

Session 1:

History of the World Digital Library and the Arab Peninsula Regional Group:

Overview of the Creation of the WDL and the Arab Peninsula Group

Presentation to the 2016 World Digital Library Arab Peninsula Regional Group:

“Planning the Way Forward”

Hosted by the Qatar National Library

Doha, Qatar, May 10, 2016

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Director, WDL



World Digital Library

Mission:

Digitize and make freely available over the Internet, in multilingual format, primary source materials that tell the stories and highlight the achievements of all countries

Objectives:

- Promote international and intercultural understanding and awareness
- Expand multilingual and culturally diverse content on the internet
- Provide resources to educators and contribute to scholarly research
- Build knowledge and capacity in the developing world; help narrow the digital divide

Timeline:

Organization and Governance of the WDL

June 2005:	Library of Congress proposes WDL to UNESCO
December 2005:	Initial funding received from Google
December 2006:	UNESCO Experts Meeting; conclusion of LoC-UNESCO MOU
October 2007:	WDL prototype shown at UNESCO General Conference
April 2009:	Launch of www.wdl.org at UNESCO headquarters in Paris; organizational meeting of the partners
March 2010:	Adoption of WDL Charter
June 2010:	First formal meeting of the WDL partners under the charter; election of the Executive Council, Washington, DC, USA
January 2011:	First meeting of the WDL Executive Council, UNESCO headquarters, Paris
November 2011:	WDL Partner and EC meetings, Munich, Germany
December 2012:	WDL Partner and EC meetings, Washington, DC, USA
November 2013:	WDL Partner and EC meetings, Washington, DC, USA
October 2014:	WDL Partner and EC meetings, Rome, Italy
November 2015:	WDL Partner and EC meetings, Alexandria, Egypt

Key Role of the Qatar National Library

July 2008: Central Library signs WDL Contributor Agreement with the Library of Congress

April 2009: Library of Congress and Qatar Foundation sign three-year cooperative agreement

Central Library is one of nineteen partner libraries to contribute content (a set of rare maps) to the launch version of www.wdl.org

Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser, Chairperson of the Qatar Foundation, delivers a videotaped message to the launch ceremonies of the WDL at UNESCO headquarters

April 2010: Qatar Foundation, representing the national library, signs the WDL Charter as a founding member of the WDL

May 2010: Visit of Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser, Chairperson of the Qatar Foundation, to the Library of Congress

Conclusion of a Memorandum of Understanding supplementing the 2009 cooperative agreement

Key Role of the Qatar National Library

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|----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| June 2010: | Sheikh Abdulla al-Thani elected to the WDL Executive Council at the first meeting of the WDL partners in Washington |
| July 2012: | Conclusion of agreement between the Qatar National Library and the Library of Congress; adoption of the first WDL-Qatar National Library Business Plan |
| July 2013: | Renewal of the QNL-Library of Congress agreement for the period 2013-2015 |
| July 2015: | Renewal of the QNL-Library of Congress agreement for the period 2015-2016 |
| November 2015: | Re-election of Dr. Claudia Lux to WDL Executive Council for the period 2016-2020 |

Key Accomplishments

Content

- Collections of the Qatar National Library

- Collections of the Library of Congress relating to the Arab Peninsula

- Collections from other WDL partners relating to Arab and Islamic cultural achievements

Outreach

- Social media

- Conferences and workshops

- Statistical monitoring

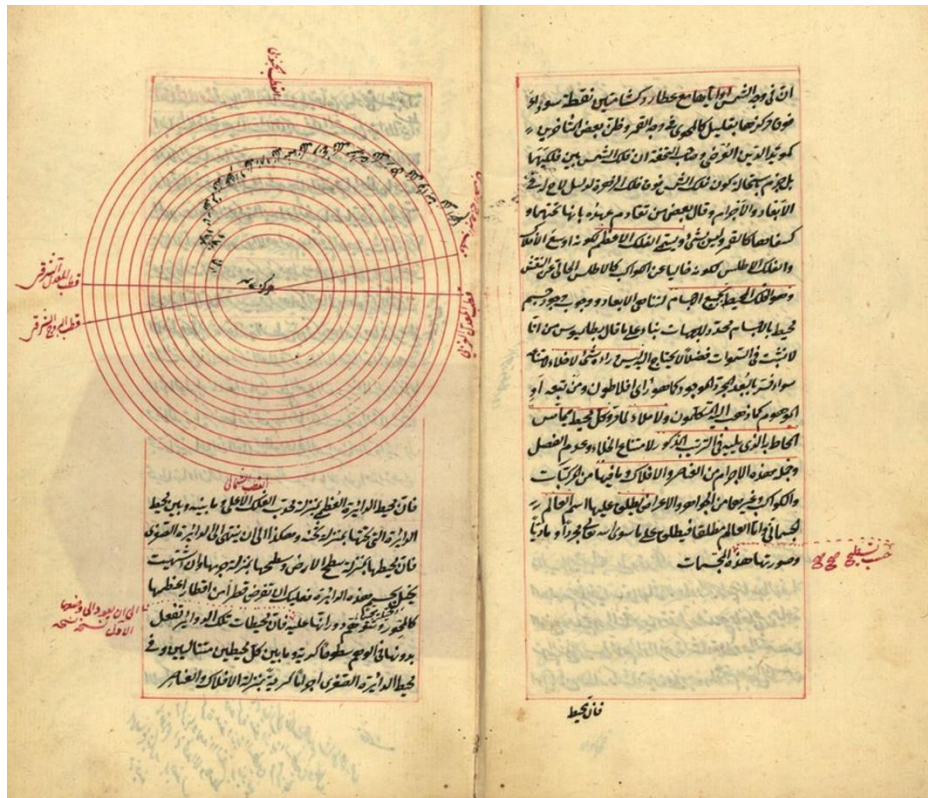
- Development of the thematic section of

Capacity Building and Development of Doha as a Digital Library Center

- The Doha training meetings

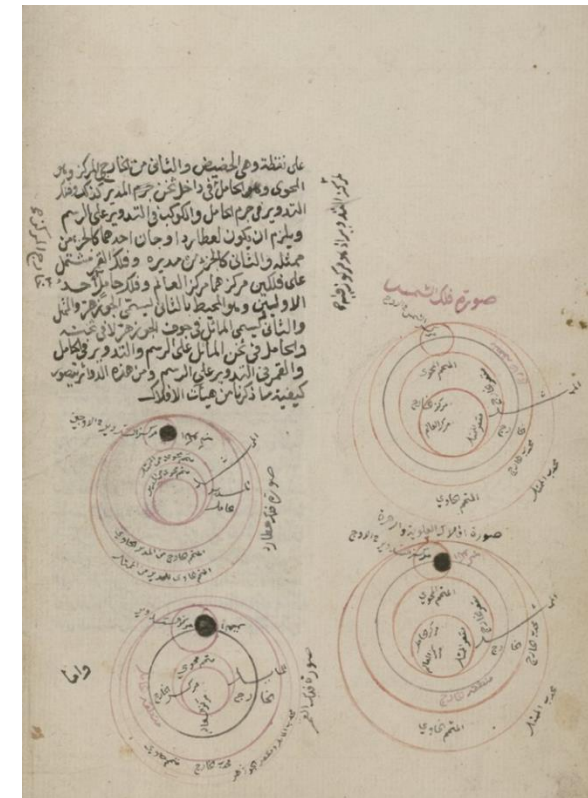
The Doha Meetings

- June 2010: Organizational meeting of partners from Arabic-speaking countries
- December 2010: First Arab Peninsula Regional Group meeting
- February 2012: Second meeting: Workshop on Technical Skills and Standards for the World Digital Library
- June 2013: Third meeting: Train the Trainer – Hands-on Workshop
- May 2014: Fourth meeting: Training to Preserve Cultural Heritage Content – A Legacy for the Future: A Symposium on Heritage Awareness
- May 2015: Fifth Meeting: Arabic Authority Control – A Capacity Building Training Session
- May 2016: Sixth Meeting: Planning the Way Forward



Commentary on "The Compendium of Plain Astronomy"
Qatar National Library

Maḥmūd ibn Muḥammad Jighmīnī



Compendium of Astronomy
Library of Congress

Maḥmūd ibn Muḥammad Jighmīnī

