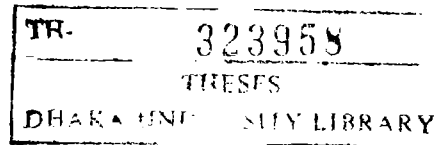


PUBLIC LIBRARY
SYSTEMS AND SERVICES
OF SWEDEN
AND BANGLADESH:
A COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS

**PUBLIC LIBRARY
SYSTEMS AND SERVICES
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THESIS SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE
REQUIRMENT OF THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF ARTS IN
LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE EXAMINATION
OF THE YEAR 1986



By

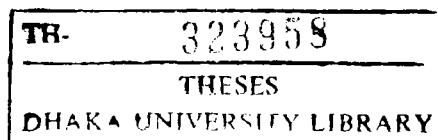
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SESSION : 1985-'86

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1989

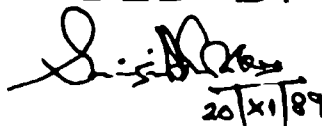
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SYSTEMS AND SERVICES OF
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A COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS

BY

ASRIN JAHAN LUTFUNNAHAR BEGUM



GUIDED BY


20/11/89

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DEPARTMENT OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE
UNIVERSITY OF DHAKA
DHAKA
1989

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THESES
DHAKA UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

TO MY BELOVED FATHER

PREFACE

The public libraries play most important part in the country, as the people get chance to consult various types of books of different subjects even beyond the school and college syllabus. In a public library, the information about ancient and current affairs are widely available.

UNESCO Public Library Manifesto calls public library as "as a democratic institution, operated by the people, for the people, the Public library should be established under clear authority of law; supported wholly or mainly from public funds; open for free use on equal terms to all members of the community regardless of occupation, creed and race." The public library service to in Bangladesh is very underdeveloped and efforts must be made to raise its organizational efficiency and capabilities.

In this work, an effort has been made to critically review the public library system and service in Sweden and Bangladesh and to recommend suitable measures to be undertaken for the development of a Public Library system in Bangladesh in light of the system obtaining in Sweden which is considered the best in the world.

ASRIN JAHAN LUTFUNNAHAR BEGUM

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Dhaka

A. J. L. B

November 1989

ABBREVIATIONS

ALA American Library Association

BCPL Bangladesh Central Public Library

e.g. exempli gratia (L. for example)

Etc. etc. And others; and so forth.

ibid ibidem (L.in the same place)

op cit Opere citato (L. in the work cited)

Viz viz; after read "Namely" (L. Videlicet: that
s; namely)

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CHAPTER – I
INTRODUCTION

Introduction

1. Statement of the Problem

Bangladesh is a densely populated and poor country. Its literacy rate is 23.8%, which is among the lowest in the world. The development of a public library legislation, there is no effective public library system in Bangladesh.

On the other hand, Sweden has made remarkable successes and achievements in developing the best public library system in the world. The history of the public library movement in Sweden dates back to about 1800s. The first public library Act was passed in 1905. Its literacy rate is 99 percent. Education is free up to Doctoral level and compulsory up to Secondary level. On the assumption that Bangladesh can benefit substantially from the experiences of Sweden, efforts will be made in this study to review the public library systems and services of Sweden

and compare it with that of Bangladesh.

2. Hypothesis

The major hypothesis formulated at the outset of this held that the status of public libraries in Bangladesh is inadequate for providing effective library service to the members of the community.

Minor hypothesis emphasized that the present status of public libraries is inadequate because:

(i) Inadequate funds.

(ii) Lack of adequate collections.

(iii) Lack of leadership of the library associations to launch library movement for establishing a well-kint public library service in the country.

3. Methodology

Which methods were adopted for completing the present study are given below:

(i) Literature search: Existing literatures on the topic were search and studied and examine the

current public library services in Bangladesh and Sweden.

(ii) Personal visits: Personal visits to notable public libraries were made to examine the existing status of public library services in Bangladesh.

(iii) Evaluation of public library resources : The library collections including books, periodicals, magazines, rare books, special materials, etc. on various subjects held in the major public libraries of Dhaka were analyzed and their strengths, weakness and gaps in various subject fields were determined.

4. Purpose of the Study

The purpose of the study is to review critically the historical development of public libraries, current status and general features of the public library systems and services of Sweden and Bangladesh and draw recommendation for the healthy growth and development of the public library system in Bangladesh.

5. Scope of the Study

For the purpose of making a comparative study of public library systems and services of Sweden and Bangladesh, this work has been divided over the following major chapters:

Origins of the public library

Modern statement of purpose of the public library in the world

Historical Growth and development of public libraries in Sweden.

Historical Growth and development of public libraries in Bangladesh.

Public library legislation in Sweden.

Public library legislation in Bangladesh.

Public library Extension service in Sweden and Bangladesh.

Current status of public library system in Sweden

Current status of public library system in Bangladesh.

Development of public libraries in Sweden and
Bangladesh; a comparative study..

CHAPTER - II
ORIGINS OF THE LIBRARY

ORIGIN OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Under the will of Richard Whittington there was established in London about in 1422 a library for free use by the citizens, it lasted for just over a century, until the Duke of somerset seized it in 1549.¹

It was in the early seventeenth century that the first efforts to establish Public library were more widely made in this century and it is fitting that these efforts should again have been made as the results of philanthropy; for there has been no characteristic more marked in the wealthy citizens interested in its aims and progress.

The first library to have its stock readily and freely accessible to the general public was founded in conventry in 1601. Claims are made by other towns to earlier public libraries, but the access to these was generally limited in Norwich (1608), which may claim the longest

1. Murison, W.J. The Public library; its origin, purpose and significance. 2nd. rev.edn. London: George G. Harrap, 1971.p.19.

continuous public library service, Bristol (1615), Langley Marish, near slough(1623), Leicester(1632), Manchester(1653), and at Innerpeffray, near crieff(1680).

1699: Rev. James Kirkwood. An ambitious scheme was proposed by Rev. James Kirkwood, at one time minister in Minto, Roxburgh shire, and later in Astwick, Bedfordshire, in his anonymously issued tract. An overture for founding and maintaining of bibliothecks in every paroch throughout this kingdom of Scotland.

1704-1807 : Dr. Thomas Bray. He established 61 librari-
es between 1704 and his death in 1730, and more than a
hundred other libraries were established by a society
after his name.

1817 Samuel Brown. In the beginning of the 19th century
saw great activity in the provision of popular librari-
es in the south eastern countries of Scotland and in
the north-east of England. The most famous of these
scheme was provost samuel Brown system of itinerating

libraries initiated in East Lothian in 1817.

The principle object of the scheme was to promote the interests of religion, and the plan was "to have a library within a mile and-a-half of every inhabitant of the country, if possible" and "to station a division of 50 volume in every village and hamlet where a librarian could be found ." The books were to be removed at the end of two years, and a general exchange effected. The greatest number of these libraries was fifty. The success of these libraries, however, declined after the death of their founder, Samuel Smiles, for instance, giving evidence in 1849, said that attempt to form public libraries in the west Riding of Yorkshire had generally been failures. "So long as the books in the libraries were attractive, the people generally resorted to them, but as soon as the books became old and had been read out, they ceased to attract the readers, and in the end they were failures."

1849 Edward Edwards (1812-86)¹. An assistant in the department of printed books at the British Museum at the time of the 1849 report was guided by these failure and motivated by the following two principles:

i) The first principle involved the corollary that the new institutions and their management should stand entirely aloof from partly influence in Politics or in Religion.

ii) The first principle involved the corollary that the maintenance must be by rate, levied on the whole tax-paying community, and administered by its clective and responsible functionaries.

1848: First rate-supported library: In the United Kingdom, the first municipal rate-supported free library was opened in November 1848 in Warrington.

1. Munford, W.A. Penny rate; aspects of British library history, 1850-1950. London: Library Association, 1969.p.8.

1849: This was followed in 1849 by the establishment of a public library in Salford.

1850: First Public Library Act.¹ First Public library Act came on August 14, 1850, as the direct result of the 1849 report, to which Edward Edwards had considerable contribution. Its passage in to law was largely secured by the endeavors of two members. William Edwart and Joseph Brotherton.

Mid 19th Century: In the mid 19th century Public Library is said to have owed nothing to public demand, but everything to individual initiative and enthusiasm. During the period the thirst for knowledge was increase along with the increase of the frontiers of science and geographical discoveries. Outlooks were widening as a result of the religious, economic, and political consequences of the industrial revolution, and the education revolt. So great was the demand that

1. McColvin, Lionel R. The Chance to read; public libraries in the world to day. London: Phonix House, 1957. p.23.

the witnesses of 1849 report were convinced of the need for public library.

Mackenzie Rev. H. Mackenzie believed that the establishment of local reading rooms would take the working classes away from public houses by affording them a comfortable shelter for the evening.

Immray John Immray reported on the improved habits of order of people, witness existed by a missionary on the improvement of moral character of people.

1853. Mechanics institutes library . 700 mechanics institutes had 120,000 members and were issuing more than two million volume annually, Mcchanics institute library worked as a competitive force with the municipal libraries.

1866 Machester Publlic Library. In 1866 while opening the hums Branch of Manchester Public Library, The Mayor, Alderman Bowker said; "When first proposed ,the value of free libraries was little understood, The

public were afraid of them and looked upon them with jealousy." Thus from contemporary sources it can be shown that the Manchester Public Libraries were established by some enthusiastic members of the upper classes and the spirit of generosity and interest of wealthy people.

United States : American Public libraries also had experienced similar philanthropy, but here "wealth had shown itself favorably disposed by erecting library building." and had found a more ready general support. 'Though the intellectual motive was more emphatically asserted as the prime function of libraries in the United States, the social and aspects were also strongly presented.'

The evidence of contemporary opinion suggests that the initiative in promoting public libraries came from the upper strata of society rather than from the working class. It was seen, however, that once the libraries

were established and they proved their value, they eventually enlisted the support of all sections of the people.¹

1. Murison, W.J., op. cit., p.49.

CHAPTER III
MODERN STATEMENT OF PURPOSE
OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARIES
IN SWEDEN

MODERN STATEMENT OF PURPOSE OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARY IN
THE WORLD

The success of a modern Public Library or any institution devoted to the community depends on three main factors : it must have purpose; it must have a sound administration to determine the mode of operation ; and after that mode has been agreed, it must be put into effect by capable and conscientious executives.¹

UNESCO has defined Public Library as " a democratic institution operated by the people, for the people, established and maintained under the clear authority of law, supported wholly or mainly from public funds, open for free use on equal terms to all members of the community, regardless of occupation, creed, class or race."²

K.C. Harrison defined that 'the public library may be said to exist for the free and Unrestricted provision of books and related materials to members of the commu-

1. Murison, W.J., op. cit., p.11.
2. Heintze, Ingeborg. The Organization of the small public library, Paris, Unesco, 1963 p. 9.

nity for study purpose, and for vocational and recreational use.

A cardinal principle of public libraries is that access to term, either for reference or for borrowing, must be free.¹

Mc Colvin defined a Public Library as the one "Provided by local authority (the town or at its own expenses governed and administered by the authority or committee, wholly or largely appointed by itself, available free of any charge, to all who live in its areas, (and often as well as others) and offering a wide selection as possible the varied interests of the individual and the community, free from bias or religious, political or other motives'².

Modern Statement of Purpose Modern objectives & functions of the Public Library was stated by various authorities, which are given below:

-
1. Harrison, K.C. The library and the community. London, Andredeutsch, 1966. p.18.
 2. Mc Colvin, Lionel R. op. cit., p.12.

1

According to Unesco.

I. A Well-Organized Complete Public Library

Provides: books, pamphlets, magazines, news papers, maps, pictures, films, music scores, and recordings and gives guidances in the effective its to children, young people, men and Women.

II. Its Objectives is to:

- a) Educate themselves .
- b) Keep abreast of progress in all fields of knowledge.
- c) Maintain freedom of expression and a constructively critical attitude towards all Public issues.
- d) Create civic sense among the citizens.
- e) Developed their creative capacities and latent talents.
- f) Aid generally in the advancement of knowledge.
- g) Make use of leisure time to promote personal happiness and social well-being.

III. It is a Cultural centre, a dynamic, vital community force: In the life of the people of the whole community for their intellectual and Cultural Upliftment.

IV. It helps the people what do think about

The spot-light should be thrown on significant issues by exhibitions, book-lists, discussions, lectures course, films and individual reading guidance.

V. It stimulates reading interest : stimulates reading interest through public library of library services by well-planned continuous public relations programme.

VI. Co-Ordination of service with other agencies: It links and activates with works of other educational, cultural, and social agencies i.e., the school, colleges, Universities, museums, labour groups, etc. It also Co-Operate the other librarians for inter library loans and advancement of public librarianship.

VII. Easily accessible resources and service to be brought close to home.

The books in the library should be made accessible on open shelves and by use of efficient technical process and the library's service should be brought close to the home branches and mobile Units.

VIII. To Work as people's University.

1

It should offer liberal education to all comers with a well-trained, resourceful, maginative staff, adequate budget and public support. At the same time it self-education at all time.

Modern Statement of Purpose

According to American Library Association.(A.L.A.)

2

The statement of ALA consisted of three parts of which the first was a general definition of objectives,viz:

Part 1 : Definition of objectives

1. To assemble, Preserve and administer books and rela-

1. Heintze, Ingeborg, op. cit., p.10.

2. Murison,W.J., op. cit., p.88.

ted educational materials in organized collections, in order to promote, through guidance and stimulation, an enlightened citizenship and enriched personal lives.

2. To serve the community as a general center of reliable information.

3. To provide opportunity and encouragement for children, young people, men and women to educate themselves continuously.

Part 2: Resources : Prime of knowledge and interest to this the Public Library should remove its resources.

1. Public affairs: citizenship.

2. Vocations.

3. Aesthetic appreciation.

4. Recreation.

5. Information.

6. Research.

Part 3. Library means for attaining library objectives.

1. Kinds of materials.

2. Availability of materials.

3. Guidance.

4. Stimulation and leadership ,and

5. Emphasis.

Modern statements of Purpose

According to New Zealand Library Association's Standards Research committee¹.

1. Contribution of family life as being a Unit of social life: Service through books on domestic arts, sewing, cooking, interior decoration, infant management, child psychology, gardening, and the home workshop should be freely available to maintain the standard of home life.

2. Fruitful use of leisure time: The public library should help the community towards fruitful use of leisure time, for the books are necessary for proficiency in sports and hobbies.

3. Valuable instrument of democracy and good citizenship. It can be the most valuable instruments of democra-

1. Murison, W.J., op. cit., p.88.

cy and good citizenship. A good library service providing material in open, balanced many sided collections on politics, mass movements economic, citizenship.

4. Base of public standards and social conduct.

The library can sustain and raise the standards of public and social conduct, providing health education, and a service should be given which will help the layman on matters such as nutrition, prevention of sickness, and mental instability.

5. Powerful instruments for sustaining the desire to learn:

The library is the most powerful instruments for sustaining the desire to learn. The discursive reading done by the children will be maintained as they grow into adult if good suppliers of well-chosen books are provided in pleasant surroundings.

6. Ground for social peaceful environments and inspiration: The library should create peaceful

environment, providing societies active in drama, music, parent-teachers work and so on and inspite the people of the society,

7. Help to maintain economic life in the community:

Different people of the society such as farmers, teachers, students, businessmen and other professional men should expect the library to make an important contribution to the economic life of the community, by keeping books, periodicals, magazines, feature films, paintings, up-to-date with the technological advances.

8. To keep the people in touch with the finest products:

The presentation of art and imaginative literature, the great works of fiction, drama, poetry and painting is an important function of the library in keeping the people in touch with the finest product of civilization of all ages.

9. A convenient place to read:

The library is the place for people who want a book to read. Those who want

light fiction should be able to obtain it from the library as convenient place.

10. Place to develop leadership quality, responsible citizen; international Understanding and peace: The

purpose of public library is to develop leadership quality and responsible citizenship through service to the community and to advance the cause of international understanding and peace and promote recognition and acceptance of high ethical standards as a leadership quality and vocational responsibility.

The modern public library collects the printed and audio-visual material needed to conduct the individual and group life of its constituency. It organizes and makes accessible its resources for convenient and easy use.

Its materials are provided:

1. To facilitate informal self-education of all people in the community.

2. To enrich and further develop the subjects on which individuals are undertaking formal education.
3. To meet the informational needs of all.
4. To support the educational, civic and cultural activities of groups and organization, and
5. To encourage wholesome recreation and constructive use of leisure time.¹

1. Murison, W.J., op. cit., p.90.

CHAPTER – IV
HISTORICAL GROWTH AND
DEVELOPMENT OF PUBLIC
LIBRARIES IN SWEDEN

Historical Growth and development of Public libraries in Sweden

Sweden is the biggest of the Scandinavian countries, with the largest population. It has a population of 8,335,000 in an area of 449,793 square kilometers. It has the highest standard of living in Europe and 80% of the population live in urban areas. The official language is Swedish. The literacy of the country is 99 percent. Sweden is a democratic, constitutional monarchy, and the parliament (Riksdag) has an upper and a lower house¹. Education is free up to Doctoral level and compulsory up to secondary level.

Major historical events

The earlier examples of public libraries in Sweden date back to about 1800s but these were just tentative beginnings and it was not until the 1830s that the movement really began to develop. In 1842 a further

1.Harrison,K.C.Libraries in Scandinavia. London: Andre Deutch,1969. p.87.

fillip was given to the public library idea with the passing of an Act for compulsory elementary education , because a section of this law gave the clergy the duty of setting up parish libraries¹. In the following 45 years Parish libraries did in fact spring up in over 1,400 villages and some of these formed the bases of the much more highly-developed community libraries of the present day. As in America, Britain and the other Scandinavian countries, it was not until later in the 19th century that the public library as we know it to day began to develop in Sweden. In the towns, Ostersond had an library as long ago as 1833, while in Gothenburg is an impetus was given to the library movement by the establishment there in 1861 of the Dickson Public Library (Dicksonska folk biblioteket). So libraries spread, first in the Parishes, then in the cities and towns, and finally at the turn of the century came the

1. Harrison K.C. op. cit. p.106.

working men's and temperance society libraries which became known as study circle libraries. One problem which for long held up proper development of Public libraries in Sweden was that there were so many local communes, about 2,500 in fact, the majority of them being too small to be really effective, both for library and for general local authority purposes.

The first library in Sweden was founded in about 1800 but little development took place until the Elementary school Act was passed in 1842. After this Act, many libraries were established in rural and urban areas.

In Sweden, the state recognised the need to assist Public libraries financially in 1905. In 1912, the study circle libraries were granted assistance after they had been running for 10 years¹. The 1912 Act reinforced the states interest in Public libraries by appointing library Advisers in the Ministry of

1. Harrison K.C. op. cit. p.107.

Education . The finest problem they tackled was that of service standards, particularly in cataloguing, classification and book selection. The next subject to occupy the minds of the advisers was education for librarianship and after having organized a series of short courses they were able to start the Swedish library school in 1926, With the developments which had followed the appointed of the Library Adviser in 1912 the time had obviously come for a new law. A royal commission studied the subject and its report of 1924 led to the Act which was passed by the Riksdag in 1929, becoming operative in the following year.

This had three main effects. First increased the maximum state aid to public libraries, Secondly, it planned the centralbibliotek or country library system in order to extend the benefits of the city libraries to the rural communities ; and thirty it decrease that the public libraries and the study circle libraries must

co-operate in book selection and purchase.

In 1930, first county library was established. An amendment was passed in 1947 and this again increased the state grants to the country libraries. Then in 1952, an act was passed to reform to local Government in Sweden by reducing the number of communes from 2,500 to 1937.¹

In 1955, there was a new act which included more of the ideas envisaged in the master plan. This 1955 law was operative for eleven active years. Until it was repealed by a statute of 1966.²

The 1955 Act related to both public and school libraries but it laid down that only one system of public libraries reach communes could receive state aid. Certain conditions were imposed, chief among which was that each library had to be governed by a committee responsible, among other things, for appointing a chief

1. Harrison, K.C., op. cit., p.108.

2. Ibid

librarian. Accommodation had to be approved by the Library Advisers, the library had to be open to the public, it had to lend books free of charge.

A new Act was in preparation in 1965 but was never submitted because a radical change in local Government finance, together with a further proposed reduction in the number of local authorities.

An act of 1966 clarified the position with regard to county libraries.

Development Grants

On the local level, the pattern of library development in the 50s and 60s has been continued consolidation of library activities,. The local Government reforms produced the economic prerequisites for better libraries. It was decided in 1965 that municipalities willing to improve their libraries according to a long range plan could receive the special grants, intended to cover half the cost of the improvement. The

development plan must be approved by the National Board of Education. Eleven libraries received grants of this type.

Associations¹

Two other nationwide institutions, assisting in library matters generally must also be maintained, one is old: the Library Association. It was founded in 1915, but lived for a long time in the shadow of the National Board of Education and its library advisers, who edited *Biblioteksbladet*, the journal of the Association. At the end of forties the Association grew stronger, and in 1966 a secretariat with a full-time secretary was set up. At the same time *Biblioteksbladet* engaged a full-time editor. The strengthening of the Association will give it resources to fill an important place in the library politics of tomorrow.

The other institution is at a planning stage.

1. Vollans, R.F., ed. *Libraries for the people: international studies in librarianship in honor of Lionel R. McColvin*. London: Library Association., 1968. p.187.

The Sweden Federation of local Authorities. Svenska Kommunförbundet, which is an amalgamation of the Swedish Rural Districts, intends to establish a delegation for library matters. It may be interpreted as one of many signs of rising municipal interest in libraries.

¹
Countries

The National Board of Education is the supervisory authority for the county libraries. The county library system is externally unaltered. As in the other Scandinavian countries, big city libraries have undertaken the task of county libraries. County libraries still use bookmobiles and book boats for distributing books to local libraries. A new task for the county libraries is the distributing of educational films to borrowers the county. Another task, for which most county libraries have assumed the responsibility, consists of producing on tape local papers for the blind.

1. Vallans, R.F., op. cit., p.187

Inter Library Loan-Centers

In 1962 another level was added to the inter-library loan service and this was the first regional inter-library loan centers at Malmo. By 1968 three regional inter-library loan centers existed, in Stockholm, Umea and Malmo. These inter-library loan centers were introduced into the Public library inter loan network to relieve the University and research libraries of the heavy burden of providing specialized materials for the Public libraries of Sweden.

Local Government

Sweden has two-tier local government, except in the three largest cities. There are 25 counties on the higher, and 1006 lower-tier Urban and rural authorities. The counties, however, are termed secondary authorities with limited duties, and the communes are the primary authorities, with most of the duties local government, counties do not supervise the smaller

authorities, but co-operate with them and have certain special duties, such as health services and some educational duties. There are at present 229 Urban and 777 rural authorities, they are all communal and operate under the same basic law¹. Local authorities have obligatory duties, which are placed upon them by central government, and optional duties. There is no principle of ultravires in Sweden local government, and the most important sentence in Swedish local-government law is: 'The commune shall administer its own affairs.' The authority is, therefore, free to provide that it places, and even with obligatory duties there is a firm belief that local whatever duties are assigned to them with the minimum of interference. It is worth noting that the local authorities in Sweden spend nearly 20 percent of the national tax income whereas, for example, in the United Kingdom, the figure is less 19 percent. Moreover

1. Gardner, Frank.M. Public library legislation; a comparative study. Paris: Unesco, 1971.p.106.

there is no financial control from the centre, except in restrictions on raising money by loan. Even here, local authorities in Sweden are, by use of local income tax, much more free to meet capital expenditure from revenue than are local authorities in most countries. Local government in Sweden has therefore almost unique autonomy and local authorities can carry on any public service, which is local in character and which falls outside the scope of other authorities. Local authorities meet about 78 percent of their total expenditure from local income, a high portion. The remainder is met by the state and used mainly for education. In the past, this was partly by specific grant for named services, but the recent local government reform has also introduced a new system of general grant, as in England, weighted in favour of the less prosperous authorities. This has, of course, applied to grants for public library purposes.

Local Government Reform

From the beginning most Public libraries were a sort of private enterprise, from 1905 they could be supported by Government and many of them had parishes or municipalities as a basis of authority. During the forties this became a rule. were too small to carry the burden of a library even with aid.

Sweden has in recent years had two local government reform. The first one, from 1952, was compulsory, before the reform the country had about 2,500 municipalities; after the reform the number was but down to about 1,000. The second reform, of 1962, has gone a step further. The intention is that the number of municipalities shall be reduced to about 280, each consisting of a town and its economic countryside. There is no necessity for the municipalities to amalgamate according to the 1962 plan, but the advantages are so great that it is expected that the reform will be entirely through

during the seventies.¹

Training of Librarians

In Sweden, education for Public librarianship is centered on the State Library School which has been maintained by the Library Advisers to the National Board of Education in 1926. The pre-entry educational standard is higher than in the United Kingdom, Norway or Denmark, for all aspirants to the profession must have a University degree.² Since 1948 the State Library School has not been the only agency concerned in educating Public Librarians, for in that year the Stockholm city library inaugurated independent courses of training for its own large staff. These courses are naturally geared to the libraries own needs, and they differ in some respects from the curriculum of the State Library School.

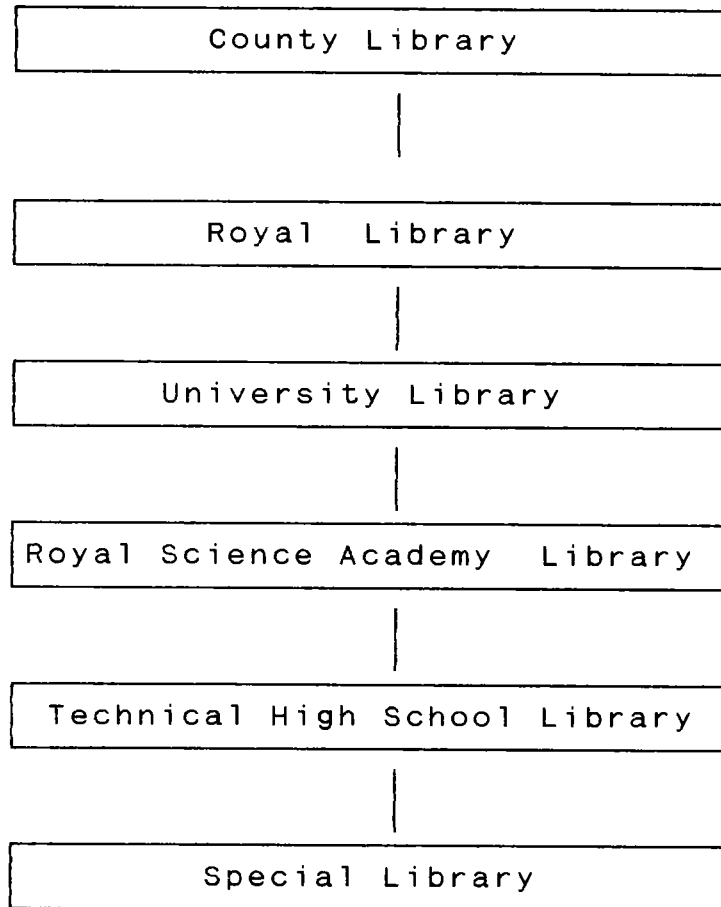
1. Vollans, R.F., op. cit., p.187.

2. Ibid.

Library development and objectives

Library development is not only the result of local government reforms and increased financial resources, Libraries are generally speaking a product of ability to read, need to read, and time to read. These fundamental elements have in Sweden as in most other countries changed radically. The school system has improved. The nine-year comprehensive school has been realised, the secondary school have expanded, the numbers of students has in a short time been multiplied. It is natural that this had increased the demand for library service. There is also other reasons for Public library development. It is easy to observe some changes in objectives. The demand for adult education and the increasing number of University students. Public libraries bought popular books, mostly popular books in the Swedish language. Today the situation is quite different. University text books are today to be found

in most Public libraries and through the inter-library lending system also the very small library is able to provide practically all books which are available in the country. Another change of objectives derives from the reception of audio-visual material in library. After library system have fitted in the record have been followed by films, films by pictures. beginning with chromolithographs and later on also eased art. From the acceptance of audio-visual material the step was short to the next change in public library objectives. It started modestly with concerts on a very small scale. Even the Royal library, the national library of Sweden, has arranged gramophone concerts in the park behind the library building. Other activities followed concepts. At the end of this development one observes the cultural centre, where the library has a co-ordinating and mustering role.

Chain of Library co-operation in Sweden

The Public libraries are able to draw upon the wider resources of the country, since any requests which can not be met from country resources are passed on to and usually satisfied by the Royal library, the University libraries, the Royal Science Academy library, the Technical High School at Stockholm, and other specialized institutions. This inter-lending is helped

considerable by excellent bibliographical tools, notably current bibliographies of Swedish publications, a list of all foreign books add to University and research libraries (Published by the Royal library) and a catalogue of foreign accessions of Public libraries (Published by the Swedish Library Association).

CHAPTER – V
HISTORICAL GROWTH AND
DEVELOPMENT OF PUBLIC
LIBRARIES IN BANGLADESH

Historical Growth And Development Of Public Libraries
In Bangladesh

The Public Library in Bangladesh dates back to mid-nineteenth century. The idea of establishing Public Libraries is essentially western, and the spread of public library movement in this part of the world is the result of the impact of the western culture on our intelligentsia. In the year 1854, four public libraries were established in four district headquarters¹. These four libraries were:

1. Woodburn Public Library
2. Jessore Public Library
3. Barisal Public Library
4. Rangpur Public Library

The spread of the Public Library idea is due to effort, interest and support of a handful of Public spirited persons, government officials, zemindars and social

1. Abu-Said, Muhammad. Public Libraries in East Pakistan; yesterday and to-day. Dhaka: Green Book House, 1968. p.1.

workers, who were quick to realize the importance of public libraries as an instrument of education, and it is they who pioneered the movement.

1. Woodburn Public Library

By the name of Mr. Woodburn, the Lieutenant Governor of Bengal (1898-1902), Woodburn Public Library was established and founded by one Mr. Royal on the bank of river Karotoa. Money was raised from the membership subscription from three categories of members with monthly subscription rates of 1 Rs. 1.50 paisa and 25 paisa per category. Monthly income from membership subscription was Rs. 25 to 30. A librarian was engaged on a salary of Rs. 10 only. In 1860s Mr. T.P. Larkin, ICS came and he was a collector. He worked for the development of this library and double the subscription in 1897. The building was destroyed by earth quake in 1897 and later Nawab Abdus Sobhan Chowdhury provided a building for the library .

In 1908, J.N. Gupta, ICS and District Magistrate, the library was moved into the Edward Park where a building was constructed at a cost of Rs.5000/- and this money was contributed by Nawab Zada Altaf Ali and the Maharaja of Kakina.

In 1912, its membership rose to 100 and the stock of book was about 1,400. Family library of Mohammad Ali of Bogra was donated to this and collection was 15,000. The membership was 700.

2. Jessore Public Library ✓

The Jessore Public Library was founded in 1854 by Collector Mr.R.C. Recks. For many years, this public library was housed in Jessore Town Hall. In 1928, the library was amalgamated to Jessore Institute. In 1964, the library was given a new and impressive two-storied building which was inaugurated by Dr.Quazi Motahar Hossain. It costs Rs.61,000.

A new five storied building was established in 17th

April, 1977. The construction started in Oct., 1977 with a grant of 13 lakh taka and at present it has a collection of 25,000 volumes.

3. Barisal Public Library

The Barisal Public Library was founded by Mr. Kemp and he was ICS and District Judge. The condition of the library was not satisfactory. In 1959, the old building was renovated and several thousand books were acquired from the private libraries of immigrant Hindu families. Development of the library took place by Mr. S.M. Usman, DM and Secretary.

4. Rangpur Public Library

The Rangpur Public Library and Reading room located in the right wing of the Edward Memorial Hall and which was constructed 1914 out of public subscription. A gift of Rs. 500 from Rai Mrityunjoy Rai Chowdhury was of great assistance to the library and handsome grants were also twice received in 1913 and again in 1915 from

the commissioner.

In 1968, subscription raised to 479 and collection rose to 9,000 volumes. The major part of the Hall was acquired by U.S.I. and the space was also shortage. Museum was also attached to the library.

Other Public Libraries

Northbrook Hall Libraries¹

It is regarded as the oldest public library of Dhaka. It is situated on the bank of river Buriganga,. It is named after Lord Northbrook, Governor-General of India (1872-76) who visited Dhaka in 1874. The library was maintained by Dhaka Municipality.

Rajshahi Public Library

It was founded in 1884 by the Zeminder of Natore, Kashimpur and Dighapatia. It has a two-storied building, the first floor being completed in recent years. For lack of space the book stock (over 13,000

1. Abu-Said, Muhammad, op. cit., p.3.

volumes) was lying in a wretched condition. It has barely 100 members.

Comilla Public Library

The Comilla Public Library and Town Hall was established in 1885 and reconstructed in 1935. The foundation of the Town Hall and Public Library was laid by Birchandra Manika Bahadur Maharaja of Tripura, with the sympathetic efforts of F.H.B. Skrine, B.C.S., District Magistrate and collector of Tripura, on September 1, 1885. During the second World War, the library was shifted to Brahmanbaria. The library's collection is over 10,000. There are about 200 subscribing members.

Pubna Public Library

The public library at Pubna was constructed in 1890 by Annada Gobinda Chowdhury. The library was named after him, and was subsequently enlarged by his son Ganada Gobinda and others.

Tagore's Library

The library is situated at Shahzadpur in the district of Pubna. Poet Rabindranath Tagore was associated the formation of the library during the last decade of the nineteenth century. It was now a collection of only 2,000 volumes and the membership is barely 100.

Noakhali Public Library

The Noakhali Town Hall and Public library dates back from 1987. It is functioning as a club-cum-library. The library has a collection of nearly 3,000 volumes most of which old and outdated publications.

Chittagong Municipal Library Chittagong Municipality

started its public library in 1904. The old name of the library was Bucland Public Library which had initially hardly 300 books.

Alimdad Public Library

Situated at Kishoreganj, Mymensingh, it was started in the first decade of this century. It was named after

Diwan Alimdad Khan, the well known Zemindar.

Dinajpur Public Library

Khawaza Nazim Uddin Muslim Hall and library at Dinajpur was founded in 1931 in a hired small tinshed under the Muslim Mangal Pathagar.

Sylhet Public Library

The library of the Srihatta Sahi Parishad (Sylhet library society) founded in 1935 by a group of literaryminded persons of the district has a stock of 7,000 books. The library also contains a collection of old manuscripts and some historical relics like stone images, cannons, etc. discovered in Jaintaiapur a place of historical importance in Sylhet.

Development Since 1954

The foundation of present day involvement in public library development by the Central Government may be said to have been laid one hundred years later with the establishment of the Central Public Library in Dhaka in

1954. The function of the library were defined in a government of May, 1955 and included the provision of reference services, the receipt of copyright material, the circulation of Juvenile literature and cultural activities.¹

First Five Year Plan (1955-1960)

In 1956, during the period of Pakistan's First Five Year Plan, L.C. Key, an Australian Consultant submitted a report to the Government for the development of Public Library System which included:

- (1) Establishment of National Library for Pakistan.
- (2) Provincial central libraries for East and West Pakistan.
- (3) Establishment of three divisional public libraries at Chittagong, Khulna and Rajshahi. In

1957, government provided in the budget a sum of Tk.2000,000 for grants of fifteen libraries in district

1. Parker, J. Stephen. Bangladesh Public Library Survey; final report. London: Library Development Consultant, v.1, p.47.

headquarters, subdivisional towns and Thana headquarters. Rs. 61,000 as are current grant were granted for district headquarters libraries and 60 " mobile library centers".

In 1958, Bangladesh Central public library was opened to the public with a stock of 20,000 volumes.

In 1961, The Librarian of CPL was transferred to the Education Directorate in order to give undivided attention to public library development throughout the then province.

In 1962, The Central public library building was taken over by Dhaka University for use as a part of the University library. During this period until 1971 late Mr. M. S. Khan, Librarian of Dhaka University acted as Librarian-in-charge of the Central Public Library.

Second Five Year Plan (1960-65)

Under Second Five Year Plan, some progress was made to provide government support for the public library

services outside the capital.

1965:

1. The Khulna Public Library was established in a new building which opened its doors to readers.

2. The Chittagong Public Library was also opened a wing of a Muslim Institute, taken over by the government in 1959.

3. Rs. 350,000 were allocated for the development of 15 district libraries.

4. Additional amount of Rs.320,000 were allocated for the development of mobile library centers.

5. A plan was prepared by the Government to establish a Central Library of Pakistan in Dhaka as a counter part to the proposed National Library in Islamabad.

Third Five Year Plan (1965-1970)

This plan proposed for :

- (i) Housing the Central Public Library and the Chittagong Public Library.

- (ii) Expansion of the Khulna Public Library.
- (iii) Establishment of Government public library at Rajshahi.
- (iv) Establishment of 12 Government public libraries in other districts.
- (v) Improvement of 36 sub-divisional libraries
- (vi) UNESCO Public Library pilot project between Narayanganj and Chashara.
- (vii) Establishment of Public libraries in 100 thana headquarters.

1968 : Foundation stone of new Central Public Library building was laid but progress of construction work was very slow.

May, 1969 : The Government formed an East Pakistan Library Development Committee for the development of school, college and public libraries but no recommendation actually accepted by the Government.

August, 1969 : Ahmad Hussain, officer on Special Duty

(O.S.D) for the development of libraries, retired and the post remained vacant till 1974.

1971 : Public library development suffered during the liberation war.

1973 : Ministry of Education formed a Committee for the development of libraries and library services under the chairmen of Joint Secretary of the Ministry of Education, Cultural Affairs and Sport and included representatives of the Planning Commission.

October 10, 1973 : First meeting of the committee was held which established four subcommittees for:

- (i) National
- (ii) Public
- (iii) Academic and
- (iv) Special Libraries.

November 15, 1973 : Co-ordinating subcommittee was formed.

November 26, 1973 : Another meeting was held and the

committee recommendation 7 groups of projects.

Group (i) included Central Public Library, the Chittagong Public Library, the Khulna Public Library and Rajshahi Public Library with an allocation Tk. 25,000 to the National Library.

Group (ii) included ten district libraries for general development and five for special development.

Group (iii) included 36 existing sub-divisional libraries and seven new ones.

Group (iv) recommended for the provision of library training facilities.

Group (v) included five special and research libraries.

Group (vi) included sixty-five thana libraries.

Group (vii) included development of four rural library pilot projects.

November 29, 1973 : Only the Public Library Sub-Committee

Submitted a development scheme, while other subcommittees failed to do it. It was therefore recommended that the conversion of the other subcommittees be requested to submit their schemes immediately to the A.D.P.I. (Libraries) who was responsible for preparing the final comprehensive scheme and submitting it by December 10, 1973.

November 13 & 14, 1974 : About a year later the Planning Commission recognized the need for public library development in the country, but recommended a reduction in targets due to final stringencies. The library development plans were divided into two phases:

1. High priority project ; and
2. Lower priority projects.

The high priority projects included :

- (i) The rehousing of the Central Public Library(CPL).
- (ii) The construction of a new building for

Chittagong Public Library.

(iii) The establishment of a Government public libraries at Rajshahi.

(iv) Development of 15 district public libraries.

(v) Establishment of 4 rural libraries pilot projects and

(iv) Establishment of training institute at Dhaka.

The high priority project were mostly for public library development.

A plan for public library development was submitted to the Planning Commission and was reviewed by its evaluation committee on December 24, 1975.

May, 1974 : The National Education Commission's report was published but released in October, 1975. It contained a chapter on libraries including a section on public libraries. This report recommended the following :

- (i) Promulgation of public library legislation.
- (ii) Establishment of a nationwide network of public library service.
- (iii) Establishment of a Government public library at Rajshahi.
- (iv) Removal of the space problem of the Central Public Library, Chittagong and Khulna public libraries.
- (v) Increase in budget provision and grants for public libraries to improve book collection.
- (vi) Expansion of libraries at district and sub-divisional headquarters and to assist the development of public libraries in Thana levels.
- (vii) Establishment of a new Library Director, etc. February 2, 1976 : The projects were revised and rephased in February 2, and October 20. The new projects in the first phase comprised :

- (i) The development of 15 district public libraries.
- (ii) The establishment of 4 rural library pilot projects and
- (iii) The establishment of a training centre in Dhaka.

The Second (phase) plan comprised

- (i) The rehousing of the Central Public Library (CPL). Historical Growth and Development : Bangladesh 53
- (ii) Construction of a new building for Chittagong Public Library and
- (iii) Establishment of a Government public library at Rajshahi.

Current Plans for Public Library Development : ²

the District Library Development Scheme.

The district library development scheme involved the project for the development of 15 district public

1. Parker, J. Stephen, op. cit., p.54.

libraries. The scheme was sub-divided into two sub-project : One-project A1 included 5 libraries in need of new building and the other, project A2 included 10 libraries in need of extension and improvement to their existing building.

Project A1 included the development of following 5 public libraries :

1. The Barisal Public Library
2. The Muslim Institute Public Library in Mymensingh
3. Rangamati Public Library in the Chittagong Hill Tracts.
4. Kazi Nazrul Pathagar in Patuakhali and
5. The Nokhali Public Library.

For each of these, the project proposed a grant of Taka 500,000 consisting of Taka 350,000 each for construction work. Taka 75,000 each for furniture and fittings and Taka 75,000 each for books and periodicals. It was proposed to construct the first phase, 4,000 square feet, of an four-storied building

for each library and it was recommended that each library should employ trained staff. The Patuakhali Public Library was substitute for the Kazi Nazrul Pathagar before the implementation of the scheme began.

Project A2 included the following 10 libraries :

1. Birchandra Public Library, Comilla
2. Khawaja Nazimuddin Hall and Public Library, Dinajpur
3. Jessore Public Library
4. Ananda Gobinda Public Library, Pubna
5. Central Muslim Sahitya Sangsad and Public Library, Sylhet
6. Kushtia Public Library
7. Rangpur Public Library
8. Sher-e-Bangla Pubic Library, Faridpur
9. Tangail Public Library
10. Woodburn public Library, Bogra.

The scheme provided for grants of Taka 250,000 to each of these libraries. The first three libraries were designated as focal points for three of the four rural

library pilot project. The fourth library covered in this project was Sherpur Public Library, Mymensingh.

Current plan for Public Library Development :

the Rural Library Pilot Project¹

The rural library pilot project included a sum of Taka 5000,000 of which Taka 340,000 was to be spent on book and periodicals. Taka 60,000 on furniture and equipment. Taka 48,000 on the purchase of two rickshaw vans for each of the four libraries concerned, Taka 40,000 for part of the cost of garaging the rickshaws and Taka 12,000 for contingencies.

The immediate objectives of the project were, first, to bring books and libraries to the rural people of at least one sub-division in each division by circulating books through a network or library service point based on the appropriate district or sub-divisional library, and second, to established a full time agency to provide bulk loans to schools, thana Public Libraries

1. Parker, J. Stephen, op. cit., p.54.

and reading centres and adult education establishment. The estimated recurring cost of each project after the plan period was Taka 15,000 of which it was proposed that Taka 10,000 should be provided by the central Government. The rural Library project thus provided for total grants of Taka 125,000 for each of four libraries, three of which were also to receive grants, of Taka 250,000 each under the district library development scheme.

Implementation of Current Plans for DLD Scheme Project-

A1

All the five libraries included in the project A1 received general grants from the Ministry of Religious and Cultural Affairs and Sports. The Muslim Institute in Mymensingh also received a mobile library grant.

1. The Barisal Public Library

This library records an amount sanctioned of Taka 320,000 of which Taka 150,000 were allocated for

building work but Taka 62,300 were only spent. The amount spent thus represents only 19 percent of the sanctioned amount. The library has a collection of 10,000 volumes of books and a staff of 8 of whom 1 is Graduate professional and it serves 550 users.

2. The Muslim Institute, Mymensingh

This library has a book collection of 11,000 volumes and a staff of 4 including 1 Graduate para-professional.

3. The Rangamati Public Library

This library received Taka 120,000 under the DLD scheme. An amount of Taka 70,000 meant for the expenditure on books and other materials, equivalent to 83 Percent of the total expenditure reveals that this is how most of the development grants was spent. The library has a stock of less than 10,000 volumes and a staff of only 3, all of whom are non-professional. It serves 250 readers.

4. Patuakhali Public Library

It received Taka 180,000 under DLD scheme. The

Patuakhali Public Library itself receives a general grant from the Ministry of Cultural Affairs and Sports but no mobile grants. It is contemplating to introduce a book bank similar to that operated by Jessore Public Library. The library has book stock of about 6,000 volumes and 4 staff members, all of whom are non-professional. It serves 325 readers.

Its branch library, the Sher-e-Bangla Pathagar has a book stock of 2,000 volumes and a staff of 3 members (non-professional). It serves 200 users.

5. The Noakhali Public Library

This library receives Taka 193,000 from an unspecified sources, part of which came from DLD scheme. The library is in a deplorable condition housed in a tin-roofed wet housed needing immediate extension. In 1979, the sum of Taka 194,000 could not be utilize due to the inability of members to prepare plan and implemented. The library has a total collection of 9,074 volumes and has a professionally qualified graduate librarian and 3 part

time manual workers. It serves 126 readers.

Implementation of Current Plans For DLD Schemes Projects A2¹

Project A2 of the District Library Development Scheme covered 10 libraries, 3 of which were also included in the rural library pilot project.

1. Ananda Gobinda Public Library, Pubna

The Ministry of Religious and Cultural Affairs and Sports approved a development grant Taka 100,000 i.e. 40 percent of the proposed amount for this library. For 1976-77, it serves 415 readers and in 1976-77, the total loans amounted to 18,000.

2. The Central Muslim Sahitya Sangsad and Public Library, Sylhet

This library received a grant of Taka 41,800 from unspecified source and Taka 7,000 from the Ministry of Religious and Cultural Affairs and Sports in 1977-78

1. Parker, J. Stephen, op. cit., p.58.

and spent Taka 30,000 that is 64 percent of the total amount on books. This library has a stock of 29,066 volumes and 3 staff members, all of are non-professional. It serves 258 readers. The library is completely privately managed.

3. Kushtia Public Library

This library received a District Library Development Scheme grant of an unspecified amount which is being used for the purchase of books and furniture and for the construction of a new first floor above the existing ground floor. The construction is half completed and work has been suspended for wants of further funds. The authorities are planning to rent out the ground floor when the first floor is completed. It has a collection of 6,237 volumes and 6 staff members, 1 of whom is professional. It serves 325 readers and has no extension service.

4. Rangpur Public Library

An amount of Taka 250,000 was proposed for this libraries and the DLD scheme approved in 1976-77 and is being released in stages as required. A sum of taka 29,875 was received in 1977-78, in addition to a general grant of Taka 7,000 and a regular mobile library grant of Taka 1,500 from the Ministry. About 60 percent of this grant i.e., 31,611 was spent on books during this period. The library has an active extension service providing 60-80 books at a time to 17 primary schools in the Rangpur municipal area. It has 20,000 volumes and 9 staff members, all of whom are non-professional including 5 part-time staff members. It serves 288 readers and recorded loan of 18,397 in 1977-78.

5. Sherqd-e-Bangla Public Library, Faridpur

This library recorded an income of Taka 22,116 1977-78 and total expenditure of Taka 22,646 of which 80 percent went on salaries. The central government made a

regular general grant of Taka 8,000 and a regular mobile library grant of Taka 3,000 from the Ministry of Religious And Cultural affairs and Sports. No DLD grant was made to this library, It maintains an extension service but no details are available. The total stock is 15,164 volumes and it consists of 6 staff members. It serves 799 readers.

6. Tangail Public Library

This library records a total income of Taka 163,530 in 1977-78 of which a regular grant of 7,000 a regular mobile library grant of Taka 300 and a district library development grant of Taka 139,800 were received from the Ministry of Religious and Cultural Affairs and Sports. Expenditure during this period amounted Taka 84,184 of which 55 percent was allocated for book purchase. The library has a stock of 13,664 volumes and staff of 4 members including 1 professional. It serves 149 readers.

7. Woodburn Public Library, Bogra

The first floor extension of this library is under construction with a grant from Rajshahi Divisional Development Board, but the Board's own list of grants to libraries records only a grant of Taka 25,000 to this library for the purchase of books and furniture. It is probable that a construction work is finance from this source. It has a collection of 16,896 volumes and 6 staff members, all of whom are non-professional. It serves 1,292 readers and records an annual issue of 14,080.

The Rural Library Pilot Projects ¹ :

implementation of current development plan

The rural library pilot project covered four libraries, three of which were also included in the DLD scheme.

1. Sherpur Public Library, Mymensingh

This library is not included in DLD scheme. It receives

1. Parker, J. Stephen, op. cit., p.56.

a regular general grant of 1,000 and a regular mobile grant of Taka 300 from the Ministry of Religious and Cultural Affairs and sports. It recorded a possible receipt funds under the rural library project of unitemised income of Taka 22,400 in 1977-78 and expenditure of Taka 12,000 on books i.e. 80 percent of total expenditure. The library operates a ricksaw for its book mobile service but no further information is available. It has less than 3,000 volumes and has 2 staff members, 1 clerical and manual. It serves 200 readers.

2. Birchandra Public Library, Comilla

This library recorded a receipt of Taka 60,000 for building works, Taka 75,000 for furniture and equipment, Taka 12,000 for two ricksaw vans, Taka 10,000 for garaging, Taka 3,000 for contingencies and no less than Taka 215,000 for books and periodicals. Although the construction grant provided under project A2 was intended for the extension and improvement of an

existing building, it appears that a completely new building has been constructed behind Comilla Town Hall, where the library is situated at present. There is no indication of any rural library activity, mobile library or book-box service and expenditure on books in 1977-78 was less than Taka 3,000. It recorded a receipt of Taka 35,000 in donations which may include some of the district or rural library development funds supposedly allocated under the Five Year Plan. The library has a collection of 16,000 volumes and only four part-time staff, including 1 graduate and 1 non-professional. It serves 400 readers.

3. Khawaja Nazimuddin Hall and Public Library, Dinajpur

This library received Taka 100,000 under the DLD scheme and Taka 20,000 under the rural library pilot project in 1977-78, in addition to Taka 100,000 from the Rajshahi Divisional Development Board, a regular general grant of Taka 7,000 and a regular mobile library grant of Taka 3000 from the Ministry of

Religious and Cultural Affairs and Sports. Total receipts from the central government during 1977-78 thus amounted to Taka 227,300, with other receipts bringing this total up to Taka 233,701 but total expenditure during the same period amounted to only Taka 52,300 only 22 percent of the amount received. Despite the receipt of both rural library project and regular mobile library grants, the library extension service reaches only three institutions, all social clubs, two of which are in the Dinajpur municipal area. Fifty books at a time are delivered to each institution every other month in a hired rickshaw. The library has a plan to have a rickshaw van. It has a collection of 25,000 volumes and 12 staff members including only 1 full time professional librarian. It serves 400 readers.

4. Jessore Public Library

According to the Parker's survey report of 1979, it is the most successful district library service in Bangladesh. It had an income of more than Taka 548,000 and spent over Taka 526,000 mainly for the construction of the new building. It received Taka 23,000 from its parent organization, the Jessore Institute in 1977-78, as well as central government grants of more than Taka 500,000. The latter included over Taka 48,000 from the DLD scheme, Taka 7,788 under the rural library project, and Taka 300,000 from the Khulna Divisional Development Board. Further substantial grants are expected in 1977-78 Divisional Development Board, the District Commissioner and the President. The library has a collection of 29,332 volumes having 6 staff members including 1 graduate and 3 non-graduate paraprofessionals. It has 1,500 regular readers and 852 borrowing members and recorded nearly 54,000 loans.

Implementation of Current Development Plans for Public
Libraries :Conclusions¹

The only project in the Five Year Plan which have been implemented are the rehousing of the Bangladesh Central Public Library, which moved into its new premises at Shahbag in 1977 and the establishment of a training course, at the Central Library in the same year. The new building for the Chittagong Public Library is not yet been erected. The first phase of the building for the Rajshahi Government Public Library, however is nearly completed.

Little progress has been made in implementing A1 comprising five district public libraries which are need of new buildings. Only one library has moved into new premises and one records no receipts of development grants. The other three libraries received Taka 3,75,300 or 25 percent of the proposed amount. About 52

1. Parker, J. Stephen, op. cit., p.64.

percent of the money received is reported to have been under due to inability of those concerned to prepare and implement a development plan. The position with regard to expenditure on books is much better, with about 43 percent of the amount proposed having been spent as intended, but for expenditure on furniture and equipment the figure again drops to 10 percent, and in fact, none of the libraries in this group for which data are available records the possession of any equipment whatever. Rural Library Pilot Project

With notable exception of Jessore Public Library, the rural library pilot project does not appear to have been success. The extension services of the Jessore Public Library were virtually in active operation before the liberation of Bangladesh. The limited amount of assistance received under this library project i.e. Taka 7,788 amounting to only 6 percent of the sum nominally allocated, obviously had a limited impact on

the success of the service, which seems to owe to local initiative and enthusiasm than the grant of the central government. In Comilla, there is no evidence of any development tacking in rural library services. In Dinajpur, whilst the Khawaja Nazimuddin Hall and Public Library does record the receipt of Taka 20,000 under the scheme, expenditure overall amount to only 23 percent of total receipts.

Second District Library Science

The position of the Second District Library Development Scheme is equally unsatisfactory. Only three of the ten libraries involved received grants and only of this was able to spent the amount received during the same year. None of the grants exceeded 60 percent of the amount allocated under the scheme. Two other libraries received and spent grants for book purchases only amounting to 50 percent of the sums originally allocated.

The rehousing of both the Bangladesh Central Public

Library and the Chittagong Public Library was first proposed in Pakistan's Second Five Year Plan for 1960-65 and thus been pursued for over 15 years by the time it was incorporated in the First Five Year Plan of Bangladesh. The establishment of the Rajshahi Public Library was also proposed in the Third Five Year Plan of Pakistan which indeed started in 1973.

The 1979 Public Library Survey by British Consultant J. Stephen Parker recorded the existence of 176 public libraries, 89 percent of whom are even by selfpurpose composed committee, 8 percent controlled by governing bodies their parent organization and 6 libraries, i.e., 3 percent are governed by local authorities. The survey provided 31 recommendation for the development of public libraries. From 1957 onwards the Government was spending a sum of rupees two lacs each year for the development of non-government public libraries. According to Parker report, to-day Bangladesh has 176

public libraries , big and small of which the number of non-Government aided District Public Library is 15 only.

Table-I shows the position of the three Government Public Libraries, Table-II and III shoes the status of District Public Libraries, and sub-divisional public libraries up to 1969.

Table-I

Three Government Public Libraries

Name of the Public Library	Date of establishment	Total stock of books	Service	No. of Professional & Non-professional staff
1. Bangladesh Central Public Library, Dhaka.	1953	60,107	Free	21
2. Khulna Divisional Govt. Public Library, Khulna	1964	31,955	Free	8
3. Chittagong Divisional Govt. Library, Chittagong	1963	10,450	Free	10

Table—II
Table showing the position of 15 District Public Libraries in Bangladesh (Non-Government)

Date of Estd.	Name of Library	Annual bud- get in Taka 1973-74	Grant recei- ved from 1973-74	Grant received from Dist. income	Other sources of income	No. of Staff	Book Stock	Building own
1854	Barisal Public Library	27,500/-	4,500/-	100/-	50/-	5	10,310	Own
1854	Jessore Public Library	40,150/-	8,000/-	4,000/-	15,328/-	4	15,351	Own
1854	Rangpur Public Library	38,000/-	12,500/-	400/-	200/-	6	12,704	Own
1854	Woodburn Public Library, Bogra	25,000/-	7,500/-	1,000/-	8,000/-	5	17,109	Own
1885	Bir Chandra Public Library	26,113/-	8,000/-	3,000/-	100/-	5	14,901	Own
1890	Ananda Gobinda Public Library	20,000/-	7,000/-	100/-	100/-	5	12,317	Own
1897	Noakhali Town Hall & Public Library	25,775/-	7,000/-	100	78/-	4	8,105	Town Hall Building
1904	Chittagong Municipal Public Library	37,134/-	7,000/-	500/-	350/-	5	15,513	Municipal Building

Table—II (Concl.)

Table showing the position of 15 District Public Libraries in Bangladesh (Non-Government)

Date of Estd.	Name of Library	Annual budget in Taka 1973-74	Grant received from 1973-74	Grant received from Dist. Council of income	Other sources	No. of staff	Book Stock	Building own
1910	Kushtia Public Library	45,633/-	7,500/-	—	100/-	6	5,987	Own
1931	K.N. Hall Library	65,500/-	8,500/-	1,500/-	1,200/-	8	28,087	Own
1931	Muslim Institute Library	65,000/-	6,000/-	150/-	100/-	4	10,132	Own
1936	Central Muslim Sahitya Sangsad Library, Sylhet	26,850/-	3,000/-	100/-	200/-	3	27,372	Own
1948	Rajshahi Islamic Institute Public Library	16,900/-	8,500/-	—	25/-	4	8,131	
1950	Memorial Public Library	23,100/-	6,000/-	500/-	4,200/-	7	13,751	
1958	Tangail Public Library	13,000/-	4,000/-	—	100/-	3	6,379	Own

Table—III

Table showing the position of 14 sub-divisional public libraries in Bangladesh

Date of Estd.	Name of Library	Annual budget	Grant received from Govt.	Grant received from D.C.	Other sources of income	No. of Staff	Book Stock
1882	Sirajganj Public Library	11,350/-	1,800.00	—	—	3	3,200
1906	Cox's Bazar Institute-cum-Public Library	13,000/-	2,500.00	200.00	100.00	3	5,617
1914	Woodhead Public Library, Rajbari	15,100/-	2,000.00	100.00	—	3	5,137
1921	Co-operative Public Library, Naogaon	8,000/-	1,600.00	550.00	500.00	4	3,750
1925	Nilphamari Public Library	6,175/-	2,500.00	200.00	150.00	2	4,174
1926	Bhola Muslim Institute Public Library	10,000/-	1,600.00	700.00	252.87	3	2,509
1926	Natore Recreation Club and Library	6,800/-	1,600.00	—	75.00	2	2,995
1927	Narayanganj Municipal Public Library	8,900/-	1,000.00	100.00	550.00	2	5,943
1955	Habiganj Municipal Public Library	12,500	5,000.00	500.00	2125.00	3	8,010
				1000.00 (T.C.)			
1957	Sub-divisional Public Library, Kishargonj	20,000/-	1,000.00	—	600.00	3	9,159

Table—III (Concl.)

Table showing the position of 14 sub-divisional public libraries in Bangladesh

Date of Estd.	Name of Library	Annual budget	Grant received from Govt.	Grant received from D.C.	Other sources of income	No. of Staff	Book Stock
1965	Brahmanbaria Club and Public Library	10,000/-	3,000.00	—	—	3	4,313
	Chandpur Town Hall and Library	7,500/-	1,500.00	—	—	3	2,379
	Manikganj Public Library	25,150/-	3,000.00	1,000.00	—	3	7,512
	Sunamganj Public Library	4,000/-	3,500.00	—	500.00	3	8,577

CHAPTER – VI
PUBLIC LIBRARY LEGISLATION
IN SWEDEN

Public Library Legislation in Sweden

Library Legislation means a statutory measure which helps creation of Library authority to discharge Public Library service by a cess levied by the Government and Paid by the Public. The idea was first conceived and developed in United Kingdom in 1850. Library legislation should be easy, simple and good for common people. The rules and regulations made for its service must contain necessary advice, information and proper guidance so that each and every citizen of the community may have satisfactory service. The library Act should allocate different tasks to different types of library in order to ensure mere economical administration, rationalization of methods, specialization in subject fields and altogether a better service to a the community as a whole.¹ Legislation means a set of rules for action passed by the legislature. When passed, it may be

1. Houle, C.O. Libraries in adult and fundamental education. Paris, Unesco, 1951. p.137

termed as law or an Act. Library legislation, therefore, means an Act embodying definite rules and regulations enacted by the Legislative Body for conducting library services which includes establishment, maintenance, development and administration of library services of a particular country through duly constituted authority.¹

The history of the library movement in United States, the United Kingdom, the Scandinavian countries and India reveals that there had been no fundamental improvement of library legislation in these countries in 1848(in Boston,U.S.),1850 (in U.K.), and 1920 (in Finland)². It is therefore, evident that library legislation is the factor which is required first for any kind of development.

Historical Background

The first library Act in Sweden was passed in 1905 with

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1. Saiful-Islam,K.M. Library legislation in Pakistan Dawn Fe 17.'68
 2. Ibid.

a very small grants to public libraries. Author Act passed in 1930 which allowed maximum state the organization of the central bibliotaken or country libraries to assist the small communes there were still over 2,500 local authorities at that time.

The system of state grants was revised, and it was laid down that only one system of libraries in any municipality could received state grants. The conditions for receipt of grant were that each library had to be governed by a committee, accommodation must be approved by the state advisers, and the library must be open to the public and free of charge. This principle had already been established in 1912. But it was not and never has been mandatory to provide a free public library service, and the state advisers has limited powers. The Act was had formally revised in 1955. through grants were larger under the 1930 Act.

A new Act was in prepare in 1965 but was never submitted because a radical change in local Government

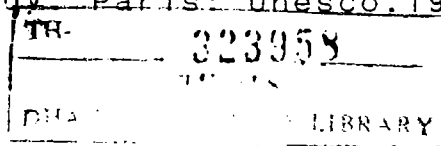
finance, together with a further proposed reduction in the number of local authorities, changed the whole relationship between the state and local authorities, affecting public libraries as well as other institutions.

A Government bill of 1965 ended grants to local authorities, and fixed boundaries, or spheres of interest, in principle, between countries, communes and state. It also made money available for long-term development and certain specific grants to municipalities. The state inspectorate was made responsible for central information, advisory service to libraries and library education. It was also responsible for long-term development grants and certain specific grants.

An Act of 1966 clarified the position with regard to country libraries. it consists of eight Sections¹.

Section 1 given the application of the Act, county

1. Gardner Frank M. Public library legislation: a comparative study. Paris: Unesco, 1971. p.97



libraries and inter-loan centres.

Section 2 states the general conditions for grants. A county libraries shall supply libraries and individuals with such literature and equipment materials as are not of such available at the local library and not of such nature that the local library should buy them. It shall give public libraries and school libraries advice and direction as to library management, work for a rational library system, raised library standards and increased reading interest and shall co-operate in lending activities out side the country. An inter-loan centre shall supply libraries in its area with such literature and materials as are not available in the country libraries and not of a kind that country libraries are responsible for buying.

Section 3. country libraries and inter-loan centres are under the supervision of National Board of Education.

Section 4 deals with the formation in connection with the appointment of a chief librarian of a country.

Section 5 deals with the grant the maximum annual grants being 70,000 Kronor to county libraries and 100,000 kronor to regional centers.

Section 6 deals with formalities in connection with application for grants.

Section 7 gives power to the National Board of Education to decided that what steps are to be taken if a county library or loan centre discontinues its activities.

Section 8. The National Board of Education can issue further directions under the Act.

With the abolition of specific grants to all libraries, the 1965 act substituted special development grants to be made to libraries wishing to improve their library servi, but unable to do so from their own resources.

COMMENT

The case of Sweden is a unique example in library legislation of a highly developed country which has, in

effect, abolished its library law in the sense in which library law is intended to coerce local authorities into providing a service they might not otherwise provide, and to induce them to improve that service by means of assistance, financially and otherwise from the state, Swedish library law is non-existent.

CHAPTER – VII
PUBLIC LIBRARY LEGISLATION
IN BANGLADESH

Public Library Legislation in Bangladesh

The public library is a free institution maintain for the good of the common man. Public libraries need a legislative basis for their satisfactory growth. In most of the advanced countries. Public libraries do have legislative sanction. But there is no library legislation of any kind in Bangladesh, although the library profession has for many years urging the government to introduce appropriate legislation. Some librarians library professionals presented many draft legislation to the government. But the result is zero. Because no Act was passed by the legislature.

1959

In 1959, a provision was made to maintain the public library by the 'Basic councils'¹ at two tax levying tiers. These two councils are (i) The District Council

1. Husain Ahmed . "The need for public library legislation in Pakistan." In: The need for Public library development; being the Proceeding of the seminar, ed. by M.Siddiq Khan and T.J.Maughan. Dhaka: East Pakistan Library Association and British Council, 1965.p.63

and (ii) The Union Council. It was conceded that public libraries must have legislative foundation. From this provision, institutions of local self Government used to spend a small amount of money from their revenue. Such provision is still continuing. The District libraries and other local libraries are maintained according to that system but the condition of aided libraries is extremely precarious. As a result, the growth and development of libraries have been woefully impeded. Mr. L.C.Key, an Australian library expert was engaged in 1959, as a consultant by the then Government of Pakistan. According to the report of Mr. L.C.Key, the programme for public library was insufficient and adhoc.

1966

At the public library seminar held in february, 1966 under the auspices of the East Pakistan Library Association and British Council, Mr. Ahmad Hussain,

officer on special duty, Library Development, Government of East Pakistan, read an excellent paper on the need for public library legislation, and Presented a draft out line of public libraries Act. Mr. Hussain proposed the creation of a provincial Library Council, a Directorate of Libraries, and local authorities for the establishment and maintenance of libraries, with powers to levy a library cess for financing public libraries such a piece of legislation is necessary for bring into being a network of public libraries to cover the province-libraries adequately provided for and properly organised so as to be able to meet the demand of a book service for continuous self education of the people.¹

The major points of the original text of the "Synoptical Outlines of Public Libraries Act/Ordinance

1. Abu-Said Muhammad. "Public libraries in East Pakistan; Some thoughts on library development." In The Eastern Libraries, vol. 3(2): 61, 1968.

for East Pakistan is presented below:

Synoptical Outlines of Public Libraries Act/Ordinance
for East Pakistan(now Bangladesh)

1. Public Library council

The Provincial Government shall a public library
council composed as follows:

Chairman : The Ministry of Education, Government
of Pakistan (now Bangladesh).

Two Vice Chairman (i) The Vice-Chancellor of Dhaka
University.

Nine members (ii) The Secretary, Education
Department.

Nine members (i) The D.P.I.
(ii) The Secretary, Basic Democracy
& Local Government Department.

(iii) The Chairman, Board of
Intermediate & Secondary
Education, Dhaka.

(iv) The Director, Social Welfare.

(v) Director, Council of National
Integration.

(vi) Head, Department of Library
Science, Dhaka University.

(vii) Two noted philanthropist to be
nominated by the Governor.

(viii) Director of Libraries, East
Pakistan (now bangladesh)

2. To cause enquiries being made into the conditions of libraries, evaluation of their service being conducted, standards and norms being prescribed, such other measures as may be considered appropriate being taken and to recommend appropriate measures to governments. They will have committees of experts appointed by Government.

3. Subject to the approval of the provincial Government the council shall frame rules of procedures for its working.

4. (1) The provincial Government shall create a Directorate of libraries with necessary staff.

(2) The function of the Directorate shall be:

(i) Administration of Government libraries.

(ii) Execution of decision of Government on the recommendations of the public library staff.

(iii) General supervision of libraries including inspection and technical to local authorities.

(iv) Approval of regulation and rules of procedure to be framed by local authorities.

(v) Library planning and

(vi) Such other relevant functions as may be assigned.

5. Local Library Authority

The district Council as defined in the Basic Democracy Ordinance, 1959, shall be the local library authority for the whole district, provided that municipal committee may, on its request, be vested with the power

of library authority by the provincial Government on the recommendation of the public library council in regards to its viability and other relevant factors subject to such condition as the provincial Government may impose.

(1) A library authority shall:

(i) Follow the direction of the Directorate of libraries in matter of library standards and maintenance of libraries and

(ii) Shall exercise its powers through a library board, to be formed by the authority consisting of not less seven and not more than eleven members. (Constitution of the Board and representation on it shall be determined by the provincial Government on the advice of the council).

(2) Subject to the approval of the Directorate of libraries a library authority shall frames for own working.

(3) Duties of the Local Authority shall be :

(i) To establish public libraries.

(ii) To maintain and control them.

(iii) To make such other measures as will gradually and effectively expand the service.

(4) A Library Authority may delegate to any lower and parallel administrative tiers and such of its powers as may be found to be economically and effectively exercisable on such delegation as will induce participation of local public and public bodies.

(5) The provincial Government may, at the request of the Public Library council or any Local Library Authority, acquire under the provision of the Land Acquisition Act, (year) any land for the purpose of this Act/Ordinance.

(6) All existing non-Government public libraries with their asset shall vest in the respective local library authorities if their management agree.

(7) The provincial Government shall have the power to call to order any Local authority for any direction of duty and to revoke its power for default.

Public Library Cess

(1) A Public Library Cess at the rate of twenty paise per rupee or rent shall be levied and collected from the date of commencement of this Act/Ordinance for five years. At the end of the 3rd year position shall be reviewed by the (Provincial) Government on the advice of the Council for appropriate revision of rate.

(2) A Local Library Authority shall have or to levy within its jurisdiction and within its tax levying powers any additional tax for public libraries. Under Bengal(Rural) Primary Education Act, 1930 as amended by the East Pakistan Ordinance No. XXVIII Of 1962. The collection of primary education cess at 00.02 paise per rupee of rent from rural areas amounted 1964-65 to Rs. 1,19,12,715 excluding usual areas. The proposed library

cess will be levied on municipal areas also and the proceeds are expected more than double the amount.

Other subsections, which will be inserted later, will provide for:

- (i) assessment and imposition of the cess;
- (ii) its realization and cost there of;
- (iii) its expenditure;
- (iv) its accounting and audit; and
- (v) other connected materials.

All of these may follow closely the relevant of the Bengal (Rural) Primary Education Act, 1930, as subsequently amended or may be as advised by the legal advisers of the Government.

7. In addition to the amounts to be collected as public library cess, the provincial government shall provisions of such as, on the public Library Council, may be required in order:

- (i) to maintain and expand existing Government libraries

- (ii) to establish Divisional libraries and District libraries as pilot project and to maintain them
- (iii) to finance the Directorate of Libraries
- (iv) to meet the expenses of Public Library Council
- (v) to pay for machinery for library co-operation
- (vi) to meet the cost of compilation and publication of bibliographies and building up of Union Catalogues.
- (vii) to arrange facilities for librarians and other technical personnel, and
- (viii) to make grants to Local Public Library Authority for library purposes including conferment of provident fund and other fringe benefits to library workers and for such other relevant needs as may be determined by the council.

Public library fund

8. Each Local Library Authority shall have a public fund to which shall be credited:

- (i) All sums granted out of provincial Governments

allocation for Local authorities.

(ii) All income out of Public Library cess.

(iii) All income from donation, endowment, bequest, etc.

(iv) All other sums received from any sources for the purpose of this Act/Ordinance.

1968

In February, 1968 Dr. K.M. Saiful Islam, than a lecturer of the Department of Library Science, University of Karachi, and now chairman of the Department of Library and Information Science, University of Dhaka, prepared a Draft plan for library legislation in Pakistan which appeared in three series in the influential daily Dawn of Karachi.¹ In his plan, Dr. Saiful Islam described the importance, functions and characteristics of a good legislation. He

1. Saiful-Islam, K.M. Library legislation in Pakistan-I, II & III. Dawn(Kar) Fe.17,18,19,'68.

recommended for the healthy growth and development of the public library system in the country. Based on the report of the commission and that of L.C. key submitted to the Ministry of Education in 1955, a suitable legislation could be framed. The main outline of his plan is given below:

Dr. Saiful Islam suggest that the whole library system in the country will be government by three authorities i.e.,

1. National Library Council.
2. Provincial Library Board.
3. Library Directorate.

National Library Council

The National Library Council which is entirely a Central unit shall consist of :

- a. The Ministry of Education, as Chairman.
- b. The Director-General of Libraries, as Secretary.
- c. The Secretary, Education Department.

- d. The Librarian, Central National Library.
- e. Two representatives of the Inter-University Board of each Wing.
- f. One person nominated by the Planning Commission.
- g. President, PLA.
- h. Two members of the legislature nominated by the Speaker.
- i. Two library experts nominated by the Chairman.

Function

The National Library Council shall be an advisory body and shall:

- a. prepare development plans for libraries;
- b. fix minimum standards of library service;
- c. conduct periodical review of the activities in general
- d. suggest improvement, when necessary, in the library legislation;
- e. ensure better library training facilities;
- f. advise the Government on all matters within the

Government's library responsibilities and programmes;

g. entrust for their effective execution;

h. meet at least once a year.

Responsibilities of the Government

The Provincial Government be entrusted with the following minimum responsibilities:

i. Acquire all such books that can promote educational, Cultural, spiritual, economic, and social development of the province.

ii. Provide adequate library service to all Government departments.

iii. Promote the use of books to the enrichment of the people's lives.

iv. Sponsor co-ordination between the public libraries and other types of libraries in the province.

v. Ensure library services points in the province.

Provincial library Board

The Provincial Library Board shall consist of:

- a. The Director-General of Libraries, as (ex-officio)
- b. The Director, Pakistan Council for National Integration.
- c. The Director, Basic Democracies.
- d. Two persons nominated by PLA.
- e. Librarian, regional National Library.
- f. One representative from the Book Sellers and Publishers Association.

Functions

The provincial Library Board, which is a provincial unit shall be both an executive body to the Council and advisory body to the Directorate.

- a. It shall execute all the plans and programmes formulated by the council and entrusted with it for execution.
- b. It shall advised the Directorate on general terms for initiative, organization, and development of library services in the community.

c. all the members of the Board shall hold meeting at least twice a year.

Library Directorate

Like the Directorate of Education there shall be three Library Directorate in each Wing, situated in three important regions of each province. The head of each Directorate shall be designated as Director of Libraries and shall be responsible to the provincial Ministry of Education. Under each Director, there shall be Deputy and Assistant Directors of Libraries, who shall be immediately responsible to the Director. The Library Directorate shall have no concern or affinity with the present system of Directorate of Archives and Libraries, which should be an independent entity. The Directorate shall be on one hand a separate legal entity and on the other, a link in the chain of the whole library system in the country.

Function

The Library Directorate shall executive all the plans and programmes entrusted to it by the Board for execution. The Director of Libraries should be given the following minimum responsibilities:

(i) Superintendent, direct, and promote the library services under his administration jurisdiction;

(ii) Act as a Liaison officer in between the Board and the Libraries under his control;

(iii) Receive Annual Report from the libraries responsible to him;

(iv) Prepare annual Budget for the salaries of staff and maintenance of library service of the area under his control to submit it to provincial Ministry of Education for onward transmission to the Ministry of Finance;

(v) Hold meeting if and when necessary;

(vi) Attend all meeting of the Provincial Library Board;

(vii) Maintain minimum standards for library buildings;

(viii) Maintain a Rotating collection for inter-district loan service.

Book selection

Book selection at each level shall be done by the librarian of the individual library in accordance with the needs of the community.

Funds

The Central Government shall allocate an amount equal to or above the combined fund granted and raised by the Provincial Government and the Municipal corporation during the fiscal year ending June 30. The provincial government's grant must be matched with that of the local government raised through taxation. the total fund so raised by the local government shall be equivalent to an amount to be had from the total population of the area at a rate of Re. 1.00 per head a

year, i.e., the total number of inhabitants in a particular area. The exact rate of taxation to be levied may be determined suitably by the government. The Central Government shall bear all such travelling and dearness allowances as are required for the meetings held by the National Library Council.

Central National Library

The Central Government shall establish, maintain and manage a Central National Library in the capital to function as a central reservoir for the library system in Pakistan. It shall cater to the needs of both the Wings and act in close co-operation both with the small libraries in the area and with specialized libraries of research. One copy of each printed material, received under the Copyright Act, shall be kept in the Central National Library as part of a separate copyright library. No book shall be issued to any reader, while all the clientele shall have free access to the

resources of the Central National Library.

District Public Library

Each district shall have a public library just as it maintains a district school. Its technical responsibilities will solely lie on the library Directorate while the general administration may be looked after by the Divisional and the Deputy Commissioner. Each district library may have its branches in the sub-division or tahsil, thana and petty towns. In all cases these libraries shall extend their service to union boards and rural areas by travelling or mobile libraries. The district library shall change and supplement the books in stock intermittently with the national library and other district libraries through an inter-library loan. This co-operation and co-ordination of the library service, which makes all the resources of the nation available to a reader irrespective of the place he lives, reduce the

duplication of books and which help much in the nationalization of libraries, had been the outstanding purpose of Danish and Swedish libraries which have the "finest public library system in the world today".

1974

In 1974, a Draft code of Public Library Legislation for Bangladesh was prepared by Mr.A.M. Mutahhar Ali Khan,¹ Incharge of the Bangladesh Central Public Library. After liberation this was the first efforts in this field. This draft code is neither published in any journal nor submitted to the government. In this draft Mr. A.M.Mutahhar Ali Khan suggest that the state Library authority would be the library authority under the Ministry of Education. He also proposed to and explained their functions. He also explained that, how to solve the financial problems through library cess.

1. Khan,A.M. Mutahhar Ali, Draft code of public library legislation for bangladesh, Dhaka:(unpublished) 1974.

1975

A seminar on library administration in Bangladesh was held during January 28- February 12, 1975 at the National Institute of Public Administration (NIPA). report was presented to the Director, NIPA by the syndicate, consisting of 19 members. In the end of the syndicate strong recommended that three should be library legislation as early as possible in the country.

The public libraries, one each in Dhaka., Chittagong and Khulna, are extremely inadequate for the needs of the country. There are about 120 smaller public libraries in Bangladesh which, according to Unesco definition do not qualify the characteristics, criteria and functions of modern public library. These libraries are not Act or Legislation; not separated by public (Library) tax, and hence people do not have democratic rights for their free use; do not have lending service

the most therefore are never democratic institutions. The foremost need for the development of public library system in Bangladesh is to enact suitable public library legislation¹ and for the provision of public (Library) tax for the operations of the public libraries where every citizens of the country, irrespective of cast and creed will have democratic right for free use of library facilities.

1. Saiful-Islam, K.M. Libraries in education commission report. Bangladesh Library Science Newsbulletin. No. 4, Dec. 1975.

CHAPTER - VIII
PUBLIC LIBRARY EXTENSION
SERVICES IN SWEDEN
AND BANGLADESH

Public Library Extension Service in Sweden and Bangladesh

Public Library extension work or as it sometimes defined, extra library activity, has existed in one form or another since the early days of the Public libraries in the middle of the nineteenth century¹. The Public Library extension work helps to keep the library alive in the Public mind and creates library awareness amongst the people.

In U.S.A. the word 'Extension' is used to denote " the Promotion and development of library services. "as well as in connection with that aspect of librarianship which forms the subject of this work. Logically, of course, library extension means precisely what it says, i.e. the extension and development of the library service itself by way of provision of branch, hospital, and prison libraries, specialized departments, etc. In

1. Jolliffe, Harold, Public library extension activities. London: Library Association, 1968.p.20.

L.M. Harrods 'The librarians glossary' the term 'extension work' is defined as 'activities which are undertaken with the object of reaching group of people who might otherwise be unaware of the library, such as lecture societies, reading circles, discussion group, and the provision of books for prisons, clubs, hospitals, literary societies etc.", and again under "library societies etc.", and again under "library extension", there is a slightly different description, "the provision of lectures, film shows, etc., in the library, arranging talks, book displays, etc., outside the library building's in order to draw attention to the library services and book stock. In America, the promotion of libraries and the development of library services by state, regional or local agencies."

Definition

Extension activities have been defined by various authors

given below:

L.R. McColvin defined library extension as a process and of creating and increasing library resources and of securing their use.¹ Mr. Young defines as " 1. The provision by a library of materials and services(including advisory services) to individuals and organizations outside its regular service area, especially to an area in which library service is not otherwise available. 2. The provision of library materials and services to individuals and agencies outside the campus by an academic library, frequently in support of the parent institutions of campus instructional programs."²

Purpose, Aim and Objectives of Extension activities³

Some of the principal and objectives of the extension activities are given below:

(a) To remind those people who do not use the extension

1. McColvin, Lionel R. Public library extension. Paris: Unesco, 1950. p.90
2. ALA Glossary of library and information Science, ed. by Heartsill Young. Chicago: ALA. 1983. p.181.
3. Jolliffe, Harold. op. cit. p.21-4.

service and to attract them as to that service.

(b) To remind those who have ceased to use the library.

(c) To inform those who use it only intermittently.

(d) To inform those who use the library only partially because of a lack of appreciation of what the library can do in other directions than the one with which they are specifically concerned. This applies to:

(i) Individuals who may read one type of book only, visit a single department only or not be aware of all the facilities available in the library. (ii) Facilities where perhaps only one or two members are library.

(iii) Groups, organizations, societies where possibly only the officers use the library, and factories where a single department or small group of individuals represents the only contact with the library.

(e) To remind readers and non-readers alike of the library and its resources. Thus extension work help to keep the library in the public eye and creates and

maintains goodwill between the library and the Public.

(f) To inform readers about all the facilities offered by the library by the readers guides, etc.; of what books have been added to stock, by reading-lists, displays etc.; and what new development and increased facilities are available through press reports, library bulletins etc.

(g) To assist in eradicating illiteracy and backwardness in reading particularly in developing countries. In India and central Africa, for instance, where extension work is sometimes used as activity, which may be organized both inside and outside the library proper, was strongly recommended at the Unesco seminar at Malmo in 1951, and great deal in this particular field.

Sweden

Activities are considerable in scope and are dispersed fairly widely. They include for adults, exhibitions and displays, lectures, lecture courses, competitions, libr-

ary clubs, and book weeks (National), and for children, talks, book clubs, competitions and exhibitions.¹ Some of the features of exhibition activities practised in Swedish Public library are given below:

Lectures and group works

The library lectures is one of the earliest extension activities, Lectures are delivered on selected topics by persons having special knowledge in the specific subject.

Library lectures are generally two types:

(i) On a specific topic by a speaker who has an authority on the subject and (ii) those of 'bookish' nature.

The first frequently finds with general adult audiences. Whereas the second is in junior libraries or in series for adult audiences.

Lectures course and classes

Courses of lectures are on the whole more suitable for the smaller group although some libraries have had

1. Jolliffe, Harrold, op. cit., p. 12

success in this connection with major programmes. The course may be devoted to a single topic, dealing with it comprehensively from the introductory to the final summing up and spaced perhaps throughout a dozen different talks; it may cover a group of related topics which are given a running title and have a common theme; The short of courses and classes are sometimes organized by the library itself and very often by other bodies in association with Public libraries active co-operation in the provision of rooms, the supply of books to the classes, selection of suitable topics for study, and for the preparation of reading list.

Co-operation with outside bodies

The Libraries Department of Swedish Ministry of Education has a special officer whose duties include the stimulation of interest in public libraries.

A field effort in 1956 was devoted to 'how to reach new readers' and talks were given in cities and villages

in the provinces. The same officers is employed by the Library Federation of Dalecardia and close co-operate exists with women's clubs, agricultural societies, sports and motoring organisations, etc. An unusual feature noted in certain areas is the study library, which process a room for the use of ground equippted with radio, a record-player and a tape-recorder, and with a film projector available when required. Librari- es generally co-oprate closely with schools and in the rural districts, talks, concerts and film shows are given in Parish halls and factories.

Library Weeks

The scope of library week is broader which includes all activites of the library. It is designed to focus on the faco;otoes available in the library. Exhibition of books also play a significant part of the week.

Illustration and aids, sounds and lectures, epidiascope, radio, television, discs and tapes, film-

strips, films and film equipments are used in connection with lectures, discussion groups, book weeks, and all other extension activities both inside and outside the library.

Books Weeks

Books weeks are organized and stimulating interest in books and reading to those who do not use the library or use it rarely. It is directed to general public or a specific group, such as industry, commerce etc., or it may be organized for children only. The main feature of book is the exhibition of books in the library. Secondary importance to the exhibition of the book week is the programme of speakers for giving talks to adults and children. Other feature of book week is the programme for competition for children, quizzes, brain trusts, spelling bees and the activities in which close co-operation of Public Library is desirable with the schools.

Public relation and work with outside bodies

Public relation programme is designed through the radio, television, talks, co-operate with groups, etc., as well as the study of internal relations.

Exhibition displays

Exhibition and displays are using not only books but also other reading materials. There are several types of books display such as new books of a particular subject, topical books, fiction etc.

Work with children and Young people

In the organisation of many children's activities there is but little difference from that for adults, e.g., arrangements for both adults and children's publication, film shows, etc. There is no doubt that extension work with children can be very rewarding and can do much to stimulate interest in the library and the children's librarian has a distinct advantage in that she is often closer to her reader's than her opposite numbers in

the adult departments. Children, too, generally visit the library more frequently, they have more time to spare especially the younger ones and there are infinite possibilities for co-operation which is on the whole freely afforded and welcome.

Music and Drama (Music)

For many years some public libraries have included music in their extension work programme, and more recently the number of such libraries has increased. The range of the work is wide and includes gramophone recitals, instrumental and vocal recitals, orchestral concerts, battle displays, etc. The provision of 'live' music in the form of concerts or recitals usually requires some body, as in many areas, and especially outside the major conurbations, income rarely equates with expenditure.

Drama : In this country in recent years the professional in the provinces, and theatres have been closed

completely in a great number of places. The story has been told repeatedly and it is clear that the other factors affect the issue, the competition by the cinema, radio and TV etc.

As in the case of music some libraries have been associated with the drama, both directly and indirectly, for many years and overseas such work has been noted in Sweden. In this country, the emphasis has been chiefly in the amateur and play reading field, only a handful of libraries being concerned with the professional theatre other than by way of such activities as assistance with 'props' publicity, the publication of reading lists and the display of books¹.

Bangladesh

There are four government public libraries, viz. (1) Bangladesh Central Public Library, Dhaka (BCPL), (2) Chittagong Public Library, (3) Khulna Public Library and
1. Jolliffe. Harold. o.p. cit., p.287

(4) Rajshahi Public Library and few other Public Libraries in different districts perform following extension services:

- (1) Art festival
- (2) Book exhibition
- (3) Book fair
- (4) Book week
- (5) Film shows
- (6) Library week
- (7) Book mobile services.

Arts festival

Arts festivals are arranged by Public libraries occasionally. Which lasting for few days.

Book exhibition: In the book exhibition, the books of various types are exhibited.

Book fair In Bangladesh most of the public libraries arrange such book fair. In this fair the books and other information materials which are available in the

library get place. These fairs are held with in the campus of the library. In the book fair books are also sold.

Book week Book fair and book week are almost same. But there is defference between book fair and book week as book continues for one week one but there is no limitation in case of book fair.

Book exhibition In the book exhibition, only the books of various types are exhibited.

Film shows

Only a few public libraries in Bangladesh arrange film shows.

Library week

Library week is an important function which show the whole facilites available in public libraries. Exhibition of books also plays a significant part of the week.

Book mobile services

Most of the Public libraries in Bangladesh have got mobile service programme. The Ministry of Religious and cultural Affairs and Sports provided grant for mobile services to 49 public libraries in various part of Bangladesh.

The 18 active extension service serve a total of 118 centres, many of which are schools or welfare institutions and 80 of which are in Urban areas. Ten of the 18 active services are book-box services, five are based on a vehicle i.e. specially designed bicle, auto-rikshaws, etc. of the 176 total Public libraries, 38 libraries are reported to be providing extension service and 25 receive extension service (twenty in Khulna and 5 in Rajshahi division) and 113 libraries neither provides nor receive extension services.¹

Most of the Public libraries do not provide extension

1. Parker, J. Stephen, po. cit., p.36-7.

service. But there is one good example of public library extension service can be founded in the Jessore public library.

Jessore Public Library Extension Service

The library's extension service based on a special section of the bookstock known as the 'Regional Central Book Bank' which lends books to about 50 institutions in Jessore and Khulna Districts. Not all these service points are equally operating at the moment but they include more than 20 schools, social clubs, welfare institution and independent public libraries. Many of the libraries served at their own collections which are at a time from the Book Bank. These are distributed by rickshaw van in Jessore urban area and other area. In 1977-78 the Asia foundation presented fourteen book boxes, each contains 50 books.

The extension service of the Jessore public library, and the libraries own internal organization, and serv-

ice are not without for improvement : but there is no doubt that the extensionn services, in particular, provide an example which other district libraries in Bangladesh might, with advantage, follow.

In Bangladesh the existing libraries should be properly reorganized on the lines of developed countries like Great Britain and Scandinavia and take part in library extension services, i.e. film shows, lectures, library weeks, exhibitions, displays, radio-T.V. talks and features services of articles in newspapers, books, study clubs, provision of music scores, cantatas, phonorecords, microfilms and other special material to evoke community interest and to prove to the nation the read values of these cultural centres.¹

1. Saiful Islam, K.M. op. cit.

CHAPTER – IX
CURRENT STATUS OF PUBLIC
LIBRARY SYSTEM IN SWEDEN

Current Status of Public Library in Sweden

Frank M. Gardner categorically asserted that "It is undoubtedly true that Sweden has the most highly developed Public Library system in Europe, and probably in the world."¹

Lionel R. McColvin describe it as, "The finest Public Library system in the world today is to be found neither in the United States nor in the Great Britain but in the Denmark and Sweden."² On what criteria can such a statement be justified? On five criteria can such a statement be justified; These are given below:

- (1) By the achievement of the best provided libraries.
- (2) By overall average standards.
- (3) By the extent of coverage by libraries of reasonable quality.
- (4) By the efficiency of organization.

1. Gardner. F.M. op. cit., p.100
2. McColvin, Lionel R. op. cit., p.90

(5) By considering of the ideas and purposes behind the service.

Public libraries in Sweden are served by a number of regional and central institutions; 24 county libraries, Three lending centers, and the state advisory Public Library bureau.

Government Legislation and state aid¹

In 1842 Sweden passed a compulsory education act which contained a section requiring the clergy to set up parish libraries. These libraries were the fore runners of the present Public library. The early Public library of Sweden named along on an inadequate financial base until 1905, when the national government recognized the need to assist Public library financially.

In 1912 the study circle libraries which are libraries owned and organized by the adult education

1. Encyclopedia of library & information Science, ed. by Allen Kent and Harold Lancour. New York : Marcel Dekker, 1978. v.24: p.34.

associations, were also granted assistance by the state. In 1930 the Sweden Parliament passed a library act which increased the maximum amount of state aid available to Public libraries, created the county library system in order to assist the rural community libraries, and decreased that Public Libraries and study circle libraries must cooperate in book selection and purchases. An amendment to this act was passed in 1947 which increased the state aid to the county libraries.

In 1955 a new law was passed which increased the amount of aid but in doing so imposed certain condition. In order for the library to receive state aid it must also receive financial support from its local commune. In addition, the state grants were conditional upon the

1. Encycloraedia of library & information Science, op. cit., p.341.

libraries giving satisfactory service, which was ensured by a system of inspection by the library advisers. These state grants were calculated on the estimated expenditures on books and salaries of the staff of the library. There were also supplementary grants to encourage the employment of professional librarians and the maintenance of reference departments. This rather complication system of state aid to Public and other libraries remained in existence for 11 years until it was abandoned in 1966. The law passed in 1966 came as a shock to libraries because it removed State aid to the individual libraries and placed the burden of the financial support on the local communes. When the law was first passed, it was feared that the communes would not allocate the additional funds needed by the libraries. In fact, that has not been the case. Generally, the local communes were determined and have been able to make up the gap caused

by the removal of grants. The 1966 library law did not completely stop state aid to libraries but shifted the aid so that a portion would go to the county libraries to enable them to continue to provide the wide range of services to the local libraries. In addition, allocation were made to the three loan centers to assist them in providing little used materials for the Public Libraries of Sweden.

In 1975 Sweden implemented a new system of State support for literature and libraries. In the area of libraries, there were no major changes for the Public libraries. The existing state inputs were, on the whole, retained but they were increased slightly in some areas. Generally, they were concentrated on specific purposes, where the government is concerned with assisting local libraries. The municipalities will, therefore, be eligible for state grants to start book mobile operations, to lend books at places of

employment, to purchase literature for immigrants and to improve library activities. On the other hand, the government wants the role of county libraries, as a complement and support for local libraries, to be reduced. Therefore the county libraries are in no position to undertake new duties for the time being.

The working of the Act

To sum up : The present library legislation in Sweden is not directed at creating a Public Library service. That has already been done. It is not directed at improving standards of Library service, except under special circumstances. It is considered that improving standards can safely be left to local authority¹. It is directed mainly at two objectives. First, to provide structure of bibliographical service authorities, or even some times, by any. Some of these are to be provided by the county libraries and the new inter-lending librari-

1. Gardner, F.M. op. cit., p.103.
2. Ibid

es, which will continue to be strengthened as required. Other are already provide by bibliotekstjanst, the library service organization, which dominates Swedish library service even more than does its Danish counterpart. From its usual service of library binding, indexes, etc., it has branched out into book list and pamphlets of many kinds, library furniture and equipment up to book mobiles, and finally into consultancy on children's library work, architectural and library design problems. Central computer service are now a reality in Sweden, Provided by the enterprise of Bibliotekstjanst. Running through the whole theory of Sweden Library technique is the idea of rationalization and standardization, the idea of more and better library service at a lower price. This the state will undoubtedly continue to foster, and the communes eagerly accept. The fact that the turnover of bibliotekstjaust has more than trebled in ten years is an indication of the importance

attached to this kind of progress. The second objectives could be called individualization, to find new ways of exploiting library services, reaching out to new users, giving a more personal service. And beyond that, to explore new ways of enlarging not so much the basic services of public libraries but their horizons, and exploring the ways in which public libraries can make themselves part of a new concept of the unity of culture and the arts. These are what the special development grants are for, to show by example in one community what can be done by all.

This could be the end of the road started in 1851 by the Public Libraries Act of the United Kingdom, an expression of faith in the intention of a democratic community to do whatever is required for the good of that community. It could be that there are hidden dangers not yet revealed.¹

1. Gardner F.M. op. cit., p.104.

The biggest Public Library System in Sweden

The biggest public library system in Sweden is that of Stockholm, which has a book stock of more than 1 million volumes and an annual loan figure of 4 million.

The Population served is about 800,000 and the city authorities provide a main library, 40 branches and mobile library service. In addition, 15 hospital in the city are served. L.R.McColvin described the stockholm city libraries as providing one of the most comprehensive services in the world.¹

Gothenburg also provides a first rate service though it has only half of the population of Stockholm. It has main library, 17 branches, plus a hospital library, four book mobiles and book boat. Sweden third city in size is Malmo and its population of 250,000 is served by a main library and 10 branches. There are also two hospital libraries and a mobile library is used for delivering to the country area.

1.Harrison, K.C., op. cit., p.130.

Reform of Public Library services by local government

In 1952 a nation-wide reform of local government areas reduced the number of communes, by amalgamation, to about 1000, and now most of these have a public library services, ranging from that of Stockholm with its 760,000 volumes to tiny rural communities with only two or three are about 130 books for every 100 of population.

Full time professional staff

Of the 919 commune libraries in Sweden about 100 employ full-time professional staff, 13 of these being locality out side cities. It is considered financially possible for communes with a population of about 8,000 to employ a full-time librarian, elsewhere there are part-time or voluntary librarians.

Training courses

Training courses for full time staff have been held

since 1926. Most of the students have been graduate and must, before attending the school, have at least six months practical experience as an apprentice in one of the seven or so approved libraries. The course lasts six months. To date some 550 qualified librarians have been trained. For school librarians and works in the small libraries, short courses of two weeks are held annually. Since 1948 Stockholm Public Library has had its own training school.

Public Library Architecture in Sweden

Sweden offers some of the finest examples of Public Library architecture to be seen any where even in Denmark. There has, however been more recent construction in Sweden and most of it have been on a generous scale with fine regard for spaciousness and beautiful decoration as in Malmo, Halmstad, Uppsala, and elsewhere. All libraries offer open access to the shelves and are classified by a Swedish national

system.

Provision for special groups

Sweden is very well-organised in the provision of books and libraries for young people. Reading facilities have been created for those who are blind, those who are in hospitals or in prisons, those who are at sea or serving in the armed forces.

Library service to children

Library service to children are offered partly by school libraries and partly by children's departments in the public libraries.

Library service to Hospitals

The biggest hospitals have a static library, which can be used by the staff and mobile patients, while book trolleys are utilised to supply bed-ridden patients. Devices such as the biblioscope, tape-recorders and talking books are also in use.

Library service to blind

Sweden was one of the first countries to organise the provision of reading matter for blind people. Tape-recording of books and the provision of tape-recorders are made for the blind.

Service to readers

In Sweden, service to readers are on a high level and readers advisers are always on duty in the larger libraries and branches. Readers requests are encouraged and reservations of books are made in the usual way.

The loan Period

The loan period is normally three weeks but current books in demand are often issued for two weeks only.

System of main four divisions

Under the city librarians the work of the libraries is carried out in four main division, each in the charge of a first librarian. The first of is the book selection, cataloging and classification division; then

is the circulation and reference division; the division for Hospitals and dimecility work; and finally the children's and young people's division. The first looks after book binding and catalogue card printing, in addition to the selection, classification and cataloguing of books. The catalogue published by the library is edited in this division. The head of the second division looks after circulation and reference work both at the main library and at libraries throughout the system. He is also chief of personnel and business management. The first librarian of the children and young peoples division supervices this work throughout the system and is also incharge of co-operation with the schools.

The Public Library inter library loan network

The public library inter library loan networks in the following fashion. A patron requests and item from the local public library. If the local library can not

supply the item, the request is sent to the county library. The county library will either supply the item from its collection or, if it can not do so, it will send the request to another county library or to the regional inter library loan center. The regional inter library loan center will either fulfill the request from its collection or send the request to another regional inter library loan center, university or research library, or foreign library. Although the public libraries are not required to use the system in this manner, they are encouraged to do so because it provides the greatest possibility for having the request filed and because it helps in relieving the larger libraries of the great inter library loan burden they were bearing.

CHAPTER – X
CURRENT STATUS OF PUBLIC
LIBRARY SYSTEM IN BANGLADESH

Current Status of Public Libraries in Bangladesh

According to a survey conducted by British Consultant J. Stephen Parker in 1979¹, there are 176 public libraries in Bangladesh of which 85 were in urban areas and 91 in rural areas. 89 percent of public libraries are governed by committees elected from among their members, whilst a further 8 percent (including the three government public libraries) are controlled by the governing body of their parent organization. These are mainly the libraries of social clubs of religious institutes. Only 6 public libraries i.e. 3 percent of the total are governed by local authorities.

The Ministry of Religious and Cultural Affairs and Sports is responsible for financing and management of four government public libraries, viz., the Bangladesh Central Public Library in Dhaka, Chittagong Public Library, Khulna Public Library and Rajshahi Public Library, and for making grants of various kinds of

1. Parker, J. Stephen, op. cit., p.47.

other public libraries in provincial towns and rural areas.

Department of Public Library

After disbandment of Bangladesh Parishad and transfer of libraries and all other assets of Parishad to Bangladesh Central Public Library, the need to recognize the library services into a Department was felt. The newly organized Department of Public Library has the following libraries under its administrative control:¹

- a) Bangladesh Central Public Library, Dhaka.
- b) Three Divisional Public Libraries at Rajshahi, Khulna and Chittagon.
- c) 53 District and Subdivisional Public Libraries.

Functions

The board of the Department of Public Library are as under:

1. Bangladesh, Ministry of Education, Sports and Culture Division, Department of Public Library. Report of the Marital law committee on organisation set up. phase II; departments, directorate and other organisations under them. Dhaka, the Department, 1983. v.14, pt. 3. p. 1.

1. To provide reading facilities for all classes of the readers.
2. To act primarily as a Reference Library with:
 - i. General reading room
 - ii. Special reading room for ladies
 - iii. Periodical room
 - iv. Research room
 - v. Manuscript room
3. To built up and maintain a comprehensive book collection as varied as possible with special emphasis on text and reference books.
4. To built up and maintain adequate stock of books of juvenile interest with with arrangement for circulation through Juvenile Libraries in different residential ares of the city.
5. To function as a cultural centre with a carefully designed programme of extension lectures, exhibitions, etc. so as to create and foster intellectual interest and reading habit among the general public.
6. To shoulder responsibilities of reorganisation and

development of public libraries in the country.

7. To provide advisory service and reference to the public in general.

8. To provide research and reference service to schools and to Government Departments.

9. To organise country-wide library competition with a view to find new talents in the library field.

Work-Load

The work of Public library relates to providing reading hall and reference service, technical advice and extension services.

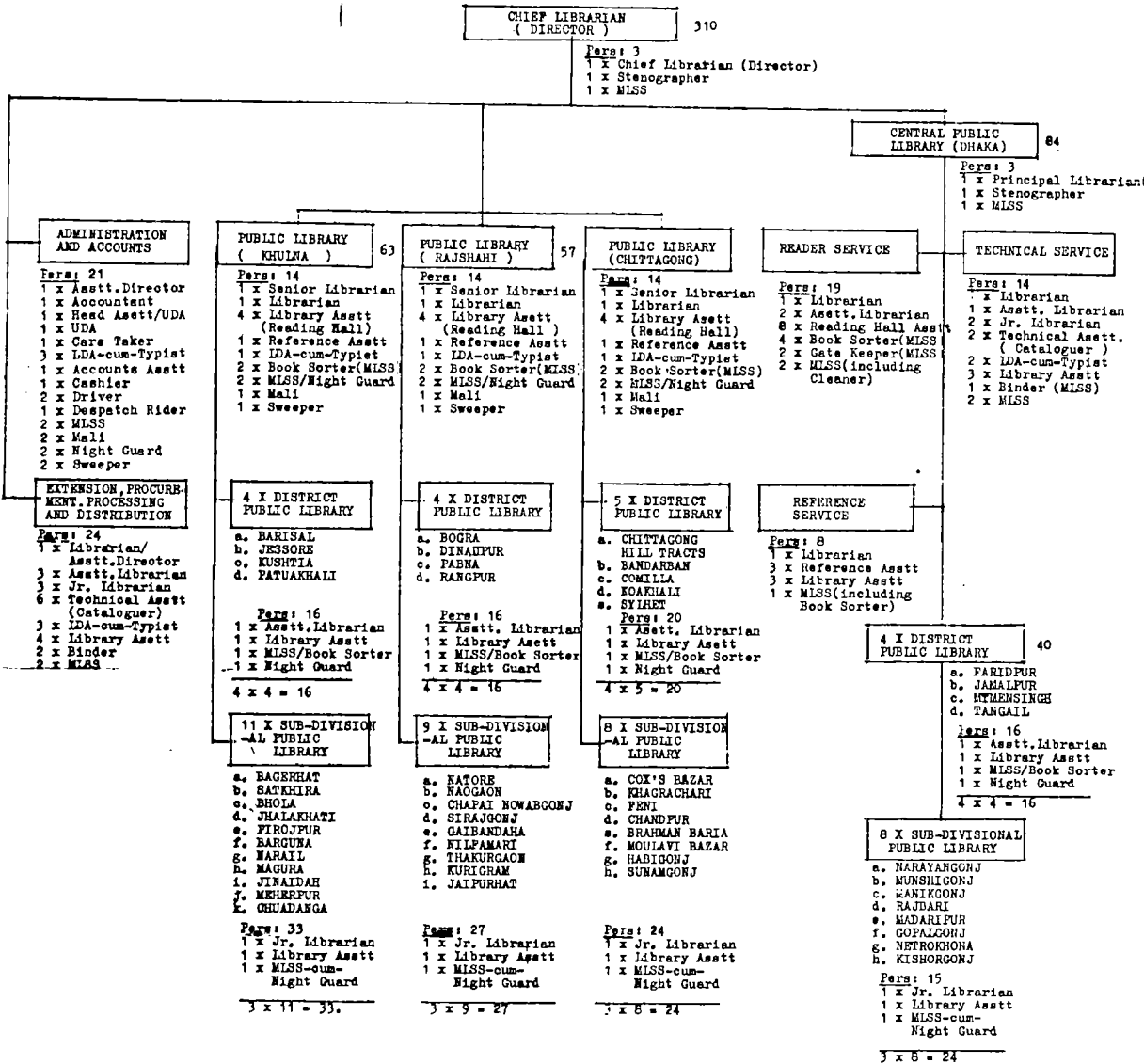
Book collection

The present book collection of these libraries are as under:

Bangladesh Central Public Library, Dhaka ...	75,000
Divisional Public Library, Khulna	65,743
Divisional Public Library, Chittagong	44,000
Divisional Public Library, Rajshahi	13,000
53 District & Subdivisional Library	133,193

Total === 330,936

ORGANIZATION



SUMMARY OF MANPOWER

Sl.No.	Name of the post	Sanctioned	Existing	Revised
1.	Chief Librarian (Director)	1	-	1
2.	Principal Librarian (By Director)	4	1	1
3.	Senior Librarian	-	-	3
4.	Assistant Director/ Librarian	11	9	8
5.	Asstt. Librarian	6	5	23
6.	Class - III Staff	177	103	160
	... - IV Staff	114	105	7

AUTHORIZATION OF TRANSPORT, MAJOR OFFICE EQUIPMENT AND MISCELLANEOUS POINTS ETC./

- Transport: Department of Public Library to retain the following transport for official use only:
 - 1 x Car for Chief Librarian (Director)
 - 1 x Microbus for other officers
 - 1 x Motor Cycle for Despatch Rider duty.
- Private use of transport will be as per Government instruction issued from time to time.
- Office Equipment:
 - 1 x Plain Paper Copier
 - 4 x Duplicating Machine (1 x For Head quarters and

Organization

With the inclusion of District and Subdivisional Public Libraries and the disbanded Bangladesh Parishad to the Central Public Library, its dimension of function and administration have increased in many folds. Keeping this in view, the committee has reorganized the Central Public Library as a Department. This will give the scope of further development and better functioning. The rank structures have been calculated keeping in view the functional requirement of the organization. Basic function being rendering the library service to the people, the post of libraries have been kept at all tiers. The committee recommended that only persons with Library Science qualifications should be posted in this organization. In the existing organization, there is no post between the Librarian and Senior Librarian. The revised set up worked out by the committee is given on the chart. The chart of the organizational structure is

given on the following sheet.

Besides this, the addition of eight (8) new posts during the financial year 1987-88, the total number of the post has been increased from 310 to 318. The new eight posts are given below:

1. 1 x Maintenance Supervisor
2. 1 x Mechanic-cum-operator
3. 1 x Electrician
4. 4 x M.L.S.S.
5. 1 x Sweeper

Library Legislation

There is no legislation in Bangladesh, although the library and information Science and academies have for many years been urging the government to introduce appropriate legislation. At the Public Library Seminar held in February, 1966 under the auspices of the than East Pakistan Library Association (now Library Association of Bangladesh) and the British Council. Mr.

Ahmed Husain, Officer on Special Duty, Library Development, Government of the East Pakistan, emphasized in his paper on the need for public library legislation and presented a draft outline of public libraries Act. In 1968 Dr. K.M.Saiful Islam prepared a Draft Plan for Library Legislation in Pakistan which created considerable impact upon the librarians and academicians. In 1974, A.M.Mutahhar Ali Khan prepared a Draft Code of Public Library Legislation for Bangladesh which was not however, published.

Public Library Finance

The amount of finance at present provided for public libraries in Bangladesh is very low by any standards. The total amount of finance provided from all sources for public libraries in Bangladesh during 1977/78 was a little more than Taka 5.5 millions. More than 90 percent of all public library finance goes to urban areas. The main source of public library finance is the

Ministry of Religious and Cultural Affairs and Sports.

Interlibrary Lending System

There is no overall co-ordination of library services in Bangladesh and no unified organizational structure. There is no interlending system in operation at any level and lack of Union Catalogue makes it almost impossible to discover what books are in stock in which library.

Public Library Service to Children

In Bangladesh, the need for library service for children is being recognized. The BCPL maintains a Children's Section. A Section exclusively for children is practically non-existent in most of the libraries in Bangladesh. Many public libraries have purchased books for children but there is no exclusive area for children. The children's section in the British Council Library, Dhaka is well-maintained.

Library Staff

The development of public library services depends upon availability of adequate number of library staff - particularly trained staff available to implement library development plans. As on 1979, the total number of staff employed in public libraries in Bangladesh was 553 of whom 40 were professionally qualified librarians and a further 190 had received some other from the library training.

Mobile service

The Ministry of Religious and Cultural Affairs and Sports makes it mobile library grant to 49 public libraries in various parts of Bangladesh (as of 1979 report). The 18 active extension services serve a total of 118 centres, many of which are schools or welfare institutions and 80 of which are in urban areas. Many of the weakness of the existing services may be ascribed to lack of professional direction and above

all to inadequate to sustain the kinds of service which is needed.

Public Libraries at upazila Level

It was been decided to carry out improvements of the existing government Public Libraries and also it is under the active consideration of the government for the expansion of Public Library network upto the Upazila level, during the 4th 5 year plan.

Seven more Government Public Libraries

Besides 61 government public libraries, seven (7) more government public libraries are being established during the third 5 year plan. Those district head quarters were the seven public libraries will. be established are Gazipur, Norshindi, Saidpur, Sherpur, Lalmonirhat, Lakshmipur and Panchagar. In addition, attempts are being taken to convert the private public library of district Rangpur to government public library

CHAPTER – XI
DEVELOPMENT OF PUBLIC
LIBRARIES IN SWEDEN
AND BANGLADESH

Development of Public Libraries in Sweden and Bangladesh:

Sweden has a highly developed and advanced public library system which adequately satisfies the criteria of best performed libraries in the world. On the other hand, the public library system in Bangladesh is yet underdeveloped in coverage, content and philosophy. The literacy of Sweden is 99%, which is the highest in the world. On the other hand the literacy of Bangladesh is 23.8%, which is among the lowest in the world. A detail comparison of the public library system in Sweden and Bangladesh is made below:

1. Public Library Legislation

Public library legislation are necessary for establishing an efficient library system. In Sweden the first Public library Act was passed in 1905 and subsequently amended several times. Through the introduction and adoption of appropriate legislative measures at its

various stages of development, Sweden has now been able to offer to its people, a most developed public library system in the world. In contrast, no public library legislation has yet been enacted in Bangladesh.

2. Content of the service

The content of the public library service is very wide and comprehensive catering the needs of all kinds of its citizens namely the general public, people of special trade, children, young, old, blind, people in hospital in vessel. As compared to these content of the public library service of Bangladesh, as it is now, is very inadequate for general public and specially for children and handicapped people.

3. Public Library service net work

In the Sweden, county libraries serve as central public library of the country and these libraries provide technical and other assistances to smaller public libraries. The public library service net work helps small-

er libraries to function more efficiently. In Bangladesh, district and smaller libraries are not integrated functionally or otherwise.

4. Interlibrary lending

Interlibrary lending system is highly developed in Sweden so that if a book is not available in a particular library, it can be easily borrowed from the library holding the collections. The co-operation between the libraries in providing library service to the readers are excellent in Sweden. The union catalogue system in Sweden also helps the librarian to find the collection of other libraries. In Bangladesh, there is no co-ordination and organizational structure in the library service and union catalogues are not available. The interlibrary lending services is almost non-existent in Bangladesh.

5. Service to readers

In the public libraries of Sweden, the advisory service

to the readers is well developed. Most of the large libraries have got readers' advisers on duty. In Bangladesh advisory services to readers is extremely poor and inadequate. In Sweden, public library organises and sponsors musical programs, film shows, lectures and library discussion. It lends not only books but also recordings, films and paintings. There are auditorium and lecture rooms. In Bangladesh, all these are unavailable.

6. Training of the library personnel

In Sweden, there is a good number of professional staff to run the services and adequate provision exists for the training in Library Science as well as on the job training of the existing staff. In Bangladesh, facilities for Library Science training are extremely inadequate. On the job training, facilities are also very inadequate in Bangladesh.

7. Finance

In Sweden, funds for the library services are generated through contribution of local bodies, communes/countries as well as donation from the state. There is a suitable balance of locally generated fund and expatriate funds coming from outside as donations. In Bangladesh, the magnitude of both the locally generated funds and donation from state agencies are extremely low, inadequate and at times very irregular.

8. Extension services.

In Sweden, mobile library services are very well developed to cater the needs of the sparsely populated areas members, fishing vessels at sea. Postal parcel services are available for the people in the remote areas of the country. In Bangladesh, book mobile services is very poor. There is no provision for postal parcel services.

CHAPTER - XII
CONCLUSION AND
RECOMMENDATIONS

Conclusion and Recommendations

Mr. Frank M. Gardner expressed in his book "Public library legislation- a comparative study" that "It is undoubtedly true that Sweden has the highly developed public library system in Europe and most probably in the world."

The public libraries of Sweden are functioning in a most organised and systematic way as they are controlled by legislation. And the public libraries are also organised by the qualified and trained library personnel. As compared to the public library system in Sweden, the public library system in Bangladesh is still in its infancy. Public libraries in Bangladesh do not qualify the true characteristics of public library. The public libraries are functioning in a most unorganised and unsystematic way as they are not controlled by legislation and the public library system also suffers from lack of qualified and trained library

personnel. Public library is an important institution which helps to build a better society by enhancing the creative capabilities and the knowledge of the people. So the public system in Bangladesh must be developed and improved in modern lines.

Recommendations

In the light of the experience gained in the development of public library system IN Sweden, the following recommendations are made of the healthy growth and development of the public library system in Bangladesh.

1 Library legislation

In most of the advanced countries, public libraries do have legislative sanction for their systematic and satisfactory growth. Proper legislation is the prerequisite of a comprehensive public library system which will provide for the setting up and management of a network of libraries giving books on loan free to the

general public. But in Bangladesh there is no library legislation, although the library profession has for many years been urging the government to introduce appropriate legislation. Without legislation, the public library system of Bangladesh can not develop. So, in Bangladesh there should be public library legislation as early as possible.

2. Finance

In Bangladesh, at present the amount of finance provided for public libraries is very low. Government must raise the amount of finance for public libraries.

3. Organizational Structure

It will be impossible to promote the development of public libraries in Bangladesh without first establishing an organizational structure through which plans for library development can be put into effect.

4. Library education and in-service training

The number of trained librarian is very small in

Bangladesh. So, for the training of the library personnel, adequate training facilities must be provided within the country. And also provision must be made for higher training abroad of the library professionals. Provision must be made for increasing their professional capabilities.

5. Service

The range of service in Bangladesh, provided by public libraries to their users be extended beyond the basic and lending and reading room services which should be provided by all public libraries to include at least, proper reference and request services.

6. Mobile service

It is obvious that a network of mobile library units have to be planned for the purpose of serving remote communities far from the main library. There should be a reasonable number of mobile vans to distribute books to remote areas of Bangladesh.

7. Service to children

The need for library service for children is being recognized, in Bangladesh. The Bangladesh Central Public Library maintains a children's section. A section exclusively for children is practically non-existent in most of the libraries. Some public libraries have purchased books for children, but it has not been possible for them to make an exclusive area for children. So, it is essential that a section for children should form an integral of every public library.

8. Extension service

Extension service i.e. lectures, displays, radio and TV. talks, clubs and other special materials should be provided by public libraries.

9. Library Co-operation

In Bangladesh, practically library co-operation is non-existent. There is an urgent need to establish the

practice of co-operation among all the libraries. If an inter-library loan system existed among the libraries, it would have been easier to collect available materials those are needed by the readers. If a Union catalogue of the significant holdings of all libraries are maintained, it will be easy to trace any book available any where in the country.

10. A Cultural Centre

In advanced countries, the public library has been recognized as a cultural centre of a community. The modern public library not only bringing books to the people. It also organizes lectures, flimshows, recording, drama, musical and cultural programs and literacy discussion. In Bangladesh also, we should the facility of all these things and there should be an auditorium and lecture room.

11. Education and Public Libraries

The public libraries play most important part in the

country, as the people get chance to consult various types of books of different subjects even beyond the school and college syllabus. In a public library, the information about ancient and current affairs are widely available. There is a common proverb " For good education thee should be good libraries." It is therefore, recommended that the Government should consider this point and should extend all possible assistance for establishment of large number of libraries through the country for expansion of education amongst the public.

APPENDIX - I
DIRECTORY OF SELECTED
PUBLIC LIBRARIES IN
SWEDEN

PRINCIPAL PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Boras stadsbibliotek (City Library and County Library of Älvsborgs län): Box 856, S-501 15 Borås; f. 1860; 477, 100 vols; Chief Librarian INGEMAR KALEN.

Eskistuna stadsbibliotek (City Library and County Library of Söderman-lands län): Kriepsensg. 4, 634, 187 vols; Chief Librarian BIRGITTA WIDHOLM.

Gävle stadsbibliotek (City Library and County Library of Gävleborgs län): S. Strandgatan 6, Box 801 30 Gävle; f. 1907; 700,000 vols; Chief Librarian WESTE WESTESON.

Göteborgs stadsbibliotek (City Library and County Library of Göteborgs och Bohus län): Götaplatsen, Box 5404, S-402 29 Göteborg; tel. (031) 81-04-80; f. 1861; 1,600,000 vols; Chief Librarian INGER EIDE-JENSEN.

Gotlands Länsbibliotek (City and County Library): Hästgatan 24, 621 81 Visby; tel.(0498) 69-000; f. 1865; 430,000 vols; Chief Librarian LEENA EKLÖF.

Halmstads stadsbibliotek (City Library and County Library of Hallands län): Fredsgatan 2, Halmstad; f. 1922; 500,000 vols; Chief Librarian KERSTIN ULLANDER.

Jämtlands läns bibliotek (City Library of Östersund and County Library of Jämtlands län): Rådhusgatan 25-27, 831 80 Östersund; tel. (063) 14-30-00; f.1833; includes the library of Univ. College at Östersund; 550,000 vols, Chief Librarian JO. SEVEN GLASER.

Jönköpings stadsbibliotek (City Library and County Library of Jönköpings län): Box 1029, 551 11 Jönköpings; tel. (036) 105-000; f. 1916; 700,000 vols; Chief Librarian BIRGITTA PEHRSON.

Kalmar stadsbibliotek (City Library and County Library of Kalmar län): Box 610, 319 26 Kalmar; f. 1922; 380, 000 vols; Chief Librarian RUNE ARNLING.

Landsbiblioteket i Växjö (City and County Library, Kronobergs län): Västra Esplanaden 7B, Växjö; f. 1954; 540, 000 vols; Chief Librarian OLLE WINGBORG.

Lulea Kommuns folkbibliotek (City Library and County Library of Norrbottens län): Kyrkogatan 15, POB 50065, 951 05 Luleä; f. 1903; 490, 500 vols; special collection of Finnish and Nord - kalotten literature; Chief Librarian GUNBRITT LINDSKOG.

Malmö stadsbibliotek (City Library, County Library of Malmöhus län and Loan Centre for South Sweden): Regementsgatan 3, S-211 42 Malmö; f. 1905; 903, 864 vols; Chief Librarian BENGT HOLMSTROM; publs annual acquisitions catalogue, Literatur om Skåne (Bibliography of Scania 1974-).

Norrköpings stadsbioliotek Norrköping City Library): 601 - 81 Norrköping; f. 1913; 8 branch libraries; 3 bookmobiles; 463, 665 vols; 51,500 vols special collection; Chief Librarian CONNY ENG.

Örebro stadsbibliotek (City Library & County Library of Örebro län): Box 1413, 701 14 Örebro; f. 1862; 780,000 vols; Chief Librarian EVA VIIRMAN.

Stifts- och landsbiblioteket i Linköping (State County Library, Östergötlands län): Box 3085, 580 03 Linköping 3; f. 1926; 732,000 vols; Chief Librarian BIRGIT VAN ERK.

Stifts- och landsbiblioteket i Skara (State County and City Library of Skaraborgs län): Biblioteksgatan 3, S-532 23 Skara; tel. (0511) 16300; f. 1938; 400,000 vols, 175 running metres MSS; Chief Librarian ARNE STRÄNG; publ. Acta.

Stockholms stadsbibliotek (City Library of Stockholm): Box 12199, 102 25 Stockholm; tel. (08) 23-66-00; f. 1927; 2,225,000 vols; Chief Librarian BO LUND; publ. Katalog över nyförvärv (annually).

Umeå stadabibliotek (City Library and County Library of Västerbottens län): Box 1007, S-901 20 Umeå; f. 1903; 650,000 vols; Chief Librarian CHRISTINA HALLMAN.

Uppsala stadsbibliotek (City Library and County Library of Uppsala län): Box 643, 751 27 Uppsala; f. 1906; 675,019 vols; Chief Librarian ESTRID LARSSON.

Västerås stadsbibliotek (City and County Library of Västmanlands län): Box 717, S-721 20 Västerås; f. 1952; 752,000 vols; Chief Librarian JAN NILSSON.

APPENDIX - II
DIRECTORY OF SELECTED
PUBLIC LIBRARIES IN
BANGLADESH

DIRECTORY OF SELECTED PUBLIC

1

LIBRARIES IN BANGLADESH

Abu Baker Smrity Pathagar.
Jhikargacha, Dist. Jessore, f.
1972, Executive Body (Incharge).
Staff: 2; prof. 1. non
prof, 1 Books: 4,000 vols.
Lending facilities: Available.

Agrasara Premananda Memorial
Public Library.
Sudharsan Bihar, P.O. Guzra
Noapara, Dist. Chittagong.
Staff; 2. Books: 1,032 vols.
Readers served per month: 300.

A.K. Academy Pathagar.
Vill. Gasua, Sanduip, Dist.
Chittagong. f. 1980. Staff:1.
Hours; 10 a.m.-4.30 p.m.
Books: 1,245 vols, Maps: 25.
Readers, served per month:
75, Lending facilities: Available.

Akkalpur Adarsha club Library.
Jaypurhat, Dist. Bogra. f.
1959 Sectary (Incharge).
Staff.: 2; prof. 1, non-
prof..1. Books: 1,200 vols,
maps:10. Readers served per
month: 150. Lending
facilities: Available.

A.K.M. Abdur Rab Pathagar.
Maligonj, Dist. Chandpur. f.
1972. Sectary (Incharge).
Staff; 2. Books: 725 vols.
Readers served per month; 100.
Lending service: Available.

Library Science. Staff; 8;
prof. 2. non-prof. 6. Books,
12000 vols; Bd, journals; 200
vols Curr. jnls sus; 30
Newspap subs: 17, Readers
served per month; 500. Lending
service: Available.

Amanullapur Juba Pathagar.
Joy Narayanpur. P.O. Begumganj,
Dist. Noakhali. f. 1979.
Sectary (Incharge). Hours: 4
p.m.- 8 p.m. Books: 100 vols.
Readers served per month: 200,
Lending service: Available.

Amar public library. P.O. &
U.Z. Adaudkandi, Dist. Comilla
f. 1976. Lion; Md. Siddiquir
Rahman, H.S.C. Staff; 3; prof.
1, non-prof. 2. Books; 989
vols. Bd, . journals; 2 vols.
Curr. jnls. subs; 1. Newspaper
subs; 1. Readers served per
month ; 100. Lending service:
Available.

Annanda Gobinda Public
Library. Abdul Hamid Road,
Dist. Pabna. Tel, 5264 Staff;
7, Books; 9,716 vols. Readers
served per month ; 415.

Annesa Gana Pathagar.
Jeroine, Dist. Comilla,
f. 1969. Executive Council
(Incharge). Staff; 2; prof. 1,
non-prof. 1, Hours; 430 p.m. -
8.30 p.m. Books; 550 vols.
Readers served per month;
600, Lending service: Available.

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1. Parvin, Rawshan Ara. Public libraries in Great Britain and Bangladesh. Dhaka; Sheikh Publishers, 1988. p. 115.

Ali Ahmed paura Pathagar.
 Bangladesh Sarak, Dest.
 Narayanganj.f. 1929. Asstt,
 Libn. Md. Asmat Ali Chowdhury.
 S.S.C. & Certificat course in
 Library Science. Staff; 8;
 prof. 2. non-prof. 6. Books,
 12000 vols; Bd,journals; 200
 vols Curr. jnls sus; 30
 Newspaper subs: 17,Readers
 served per month; 500. Lending
 service: Available.

Amanullapur Juba Pathagar.
 Joy Narayanpur. P.O.Begumganj,
 Dist. Noakhali. f. 1979.
 Secratary (Incharge). Hours: 4
 p.m.- 8 p.m. Books: 100 vols.
 Readers served per month: 200,
 Lending service: Available.

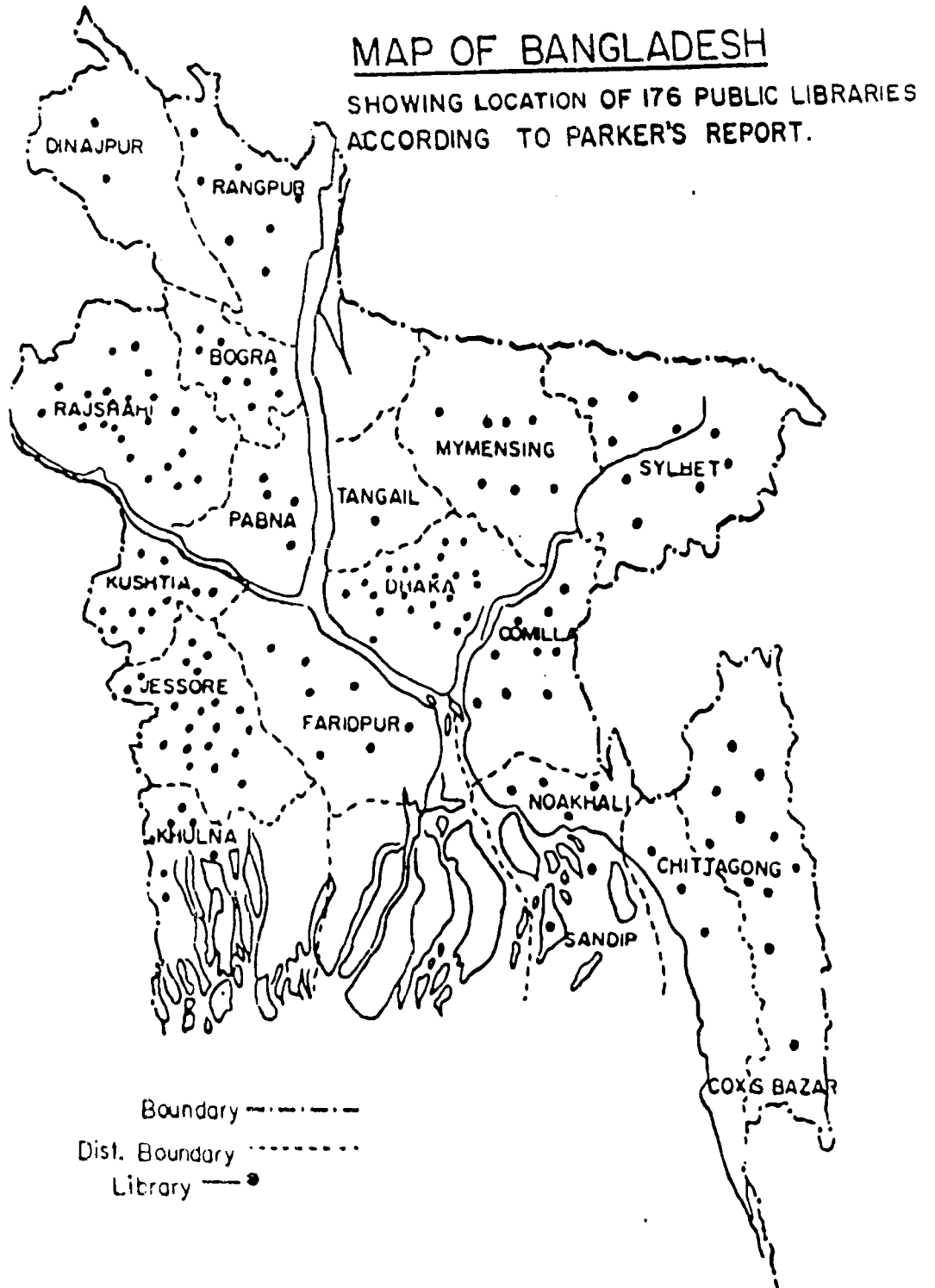
Amar public library. P.O. &
 U.Z. ADaudkandi, Dist. Comilla
 f. 1976. Lion; Md. Siddiqur
 Rahman, H.S.C. Staff; 3; prof.
 1, non-prof. 2. Books; 989
 vols. Bd,. journals; 2 vols.
 Curr. jnls. subs; 1. Newspaper
 subs; 1. Readers served per
 month ; 100. Lending service:
 Available.

Annanda Gobinda Public
 Library. Abdul Hamid Road,
 Dist. Pabna. Tel, 5264 Staff;
 7, Books; 9,716 vols. Readers
 served per month ; 415.

Annesa Gana Pathagar.
 Jeroine, Dist. Comills,
 f.1969. Executive Council
 (Incharge). Staff; 2; prof. 1,
 non-prof. 1, Hours; 430 p.m. -
 8.30 p.m. Books; 550 vols.
 Readers served per month;
 600,Lending service: Availabl-
 e.

APPENDIX - III

**MAP OF BANGLADESH SHOWING
LOCATION OF 176 PUBLIC
LIBRARIES ACCORDING
TO PARKER'S REPORT**



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