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From LAMP to KOHA: Case study of the Pakistan legislative assembly libraries

By

Farasat Shafi-Ullah

Librarian,

School of Chemical & Materials Engineering (SCME),

National University of Sciences & Technology (NUST),

Islamabad (Pakistan)

Pakistan My Country

Pakistan my Country gained independence from British Raj on 14 August, 1947 with a population of 174,578,558, an area of 796,095 sq km and its capital is Islamabad.

Located in Southern Asia, bordering the Arabian Sea, between India on the east and Iran and Afghanistan on the west and China in the north.

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In Pictures My University main Campus from top to bottom, and school where I am working. National University of Science and Technology started with college Signals in 1947 and become a university in 1990 and opened doors for students in April 1991.

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Library Automation- preamble

Developed world started Library Automation 1960s'

Pakistan came in existence on 14 August 1947 and Mr. L C Key was the first person who was officially asked to proposed a plan for libraries and their development in 1950s'

Pakistan Library Association was formed in 1957

After introduction of computer and email in late 80', HEJ chemistry research institute Karachi and Sindh Agricultural university tandojam are first libraries who used email and computer for library

Major efforts for library automation in Pakistan are always foreign funded projects.

NLDP developed LAMP (Library automation and management Program) country's first integrated software introduce in late 90's, A DOS based program developed in Pascal and Fortran

Parallel to LAMP , UNESCO free software ISIS was also introduced.

In 2000, LAMP loses its customer due to Y2K problem and lake of interest by PLA due to insufficient fund

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IN 2000 PakLAG (Pakistan Library Automation Group) country's first volunteer group was formed under the supervision of Mr. Muhammad Ajmal Khan (Librarian, FAST-NU, Lahore) and Prof.Dr. Khalid Mahmood Malik Deptt of Library and Information Science, University of the Punjab

This was volunteer professional effort to automate libraries, they introduced LIMS (Free MS-Access application)

In 2007 Open source was introduced in Pakistan on PakLAG List serve by a librarian , which were then considered by PakLAG for customization to adopt in Pakistani Libraries, I was also the member of that team which first explore KOHA 2.2.7 in Pakistan.

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After release of KOHA 2.2.8 in 2007, this version was selected for customization specially for complex languages (right to left) in Pakistan. NUST is also under process of adopting KOHA for its 16 libraries

At present PakLAG has more than 10 customer for their customized flavor called PakLAG KOHA. Its service price in quiet reasonable 3301 NZD exclusive of local sales tax www.paklag.org

Paklag has developed one tool specially for data conversion from LAMP, WINISIS, and Other MS.ACCESS based and also introduced Marc Edit to convert data in MARC21. PakLAG also introduced special training for data conversion to MARC21 and many universities uploaded their data on LOC Z3950 gateway

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Pakistan Legislative Strengthening Project (PLSP)

U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) Pakistan started Legislative Strengthening Project (PLSP) from 2008-2010, implemented by the Bethesda, Maryland, based firm DAI.

According to Ellie (First Project Director) "Our mission was to work with the national bicameral parliament and four provincial assemblies to assist each legislature with its specific needs related to the representation, lawmaking, oversight functions, management, and infrastructure requirements to support those activities.

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PLSP, LAMP and KOHA

Previously All legislative assemblies were on DOS based LAMP. People were hired including a librarian Ellie Valentine to study the feasibility of adopting a uniform ILS which is affordable and further sustainable for a developing country Pakistan and they selected KOHA. From 2005 to August 2009 there was no significance development on KOHA, to made KOHA adaptable for PLSP project

Under signed was contacted in November 2009 soon after my arrival from UK finishing my MS (Lib & Info Mgmt) from TVU-London. In First meeting it was revealed that still this project part (library automation) is on zero point due unavailability of data conversion expertise (from LAMP to KOHA) and beaurocratic attitude of Govt employees

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Ground Realities After First Visit (Staff strength)

Staff at Legislatives Libraries

Sr.No.	Place	Professional Staff	Qualification	Designation
1	Senate	Ms Shagufta Jadoon	MLISc.	Librarian
2	National Assembly	Mr.Haji Hattar	DLS (Diploma holder)	Librarian
3	Sindh	Ms Munazza Sbh	MA(IR) + Certificate in Library Science	Librarian
4	Peshawar	Mr.Talawat Khan	MLISc	Librarian
5	*Pujnab*	*Mr. Muhammad Yasin*	*MLISc*	*Librarian*
6	*Quetta*	*Miss Farzana*	*MLISc*	*Librarian*

Table 1: Staff details in all legislative assembly libraries

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Ground Realities After First Visit (ICT & Collection)

Sr.No.	Place	Total Collection	Data Entered	Software Used	Status
1	Senate	15000	9000	Ripha LIS (Local)	Only Data Entry
2	National Assembly	80000	35051	NetSol (Local)	Only Data Entry
3	Sindh Assembly	12000	7162	LAMP	Only data
4	*Peshawar Assembly*	*14000*	*Nil*	*None*	
5	*Pujnab Assembly*	*55000*	*17000*	*LAMP*	*Only data*
6	*Quetta Assembly*	*7000*	*4000*	*LAMP*	*300 records in KOHA*

Table 2: Libraries total collection and its automation status

Sr.No.	Place	Computer	Scanner	Library Server	Remarks
1	Senate	06	02	N/A	Computers are connected via LAN/WAN
2	National Assembly	08	02	N/A	Computers are connected via LAN/WAN
3	Sindh Assembly	03	02	N/A	Connected but not live
4	*Peshawar Assembly*	*02*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*Not connected yet*
5	*Pujnab Assembly*	*05*	*01*	*N/A*	*Connected on LAN*
6	*Quetta Assembly*	*03*	*01*	*N/A*	*Connected on LAN/WAN*

Table 3: IT equipment status

Ground Realities After First Visit (My work Plan)

Place	Revised Time line								
	Till 30 Jan 2010	Till 13 Feb 2010	Till 20 Feb 2010	Till 27 Feb 2010	Till 06 Mar 2010	Till 13 Mar 2010	Till 20 Mar 2010	Till 27 March 2010	Till 30 March 2010
Quetta Library	Purchase of PakLAG-KOHA recomended	Already available data conversion, Installation, new data entry and staff training	OPAC with provision of Live IP and server	Revisit/Final Assesment by USAID/DAI					
Sindh Library			Installation, New data entry and staff training	OPAC with provision of Live IP and	Revisit/Final Assesment by USAID/DAI				
Peshawar Library				Installation, New data entry and staff training	OPAC with provision of Live IP and server	Revisit/Final Assesment by USAID/DAI			
Punjab Library						Already available data conversion Installation, New data entry and staff training	OPAC with provision of Live IP and server	Revisit/Final Assesment by USAID/DAI	
Senate Library							Already available data conversion, Installation, New data entry	Revisit/Final Assesment by USAID/DAI	
National Assembly Library								Provison of already entered data in form of MS-Excel/MS-Access	Already available data conversion, Installation, New data entry and staff

Shifting From LAMP to KOHA

Looking in no. staff, their skill set and collection, the time given to me was very short however with excellent facilities provided by the USAID/DAI for moving one corner of country to other made its possible to convert data, training of staff and installation and configuration of PakLAG KOHA simultaneously.

The technical help & support from my PakLAG (volunteer group) fellows also help a lot for all this project

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Why KOHA? And Why PakLAG KOHA

Keeping in view the automation history, economic condition of country, and skill set of existing staff of libraries drive this to PakLAG and more reason are

Being an integrated ILS based on MARC21, open source and continuous updation on Listserv

PakLAG Flavor On screen keyboard for Multilingual support special local languages i.e. Urdu, Sindhi, Pushtoo right to left language with complex script

Separate reporting modules for local needs attached with KOHA

A federated search facility for KOAH

Local support a big advantage

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Tools Used for Data conversion

To convert DOS based textual data was a big challenge which was met by using all free tools

From LAMP (DOS based) Data to Windows based by using Winisis

From Winisis to ISO format data

From ISO Format to MS-Access by using PakLAG data convertor

From MS-Access Data to MARC21 Based using Marc Edit

The New Data was imported direct from LOC and CHOPAC

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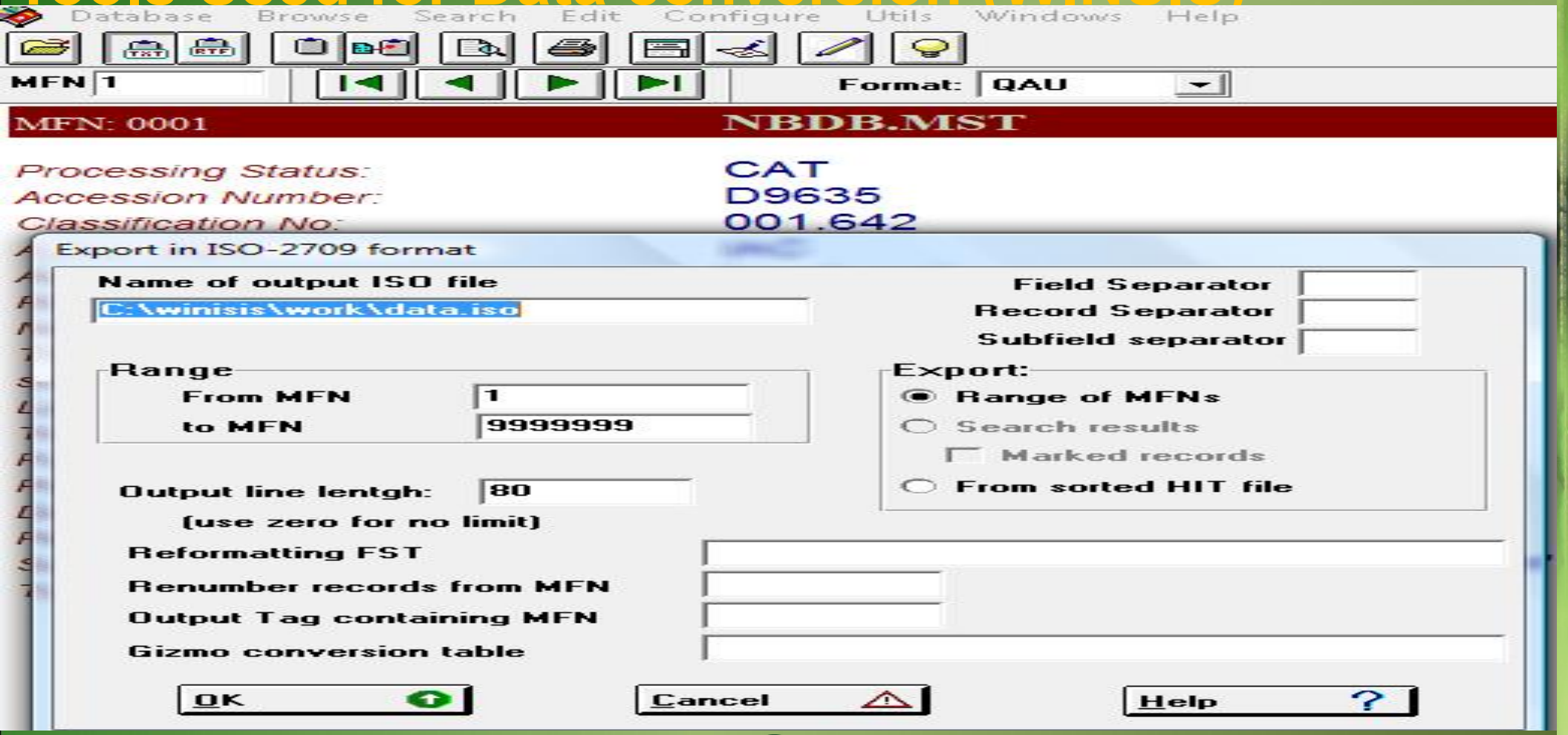
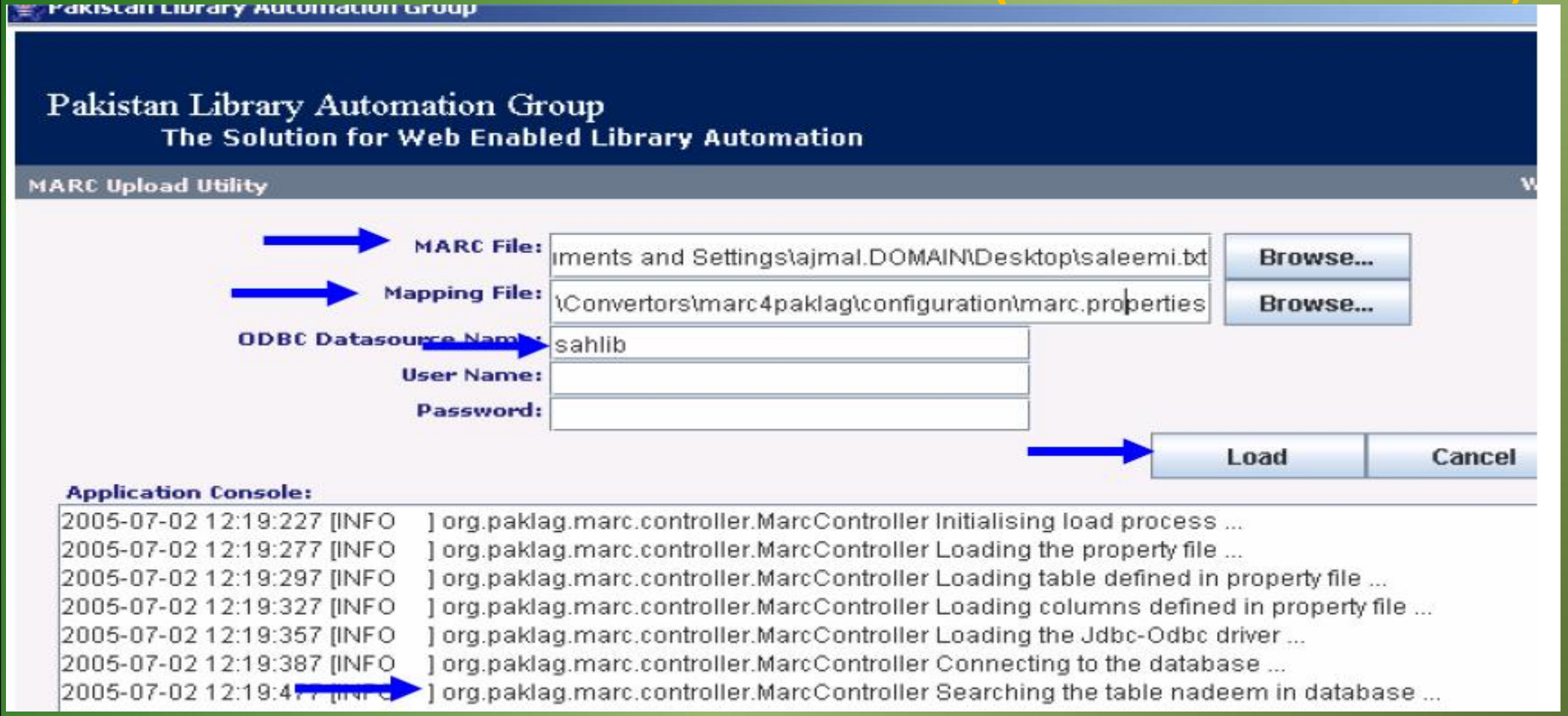
Tools Used for Data conversion (WINSIS)



Tools Used for Data conversion (PakLAG Convertor)

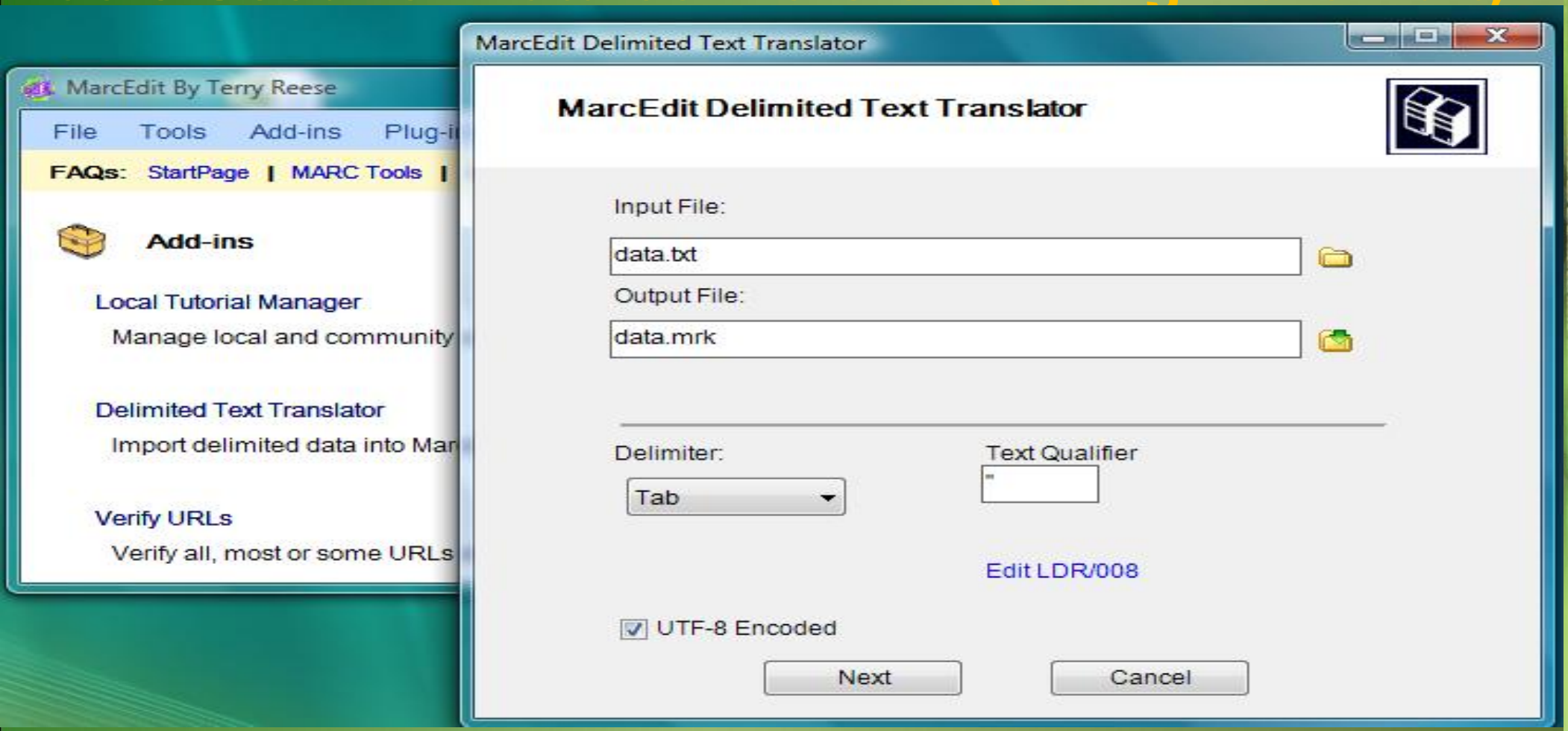


Tools Used for Data conversion (Data in MS-Access)

DATA ENTRY FORM

Title	Islam اسلام
SubTitle	cataloguing کیٹلاگ سازی
StatementRes	از تنیم صدیق
Author	ajmal Khan
SubAuthor	
Type	Book
AccNo	1
Price	PRs.2,972.96
EntryDate	06/01/2005
DDC_No	004.6
Auth_Mark	NAD
Section	
Refernce	☑

Tools Used for Data conversion (Using Marc Edit)



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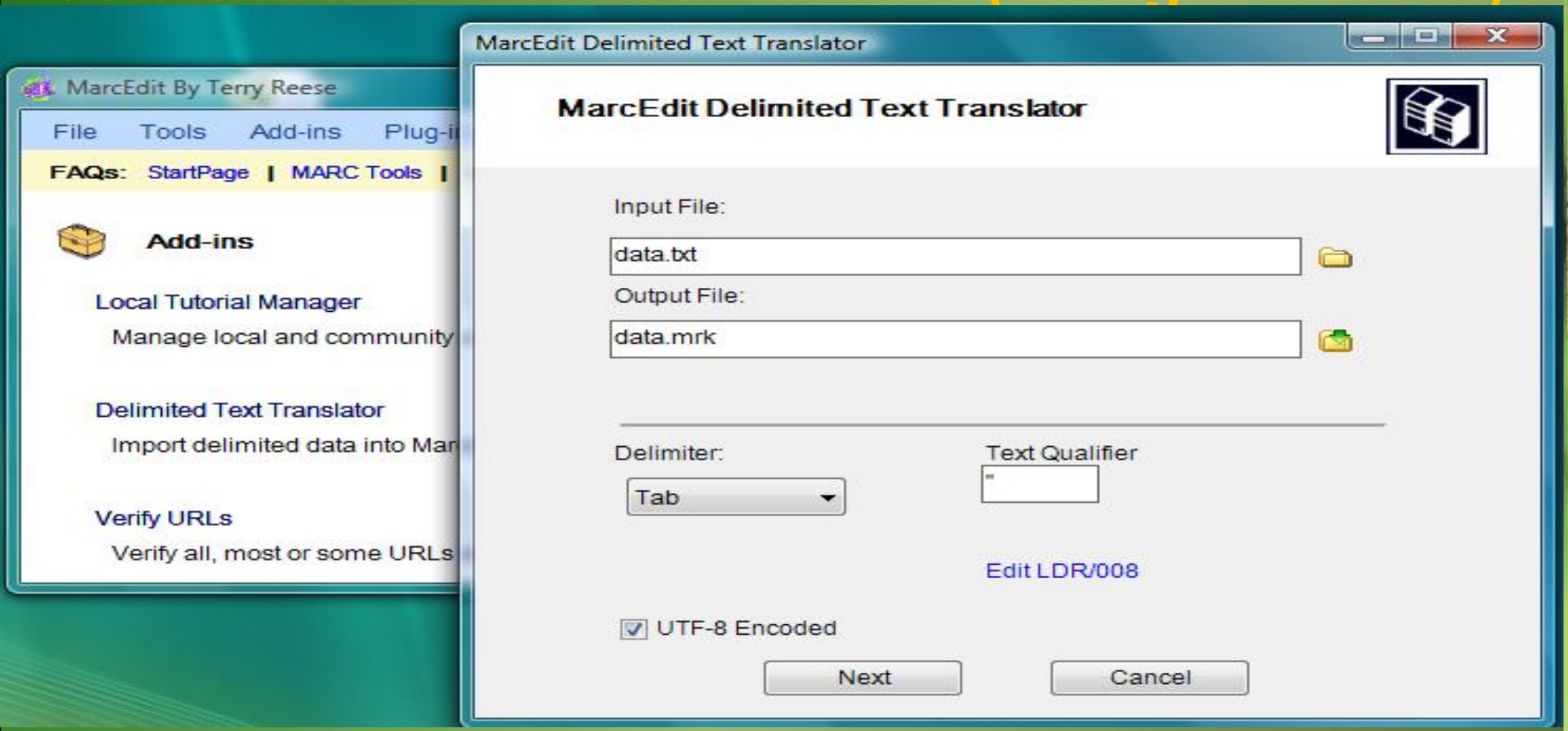
Tools Used for Data conversion (Using Marc Edit)



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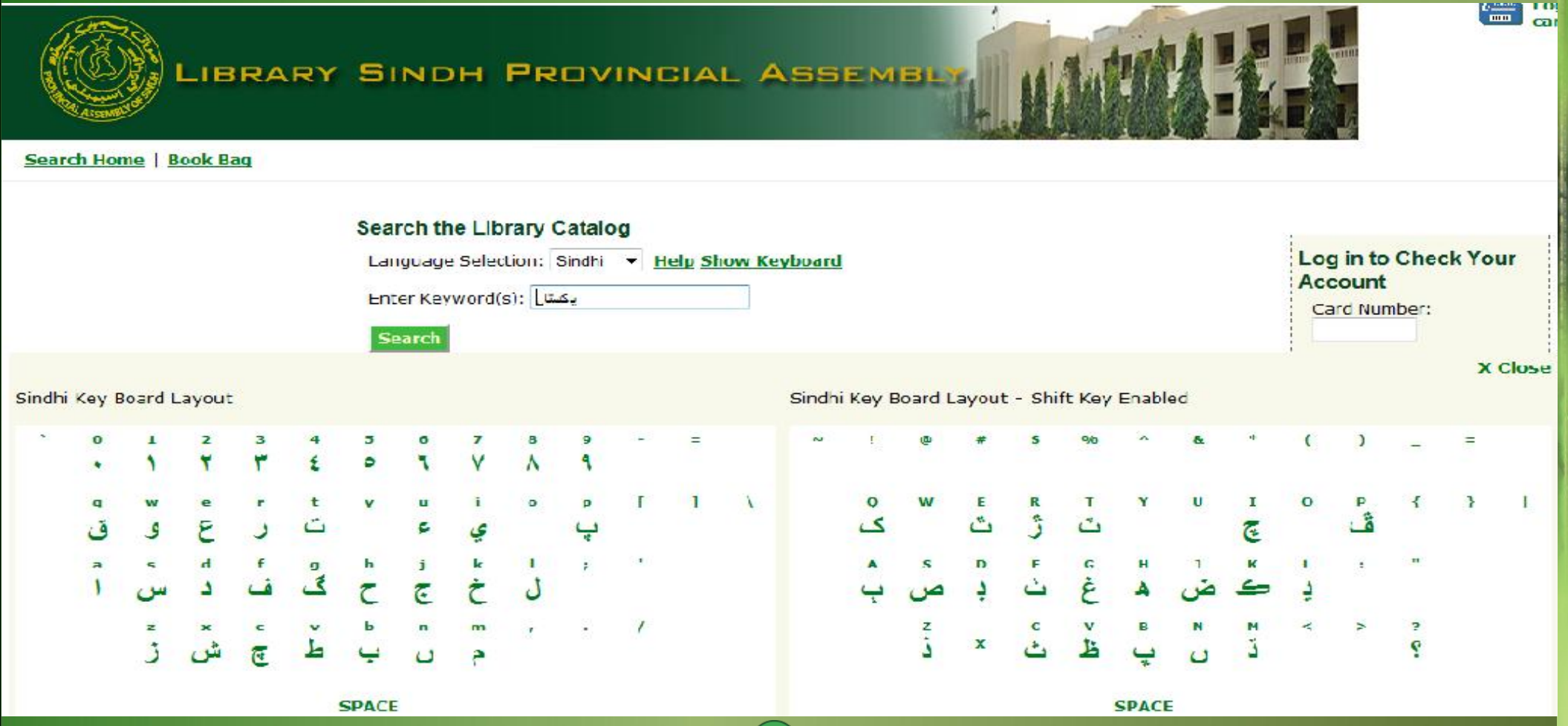
Some Screens from Customized KOHA



Some Screens from Customized KOHA

Pakistan Library Automation Group

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PAKISTAN LIBRARY AUTO

The Solution for Web Enabled Libr

Menu

- Barcodes Generator
- Book Card
- Member Card
- Duplicate Barcodes

Member Card Report

Default Department: Computer Engine

Instruction Text:
1. This card is non
2. Holder of this ca
library material dra
3. In case the card
be intimated imme
account. Rs. 100 v
new card.
4. The card is valic

Range Check on: Borrower Card #

From: L001

To: L002

Preview

Report Viewer

Print | First | Previous | Next | Last

Page: 1 of 1

Library Sindh Provincial Assembl

Library Membership Card

Membership #: L001
Name: Abdul Qahir
Department: Computer Engineering

Issuing Authority

1. This card is non-transferable.
2. Holder of this card will be responsible for all library material drawn against it.
3. In case the card is lost or stolen, the library must be intimated immediately to block the membership account. Rs. 100 will be charged for issuance of a new card.
4. The card is valid up to 31 December 2010

Library Sindh Provincial...
Karachi

Sign of Card Holder

Library Sindh Provincial Assembl

Library Membership Card

Membership #: L002
Name: Farzana Aftab
Department: Computer Engineering

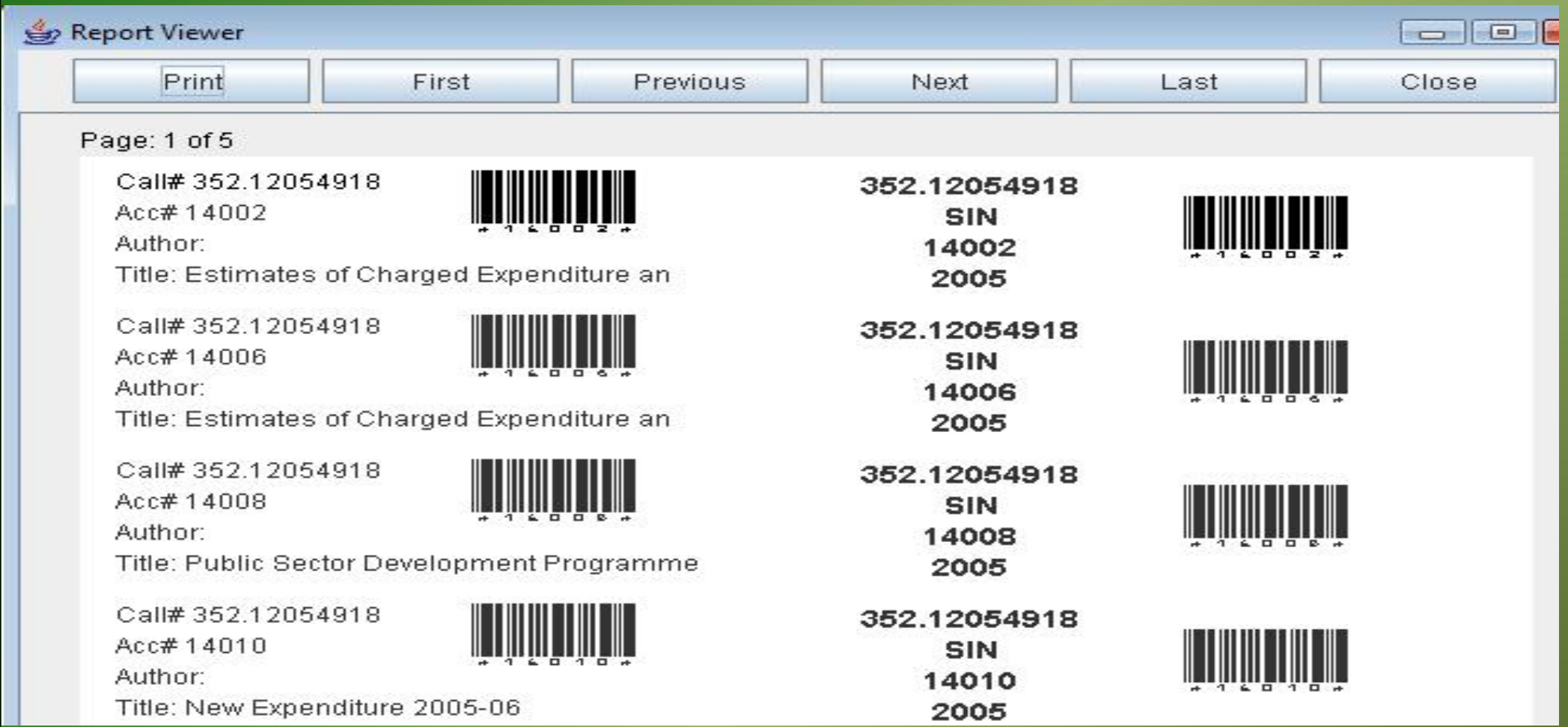
Issuing Authority

1. This card is non-transferable.
2. Holder of this card will be responsible for all library material drawn against it.
3. In case the card is lost or stolen, the library must be intimated immediately to block the membership account. Rs. 100 will be charged for issuance of a new card.
4. The card is valid up to 31 December 2010

Library Sindh Provincial...
Karachi

Sign of Card Holder

Some Screens from Customized KOHA



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KOHA being used by NUST all campuses libraries

National University of Sciences and Technology (NUST)
School of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science

A Center of Excellence for Quality Education and Research

Library Catalog Search

Search Home | Book Bag

Search the Catalog [ ] Search

Results for Search: * contains computer

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Next >>

Results 1 through 19 of 2391 records.

Add Checked Items to Book Bag | Clear All

	Title	Author	Call Number	Copies	Availability
	.NET security and cryptography - Pearson Education Inc., ; New Delhi . - xvii, 466 p. ; ; 25 cm. *(modified on 12/08/2009)*	Thorsteinson, Peter.	005.8 THO	3	SEEC (3)
	A complete reference guide Oracle SQL PLUS:/ - Olm-o-Irfan Publisher, ; Lahore, Pakistan : - xix, 411 p. : ; 24 cm. *(modified on 12/08/2009)*	Ahmed, Ejaz	005.7565 AHM	10	SEEC (1

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Recommendations

It is recommended that govt should realize the importance of libraries and a proper libraries networks should in placed according their types.

Keeping in view this experience it is recommended that govt institution e.g Ministry of education, Ministry of Archives, HEC and PLA including stakeholder should be on a single platform to form uniform policy for Libraries role in academia and society.

To keep libraries live and abreast with emerging trends and according to users need, it is required that a uniform job nomenclature and job structure for professional should be implemented.

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THANK YOU

VERY MUCH FOR YOUR PATIENCE AND SPECIAL THANKS TO CONFERENCE PEOPLE FOR PROVIDING ME A SUCH UNIQUE OPOURTUNITY AS SPEAKER

Recommendations of this case are based on my professional experience alone, and do not necessarily reflect the position of DAI/USAID