



جمهوری اسلامی ایران

وزارت فرهنگ و آموزش عالی

کتابخانه ملی ایران

بیتعالی

تاریخ

شماره

پیوست

جناب آقای رجبی

رئیس محترم کتابخانه ملی ایران

احتراما ، همانطور که استحضار دارید از تاریخ ۵ تا ۱۱ بهمن ماه سال جاری (با استفاده از مرخصی استحقاقی خود و بدون استفاده از هر نوع حق ماموریت) در سمینار " خدمات کتابخانه به نابینایان در کشورهای روبه رشد " که در توکیو برگزار شد شرکت کردم . در آغاز این سمینار که با شرکت نمایندگان ۲۵ کشور مختلف برگزار می شد ، نمایندگان کشورهای روبه رشد گزارش های مربوط به کتابخانه های نابینایان در کشورهای خود را ارائه نمودند . اینجانب نیز گزارشی را که در باره وضع کتابخانه های نابینایان تهیه کرده بودم قرائت کردم که مورد توجه بسیار قرار گرفت .

در جلسات بعدی سمینار مسائل مختلف مربوط به تولید کتاب و خدمات کتابخانه های برای نابینایان مطرح شد و مورد بحث قرار گرفت . اهم مطالبی که در این جلسات مورد بررسی قرار گرفت عبارتند از : تهیه و تولید کتابهای بریل ، تهیه و تولید کتابهای گویا ، تهیه و تولید مواد ملموس دیگر مانند نقشه و عکس و مانند آن ، استفاده از خدمات رادیو و تلویزیون برای آموزش و اطلاع رسانی به نابینایان ، نیازهای ویژه خوانندگان نابینا ، کتابخانه های نابینایان ، کتابخانه های ویژه دانشجویان نابینا ، استفاده مشترک از منابع ملی و چگونگی همکاری های بین المللی ، تکنولوژی و وسایل پیشرفته ارتباطی در خدمت نابینایان . پس از هر یک از جلسات سخنرانی و گزارش ، میزگردی با شرکت تمامی نمایندگان جهت تبادل اطلاعات و یافتن راه حل های عملی برگزار می شد که بسیار آموزنده بود .

مجموعه سخنرانی ها و گزارش ها طی ۲ یا ۳ ماه آئینده از سوی بخش نابینایان ایفلا چاپ و منتشر خواهد شد .

۱۵۲۵۸

* تهران : خیابان شهید باهنر ، کدپستی ۱۹۵۴۸ تلفن : ۲۸۰۹۳۷ ، ۲۸۲۲۲۲
 * تهران : خیابان ۳۰ تیسر ، کدپستی ۱۱۳۶۴ تلفن : ۶۷۲۳۱۵ ، ۶۷۲۵۶۴
 * فاکس : ۲۸۱۶۶۷ صندوق پستی ۹۵۹۷/۱۱۳۶۵



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پیشنهادهای :

در مجموع سخنرانی‌ها، بازدیدها، و مذاکراتی که در خلال این سمینار انجام گرفت بر نقش ویژه کتابخانه ملی در راهبری و هماهنگی خدمات کتابخانه‌های نابینایان در هر کشور تاکید بسیار نهاده شد. با توجه به نکاتی که در این سمینار و در حاشیه آن مطرح شد پیشنهادهای زیر را جهت هر گونه اقدام مقتضی به کتابخانه ملی ایران ارائه می‌نمایم.

— دائر نمودن بخشی در کتابخانه ملی ایران جهت گردآوری تمامی کتابهای گویا و کتابهایی که به خط بریل فارسی تهیه می‌شود.

— ارائه خدمات کتابخانه‌ای به نابینایان از منابع گردآوری شده.

— گنجاندن مشخصات کتابشناختی کتابهای گویا و بریل فارسی در کتابشناسی ملی ایران

— تهیه فهرستگان از کتابهای گویا و بریل موجود در ایران.

— ترغیب کتابخانه‌های عمومی کشور به دایر نمودن بخش ویژه نابینایان. (لازم به یادآوری است

که کتابخانه عمومی حسینیه ارشاد هم اکنون این خدمات را تدارک می‌بیند.)

— اختصاص دادن برنامه هفتگی رادیویی به مسایل اطلاع‌رسانی به نابینایان.

— همکاری نزدیکتر با سازمان رفاه نابینایان رودکی.

— تماس با سازمان‌های بین‌المللی ویژه نابینایان و شرکت در برنامه‌های مبادلات کتاب و ویژه

نابینایان.

ضمناً در بازدیدهایی که از کتابخانه‌های مختلف داشتیم معمولاً نخست نوار ویدئو ۲۰ - ۳۰ دقیقه‌ای جامع همراه با توضیح در مورد خدمات کتابخانه ارائه می‌شد. آنگاه بازدید با سرعت و حضور ذهن بیشتری انجام می‌گرفت. با توجه به پراکندگی ساختمانهای کتابخانه ملی، تنوع خدمات، و تعداد بازدیدکنندگان از این کتابخانه، و با توجه به اینکه دستگاه ویدئو و تلویزیون نیز در دسترس

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* تهران: خیابان ۳۰ تیسر، کدپستی ۱۱۳۶۴ تلفن: ۰۶۷۳۳۱۵ ، ۶۷۳۵۶۴
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کتابخانه قرار دارد ، پیشنهاد می شود چنانچه صلاح بدانید اقدام مشابهی صورت گیرد .

با احترام - شیرین تعاونی

۶۹/۱۱/۲۰

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In the Name of God

Islamic Republic of Iran

Ministry of Culture and Higher Education

National Library of Iran

LIBRARIES FOR THE BLIND IN IRAN

by:

Shirin Taavoni

According to a recent report given by The Welfare Organization of Iran on the occasion of Oct. 15, the White Cane Day, there are about 100,000 blind persons in Iran, of whom 23000 are children under 12 years of age, 56000 men, and the rest women. This number increases at a yearly rate of %10.

The majority of services given to this very special group are through the Welfare Organization of Iran and the Ministry of Education. The history of the first institution for the blind in Iran* goes back to 1964 when Dr. Khazaeli, a blind scholar who used to run a primary and a secondary school for sighted children, established an institution called "Association for Protection and Guidance of the Adult Blinds." The Association used to assist the blind in various ways and distribute a government monthly pension to those who were in need. Four years later the Khazaeli School for the Blind was founded through Dr. Khazaeli's efforts. The School started its work in 1970 and an independent budget was allocated to it by the Government. The next year, the old building where the Association and the School coexisted was bought by the Government and a new building was constructed for the blind students. The building was officially inaugurated in 1972. Meanwhile, in 1970, the "National Institution for the Welfare of the Blind" came into existence replacing the "Association for the Protection and Guidance of the Adult Blind" while widening the scope of its work and objectives. This Institution which was funded by the government was designed to coordinate all the activities relating to the blind all over Iran. The National Institution for the Welfare of the Blind and the Khazaeli School for the Blind worked in close vicinities and shared resources and budgets. The National Institution for the Welfare of the Blind was officially responsible for the production and distribution of braille and talking books.

*Not to mention some international or religious charity institutions which were active more than 80 years ago, mainly in the city of Esphehan.

Ten years ago a new institution called the Welfare Organization of Iran (Sazemane Behzeestiye Keshvar) was founded by the government in order to harmonize and coordinate all the activities relating to the disabled, including the blind. At the same time it was decided to limit the services of the National Institution for the Welfare of the Blind to Adults and pre-school level and to leave the services for the school children to the Ministry of Education, Office for Exceptional Children. The National Institution for the Welfare of the Blind changed its name to the "Roudaki** Welfare Institution for the Blind" (Sazemane Behzeesteeye Nabeenayane Roudaki) and became attached to the Section for the Blind of the Welfare Organization of Iran. The Section for the Blind consists of three different departments: 1) the professional training centers, including the Ababaseer Institute in Tehran. 2) the rehabilitation centers, and 3) the cultural centers which are coordinated through the Roudaki Welfare Institution for the Blind and include the libraries for the blind.

I. The Welfare Organization of Iran. Section for the Blind. The Roudaki Welfare Institution for the Blind:

This Institution which was first established in 1970 has for a long time been the main agency through which the blind receive cultural services. The present director is Mrs. Arjomand-khah (B.A. in psychology), who has been with the Roudaki Institution for 7 years now.

A. Production Centre: As I mentioned before, the Roudaki Institution used to produce all the braille and talking books in Iran, including school text-books. However, since 1980 onwards it was decided that the Roudaki Institution should produce only for adults beyond school level. Despite this, since some of the school text-books have remained unchanged and the Roudaki Institution still possesses the zincs, about one third of the school text-books are still printed by the Roudaki printing house. So far, the Roudaki Institution has produced 35 original titles in the fields of general reference, literature, and humanities for general distribution and sale. These books are offered to the university students at half the cover price. At the same time the library personnel produce one or two books per month (in

** Roudaki is the name of a blind classic poet of Iran who lived 1000 years ago.

the same fields) by a small Perkins typewriter, and make two or three copies by the thermoform unit, only to be used in the braille library of the Roudaki Institution. Apart from the Roudaki printing house (which owns a computerized printing machine), the Centers for the blind in both the cities of Mashhad and Esphehan possess a braille printing machine and help in the production of books as well.

At the same time, the Roudaki Institution is publishing a quarterly Braille journal, Baseer, the 11th volume of which was published recently.

The Roudaki Institution also produces talking books for the blind. The general plan is to provide the books for both the Roudaki Talking Library and for the libraries of the Welfare Organization located at the central cities of the main provinces of Iran. Some of these centers (like the ones in the cities of Mashhad, Esphehan, and Tabriz) have reproduction facilities and help in the reproduction and distribution of the tapes that they receive through the Roudaki Institution. The Roudaki Institution reproduces more than 60,000 cassette tapes per year (including school text books).

The recording of books is done both by professionals and by volunteers. The Institution possesses two recording and reproduction studios; but ordinary tape recorders are used as well. At present, they are trying to record the 10-volume History of Civilization by the Durants. The Iranian T.V. is to cooperate with the Roudaki Institution in setting up several modern recording studios and importing the necessary equipment.

B. The Library: The library of the Roudaki Institution consists of three different sections:

1. **The Braille Library.** This library is located on the second floor and occupies about 56 square meters. It is run by Mr. Guilani, a blind librarian who has a B.A. in psychology. The library has a total personnel of five of which 3 are blind. There are about 630 braille titles in the library varying from 5 to more than 40 volumes each. The books are arranged by subject and do not yet have a standard classification and cataloguing system. Recently the Hosseinieh Ershad Public Library has started cooperating with the Braille library and may catalogue the books in the future. The users of the library are mainly blind high school or university students and teachers. There are altogether 260

registered members who use the library regularly. Books are generally sent to the users by mail (which is free up to 7 kilograms). The Braille library is also in charge of feeding the libraries of the Welfare Organization located in the central cities of the main provinces of Iran. The braille libraries in Esphehan and Mashhad are particularly active and have a braille printing house too.

2. **The Talking Library.** This library is also an active section of the Roudaki Institution and has already about 800 titles on tapes. It is located on the second floor next to the braille library and occupies a total of 108 square meters. The head librarian is Ms Badram-poor, who is sighted and has a B.A. in social science. The personnel of the talking library and the production center totals to ten (5 B.A.s and 5 high school diplomas); they share responsibilities and work in all capacities. The users again, are mainly high school and university students and teachers. They either come to the library or request for the material to be sent to them. The total registered members are 310. The librarian believes that most of the users prefer to come to the library, because this is a way of coming into contact with other blinds and sometimes some of their social problems is thus solved. The talking library does not yet follow any standard classification method. However, the plan is to use the same method of the Audio Archives section of the Iranian Television Network in the future.

3. **The Regular Library.** This library is located on the second floor of the southern wing of the Institution and occupies a total floor space of about 38 square meters. It has a collection of about 2000 book titles in regular print. It is used mainly by sighted persons for selecting books for reproduction or for personal reference. Some of the blind also borrow books to have someone read it to them.

II. The Ministry of Education. Office for Exceptional Children

A. Production: After it was decided that the Roudaki Institution should concentrate on producing books for the blind beyond school level, the printing and production centers in the Ministry of Education were strengthened so as to carry out this function as efficiently as possible. At present the main places that deal with this job are:

1. **Shahid Mohebbi School for the Blind.** This School is an educational institution that gives training to the blind students starting from primary school and going through high

school. Many of the graduates of this school have succeeded in entering colleges and universities.

The main braille printing facilities (also computerized) of the Ministry is kept in this center. The center prints two thirds of the school text-books for the blind (about 103 titles) and distributes it to other schools after coordinating with the Office for the Exceptional Children of the Ministry of Education.

2. The Khazaeli School for the Blind. This school which used to be housed with the Roudaki Institution in the same building, has during the past few years tried to set up a production center for the talking books for the blind. This production center is intended to provide all school text-books for the blind students all over Iran (which is still provided to a large extent by the Roudaki Institution). To realize this, the Iranian Television Network (government-run) has helped setting up a very well-equipped recording studio as well as two editing cubicles, and a reproduction studio. At the same time through the funds of the Ministry of Education two complete sets of recording and reproduction studios have been ordered from abroad. The equipment have just arrived and await to be set up for use. All the necessary accessories and tapes have also been ordered. The personnel employed in this production and archives center are three. Mr. Ghannad-poor (blind) who runs the center used to work with the Khoozestan T.V. up the onset of the Imposed War. At present, the archive collection of cassettes and reels in the school is utilized mainly for reproduction and distribution to requesting libraries and institutions. The total space which is at present allocated to the production and archives center is approximately 100 square meters.

B.Libraries: All of the Schools that serve the blind students have, invariably, a small library for the blind. The oldest and perhaps most active of these is the Braille library of the Khazaeli School for the Blind. The library occupies about 80 square meters and is located on the second floor of the main building. Compact shelving has been utilized for storing the braille text-books, regular shelving for the rest. The library has also a section for recreational braille books, a section for sighted students and teachers, and a section for large-print books for the partially sighted. The total number of books amount to 1400 titles. The library is very active during school hours and is run by Mrs. Moghaddam (sighted). At her spare time, Mrs. Moghaddam reproduces the braille materials requested by teachers on a thermoform unit

located in the library.

III. Other Institutions:

There are of course other institutions in Iran that concern themselves with providing reading materials for the blind. These include:

1. **The Talking Center for Scientific and Research Services** This Center was established recently by Dr. Khandagh, a blind university lecturer who is also in charge of the Section for Disabled Students of the Ministry of Higher Education. Mrs. Khandagh has a Ph.D. in political science from the U.K. . She has secured a large apartment on the second floor of a residential house and has succeeded in setting up 6 recording cubicles. The Center is to be equipped with recording and reproducing facilities, and to give services mainly to blind university students (approx. 270 in number) and graduates. The center does not receive a government budget and is to be run by private funds. After it is equipped it is to record books on request through 6 professional personnel as well as volunteers.

2. **The Research Center of the Janbazan Foundation.** This Center has also been established quite recently and is intended to give library services to those who became blind during the Imposed War. The Center has set up a small recording studio and records books for its users. At the same time, through the services of the Roudaki Institution, it has already developed a collection of 500 titles recorded on cassette tapes.

3. **The Hosseinieh Ershad Public Library.** This very active library has recently established a special section for its blind users. It has acquired 16 titles (150 volumes) of reference and humanities and is now typing out braille catalogue cards for them. It is to receive some more titles through Unesco office in Iran and plans to collect talking books as well.

4. **The National Library of Iran.** The National Library of Iran became an independant Institution--attached to the Office of the President of the Islamic Republic of Iran--only two months ago. One of the main objectives of this library is to collect all kinds of books published in Iran, regardless of form, which include braille and talking books too. Direct services to the blind as well as indirect services through planning and coordination of libraries for the blind are also among its written objectives. These services are hoped to develop rapidly during the next few years.