



## Maulana Azad Library

Aligarh Muslim University  
Aligarh -202002 India



Main Building



New Block



Library Museum

Visit: <https://www.amu.ac.in/malibrary/>

### Maulana Azad Library

The Central Library of the Aligarh Muslim University is known as Maulana Azad Library which is the largest Library System in India and 2nd largest in Asia. The foundation stone of the Library was laid in 1877 during the establishment of the Mohammedan Anglo Oriental College by Lord Lytton, the then Viceroy of India and it was named after him as Lytton Library which was later shifted and renamed as Maulana Azad Library. The present seven storied building of the library was inaugurated in 1960 by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, the first Prime Minister of India.

The Library System comprises of a central library, viz. Maulana Azad Library and about 110 satellite libraries including college and departmental libraries and libraries in its three out-of-campus centres at Malappuram, Kerala, Murshidabad, West Bengal and Kishanganj, Bihar. The Maulana Azad Library system possesses about 15,00,000 volumes of printed books and over 55,097 current and bound journals in hard and soft copies and centrally caters the Teaching, Research and Extension requirements of the faculty members, students and other clientele. The daily average footfall in the MA Library alone is about 10,000 per 18 hours of its opening hours from 8.00 a.m. to 2.00 a.m. next day and can accommodate about 2000 readers at a time apart from VIPs/visitors/researchers from different parts of the world. It has a rare collection of Manuscripts and has a Library Museum as well apart all the traditional and modern sections/units/services as any library may have. It also has privileged spaces for Faculty, Girls, Retired people, Lady staff apart Prayer Room, etc.

MA Library is also one of the largest and reputed repository of rare manuscripts and books in oriental languages. One of the most priced part of the Library is its Manuscripts Division which possess about 16,000 rare and invaluable manuscripts in Arabic, Persian, Urdu, Hindi, Sanskrit, Malayalam, Telugu and other languages. It also possesses rare paintings and arte facts including one by the famous Mughal painter Mansur.

The library has now introduced a state-of-the-art information technology system and is fully automated with web based LibSys 7.0 software which connects almost all 5,000 computers within the University as well as the University's three centres in distant states. The 3M/EM security system and about three dozen CCTV cameras ensure safety of the Library and its material.

The MA library has recently got the following recognitions:

- (1) Highest Usage Award from ProQuest Theses and Dissertations International 2017.
- (2) One of the Top 10 Contributors Certificate from ShodhGanga of the INFLIBNET/MHRD 2017.
- (3) Appreciation Certificate for being One of the Content Partners to the National Digital Library, IIT Kharagpur/MHRD Project 2018.

Some of the important divisions of the MA Library which attracts users from world over include;

#### Oriental Division

The Oriental Division attracts scholars from different parts of the globe. Such a big collection of Arabic, Persian, Urdu, Hindi and Sanskrit rare books is not to be found in any other repository within the Sub-Continent. The Oriental Division was established with the donation of Sir Syed's personal collection itself in 1877. There are about 1.5 lakh volumes, including a substantial number of rare and out-of-print publications of the early 19th century from the Scientific Society of Sir Syed Ahmad Khan, Fort William College (Calcutta), Delhi College, Agra College and the Royal Printing Presses of the courts of Delhi and Oudh. The Oriental collection has been enriched by several gifts of the personal collections of eminent scholars and bibliophiles, noteworthy amongst them being those of Dr. Ram Babu Saxena of Allahabad, Subhan Allah of Gorakhpur, Abdus Salam of



Oriental Division

Rampur, Habib Ganj (Library of Nawab Sadr Yaar Jung), Ahsan Marhervi of Marehra (Etah), Sir Shah Md. Sulaiman of Allahabad, Kaifi Azmi of Azamgarh, Zoe Ansari of Mumbai, etc. These include priceless Arabic and Persian Manuscripts as well.

#### Manuscript Division & Library Museum

The Manuscript Collection is the most distinguishing feature of Maulana Azad Library which consists of about 16000 manuscripts of which quite a few hundred are very rare and valuable.



Quran scribed by Hazrat Ali

Among these, the oldest manuscript is 'a copy of the Quran', which is over 1400 years old. It is believed to be written by Hazrat Ali himself on parchment in Kufi script. A copy of Nahj al-Balagha, the Collections of aphorisms and utterances of Hazrat Ali is also preserved. Another rare manuscript is that of the Hālnāma of Bāyazīd Ansāri, the spiritual leader of Raushania Movement. There are several farmans (Royal decrees) of the

Mughal kings like Babur, Akbar, Shahjahan, Aurangzeb and Shah Alam. Painting of Red Tulip, a masterpiece of Mansur, the famous court painter of Jahangir and Sanskrit works translated into Persian are also preserved in the Library. Of these, the Persian translations of 'Bhagwadgita' by Abul Faiz Faizi and Dara Shukoh's translation of Upanishads, entitled Sīr-e Akbar, are worth mentioning. Other possessions include Telugu and Malyalam manuscripts written on palm leaves. Among other items are the manuscripts bearing notes in the handwriting of Jahangir on Tarjī'āt-e Irāqī, seals and signatures of the famous poet Faizi on the manuscript of Tarīkh-i-Gazida. Manuscripts in the writing of Mughal Queens and Princesses like Jahān Āra and Jīna Begum are also to be found here.

To exhibit the major rarities available in Manuscript Division, the Library Museum has been established in February 2017. This Museum has on display most of the rare manuscripts and artifacts like the 1400 hundred year old copy of the Quran on parchment; Persian translation of Upanishads by Dara Shikoh; as also translations of Bhagawad Gita, Mahabharata and Ramayana; Telugu Manuscript on Ayurveda; Mughal period garment with complete Quran inscribed upon it, sword of Aurangzeb; Nobel Prize of Prof. Abdus Salam; rare paintings and original farmans (Royal Decrees) of Mughal Emperors. Besides, the Library Museum also displays Maulana Azad Collection: items of personal use of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, received as gift from his family members in 2017.



Drama written on Palm Leaf (Malayalam)

#### Conservation and Binding Section

The Library has carefully undertaken in right earnest the conservation and preservation of its manuscripts and printed books to preserve the world's documentary heritage. It maintains a Conservation Laboratory for manuscripts and Bindery for books, journals, newspapers etc. The Library uses a combination of "preventive" and "interventive" activities. Reduction and wherever possible, elimination of the causes of deterioration is the more effective strategy that the Library seeks to pursue.

#### Collection Development Division

This Division is responsible for selecting, ordering and acquiring books and other documents on the basis of recommendations and also as gift. Gift and Exchange is also one of the important activities of the Library where documents of many languages are received as gift. A library member may also suggest books for acquisition in the MA Library in writing or by visiting the link [http://10.0.33.179/Book\\_Suggest.php](http://10.0.33.179/Book_Suggest.php)

#### Technical Division

After acquiring and accessioning, the acquired books are sent to the Technical Division for classification, cataloguing and feeding bibliographical information of documents in LibSys

software based database to make their references accessible all over the world through OPAC/Web OPAC.

#### Circulation Division

The Circulation Division of the University Library provides open/closed access for issuable books to its students, faculty and staff. Users can go to stacks directly for choosing the desired books or request the staff if need be and can borrow them.

#### Periodicals Division

This Division is responsible for collecting and managing periodicals/databases and E-Resources which contain the latest information on current developments. The Library makes every effort to procure the maximum number of journals/databases on all subjects of studies. This Division also procures and manages the current newspapers and general magazines. At present, about 700 journals in hard copy and 16000 e-journals are subscribed in addition to some databases for research and reference. A library member may also suggest periodical/journal for acquisition by submitting application through their respective department of study.

#### Computer Applications Division (CAD)



CAD

The Division performs housekeeping operations in Acquisition, Periodical, Technical and Circulation Divisions. The Library is a part of the fibre optic based campus LAN. Out of 200 computers, over 120 are exclusively available for the use of research scholars/students, faculty members etc. in the Library. Computer Applications Division designs and develops many utility software for the smooth running of library apart from maintenance of main Library software i.e. LibSys, EPrints. Training and help is also given to users and staff of the university regarding information retrieval and data entry. The Division also has a "Plagiarism Cell" which provides assistance in plagiarism/similarity checking of Research Papers/Theses and Dissertations using Turnitin tool. Users who want to check plagiarism are required to personally bring their paper/thesis and dissertation to be checked to the Computer Application Division.

#### Digital Resources Centre (DRC)

The Library provides campus-wide access to online resources through a well-equipped Computer Lab having 100 nodes based on Windows and Ubuntu operating systems. It provides access to the subscribed as well as open access resources available to the University. CDs of lectures of IITians, medical tutorials, reference documents, etc. are also accessible in the Digital Resources Centre.



DRC

#### Research and Reference Section

The reference tools available in print form in this Section consist mainly of dictionaries, encyclopedias, bibliographies, directories, indices, geographical sources, subject dictionaries, statistical sources, calendars, yearbooks, biographies, gazetteers, census reports, statistical information sources, factual information sources, etc. The staff working in the section guides the students and other searchers in locating and providing the required material out of the reference sources.

#### Sir Syed Section

The Library has a separate hall in which books written by Sir Syed as well as on Sir Syed are kept. The Aligarh Institute Gazette started by Sir Syed in 1866,



Sir Syed

Tahzeeb-ul-Akhlaq started in 1870, are also available in Sir Syed Section which is consulted widely by scholars from India and abroad.

### Braille Section

One of the special features of Maulana Azad Library is its service to the visually challenged students through its Braille Section. Apart from the books in Braille script, a large number of documents in electronic format and devices are also available in this section which are provided to the students. Angel Pro, a mobile like apparatus for recording classroom lectures and listening to recorded books are issued to all the students for the entire duration of the course.

### River Ganga Repository

The purpose of 'River Ganga Repository' is to collect, organize and make accessible to the world, the literature and other information pertaining to the river Ganga which may be utilized in cleaning and rejuvenating the river Ganga. AMU has already gathered a number of books, reports, dissertations and theses which are now part of the repository. The River Ganga Repository was launched in the premises of Maulana Azad Library on May 17, 2016.

### Reading Halls/Rooms

There are six large size reading halls apart from a few small reading areas/rooms with a seating capacity of about 2000 students at a time. These include:

- Research Division (RD)
- PG Reading Hall
- General Reading Hall (GRH/PSD)
- Textual Studies Division (TSD)
- Mehmoodur Rehman Hall (MRH)
- Dalai Lama Hall (DL)
- Girls Reading Room 1 (Only for Girls)
- Girls Reading Room 2 (Only for Girls)
- Hindi Section
- Oriental Division
- Newspaper Reading Area
- Magazine Reading Area
- Theses Section
- Digital Resources Centre
- Faculty Reading Room
- Retired Faculty Room
- Ladies Staff Room, etc



Research Division



Girls Reading Room

### Library Membership and Circulation: Policies and Guidelines

The Maulana Azad Library offers library membership to the following:

- Bonafide Students
- Teachers
- Support Staff
- Court/ EC/FC Members
- Retired Teachers/Staff
- Researchers from within the country and abroad
- Special Members, etc

For getting Library Membership, it is required to fill-up the online membership form through the link <http://malibrary.co.in/ra.php> provided on Library webpage to utilize all the available resources of the MA Library. Membership is also mandatory for Research Scholars (Ph.D./M.Phil.) to use the Digital Resources Centre. In case of student membership, applicants

need to take printout of filled form, attested by Provost of the Hall and submit it to the Circulation Division, MA Library alongwith photocopy of Admission/Continuation form of the current session. In case of University Employee/Faculty, etc. they may fill printout of the form, duly attested by the Head of the Department and submit it to the Circulation Division, MA Library along with photocopy of the ID Card. In case of other memberships, one may contact the In-Charge, Circulation Division, MA Library, AMU, Aligarh. The University Librarian is authorized for providing membership to any other person as well on case to case basis.

### Collections/Books/Resources

The library collection is stored in a grand seven-storied building and in New Block of Maulana Azad Library. The following Table 1 shows the overall collection possessed by the Maulana Azad Library. Table 2 and Table 3 shows floor wise collections in stack areas of Seven-Storied Building and New Block respectively.

Table 1: Collection in Maulana Azad Library (approximately)

| Collection                               | Number of Records        |
|--|--------------------------|
| Printed Books                            | 15 Lakh                  |
| Theses and Dissertations                 | 9930                     |
| Print Journals (Subscribed)              | 700                      |
| Books in Hindi & Sanskrit                | 50000                    |
| E-Books (Purchased)                      | 875                      |
| E-Theses & Dissertations (Institutional) | 9395                     |
| E-Theses (Subscribed)                    | 2 Million in full text   |
| Books (in Braille Script)                | 3000                     |
| Books of Oriental Languages (Digitized)  | 15000                    |
| E-Books (Open Access)                    | 5.5 Crores               |
| e-Journals (Subscribed)                  | 16000                    |
| Non Print (Microfiche, AV)               | 3685                     |
| Manuscripts/Rare Documents               | 16000                    |
| Manuscripts/Rare Documents (digitized)   | 8100 in 9.5 lakhs folios |

Table 2: Floor-Wise Book Stack Plan

| East   | Stack              | West  |
|--|--------------------|---|
|  | Ground Floor Stack | Text Book Issue Section (Arranged Subject-Wise) 000-999   |
|  | I Stack            | Hindi Text Books/ Urdu General Books (Arranged Subject-Wise) 000-999  |
|  | II Stack           | General, Library Science, Philosophy, Psychology, Religion, Statistics, Political Science, Economics, Law, Public Administration, Insurance (Arranged Subject-Wise) 000-369   |
| English Fiction, German Literature, French Literature, Italian Literature, Other Literatures, Indian Literature, History, Archeology, Travelogue, Geography, Biographies, Ancient History, History of Europe, Africa, Asia, America, Australia, etc. | III Stack          | Education, Folklore, Language & Linguistics, Mathematics, Astronomy, Physics, Chemistry, Geology, Planetology, Biology, Biochemistry, Botany, Zoology, Technology, Medicine, Engineering, Agriculture, Home Economics, Management, Chemical Engineering, Manufacture, Buildings, Architecture, Paintings, Drawing, Sculpture, Literature, English Poetry, Drama (Arranged Subject-Wise) 823-999 |
|  | IV Stack           | Hindi & Sanskrit Reading Room & Stacks  |
| Reference Books,   | V Stack            | Reserved Books, Aftab Collection, Art   |

|                                |           |  |
|--------------------------------|-----------|--|
| Back Volumes of Census Reports |           | Collection, Hamid Ali Collection, Ziauddin Collection, Nizami Collection, Jawed Ali Collection |
| Old Volumes of Periodicals     | VI Stack  | Old Reference Books  |
| Discarded Books/ Newspapers    | VII Stack | Bound Journals (Arranged Subject-Wise) 000-999   |

Table 3: Collections/Resources/Services/Facilities in New Block of MA Library

| Division/Section         | Floor        | Collections/Resources/Services        |
|--------------------------|--------------|---------------------------------------|
| Digital Resources Centre | Ground Floor | Computer Lab                          |
| Theses and Dissertations | Ground Floor | Theses and Dissertations              |
| Girls Reading Room-1     | Ground Floor | Reading Room and Computing facilities |
| Faculty Reading Room     | Ground Floor | Reading Room and Computing facilities |
| River Ganga Repository   | Ground Floor | Documents on River Ganga              |
| Girls Reading Room-2     | Ground Floor | Reading Room and Computing facilities |
| Oriental Division        | First Floor  | Urdu, Persian                         |
| Arabic Section           | First Floor  | Arabic                                |
| Sir Syed Room            | First Floor  | Documents on/by Sir Syed Ahmad Khan   |

#### E-Resources

Maulana Azad Library provides links to subscription based resources through library webpage which include; Scopus, American Chemical Society, American Institute of Physics, American Physical Society, Annual Reviews, Cambridge University Press, Economic & Political Weekly, Emerald University Collection, Institute of Physics, JSTOR, Nature, Oxford University Press, Project Muse, Royal Society of Chemistry, Springer Link, Taylor and Francis, Wiley Blackwell Publishing, Springer Nature e-Books, Science Direct e-Books, e-Books (subscribed) for Social Science Digital Library, Cambridge University Press, Taylor & Francis, DELNET, Clinical Learning, Library & Information Science Source (LISS) Database, IndianJournals.com, IndiaStat.com, ProQuest Dissertations & Theses Global Database, ProQuest Historical Newspapers: The Times of India, Web of Science, etc. (<http://www.amu.ac.in/malibrary/>). These resources are IP based and can be accessed from anywhere in the campus through university network. However, for accessing some resources such as DELNET and Proquest database, login ID and Password are required. The Remote Login from outside the campus using OpenAthens has also been provided to faculty members.

#### Services

The Maulana Azad Library offers a wide range of services to its users including Cultural Hall/Auditorium for hosting events and meetings with 200 capacity, CAS/SDI Services, Charging and discharging of documents, Reading Room services, Newspapers & Magazines facility, Assistance in locating/searching of documents, Reference/Referral Service, OPAC/Web OPAC, Help Desk/ Print Facility, Bibliographic Service, Exhibitions/Book fairs, Reprographic Services, Author Workshops, Orientation Programs, Internship programS, Training of Library staff, Resource sharing, Newsclipping Service, Plagiarism Checking, etc.

#### Library Hours

The Library remains open for 18 hours on all days except few holidays.

Reading Rooms/Halls

- All Reading halls except Girls Reading Room 1 and 2 remains open from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m. (next day) including holidays and Sundays except few festival holidays.

Circulation Division (Book Issue/Return Section)

- Monday to Thursday & Saturday - 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
- Friday - 8:00 to 11:30 p.m.

Manuscript Division including Library Museum

- Monday to Thursday & Saturday - 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

- Friday - 8:00 to 12:00 p.m.
- Oriental Division
- Monday to Thursday & Saturday - 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
  - Friday - 8:00 to 12:00 p.m.

Digital Resources Centre (DRC)

- Monday to Thursday & Saturday - 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- Friday - 8:00 to 12:30 p.m. & 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Offices

- Monday to Thursday & Saturday - 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Lunch Break)
- Friday - 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

*Note: On Every Friday, whole Library is closed for two hours from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.*

#### Overdue Fine

Overdue Fines are assessed from the borrower who returns the books after the due date at the following rates:

- Re. 1.00 per day on Text Books
- 0.50 Paise per day on General Books

#### Academic Events

Apart day to day activities, Maulana Azad Library regularly organizes/hosts free academic events such as Seminars/Workshops on various topics such as Paper Writings, Plagiarism and Research Methodology etc. for research scholars, faculty members, students and other non-teaching staff. No registration fee is generally charged from participants for attending these academic programmes. Users are advised to visit library webpage (<http://www.amu.ac.in/malibrary/>) regularly for the information about upcoming academic events being organized by Maulana Azad Library. The MA Library offers free Orientation Sessions of about 2 hours to any unit of the University on demand/request. The below given pictures shows glimpses of some of the past events organized by Maulana Azad Library.



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