

National Curriculum for

**Library Science**

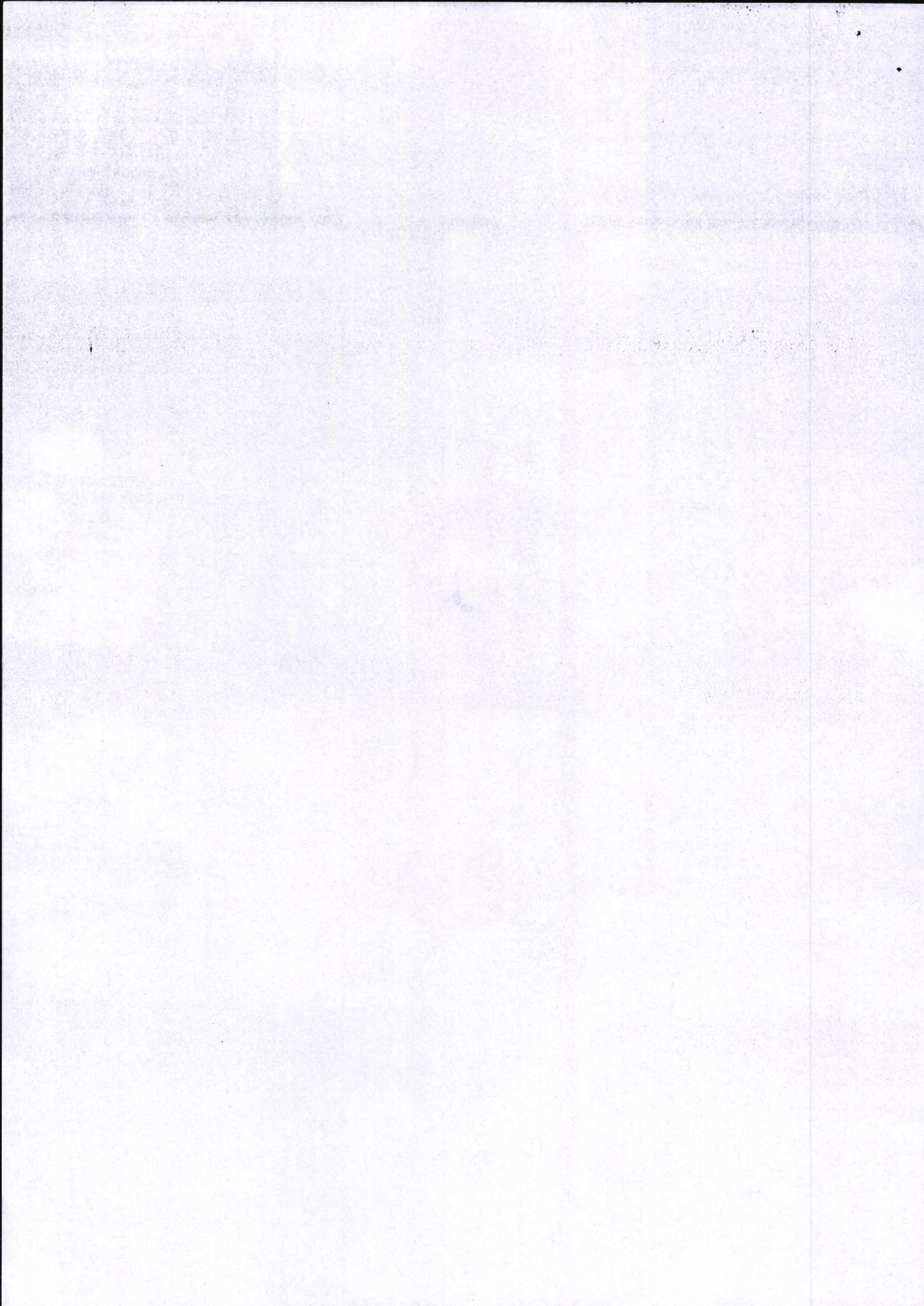
Grade XI-XII

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GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN  
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## INTRODUCTION

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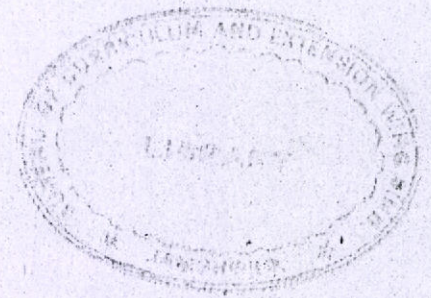
Library Science is the study of the principles and practices of library administration. In the 20th century it was gradually subsumed under the field of information. It is an interdisciplinary science which integrates the humanities, law and applied science to study topics related to libraries; the collection, organization, preservation and dissemination of information resources and the political economy of information. The libraries have always endeavored to serve the needs of the societies of which they were a part. Historically, library science has also included archival science. This comprises

- how information resources are prearranged to serve the needs of select user groups
- how people interact with classification systems and technology,
- how information is acquired, assessed and applied by people in and outside of libraries as well as cross-culturally
- how people are skilled and educated for careers in libraries
- the applied science of computer technology used in documentation and records management

Academic courses in library science typically include:

- Collection management
- Information Systems and Technology
- Cataloguing and classification
- Reference
- Management of library resources and services

In general, the student who is preparing for graduate study in librarianship is expectant to emphasize broad general education in the



humanities, social sciences and natural science. The basic professional curriculum include a core of courses which includes

- a general introduction to librarianship
- selection of materials
- cataloguing and classification
- reference materials
- library services

Library Science is continuously developing, integrating new topics like Database Management, Information Architecture and Knowledge Management.

There is generally no settled difference between library science, library and information science, and librarianship. To a certain level they can be measured equivalent terms, possibly accepted to increase the "Science" aspect, or improve the popular image of librarians.

The nature of curriculum plays a vital role in producing well educated librarians. The principal goal of study of library science is to help the students to become technologically literate. This is accomplished by revealing students to a wide variety of knowledge, experiences together working with applications and subject area software.

By providing a broad range of knowledge and latest methodologies, we can help students understand how the use of library can facilitate learning of all subjects. One operational vision, implied by some textbooks, is that librarianship means the professional characteristics of work as a librarian, such as certification, in-service training, and training in librarianship

Most professional library jobs require a professional post-baccalaureate degree in library science, or one of its equivalent terms, library and information science as a basic documentation. In the United States and Canada the certification usually comes from a master's degree granted by an ALA-accredited institution, so even non-scholarly librarians have an originally academic background. In the United Kingdom, however, there have been moves to broaden the entry requirements to professional library posts, such that qualifications in, or experience of, number of other disciplines have become more acceptable.

#### **TYPES OF LIBRARY SCIENCE PROFESSIONALS**

- librarian
- archivist
- cataloger
- computer, Data, and Information Systems professionals

- curator
- indexers
- information architect
- information broker
- metadata Architects
- metadata Managers

#### **RATIONALE FOR CURRICULUM ENHANCEMENT**

Syllabi are being revised and upgraded to meet the latest challenges of the present day. The Ministry of Education, Islamabad desired to review the National Curriculum for Library Science to make it more vital, relevant to the modern socio-economic, technical, professional and labor market needs of the country, and comparable with international standards.

The Curriculum Development team for Library Science for grades XI-XII was framed involving subject's experts and teachers of Library Science from colleges and universities of all over Pakistan. Following strategies were adopted in designing / developing the curriculum:

The present effort of developing the Library Science Curriculum is a wide-ranging exercise, which is based on:

- Consultative meetings with the working stakeholders to identify their needs
- Identification of eminent areas of study, which can cater to the needs of stakeholders in the most befitting manner.
- Identification of standards.
- Study of foreign curricula for comparison and guidelines.
- Identify and decide curriculum areas in accordance with capability profile.
- Drafting of contents, learning outcomes and practical.
- Preparation of detailed contents in the light of competencies to be developed.

- Preparation of study and evaluation scheme for implementing the curriculum.

### **CORE AREAS OF CURRICULUM**

The curriculum of Library Science has been tailored and designed to enable the students to meet the diversified challenges of the modern world. Emphasis has been laid on encouraging the practical work and application of concepts, which are useful in the workplace. It is a rigorous and exhaustive curriculum having an articulated blend of knowledge, skills and attitude.

The prime objective of this curriculum is to empower the students with scientific acumen by developing self-motivated and innovative mind and skill-set, which would be catalytic in paving the way to knowledge-based society.

This document of grades XI-XII covers the following broad spectrum of library science:

- historical background of library science
- importance and role of Library Science and introduction of latest technologies
- historical background and evolution of writing media
- basic knowledge about printing and publishing
- understanding of factors that became the basis of evolution of libraries
- knowledge about the libraries and their role in the society
- understanding of nature and type of library material
- understand the interrelationships of special libraries and modern libraries
- knowledge about the major libraries of Pakistan
- importance and status of profession of librarianship in Pakistan.
- Knowledge of library and information science

- development of library collection
- organizing the library collection-classification and cataloguing,
- understanding of the circulation system
- understanding about the services for library users
- knowledge of managing the library
- solution of basic problems faced by the librarians
- knowledge of finding information in the library
- knowledge and awareness of online information resources
- knowledge of searching and accessing the online information resources
- knowledge about the online tools

## THE CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

