their collection to the centrally located server to become visible on OPAC.

Library Collections

The Library collection comprises of about 18,00,000 documents including books, periodicals, newspapers, theses, dissertations, reports, pamphlets, manuscripts, paintings, photographs, CDs, microfilms, databases, e-books, talking books etc. There are about 15,000 theses and dissertations forming perhaps the largest collection of such documents in the Country. Besides hard copy collections of about 13,00,000 books, about 1,20,000 e-books and 3,00,000 full text theses are available online. In fact, the Library performs the functions of a reference library so far as the books and manuscripts in oriental languages are concerned.

Library Services

The Library provides a wide range of services to its users including retrieval of information, orientation, assistance in locating/searching of documents, advisory services, current awareness service (CAS), bibliographic service, bibliographic instructions, inter library loan, organization of exhibitions, press clipping, reprographic service, print facility etc.

Print & Photocopying Facilities

Print & photocopying facilities are available in the Library with minimal charge.

Membership

Besides students, teachers and other staff of the University, all members of the University Court, the Executive Council and Finance Committee are eligible for membership. The University Librarian is authorized for providing membership to any other person as well.

Library Hours

The Library remains open for 18 hours a day on all days except a few national & religious holidays. During the examination period, the opening hours are further extended.

Contact us :

Dr. Nabi Hasan
University Librarian
Maulana Azad Library
Aligarh Muslim University
Aligarh-202 002 (U.P.), INDIA
Phone: 0571-2700512; Fax:0571-2700706
e-mail: ulamu@amu.ac.in & nabihasan@gmail.com

MAULANA AZAD LIBRARY

Aligarh Muslim University
Aligarh –202002 India

Main Building

New Block

Website: http://malibrary.amu.ac.in

Maulana Azad Library

The Central Library of the Aligarh Muslim University popularly known as Maulana Azad Library is one of the largest university libraries of the World which possesses about 18,00,000 volumes of books and 55,097 current journals in hard and soft copies.

The foundation of the Library was laid in 1877 at the time of establishment of the Mohammedan Anglo Oriental College by Lord Lytton, the then Viceroy of India and it was named after him as Lytton Library. The present grand seven-storied building was inaugurated by Late Jawaharlal Nehru, the first Prime Minister of independent India in 1960 and the Library was renamed as Maulana Azad Library, after a great scholar, educationist, statesman, freedom fighter and the first Education Minister of the independent India.

M.A. Library is the Central Library of the University with more than 110 sister libraries (college/departmental libraries). It is a World famous repository of rare manuscripts and books in Urdu, Persian and Arabic languages. One of the most priced part of the Library is its Manuscripts Division which possess about 16,000 rare and invaluable manuscripts on Islam, Hinduism, etc.

M.A. Library has introduced state of the art information technology and it is fully automated with LibSys 7.0 software which connects almost all 3,000 computers within the University as well as the centers in distant states. The 3M security system and three dozen CCTV cameras ensure safety of the Library material. Over 8,000 students, teachers and other members visit the Library almost every day.

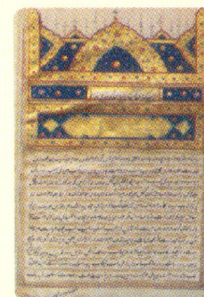*Quran scribed by Hazrat Ali*

Oriental Division

M.A. Library possess about 1.5 lakh books in Persian, Urdu, Arabic, Hindi and Sanskrit languages on almost all the subjects taught in the University. Research scholars of Persian, Arabic, Urdu, History, Islamic Studies, West Asian studies, Unani Medicine, Theology, Mass Communication are its regular users. This Division has a very large collection of rare books published during the 18th and 19th centuries. One of them is the Latin translation of the celebrated Arabic works on optics, *Opticam Prafatis* by Ibn-al-Haitham (965-1039 AD) which was published in 1572 & other on Avicenna's (Ibn-e-Sina's 980-1037 AD) *Al-Qanun (1593 AD)*. Digitization of the rare printed books is in progress and almost half the collections of Manuscripts and more than 15,000 rare books have already been digitized.

Manuscript Division

It consists of many rare manuscripts. Among its rarities,

Tulip painting

the oldest manuscript 'a copy of Quran' preserved in the Library is over 1400 years old. It is a fragment of Holy Quran transcribed by Hazrat Ali, the fourth caliph of Islam which is written on parchment in Kufi script. Another rare manuscript is the *Halnama* of Bayazid Ansari and a copy of *Nahjul Balagha* of Hazrat Ali. There are several farmans (decrees) of the Mughal kings like Babur, Akbar, Shahjahan, Shah Alam, Aurangzeb etc. Another prized possession of the Library is a "Shirt" (Kurta) on which the whole Quran is inscribed in Kufi Script which was worn by warriors of Mughal Emperors. Among the Mughal period paintings is a Red Tulip, a master piece of Mansoor Naqqash, the court artist of Emperor Jahangir. Valuable Sanskrit works on Hinduism translated in Persian are also available in the Library. One of them is a Persian translation of 'Bhagwat Geeta' by Abul Faiz Faizi. Other possessions are the Telugu and Malayalam manuscripts written on palm leaves.

Bhagwat Geeta

Conservation & Binding Section

The Library is very much concerned with the conservation and preservation of the World's documentary heritage. It maintains a Conservation Laboratory for manuscripts and Bindery for books, journals, newspapers etc. At the core of our work, is the care and understanding of the collections. The Library uses a combination of "preventive" and "interventive" activities. Reduction and wherever possible, elimination of the causes of deterioration is the most effective and least expensive strategy for collection.

Collection Development Division

This Division is responsible for selecting, ordering and acquiring books and other documents. In selecting books and reference sources, identification of the needs of academic community, current fields of study and educational levels are taken into account. The resources are acquired after combing through lists, reviews, suggestions of subject experts and by visiting book fairs etc. Gift & Exchange is also one of the important activity of the Library where documents of many languages are received as gift especially in Urdu, Arabic and Persian. Individual authors also prefer to donate copies of their works. Private collections from eminent personalities are also received as gift from time to time.

Technical Division

After acquiring and accessioning, books are sent to the Technical Division for classification, cataloguing and feeding bibliographical information of documents in LibSys to make their references accessible all over the world through OPAC.

OPAC

Circulation Division

The Circulation Division of the University Library provides open access for issuable books to its students, faculty and staff. Users can go to stacks directly for selection of the desired books and after selection can borrow them.

Periodicals Division

This Division is responsible for collecting and managing the periodicals which contain the latest information on current developments. The Library makes every effort to procure the maximum number of journals on all subjects of studies. This Division also procures and manages the current newspapers and general magazines. At present, about 700 journals in hard copy and 16000 e-journals are subscribed in addition to some world famous databases for research and reference.

Computer Applications Division (CAD)

CAD

The Division has housekeeping operations in Acquisition, Periodical, Technical and Circulation Divisions. The Library is a part of the fiber optic based campus LAN. Of 175 computers, 100 computers are exclusively available for the use of research scholars and faculty members in the Library. Computer Applications Division designs & develops many utility software for the smooth running of library apart from maintenance of main Library software i.e. LibSys. Training and help is also given to users and staff of the university regarding information retrieval and data entry.

Digital Resources Centre (DRC)

The Library provides campus wide access to online resources through a well-equipped Computer Lab having 100 nodes. This Centre provides access to the subscribed as well as open access resources available to the University. CDs of lectures of IITians, Medical tutorials, reference documents are also accessible in the Digital Resources Centre.

DRC