

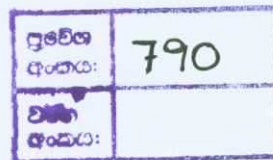
**A Specific and Functional Model for the National
Library of Sri Lanka: a comparative study of the
collaborative and leadership role of some National
Libraries in Europe, South Asia and the National
Library of Sri Lanka**



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Thesis Submitted for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy of the
University of Kelaniya, Sri Lanka

January 2013



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Abstract

The major aim of this study is to introduce a new model and a Strategic Plan for the National Library of Sri Lanka. For this purpose the researcher has carried out a detailed study of the selected National Libraries in Europe and South Asia namely, the British Library, the National Library of the Netherlands, the National Library of Belgium, the National Library of India, the National Library of Pakistan and the National Library of Bangladesh. The study has compared the structure and functions of the National Library and Documentation centre of Sri Lanka, with those of the six selected libraries.

The methodology used for the research was a combination of quantitative and qualitative methods. Data collection for the research involved questionnaires, interviews, discussions, content analysis and observations.

The study revealed that there are two national library models in the world, namely the leadership and collaborative models. Most National Libraries in Europe follow the concept of collaboration using features of leadership model on a low key. On the other hand developing countries adopt the concept of leadership and use features of collaborative model sparingly. The National Library of Sri Lanka follows the leadership model based on the concept of competition.

This research attempts to introduce a new organisational model for the National Library of Sri Lanka which is a mixed model consisting of features of both leadership and collaborative models. However more importance has been attached to the principle of collaboration.

In the new model new projects and programmes have also been included which will be beneficial to the effective delivery of National Library services.

The researcher is of the view that the new steps, strategies, projects and programmes proposed in the new model should be implemented effectively and efficiently for the

National Library of Sri Lanka to be able to offer the full potential of its services to its readers and the country as a whole.

Keywords: National Libraries, National Library of Sri Lanka, Leadership, Collaboration, Strategic plan.