



## The Editor's Note

In 1938, when the Supreme Council of Education accepted the program of a short library training course in Iran, nobody thought it would be disrupted so quickly because of the WWII, and people happen to be more concerned about their bread and butter and education. However, similar to almost everything humane, the war didn't last forever and attempts to introduce library training program resumed.

Nevertheless, it took 28 years, in 1966, when education of librarianship at a postgraduate level started in Iran. Two years later, TeBRoC started its activities. Thus modern concepts of librarianship found a ground for application in Iran, and the scholarly community

started to benefit from the work of the new profession.

Over the last four decades since then, professional librarianship in this country has developed considerable. In a sense, we could claim maturity, as according to an old saying 'forties is the age of wisdom'!

Years of accumulated professional practice, dozens of library education programs, and great number of library graduates signal we have reached maturity. The passage, however, to maturity has not come cheaply and never could. It needs patience, hard working, and focus. As Rumi says:

Like the raw fruit, the secret of ripeness is in the radiation of the sun and the darkness of the night,

Wisdom results from the pain of the lay and the reflection of the elite,

That is when cloudy wine turns clear and the naive turn mature.

Research output in our profession, however, still faces challenges of maturity. Topics in most of the contributions are treated at an elementary level. This is evident in many contributions made to conferences and special issues of journals like this one. The same deficiency could be seen reports come out of masters and PhD theses. Based on years of work as the editor of this journal and involvement

in organizing conferences with specific themes, I dare to claim that more than 90% of contributions are introductory treatments of subjects and descriptive in nature. Lack of focus on special issues and aspects of topics treated is common. Many of such contributions carry attractive titles, but severely suffer from superficiality and formalism.

This unfortunate situation may aggravate in the absence of solid criteria for quality of research. How could one expect any improvement when the editorial of a number of journals merit is given to a contribution only when the paper contains tables of figures?!

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