

**30<sup>th</sup> General Conference of Directors of National Libraries in Asia and  
Oceania  
15-17 November 2024  
Dubai, United Arab Emirates**

**Country Report  
[Period Coverage: 1 January 2023 – 31 December 2023]**

**Name of Country** : Malaysia

**Name of Library** : National Library of Malaysia

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**1. Facts and Figures (Year 2023):**

<b>Sn</b>	<b>Item Description</b>	<b>Figures</b>
a.	Operating Budget i. Government ii. External Sources	i. RM49,651,840.71 ii. -
b.	Total Staff (FTE) i. Graduate or Post Graduate with library qualifications ii. Other Qualifications	i. 159 (2 Ph.D, 38 Masters, 119 Degree) ii. 288
c.	Collection Size (Units) i. Physical collection ii. Digital collection preserved	i. 202,683 ii. 6,609
d.	Visitorship (Annual) i. Physical visits to reading rooms ii. Digital visits to websites	i. 103,033 ii. 748,353
e.	Inter Library Loans provided (Annual) (Units)	717

**2. Overview of Major or New Developments in Library Buildings, Collections, Access or Services [Please provide a maximum of 5 highlights]**

**(a) Overview of Major and New Development in Library Buildings**

**(i) Library Services Centralization Project, NLM (RMK-11)**

The Library Services Centralization Project was implemented on 29<sup>th</sup> August 2019 with a ceiling cost of RM12.8 million. This project aims to upgrade the library service space in the Anjung Bestari Building with an emphasis on the latest interior design to provide a more conducive atmosphere and comfort to library users. As of December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023, the progress status of this development project is 99%. This project is expected to complete on August 2024.

**(ii) PNM-Perlis Repository Center (PRPNM-Perlis)**

The PNM-Perlis Repository Center (PRPNM-Perlis) was implemented on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2022 with cost of RM3.0 million. This project is a special project where it is built by using a part of Kuala Perlis Branch Library. The main purpose of this building is to support the function of NLM in order to cater national heritage collection under the Act 331 especially in Northern Region. This project expected to be fully completed in 2024.

**(b) Overview of Major and New Development in Collections**

**(i) NLM'S Collection 2023**

<b>NO.</b>	<b>PARAMETER (UNITS)</b>	<b>FIGURES (2023)</b>
<b>NLM Collection</b>		
(a)	Deposit of Library Materials Act 1986 (unit)	144,468
(b)	Purchase (unit)	37,340
(c)	Gift and Exchange (unit)	20,875
(d)	Manuscripts (unit)	815
(e)	Digitized Materials (title)	3,649
<b>Total</b>		<b>207,147</b>
<b>Cumulative</b>		<b>6,557,704</b>

**(ii) Online Databases**

In 2023, NLM subscribed to 22 online databases accessible through the u-Pustaka portal ([www.u-pustaka.gov.my](http://www.u-pustaka.gov.my)). The u-Pustaka portal offers access to the following online databases: Web Dewey Online, RDA Toolkit, LOC Classification Web, OCLC Connexion, EBSCOhost, Overdrive, PressReader, LawNet, e-Law, e-Lib, BERNAMA Library Infolink Services (BLIS), i-Learn Ace, Ookbee Buffet, J-Gate, ODILO, Me Books, Tutor Infiniti (Tutor A+), Alkem Digital Library, Emerald Backfiles Archives, Emerald e-Books, iG Library, and Mason Crest. In total, it comprises 57,259 e-books, 107,730 e-serials, 100,841 e-references, 75,041 e-videos, 340 e-courses, and 552,397 e-learning materials, making a total of 893,608 digital resources.

**(iii) Personal Collections and Rare Book**

In 2023, National Library of Malaysia (NLM) acquired 768 materials from three (3) prominent figures including one (1) Malaysian National Laureates. Besides that there are three (3) other collectors of Rare Materials. Among these acquisitions, 594 materials belong to the Personal Collections of three (3) prominent figures: Professor Emeritus Dr. Muhammad bin Haji Salleh, late Tan Sri Omar bin Mohd. Hashim and late Dato' Zawiyah binti Baba. Meantime, 174 Rare Materials were contributed by Mr. Zainal Abidin bin Hassan, Mr. Ahmed Nabil bin Wan Ahmad and Mr. Ahmad Ridzuan bin Osman.

**(iv) Writer's Fund**

The Malaysian government provides incentives for the book industry and local writers by allocating RM1,000,000.00 in 2023 to purchase 79 titles or 34,696 copies of books directly from local writers. The total number of books purchased through this grant from the year 2007 to 2023 is 2,149 title, totaling 1,270,304 copies, at a total cost of RM28,295,984.48. Books purchased from this fund are selected from writers who have deposited their books with the NLM under the Deposit of Library Material Act 1986. To date, 1,793 writers have benefited from this government incentive. The books purchased from these writers are sent to all rural libraries in Malaysia as part of their collection, to be used by the local communities.

**(v) Malay manuscripts**

The Malay Manuscript Center (PKMM) is a division within the National Library of Malaysia (NLM) established since 1985 with the aim of acquiring, documenting, and utilizing Malay manuscripts. Until the year 2023, PKMM has acquired a total of 5,252 Malay manuscript covering various disciplines such as religion, history, governance, law, medicine, traditional Malay knowledge, and others.

**(vi) National Publications Depository Centre (PPTN)**

NLM through the Deposit of Library Material Act 1986 (Act 331) is responsible to ensure local publishers submit five (5) copies of printed materials, two (2) copies of activity books, school workbooks, newspapers, and two-dimensional materials, two (2) units of non-printed materials and one (1) unit of material existing or published in digital form to the NLM. In 2023, a total of 24,368 titles / 146,735 copies of materials were received under Act 331 and registered to be part of the National Collection.

PPTN has distributed the National Collection according to zones based on the received copies submitted by publishers. The distributed collection will be stored in the External Storage Centers of the NLM comprising the Kuala Lumpur External Storage Center, the Sabah Zone External Storage Center (PPLKN-S), and the Northern Zone External Storage Center (PPLKN-U).

**(vii) Publications**

The NLM published 20 books in 2023. The book titles include:

- *Laporan Tahunan PNM 2022;*
- *IFLA: Names of Person: Malaysia;*
- *Jurnal Warisan Perlis;*
- *Filologi Melayu Journal Volume 30,2023;*
- *Buku Perangkaan Perpustakaan di Malaysia;*
- *Ringkasan Perangkaan di Malaysia;*
- *10 Braille Books (Titile: Andai Suamiku Pergi Dahulu Kita Jaga Kita, Bahaya Penyakit Chikugunya, Kenali Alat Muzik Tradisional, Warisan Tradisional Kaum Melayu, Pengajaran Daripada Keangkuhan, Sajak Kemerdekaan, Pantun 4 – Koleksi Pantun Masyarakat Malaysia, Pahlawan Bangkit Melawan Penjajah dan Bella Sayang Osong);*
- *Executive Summary: Reading Profile of Malaysians;*
- *Reading Profile of Malaysians;*
- *Ringkasan Eksekutif: Profil Membaca Rakyat Malaysia;*
- *Profil Membaca Rakyat Malaysia;*
- *Executive Summary: National Book Data Report 2022/2023;*
- *National Book Data Report;*
- *Ringkasan Eksekutif: Kajian Data Perbukuan Negara 2022/2023;*
- *Kajian Data Perbukuan Negara 2022/2023;*
- *Katalog Nadir Beranotasi: Kedaulatan Tanah Melayu;*
- *Warkah Manuskrip Melayu Bil. 1/2023;*
- *Warkah Manuskrip Melayu Bil. 2/2023;*
- *Syair Siti Zubaidah Perang China: Dari Perspektif Sejarah (reprint); and*
- *Sumber Historiografi Alam Melayu: Koleksi Peribadi John Bastin (reprint).*

The online publications include:

- *Pustaka: Buletin PNM Bil. 3/2022;*
- *Gaya Penerbitan PNM 2023;*
- *E-Prosiding Persidangan Antarabangsa Manuskrip Melayu 2022;*
- *e-Prosiding Seminar Literasi Media Dan Maklumat Kebangsaan 2022;*
- *Laporan Keberkesanan Projek Rintis Program Reading Seeds Peringkat Kebangsaan Perpustakaan Negara Malaysia;*
- *Laporan Program Galakan Membaca 2022;*
- *E-Katalog Beranotasi Yang Amat Berhormat (YAB) Dato' Seri Anwar Bin Ibrahim;*
- *Laporan Perangkaan Perpustakaan Tahun 2022: Perpustakaan Negara Malaysia*
- *Laporan Perangkaan Perpustakaan Tahun 2022: Perpustakaan Desa PNM*
- *Laporan Perangkaan Perpustakaan Tahun 2022: Perpustakaan Awam Negeri (PAN)*
- *Laporan Perangkaan Perpustakaan Tahun 2022: Perpustakaan Desa PAN*
- *Laporan Perangkaan Perpustakaan Tahun 2022: Perpustakaan Khusus Gunasama*
- *Laporan Perangkaan Perpustakaan Tahun 2022: Perpustakaan Akademik*
- *Laporan Perangkaan Perpustakaan Tahun 2022: Perpustakaan Badan Berkanun, Perpustakaan Agensi Swasta dan Perpustakaan Sekolah Swasta.*
- *Sari Pustaka Bil. 1 2023;*
- *Sari Pustaka Bil. 2 2023;*
- *Sari Pustaka Bil. 3 2023; and*
- *Sari Pustaka Bil. 4 2023.*

**(c) Overview of Major and New Development in Access and Services**

**(i) Malaysiana and Foreign Reference Center (PRMLN)**

The Malaysiana and Foreign Reference Center is one of the primary service sections at the National Library of Malaysia (NLM), providing reference collections. The Malaysiana Collection includes library resources published in any form, language, script, or date, with at least one chapter or 10% of the total text in the material dedicated to Malaysia and/or the Malaysian nation. These resources are published in or about the Malay/Malay language; and produced by Malaysian citizens.

Various types of library resources are available for reference purposes, including monographs, microfilms, newspapers, and databases. In 2023, a total of 103,011 users utilized PRMLN

services, with 32,019 PRMLN collections being referenced by readers, and 5,709 referral questions received and answered.

Regarding foreign collections, in 2023, the center received a total of 468 foreign collections, including monographs, magazines, journals, and special collections. Additionally, 430 foreign collections were referred by readers, and a total of 116 referral questions were received and answered.

**(ii) Interlibrary Loan**

In the National Library of Malaysia (NLM), Interlibrary Loan Services are known as Publication Distribution System. The system was launched in June 1998, and as of 2023, our registered members consist of 1,160 libraries. Libraries can obtain materials that are not in our collection from other libraries, both within and outside the country. We offer Interlibrary Loan (ILL) and Document Delivery services to facilitate library users as well as member libraries. Some materials, especially articles that are not available locally, may be obtained from overseas. Charges may apply for this service where necessary. In 2023, the total number of materials on loan by users was 841 units requested from 110 libraries. The most popular genre on loan by users is social sciences, followed by language and religion. The Interlibrary Loan request can now be made online through the National Union Catalogue (NUC) Portal (<http://kik.gov.my>).

**(iii) Digital Repository System (MyRepositori)**

MyRepositori is a platform that gathers collections available at NLM as the nation's digital treasures in various digital formats to ensure they can be accessed without borders using the latest technology. Users can browse the digital content at <https://myrepositori.pnm.gov.my/myrepo-public/welcome>. Users can access the full display inside the PNM premises by using the Wi-Fi provided. Users who are outside the NLM premises, only get a preview of the first 10 pages. As of 2023, a total of 54,797 titles (2,469,787 pages) from the library collection have been uploaded into the MyRepositori system. The library collection that was uploaded for user display in 2023 is 3,840 titles (116,361 pages).

NLM strongly encourages the sharing of information resources through collaboration with agencies that require a digital platform. This initiative is an effort to ensure that the digital resources of departmental or institutional collections can be delivered to users more effectively, and the duplication of digital information resources can be reduced. NLM implements collaboration or cooperation in the field of digitization, as well as sharing the MyRepositori system platform. In 2023, the Jabatan Agama Islam Wilayah (JAWI) and

Institut Kraf Negara (IKN) shared digital resources on the MyRepository platform.

**(iv) NLM Digital Kiosk**

NLM has developed a Digital@PNM Kiosk that utilizes the concept of mobility to facilitate access to digital materials in line with current technology developments. Through this mobile access, users can access this collection of digital materials using two (2) methods: through the Kiosk's touch screen or via a smartphone (using the Kiosk's Wi-Fi provided). The Digital Kiosk is located on Levels 10 and 11 of Menara NLM for readers' reference. The display of the digital collection format is in the form of a flipping book, using new software called FlipCreator. The Digital@PNM Kiosk is frequently used in programs outside the department to promote NLM's Digital content and to attract the public's interest in learning about the country's unique intellectual heritage collections, such as Malay manuscripts, Rare Collections, and Personal Collections.

**(d) New Developments in Other Services:**

**(i) Hypermedia zone**

New improvement to the floor complete with:

- Video on demand area;
- Computer lab for education course;
- Audio and video relaxation space; and
- Mini cinema.

**(ii) Cyber Zone**

New improvement to the floor complete with new services such as:

- Ideas and creativities room
- Photography studio
- Audio studio

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

**(a) Malay Manuscript Decorative Arts Coloring Competition collaboration with Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM)**

The Mushaf Decorative Arts Coloring Competition at the national level, held in conjunction with the month of Ramadan 1444H/2023, was organized by the Manuscript Research Center of Alam Melayu, ATMA, UKM in collaboration with NLM. The competition took place online from March 23<sup>rd</sup> to April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023. This program, which was organized for the second time, attracted 250 participants.

**(b) Professional Certification Program in Malay Manuscript Conservation collaboration between Islamic Science University of Malaysia (USIM) and the National Library of Malaysia**

The Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia (USIM) has collaborated with NLM and organized the Malay Manuscript Conservation Professional Certification Program from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> July 2023. This program is funded by the Ministry of Higher Education (MOE) under the MOE Professional Certification Program (KPT-PACE). It aims to provide exposure and training on the scope, duties, and processes of conserving and preserving Malay manuscript texts to cultivate interest among the younger generation in appreciating, loving, and ultimately preserving the cultural heritage of the nation

**(c) Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the National Library of Malaysia and Universiti Sultan Zainal Abidin (UniSZA)**

NLM has finalized a memorandum of understanding with the Institute for Research on Malay Islamic Civilization (INSPIRE), Sultan Zainal Abidin University (UniSZA), Gong Badak Campus, Terengganu, in the fields of national affairs, civilization, and social harmony, which was signed on 1<sup>st</sup> November 2023. This effort aims to expand collaborative efforts and enhance NLM's role as an organization with credibility and influence, particularly in the field of Malay manuscript studies.

**(d) Transliterating Malay manuscripts collaboration between Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM) and National Library of Malaysia (NLM)**

The National Library of Malaysia has collaborated with the Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM) through the Malay Manuscript Center to carry out the project 'Comprehensive Documentation of Traditional Malay Plant Medicine Knowledge in Peninsular Malaysia.' The aim of this project is to document the use of medicinal plants among the Malay community in Peninsular Malaysia. Activities conducted under this project include three series of workshops for transliterating the MSS1991 and MSS3022 NLM manuscript at FRIM to encourage and enhance the capability of using these manuscripts.

**(e) Sanggar Puisi 2023: Rima Mengikat Sukma**

The Sanggar Puisi 2023: Rima Mengikat Sukma which had been held on 17<sup>th</sup> October 2023, is an activity aimed at enriching and revitalizing the culture of reading through literary and cultural avenues. The genre of poetry was chosen because poetry serves as a vessel for shaping the identity, culture, and self-awareness of a nation.

This program is a collaboration with the Institute of Language and Literature (Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka). The program supports the initiative agenda 'This is Our Heritage – Preserving Unity' under the Ministry of National Unity (KPN) through the implementation of various

programs to preserve and promote unity, historical heritage, culture, and the arts.

**(f) Special Needs Activities (Blinds)**

From 2022-2024 National Library of Malaysia involved event and series of activities with cooperation of Malaysian Association of for the Blind (MAB), Malaysia Blind Muslim Association (PERTIS), Society of the Blind in Malaysia (SBM) and others. The event and series of activities are as follows:

- (i) Program to promote the Marrakesh Treaty in collaboration with the MAB on July 28, 2022;
- (ii) A Day with the Visually Impaired Program in collaboration with the PERTIS on September 25, 2023;
- (iii) Participation in the promotion of accessible reading materials and Marrakesh Treaty Beneficiaries in conjunction with World White Cane Day organized by SBM at Titiwangsa Lake Park on October 15, 2023;
- (iv) Special needs User Education for the Blind (Series 1) with PERTIS on January 30, 2024, at the OKU Information Corner, National Library of Malaysia (PNM);
- (v) Special needs User Education for the Blind (Series 1) with MAB: 28th July 2022); and
- (vi) Triti Marrakesh Enhancing Program : 28th July 2022

**(g) Let's Read Together for 10 Minutes**

This program is an annual flagship initiative of the National Library of Malaysia (NLM), conducted in partnership with the Council of Directors of Malaysian Public Libraries (MAPAM) and with the support of Community Libraries, Special Libraries, Rural Libraries, Educational Institutions, Private Sectors, and Non-governmental Organizations. It coincides with the celebration of World Book and Copyright Day. The primary objectives of this program are to encourage reading, promote publishing, and raise awareness about copyright laws. The 'Let's Read Together for 10 Minutes' initiative is symbolic, where people across Malaysia read simultaneously for 10 minutes. In 2023, a total of 4.1 million Malaysians participated in this program. It was conducted in a hybrid format, combining both physical and virtual components.

**(h) Jom Baca@Chadak**

In a joint effort to foster literacy and promote a love for reading among the Orang Asli (indigenous people) community in Kampung Chadak, Perak, the National Library of Malaysia collaborated with Department of Orang Asli Development (JAKOA) and the Perak State Library Corporation to launch an enriching reading program called Let's Read@Chadak. This initiative is designed to provide educational support, enhance reading skills, and celebrate the rich cultural heritage of the Orang Asli people. The primary objective of the reading program is to empower the Orang Asli

community by providing access to quality reading materials, facilitating engaging reading activities, and fostering an environment that encourages continuous learning and cultural exchange. This program was held at Kampung Chadak, Ulu Kinta, Perak, from September 3<sup>rd</sup> to September 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023. A total of 1,031 participated in this program.

**(i) Karnival Semarak Jawi**

Karnival Semarak Jawi is an event aimed at promoting and celebrating the Jawi script, a form of Arabic script used for writing the Malay language. The carnival typically features a variety of activities and programs designed to enhance public awareness and appreciation of the Jawi script, which has historical and cultural significance in Malaysia and other regions with Malay-speaking populations. This program was held in collaboration with the Council of Islam and Malay Customs of Pahang (MUIP). The Karnival Semarak Jawi took place from October 7<sup>th</sup> to October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at Kuantan Parade Mall, Kuantan Pahang. A total of 2,016 participated in this program.

Karnival Semarak Jawi serves as a platform to revive interest in the Jawi script, ensuring its continuity and relevance in contemporary society. It also helps bridge generational gaps by connecting younger Malaysians with their cultural roots through an engaging and educational experience. By fostering a deeper appreciation of Jawi, the carnival contributes to the preservation of Malaysia's rich linguistic and cultural heritage. Activities conducted during the program include Clinic Dr. Jawi Workshop, Book Sale and exhibitions, Jawi Calligraphy Competition dan forum.

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

**(a) Asean Digital Library (ADL)**

NLM is also involved in sharing digital collections through the ASEAN Digital Library (ADL) portal, which is a regional project for sharing digital resources among ASEAN countries related to heritage, art, and culture. Sharing through this ADL portal facilitates the sharing of materials locally for resources related to regional countries.

NLM has contributed a total of 1,508 metadata records consisting of Malay Manuscripts, Rare Collections, and Personal Collections that can be accessed through the ADL portal. Various ongoing efforts are carried out by NLM to ensure that the collection of national heritage treasures is globally accessible and always available in digital format, thus preserving the national treasures for future generations' reference.

**(b) Attachment Program from Brunei History Center at the National Library of Malaysia**

The National Library of Malaysia (NLM) has welcomed an officer from Brunei, Mr. Awang Muhammad Ataillah bin Haji Julaihi, a Conservation Officer from the Brunei History Center, who underwent a Work Placement Program at NLM from 6<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2023. He was exposed to the overall management of Malay manuscripts and taken on visits to the Malay Documentation Center, the Institute of Language and Literature, and the Islamic Art Museum.

**(c) Joint Nomination of Malay manuscript of Hamzah Fansuri into the UNESCO Memory of the World (MoW) collaboration between National Library of the Republic of Indonesia (PERPUSNAS) and National Library of Malaysia (NLM)**

NLM received a courtesy visit from the delegation of the National Library of Indonesia (PERPUSNAS) and the Indonesian Ministry of Education and Culture (MoW) on July 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023. The courtesy visit was led by Prof. Dr.-Ing. Wardiman Djojonegoro, a former Minister of Education and Culture of Indonesia who is also a Reference Expert for IKON and MoW-Indonesia. Besides him, the courtesy visit was also accompanied by Dr. Ahmad Masykuri M. Ali Sudarmo, the Chief Librarian and Puan Haniatur Rosyidah Sutyono, a PERPUSNAS Librarian. The essence of the courtesy visit was about the joint nomination of the Malay manuscript of Hamzah Fansuri into the UNESCO Memory of the World (MoW) Register. Also present in the courtesy visit was Prof. Dr. Noriah Mohamed, the Reference Expert for the Malay Manuscript of Hamzah Fansuri, Mr Werry Kusyanto, the Education Attaché at the Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia, and two Curators from the National Heritage Department of Malaysia.

**(d) Marrakesh Treaties**

Malaysia officially joined the Marrakesh Treaty on March 31, 2022. The National Library of Malaysia are one of the Authorized Entities. The Marrakesh Treaty aims to improve access to published works for people who are blind, visually impaired, or otherwise print disabled.

The National Library of Malaysia provides services to meet the needs of the disabled, namely the Disabled Information Corner, Level 6, Menara PNM starting in 2017.

The Disabled Information Corner has a collection of 216 braille book titles, 72 audio book titles and 31 large print book titles.

- (e) The National Library of Malaysia also give fully support and cooperate with the programs implemented by other countries through participating in the programs such as:

No.	Name of Program	Date
1.	Workshop on "Read Your Way Out" Project in Manila, Philippines	March 13-16, 2023
2.	The 88 <sup>th</sup> IFLA World Library and Information Congress 2023 (Online)	August 21-25, 2023
3.	IFLA 2023 General Assembly (Online)	August 23-24, 2023
4.	29 <sup>th</sup> Conference of Directors of National Libraries in Asia and Oceania (CDNLAO) Meeting in Doha, Qatar	November 1-2, 2023
5.	Conveying the Program of South-South and Triangular Cooperation (KSST) "The Knowledge Sharing Program on Social Inclusion Based Library Transformation (SILT)" in Jakarta, Indonesia	November 12-18, 2023
6.	1 <sup>st</sup> Executive Board Meeting of 19 <sup>th</sup> Congress of Southeast Asian Librarians (CONSAL XIX) - Online	November 29, 2023
7.	Seminar on Smart Library Construction and Management for ASEAN Countries in Beijing, China	November 28 - December 2, 2023 (Online)  November 28 - December 6, 2023 (In person)
8.	Exhibitor for the Taiwan Reading Festival in Taipei, Taiwan	December 2-3, 2023