



# Annual Report 2010

## Municipal Public Libraries of Beirut

### Operation, Visitors, Activities, Events

ASSABIL, January 2011



# **Annual Report 2010**

## **Municipal Public Libraries of Beirut**

### **Operation, Visitors, Activities, Events**



© January 2011  
ASSABIL, Friends of Public Libraries Association  
Mohammad el-Hout Str., Naoura Bldg.  
Ras el-Nabeh, Beirut, LEBANON  
Tel: 00961 1 664 647  
Fax: 00961 1 652 998  
[www.assabil.com](http://www.assabil.com)  
[assabiloffice@gmail.com](mailto:assabiloffice@gmail.com)

## Contents

<b>INTRODUCTION .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>THE BEIRUT MUNICIPAL PUBLIC LIBRARIES IN NUMBERS .....</b>	<b>4</b>
■ <i>Opening Hours and Days in 2010.....</i>	<i>4</i>
■ <i>Library Collections.....</i>	<i>5</i>
■ <i>Library Equipment and Services.....</i>	<i>8</i>
■ <i>Visitors.....</i>	<i>9</i>
■ <i>Subscribers.....</i>	<i>10</i>
<b>LIBRARY MANAGEMENT .....</b>	<b>11</b>
■ <i>Human Resources.....</i>	<i>11</i>
■ <i>Training Workshops.....</i>	<i>12</i>
■ <i>Library Spaces and their Maintenance.....</i>	<i>14</i>
■ <i>Cooperation with Ministries and Universities.....</i>	<i>15</i>
<b>ONGOING ACTIVITIES AND PROJECTS IN THE MUNICIPAL PUBLIC LIBRARIES OF BEIRUT....</b>	<b>16</b>
MUNICIPAL PUBLIC LIBRARIES AS SPACES OF LIFELONG LEARNING .....	16
■ <i>Schools.....</i>	<i>16</i>
■ <i>Workshops for Adults and Children.....</i>	<i>19</i>
■ <i>Professional Trainings for Librarians.....</i>	<i>22</i>
■ <i>Book Club for Librarians.....</i>	<i>23</i>
MUNICIPAL PUBLIC LIBRARIES AS SPACES FOR CULTURAL ACTIVITIES .....	24
■ <i>Weekly Storytelling Sessions and activities for children.....</i>	<i>25</i>
■ <i>'Mondays at the Bachoura library' and other cultural activities.....</i>	<i>26</i>
■ <i>Exhibits at Beirut Libraries.....</i>	<i>30</i>
■ <i>Concert at the Monnot Library.....</i>	<i>30</i>
<b>MUNICIPAL PUBLIC LIBRARIES PARTICIPATING IN NATIONAL EVENTS .....</b>	<b>31</b>
NATIONAL READING WEEK .....	31
INTERNATIONAL MUSIC DAY .....	31
SCIENCE DAYS 2010 .....	32
THE BEIRUT MUNICIPAL PUBLIC LIBRARIES AT THE ARABIC BOOK FAIR 2010.....	32
<b>EXPANDING THE NETWORK OF MUNICIPAL PUBLIC LIBRARIES.....</b>	<b>33</b>
■ <i>Tariq el-Jdideh Library: the fourth municipal public library in Beirut.....</i>	<i>33</i>
■ <i>Preparing for the new libraries with the 'Kotobuses'.....</i>	<i>34</i>
<b>YEARLY BUDGET OF THE BEIRUT MUNICIPAL LIBRARIES IN 2010 .....</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>THE BEIRUT MUNICIPAL PUBLIC LIBRARIES IN THE MEDIA - 2010 .....</b>	<b>36</b>



Beirut Municipal Public Libraries



*Beirut's libraries were put on the map in Cultural Itineraries around the libraries' neighborhoods in spring 2010.*

## Introduction

2010 has been a very rewarding year for the Municipal Public Libraries of Beirut, as they were declared **“Model Public Libraries 2009”** by the Ministry of Culture!

ASSABIL, Friends of Public Libraries Association has been commissioned by the Municipality of Beirut to manage and operate the Municipal Public Libraries in Beirut since 1999. The libraries have been established in a joint effort between ASSABIL and the Municipality in the Beirut neighborhoods of Bachoura (in 2000), Geitawi (2004), and Monnot (2008) with the generous support of the Regional Council of Ile de France (CRIF) and numerous other supporters.

This annual account is a report submitted to the Municipality. It will briefly present the libraries’ collections and attendances – visitors, book circulation (borrowing of books), collection renewal etc., and will also report on the diverse ongoing activities and projects that are revitalizing the libraries throughout the year. The report will further detail questions concerning the library management (staffing, training, maintenance ...) and the libraries’ cooperation with different public and private actors that are active in the domain of public reading in Lebanon.

In 2010, the Municipal Public Libraries of Beirut again played their role as essential spaces of education for young and old citizens of Beirut, as spaces for a large variety of cultural activities, and as welcoming spaces where readers of all ages can discover a love of books and reading.



## The Beirut Municipal Public Libraries in Numbers

### ■ Opening Hours and Days in 2010

The Municipal Public Libraries of Beirut were open to the public on **218 days** during 2010 during which they received **29,653 visitors**, which is slightly less than the 31,120 who visited the libraries in 2009.

All three libraries (Bachoura, Geitawi, and Monnot) are open to the public five days per week from Tuesday through Saturday. Although the libraries are closed to the public on Mondays, they do open for pre-arranged visits by school classes between 9:00 am and 1:00 pm.

The detailed opening hours per library are the following:

Days of the Week	Bachoura	Geitawi	Monnot
<b>Monday</b> <i>for reception of school classes and workshops only</i>	9am–1pm 7pm–9pm	9am–1pm	9am–1pm
<b>Tuesday – Thursday</b>	9am–1pm 2pm–6pm	9am–1pm 2pm–6pm	10am–6pm
<b>Friday</b>	9am–1pm 3pm–8pm	9am–1pm 2pm–6pm	10am–6pm
<b>Saturday</b>	9am–5pm	9am–1pm	10am–1pm
<b>Total opening hours per week</b>	<b>47 hours</b>	<b>40 hours</b>	<b>39 hours</b>





### ■ Library Collections

As of December 31, 2010 the collections of the Municipal Public Libraries of Beirut totaled **41,709 titles**, distributed in the libraries as follows:

- **26,607 titles** in the Bachoura Municipal Public Library
- **7,978 titles** in the Geitawi Municipal Public Library
- **7,124 titles** in the Monnot Municipal Public Library.

The libraries' collections include books and magazines in several languages: Arabic, French, English, Armenian, Spanish, and Tamil. They cover materials, topics, and stories for people of all ages; they include fiction, reference books, specialized books on a wide array of topics (politics, history, sociology, anthropology, arts, science, etc.), and audio-visual materials. In addition, the libraries also subscribed to over **50 local and international newspapers and magazines**.

The catalogue of the Municipal Public Libraries of Beirut also includes the **8,605** titles available at ASSABIL's two mobile libraries (Kotobus) which have been circulating in the neighborhoods of Tariq el-Jdideh, Borj el-Barajneh, Karm el-Zeitoun, and Bourj Hammoud.

### Materials by Age Group and Category

Categories	Bachoura	Geitawi	Monnot	Kotobus	Total Network
Non-Fiction Adult	7,151	1,972	1,647	940	<b>11,710</b>
Fiction Adult	5,066	1,164	1,344	1,269	<b>8,843</b>
Reference Adult	477	221	136	52	<b>886</b>
<b>Total Adult</b>	<b>12,694</b>	<b>3,357</b>	<b>3,127</b>	<b>2,261</b>	<b>21,439</b>
Non-Fiction Youth	2,626	1,032	803	1,146	<b>5,607</b>
Fiction Youth	10,281	3,086	2,446	4,940	<b>20,753</b>
Reference Youth	230	125	54	71	<b>480</b>
<b>Total Youth</b>	<b>13,137</b>	<b>4,243</b>	<b>3,303</b>	<b>6,157</b>	<b>26,840</b>
<b>Graphic Novels</b>	<b>771</b>	<b>315</b>	<b>521</b>	<b>187</b>	<b>1,794</b>
<b>Films</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>241</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>26,607</b>	<b>7,978</b>	<b>7,124</b>	<b>8,605</b>	<b>50,314</b>



**Language of Available Materials**

Books per language	Bachoura	Geitawi	Monnot	Kotobus
<b>Arabic</b>	38%	37%	31%	57%
<b>English</b>	22%	13%	18%	17%
<b>French</b>	40%	50%	51%	26%

**Book Borrowing**

In 2010 the number of total books that circulated increased to **17,684 titles** (compared to 5,000 in 2006, 7,810 in 2007, 8,151 in 2008, and 15,511 in 2009).

**New Acquisitions and Donations**

In 2010, the collections of the Beirut Municipal Public Libraries increased steadily. The Arabic collections were updated thanks to the support of the Anna Lindh Foundation and financing from SIDA (Swedish International Development Agency). The Ile-de-France Region also made a substantial contribution to the expansion and diversification of the libraries' collections by enabling ASSABIL to purchase all the unsold titles from their stand at the French Book Fair in October 2009. Funds for new books for the libraries were also made available by the Heinrich Böll Foundation and the Goethe Institute. Finally, the Municipal Public Library of the French town *Vincennes* contributed a large number of books that were added to the libraries' collection.

In total, **3,603 new titles in several copies (in total 7,401 books)** were added to the libraries' collections. In parallel, ASSABIL continued to work in 2010 to build a collection for the upcoming library in Tariq el-Jdideh.

In addition, the libraries' collections continuously grew thanks to the numerous book donations we received from supporters for the Municipal Public Libraries of Beirut. We are thankful to Manal Akl, Mirane Abu Zaki, Marleine Achkar, Natacha Akel, Hasan Al Amili, Akram Al Rayess, Abdallah Alayli, Randa Aractingi, Maya Ashi, Joumana Atallah, Roger Azzam, Ahmad Bazoun, Nicole Bitar, Antoine Boulad, Houric Boutros, Fatmeh Chahine, Mouhamad Chakal, Rabih Chalhoub, Clarisse Chebli, Samar Choucair, Aida Daou, Reine Daou, Rami Dgheim, Safaa El Ali, Dania El Hage, Abdel Rahim El Khassar, Mirinda El Khazen, Hani Farroukh, Maya Fawaz, Rima Fawaz, Angele Ferkh, Omar Fleifel, Alaa Fleyfel, Amal Freiji, Michelle Gemayel, Rima Ghanem, Marie Hagobian, Khadije Hassoun, Iman Hmaydan, Fadia Hoteit, Rachid Jalekh, Salim Kadoura, Caroline Kamar, Sami Karam, Carole Kassir, Naim Kassir,

## Annual Report 2010

Boutros Khadra, Nicole Khalail, Joelle Khoury, Rana Khoury, Ali Khreiss, Suzanne Kubar, Ana Larriu, Lea Lecourvoisier, Zeina Maasri, Robert Matta, Renee Menassa, Bruno Montariol, Moh'd Saleh Mouhib, Kamal Musherhih, Nada Nader, Jacqueline Naimeh, Nayla Nakad, Pascal Njeim, Ghida Outhman, Rola Rayess, Selim Saad, Gladys Saade, Tatiana Sabagh, Manal Sabri, Elias Sahab, Najat Salibi, Samia Shoeib, Ghada Sinno, Racha Sinno, Marie Therese Soueidan Maud Stephan, Lama Tabaja, Iman Tahtah, Rabih Talhouk, Penny Tayara, Michelle Touma, Samir Traboulsi, Bassam Turba, Andre Warde, Carla Yared, Randa Yassir, Cherine Yazbek, Janine Youssef, Sylvie Zakhya, Henri Zgheib, Antoinette Zwein, Lebanese American University, ALBA University, AUST University, National Library in Baakline, Dargham Publishing House, Tamer Association, European Union, Spanish Embassy, French Cultural Center, UNDP, and other anonymous donors.





■ **Library Equipment and Services**

In addition to books and magazines, the public libraries of Beirut offer a number of additional services.

**Computers and Internet:**

Each library is equipped with computer working stations accessible to the public that provide access to the internet. This service was used by visitors to the libraries **2,764 times as follows:**

- **1,080 computer uses** in Bachoura (compared to 523 in 2009)
- **855 computer uses** in Geitawi (compared to 480 in 2009)
- **829 computer uses** in Monnot (compared to 918 in 2009)



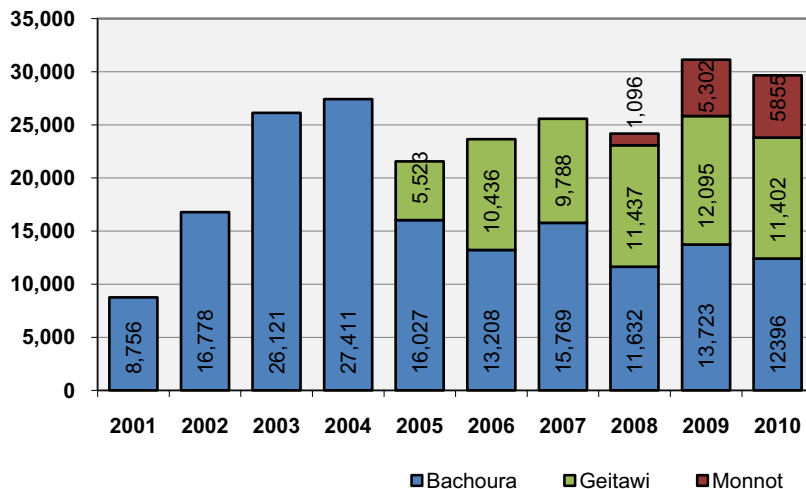
Services	Bachoura	Geitawi	Monnot
<b>Public Computer Stations</b>	4	2	2
<b>Internet Access</b>	DSL 512 bpms	DSL 512 bpms	DSL 1200 bpms
<b>Wireless Internet</b>	no	no	Yes
<b>Public Photocopying Services</b>	yes	On demand, small quantities	On demand, small quantities
<b>Computer Classes</b>	On demand	On demand	On demand



### ■ Visitors

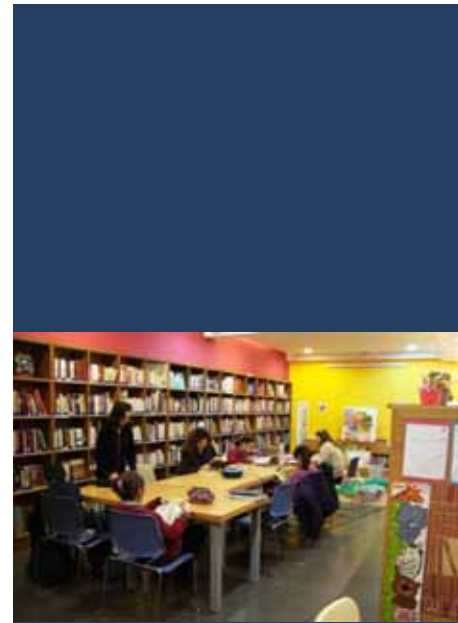
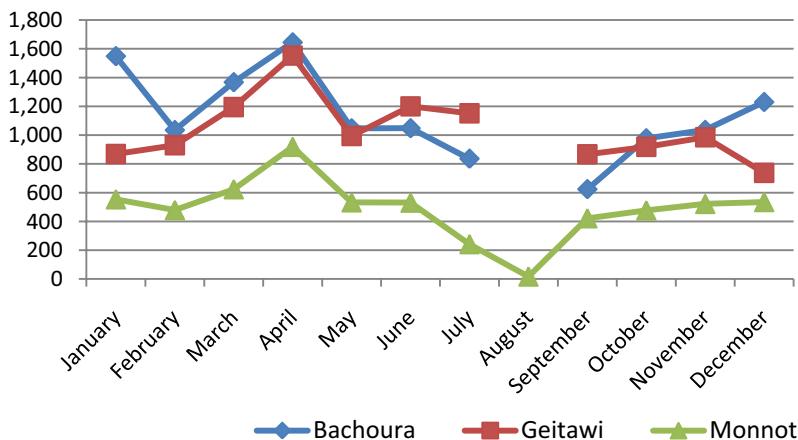
In 2010, the Municipal Public Libraries received many visitors. We recorded a total of **29,653 visitors**, which is very close to the record number of 31,120 visitors in 2009. An average of **136 persons** used the services of the Municipal Public Libraries each day.

**Visitors to the public municipal libraries of Beirut 2001 - 2010**



The chart below details the number of monthly visitors to the three municipal libraries and demonstrates the dramatic increase during the peak months of April, May, and November during which the libraries received a particularly high number of school classes, in contrast to the quieter summer months of July and September during which the libraries receive very few visitors; the libraries are closed to the public during August.

**Visitors to Beirut's Municipal Public Library 2010, per month**







■ **Subscribers**

Subscribers to the Municipal Public Libraries are allowed to borrow four documents (books, magazines, DVDs) at a time for up to three weeks. In order to subscribe to the libraries, individuals must pay a one-time refundable deposit of LL 10,000.

The number of subscribers to the libraries continued to grow in 2010:

- **141 new subscribers** in Bachoura
- **75 new subscribers** in Geitawi
- **72 new subscribers** to the new library of Monnot.

The table below illustrates the number of subscribers since 2002.

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Number of Subscribers in Bachoura	161	412	682	839	989	1,174	1,241	1,454	1,595
Number of Subscribers in Geitawi	-	-	-	129	240	352	456	556	631
Number of Subscribers in Monnot	-	-	-	-	-	-	52	183	255
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>412</b>	<b>682</b>	<b>968</b>	<b>1,229</b>	<b>1,526</b>	<b>1,749</b>	<b>2,193</b>	<b>2481</b>
<b>YEARLY INCREASE</b>	<b>+161</b>	<b>+251</b>	<b>+270</b>	<b>+286</b>	<b>+261</b>	<b>+297</b>	<b>+223</b>	<b>+444</b>	<b>+288</b>



## Library Management

### ■ Human Resources

#### Staff

The Municipal Public Libraries are run by a team of seven well-trained and qualified librarians and coordinators who are assisted by the administrative staff of ASSABIL who are based in Ras el-Nabeh.

Staff	Bachoura	Geitawi	Monnot
Head Librarian	Samar Choucair	Josiane Badra	Cosette Azzi
Cataloguing Specialist	Susanne el-Amin		
Reception of School Classes	Nada Abboudi		
Activity Coordination	Ali Sabbagh		
General Coordination	Clarisse Chebli		

#### Volunteers at the library

For several years now, ASSABIL has relied on the support of volunteers to operate the libraries. Young adults from the American Community School (ACS) and the International College (IC) regularly come to the libraries as part of their community service engagement. They provide help in book covering, shelving, and with many other library tasks. In 2010, **74 volunteers** assisted at the Municipal Public Libraries of Beirut on **374 occasions**.



### ■ Training Workshops

The librarians of the Beirut Municipal Public Libraries participate in a series of trainings each year. In 2010, they attended the following professional trainings:

October 4, 2010:

**“Working together as a network of public libraries in Lebanon”** with *Ali Sabbagh and Michele Warde-Fawaz*

October 11 and 12, 2010:

**“Books and Science can be fun: Introduction to new science exhibits”** with *Marie and Michel Girod from the Association ‘A fond la Science’*

October 26 and 27, 2010:

**“Copyright issues for librarians”** organized by the *Ministry of Culture and UNESCO*

Our specialist librarian for class receptions has participated in a series of **trainings on citizenship and human rights activities with secondary school students**. The focus of the trainings led by the human rights trainer *Joe Haddad* was on how to implement debate activities in public libraries. The trainings took place once a month at ASSABIL’s Resource and Training Center in Ras el-Nabeh.

### International Meetings and Trainings for Librarians

Several members of the Beirut Municipal Public Libraries participated in intensive training sessions abroad and in Lebanon:

February 22-26, 2010:

**“Training of Trainers at the Ministry of Culture”**

Ms. Clarisse Chebli, general coordinator of the Beirut Municipal Libraries, and Mr. Ali Sabbagh, Activity Coordinator of the Beirut Municipal Libraries, participated in a training organized by the Ministry of Culture in cooperation with COBIAC (Collectif des Bibliothécaires et Intervenants en Action Culturelle). The training, given by Monique Ulpat, director of COBIAC, and Mathieu Rochelle, director of the departmental library of the Bouche du Rhone Region, focused on the organization of professional trainings: methods, time management, planning, etc.



October 4 and 5' 2010:

**“Open Source - the Arabic digital library”**

Ms. Cosette Azzi, the head librarian of the Monnot Library, participated in a two-day workshop organized by the Arab Federation for Libraries and Information (AFLI). The workshop that was led by Dr. Amal Hamdi and Professor Khaled el-Halaby focused on available programs and open source library systems in the Arab world. The workshop participants benefitted from an overall introduction and the application of the new tools available with the open source software ‘Greenstone’.

October 11-15, 2010:

**“Cultural management”**

Mr. Ali Sabbagh, activity coordinator at the Beirut libraries, attended a one-week workshop on cultural management in Chateau Thierry, France, thanks to financial assistance from the *French Cultural Center* and the association ‘*Amuni et changeur*’.

**Reception of trainees at the Beirut Municipal Public Libraries**

In 2010, the librarians of the Beirut Municipal Public Libraries helped to train future librarians of other libraries in Lebanon.

Two librarians of the Municipal Library of Nahr Ibrahim spent one week of intensive training at the Bachoura, Monnot, and Geitawi Libraries where they received hands-on experience of the tasks and activities of a librarian in a public library.

In addition, **6 trainees** from the Lebanese University spent several training days at the Beirut Libraries during which they were introduced to the classification and cataloguing systems that are used in the libraries and were able to apply the new skills they had acquired under the immediate supervision and with the assistance of the Beirut librarians.

## ■ Library Spaces and their Maintenance

### *A new room for the Monnot Library*

Thanks to new opportunities that came up in the course of 2010, ASSABIL will expand the Monnot Library space by around 30 percent by adding a new room that will become the home of an entirely new children's section. Plans are currently in their final stages; we plan to start and complete the work in spring 2011. The new addition to the library will allow us not only to offer a pleasant children's area including a reading and a theater stage but will also make it possible for us to expand the library's collection of fiction and reference books for adults in Arabic, French, and English that will be located in the area that was previously dedicated to children.

### *Maintenance and Maintenance Problems at the Libraries*

ASSABIL is in charge of the yearly maintenance of all three library spaces. While agreements have been signed with different companies to ensure that the three libraries are regularly cleaned and their spaces and equipment properly maintained, the libraries face major problems that need to be addressed and are beyond ASSABIL's means both financially and administratively.

The regular and ongoing electricity cuts continue to pose a big problem to the Geitawi and in particular the Bachoura Library. While the Geitawi Library subscribes to a local generator service, the Bachoura Library has to rely on the power supply generated by UPS systems and batteries during the daily three hours of electricity cuts. Relying on this system requires the yearly renewal of batteries which are very costly and thus constitutes a considerable burden on the maintenance budget of the libraries making it impossible for us to provide full library services during the three hours a day when the library is without electricity. This has resulted in a significant decrease in the number of visitors to the library. The electricity cuts are also of course a significant problem during the summer months especially around noon when temperatures can reach as high as 45 degrees C.

Since December 2010, the Geitawi Library has not had access to any toilet facilities since the toilets of the public garden, one of which was reserved for the library, have been closed.



### ■ Cooperation with Ministries and Universities

From the very beginning, ASSABIL has worked to strengthen the relationship between the Municipal Public Libraries and the **Ministries of Culture and Education** and to ensure that the three libraries benefit from being a part of the Ministry of Culture's network of public libraries.

During 2010, ASSABIL and the Municipal Public Libraries of Beirut also began to cooperate with the **Ministry of Social Affairs**. The *CinemArena* Project, entitled 'Visions from within.' was supported by the Italian Embassy in Beirut and implemented in cooperation with the Internal Security Forces in 13 prisons in Lebanon in April 2010. ASSABIL and the Municipal Public Libraries of Beirut, *Beyond*, *Catharsis*, and VAPA (Visual and Performing Arts Association) worked together to "provide human development opportunities to male and female prisoners currently detained in Lebanese prisons." ASSABIL contributed by creating small prison libraries through book donations and organizing activities promoting reading. Ali Sabbagh and Mariam Balhas led a series of well-received activities focused on stories, proverbs, riddles, charades, and book recommendations for the prisoners.

The Municipal Public Libraries of Beirut also cooperated with local universities such as the Saint Joseph University, the American University of Beirut, the ALBA, and the Lebanese University. University students came to the libraries to do research, to assist the librarians, and to participate in the training sessions and the workshops that we offered throughout the year. In addition, the Municipal Public Libraries provided students at the Lebanese University with reference materials that are not available at the Lebanese University's libraries.

## Ongoing activities and projects in the Municipal Public Libraries of Beirut

The Municipal Public Libraries of Beirut fulfill multiple essential roles in the service of local communities. As public spaces they are open to all, they act as a forum of expression and debate, and provide free access to information and knowledge, which are all important prerequisites to the development of an engaged and critical citizenry. In Beirut, the Municipal Public Libraries furthermore play a crucial role as spaces of education in support of the public schools and as spaces of lifelong learning for all members of the community. They are spaces that are used for a variety of cultural activities accessible to everyone – young and old, rich and poor, and of all educational levels.

### Municipal Public Libraries as spaces of lifelong learning

In 2010 the Municipal Public Libraries of Beirut received **3,121 pupils** who took part in class visits and **706 adults and teenagers** who participated in different educational and awareness trainings and workshops.

#### ■ Schools

With the support of the Ministry of Education, ASSABIL organizes a major program at the Municipal Public Libraries of Beirut and the mobile libraries with public schools surrounding the libraries.

ASSABIL has received school classes from over 27 public schools at the public libraries in Beirut since 2003. The program 'Public Schools and Public Libraries' is a great success and puts the public library at the center of the educational system. The goal of the program is not to replace the school program but to complement it by making it more pleasurable, to introduce pupils to the concept of reading for pleasure, and to suggest different ways for older students to conduct research, and to introduce them to the concepts of public space, public debate, citizens' rights and duties, and human rights.

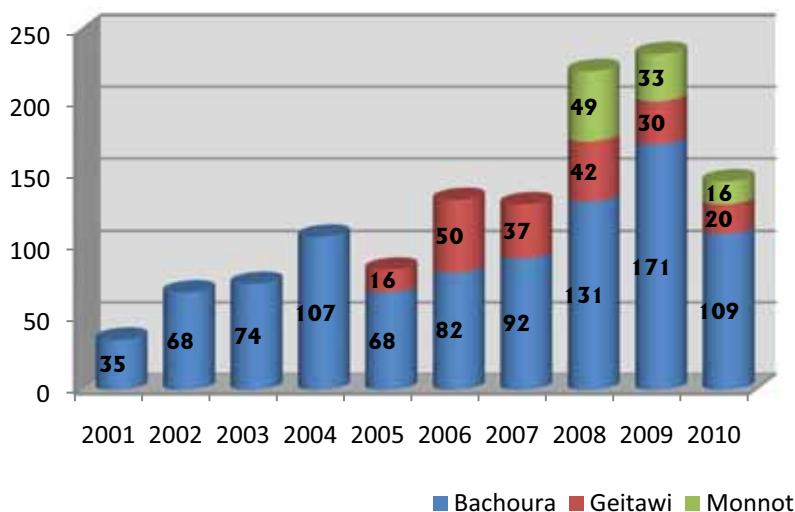
Despite the positive experience, feedback, and high many requests that we have received from schools and pupils, ASSABIL continues to find it difficult to secure ongoing funding for this essential activity.



## Annual Report 2010

In 2010 the libraries received **145 school classes**. The Bachoura Library recorded **109** visits by school classes. The Geitawi Library received **20** classes during the year. The Monnot Library received a total of **16** classes.

Class receptions at the Municipal Public Libraries of Beirut 2001 - 2010



While it works closely with school teachers to define the program of activities depending on the particular needs and wishes of the different classes (topic, type of activity...), ASSABIL also sets special themes for the year's activities. All activities are organized with the goal of transmitting to pupils a love of books and the joy of reading for pleasure.

### ***Storytime with storyteller Jihad Darwiche***

In the framework of the yearly 'Festival du conte' at the Monnot Theater in March 2010, the talented Lebanese storyteller Jihad Darwiche told popular tales to some 21 enthusiastic students. At the end of the session, the students who had thoroughly enjoyed listening to the stories of Mr. Darwiche had the opportunity to ask him some interesting questions



### ***The wonderful world of bees and honey***

In cooperation with the *Association for Forest Development and Conservation (AFDC)*, school classes visiting the Geitawi and Bachoura Libraries were introduced to the wonderful world of bees. To the great pleasure of all participants, these activities included tasting different kinds of honey.



### ***Reading is discovering the world***

The focus of this year's (2010-2011) activities is discovering the world, which we plan to do by taking children of all ages on a journey through time and space, books and stories, to savor spices and food, look at postcards and postage stamps, and other interesting artifacts along the way.





### ■ Workshops for Adults and Children

The Municipal Public Libraries of Beirut act as spaces of lifelong learning for all members – the young and the old - of the local communities. In order to fulfill this mission, ASSABIL organizes a variety of free courses targeting adults and children:

#### Introduction to Technology

Thanks to the help of volunteers, the Municipal Public Libraries of Geitawi and Monnot were able to continue their computer trainings in 2010. The courses focused on basic training for those not familiar with computers.

#### Promoting Children's Rights at the Public Libraries

In cooperation with *Asala Publication and Distribution*, the *UNESCO Regional Office*, *Amnesty International*, and the Ministry of Culture, ASSABIL hosted a workshop on the children's rights book "**We are all born free.**" Under the guidance of Ms. Sana Al Haraka, twenty-five librarians from different regions in Lebanon discussed various book-related activities that they could organize for and with children. The workshop included a series of activities at the public library of Bachoura with *Asala* and the writer Fatima Sharaf al-Din who met with several groups of students. The book was distributed free of charge to all participating students.

#### International Peace Day

On the occasion of 'International Peace Day' on September 21, ASSABIL organized a series of activities in cooperation with the Center of Information of the United Nations (UNIC). The Beirut Municipal Public Libraries celebrated the event with activities and readings around the theme of peace at all its libraries. Ahmad el Aydi, a talented young performer, presented his play on peace at the Geitawi Library to around 30 children; at the Monnot Library around 23 children listened to storyteller Rana Khalil and at the Bachoura Library Mayda Makedessi led a crafts workshop for 13 handicapped children during which they all produced their own 'Peace Bird' in paper.







### **Thinking about the architecture of public libraries**

On March 10, 2010, 18 architecture students from the *Lebanese American University* visited the Monnot Library with their Professor Jean-Marc Abcarius in the framework of their studio on public libraries. The students got a chance to look at the 10 architectural studies that were commissioned by ASSABIL for the upcoming Municipal Public Libraries of Beirut (*Feasibility Study on Expanding the Network of Beirut's Municipal Public Libraries, ASSABIL 2007*). During a presentation of the studies, the students also became familiar with how libraries function as well as with some of the challenges that they pose as multifunctional institutions that host not only bookshelves and reading spaces, but also workshops, cultural activities, exhibits etc.

### **Other workshops for NGOs and individuals**

As in previous years, the Municipal Public Libraries of Beirut were also consulted in 2010 by other NGOs, organizations, and individuals who wanted their assistance for their own activities.

In 2010, the libraries hosted a large number of writing workshops including:

- An international writing workshop entitled '**Sea of words**' led by Liliane Sweydane and Farid Zogheib for 8 participants from different countries that were invited by the *Anna Lindh Foundation* after being selected through a writing competition.
- In the framework of the Beirut World Book Capital 2009 celebrations, a writing workshop for writers was organized by ***Dar el-Saqi*** at the Bachoura Library, where professional writers improved their skills under the guidance of the talented writer Najwa Barakat.
- Finally, a series of writing workshops, as well as trainings for people who lead writing workshops were organized at the Beirut Municipal Public Libraries by the association '***kitabab***' with Georgia Makhoul, Antoine Boulad, and Cathy Barreau.



On January 19, 2010 a workshop took place in cooperation with Al-Hadi Association at the Bachoura Library. The workshop, which was attended by social workers working with people with physical disabilities, discussed the topic of citizenship.

**Creative Workshops for young and old**

Through numerous creative workshops organized at the libraries, ASSABIL tries to foster the role of the public libraries as spaces of creative expression through different means.

In the framework of a project entitled 'Discovering neighborhoods: Cultural Itineraries around Beirut's Municipal Public Libraries' that was organized as part of the Beirut World Book Capital 2009 event, a series of creative workshops allowed inhabitants of Beirut to explore and discover the libraries' neighborhoods in different creative ways: writing, photography, illustration.

The workshops that were held as part of this project in 2010 included:

**Writing workshops** with Georgia Makhouf, Nisrine Ojeil, and Iman Hmaidan



**Photography workshops** with Ramzi Haydar from the Zakira Association

**Illustration workshop** in cooperation with ALBA University, led by Michele Standjovsky.

On December 20 and 27, Mahmoud Hourani from the Arab Puppet Theater Foundation led a **puppet show workshop** for 20 teenagers from the Mabarrat Al Khoui School at the Bachoura Library. Working with stories around human rights issues, the 13-15 year old students learned how to make puppets and developed a short piece which they performed at the library at the end of the workshop.





### ■ Professional Trainings for Librarians

The Municipal Public Libraries of Beirut are also spaces for continuous professional trainings, especially for librarians. In 2010, numerous trainings were held for librarians and educators from all over Lebanon:

April 6, 2010:

**“Organizing cultural activities at public libraries”** with Ali Sabbagh, for 13 librarians from partner libraries in Lebanon.

April 27, 2010:

**“Reading promotion activities with school classes”** with Joumana Behlok, for 18 teachers and activity coordinators.

May 3,, 2010:

**“Reading promotion activities with school classes”** with Joumana Behlok, 99 recipes for activity coordinators from Iqra’ association.

June 4, 2010 :

**“Reviving Oral Culture and Tradition”** with Najla Khoury for 16 librarians from partner libraries.

July 28, 2010:

**“Human rights activities - we are all born free”** in cooperation with *Asala* and the Unesco Regional Bureau for 25 participants.

October 4, 2010:

**“Activity programming in a network of libraries: the ALF program 2010/2011”** with Ali Sabbagh and Michele Warde-Fawaz, for 25 librarians.

October 11-12' 2010:

**“Books and Science can be fun: Introduction to new science exhibits”** with Marie and Michel Girod from the Association ‘A fond la Science’

October 30 and November 6, 2010:

**“Basics of cataloguing and collection management for public librarians”** with Clarisse Chebli for 8 participants

November 13, 2010:

**“Reading promotion activities with school classes”** with Joumana Behlok for 8 teachers and librarians.



## Annual Report 2010

November 29, 2010:

**“Storytelling techniques”** with Joumana Behlok for 10 librarians.

December 20, 2010:

**“Marketing of Public Libraries and Books”** with Michel Choueiri and Cosette Azzi for 10 librarians.

### ■ Book Club for Librarians

In the scope of the Anna Lindh Program for the promotion of Arabic children’s literature, a book club for librarians has brought together librarians from different regions in Lebanon to discuss and analyze Arabic children’s books. The book club is still ongoing with additional sessions in January and February 2011.

We are compiling a list of the librarians’ favorite children’s books that will be distributed at public libraries throughout Lebanon as a guide for parents, teachers, librarians, and all those who are interested in what’s new and what’s not to be missed in Arabic children’s literature in Lebanon.



### **Municipal Public Libraries as Spaces for Cultural Activities**

A public library is more than just a place to read and borrow books; it should be a lively public space filled with a variety of cultural and educational activities; it should be a forum of expression reflecting the creativity of our society. Our experience has shown that organizing an ongoing program of activities is very important. It keeps the library alive.

All too often in Lebanon, cultural events are organized and attended by only privileged members of the population. Public libraries are able to attract new groups to creative workshops and events and therefore play an important role in the promotion of arts and culture in contemporary Lebanese society.

The experience in the existing Municipal Public Libraries in Beirut has shown that regularly hosting a number of different activities that attract children and adults to the libraries is very important. It injects life into public libraries and attracts new users. In 2010, the Municipal Public Libraries of Beirut hosted a wide array of different activities such as storytelling sessions, Mondays at Bachoura, awareness activities, workshops, etc.

The organization of cultural activities in public libraries directly serves to promote the libraries and attracts new target groups. Indeed, public libraries are much more than just spaces for books; they are public spaces for culture, for debate, for continuous education, and meeting spaces. These activities make it possible for us to attract new populations to these public spaces—people who will eventually return not only to attend or participate in the cultural activities that are taking place in this space but also to look at the books and other materials that are available. It is therefore one of our priorities to present with each cultural activity the resources and books that are available at the public libraries on the same and related topics.

The cultural activities held in 2010 targeted both children and adults. When organizing activities and services for children, we work hard to ensure that they are also attractive to parents. Parents, who feel good about the public libraries and books, will come back and will encourage their children to discover the pleasure of books and reading, too.





### ■ Weekly Storytelling Sessions and activities for children

Every week, children gather for the weekly storytelling session at the Bachoura, Geitawi, and Monnot Libraries. Professional storytellers are on hand to tell stories in the language the children and parents request (Arabic, French, or English) and encourage the children to playfully and often creatively discover the world of imagination, stories, and fairytales.

The storytelling hours are a regular activity for many children who attend the event every week. The storytelling activities are their entry to the public libraries where they are introduced to books and become regular users of the libraries as spaces where they can find books for leisure as well as for their homework and research and where they can participate in numerous different cultural and intellectual activities!

In total, around **1,388 children** participated in this activity in 2010 at the Bachoura, Geitawi, and Monnot Libraries (compared to around 800 in 2009).

The weekly storytelling sessions follow a regular calendar:

- Bachoura: Friday 4pm
- Geitawi: Saturday 11am
- Monnot: Friday 4pm

Once a month, the Friday afternoon storytelling at the Bachoura Library takes the form of a film club for children. Popular and fun children's movies are shown at the library to the great pleasure of the kids, many of whom do not usually have the opportunity to watch a movie on a big screen in the commercial cinemas of Beirut.

### Summer Party at the Geitawi Library

Every year just before the libraries annual vacation in August, in order to show its gratitude to the children who have visited the libraries either individually or with their schools, ASSABIL organizes a celebration. This year was no exception. On July 23, ASSABIL invited the well known and popular group that performs on the television show "KIDS POWER" to the Geitawi Public Library Garden. The team of KIDS POWER engaged the crowd of some **120 children and parents** in a series of presentations, songs, games, and riddles that were all focused on the environment. This event was co-financed by the *Arab Fund for Arts and Culture (AFAC)* and the *Heinrich Böll Foundation (HBF)*.



### ■ 'Mondays at the Bachoura library' and other cultural activities

Over the last few years, ASSABIL has been organizing a variety of regular cultural activities at the Municipal Public Libraries of Beirut. This year the regular 'Mondays at Bachoura' and other cultural activities attracted a record number of over **1,425 participants**. By organizing these weekly cultural events, ASSABIL was able to put the Municipal Public Library of Bachoura on the map of cultural events in Beirut. ASSABIL hopes to continue in this direction in 2011. In 2010, these activities were financed by the *Arab Fund for Arts and Culture*.

#### Classical Arabic Music Evening with Mr. Elias Sahhab

On the first Monday of every month, Mr. Elias Sahhab, a well known musical critic, journalist, and political writer gives an interesting presentation of a great Arab composer, musician or singer. We chose Mr. Elias Sahhab because of his expertise and great knowledge of what is commonly referred to as "The Golden Age of Arabic Music." In 2010 the following composers and musicians were presented to around 280 attendees.

- January 2010: **Zaki Nassif**
- February 2010: **Mohammad Abed el-Wahhab and the Adwar**
- March 2010: **Leyla Mourad - Her music, songs, and films**
- April 2010: **Toufic el Bacha**
- May & June 2010: **Fayza Ahmad - the Great Singer**
- July 2010: **Songs of the July Revolution**
- August 2010: **Najat el-Saghira - the sensitive voice**
- September 2010: **Mohamad Abd el-Wahab melodies**
- October 2010: **Sami el Sidawi**
- November 2010: **Khaled Aboul Nasr**
- December 2010: **Mohamad Abdel Wahab**

#### Classical and Jazz Music Evenings with Joelle Khoury

Every second Monday of the month, Mrs. Joelle Khoury, a well known Lebanese composer, brings classical and jazz music closer to the visitors and users of our libraries. The events were attended by around 135 persons.

- January 2010: **Contemporary Music**
- February 2010: **Life and Work of Robert Schuman**
- March 2010: **Tonality in the Work of Schoenberg**
- April & May 2010: **Carmen de Bizet**
- July 2010: **The great masters of Jazz**
- November 2010: **The thematic in the music of Beethoven**
- December 2010: **The Russian composers: Prokofiev**



**Movies with “Nadi likul il nas” (Club for All)**

To watch a movie, you can go to the cinema, see it on TV, or wait for the DVD. But what about those movies that aren't shown on TV, don't appear as DVDs, and are in the cinema only during special festivals?

To show precisely those films to the public, ASSABIL collaborated with “Nadi likul il nas,” an NGO that specializes in movies and cinema and organizes the annual Festival of Student Movies. One of the things that made this program special was that at every screening the filmmaker was present and available to discuss the film with the audience after it was shown. The decision to have the director present influenced the choice of movies. 276 persons attended the following film screenings:

- January 2010: **Cinema and War in Lebanon** by Hadi Zakkak
- February 2010: **Bil Bal** by Nasser Ajami
- March 2010: **Maids in Lebanon** by Jocelyne Chawi
- April 2010: **Mabrouk el Tahrir** by Dalia
- May 2010: **The Chair** by Cynthia Choucair
- June 2010: **Sukkar Yafa** by Hicham Kayed
- July 2010: **They leave and history leaves with them** by Assi Rahbani
- September 2010: **I shear only for her** by Mohamad Sweid
- October 2010: **A Women's Kingdom** by Dana Abou Rahmeh
- November 2010: **This is Lebanon** by Eliane el Raheb
- December 2010: **Love and Cigarettes** by Elie Khalife

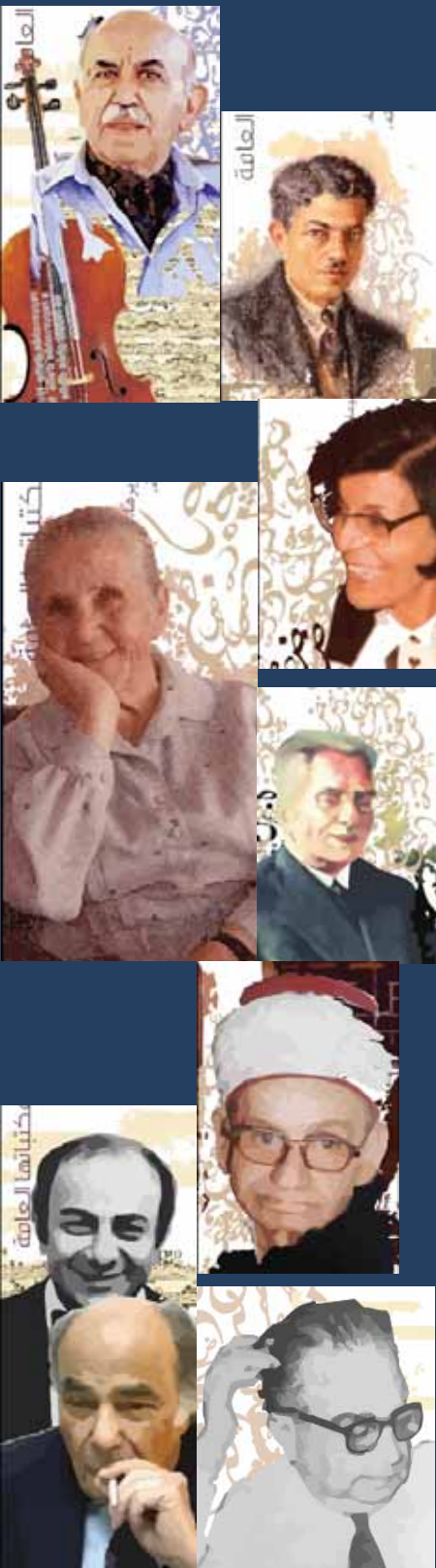
**Poetry readings with music**

Finally, every fourth Monday of the month, ASSABIL invited both young and more established poets to the Bachoura Library to read selections from their work to the public, accompanied by Oud player Moustafa Said. 357 people attended these events in 2010.

- January 2010: **Emilie Nasrallah**
- February 2010: **Najat Slaybi Tawil**
- March 2010: **Charbel Dagher**
- April 2010: **Chawki Bzeih**
- May 2010: **Oud music by Moustafa Said**
- June 2010: **Suzanne Talhouk**
- July 2010: **Ahmad Bazzoun**
- November 2010: **Mohammad Allouch: Fatme Mcheik and Ali Tabet**
- December 2010: **Lorka Sbeity**







**Spotlight on neighborhood writers, musicians, and artists**

*In 2010, and particularly during the month of March, the Beirut Municipal Public Libraries paid tribute to their neighborhood artists, musicians, and writers. For each tribute, ASSABIL invited members of the families of the featured personalities as well as two experts who would present their perspectives of the individual's work and life.*

**Thursday, March 4: A Spotlight on Moustapha Farroukh**

35 admirers of Moustapha Farroukh's art and paintings came to listen to the presentations of Mr. Hani Farroukh, Dr. Faysal Soultan, and Dr. Maha Soultan and to view an exhibition of Farroukh's paintings at the Bachoura Library.

**Friday, March 5: A Spotlight on Toufic el-Bacha**

26 participants gathered at the Bachoura Library to listen to music composed by Toufic el-Bacha and introduced by Mr. Amin el-Bacha, as well as the brothers Elias and Victor Sahhab.

**Thursday, March 11: A Spotlight on Laure Mogheizel**

A school class participated in a lively presentation of the life and work of Laure Mogheizel by her daughter Dr. Nada Mogheizel and representatives of the Laure Mogheizel School in Geitawi. *This event was repeated with 35 students from the Makassed School on December 14, 2010.*

**Friday, March 12: A Spotlight on Anbara Salam**

56 participants came to listen to the presentations of Khoultoum Salam, Randa Khalidi, and Emilie Nasrallah.

**Thursday, March 18: A Spotlight on Akhtal al-Saghir**

22 admirers of Arabic poetry participated in the event with Joseph Khoury, Dr. Michel Chiha, and Dr. Wajih Fanous.

**Friday, March 19: A Spotlight on Sheikh Abdallah el-Alaily**

30 participants came to view the televised interview with Sheikh Abdallah al-Alaily and to listen to presentations by Dr. Riadh Alaily, Dr. Radwan el-Said, and Dr. Mohammad Amin Farchoukh.

**Monday, November 8: A Spotlight on Omar Zeini**

35 visitors participated in a fascinating presentation of the works of Omar Zeini - who has been hailed as the Moliere of the Orient, Voltaire of the Arabs, and the Son of the People—at the Bachoura Library.

**Monday, December 13: A Spotlight on the Rahbani Brothers**

26 students from the Arab Institute had the chance to discover the Rahbani brothers and to listen to some of their most loved music.



### Reception of authors

The **Hay Festival Beirut 39**, which took place in Beirut April 15-16 as part of World Book Capital 2009 celebrations, honored 39 young Arab writers under the age of 40. Readers of all ages, including an important number of students, came to the Bachoura, Monnot, and Geitawi Libraries to meet 26 of the authors: Nagat Ali, Abderrahim Elkhassar, Abdelaziz Errachidi, Najwan Darwish, Kamel Riyahi, Hussein al-Abri, Abdellah Taia, Wajdi al-Ahdal Hamdi el-Gazzar, Abdelkader Benali, Abdullah Thabet, Mansoura Ez Eldin, Zaki Beydoun, Joumana Haddad, Nazem Elsayed, Rosa Yaseen Hassan, Samar Yazbek, Abderrazak Boukoba, Dima Wannous, Hyam Yared, Hussein Jelaad, Hala Kawtharani, Yousef Rakha, Islam Samhan, Mohamad Hasan Alwan, and Randa Jarrar.

In addition, Abderrazak Boukoba, Abdelaziz Errachidi, and Nagat Ali were on hand on April 17 at the Kotobus, the mobile library which was parked at the Corniche, to read stories about North Africa.

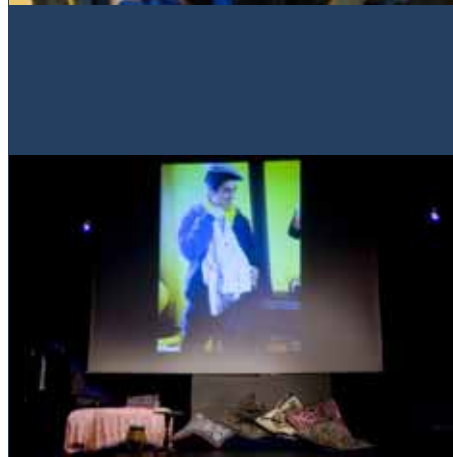
### Exploring calligraphy at the Bachoura Cemetery

In the framework of the project '*Discovering Neighborhoods: Cultural Itineraries around Beirut's Municipal Public Libraries*' a walk through the Bachoura cemetery was organized on February 25 under the guidance of Mr. Ali Assi, specialist of Arabic calligraphy in Lebanon.

### Story Weaving in public libraries

With support from the Beirut World Book Capital 2009 Committee, "our shared community story" a project initiated by ASSABIL and the "n" Association, led a series of workshops in the libraries of Baakline, Hermel, Geitawi, Srifra, and Beit Meri. Under the guidance of Hala Makarem from "n" and in cooperation with the *Zoukak Theater Company*, participants of all ages and from different communities and socioeconomic backgrounds wove chapters of this shared "story".

Almost 80 participants from the five libraries were on hand on April 18 for the final performance by *Zoukak* at the Monnot Theater, which included photos and video and audio from the five workshops.





### ■ Exhibits at Beirut Libraries

Throughout 2010, the Municipal Public Library of Bachoura hosted several smaller and bigger exhibits:

February 2010:  
**“All in one box”**

---

In the framework of Beirut World Book Capital 2009, 22 illustrators from Lebanon and abroad came together in a workshop to create an illustration research room where they collided, jammed, and negotiated illustrations. The result was shown at the Bachoura Library in February 2010.



March 2010:  
**“Discovering Neighborhoods: Cultural Itineraries around Beirut’s Municipal Public Libraries”**

---

As a culminating event to ASSABIL’s main project celebrating Beirut World Book Capital 2009, an exhibit of the result of several creative workshops was shown at the Bachoura Library. The exhibit included photographs and illustrations of the neighborhoods of the Beirut libraries through the eyes and camera lenses of people who live in the area.



December 2010:  
**“Mohieddine Al Labad”**

---

In collaboration with the *Samir Kassir Foundation*, we organized an exhibit of several works and books by the artist and writer Mohieddine Al Labad. Nada Abboudi was on hand to tell groups of students a bit about this artist who died recently and is still sorely missed by the community of scholars and artists of which he was such a treasured member.



### ■ Concert at the Monnot Library

For a musical closure of the year 2010, ASSABIL organized a concert at the Monnot library on Friday, November 26. Around 65 people of all ages listened to the Jazz sounds of Joelle Khoury on the piano and Tom Horing on the Saxophone. At the end of the concert some music students took the initiative and performed their own pieces on the piano.

## Municipal Public Libraries Participating in National Events

### National Reading Week

This year, as in previous years, the three Beirut libraries and the Kotobus were bustling with activity during National Reading Week, April 15-24. In addition to writers, storytellers, and activity coordinators talking about books and telling stories, there were also lots of games, workshops, and film screenings. Authors and illustrators like Hanadi Dayya, Cathy Khattar, Nina Abi Fadel, Rania Zaghir, Fadia Hoteit, Samar Barrage, Michele Standjovsky, Dania Khatib, Farah Nehme, and Nabiha Mheidli shared their experiences with children

During National Reading Week 2010, 21 school classes (469 students and 25 adults) visited the Bachoura Library; 13 classes (239 students and 66 adults) visited the Monnot Library; and 8 classes (240 students and 33 adults) visited the Geitawi Library.

### International Music Day

On June 21, Lebanon celebrates music. Concerts are organized throughout the country involving many young people and adults. All kinds of music is celebrated from classical to jazz, rock, folk, etc. In 2010, ASSABIL joined the celebration and organized two concerts at the libraries of Beirut.

In the Bachoura Library, a lively jazz concert with Joelle Khoury and her five colleagues playing the piano, saxophone, guitar, and batteries attracted more than 45 people.

In the Geitawi Library, more than 30 people listened with pleasure for 45 minutes to the improvisations of Moustafa Said on the Oud and Ghassan Sahhab on the Kanoun. We were happily surprised to see that children as young as seven years old left their games in the public garden adjacent to the library to listen to this beautiful music.







### **Science Days 2010**

Just as in the previous two years, the Beirut Municipal Public Libraries again participated at the 'Science Days 2010' event at the Beirut Hippodrome. One of the long-term benefits resulting from our participation in the Science Days 2010 event is that ASSABIL has increased its collection of educational and fun exhibits relating to science and renewed its successful cooperation with *A Fond la Science* and Ile-de-France. The new exhibits – animothèques – combining books, posters, and engaging experiments were presented to the public at the Beirut Hippodrome in October 2010. They were a big hit among families and school classes attending the Science Days 2010 event. The topics of this year's exhibits were:

- Science in everyday life.
- Galileo.
- Children are saving the planet.



ASSABIL will organize training sessions for librarians/teachers, who will be able to borrow these exhibits at no charge, on how to use these exhibits at its Resource and Training Center in spring 2011..

### **The Beirut Municipal Public Libraries at the Arabic Book**

#### **Fair 2010**

At ASSABIL's stand at the Arabic Book Fair, the Beirut Municipal Libraries and the association's Resource and Training Center presented its current program of activities to promote Arabic children's literature. The stand featured a preview of the new 101 book exhibit that has been put together by a team from the Anna Lindh Foundation. In addition, Lebanese authors and illustrators whose books have been selected for the exhibit got a chance to present their works to school classes and the general public. The stand hosted one author every day at 11am; regular storytelling sessions were held daily at 4pm.





## Expanding the Network of Municipal Public Libraries

Based on the feasibility study that ASSABIL commissioned for the Municipality of Beirut in 2006/2007, the expansion of the network of Municipal Public Libraries is continuing. The map shows the already existing library sites and the upcoming projects for the coming years.



### ■ Tariq el-Jdideh Library: the fourth municipal public library in Beirut

ASSABIL has been asked by the Municipality of Beirut to prepare a detailed BOQ (Bill of Quantities) for the renovation of the building that will be the home of the 4<sup>th</sup> municipal public library of Beirut. This is the first library for which the Municipality itself will assure the renovation of the library spaces.

With a surface area of around 450sqm extending over two floors, which will be able to hold around 35,000 books, this fourth library will be the biggest of Beirut's Municipal Public Libraries. In addition, the library will include an activity and exhibit space on the ground floor, as well as outside spaces.

The BOQ has been prepared by the architectural firm polypod at the request of ASSABIL. It was presented to members of the new Municipal Council elected in Mai 2010, in presence of the President of the Municipal Council, Dr. Bilal Hamad. The technical files were submitted to the head of the Cultural Committee of the Municipality on November 4, 2010.

Following the request of the Municipal Council in November 2010 ASSABIL submitted a number of suggestions to reduce the scope and hence the cost of the project to a total of approximately US\$750,000. These changes were approved by the Municipal Council in December 2010. An addendum to the BOQ with the reduction in the scope of work was submitted to the president of the Municipality on January 18, 2011. Based on these documents, the Municipal Council will be able to launch the tendering process.

The building permit file for the library construction was issued on March 18, 2010 and is valid until April 2011.

■ **Preparing for the new libraries with the ‘Kotobuses’**

ASSABIL’s mobile libraries, the Kotobus, have been preparing the residents of Tariq el-Jdideh since summer 2008 for the opening of the new public library in their neighborhood.

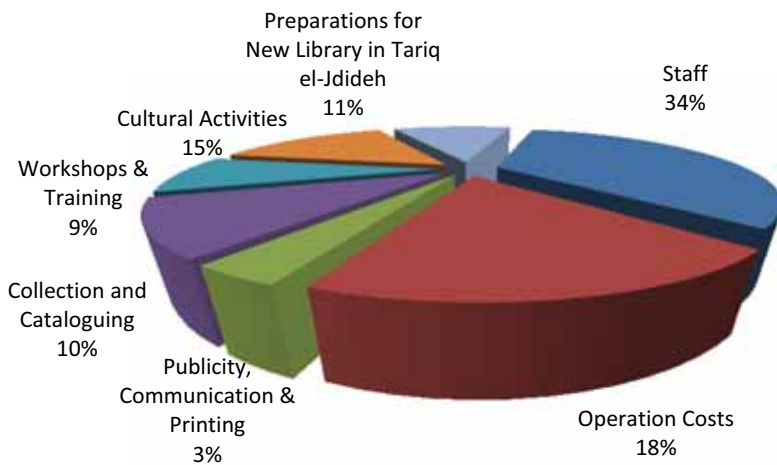
After a busy summer 2010 - working with 11 associations and community centers - the two mobile libraries (kotobuses) resumed hosting activities with public schools to encourage debate and reading. Since October, the two buses have been visiting eight primary and eight secondary schools in Beirut and the suburbs: Tarik el-Jdideh, Bourj al-Barajneh, Achrafieh, and Furn el-Chebbek. ASSABIL coordinators, who meet twice a month with three-four classes at each of the 16 schools, organize activities focused on storytelling, drawing, arts and crafts, etc. Adolescents take part in ongoing debates about citizenship. In addition to learning about the topic itself, the students are also acquiring some invaluable skills on how to debate, conduct research, identify key themes, etc.



## Yearly Budget of the Beirut Municipal Libraries in 2010

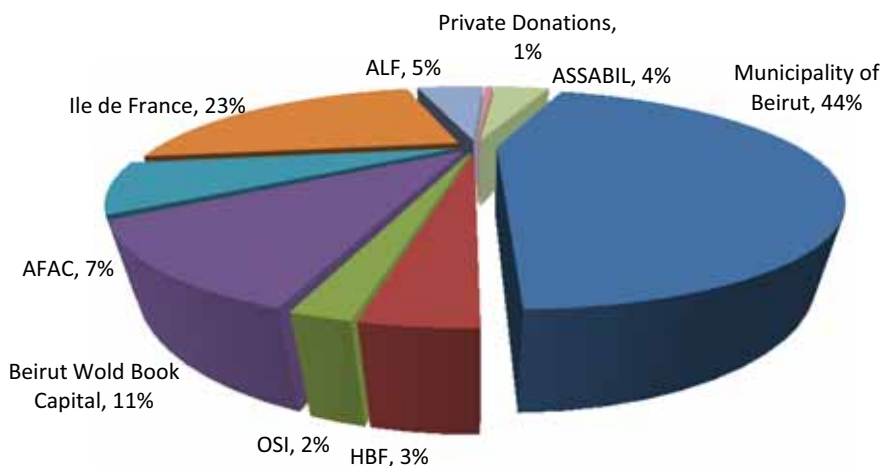
The expenditures for Beirut’s three Municipal Public Libraries totaled US\$249,577 for the year 2010.

### Expenditures for the Beirut Municipal Public Libraries



The municipal contribution to these expenditures amounted to 44 percent in 2010. The remaining expenditures were covered by: ASSABIL, the Heinrich Böll Foundation (HBF), Open Society Institute (OSI), Ministry of Culture (Beirut World Capital of the Book), Arab Fund for Arts and Culture (AFAC), Ile-de-France Region, Anna Lindh Foundation (ALF) and the Swedish International Development Agency (Sida), Ousseimi Foundation, ARAMEX, Warde and diverse private donations. A big **“THANK YOU!”** to all our funders for supporting the Municipal Public Libraries of Beirut and their activities!

### Expenditures of the Beirut Municipal Public Libraries per Funder



## The Beirut Municipal Public Libraries in the Media - 2010

### Arabic Press

Date	Title of the article	Journal
9/1/2010	زكي ناصيف في المكتبة سحاب قدمه لنا باقيا	النهار
18/1/2010 20/1/2010	نادي السينما / سينما الحرب في لبنان – هادي زكاك	الاخبار- السفير - النهار
25/1/2010	شعر وموسيقى مع املي نصرالله و مصطفى سعيد	النهار
30/1/2010	الياس سحاب " محمد عبد الوهاب ، الادوار "	الاخبار
6/2/2010	الموسيقية جويل خوري تقدم " روبير شومان": حياته واعماله"	الاخبار- السفير
11/2/2010	جويل خوري/ شومان الرومنطقي الهارب من الواقع	النهار
15/2/2010	نادي السينما / بالبال – ناصر عجمي	الاخبار- المستقبل- السفير
15/2/2010	فرقة زقاق / تاليف فصول قصة جماعية مسرحية	الاخبار
20/2/2010	امسية موسيقية وهاوية - سحاب	اللواء
20/2/2010	شعر وموسيقى مع نجاة الصليبي طويل و مصطفى سعيد	السفير – الاخبار
25/2/2010	محترف تصوير فوتوغرافي بادارة المصور رمزي حيدر	المستقبل
3/3/2010	الياس سحاب / حياة و اعمال الموسيقي توفيق الباشا	السفير
3/3/2010	احتفاء بالمبدع مصطفى فروخ / شهادات بالتشكيلي اللبناني	الاخبار
3/3/2010	الياس سحاب / الخالدة ليلى مراد سماع و تحليل	النهار
10/03/2010	هل تصبح المكتبة محطتنا اليومية؟	النهار
10/3/2010 15/3/2010 29/4/2010	امسية حول حياة و اعمال عنبرة سلام الخالدي- لور مغيزل – الاخلط الصغير	البلد – اللواء- المستقبل
15/3/210	نادي السينما /اوكسجين- كورين شاي	المستقبل
20/3/2010	شعر وموسيقى مع شربل داغر و اسامة عبدالفتاح	المستقبل
23/3/2010 23/3/2010	مكتبة بيروت استذكرت المعية عبدالله العاليلي	النهار – اللواء
31/3/2010 23/3/2010 11/3/2010	تمديد المعرض الختامي / اكتشاف الاحياء المحيطة بالمكتبات العامة من الناحية الثقافية	النهار – السفير- الاخبار
13/4/2010	امسية حول حياة و اعمال الموسيقي توفيق الباشا	موقع النشرة
17/4/2010	جويل خوري/ كارمن – للمؤلف جورج بيزيه	النهار
17/4/2010 19/4/2010	نادي السينما / مبروك التحرير – داليا فتح الله	الاخبار- السفير
20/4/2010 26/4/2010 27/4/2010	الجائزة السنوية لافضل نص للاطفال	البلد- النهار- اللواء
24/4/2010 23/4/2010 26/4/2010	شعر وموسيقى مع شوقي بزيع و مصطفى سعيد	اللواء- الحياة- الاخبار- السفير- البلد



Annual Report 2010

Date	Title of the article	Journal
2/5/2010	الياس سحاب /اغاني المطربة فائزة احمد سماع و تحليل	الاخبار – اللواء
10/5/2010	جويل خوري/ كارمن لبيزي	السفير
15/5/2010	نادي السينما /الكروي- سينتيا شقير	الاخبار
24/5/2010	امسية موسيقية عزف منفرد على العود / مصطفى سعيد	السفير –الاخبار
5/6/2010 7/6/2010	الياس سحاب /اغاني المطربة فائزة احمد سماع و تحليل	اللواء – السفير
12/6/2010 14/6/2010	نادي السينما / سكر يافا – هشام كايد	الاخبار – اللواء
19/6/2010 21/6/2010	احتفالات عيد الموسيقى في الباشورة و الجعيتاوي	النهار – الاخبار
26/6/2010	شعر وموسيقى مع سوزان تلحوق و مصطفى سعيد	السفير
28/6/2010	عرض في شارع الحمراء- حافلة الكتاب – كتباص	السفير
24/7/2010 26/7/2010	شعر وموسيقى مع احمد بزون و مصطفى سعيد	السفير – اللواء - المستقبل
26/7/2010 13/7/2010 5/7/2010	الياس سحاب /اغاني ثورة يوليو سماع و تحليل	المستقبل- الاخبار
29/7/2010	" التربية على حقوق الانسان" امناء مكتبات عامة تدرّبوا عليها	النهار
31/7/2010	الياس سحاب /نجاح الصغيرة : الصوت الحساس سماع و تحليل	النهار – اللواء – الاخبار
15/9/2010	جائزة وزارة الثقافة - المكتبة المثالية للعام 2009 – جمعية السبيل	البلد – النهار – السفير – اللواء
21/9/2010	الامم المتحدة و جمعية السبيل تحتفلان باليوم الدولي للسلام	اللواء – البلد
15/9/2010	المكتبة والأمانة الثاليتان: "السبيل" وربما شرارة	السفير
21/9/2010	اليوم الدولي للسلام	السفير
4/10/2010 2/10/2010	الياس سحاب/ سامي الصيداوي سماع و تحليل	السفير – الاخبار
23/10/2010 25/10/2010	نادي السينما /مملكة النساء – دانا ابو رحمة	السفير – الاخبار – اللواء
30/10/2010	الياس سحاب/ خالد ابو النصر ( احد مؤسسي الاغنية اللبنانية)	السفير – اللواء
8/11/2010	نادي السينما /مملكة النساء – دانا ابو رحمة	السفير – الاخبار
20/12/2010	نادي السينما / الحب والسيجارة – ايلي خليفة	الاخبار
23/12/2010	اعلان عن الجائزة السنوية/2011 عن افضل نص للاولاد	النهار
27/12/2010	شعر وموسيقى مع لوركا سببتي، مصطفى سعيد و غسان سحاب	السفير

## English and French Press

Journal	Title of the article	Date
<b>Agenda culturel</b>	<i>Ateliers d'écriture</i>	<i>Fév 2010</i>
<b>L'Orient-le-Jour - campus</b>	<i>De la lecture avant toute chose</i>	<i>Juin 2010</i>
<b>L'Orient-le-Jour</b>	<i>Prix ministère de la culture / ASSABIL est la bibliothèque idéale en 2009</i>	<i>15/9/2010</i>
<b>L'Orient-le-Jour</b>	<i>Assabil et l'ONU ensemble pour la paix</i>	<i>21/9/2010</i>
<b>Outlook - AUB</b>	<i>When was the Last time you Picked up a Book?</i>	<i>28/9/2010</i>





# THANK YOU!



*The projects and activities presented in this report were made possible through funding from the Municipality of Beirut, Heinrich Böll Foundation (HBF), Open Society Institute (OSI), Ministry of Culture (Beirut World Capital of the Book), Arab Fund for Arts and Culture (AFAC), Ile-de-France Region, Anna Lindh Foundation (ALF) and the Swedish International Development Agency, Ousseimi Foundation, ARAMEX, Warde and many private and anonymous donors!*

