



**THE UNIVERSITY OF IBADAN
LIBRARY SYSTEM**



THE JOURNEY CONTINUES...

Edited by:

**Benedict A. Olatunji
Christopher O. Oja**

KENNETH OKE LIBRARY

**THE UNIVERSITY OF IBADAN LIBRARY
SYSTEM: THE JOURNEY CONTINUES...**

Edited by

Benedict A. Oladele
University Librarian (2006 – 2016)

and

Christopher O. Ola
Deputy University Librarian

IBADAN UNIVERSITY PRESS
2018

Ibadan University Press,
Publishing House,
University of Ibadan,
Ibadan, Nigeria

© 2018 Kenneth Dike Library

First Published 2018

All Rights Reserved

No part of this publication may be reproduced, transmitted, transcribed, stored in a retrieval system, or translated into any language or computer language, in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, magnetic, chemical, photocopy, recording, manual or otherwise, without the prior permission of the publisher.

ISBN: 978 – 978 – 8529 – 32 – 3

CONTENTS

Dedication		iv
Foreword		xiii
Preface		ix
Contributors		xv
1	The History of Kenneth Dike Library, University of Ibadan: The Genesis <i>Ojo, R.A.</i>	1
2	Administration in Kenneth Dike Library: 1948-2016 <i>Adetoun A. Oyelude and Beatrice A. Fabunmi</i>	21
3	Kenneth Dike Library: An Overview <i>Kikelomo Kayode-Edebor</i>	35
4	Kenneth Dike Library (KDL) Users in Historical Perspectives: A Statistical Study of Use and Users' Behaviour Over Time <i>Akinde, Taiwo Adetoun, Oseghale Osagie and Okoroma, Franscisca N.</i>	51
5	Architectural and Physical Development of the Library <i>Olayinka C. Fatoki and Cecilia O.B. Adewumi</i>	65
6	Library Setbacks <i>Eguavoen, O.E.L. and Akande, S.O.</i>	71
7	The Story of the First Academic Medical Library in Nigeria: The E. Latunde Odeku Medical Library in Perspective <i>Helen O. Komolafe-Opadeji</i>	83

8	Important Landmarks and Dates of Relevance to the Library <i>Bolarinwa M. Adeyemi and Cecilia O.B. Adewumi</i>	95
9	Activities of the Systems Unit in Brief <i>Ojo, R.A., Dumebi Otulugbu, Titilayo C. Ilesanmi Agwu, P.U. and Alonge, A.J.</i>	101
10	An Evaluation of Kenneth Dike Library, University of Ibadan: 1948-2011 <i>Josephine U. Igbeka</i>	111
11	Kenneth Dike Library: Now and Beyond <i>Ola, C.O.</i>	141
Index		163

UNIVERSITY OF IBADAN LIBRARY

8

IMPORTANT LANDMARKS AND DATES OF RELEVANCE TO THE LIBRARY

Bolarinwa M. Adeyemi and Cecilia. O.B. Adewumi

The establishment, of the first university in Nigeria, University of Ibadan, formerly a College of the University of London, in 1948, gave birth to the historic library known as the Ibadan University Library which was later rechristened Kenneth Dike Library in 1984 after the first Nigerian principal of the university, Professor Kenneth Onwuka Dike, who also later became the first Nigerian Vice-Chancellor.

The first University College Librarian, Professor William John Harris, a New Zealander, arrived in Nigeria in November 1948. He had been a University Librarian at Otago University, New Zealand from 1935 till his appointment at the University College of Ibadan. He came with the determination to build a 'good library' and spent most of his time cataloguing books. He classified about thirty thousand volumes while the library was still at the University's old site at Eleyele and by 1949, ten thousand volumes were already completely processed and on the shelves.

On 3rd April 1949, the University Bookshop, an offshoot of the library, was opened for business by Mr. Alvan Ikoku who was then a member of the University Council. The bookshop came into existence due to the doggedness of John Harris and his wife Margerite, the first manager of the bookshop. In the beginning it was actually located in a corner of the library to enable students buy the books they needed, in order to relieve the pressure on the increasingly insufficient library resources.

In January 1950, the bindery of the library started operations and was manned by a well-trained book binder who was sent overseas for further training. Printing equipment was also acquired so the University Press also started in a corner of the bindery. The press was initially intended to be an ancillary department of the library but it grew to be a thriving organization on its own. The University Press started operations with a second-hand small platen press bought for the sum of Forty Naira (₦40.00). In 1953,

a crown-sized platen was acquired in addition to two-horsepower (2 hp) electric motor, one foolscap and one quarto treadle platen press. In 1954, a cylinder machine was added to the Press and in 1956, fully automated composing machines, brand new Caster and Monotype Keyboard machines were acquired at a cost of ₦12,000, and in 1955 the following year, the first fully automated printing machine was bought. The Press was a part of the Library for a long time and a publications committee was established by the University Senate in 1955 to control its publishing policies. Until 1965, it had no budget of its own but was run on a small subvention by the Library.

In the year 1950, the library established exchange relations with about sixty-three libraries and other institutions of learning. By 1953, the number had risen to one hundred and fifty-three. Also in 1950, the Nigerian government Publications Ordinance Act was enacted. It stipulated that two copies of everything published in the country should be deposited in the University Library. This implies that the library became the repository of legal deposits thereby benefiting from the country's copy tax. The collection, known as the 'Publications Ordinance' is still thriving till date even after the establishment of the National Library which is presently the official repository of legal deposits in the country.

In order to ensure the smooth, efficient and effective running of the library, there arose the need to have qualified professional staff. At the beginning, John Harris, the University College Librarian was the only professional staff on ground being assisted by Nigerian clerks and typists. This was due to the fact that librarianship was still a relatively new field in Nigeria at that time and this fact was also true of other West African countries. It was becoming increasingly difficult to get expatriate librarians to work in the Library and there was a need to attract Nigerians into the Librarianship profession. He was later joined by Miss D.K. Forsythe who became the chief cataloguer. The College Librarian then had the strong belief that the key to library development anywhere was personnel and that modern librarianship required personnel with superior training. The resolutions passed in a UNESCO Seminar in 1953 gave strength to his convictions and

with the help of an initial generous grant of eighty-eight thousand dollars (\$88,000) he got the first library school established in Nigeria in 1959.

The first library school, christened 'Institute of Librarianship' was attached to the University Library, where it occupied the fourth floor of what is presently known as the undergraduate library. The School was established with the vision to "help the development of libraries by training librarians and investigating problems of librarianship and bibliography with special reference to West Africa and with particular attention to the leadership level". Enrolment into courses began in the 1960/61 session with six (6) students. The University Librarian, John Harris, was the first Director of the Institute and most of the teaching was done by senior members of the University library staff and visiting lecturers from other Nigerian libraries and some departments in the University. John Harris served as Director till 1965. Another grant of thirteen thousand dollars (\$13,000.00) was released to the Institute in 1963/64 session, which enabled the employment of three (3) full-time lecturers, namely Irvin Liebermann, Director of Washington Library School, Seattle who served as advisory director for a year, Adetowun Ogunshye and Elizabeth Peeler, the chief cataloguer both of whom were seconded from the Library. In the 1975/76 session, the Institute was incorporated into the Faculty of Education and ceased to be an adjunct of the University Library.

The library moved to the permanent building in 1954 after having operated from the temporary wooden huts on the old site of the University for seven years. The building was commissioned on the foundation day of the University, 17th November 1954. It was formally declared open by the then Federal Minister of Education, Honourable Shettima Kashim (later called Kashim Ibrahim) who became the Governor of the Northern Region of Nigeria during the First Republic. It is worthy of note that on the same day that the Library was opened, the Trenchard Hall which was donated to the University College by the United Africa Company Limited (UAC), was also opened. The hall was named after Viscount Trenchard, the then Marshal of the British Royal Air Force and Chairman of the UAC until 1953. Also, on that day, the Chapel of the

Resurrection was consecrated by Archbishop L.G. Vining, the first Archbishop of the Anglican Province of West Africa. The wood carving of the Risen Christ by Mr. Ben Enwonwu was unveiled at that ceremony.

The extension of the Kenneth Dike Library main building was constructed during John Harris' tenure and opened on Friday 7th February 1969, after his retirement. Professor John Harris, the founding University Librarian of the University of Ibadan, retired in 1968 after twenty (20) years of selfless and dynamic service. He later died on 3rd January 1980 at the age of seventy-six (76). After his retirement the Library had been headed by the following librarians:

- Mr. Khalil Mahmud, Acting University Librarian, 1968–1972;
- Mrs. T.O. Oderinde University Librarian 1972 – 1987;
- Mr. F.O. Aramide, Acting University Librarian 1987–1988;
- Mrs. O.G. Tamuno University Librarian 1988–1998;
- Mr. J.E. Ikem University Librarian 1998–2003;
- Mr. S.S.A. Odularu Acting University Librarian 2003–2004;
- Dr. G.D. Ekpenyong Acting University Librarian 2004–2005;
- Mrs. Scott-Emuakpor Acting University Librarian 2005–2006;
- Dr. B.A. Oladele University Librarian 2006–2016.

In 1978, a new administrative structure was created, which comprised of four divisions namely, Collection Development, Readers' Services, Technical Services and, Bibliographic Services, which was later merged with the Readers' Services division. In 1987, the Special collections section was upgraded into a full-fledged division.

During the 1960s, the library was mostly funded through financial assistance received from foreign philanthropic organizations such as the Carnegie Corporation, Ford Foundation and the Rockefeller Foundation. In the 1970s, the National Universities Commission (NUC) directed that all federal university libraries should receive five percent (5%) of their institutions'

recurrent budgets. This was found to be grossly inadequate. In September 1992, as a result of the industrial dispute (strike) embarked upon by the Academic Staff Union of Universities (ASUU), the Federal Government and ASUU signed an agreement that every Nigerian University Library should receive annually, ten percent (10%) of the annual income of the total regular recurrent budget of their parent universities.

In 1974, the University Senate passed a resolution which directed all departmental reading rooms and libraries being run by the various departments and faculties in the University, to come under the control of the University main library. Thus, the University of Ibadan Library System which comprised about twenty-eight units of libraries was born to bring the library closer to its users.

Before the 1974 resolution however, some branch libraries of the Kenneth Dike Library had been in existence. A medical sub-library was started in 1963 at the College of Medicine which is some eight (8) kilometers away from the University main campus, to cater for the needs of clinical students, consultants and other users with related information needs. The service point was linked to the main library by a daily courier service which took and returned needed books and materials to and fro as required. In 1966, it became a full-fledged branch library stocked with medical and other relevant literature, managed by professional librarians and headed by a librarian designated as medical librarian. Another service point created in the early 1960s was the Africana service point in the Institute of African Studies.

The Library embarked on the project of automating its operations in order to improve on the quality of information services it was rendering and also to be a trailblazer in the adoption of new technologies in the practice of librarianship. The first fruit of the automation process was the computerized serials catalogue which was produced with the help of the University Computing Centre in 1975. In pursuance of the vision, in 1998, the then Vice-Chancellor of the University of Ibadan, Professor A.B.O.O. Oyediran officially commissioned the Library's Computer Applications Unit (CAU) which is now known as the Systems unit.

In 1990, the Library deployed the UNESCO's CDS/ISIS software to create machine readable records through the assistance

of the Library of Congress. In April 1993, another library management software, The Information Navigator Library (TINLIB) was acquired and installed by the Library. Active use of the software which was DOS-based started in September 1993. In 2004, ALICE for Windows, another library management system was acquired to replace TINLIB which was becoming increasingly cumbersome to manage due to the DOS operating system it was operating on. By 2008, the Library had to embark on the deployment of another Library Management System VIRTUA acquired through the assistance of the MacArthur Foundation grant and guidance of the Mortenson Center, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. This was also accomplished with the cooperation of five other Nigerian universities to form the basis of a consortium. On the 16th September 2010, Professor Olufemi Bamiro, the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Ibadan commissioned KDLOPAC, the online public access catalogue of the Library. So, the journey continues!

Suggested Readings

- Aboyade, B.O. 1973. "The University Library and Related Fields" In *The University of Ibadan, 1948-1973: A History of the First Twenty-five Years*, J.F. Ade-Ajayi and Tekena N. Tamuno (eds.) Ibadan: Ibadan University Press, pp 127-150.
- Harris, W.J. 1968. *Ibadan university library: Some notes on its birth and growth*. Ibadan: Ibadan University Press, 44p.
- Odularu, S.S.A. 2000. "Fifty Years of Library Services at the University of Ibadan (1948-1998)" In *Ibadan at Fifty, 1948-1998: Nigeria's Premier University in Perspective*, Mojuetan, B.A. (ed.), Ibadan: Ibadan University Press.
- Tamuno, T.N. 1981. *Ibadan voices: Ibadan university in transition*. Ibadan: Ibadan University Press. 409 p.
- Tamuno, O.G. and B.O. Toye. 1988. "Ibadan University Library: From a Library to a Library System" In *University Libraries in Nigeria: A Festschrift for John Harris*, Bankole, E.B. and Oderinde T.O. (eds.), The Committee of University Librarians of Nigerian Universities, Lagos. 139p.