

THE ORGANIZATION OF KNOWLEDGE ON EGYPTOLOGICAL CULTURAL LANDSCAPES IN THE COLLECTIONS OF SERBIAN ACADEMIC LIBRARIES

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Introduction

The majority of Serbian academic libraries are included in one network known as COBISS (Cooperative On-line Bibliographic System and Services). The Svetozar Marković University Library in Belgrade, The National Library of Serbia, The Matica Srpska Library in Novi Sad are just some of the leading libraries within COBISS.

Egyptian cultural landscapes in the collections of Serbian academic librarianship

Libraries included in COBISS belong to a number of different types, including both academic and public libraries. The Svetozar Marković University Library in Belgrade is the central library of the University of Belgrade and was the central university library in Serbia for many years. This institution has a long tradition. Its international interlibrary loan service is particularly useful as its members may compensate for the lack of literature by borrowing books and articles through it.

Through the tables below one may gain insight into the situation in the cumulative catalogue, as well as in the catalogue of the Svetozar Marković University Library, where the number of references on Egyptian culture is much smaller than in the cumulative catalogue. This result is expected because this university library is one among all other members of the Virtual Library of Serbia. It can be noticed that materials on the architecture, sculpture and painting of Egypt are not numerous.

Advanced search (Term in Serbian)	Total no. of references	Total no. of references for books	Total no. of references for articles
Egypt and culture	492	438	46
Egypt and civilization	170	160	6
Egypt and museums	98	74	15
Egypt and archeology	243	179	61
Egypt and architecture	62	59	2
Egypt and temples	22	20	0
Egypt and pyramids	66	53	3
Egypt and painting	33	27	4
Egypt and sculpture	18	15	3

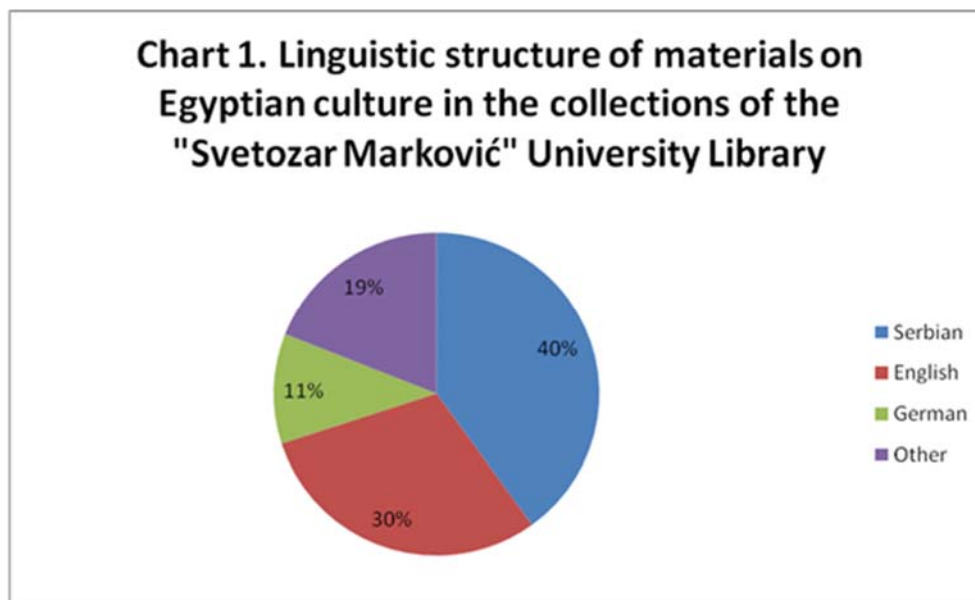
Table 1. Bibliographic descriptions of works in the domain of Egyptian culture in the collections of Serbian academic libraries Source: cumulative e-catalogue COBIB.SR accessed 25 March 2016.

Advanced search (Term in Serbian)	Total no. of references	Total no. of references for books	Total no. of references for articles
Egypt and culture	53	44	6
Egypt and civilization	34	29	4
Egypt and museums	10	8	0
Egypt and archeology	16	11	4
Egypt and architecture	9	9	0
Egypt and temples	4	4	0
Egypt and pyramides	4	4	0
Egypt and painting	7	5	2
Egypt and sculpture	2	2	0

Table 2. Bibliographic descriptions in the domain of Egyptian culture in the collections of the Svetozar Marković University Library in Belgrade Source: e-catalogue of the Svetozar Marković University Library in Belgrade accessed 28 March 2016.

The intention of this paper is not to comment on the quality of the materials acquired to date. Literature in Serbian academic libraries is acquired in accordance with their type. Each library has an acquisition policy which should be followed when library materials are to be ordered. The tables are an illustration of the attention which is being paid to Egyptian culture in the Serbian academic environment with very limited financial resources for the purpose of acquisition.

Chart 1 gives insight into the structure of materials on Egyptian culture in the collections of the central library of the University of Belgrade. The highest percentage of literature is in Serbian, at 40%, while 30% is in English and 11% is in German. The rest of literature on Egyptian culture in the Svetozar Marković University Library is in other languages. Although literature in French is not so numerous as the literature in English, it is not less important; this is also the case with other foreign languages.



Source: e-catalogue of The Svetozar Marković University Library in Belgrade accessed 28.03.2016.

E-resources in Serbian Academic Libraries

Readers in Serbian academic libraries may retrieve aggregated data bases in order to find e-articles in full text. They may also retrieve e-books. Such opportunities are via the Consortium for Coordinated Acquisitions of Serbian Libraries (KOBSON).

DART – European portal of e-theses: focusing on Egyptian culture

DART is very useful portal for the professional and scientific work of students and experts in all scientific fields. This portal is available on the following web address: www.dart-europe.eu. As these e-thesis are in full text and in free access, there is no fee to be paid. Citizens need neither username nor password to read these theses or download them. Some dissertations on Egyptian culture can be found although they are not numerous.

Useful web addresses

Researchers interested in the collections of Serbian academic libraries find these web addresses useful:

The National Library of Serbia: www.nb.rs

The Svetozar Marković University Library in Belgrade: www.unilib.rs

The Matica Srpska Library in Novi Sad: www.bms.rs.

Conclusion

Contemporary trends in science, culture and arts necessitate the up-dating e-collections. Open sources are getting richer and richer. The DART Portal of European Thesis in particular, is indispensable for further work of researchers in the domain of the Egyptian cultural landscapes. Dissertations in the domain of Egyptian culture exist through this portal but they are not numerous.

Accordingly, it is necessary to rely on e-journals with articles in full text. The ability of retrieving e-resources is a necessity for readers e.g. students, researchers, and professors as well as all those who are interested in analysing or just reading about the treasures of ancient Egypt. Intellectual freedom will develop faster if new technologies are being implemented more intensively. It would lead towards the development of an Open Society which would be at the same time a Knowledge Society.

Resources

Web addresses

<https://www.nb.rs> (Access: March 2016.)

www.bms.rs (Access: March 2016.)

www.dart-europe.eu (Access: November 2016.)

www.unilib.rs (Access: March 2016.)