Digitization of University Libraries
The Library of the Faculty of Arts at Omar Al-Mukhtar University as a Case Study

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Abstract:

The aim of this research is to explore the concept of digital libraries and the key requirements for their establishment in general, as well as to develop library procedures and practices in order to provide services that meet the needs of users. This is achieved by developing a phased plan for the transition to a digital library, along with a conceptual framework for the general features of the digitization project for the Library of the Faculty of Arts at Omar Mukhtar University in Libya. The research also aims to identify the main phases of this project, as well as to highlight the challenges that may be encountered in its implementation and the difficulties that may arise for those overseeing its development.

In preparing the research, I used the descriptive survey method and a questionnaire tool. I distributed 40 questionnaire forms to the administrative staff of the Library of the Faculty of Arts at Omar Mukhtar University during the period of 2021-2022, and 38 forms were retrieved.

At the end of the research, several results were obtained, including the following key findings:

1. The majority of administrators agree that the main obstacles facing the digitization of the Library of the Faculty of Arts at Omar Mukhtar University are:
   o The lack of proper planning and feasibility studies for transitioning to the digitization of university libraries.
   o The insufficient awareness of administrators regarding the importance of digitizing university libraries.
   o The unclear understanding of the concept of implementing digitization projects in university libraries by the administration.
   o The limited financial allocations for preparing the technological infrastructure of university libraries.
   o The lack of funding for digitization-related equipment, management programs, and security measures due to their high costs.
   o The absence of library activities that raise legal awareness about changes in the digital environment.
2. Furthermore, all administrators in the research sample agree that:
   o There are no legal provisions in Libyan law to protect digital information.
   o There are few governmental strategies and initiatives for the digitization of university libraries.
   o There is a shortage of specialized staff in the field of digitization.

At the conclusion of the research, I recommend that the university administration:

- Form a committee to plan and conduct proper feasibility studies for the transition to the digitization of university libraries.
- Work on clarifying the concept of digitization projects in university libraries for all administrative staff working in university libraries.
- Raise the awareness of administrative officials about the importance of digitizing university libraries by organizing training courses for all administrative staff in university libraries, to ensure they understand the benefits that digitalization will bring to all library users.
- Strengthen the technological infrastructure by increasing financial allocations to prepare the technological infrastructure for university libraries, in order to address the lack of readiness of university libraries to adopt digitization projects.

Introduction:

The rapid technological advancements witnessed in recent years have resulted in the development of numerous modern tools in the fields of information and communication. These advancements have significantly transformed the lifestyle of individuals across various societies, making daily life more flexible and accessible. This progress has effectively eliminated temporal and spatial barriers between people from different communities, enabling individuals to explore and stay updated with the latest developments.

To keep pace with the changes brought about by the integration of technology into societies, many countries have sought to employ digital tools in education across various academic levels. These efforts aim to enhance the quality of teaching and learning processes, improve their effectiveness, and elevate the overall outcomes of educational systems.

The modern world is witnessing an escalating revolution in the field of information and the technologies used to process it, aiming to facilitate its access and utilization. This revolution is evident in the adoption of various information systems to manage library operations, replacing traditional methods with electronic alternatives for storing and retrieving information. Additionally, communication technologies are being leveraged to disseminate information, connect with global information repositories, and participate in knowledge sharing through the creation of, or integration into, information networks.

The incorporation of advanced technology into university libraries significantly enhances their capabilities and impact. Utilizing the internet, CDs, multimedia, and other electronic information resources, along with automated catalogs, further boosts the importance of these libraries. Such developments encourage students and researchers to engage with university libraries more than ever before.

The integration of technology and digitization has simplified access to information, making diverse types of data readily available to users. It has also enabled the provision of superior services within university libraries, which are often pioneers in adopting digitization, modern technologies, automated search services, and digital information processing. These advancements are designed to support education and scientific research at the university level.

Research Significance

The significance of this study lies in its focus on the digitization of libraries, with the Library of the Faculty of Arts at Omar Al-Mukhtar University serving as a case study. This topic is particularly important due to the critical role digital libraries play in higher education.

Research Problem

The knowledge explosion and the convergence of communication technology with the information revolution have given rise to the digital information society. Libraries have consequently been striving to adopt the latest technologies to provide access to information, utilizing their available material and human resources. However, they often face challenges such as a lack of planning, organization, frameworks, human resources, technology, and tools.

The study's problem emerges from the delayed initiation of digital library projects in Arab libraries compared to their counterparts worldwide. This delay necessitates a thorough assessment and exploration of these attempts to identify strengths and weaknesses in practices and applications for future improvement.

The researcher believes that the Library of the Faculty of Arts at Omar Al-Mukhtar University suffers from shortcomings in technology, funding, planning, and specialized staff in library development and information technology. These challenges hinder its progress towards digital transformation, negatively impacting the services it provides, particularly in the current era of digital excellence.

Research Objectives

1. To understand the concept of a digital library and identify the key requirements for its establishment in general.
2. To enhance library procedures and operations to provide services that meet the needs of users, by devising a phased plan for transitioning towards a digital library.
3. To outline the general framework for the digitization project of the Library of the Faculty of Arts at Omar Al-Mukhtar University in Libya.
4. To identify the main stages involved in the implementation of this project.
5. To highlight the challenges that may arise during the project's execution and the potential obstacles faced by those overseeing its development.

Previous Studies

1. **Ahmed Ali's Study**: *Title: "The Digital Library: Foundations, Concepts, and Challenges Facing Arab Digital Libraries"*, This study explored the concept of the digital library, its origins, and stages of development, emphasizing the challenges related to digital terminology. It highlighted the requirements of a digital library, its collections, and the technical processes of classification and cataloging. The study also examined mechanisms for digital retrieval and outlined methods for searching digital information, explaining the Boolean logic approach in information retrieval. Additionally, it briefly reviewed the status of digital libraries in the Arab world and discussed the major challenges they face in the modern era.
2. **Nadheer Ghanem and Asma Taweel's Study**: *Title: "Digitization Experiences of Algerian University Libraries: The Algerians Project at the Central Library of Ben Yousef Ben Khadda University – Algiers 1"*, Presented at the International Forum on Libraries and Information Institutions in the Context of Modern Technology: Roles, Challenges, and Stakes, with reference to Constantine.

   This paper aimed to shed light on an Algerian initiative, the "Algerians" project, implemented by the central library of Ben Yousef Ben Khadda University – Algiers 1. It reviewed the key stages of the project's development, the main challenges encountered, and the current status of the project.

3. **Nabil Aknoosh's Study**: *Title: "Digital Libraries in Algerian Universities: Between Necessities and Obstacles"*, This study aimed to identify the factors and reasons behind the delayed emergence of digital library projects in Algerian universities. It also sought to evaluate the importance and feasibility of digital libraries and their added value to users and librarians. The study examined the digital library project at Prince Abdul Qader University and the digitization project at the central library of Ben Yousef Ben Khadda University.

4. **Reem Mohammed Ismail Al-Ayed's Study**: *Title: "The Reality of Digital Library Usage by Graduate Students at Middle East University"*
This study aimed to explore the extent to which digital libraries are used by graduate students at Middle East University. It employed a descriptive survey methodology, with a sample comprising 536 master's students at the university during the 2019/2020 academic year. To achieve the study's objectives, a validated and reliable questionnaire was developed as the primary research tool.

The findings revealed a high level of digital library usage among graduate students. There were no statistically significant differences in the overall usage level attributable to the gender variable. However, statistically significant differences were observed based on the college variable, favoring the College of Information Technology. The study also found that the level of difficulties faced in using digital libraries was moderate, with no statistically significant differences in the difficulties level attributable to gender. However, significant differences were noted in the level of difficulties based on the college variable, favoring the College of Architecture and Design.

Based on the findings, the researcher recommended conducting training workshops for graduate students on how to search in digital libraries. Additionally, the study suggested granting broader access privileges to graduate students, enabling them to use digital libraries from any location and at any time.

Research Terms

Digital Library: "A library that acquires digital information resources, whether originally produced in digital form or converted into a digital format. It does not rely on traditional printed resources, regardless of whether they are accessible online or not. The bibliographic control of its resources is managed through an automated system, and access to it is provided via a network of computers, whether local, wide-area, or through the internet" [1].

Digitization: "The process of converting non-digital materials (books, manuscripts, newspapers, audio materials, visual materials) into digital files that can be managed and accessed through computing technologies. This is achieved using scanners or other equipment and devices" [2].

Research Boundaries

- **Spatial Boundaries**: The Library of the Faculty of Arts at Omar Al-Mukhtar University, Libya.
- **Temporal Boundaries**: The period from 2021 to 2022.
- **Human Boundaries**: Administrative staff of the Library of the Faculty of Arts at Omar Al-Mukhtar University, Libya.

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[1] Ahmed Ali, The Digital Library: Foundations, Concepts, and Challenges Facing Arab Digital Libraries, Damascus University Journal, Vol. 27, Issues 1 & 2, Syria, 2011, p. 638

(2) Misfara Bint Dkhayl Allah Al-Khathami, Digital Transformation Projects and Experiences in Information Institutions: A Study of the Strategies Used, RIST Journal, Vol. 19, Issue 1, 2010, p. 21

Data Collection Tools

Scientific research across all levels and disciplines requires the use of various tools for gathering information to be employed within the body of the research. This study will rely on the **questionnaire** as the primary data collection tool, which will be distributed to the administrative staff at the Library of the Faculty of Arts at Omar Al-Mukhtar University.

A total of 40 questionnaires were distributed, with 38 returned.

Research Methodology

The researcher will adopt the **descriptive survey method**, which is defined as: "The approach that involves collecting facts and information, comparing them, analyzing and interpreting them to reach acceptable generalizations"[3].

Research Plan

Introductory Chapter: The Nature of Information Digitization

Chapter One: Digitization Technology in University Libraries

- **Part One**: Justifications for the Digitization of University Libraries
- **Part Two**: Steps for Implementing the Digitization Project at the Library of the Faculty of Arts at Omar Al-Mukhtar University, Libya

Chapter Two: Challenges Facing the Digitization Project at the Library of the Faculty of Arts at Omar Al-Mukhtar University and How to Overcome Them

Preliminary Section

The Nature of Information Digitization

The information revolution is a slogan raised by those responsible for human knowledge in recent times. This revolution is embodied in the significant advances witnessed in the world of communication, coupled with a tremendous leap in ways of exchanging knowledge. This led to the emergence of new tools in the world of knowledge production, such as the global information network and the significant developments in electronic publishing, the concept of e-books, and consequently, digital libraries.

The logical result of this knowledge revolution is the shift in the research perspective on the world of knowledge. Tools have become more accessible, exchanges easier, and publishing more convenient than ever, thanks to information networks. All of this has motivated us to keep up with every new development in this field and explore the concept of digital libraries, given the inability of traditional libraries to provide new, advanced services to users and those seeking information. These libraries, which have been shaped by technological progress in its various dimensions, data, and tools, appear to be more appealing and realistic for various user groups. Therefore, their principles will vary depending on their affiliation, goals, and audience. The library of the future will be the digital library

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(3) Ahmed Abdel Hamid, Principles of Sociology and Scientific Research, Al-Maktab Al-Jami'i Al-Hadith, Alexandria, 1983, p. 100.

(*), which may not necessarily require a physical location for researchers, users, and students to visit. Instead, it may be accessed through an online platform with the necessary technological equipment, allowing users to access it from various locations and places. In fact, such libraries may not even need to be used by humans, as they might be accessed by other information systems[4].

It can be said that digitization is one of the most important achievements of digital information technology. It refers to eliminating the barriers between different forms of symbols, such as texts, sounds, music, still images, and moving images, and converting these forms into digital sequences based on binary code (0 and 1), so that they align with the binary number system, which is the foundation of computer operations [5].

Digitization is not limited to digital documents and printed information sources only; it extends to audio recordings and microfilm as well. Sounds, whether speech or musical pieces, can be digitized using specialized software installed on a computer, connected to a microphone that transmits the sound to the computer, which then converts it into a digital format and stores it at its level[6].

Forms of Digitization :

The digital representation of texts is carried out using one of the following two methods:

First method : In this method, each letter is represented individually in a digital format. It can be obtained either through direct input via word processing software or by optical character recognition (OCR) from a scanned document in image format.

Second method : This method is widely used in digital library projects and involves the process of optical scanning using scanners, which produce digital images of documents. Three forms are distinguished in this method:

- **Digitization in the form of images :** This is one of the most commonly used types of digitization, although it occupies a large amount of storage space. It is particularly used for rare books and ancient manuscripts[7].
- **Digitization in Text Form :** This method allows for searching within the text, as it enables direct interaction with the electronic document as a text. To achieve this, optical character recognition (OCR) software is used, starting from a scanned document in image format. The

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(*) The digital library is defined as: a library that acquires digital information sources, whether originally produced in digital form or converted into digital format. It carries out bibliographic control operations using an automated system, and access is available through a computer network, whether local, wide-area, or via the Internet. Mohammed Fathi Abdel Hadi ,*Electronic Information Sources in Children's Libraries* ,Modern Trends in Libraries and Information, 1999.

(4) Ahmed Ali, Digital Library: Foundations, Concepts, and Challenges Facing Arabic Digital Libraries, Op. cit., pp. 636-637.

(5) Ismail Abdelfattah Abdulkafi, Dictionary of Globalization Terminology: Political, Economic, Social, Psychological, and Media Terms, Dar Al-Thaqafa Publishing, Cairo, 2004, p. 102.

(6) Comment numeriser. [disponible en ligne]
 http://.www.Vincent.hildebert.free/commment.html.
Date of consultation: 1st July 2022, at 5:30 PM.

(7) Souhila Mehri, The Digital Library in Algeria: A Study of the Current Situation and Future Prospects, Master's Thesis, Mentouri University, Algeria, 2006, pp. 83-84.

software converts the pixels that make up the image into symbols, characters, and marks, and also allows for editing and error correction.

- **Vector-Based Digitization :**This technique relies on representation using mathematical computations and is primarily used in computer-aided graphics. The transition from paper format to vector format is a lengthy and costly process. Currently, a vector presentation format, PDF, exists, which is a technology developed by Adobe in 1993 to facilitate the electronic distribution and sharing of readable information[8].

The Importance of Digitization:

There are many benefits of digitization, including the following:

- Providing wide and in-depth access to information in its original and derivative forms.
- Facilitating and accelerating the acquisition of knowledge and information.
- The ability to print information when needed and produce exact replicas.
- Accessing information in audio, video, and full color.
- Reducing the cost of obtaining information.
- Enabling critique of sources and informational materials.
- Allowing integration with other media, including audio, images, and video[9].

University libraries, through the digitization of theses and dissertations, strive to achieve the desired objectives of research and education by launching digitization projects at the university library level. These libraries are undergoing significant transformations due to the digitization of their documents, particularly theses and dissertations. They also focus on providing the necessary human resources, equipment, and documentation software to facilitate the organization and flow of information.

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Chapter One

Digitization Technology in University Libraries
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University libraries have played a fundamental role in universities since their inception, a role that has significantly grown in importance in the current era, especially as we live in the age of information technology. These libraries are considered the driving force behind scientific and technological advancement due to the diverse and varied information resources they provide. These resources contribute to advancing scientific research and disseminating knowledge through the implementation of a comprehensive collection development policy and a structured processing policy, enabling researchers to easily and efficiently access the information they need.

The accelerating shift toward a digital information society compels all nations to earnestly strive for development and the adoption of digital technologies to facilitate access to information [10].

This was emphasized by the Digital Libraries Statement of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA), which encouraged all governments and organizations to recognize the importance of developing a digital library strategy. Participation in major digitization programs contributes to making cultural and scientific information more widely accessible. It also

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(8) lbid

(9) Mounira Al-Hamza, Digital Libraries and Electronic Publishing of Documents, Dar Al-Almiya for Publishing and Distribution, Constantine, Algeria, 2011, p. 74.

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fosters the development of national and international digital library initiatives, ensuring their sustainability[11].

Part One: Justifications for Digitizing University Libraries:

Clarifying and identifying the primary and actual reasons behind proposing a university library digitization project enables the definition of the project's objectives. This, in turn, allows for the accurate determination of the costs and resources required for its implementation. The reasons for executing a project to digitize information resources, or more specifically, the process of converting non-digital materials into digital formats, vary. Therefore, making a decision in this regard can be attributed to the following reasons:

- **Enhancing Access :**This is one of the most important reasons for digitizing information resources. Beneficiaries have an urgent need to access these resources, and libraries, in turn, aim to enhance access to them and meet users' needs.
- **Improving Services :**By enabling access to digital information resources, aligned with the principles of lifelong learning and education.
- **Reducing the Handling of Original Copies at Risk of Deterioration :**Due to frequent use or fragility, digitization helps preserve these materials by creating backup copies. Additionally, it provides an opportunity for institutions to develop their technical infrastructure and enhance the technical capabilities of their staff.
- **Fostering Collaborative Efforts :**Encouraging cooperation and partnerships with other institutions to produce digital information resources and make them available on the internet[12].

The reasons for adopting and integrating this technology in libraries vary from one library to another, depending on the goals they aim to achieve. It is worth noting that pursuing digitization solely to keep up with advancements or to showcase these projects without conducting a proper feasibility study will merely result in wasted effort, time, and money.

Advantages of the Digitization Process in Information Institutions:

- When collections and information resources are converted to digital form, beneficiaries can retrieve them in seconds. It also allows millions of users to access the same information source simultaneously, helping information institutions provide high-quality services to users.
- The ability to share information and easily exchange it digitally, whether between individuals or institutions. This can enhance the collaboration process between information institutions.
- Permanent availability of information resources.
- The digitization of information resources allows for integration with other media (audio, images, and video), which adds greater value to the information compared to printed formats.
- Keeping pace with developments in the field of information preservation, organization, retrieval, and broadcasting.
- Solving the problem of spatial constraints within information institutions, especially with the growth and diversification of information resources and the increasing number of researchers and their scientific output.
- Preserving information resources in more than one format, beyond the printed form[13]

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- Part Two: Proposed Steps for Implementing the Digitization Project for the Faculty of Arts Library at Omar Al-Mukhtar University, Libya:

First: Organization and Task Definition Phase:

In this phase, a digitization department is established by identifying the physical resources required for this process, which include acquiring storage devices dedicated to storing digitized books and digital imaging equipment. As for the human resources involved, employees participating in this project are selected from the staff of the central library. The tasks of each employee within this department are defined, and they are also subjected to a training program on digitization. This department consists of a team of four (4) employees, as follows:

- **Computer Engineer :**Responsible for the task, coordinating with the university library management and the head of the IT department at the library.
- **Two Librarians :**Responsible for indexing, processing, and entering the full texts of the digitized resources into the database.
- **Assistant (Senior Technical in IT :(**Manages the databases in coordination with the head of the IT department.

Second: Document Selection Phase:

The selection process was based on two main criteria:

- **First Criterion :**Giving priority to rare and valuable documents, such as manuscripts and rare books.
- **Second Criterion :**Respecting copyright laws by only digitizing books for which copyright has expired and theses for which the authors have granted permission for access
- **Third: Indexing Phase :**In this phase, bibliographic records for the digitized books are imported from the library's electronic catalog or the national library catalog and converted into Dublin Core format.
- **Fourth: Digital File Monitoring :**This involves checking the files to ensure their accuracy and excluding those that have not been properly processed.
- **Fifth: Providing Access to Digitized Information Resources :**The digitized information resources are made accessible through the internet via the library's website
- **Chapter Two**

Challenges That May Face the Digitization Project of the Faculty of Arts Library at Omar Al-Mukhtar University and How to Overcome Them

Despite the many positives achieved by digitization projects, the Faculty of Arts Library at Omar Al-Mukhtar University still faces several problems and challenges related to this area. These challenges could pose a barrier to the digital projects that may be developed. Therefore, a survey was conducted and distributed to the administrative staff at the Faculty of Arts Library at Omar Al-Mukhtar University. The total number of library management staff is 235, of which 8 employees are currently working at the library, and 20 employees are in the Library and Publishing Management of the Faculty of Arts. A total of 40 forms were distributed, and 38 were returned.

Table (1)
Illustrates the challenges that may face the digitization project of the College of Arts Library at Omar Al-Mukhtar University from the perspective of administrators

No.	Topic	Agree		Somewhat Agree		Disagree	
		Num.	%	Num.	%	Num.	%
1	Lack of proper planning and feasibility studies for transitioning to university library digitization	30	78.5	5	13.1	3	7.9
2	Lack of awareness among administration officials about the importance of transitioning to university library digitization	32	87.21	6	15.78	0	0
3	Adherence to traditional administrative procedures hinders the application of technologies	25	65.79	9	23.68	4	10.63
4	Lack of clarity regarding the concept of digitization projects in university libraries among administration	35	92.11	3	7.9	0	0
5	Weak infrastructure for modern technologies and the unpreparedness of university libraries for digitization projects	28	73.68	5	13.1	5	13.1
6	Inability to keep up with technological advancements due to their rapid change	32	87.21	5	13.1	1	2.63
7	Lack of a secure technological infrastructure	30	78.5	4	10.63	4	10.63
8	Fear of the rapid development of software programs	33	86.84	5	13.1	0	0
9	Insufficient financial allocations for preparing technological infrastructure in university libraries	28	73.68	4	10.63	6	15.78
10	Weak or absent budget for training library staff in digitization technologies	35	92.11	2	5.26	1	2.63
11	Insufficient budget for equipment, management programs, and security measures for digitization due to their high cost	35	92.11	3	7.9	0	0
12	Lack of legislation to protect digital information in Libyan law	38	100	0	0	0	0
13	Absence of library activities that promote legal awareness of changes in the digital environment	30	78.5	5	13.1	3	7.9
14	Lack of government strategies and initiatives for digitizing university libraries	38	100	0	0	0	0

15	Difficulty in preserving authors' rights due to a lack of laws 38protecting intellectual property rights in Libyan law	15	39.47	15	39.47	8	21.05
16	Lack of understanding of digitization and its application among university library staff	30	78.5	6	15.78	2	5.26
17	Fear of digital transformation and resistance to change	32	87.21	6	15.78	0	0
18	Lack of experience and insufficient qualified and specialized staff for digitization processes	30	78.9	6	15.78	2	5.26
19	Lack of specialized personnel in the field of digitization	38	100	0	0	0	0

The table above shows the following:

- 30administrators (78.9%) believe that the lack of proper planning and feasibility studies hinders the transition to digitizing university libraries. 5 administrators (13.1%) somewhat agree with this, while 3 administrators (7.9%) disagree.
- 32administrators (84.21%) perceive a lack of awareness among administrative officials about the importance of transitioning to the digitization of university libraries, while 6 administrators (15.78%) somewhat agree.
- 25administrators (65.79%) believe that adherence to traditional administrative procedures prevents the application of technological advancements, while 9 administrators (23.68%) somewhat agree, and 4 administrators (10.63%) disagree.
- 35administrators (92.11%) feel that the concept of implementing digitization projects in university libraries is unclear to the administration, while 3 administrators (7.9%) somewhat agree.
- 28administrators (73.68%) believe that the weak infrastructure for modern technologies and the lack of readiness of university libraries to adopt digitization projects are major obstacles, while 5 administrators (13.1%) somewhat agree, and 5 administrators (13.1%) disagree.
- 32administrators (84.21%) agree that it is difficult to keep up with technological developments due to their rapid pace, while 5 administrators (13.1%) somewhat agree, and 1 administrator (2.63%) disagrees.
- 30administrators (78.9%) believe that a secure technological infrastructure is unavailable, while 4 administrators (10.63%) somewhat agree, and 4 administrators (10.63%) disagree.
- 33administrators (86.84%) express concern about the rapid development of computer software, while 5 administrators (13.1%) somewhat agree.
- 28administrators (73.68%) believe that limited financial allocations for developing the technological infrastructure of university libraries are a barrier, while 4 administrators (10.63%) somewhat agree, and 6 administrators (15.78%) disagree.
- 35administrators (92.11%) acknowledge the lack of budget for training library staff on digitization techniques, while 2 administrators (5.26%) somewhat agree, and 1 administrator (2.63%) disagrees.
- 35administrators (92.11%) believe that there are insufficient financial allocations for purchasing equipment and software for digitization due to high costs, while 3 administrators (7.9%) somewhat agree.
- 38administrators (100%) state that there are no regulations in Libyan law for protecting digital information.

- 30administrators (78.9%) report a lack of activities in the library to raise legal awareness about the changes in the digital environment, while 5 administrators (13.1%) somewhat agree, and 3 administrators (7.9%) disagree.
- 38administrators (100%) believe that there are insufficient government strategies and initiatives to digitize university libraries.
- 15administrators (39.47%) find it difficult to protect authors' rights due to the lack of laws safeguarding intellectual property in Libyan law, while 15 administrators (39.47%) somewhat agree, and 8 administrators (21.05%) disagree.
- 32administrators (84.21%) are concerned about the digital transformation and resistance to change, while 6 administrators (15.79%) somewhat agree.
- 30administrators (78.9%) believe that the lack of experience and a shortage of qualified staff specialized in digitization processes are obstacles, while 6 administrators (15.79%) somewhat agree, and 2 administrators (5.26%) disagree.
- 38administrators (100%) report a shortage of specialized personnel in the field of digitization.

Conclusion:

At the end of the current research, the researcher has reached the following findings:

1. **The majority of administrators agree that the main obstacles facing the idea of digitizing the Faculty of Arts Library at Omar Al-Mukhtar University are:**

- The lack of proper planning and feasibility studies for transitioning to the digitization of university libraries.
- The lack of awareness among administrative officials about the importance of digitizing university libraries.
- The adherence to traditional administrative procedures, which prevents the application of new technologies.
- The unclear concept of implementing digitization projects in university libraries within the administration.
- The weak infrastructure for modern technologies and the lack of readiness of university libraries to adopt digitization projects.
- The inability to keep up with technological developments due to their rapid pace.
- The unavailability of a secure technological infrastructure.
- Concerns about the rapid development of computer software.
- The limited financial allocations for developing the technological infrastructure of university libraries.
- The limited financial allocations for purchasing equipment and software for digitization due to their high cost.
- The insufficient or nonexistent budget for training library staff in digitization techniques.
- The lack of activities within the library that raise awareness about legal issues in the digital environment.
- The shortage of qualified and specialized staff in digitization processes.
- Concerns about digital transformation and resistance to change.

2. **While all the administrators in the sample agree on the following:**

- The lack of regulations to protect digital information in Libyan law.
- The lack of governmental strategies and initiatives for digitizing university libraries.
- The shortage of specialized personnel in the field of digitization.
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Recommendations:

- The researcher suggests that the university administration should form a committee responsible for planning and conducting proper feasibility studies for the transition to digitizing university libraries.
- The researcher recommends working to clarify the concept of digitization projects in university libraries to all administrators working in the university libraries.
- The researcher believes that there is a need to raise the awareness of administrative officials about the importance of transitioning to the digitization of university libraries. This can be achieved through organizing training sessions for all administrators working in the university libraries so they can understand the benefits that digitization will bring to all library users.
- The researcher recommends that the university administration work on strengthening the infrastructure for modern technologies by increasing the financial allocations for preparing the technological infrastructure of university libraries. This would help address the lack of readiness in university libraries to adopt digitization projects.
- The researcher believes that the university administration should keep pace with rapid technological developments, which will ultimately benefit the university libraries.
- The researcher recommends issuing regulations to protect digital information within Libyan law.
- The researcher advises the university to provide specialized personnel in the field of digitization.

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