

National Library of Laos



Staff of National Library of Laos

- Mrs Homsombat Thongbang
- work at Archives of Traditional Music in Laos
- Responsibility is record the data of Music



- Mrs Thongphanith Phoukham
- work at Acquisition service
- Responsibility is record the data of books



Introduction



The establishment of the Lao National Library is a contribution to the protection and creation of the Nation along with the rich and modern socio-economic development.

The National Library of Laos was established in 1956 which was the technical division under the Fine Arts Department in the Ministry of Education, Sport and Youth. Then continued to build a Tripitaka hall/ historical Archives in the reign of King Anouvong in the early 19th century.

The King Phatsalat collected the manuscript documents, some Lao language and French books which is considered a representative of the National Library of Laos.

In the year 1960, the National Library also plays a role in human resource development to train and study abroad many times. After that the National Library changed its name to the Libraries and Museums Department under the same ministry.

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After national liberation in 1975, The National Library has available service to the public and library, Museums and ancient resources seeking to services. The Lao Government's policy is to develop the human resource and Library infrastructure in order to promote information literacy within the country and quality services in the library sector.

In 1989, the National Library became the technical division under the Publishing Department in the Ministry of Information and culture. It's the main institution responsible for all libraries development and activities, for reading promotion, the sharing of information and for the preservation of cultural heritage and documents. The National Library also Responsible for managing, collecting information, manuscripts for providing to the public.

The National Library has continuously improved the training of its technical staff with short and long-term excursions at both domestically and internationally for modernization work.

In 1990 we started creating 20 mobile bookcases to the remote area services for reading Promotion activities was well received supported by Unicef Organization. After that we started funding for creating the mobile bookcases and received encouragement from many parties, many organizations and NGOs to cooperate and provide constant support.

At the Currently, the National Library is Under the Publishing, Literature and Library Department in the Ministry of Information Culture

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and Tourism. The Library in Laos has grown exponentially with over 2,000 libraries included as: Library Association, National Library, 11 public Libraries and 5 mobile Libraries included, 78 University and college Libraries, 40 special libraries, 15 private libraries, 1,956 school libraries and more than 8,500 mobile bookcases. For the development of library human resources, there is also a bachelor's degree on Library and Information Science at the National University of Laos.

The National Library of Laos has a total of 34 staff, with 19 females staff included and Divided into 6 Section Such as: Administration Section, Acquisition and ISBN Issueless Section, Cataloging and Publication Technically Section, Reading and public relations services, Palm leaf an Manuscript Section, Reading Promotion and Library Network Section

In the past, the number of members accessing the library service increased every year, but from 2020 to the present, our country has been affected by Corona virus Disease 19 (COVID-19) that make decreasing number of the user as below:

Year	Total Users	Total Female Users
2019	18,884	8,708
2020	15,240	6,851
Present (01-30/07/2021)	5,242	2,022

Most of the users are students, staff, and general people. In addition, The National Library also provides a mobile library to schools to raise awareness of reading in the community. To increase books access for primary school students in remote areas.



The New Normal Library service

In the outbreak of coronavirus 19

The National library complied with the order of the Ministry of Information, culture and Tourism.

Before serving readers or those who come to work in the National library must measure the temperature of hand washing with alcohol 70.gel.

Library ceased operations in September 2021

Due to unfavorable environmental conditions

There is an increase in the number of cases of coronary heart disease

in the city The National Library has changed services

Online via whatsApp, telephone and order from readers



In the Future Action plans **(if Covid 19 does not extend)**

1. The National library of Laos will be training two times per years inside the country
2. Looking for a new system for input the data base and make the next work to branch with public library around the country
3. Exchange knowledge and experience librarians
4. Established reading room in school and children's activities

Action plans (con't)



5. Mobile library service haven't Library at school
6. Improved and Development PMB system with 2 provinces such as Xiengkhoung and Xayyabouly
7. Publish journal of the Association library of Laos
8. Update the DDC book
9. Updated the library's basic knowledge handbook
10. Academic librarian textbooks in 3 languages: Lao, English ,and Vietnamese
11. Publish the book for the author code in Laos languages

BeforCovid19

Training Activities



Participants from Province





Befor Covid 19 @ schools



Before Covid 19

Reading promotion



Before Covid 19

Mobile Library Activities



Before Covid 19

Luang Prabang Library



Before Covid 19

Luang Prabang Library



Thank you

