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The Structure of Central Library /Mustansiriyah University

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The Structure of Central Library / Mustansiriyah University



The Central Library of Mustansiriyah University serves as a pivotal academic resource, supporting the university's diverse educational and research endeavors. This report provides a comprehensive overview of the library's structure, encompassing its architectural design, spatial organization, and functional departments. Visual representations accompany each section to enhance understanding.

Architectural Design and Overview

The Central Library is a two-story edifice covering a total area of approximately 3,465 square meters, with each floor spanning about 1,700 square meters. The construction commenced in 1983 and concluded in 1986. The building's design integrates modern architectural elements with traditional aesthetics, utilizing local tabuq bricks suspended on cantilevered beams and exposed reinforced concrete corbels, creating a floating appearance. ¹



¹ https://arab-architecture.org/db/building/al-mustansiriya-university?utm_source

Ground Floor Layout

The ground floor is systematically organized to facilitate user accessibility and operational efficiency. Key sections include:

1. **Circulation and Information Desk:** Located near the main entrance, this area manages book loans, returns, and provides general assistance.
2. **Reference Section:** Houses encyclopedias, dictionaries, and other non-circulating materials for on-site consultation.
3. **Reading Halls:** Spacious areas furnished with desks and seating to accommodate individual study and group discussions.
4. **Computer Lab:** Equipped with internet-enabled workstations for research and academic purposes.



First Floor Layout

The first floor primarily focuses on specialized collections and administrative offices:

1. **Periodicals Section:** Stores academic journals, magazines, and newspapers, both current and archived.
2. **Thesis and Dissertation Repository:** A dedicated area for postgraduate research works, accessible to students and faculty.
3. **Special Collections:** Contains rare books and manuscripts, preserved under controlled conditions.
4. **Administrative Offices:** Include the offices of the library director and staff, overseeing library operations and services.



Functional Departments

The library is segmented into various departments, each serving a distinct purpose:

1. **Acquisitions Department:** Responsible for procuring new materials and managing subscriptions.
2. **Cataloging and Classification:** Organizes library materials systematically for easy retrieval.
3. **Information Technology Services:** Maintains digital resources, the online catalog, and ensures technological support.
4. **User Services:** Handles user inquiries, interlibrary loans, and information literacy programs.

Technological Infrastructure

Embracing modern technology, the library offers:

1. **Digital Catalog:** An online system allowing users to search for materials remotely.
2. **Electronic Resources:** Access to databases, e-books, and e-journals to support research.
3. **Wi-Fi Connectivity:** Available throughout the building, facilitating the use of personal devices.



Conclusion

The Central Library of Mustansiriyah University stands as a testament to the institution's dedication to academic excellence. Its thoughtfully designed structure, comprehensive resources, and commitment to technological advancement and accessibility make it an indispensable asset to the university community.

References

1. Al-Mustansiriyah University Official Website. (n.d.). Retrieved from <https://uomustansiriyah.edu.iq>
2. https://arab-architecture.org/db/building/al-mustansiriya-university?utm_source