyeth





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### 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, 2007 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. Those 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 there to present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Bibliotheca Alexandrina as of June 30, 2007 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the financial year then ended, in accordance with accounting policies listed in note (3) of the notes to the financial statements.

KPMG Hazem Hassan  
Public Accountants & Auditors

Alexandria in September 9, 2007



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## Statement of Revenues and Expenses for the Financial Year Ended 30 June 2007

<b>Revenues</b>	<b>Note no.</b>	<b>30/06/2007 EGP</b>	<b>30/06/2006 EGP</b>
<b>Governmental Revenues</b>			
The Presidential Donation	(1)	11 451 100	8 957 228
Allocation from National Budget		66 318 651	46 286 742
Miscellaneous		2 865 876	211 483
		<b>80 635 627</b>	<b>55 455 453</b>
<b>Other Revenues</b>			
Financed Projects Revenue	(2)	10 503 630	13 707 234
Revenues from Operating Activities	(3)	5 979 580	5 710 913
Interest Income	(4)	9 522 444	10 840 948
Miscellaneous	(5)	3 323 800	2 739 535
Foreign Exchange Differences	(6)	(67 160)	(66 412)
		<b>29 262 294</b>	<b>32 932 218</b>
<b>Total Revenues</b>		<b>109 897 921</b>	<b>88 387 671</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Salaries and Wages		(50 992 225)	(38 104 023)
General and Administrative Expenses	(7)	(53 063 160)	(47 829 602)
Provisions	(8)	(2 000 000)	(1 000 000)
Reversed Provisions		----	1 000 000
Depreciation	(9)	(42 305 456)	(40 745 422)
		<b>42 305 456</b>	<b>40 745 422</b>
Transfer to Reserve Fund Financing Fixed Assets		<b>(106 055 385)</b>	<b>(85 933 625)</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>(106 055 385)</b>	<b>(85 933 625)</b>
<b>Surplus/(Deficit)</b>		<b>3 842 536</b>	<b>2 454 046</b>

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

- (1) **The Presidential Donation** represents the equivalent of US\$2M granted from the Presidential Office to meet current liabilities.
- (2) **Financed Project Revenue** represent donations from international and national institutions, businessmen and individuals.
- (3) **Revenues from Operating Activities** represent entry tickets, memberships, book fair, museums, and other artistic activities.
- (4) **Interest Income** represents the funds earned on the EGP 100 million restricted deposit plus interest on other minor deposits.
- (5) **Miscellaneous** represents venue rentals and miscellaneous use of assets charges.
- (6) **Foreign Exchange Differences** represent the result of foreign currency/transactions revalued at the date of the Balance Sheet.
- (7) **General and Administrative Expenses** represent all operation costs such as conference expenses, utilities, exhibitions, taxes, travel and others.
- (8) **Provisions** providing for employees end-of-service benefits and outstanding debts for suppliers.
- (9) **Depreciation** represents the calculated depreciation on the Bibliotheca Alexandrina Fixed Assets applying the Straight Line method.



## Balance Sheet as of 30 June 2007

<b>Assets</b>	<b>Note no.</b>	<b>30/06/2007 EGP</b>	<b>30/06/2006 EGP</b>
<b>Current Assets</b>			
<b>Cash in Banks and On Hand</b>			
Current Accounts and Cash on Hand	(1)	20 464 847	18 820 546
Time Deposits	(2)	51 117 750	25 957 631
Restricted Time Deposits	(3)	100 000 000	100 000 000
		<b>171 582 597</b>	<b>144 778 177</b>
Accounts Receivable (Debtors & Other Debit Balances)	(4)	31 991 795	16 321 090
Inventory	(5)	7 273 862	5 045 509
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>210 848 254</b>	<b>166 144 776</b>
<b>Long-term Assets</b>			
Fixed Assets (NET)	(6)	1 114 698 305	1 161 629 546
Projects in progress	(7)	28 736 079	20 014 611
Purchased Collections	(8)	780 196	780 196
Other long-term assets (International Communication Circuit Usage Contract) (NET)	(9)	10 060 037	10 864 841
Investment in Subsidiaries	(10)	238 750	238 750
<b>Total Long-term Assets</b>		<b>1 154 513 367</b>	<b>1 193 527 944</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>1 365 361 621</b>	<b>1 359 672 720</b>
<b>Liabilities &amp; Reserve Fund</b>			
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Bank Overdraft	(11)	11 471 949	12 673 303
Provisions	(12)	5 000 000	3 000 000
Suppliers	(13)	11 193 405	14 292 273
Creditors-Fixed Assets	(14)	24 994 345	74 746 334
Retentions		28 814 014	16 954 233
Accrued Expenses		10 052 806	8 283 681
Accounts Payable (Creditors and Other Credit Balances)	(15)	22 040 863	11 535 979
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<b>113 567 382</b>	<b>141 485 803</b>
Reserve Fund	(16)	1 151 794 239	1 118 186 917
Restricted Donations		100 000 000	100 000 000
<b>Total Liabilities and Reserve Fund</b>		<b>1 365 361 621</b>	<b>1 359 672 720</b>
<b>Contra-accounts</b>	(17)	<b>95 771 145</b>	<b>87 365 649</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

EGP20.4M funds available by the Government to settle the contractors invoices, fees and retention monies.

### (2) Time Deposits

The figure includes US\$4.2M 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, development of the Conference Hall, 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 EGP8.5M of governmental current accounts covered by the Ministry of Finance. The remaining balance of EGP2.9M 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 EGP38.46M value of donated rare collections, manuscripts and artwork, and EGP57.31M value of letters of guarantee received.



V



# Calendar of Events



## Celebrations

- Closing Ceremony of Musical Bands Competition
- Creativity Day in Egypt
- Finale of School Students Capacity Building Program
- Donation of Suez Canal Rare Documents

## Conferences

- The Golden Jubilee of the Nationalization of the Suez Canal

## Competitions

- BA First Occidental Music and Songs

## Exhibitions

- Alexandria International Symposium Sculpture in Natural Material–Granite
- Alexandria Spectrums
- Croatian Lighthouses
- The Golden Jubilee of the Nationalization of the Suez Canal
- The Portuguese Exhibition
- The Writer: Jorge Luis Borges

## Forums

- Natural Resource Policies in the Near East and North Africa: From Management to Governance. A Research-based Regional Policy Forum

## Lectures

- A Presentation and Description of the Library for Children
- Africa, the Future of Agriculture
- Astronomy Weekly Lectures
- Autism in Children
- Bioaccumulation of Organic Wastes
- Biodiversity
- Climate Change
- Environmental Protection Measures to be taken in the Urbanization of New Areas
- International Criminal Court Simulation
- Lake Marriout
- Ozone
- Parental Guide on Children with Special Needs
- Social Skills of Children
- The Requirements for the Disposal of Hazardous Waste
- Resident Scholar Program Lectures: Dr Mahmoud Makki
  - The Early Dawn of Andalusia*
  - The Andalusian Contribution to Religious Studies*
  - Linguistic and Philosophical Thought in Andalusia*
  - Andalusian Literature*
  - Historiography and Geography in Andalusia*
  - The impact of Andalusia on Arab and European Civilizations*

## Meetings

- 5<sup>th</sup> Egyptian Network Meeting — Cairo University
- Meeting of the Supreme Council of Antiquities and the Media Department
- Research Grants 2005
- Search for a Better Future
- Yes Meeting — SDA Euro-Med Activity

## Performances

- A Voyage to the Sun
- BA Orchestra – Favorite Songs from Musical Performances
- BA Orchestra – Most Popular Tango Pieces
- Gipsea Band
- Hypnosis Band
- Incarnation Band
- Mascara Band
- Master Class Finale Concert
- Midnight Symphony Band
- Nemesis Band
- Omar Khairat and the BA Orchestra
- On Thronez Band
- Resonance Band
- Sadeem Band
- Sneen Band
- Super Science Show
- The Crowed Band

## Seminars

- Alternatives of Reforming Health Insurance in Egypt
- Coastal Areas Construction Protection
- Implementing Precautionary Management of Environment in Industry
- Islam and Science
- Presentation and Choosing of the Best Project
- Suez Canal

## Symposiums

- Sculpture Symposium

## Workshops

- 2nd Annual Computer Science Workshop
- 5th International Summer Festival
- Agriculture
- Astro-Camp Alexandria
- Density
- Discover with Science
- Energy
- Flight
- Hieroglyphs for Children
- Make your own Electric Board
- Preparation of Paper
- RoboALEX
- SEED Corner
- Sketch you Future
- Technologies Used in Arabic Calligraphy Works



**Celebrations**

- Distribution of Prizes for Child Participants in the Library Sector's Summer Activities
- Finale of School Students Capacity Building Program (Group 3)
- World Youth Day

**Cinema**

- Short Films Forum: Cairo – Alexandria – Europe – Beirut
  - You Know Why*
  - Look up into the Sky*
  - The Door*
  - From a Distance*
  - Colors of Love*
  - A Real Person*
  - Fancy Doll*
  - City Report*
  - The Elevator*
  - The Dead Ain't Gonna be Upset*
  - Djamel's Eyes*
  - La Fune*
  - Baby Boom*
  - Exodus*
  - Amigo No Gima*
  - Hologram*
  - The Run*
  - Close Up*
  - Today, 30 November*
  - A House of Flesh*
  - West-East*
  - Late*
  - One in a Million*
  - Tornado*

**Exhibitions**

- First Exhibition of Arab Books – Quait Bey
- *For the First Time Exhibition*
- Microscopes of Physics

**Lectures**

- Agricultural Pests and Disease Carriers
- All You Need to Know about Hepatitis C
- Arabic Manuscripts
- Investment: Today and the Future
- Mars Hoax
- Natural Protectorates and Biodiversity in Egypt
- Pesticides: Pros and Cons
- Petroleum Refinement and its Environmental Effects
- The Ever Rotating Machines
- The High Dam
- The Impacts of Electro-Magnetic Pollution
- The Renewable Energy
- The Unknown Desert
- Wind Energy and its Future in Egypt

**Meetings**

- 8<sup>th</sup> Meeting for the Scientific Committee: Egyptian Figures for the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Centuries

**Performances**

- *Al-Hoga*
- *Al-Maquamat*
- *Bent Benout*
- *Better Life and Other Bands*
- *The Phase*
- *The Triangle's Sonata*
- *Treista – Alessandria EMBARKED – The Story of Alexandrines*
- *Trojan Women*
- Zendora Dance Company

**Seminars**

- Mokhtar and the Egyptian Renaissance
- Redevelopment of the Eastern Harbor of Alexandria and the Area around the Library
- The Safe Use of Nuclear Energy and the Role of International Agency and Atomic Energy

**Workshops**

- Computer
- Conflict Resolution Curriculum Development
- Corruption in the Health Sector
- Freedom of Thought
- International Research Workshop on Global Extremism, Terror and Response Strategies
- Mathematics
- Special Training for Primary School Teachers
- Stock Market
- Taking Care of Me
- Caring for Teeth
- Weather



## Celebrations

- End of Summer Festivity
- Celebration for Young People
- Arts School Graduation

## Cinema

- Short Films Forum
- First Film Festival for Intercultural Dialogue:  
*11-09-01*  
*The Power of Nightmares: The Rise of the Politics of Fear*  
*War and Peace*  
*The Last Moon*  
*9th Company*  
*The Road of Guantanamo*  
*Brothers*  
*Yasmin*  
*The Tiger and the Snow*  
*Grbavica*  
*Joyeux Noël*

## Conferences

- Environmental Health and Sustainable Development
- Atelier Mémoires en Méditerranée enter Histoire et Politique
- Alexandria: Visions of the Future
- Annual Leadership Conference
- The 19th Bi-annual International Conference of the International Association for People – Environment Studies (IAPS)
- Peace, Environment and Culture

## Exhibitions

- Alexandria: Visions of the Future
- Works of Children and Young People

## Forums

- Promoting Tourism in Alexandria

## Lectures

- International Criminal Court Simulations
- Municipal Wastes: Problem and Solutions
- Management of Solid Wastes
- The Past, Present and the Future of Petroleum
- Management of Hazardous Wastes
- Drinking Water from Source to Tap
- The Importance of Industrial Automated Control
- Penser la Méditerranée Series– Ancient Mediterranean
- Place as Time Carriers: Memory and Narratives of the Mediterranean
- Youth Unemployment Problems
- The New Solar System
- The Future of Alexandria
- The Western Desert, the Hope of the Future
- Neptune, the Blue Giant
- Stock Market

## Meetings

- Natural Resources in the Near East and North Africa: From Management to Governance, A Research-based Regional Policy Forum
- YES Meeting – SDA Euro-Med Activity
- First Egyptian Network Advisory Committee Meeting
- Second Egyptian Network Advisory Committee Meeting
- EAFBA Committees
- Specialized Science and Technology And Environment and Development Advisory Committee Meeting
- Signing Protocol between CCER and CULTNAT
- Meeting of the Canadian Group

## Performances

- From Here and There – Modern Music
- BA Orchestra with BA Amateur Orchestra
- For Pains in the Back – Theater
- Egyptian Oriental Concert

## Round-Table Discussions

- UN Anti-terrorism Strategy

## Seminars

- Red Tide and Human Health
- Illumination of Arabic Manuscripts and Books
- New Tools for the Dissemination of Knowledge and the Promotion of Innovation and Creativity: Global Developments and Regional Challenges
- Human Rights
- Presentation on a Digital Library Architecture
- The Unipolar World between the Ancient and the Modern

## Symposiums

- Youth for Environmental Sustainability and Better Understanding

## Workshops

- Under the Microscope
- Body and Gravity Theater Workshop
- Leading Your Career, Leading Your Society 2006
- Conflict Resolution



**Celebrations**

- Stand Up Against Poverty
- Celebrating Henrik Ibsen

**Cinema**

- Short Films Forum
- Cinema of the Islamic Republic of Iran:
  - The May Lady*
  - The Father*
  - The Mirror*
  - To Be or Not To Be*

**Conferences**

- First African Congress of Scientists and Policymakers

**Exhibitions**

- Ibsen's Women
- Ceramic Exhibition

**Lectures**

- The Green House Phenomenon
- Creating New Job Opportunities for Youth
- Youth Rights
- The Concept of Freedom: Rights and Duties
- Who is Responsible for Global Warming?
- The New Solar System
- Information Literacy and Lifelong Learning
- Health, Population Growth and Sustainable Development

**Meetings**

- Egyptian Civil Society Meeting

**Performances**

- Vokalisten accompanied by BA Orchestra
- Bonner Vokalisten accompanied by BA Orchestra
- The Cultural Palace Arabic Choir
- Master-Classes for Opera Singers
- Piano Recital Master-Class

**Workshops**

- Professional Folkloric Singers
- Voice Skills for Theater Actors
- Regional Training Course on Global Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals
- Workshop on the Algiers Congress



## November 2006

### Celebrations

- Celebration of Arabic Calligraphy
- YESBU Anniversary

### Cinema

- Short Film Forum
- Arab Cinema – European Film by Arab Directors
  - Paradise Now*
  - Zozo*
  - For Bread Alone*
  - Waiting*
  - Seeds of Doubt*
- A Bridge Between East and West

### Conferences

- Fifth SESAME User Meeting “The Scientific Horizons of the SESAME Project”
- On the Issues and Problems of Scientific Research in the Arab World
- The Second International Conference on Universal Digital Library (ICUDL 2006)
- Alexandria Conference on Women: Steps Towards Achieving Reform (STAR)
- The Potential of Arts for Intercultural Dialogue

### Competitions

- FLL (First Lego League) 2006

### Exhibitions

- Northern Stone
- The Resident Artist: The First Gathering
- Saqqara

### Lectures

- Women in Science
- Nature of Wastes in the Egyptian House
- Importance of Recycling Wastes
- Minimize Wastes
- Discovery of Mines Using Plants
- A Japanese Life Experience
- Sketch Your Life
- Lecture Series:
  - From Digital Libraries to Live User-Generated Community Repository
  - The Challenges of the Internet as a Publishing Medium
  - Making all the World’s Books Fully Searchable
- Residents Scholar Program Lectures: Adonis
  - Stagnancy and Dynamism in Arabic Culture: a Re-reading by the author of *The Static and the Dynamic*
  - Poetry and Thought
  - Aesthetic Judgment of Arabic Poetry
  - Poetry and Identity
- Photos and Memories on Naguib Mahfouz – by Gamal Al-Ghitani
- Hubble Magic
- A Close Encounter with the Red Planet
- Conversion of Municipal Solid Waste to Energy using Thermochemical Steam Reform Technology
- Scientific Research Problems in the Arab World
- Early Tumor Detection in Children

- Calligraphy Center Lectures of the Season of Culture
- A Flight to Venus
- A Bridge Between East and West
- The Middle East in World Politics
- Preventative Environmental Strategies
- Nuclear Fuel and Fertilizing Uranium
- The Origins and Development of Islamic Coins – by Raafat Al-Nabawy
- Natural Reserves Lecture
- The Unknown Desert

### Meetings

- Ninth Meeting of International Friends of the Bibliotheca Alexandrina
- Third Egyptian Network Advisory Committee Meeting
- Second Steering Committee Meeting for the BJCEM Biennale
- International Social Science Council and International Council for Philosophy (ISSC) and Humanistic Studies (CIPSH) General Assemblies
- ZERI Meeting
- Algiers Process Meeting
- International Association of Technological University Libraries
- National Research Institutes Meeting
- TWAS-ARO Meeting

### Performances

- Recital and Chamber Music Concert
- The Cultural Palace Arabic Choir
- BA Orchestra First Performances
- Poetry Reading – BA Friends
- Mohamed Salmawy’s Poetry Evening
- El Sabr Gameel
- Swing Trumpet Raouf El Ganainy
- Finale of the Eleventh Class of the Arts Center (Ballet and Piano)

### Seminars

- Book Launch: Voices from Cosmopolitan Alexandria
- Introducing the Book Hypatia
- Cultural Continuity between the Past and the Present
- 50 Years since the Suez War
- Red Tide and Human Health Workshop
- Seminar with students in AUC’s Leadership for Education and Development (LEAD) program
- SWEBA Final Report

### Symposium

- White Cane Safety Day

### Workshops

- Astro-Camp Siwa
- Electricity
- How to Write a Successful Research Proposal for Engineering and Information Technology Students
- The Annual Million Book Workshop
- Creative Science Education Initiative (CSEI) System Training
- Interconnection between Youth and Children Libraries





**Celebrations**

- Zoom Earth Festivity

**Cinema**

- Short Films Forum
- Naguib Mahfouz's Day:  
*Photograph*  
*Raya and Sekine*  
*The Bully*  
*The Blocked Road*  
*I am Free*

**Conferences**

- IAP Conference and General Assembly  
"The Unity of Science"
- International Colloquium Balnéorient: Public Baths in Egypt, Origin, Evolution and Current Practices
- The Universality of Ibn Khaldoun

**Competitions**

- FLL 2006 Competition

**Exhibitions**

- Celebrating Farouk Shehata
- Resident Artist Project Exhibition
- Crossing Glances
- Saqqara sous le Sable
- Marea and Balnéorient

**Lectures**

- The Coming Revolutions in Fundamental Physics – by David Gross
- Minimize Consumption of Water Usage in Agriculture
- Aids: The Disease of the Modern Age
  - The Phenomenon of Ebbs and Flows between Classical Greek and Medieval Arabic Geographical Works
  - Earthquakes in Arabic Geographical Literature
  - A Bird's-eye View on Arabic Geographical Heritage
  - Ahmed Ibn Maged: Father of Navigation in the Indian Ocean
- Studying Abroad
- Renewable Energy
- Natural Reserves
- Water: the Beginning, the End and the Road in Between
- Nature and Environmental Relations
- Cosmopolitan Alexandria for Architects from Catalan University

- Penser la Méditerranée: Mediterranean Strategies
- The World's Largest Ten Telescopes
- Calligraphy Center Lectures of the Season of Culture
- Peace Environmental Strategies Lectures
- Tropical Diseases and Surgeries – by Refaat Kamel

**Meetings**

- Signing a Protocol with Public Nuba Club

**Performances**

- Works by Sherif Mohie Eldin – World Premieres

**Premieres**

- Crossing the Borders – Egyptian and Swiss Musicians
- Swing Trumpet with Raouf El Ganainy
- BA Choir Christmas Concert
- Contrabass and Piano Recital
- The Cultural Palace Arabic Choir
- New Year's Concert of the Most Famous

**Musicals**

**Seminars**

- Engineering for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

**Workshops**

- Human Body
- Brain Teasers
- Chemistry
- SEED Corner
- Agriculture



## Celebrations

- Inauguration of the Renovated ALEXploratorium

## Cinema

- The Centenary of Egyptian Cinema (1907–2007):  
The First of the Best 100  
*The White Rose*  
*The Song of Hope*  
*Everything is Fine*  
*Lashin*  
*Memory and Longing*  
*Collage*  
*Salute*

## Exhibitions

- Crossing Glances
- Resident Artist Project
- Saqqara Sous Le Sable
- Salah Gaheen
- Egyptian Wildlife Illustrated

## Lectures

- Close Encounter with the Red Planet
- Hubble Magic
- A Voyage to the Sun
- A Trip to the Moon
- Economics of Resilience in Ecosystems and its Role in Sustainable Development
- Community Engagement in a Changing America
- My Experience in Applying Computer Technology to Arabic Calligraphy
- Presentation for the Science Festivity
- Weapons of Mass Destruction and Security in the Middle East – Dr Hans Blix
- Modern Trends for the Development of Environmental and Educational Concepts
- Health, Population, Growth and Sustainable Development
- New Excavations in Saqqara
- Electrical Safety
- Protecting the Environment
- Biological Diversity
- Environmental Concerns
- Lake Marriout: An Environmental Perspective
- The Evolution and Development of Ancient Egyptian Writing

## Meetings

- Building a Protective Environment for Civilians during Armed Conflicts
- The Middle Eastern and North African Network for Environmental Economics Meeting (MENANEE)
- Meeting with a Delegation of Swedish Muslim Community
- Ninth Committees Meeting of Egyptian Figures in the 19th and 20th Centuries

## Performances

- The Happening Theater

## Seminars

- French Literature Influence on Arabic Literature

## Workshops

- Ionospheric Physics and Application
- Astro-Camp Luxor and Aswan
- Learn Hieroglyphics
- The Potential of Democratic Transformation in the Arab Region
- Photography
- Creative Forum for Independent Theater Groups (Fourth Edition)



**Celebrations**

- The Library of Alexandria, USAID “TAKAMOL Project” and Johns Hopkins University Agreement

**Cinema**

- Short Films Forum: Culture and Cinema in the USA  
*The Library of Congress*  
*The Smithsonian Institution*  
*The History of Oscar*
- American Cinema Program: Oliver Stone, Witness of his Time  
*Platoon*  
*Salvador*  
*Born on the Fourth of July*  
*JFK*  
*Nixon*
- *The Miracle of Human Creation*

**Conferences**

- The Second Arab Youth Forum: The Culture of Youth and Reform

**Exhibitions**

- World Heritage in Japan
- Alexandria Tracing the Routes of Memories

**Lectures**

- The New Solar System
- Neptune, the Blue Giant
- Distant Planets
- Future Plans and Presentation Skills
- Family Counseling: For a Better Upbringing of Our Children
- Creative Forum for Independent Theater Groups (4th Edition)
- Water Problems
- Nature Around Us
- Royal Signs and Symbols in Ancient Egypt
- Different Trends for Solving Environmental Problems
- Penser la Méditerranée: la Méditerranée, échelles et figures de l’histoire
- Organic Compounds and their Negative Effects
- Arabic Calligraphy in Egypt Under Muslim Rule
- How to Participate in Private Enterprises
- World Development Report Lecture
- How the Environment Affects Us and How We Affect It
- Preventative Environmental Management
- Health Cemeteries for City Wastes
- Arabic Calligraphy Pioneers: Said Ibrahim
- New Excavation in Saqqara
- The Genius of the Blind in the Arab World
- Medical Imaging
- Presentations on Environmental Awareness and Project Evaluation Program

- Cultural Season Lectures: Islamic Coins
- American History and Contemporary Reality
- Lost Languages: The Enigma of the World’s Undeciphered Scripts
- Worldwide Environmental Cares
- Linux and Open Source Project
- Culture and Peace Meeting – by David Adams
- Media and Arabic Calligraphy

**Meetings**

- ARISTHOT Project Meeting

**Performances**

- Creative Forum for Independent Theater Groups: 4th Edition  
*Solar Plexus*  
*Return to Sender*  
*Dara Hagar*  
*Egomania*  
*Purple Red*  
*Lets Met Toekmast (Something with a Future)*  
*Pouthena (Nowhere)*  
*Basic Needs*  
*Self Portrait*  
*Born in Bethlehem*  
*Sgòrbypark*  
*Meeting Close*
- Love Songs – Culture Palace Arabic Choir
- Gipsea Band
- Works by Tarek Ali Hussein
- Works for Organ and Orchestra - BA Orchestra conducted by Ahmed El Saidi

**Seminars**

- Biogeometry and the Environment
- The Stock Exchange
- Constitutional Reform in Egypt

**Workshops**

- Creative Forum for Independent Theater Groups (4th Edition)
- Using the Internet and PowerPoint
- Develop Your Skills (for the young)
- Transparency and Combating Corruption in the Education Sector



## Celebrations

- World Water Day
- The Anniversary of Shady Abdel Salam  
*Film Horizon*  
Seminar by Artist Mohamed Sobhi  
BA Orchestra Performance
- Ceremony of the Ambassador Taher Khalifa Memorial
- Closing Ceremony of the Environmental Preventative Management Program
- Book Launch of My Alexandria Poems and Prose - by Desmond O'Grady
- Opening Ceremony of the Alexandria Forum for Women's Health and Development

## Cinema

- Short Films Forum: The Jane Campion Trilogy  
*An Exercise in Discipline – Peel*  
*Passionless Moments*  
*A Girl's Own Story*
- Program of the 1st Women's Film Festival  
*Osama*  
*Layla the Bedouin*  
*Sans Toit Ni Loi*  
*Whale Rider*  
*Passion*  
*Alexandria*  
*Amina*  
*Hard Goodbyes: My Father*  
*Sophie Scholl: The Final Days*  
*A Song is not Enough*  
*She and He*  
*Rakushka*  
*Four Women of Egypt*  
*Liubi*  
*The Puppet*  
*After the Last Sky*  
*Women without Shadow*  
*The Sandwich*  
*Permissible Dreams*

## Conferences

- Fourth Arab Reform Forum: Human Rights, Women and Development
- University Governance: A Key to Effective Higher Education Reform in Egypt

## Exhibitions

- BA Orchestra Posters' Exhibition
- Alexandria Tracing the Routes of Memories
- World Water Day
- Gabal Elba Faces and Places
- Non-destructive Technologies for the Documentation of our Heritage

## Forums

- A Discussion with Ateyat El Abnoudy

## Lectures

- Jupiter, King of the Planets
- Distant Suns
- Planetary Moons in the Solar System
- Lionfish
- Return to Mercury
- Launch of the Egyptian Satellite
- Culture and Peace Meeting – by David Adams
- South South Cooperation
- Health, Population Growth, and Sustainable

- Development
- Water Problems
- Working in a Library
- The World Bank African Development Indicators
- Resources and Dangerous Wastes
- Challenges to Democracy in the Middle East
- Art and its Role in Community Development
- The Language of Architecture – by Charles Correa
- Desertification and How to Combat It
- Sanitary Landfills for Urban Wastes
- Mermaids...Dream or Reality?
- Sustainable Architecture in Germany
- How to Deal with the Environment in the Future
- Arabic Language, Youth and Society
- The Commonalities and Differences Between Art and Science
- World Learning Program
- Pesticides – Risk Evaluation and Minimizing Losses
- War of Languages
- Different Means of Solving Environmental Problems
- Dialogue of Civilizations
- What is the Stock Market?
- Preventative Environmental Management
- Alexandria, History of Cultural Interaction

## Meetings

- The Arab Reform Observatory Experts Committee
- World Water Day – Meeting of Water Wise Committee
- Alexandrie, la ville ottomane
- Global Forum on Agricultural Research (GFAR) Retreat
- Danish Youth Council Meeting

## Performances

- Contemporary Egyptian Music Concert – BAO 5th Anniversary
- Culture Palace Arabic Choir – In Memory of Abdel Halim Hafez
- BA Chamber Orchestra's 5th Anniversary Concert

## Seminars

- A Psychological Perspective on Ourselves
- The Small and Medium Enterprise Stock Market: Challenges and Opportunities
- Fulbright Scholar/Student Program Information Sessions
- Works of Said Ibrahim
- Steps Towards a Middle East Nuclear Free Zone
- Amendments to the Constitution
- ABB Customer Support Council
- Arabic Calligraphy Techniques: Paper Writing Preparation

## Symposiums

- Alexandria: A History of Cultural Interaction

## Workshops

- Astro-Camp Siwa
- Biology Enzymes
- Creativity for Teachers
- PowerPoint
- Read Write Now
- Conservation and Management of Historic Buildings Program
- Micro and Nano Fabrication Systems
- Grant Proposal Guidelines Training Workshop



**Celebrations**

- Science Festivity
- Zoom Earth Festivity
- International Academic Ceremony in Honor of Abdelhalim Nureldin
- Arts School Ceremony of the 12th Educational Class

**Cinema**

- Short Films Forum: The Trio of the Palestinian Liana Badr  
*Fadwa, A Tale of a Palestinian Poetess*  
*Zaytunat*  
*Al Hisar*
- Shakespeare in Egyptian Cinema  
*Love is Forbidden*  
*The Female Boss*  
*Beware of Eve*  
*The Damned*

**Conferences**

- The Intergovernmental Panel for Climate Change Press Conference
- Imagining the Book Biennale Press Conference
- Third International Scientific Conference – Visual Arts
- The Third International Forum of the Calligraphy, Writing, and Inscriptions in the World Throughout the Ages
- Reading Shakespeare

**Exhibitions**

- Imagining the Book International Biennale 2007
- Opening of Artist's Book – Permanent Exhibition
- BA Orchestra Poster Exhibition
- Zoom Earth

**Lectures**

- Dwarf Planets
- Our Place in the Universe, by John Barrow
- Distant Planets
- Sharks
- Selling Science to the Public, by Baroness Susan Greenfield
- Distant Suns
- An Objective View of Genetically Modified Products
- Information Fluency
- Persistent Problems and Ready Made Solutions for Development
- Genetically Modified Cotton and the Future of Cotton Agriculture in Egypt
- Environmental Preventive Management Begins from Home
- International Campaign Against Landmines
- The Holy Quran, Calligraphy, and Artistic Calligraphy Schools

- Environmental Preventive Management in General Activities
- Natural Gas - New Source of Energy - Environment Friendly
- Penser la Méditerranée: la Méditerranée des villes
- Your Small Project
- Graphics: From the Eye to the Heart
- The Significance of Drawings and Inscriptions in the Levant During Prehistoric Ages
- Environmental Preventive Management in Industrial Activities
- How to Boost your Memory Capabilities
- Application of Preventive Environmental Management Strategies
- The Development of the Inscription of the Holy Quran

**Meetings**

- GFAR (Global Forum on Agricultural Research) Retreat
- World Conservation Learning Network
- Helsinki Process and Religions for Peace Round Table
- Meeting with the WHO Delegation
- Biotechnology Program Meeting
- Heritage Preservation Committee

**Performances**

- Bohuslän Big Band
- World Festival Choir and BA Orchestra
- Mahi Mahmoud and Point of You Jazz Band
- Easter Concert – Church Harmonic Choir
- Alexandria Headbanger's Festival
- Guitar Concert with José Miguel Moreno
- Culture Palace Arabic Choir
- Foxido Band
- White Oleander Band
- Copper City – a play based on A Thousand and One Nights
- Opera Miramar
- Children's Ballet – Doctor, I am Sick!

**Seminars**

- Alexandrian Cultural Magazines
- Egyptian-American Relations

**Workshops**

- Biology Enzymes
- Science Festivity
- Memory of the Arab World



**Celebrations**

- Arab Union Catalog Agreement
- Book Launch: A Guide to Postcards of Alexandria

**Cinema**

- Short Films Forum: 60th Anniversary of the Cannes Film Festival  
*The Great Moments of Cannes*  
*Arab Moments at Cannes*
- Europe's Day: Selected films 2006  
*The Wind that Shakes the Barley*  
*Volver*  
*Lights in the Dusk*  
*After the Wedding*  
*The Lives of Others*

**Conferences**

- The Manuscript Center 4th Annual Conference: Translated Manuscripts
- The Management of Trauma Among Children, Adolescents and the Community

**Exhibitions**

- Imagining the Book International Biennale 2007
- Opening of the Raaya El Nimr and Abdel Ghani Abou El Enein Collection Permanent Exhibition
- Translated Manuscripts
- Melina Mercouri
- Egyptian Cinema in 80 Years

**Lectures**

- Planetary Moons
- Venus: Earth's Twin Planet
- Three Years on Mars
- A Close Encounter with the Red Planet
- Photo Album of Saturn
- Distant Planets
- The Greek Poet Kavafis, by Ramón Irigoyen
- Contemporary Dance in America – A Blend of Cultures
- Resident Scholar Program Lectures: by Dr Ahmad Shawki Benbin  
*From Manuscripts to Printed Books*  
*Arabic Codicology*  
*Foundations of Arabic Critical Editing*  
*Dictionary of Arabic Codicology*
- Women and the Public Life
- Penser la Méditerranée
- Arabic Calligraphy Pioneers: Ibn Muqla
- Pharaoh...In the Perception of the Ancient Egyptians
- Freedom and Islam
- Creativity and Egyptians
- The Future of Modern Libraries
- Publishing
- The Launch of the 99 Comic Superheroes

**Meetings**

- Heritage Preservation Committee
- Universal Peace Federation
- International Center on Nonviolent Conflict Meeting

**Performances**

- Opera Miramar
- Percussions Concert Les Tambours du Bronx
- Bad Moves, Hip Hop Dance by the group Wanted Posse
- Uwe Kind
- Culture Palace Arabic Choir – In Commemoration of Mohamed Abdel Wahab

**Seminars**

- A Proof on the Arabic Origins of the Ancient Egyptian Language
- Developing Educational Curricula for the Maximum Utilization of Students Capacities

**Workshops**

- 1st International Workshop on Natural Language Processing Using Universal Networking Language (UNL)
- Working with Ancient Text from Egypt
- Differences in the Mediterranean Region – Ancient and Recent
- Intellectual Property and Access to Knowledge



**Celebrations**

- Erastosthenes Annual Festivity
- Flame of Peace 2007
- Alex Cinema: Inauguration of Website and Exhibition
- Kindergarten for Peace
- Alexscope Festivity

**Cinema**

- Short Films Forum: The Centenary of Egyptian Cinema (1907–2007)
  - Art Studio in the Village
  - Arabic Calligraphy
  - Coptic Decoration
- The Centenary of Egyptian Cinema (1907–2007): Selected Feature Films
  - *The History of Egyptian Cinema (1)*
  - *The History of Egyptian Cinema (2)*
  - *A Struggle in the Valley*
  - *A Struggle on the Nile*
  - *A Man in Our House*
- Melina Mercouri

**Conferences**

- The Manuscript Center 4th Annual Conference: Translated Manuscripts
- Fourth Euro-Mediterranean University Forum

**Exhibitions**

- Melina Mercouri
- Rhythm and Verses - Masterpieces of Persian Calligraphy
- Images of the Celebration of the 75th Anniversary of Egypt Air
- Alex Cinema

**Lectures**

- Whales
- Stellar Evolution
- Museology Lectures by Maria Rinaldi
- The Middle East...Future Perspective
- Tangible and Intangible Cultural Heritage: The Islamic Arts Museum, Malaysia's Collection of Single Folios
- Hubble Magic Telescope
- The Constitutional Framework for the Application of Article II of the Constitution
- Nature and Environmental Relations
- Libraries in Baghdad During the Islamic Era
- Biological Diversity
- Environmental Concerns
- Developing Presentation Skills
- Lectures by Maria Rinaldi:
- The History of Italian Arts
- Arts Studies Specializing in Museum
- Cultural Management and Museology
- Museum Studies

- Conservation Techniques and Museums Collections Management
- Manuscript Temporary Exhibition
- Invisible Astronomy
- Developing Research Skills
- Population Growth, Health, and Sustainable Development
- Arts Studies Specializing in Museums
- Human Rights Between the State and Society
- My Book: Digital and Printed
- Whales
- The First Astronaut
- Research for All: Presentation Skills
- Developing Research Skills
- The Role of the BA in Rural Development

**Meetings**

- Heritage Preservation Committee
- Master Urban Planning and Environmental Management Meeting
- Heritage and Tourism Meeting with the Hellenic Leadership Institute

**Performances**

- Omar Bashir Concert
- Fête de la Musique - Souad Massi
- Fête de la Musique – Culture Palace Arabic Choir
- R'Way Group – Selection of the Best Songs of the 20th Century
- Haydn Works Gala Concert with the BA

**Orchestra**

- Masar Egbari Band
- Culture Palace Arabic Choir

**Seminars**

- Images of the Celebration of the 75th Anniversary of Egypt Air
- Environmental Preventative Management Program
  - Culture and Conflict Resolution in the Euro Mediterranean Region
  - Religions Unite People
  - Regional Seminar on Audiovisual Archives: Audiovisual Archive in the Digital Era, A New Deal

**Workshops**

- RAMI International Encounters on Arts and Multimedia
- First Time Exhibition Workshop
- Fun with Science



VI



**Donations**

**Visitors**

**Staff**

# Statistical Snapshots

**Activities**

**Collection**

## Library Sector

### Donations

Material Type	Volumes	Percentage of Total Donations
Books	29,003	97.2%
Maps	27	0.1%
Multimedia	274	0.2%
Other	529	1.8%
<b>Total Donations</b>	<b>29,833</b>	<b>100%</b>

### Acquisitions by Language - Monographs

Language	Total Number of Items
Arabic	3160
English	4554
French	116
German	20
Latin	15
Other	194
<b>Total</b>	<b>8059</b>



### Memberships by Type

Types	Annual	Monthly	Summer
Main Library	7812	574	–
Children's Library	862	28	263
Young People's	880	57	197
Taha Hussein	281	–	–
<b>Total</b>	<b>9835</b>	<b>659</b>	<b>460</b>

### Electronic Resource Usage

Number of Sessions/Logins	44,516
Number of Searches/Browses	165,856
Number of Full Text Retrievals	107,207
Number of Abstracts Retrievals	81,926
<b>Total Retrievals (full text and abstracts)</b>	<b>190,474</b>

### BA Collection

Volumes in Open Stacks	209,816
Volumes in Closed Stacks	37,945
Volumes Under Processing	83,784
Volumes in Special Libraries	60,371
Maps	2938
Theses	45,982
Depository Collection (Including Audiovisual)	18,462
Multimedia Materials	20,388
Print Scholarly Journals	1268
Daily Newspaper/Magazine Titles	97
Online Databases	31
Electronic Journals	25,000+
Electronic Books (eBrary)	25,000+
<b>Total Physical BA Collection</b>	<b>526,051</b>



## Arts Center

	No. of Activities
Concerts	61
Theater	22
Cinema	11
Workshops	10
Presentations	2
Exhibitions	20
New art pieces	270
Music Competition	1
Artistic Project	2
Arts School Classes	47
Dance Performance	1
Lectures	2
Opera	1

## Manuscript Center

	Number
Original Manuscripts	5135
Rare Books	13,944
Special Collections	61,638
Periodicals	53,956
Microfilms	3962
Microfiches	184,702
Slides	2223
Digital Manuscripts	9183



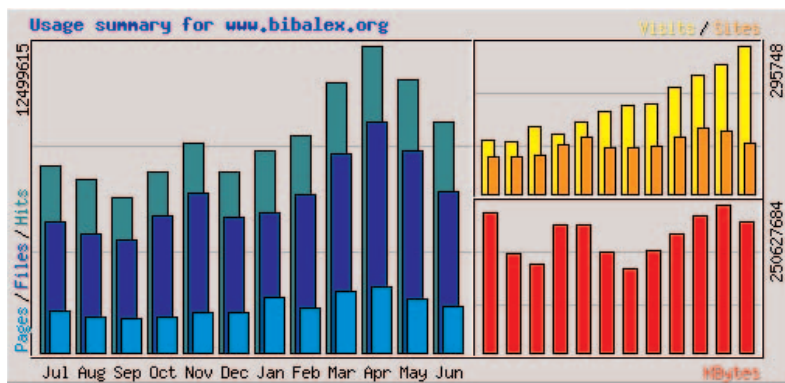
## ICT Department

### Training

	Trained	Examined	Passed
IT Basics	21	23	13
Win XP Part I	65	107	81
Win XP Part II	53	112	71
Internet Explorer	21	69	61
Word Part I	38	116	85
Excel Part I	56	150	118
Outlook Part I	40	127	96
Power Point Part I	10	60	25
ICDL +	188	278	186
<b>Total</b>	<b>492</b>	<b>1042</b>	<b>736</b>

Infrastructure	Quantity
Network outlets connecting the whole complex	3215
Computers serving the staff	1319
Computers serving the public	465
Servers	66
Internet cafés	1 (16 PCs)

### Usage Summary for BA Websites



## Visitors

### Total Guided Visitors

	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Total
2005/2006	18,211	21,288	12,298	11,810	28,556	27,259	11,788	18,632	41,637	37,584	9362	9534	247,959
2006/2007	18,697	20,928	9648	9890	35,329	22,255	9832	20,705	40,944	35,603	12,245	12,591	248,667

Comparison 2005/2006 to 2006/2007

### Total Visitors to BA Museums

(figures based on number of tickets sold)

	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Total
Antiquities	5150	5645	2805	2505	3475	2030	2275	3195	4215	3940	2345	2530	40,110
Manuscript	2649	2109	1287	1283	2443	1128	1506	1652	1996	2533	1373	3608	23,567
PSC	3471	5532	2343	819	4654	4910	2279	6093	8736	7179	2086	1464	49,566

## Staff

### Job Categories by Sector

(Cut off date 4-7-07)

Sector	Staff	Managers	TOTAL
Academic and Cultural Sector	367	68	435
Director's Office	59	16	75
External Relations Sector	43	7	50
Finance and Administration Sector	707	102	809
Information & Communication Technology Sector	164	15	179
Library Sector	183	19	202
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1523</b>	<b>227</b>	<b>1750</b>

Excluded consultants 31



## Job Categories by Male & Female

(Cut off date 4-7-07)

	Sr. Manager	Jr. Manager	Staff	Security & Service Staff	TOTAL
Females	16	62	488	48	614
Males	29	123	414	570	1136
	<b>45</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>902</b>	<b>618</b>	<b>1750</b>

## Age Range

(Cut off date 4-7-07)

Age	No. of Staff
19 - 25	391
26 - 35	955
36 - 45	281
46 - 55	88
> 56	35
<b>Total</b>	<b>1750</b>

## Media Department

	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Total
Press Releases	60	64	55	50	70	65	64	64	71	67	65	70	<b>765</b>
BA in the Press	169	202	169	169	188	242	242	260	261	252	294	215	<b>2663</b>



VII



# Board of Trustees & Advisory Board



## 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 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 Women's International 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.

### Ex-Officio Members



**Ahmed Abul-Gheit**

Minister of Foreign  
Affairs

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.



Hany Helal, former President of l'Université Senghor, assumed the post of Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research in January 2006. He is a Professor of Rock Mechanics and Engineering Geology. He is the 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 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. He initiated the transferal of the current Egyptian Museum to create the largest museum in the world; developed and restored Dar El-Kutub; and established the 'cultural development fund' responsible for producing and promoting cultural products. 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.



**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 and 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

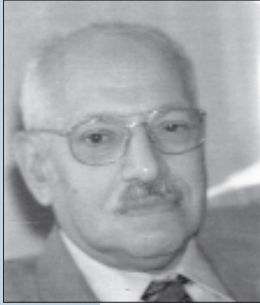
Hassan Nadir Kheirallah holds an MSc and PhD in Electrical Engineering, Carleton University, Canada. He specializes in microwave communications. He is currently Alexandria University President and former Dean of the Faculty of Engineering, Beirut Arab University. He was the recipient of the University 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 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, he founded and is Chairman of the Board of the Crisis Management Initiative. 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 Chairman of the Balkan Children and Youth Foundation, and Global Action Council of the International Youth Foundation, and of the Board of WSP International. Martti Ahtisaari is committed 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 is co-President of the High-Level Advisory Group 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, Maghreb and the Arab world, Disarmament, and Conflict prevention. She is the author of *Green Power and Red Peril*; and *World Food Security*.



**Lourdes Arizpe**

Mexico

member as of 2005

Lourdes Arizpe is presently professor and researcher at the Regional Center for Multidisciplinary Research of UNAM. She is former Assistant Director General for Culture at UNESCO (1994–1998). She holds a PhD in Social Anthropology. She is author of twelve books, which include *The Cultural Dimensions of Global Change: An Anthropological Approach* (1995), and *Culture and Global Change: Social Perspectives of Deforestation in the Lacandona Rain Forest* (1995). She is founding member of the Mexican Academy of Human Rights, and member of the Advisory Committee of the UN Human Development Report and World Bank Project on Culture and Public Action. She holds an honorary membership in the Royal Anthropology Institute, England. She is a member of the Academic Faculty of the Global Economic Forum, Davos.



Adel El-Beltagy, is currently the Chair of the Global Forum on Agricultural Research (GFAR) (2006–present). He is Chairman of IDDC (2003–present); Director General of ICARDA (1995–2006 and Director/Board Chairman of Agricultural Research Center, Egypt (1991–1995); First Under-Secretary of State for Land Reclamation, Egypt (1986–1991), Foreign Member of the Russian academy of Agricultural Sciences, Moscow; and Honorable Academician of Kyrgyz Agrarian Academy. He is Honorable Professor of the Scientific Council of Azerbaijan Agricultural Academy; Fellow of TWAS, and has been awarded Al-Istiklal Medal by His Majesty King Abdullah II bin Hussein of Jordan. He has authored/co-authored more than 140 scientific publications.



**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, outgoing Chair of ICARDA, Syria, and member of the Boards of IWMI and IFDC, and of the Council of the World Food Prize. She serves on 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. 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: A Framework for Action in the Middle East and North Africa* (2002) and *Researching the Culture of Agriculture* (2006).



**Michael M. Cernea**  
Romania /USA  
member as of 2003

Susan Greenfield is Director at the Royal Institution of Great Britain; Fullerian Professor of Physiology; Senior Research Fellow Lincoln College; Honorary Fellow, St. Hilda’s College, Director of the Institute for the Future of the Mind and held the Gresham Chair of Physic. Baroness Susan Greenfield’s postdoctoral research was at the Collège de France, Paris, and New York University Medical Center, New York. She authored *The Human Brain: A Guided Tour* (1997); *Private Life of the Brain* (2000) and her latest is *Tomorrow’s People*. She received 28 honorary degrees and awards among which the Ordre National de la Légion d’Honneur (2003), the Michael Faraday medal by the Royal Society (1998). She was elected to an Honorary Fellowship of the Royal College of Physicians (1999)



**Susan Greenfield**  
United Kingdom  
member as of 2006





**Vartan Gregorian**  
Iran/USA  
member as of 2006

Vartan Gregorian is the twelfth president of Carnegie Corporation of New York and was the sixteenth president of Brown University for 9 years. He 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 and then president of Brown University. Vartan Gregorian is the author of *The Road to Home: My Life And Times*, and *Islam: A Mosaic, Not A Monolith*. 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.



**Abdel Aziz Hegazi**  
Egypt  
member as of 2007

Abdel Aziz Hegazi is former Prime Minister of Egypt (1974–1975), Deputy Prime Minister, and Minister of Economy and Foreign Trade. He is currently an expert in the field of Economics and Accounting, and Professor of Auditing, Faculty of Commerce, Cairo University. He is also Chair, Member, and Consultant at a number of institutions and associations in Egypt and abroad. He has participated in a number of conferences and events such as the Fifth Summit Council for World Peace held in Korea in 1992. In recognition of his innumerable contributions, he has received numerous awards from Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Iran.



**Jean-Noël Jeanneney**  
France  
member as of 2003

Jean-Noël Jeanneney is a history professor, currently teaching contemporary history at the Institute of Political Studies, Paris. He has been president of both Radio France and Radio France Internationale and served twice as Secretary of State. He has been chairman of the Bibliothèque nationale de France from March 2002 to April 2007. His published works include *François de Wendel en République, l'Argent et le pouvoir* (new edition published by Perrin in 2004); *L'Echo du siècle: dictionnaire historique de la radio et de la télévision en France* (Hachette Littératures, 1999 and de Poche 2001); *L'Histoire va-t-elle plus vite ? : Variations sur un vertige* (Gallimard, 2001); *Clemenceau, portrait d'un homme libre* (Mengès, 2005); *Quand Google défie l'Europe, plaidoyer pour un sursaut*, (Mille et une nuits 2005, 2nd edition 2006).



Michael A. Keller is the Ida M. Green University Librarian, Director of Academic Information Resources, and Publisher of HighWire Press and Stanford University Press. He has served as Advisor, Consultant, and Committee Member at the American Association for the Advancement of Science and other scholarly societies. In 1995, he established HighWire Press as an enterprise within the Stanford University Libraries to provide online co-publishing services. In 1999, he became Co-Founder of the Stanford-California State Library Institute on 21st Century Librarianship, a continuing-education program focused on issues of leadership and technology in libraries. He has taught Musicology at Stanford University and produced an annotated bibliography popularly known as *Duckles* in honor of Vincent H. Duckles, former Head of the Music Library and Professor in the Department of Music at the University of California, Berkeley.



**Michael A Keller**  
USA  
member as of 2007

Kiyoshi Kurokawa, MD, is Special Advisor on Science and Innovation to the Cabinet of Prime Minister Shinzo Abe; Professor of Graduate Research Institute of Policy Studies; Immediate past President of the Science Council of Japan, Governor of the American College of Physicians Japan Chapter; was Professor of Medicine, Schools of Medicine of UCLA, University of Tokyo and Tokai University. He is member and 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 was President of the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the field of Human Rights (1993–1999) and President of Human Rights Commission of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly. She represented the Belgian Government at the UN Summit for the Decade for Women. She worked as a member of the UN Committee supporting women against Apartheid, and 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 has been Director General of IUCN since January 2007. She was Rector of the UN-mandated University for Peace (2005–2006); Executive Director of LEAD International (1997–2005) and Executive Director of ICSU from 1986. Julia Marton Lefèvre has also worked on a UNEP-UNESCO Environmental Education program and as a university teacher in Thailand. She has co-authored numerous books and papers and is member of several international boards in the fields of environment, development, science and international cooperation. In 1999, she received the AAAS Award for International Cooperation in Science. She is a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society of the United Kingdom and studied history, ecology and environmental planning in the USA and in France.



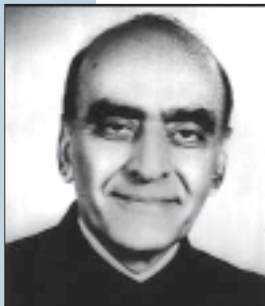
**Julia Marton-Lefèvre**  
Hungary  
member as of 2005





**Mounir S. Neamatalla**  
Egypt  
member as of 2006

Mounir S. Neamatalla is the Founder and President EQI, a development consulting firm established in 1981. EQI promotes economic and social development and offers services in three main areas: Policy and Governance; Environment and Natural Resources; and Enterprise Development and the Finance of Small and Micro Enterprises. EQI received several awards, including the 2006 ICC-UNDP-IBLF World Business Award; the 2005 Talents du Luxe Award; and the 1992 Rio de Janeiro Earth Summit Award. Mounir Neamatalla obtained his PhD (1976) in Environmental Health and Quality Management; Columbia University, New York. He owns and operates the Adrère Amellal ecolodge in Siwa, and is winner of the 2005 Condé Nast Traveler Green List Award.



**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 of the Science Council of the Consultative Group of International Agricultural Research, University Professor for Sustainable Development and Food Security at Wageningen University, member of the Senate of the Netherlands Parliament, and Chairman of the Royal Institute of the Tropics. He led various missions and agricultural programs in developing countries and served as editor of several journals. He 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 co-Chair of the InterAcademy panel on Food Security and Agricultural Productivity in Africa. He serves on the boards of various international agribusiness firms.



**Mamphela Ramphela**  
South Africa  
member as of 2005

Mamphela Ramphela is Chairperson of Circle Ventures, co-Chair of the Global Commission on International Migration, a member of the Board of Directors of Standard Bank South Africa Ltd. and Medi Clinic Corporations Ltd., and trustee of several foundations. She is former Managing Director of the World Bank (2000–2004), and was the first black South African and first woman to be Vice-Chancellor at the University Cape Town. She has received numerous national and international awards, including the the Noma Award in 1990 as co-author of the book *Uprooting Poverty: The South African Challenge* (1989) and is author of a number of books and articles. She has received as many as 20 honorary degrees and is a qualified medical doctor and holds a PhD in Social Anthropology.





Ghassan Salamé, former Lebanese Minister of Culture (2000–2003) 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. He has PhDs in Literature, 1975; and in Political Science, 1978. He was appointed Chairman and Spokesman of the Organization Committee for the Arab Summit and of the Francophone Summit (2002) in Beirut. Ghassan Salamé is 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, including *Democracy without Democrats*; *The Foundations of the Arab State*, and *The Politics of Arab Integration*.



**Ghassan Salamé**  
Lebanon  
member as of 2005

Rhonda Roland Shearer, a New York artist, 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, 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

Bishop Gunnar Stålsett is currently International Co-President of the World Conference of Religions for Peace, and Co-Moderator of its affiliated European Council of Religious Leaders, as well as Chairperson of the Niwano Peace Prize Committee. In 2004, he was appointed Co-Chairperson of the Leadership Program Committee for the 16th International AIDS Conference held in Toronto in August 2006. He was a member of the Nobel Peace Prize Committee until he was appointed as a bishop in 1998. He was State Secretary in the Ministry of Church Affairs (Norway), Chairperson of the Center Party (1977–79), Deputy Member of Parliament, and Member of the Oslo City Council.



**Gunnar Stålsett**  
Norway  
member as of 2007

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. 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



## Eminent members of the Advisory Board

(formerly members of the Founding Board of Trustees)



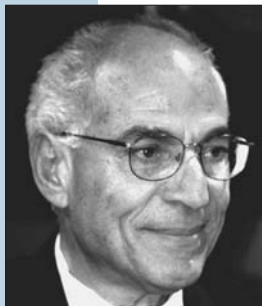
**Hanan Ashrawi**  
Palestine

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**  
France

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**  
Egypt/USA

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 the UAE. 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.

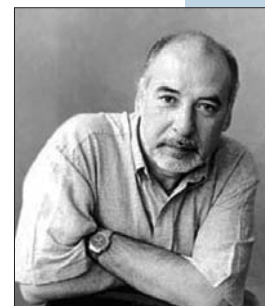


**Hans-Peter Geh**  
Germany

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.



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*.



**Tahar Ben Jelloun**  
Morocco/France

Umberto Eco is currently the President of the Istituto 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**  
Italy

Vigdís Finnbogadóttir was President of Iceland for over a decade (1980–1992), 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**  
Iceland

Yolanda Kakabadse is Executive President of Fundación 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 Fundación 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**  
Ecuador





**Brian Keith Follett**  
United Kingdom

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. He chaired two national committees charged with improving academic library structures in the UK.



**Luis Monreal**  
Spain

Luis Monreal is the General Manager of the Aga Khan Trust for Culture, Geneva (Switzerland). He is a conservation specialist, art historian and archeologist. He has held positions in many institutions: Secretary General of the International Council of Museums at UNESCO (1974–1985); Director of the Getty Conservation Institute (1985–1990); Director General, 'La Caixa' Foundation (1990–2001); and was a member of various archeological missions in Nubia, Sudan, Egypt and Morocco. He is the author of numerous works on art and archeology. He is a board member of the Museo Nacional Reina Sofia (Madrid) and of the Gala-Salvador Dalí Foundation in Spain.



**Adele Smith Simmons**  
USA

Adele Smith Simmons is currently Vice-Chair of Chicago Metropolis 2020 where she focuses on early childhood education and the future of cities. She is also President of the Global Philanthropy Partnership which strengthens networks among donors who are addressing issues of conflict, poverty, health, and hunger. She has been President of the MacArthur Foundation for ten years. At the MacArthur Foundation, Simmons oversaw the distribution of over one billion dollars in grants, focusing on peace and international security, the environment and reproductive health. Five of the MacArthur grantees won Nobel Peace Prizes.



**Wole Soyinka**  
Nigeria

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, many have been world-widely translated. He is active on both artistic and human rights organizations such as 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 and Emeritus Professor of Comparative Literature at Obafemi Awolowo Nigeria. Wole Soyinka has received many international honors, including serving as Goodwill Ambassador to UNESCO.



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. He is widely referred to as the scientific leader of the Green Revolution Movement because of his contributions to the agricultural renaissance of India. 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.



**Monkombu Swaminathan**

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 21st Century, Japanese Ministry of Health and Welfare, Earth Council and Club of Tokyo.



**Kazuo Takahashi**

Japan

Leila Takla is a Professor of Law and Management, Legal Consultant, and the Founding President of the Egyptian Federation of Women Lawyers, and the National Association of the Preservation of the Environment. She is a member of many boards and international committees for legal affairs, economic reform, education, environmental and women's issues and 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, and member of the executive Board of the National Council of Women, the Supreme Council of Culture and the Egyptian Council of Foreign Affairs. She holds a PhD degree, and is author of a number of books, and writer and political analyst for the *Al Ahram* newspaper.



**Leila Takla**

Egypt

Carl Tham is currently chairman of the board of the Swedish Institute of Future Studies, Stockholm and was the Swedish Ambassador in Germany (2002–2006). He has served in several Swedish Governments. He was Director-General of the Swedish International Development Agency for ten years and served on many public commissions and committees. He was a member of the task force on higher education convened by UNESCO and the World Bank, co-Chairman of the Independent International Commission of Kosovo and Member of the Commission of Human Security.



**Carl Tham**

Sweden





**William Wulf**

USA

William Wulf is 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, and 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.



**Ahmed Zewail**

Egypt/USA

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, and Director of the Physical Biology Center for Ultrafast Science & Technology and the NSF Laboratory for Molecular Sciences. He holds thirty honorary degrees 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.



## 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



VIII

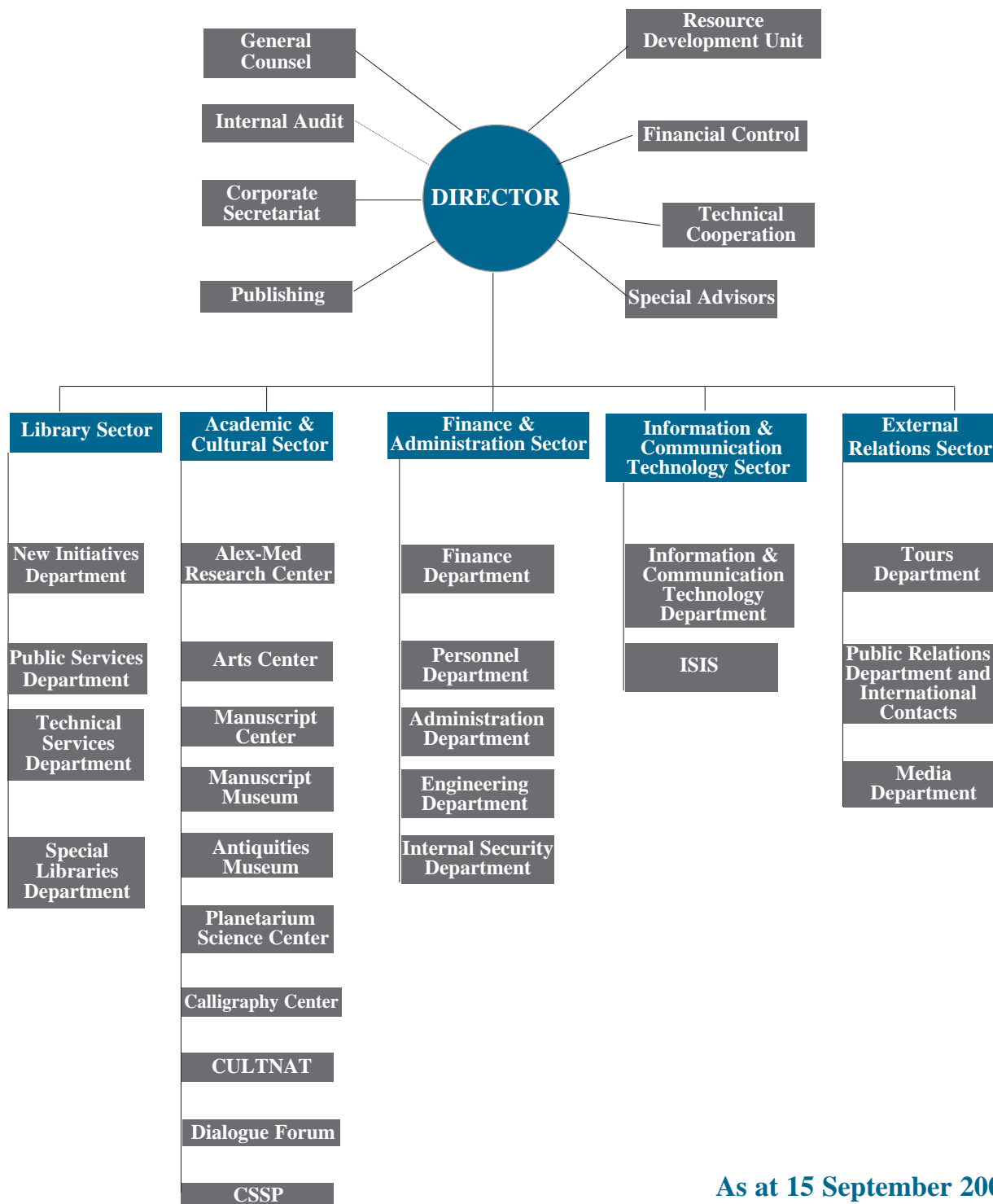




# Meet The Management







As at 15 September 2007

## Management



**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 Institut 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, CGIAR (1994–2000), Founder and former Chairman, GWP, 1996–2000), CGAP, (1995–2000), and a microfinance program (1995–2000). Ismail Serageldin has also served in a number of capacities at the World Bank, including 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 PhD from Harvard University, and has received 19 honorary doctorates.

## Internal Audit Department



**Hossam Negm**  
Director

Hossam Negm graduated from the Faculty of Commerce, Alexandria University. He is a chartered accountant and has worked in multinational firms in accounting and auditing. His experience is in external and internal audit, finance and treasury and has had various positions as Director in relative fields, as well as experience in the stock market and in evaluating companies.



**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.



## Legal Department

Mohamed Said El Dakkak is a Professor of International Law, Alexandria University, the former Vice-President of Alexandria University 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. He is an active member of several societies, including the National Council for Human Rights.



**Mohamed Said El-Dakkak**  
Director / General Counsel



**Zeinab El-Ghoneimy**  
Attorney-at-Law



**Hala Essalmawi**  
Attorney-at-Law

## Resource Development



**Hala Abdel Wahab**  
Head of Resource  
Development Unit

## Technical Cooperation

Abdel Latif Hassan was former General Manager of Administration and Financial Affairs at Alexandria University. 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.



**Abdel Latif Hassan**  
Director, Technical Cooperation  
(Head of Sector)



## Financial Control



**Khaled Mahdy**  
Director

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 obtained his CMA and CFM within two years.



**Mohamed Akl**  
Head of General  
Accounting and Fixed  
Assets Unit



**Passant Moustafa**  
Head of Accounts  
Payable Unit

## Corporate Secretariat



**Hanan Mounir**  
Director

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.



**Shady Arafa**  
Director's Personal  
Assistant



**Rania El-Bahtimi**  
Head of Secretariat Unit

## Special Representative to BA Director



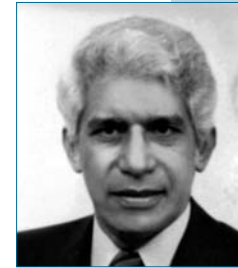
**Bernard Salomé**

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.



## Advisor for Special Projects

Mohsen Youssef was an Education and Human Resources Specialist at the World Bank and UNESCO. His professional career includes work in the fields of media and microfinance projects to help the poor. He is a major organizer of professional conferences and workshops on environment, sustainable development, and fighting poverty and hunger. He conducted several research studies including: labor migration, youth employment, education, partnership, freedom of expression and labor markets.



**Mohsen Youssef**  
Senior Advisor for Special  
Projects

## Publishing Department

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.



**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. Her career at the Bibliotheca Alexandrina, since 2001, has progressed through a number of capacities, until her most recent position as Deputy Director of the Publishing Department. She has a multi-cultural background and can converse in five languages.



**Heba El-Rafey**  
Deputy Director



**Noha Omar**  
Head of Translation &  
Language Control Unit

■ This department also comprises the following:

- Peer Review Unit
- BA Website Unit



## Library Sector



**Sohair Fahmy Wastawy**  
Chief Librarian / Sector Head

Sohair F. Wastawy received her Bachelor of Arts, and Masters degrees 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 career at the BA in 1998 as a cataloger and later was charged with launching and leading the Electronic Resources Unit. In 2004, she became Technical Assistant to the Chief Librarian. She is the country coordinator for eIFL.net. She holds a bachelor degree in French Literature and a professional degree in Library and Information Science from the ENSSIB in France. She holds an achievement award from the Egyptian Library Association..

## Public Services Department



**Omnia Fatallah**  
Director

Omnia Fathallah joined the BA in 1993 and participated in the implementation of the BA integrated library system. She worked in a number of capacities as a cataloger, collection development librarian, information services specialist, leader of research projects, and supervisor of the Documentation and Research teams. She was responsible for the organization of many international scholarly events and publications.

■ This department also comprises the following:

- Instructional Services Unit



**Rania Shaarawy**  
Head of Depository &  
Government Collection  
Unit



**Rania Hosny**  
Head of Research Unit



**Manar Badr**  
Head of Reference  
Services Unit



**Nermin Bahaa Eldin**  
Head of Collection  
Development Unit





## Technical Services Department

Manal Amin began her career with the Bibliotheca Alexandrina in 1996 as a cataloger for English, Greek and Latin collections. 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 database maintenance. In 2001, she became the Cataloguing and Classification Unit Leader, and in 2004, the Head of the Technical Services Section. She holds a Bachelor degree in Greco-Roman Studies, Alexandria University.



**Manal Amin**

Director



**Amr Abdelmoneim**  
Head of Material  
Processing Unit



**Marwa El Gharabawy**  
Head of Acquisitions  
Unit



**Ahmed Haggag**  
Head of Receiving  
Unit



**Gina Younis**  
Head of Integrated  
Library System Unit



**Ola Omar**  
Head of Cataloging  
Unit

- This department also comprises the following:
  - Gifts and Exchange Unit

## Special Libraries Department

Lamia Abdelfattah joined the BA in 2001 and has worked in a number of capacities. She spent extensive time working with the Libraries websites, on a number of projects, and participated in organizing several events and publishing brochures and flyers. During the interim period she managed the construction of the BA website as well as the recently launched BA libraries website. She holds a Bachelors degree in Tourism from Alexandria University.



**Lamia Abdelfattah**

Director



**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



**Marwa El-Sahn**  
Head of Arts &  
Multimedia Library



**Ashraf Sakr**  
Head of Arts &  
Multimedia Processing  
Unit



**Hend El-Shinnawi**  
Head of Enabling  
Infrastructure Section



**Nermine Ghaly**  
Head of Access  
Services Section



## 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 Nationale 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, Alexandria University.

### The Alexandria & Mediterranean Research Center (Alex-Med)



**Mohamed Awad**  
Director

Mohamed Awad is a historian of architecture, a practicing architect, a conservationist, and the founder of the Alexandria Preservation Trust. Mohamed Awad also teaches at the Faculty of Engineering, Alexandria University. He publishes and lectures extensively on the modern history of Alexandria and its built environment. He 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.



**Yasser Aref**  
Head of Architectural Studies Unit



**Mohamed Meheina**  
Head of GIS & Database 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.



## Arts Center

Eminent conductor and composer, Sherif Mohie Eldin has led a prolific career since his debut as Artistic Director of the Festival for Music and Song in 1989. He holds two BA's in Composing and Horn Performance, a MA in Musicology from the Egyptian Academy of Arts and the "Diplome d'Honneur de Concertiste" in Conducting from the Ecole Normale de Paris. Former Principal Conductor and Managing Director of the Cairo Opera Orchestra, founder of several chamber orchestras, recipient of the Fulbright Scholarship for Arts Management, his extensive and innovative style of Composition has earned him prominence as one of his generations most talented artists.



**Sherif Mohie Eldin**

Director



**Mahmoud Abou Doma**  
Consultant of Arts Center  
Director & Head of  
Programs Unit



**Rageh Daoud**  
Head of Developing  
Artistic Skills Section



**Colette Frège**  
Head of Arts  
School Unit



**Noha Ragheb**  
Head of Child &  
Adolescent Unit



**Mayada Wassef**  
Head of Graphic and  
Printing Section



**Ossama Khalil**  
Head of  
Printing Unit



**Hany Saber**  
Head of Graphics  
Design Unit



**Sherouk Talaat**  
Head of Exhibition  
& Art Collection  
Section



**Amira Elessawi**  
Head of Exhibition  
Unit



**Nancy Mamdouh**  
Head of Art Collection  
Unit



**Shady Abdel Salam**  
Head of BA  
Orchestra Unit



**Mohamed Taha**  
Head of Technical  
Unit



**Mohamed Khamis**  
Head of Museums &  
Permanent Exhibitions  
Unit



## 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.



**Hussein Kamal**  
Head of Rare  
Collections Section



**Ramy El-Gamal**  
Head of Academic Activities &  
Specialized Translation Section



**Mohamed Soliman**  
Head of Heritage  
Publishing Section



**Mohamed Mustafa**  
Head of Microfilm  
Section



**Sherine El-Sawy**  
Head of Restoration  
Section



**Hossam Taha**  
Head of  
Chemistry Unit



**Adel Bassiony**  
Head of  
Leaf-Casting Unit



**Tharwat Hendawy**  
Head of  
Administration Unit



**Sherif El-Masry**  
Head of Microfilm  
Archive Unit



**Ahmed Moussa**  
Head of Museum  
Display Unit



**Noha Hammouda**  
Head of Rare  
Possessions Unit



**Noha Amrawy**  
Head of Copying  
and External  
Exchange Unit

## Center for Special Studies & Programs (CSSP)



**Mohamed El-Faham**

Director

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. He supports young Egyptian researchers through establishing sustainable networks of international collaboration.



**Sahar Aly**  
Head of Activities  
Section



**Asmaa Soliman**  
Head of Grants and  
Research Unit



## Planetarium Science Center (PSC)

Hoda El-Mikaty 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 BA team in the Construction Monitoring Unit during the Library's construction phase. In 2000, she took over the management of the PSC where she introduced the first hands-on facility for school children in Alexandria..



**Hoda Elmikaty**

Director

Mohamed El-Sayed is an Electronic and Communication Engineer. A specialist in Hand's-on Exploration, at the Bibliotheca Alexandrina, he has been responsible for setting up the infrastructure of the hands-on facility at the BA; fostering new communication with other international organizations; and was a contributor to the establishment of the new network NAMES. He has obtained many certificates from different international organizations in the field of science centers and is currently responsible for the Suzanne Mubarak Family Garden Science Center in Cairo.



**Mohamed El-Sayed**

Deputy Director



**Ayman El-Sayed**  
Head of Educational  
Programs &  
Exhibitions Section



**Omar Fikry**  
Head of Shows and  
Programs Unit  
(Planetarium)



**Ferial Abdel Ghany**  
Head of Programs  
& Events Unit



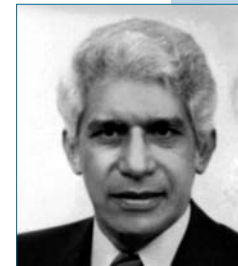
**Nermin Toma**  
Head of Marketing  
& Fundraising Unit



**Reem Sabry**  
Head of Fabrication  
& Design Unit

## Dialogue Forum

Mohsen Youssef was an Education and Human Resources Specialist at the World Bank and UNESCO. His professional career includes work in the fields of media and microfinance projects to help the poor. He is a major organizer of professional conferences and workshops on environment, sustainable development, and fighting poverty and hunger. He conducted several research studies including: labor migration, youth employment, education, partnership, freedom of expression and labor markets.



**Mohsen Youssef**

Director



**Mai El-Hennawi**  
Head of  
Advisors Unit



**Nayrouz Rizk**  
Head of InfoMall  
and Youth  
Activities Unit



**Nazek El-Wakeel**  
Head of Advisory  
Committees and Special  
Projects Unit



**Hanan El-Rakkad**  
Head of Arab  
Reform Forum  
Conference Unit



**Shaymaa El-Sherif**  
Head of Dialogue  
Forum Unit

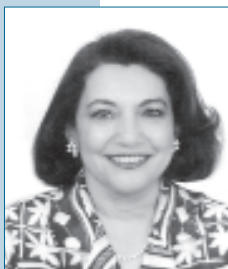


## Center for the Documentation of Cultural & Natural Heritage (CULTNAT)



**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, and Cultural Councilor at the Egyptian Embassy in Paris. He was a member of the UNESCO International Advisory Committee for Memory of the World Program, a consultant for the UNDP and the World Bank on developmental projects. He is President of the Herimed Association for documentation, preservation and valorization of Mediterranean Heritage.



**Eglal Bahgat**  
Senior Deputy Director

Eglal Bahgat has 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 the 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 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, Vice Dean of Postgraduate Studies and Research at the Faculty of Computers and Information, and Chairman of the Computer Science Department, Cairo University. She obtained her PhD degree from Imperial College, London University. She has published a number of papers and books. 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.



**Hala Barakat**  
Deputy Director

Hala N. Barakat has a PhD in Paleoecology from the University of Aix-Marseille III, France. At CULTNAT, she 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  
Technology Section



**Yasmine Maher**  
Head of Intangible  
Heritage Section



**Malak Wahba**  
Head of Tangible  
Heritage Section



**Nabil Abdel-Azim**  
Head of Site Operations  
Section





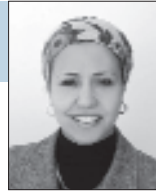
**Hind Mostafa**  
Head of International  
Relations Unit



**Iman Elshabouri**  
Head of Eternal  
Egypt Program Unit



**Tarek El-Hadary**  
Head of Finance Unit



**Rasha Ahmed**  
Head of  
Administration Unit



**Mohamed Nabil**  
Head of Research and  
Development Unit



**Mohamed Ali**  
Head of Technical  
Support Unit



**Moataz Mahmoud**  
Head of  
Installation Unit



**Mohamed Ahmed**  
Head of  
Multimedia Unit



**Shadi El-Tayar**  
Head of  
Culturama Unit



**Saad Youssef**  
Head of  
Photography Unit



**Sanae Amr**  
Head of  
Transportation Unit

■ This department also comprises the following:

- Public Relations Unit.
- Folklore Documentation Unit.

## Calligraphy Center

Khaled Azab holds a PhD in Islamic Monuments from Cairo University. He 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



**Khaled Mohamed Azab**  
Deputy Director



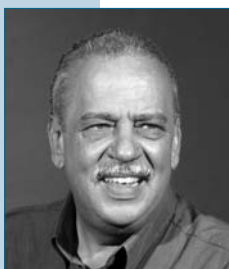
**Ahmed Mansour**  
Head of Egyptian  
Language Unit



**Azza Ezzat**  
Head of Publishing  
& Research Unit



## Finance & Administration Sector



**Yehia Mansour**  
Sector Head

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.

## Finance Department



**Mohsen Ali Shafie**  
Director

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 organization's costing systems, and controlling all banking activities.



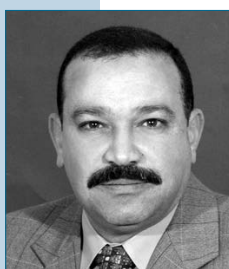
**Mahmoud Askar**  
Head of Cashier  
Section



**Omar Hassouna**  
Project Manager



**Magda Hatata**  
Supervisor Document  
Control



**Mohamed Metwalli**  
Director, Government  
Accounting

Mohamed Metwalli 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.





## Personnel Department

Rafik Nakhla is a graduate pharmacist by training. He holds a Master degree in Quality Management from the University of Wolverhampton, UK. He is a lecturer of Human Resources Management, and Sales and Marketing at the American University in Cairo, as well as a visiting lecturer with the Arab Academy Graduate School of Business. He participated in several conferences during his career with the BA.



**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**

Deputy Director



**Marwa Wagdy**

Head of Training Unit



**Naglaa Ibrahim**

Head of Benefits Unit



**Rania Nassar**

Personnel Officer



**Violette Philippe**

Training Coordinator



## Administration Department



**Tawfik El-Nahas**

Director

Tawfik El-Nahas was formerly 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.



**Mohammed El-Sammak**

Deputy Director

Mohammed El-Sammak has been a member of the BA since April 1997 and supervised 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. In 1973, he joined the Armed Forces and retired as a Colonel in 1994. He has extensive experience in administration, leadership, education, and public relations.



**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



**Mohamed Salah**  
Head of Purchasing &  
Custom Clearance Unit



**Alyaa Aly**  
Head of Travel &  
Transportation Section



**Omnia Abdel Tawab**  
Head of Travel Unit



**Ramadan Ahmed**  
Head of Transportation  
Unit



**Eslam Youssef**  
Head of Stores &  
Inventory Control Unit



**Rehab Mito**  
Control & Follow-up  
Coordinator



**Hanan Abdel-Razek**  
Head of Conferences  
and Events Section



**Ingy Gad**  
Head of Sales Unit



**Yasser Elsis**  
Head of General  
Administration 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/ABBS USA Inc. and held various engineering and management positions in Egypt and Saudi Arabia



**Tarek Yassin Essawy**

Director

Mohamed Attwa is an Electro-Mechanical Engineer. He graduated from the Faculty of Engineering, Mansoura University. He joined civil companies as a Consultant Engineer, and was Director of Engineering for the Sheraton floating hotel in Luxor, and for the Sheraton hotel itself. He received a President Award from ITT International Corporation in 1995, and again in 2002 from Starwood International Corporation. He is a member of the Society of Naval Engineers.



**Mohamed Attwa**

Deputy Director



**Hassan Rihan**  
Head of QC Section



**Talaat Badawy**  
Head of Electrical  
Power Section



**Lewa El-Din Hegazy**  
Head of  
Audio-Visual Unit



**Ahmed Khamees**  
Head of Garden and  
Landscape Unit



**Mohamed Farrag**  
Head of  
Electro-Mechanical Section



**Ehab Abdel Rahman**  
Head of  
Electro-Mechanical Unit



**Mohamed El-Sabagh**  
Head of  
Mechanical Unit



**Eid Zeidan**  
Head of Pest  
Control Unit



**Osama Abdel Kader**  
Head of  
Construction Unit



**Hanaa Sharabash**  
Head of Exhibition  
and Conference  
Preparation Unit



**Radwa Elamir**  
Head of  
Secretarial Unit



**Aly Hassan**  
Head of Material  
Control Unit



**Mohamed El-Ghayesh**  
Head of  
Chemical Unit



**Atef Milad**  
Head of Civil  
& Architecture Unit



**Faten Merziban**  
Head of Interior  
Design Unit

■ This department also comprises the following:

- Low Current 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; Director/Assistant to the Minister of Interior Bureau; and Head of Investigational Unit, Tourism and Monuments Police, Alexandria. He has successfully completed the three courses of the OSHA of the US Department of Labour, at the American University in Cairo.



**Nagi Anas**

Deputy Director

Nagi Anas worked in homicide investigation since his graduation until his appointment at the Internal Security Department of the BA in 2001. In recognition of his relentless fight against terrorism in El-Minia, he was repeatedly honored by the Egyptian Minister of Interior. He was awarded the OSHA Certificate in 2006.



**Salah Thabet**

Head of Public Safety Section



**Awadallah Fouda**

Head of Industrial Safety Unit



**Tamer El-Awwa**

Head of Keys and Reception Unit



**Mahmoud Abdel Salam**

Head of External Areas Security Unit



**Samy El-Leithy**

Supervisor Public Safety Unit



**Hossam El-Din Mohamed**

Supervisor Public Safety Unit



**Yasser Abdel-Rahman**

Supervisor Public Safety Unit



**Mohamed Hashem**

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



**Mohamed Abou El-Yazid**  
Supervisor Public  
Safety Unit



**Ihab Fahmy**  
Supervisor Public  
Safety Unit



**Mohamed Elyan**  
Supervisor Public  
Safety Unit



**Mohamed Abdel-Fattah**  
Supervisor Public  
Safety Unit



**Mohamed Eid**  
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, Alexandria University. He obtained his PhD 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 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, Alexandria University. She obtained her PhD from Cambridge University, and has been a research associate and visiting researcher at the AT&T Research Lab, Cambridge, UK. 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**  
Deputy Director

Youssef Salah obtained his Bachelor's degree in Computer Engineering from the AAST in 1997, and his career began as a Technical Support Engineer at Mantrac. He joined the BA as a Senior System Administrator in 2001, moving on to the position of Head of the Technical Support Unit in 2003; Head of Operation and Technical Support Section in 2004; until his most recent position as Deputy Director of the Department.



**Youssef Mikhail**  
Head of Software & System  
Development Section



**Amal Abdel Karim**  
Project Manager



**Ahmed Samir**  
Project Manager



**Hani Sawiress**  
Head of Web Graphics  
Unit



**Ahmed Borhan**  
Head of  
Communication Unit



**Shaimaa Mohamed**  
Project Manager



**Rami Rouchdi**  
Head of Digital Lab  
Unit (ISIS)



**Aleya Rashad**  
PR & Administrative  
Affairs Coordinator



**Mohamed Zaghoul**  
Head of Technical  
Support Unit



**Youssef El-Dakar**  
Project Manager



## External Relations Sector

Ambassador Islambouly is a career diplomat and graduate of Cairo University, Economics and Political Science. She has served in numerous positions in Egypt's Foreign Ministry, including Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs for the Americas; and for International Economic Relations and International Cooperation. She was Egypt's Ambassador to South Africa (Botswana, and the Kingdom of Lesotho) and has been honored with the Orders of Civil Merit *Grand Cruz* from the President of Republic of Germany, and the *Lazo De Dama* from the King of Spain, for her tenure there. Formerly Egypt's Consul General for the US Western Pacific Region, San Francisco, she is currently a member of the Egyptian Council on Foreign Relations. Her career included multilateral diplomacy within the UN system, Regional Organizations, the Middle East Process (regional peace, security and economic cooperation). Ambassador Islambouly was awarded an Honorary Doctorate in Humanities from Wilson College, USA.



**Hagar Islambouly**  
Sector Head

## Public Relations & International Contacts Department

Sherif Riad was the Chamberlain of the Presidency at the Office of HE President Mubarak, where he was a member of the team responsible for the Protocol of the Presidency. He is the former Corporate Relationship Manager at Barclays Bank, Credit and Marketing Manager of Citibank for the Middle East and North Africa, auditor at the Central Agency for Auditing, and Credit and Marketing Manager for the Egyptian American Bank. He holds a PhD in Political Science.



**Sherif Riad**  
Director

Mona El Nashar holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in English Language and Literature from Alexandria University, and began her career as an English teacher in Egypt and Iraq, and a translator at the Ministry of Planning, Iraq. She is a member of several associations, founding member of the Egyptian Association for Friends of the BA, and member of the CEOSS Alexandria Committee for the Dialogue of Cultures.



**Mona El-Nashar**  
Deputy Director



## Visits Department



**Sherine Gaafar**

Director

Sherine Gaafar began her career with the Bibliotheca Alexandrina since 1995 as a cataloger for French and Spanish books. She is 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 Alexandria University, Faculty of Arts, Library and Information Science Department.



**Nourhan Abdel-Aziz**  
Head of Reception Unit



**Yasmine Alexan**  
Head of Tours Unit

## Media Department



**Khaled Mohamed Azab**

Director

Khaled Azab holds a PhD in Islamic Monuments from Cairo University. He 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.



**Dina Abou El Ola**  
Head of  
Studio Section



**Mohamed Zayed**  
Head of  
Operational Unit



**Eman Osman**  
Head of  
Production Unit



**Mona Helmy**  
Head of Archive and  
Press Center (Unit)





## BA Consultants & Special Advisors

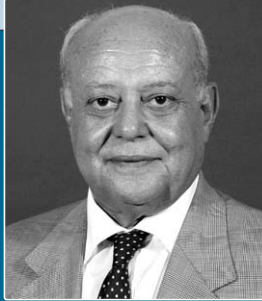
### Special Advisors to the BA Director

Layla Abdehady    Abdelhalim Nureldin    Salah Soliman  
Azza El-Kholy    Magdy Madkour

### Consultants to BA Sectors/Centers/Departments

Alex-Med	Arts Center	Library Sector	Security
Mostafa El-Arabi Ahmed Attia Ali Bakr Mokhtar El Wessimi	Samir Farid Mustafa El-Razzaz Hussein El-Shaboury	Moustafa El-Abbady Mona Haggag Mayssa El-Nayal Azza Madian Emad Essa	Mohamed Noaman
CULTNAT	Dialogue Forum	General Counsel	
Mohamed Abdel-Dayem Feisal Abdel-Halim Mohamed Abdel-Maksoud Mohamed Abdel-Rahman Sherif Bahaa Eldin Mohamed Fekry Isis Gabrawy Mohamed Elsharkawy	Sahar Abdel Hakim Gaber Asfour M. Salah Eldin Fadl Kadry Hefni Iman El Kaffass Mohamed El-Sharnouby Elsayed Yassin	Adel Azab	
Media	RDU	Manuscript	
Hosni Hamed	Samaha Samy Hana	Mohamed Elkord	





**Taher A. Khalifa**

## In Memoriam

*Some people leave indelible marks on us, even if we know them for only a short while. Taher Khalifa was such a man. No one who has met him will ever forget him. Everyone who has met him loved him for his humor, his finesse, his caring and his humanity. He was part of our lives for four years... momentous years where much of the reputation of the new Bibliotheca Alexandrina was established and where his work, always done with a smile and an encouraging word to colleagues, helped lay the foundations for every step we took. He helped create the community of the New Library of Alexandria. He helped forge not a team, but a family. No words can describe the happiness he has brought us, or the sorrow we feel at his loss.*

*Ismail Serageldin*

Taher A. Khalifa was Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary. He was born in 1942 in Cairo. He received his BA in English Language, and MA in Modern English Literature, with honors, from the Faculty of Arts, Ein Shams University, Cairo. He continued his studies at the Institute of Diplomatic and Consular Studies where he also graduated with honors.

In his long career with the Foreign Affairs which started in 1968, he held many positions:

- Attaché in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Department for the Diplomatic and Consular Institute
- Second and First Secretary in the Egyptian Embassy in London
- Head of the OAU Section, African Department
- First Secretary and Counselor for the Egyptian Embassy in Uruguay and Greece
- Deputy Chief Cabinet of HE Boutros Ghali, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs
- Counselor and Minister Plenipotentiary, and Head of Chancellery in the Egyptian Embassy in Rome and Vienna
- Deputy Chief of Protocol, and Chief of Ceremonies and Precedence, International Department of the Diplomatic and Consular Institute
- Ambassador to the Royal Danish Court, the Republic of Lithuania and to the Republic of Chile

His last position was with the Bibliotheca Alexandrina where he was Head of the External Relations Sector. He received a number of decorations:

- Egyptian Order of Merit offered by HE President Sadat of Egypt
- Commodore of the Republic of the Hellenes
- Commendatore of the Republic of Italy
- Commodore del Order de Merit di Grand Cruze di Repubblica di Chile





IX



# BA Friends



## BA Friends

The Egyptian Friends Association is one of thirty-two other Bibliotheca Alexandrina Friends Associations in the world. These associations are instrumental in:

- Arranging lectures
- Raising funds for the BA
- Providing grants to support training for BA staff
- Organizing cultural events
- Offering donations, mainly in the form of books

Among the thirty-two associations, the Moroccan Friends Association is the only other Arab association. The Mauritanian Union of Libraries is another Arabic speaking entity currently in the process of establishing an association in Nouakchott, Mauritania. On the other hand, there are seven 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 Alexandrina to assess performance, witness the BA's new achievements and discuss ways of promoting the Library in their respective countries. At the closing session of their last meeting, they agreed on sending a message to Mrs Mubarak recognizing what has already been achieved at the BA and seeing themselves as enthusiastic partners in tackling those challenges which include the continuing need to raise the international profile of the BA. They believed that this could be undertaken if relevant information were prepared in a manner which could be used most effectively. They highly commended the Annual Report as an excellent document which if summarized could be used for such a purpose. This year, their tenth meeting will take place from 22–24 October 2007.

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 agreements 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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[f.mancini@cwt.ch](mailto:f.mancini@cwt.ch)

### United Kingdom

Joint Presidents  
HE Mr Gehad Madi, Egyptian Ambassador  
Mr K Maatsuri, Director-General, UNESCO

Joint Vice Presidents  
HE Mr Anastase Scopelitis, Greek Ambassador  
Lord Quirk

Chairman  
vacant

Honorary Secretary  
David Wardrop

Honorary Treasurer  
Dr Adel Sadek  
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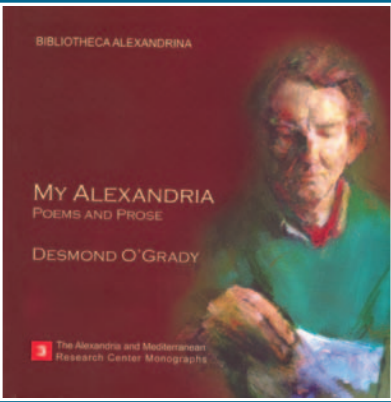
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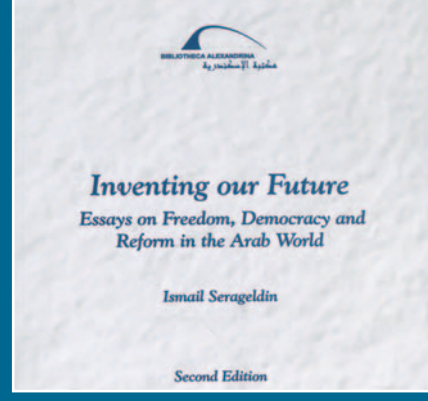
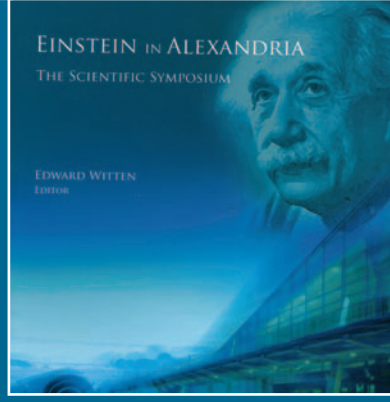


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