

# INVEST IN CULTURE

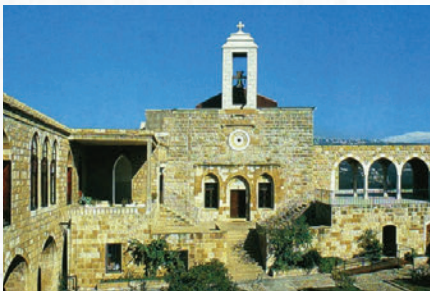
*Who are we?*





# HISTORY

Since the establishment of the Lebanese Maronite Order (OLM) in 1695, its monasteries, as places of prayer and studies, have always had their own libraries.



In 1938, the Order opened the first national university in Lebanon. In 1950, the Holy Spirit University of Kaslik (USEK) was founded in which theology, philosophy, letters and canon law were taught. With the expansion and development of the University to include more majors, USEK Library began to expand and develop its collection with books and journals to accommodate the additional fields of study.

**BY THE 1980s AND 1990s, GENEROUS DONATIONS ENABLED THE LIBRARY TO FURTHER TRANSFORM AND ENRICH ITS COLLECTION.**

Then in the 2000s, new departments were established; the library was revamped, and electronic collections were introduced with subscriptions to the collections of major publishers. As a result, the Library continued to honor its mission in supporting research, teaching, and learning needs within the University community by providing comprehensive collections, services, facilities, and expertise.



Embracing change and diversifying services to support professional growth and opportunity, and to reward flexibility and innovation is a major driving force.

The USEK Library spans four locations - the main Library at the Kaslik campus and satellite libraries at our Regional University Centers in Chekka, Rmeich and Zahle.

## USEK LIBRARY AFFILIATED CENTERS



THE CONSERVATION  
AND RESTORATION  
CENTER



THE DIGITAL  
DEVELOPMENT  
CENTER



THE PHOENIX CENTER  
FOR LEBANESE STUDIES



Embracing  
change



# ACADEMIC LIBRARY AND BEYOND

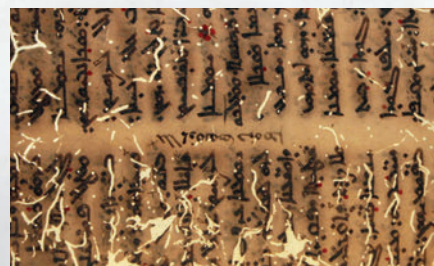
USEK Library excels beyond the notion of a traditional academic library of higher education and plays a fundamental role as a caretaker in preserving the endangered cultural, historic, and ethnic heritage of Lebanon.

**As well as fulfilling its educational mission, the library also aims to achieve a synthesis of traditionalism and modernism, preserving the past for future generations.**

This mission began in 2003 with the manuscript collection of the Lebanese Maronite Order.

The source of the idea came from the origins of USEK, in its commitment to the preservation and promotion of the Maronite cultural heritage.

Since then, the USEK Library has widened its scope and mission to fulfill the preservation and promotion of the Lebanese cultural and ethnic heritage. This has been a massive undertaking involving the expansion of collections, opening a preservation and conservation center, initiating a digitization center, and acquiring notable manuscript and archives collections, in addition to ancient and rare books.



*Preserving  
the heritage  
of Lebanon*



# COLLECTIONS

In addition to the print books and journals, the Library offers a wide range of electronic resources to meet the research, information and learning needs of the USEK community.

The Library has acquired notable collections of rare books and incunabula. These exceptional texts, which are difficult to find and impossible to replace, have fundamental research value.

The Library's literary rare books and incunabula include works in Arabic, English, French, German, Italian, Latin, Ancient Greek, Syriac, and Garshuni.

Special collections include approximately 2,000 manuscripts, handwritten in Syriac, Arabic, Latin, and Greek, among other languages, covering theology, Islam, philosophy, Syriac and Arabic grammar, literature, astronomy, history, and more. Many of these manuscripts are translations from Latin to Garshuni (Arabic in Syriac letters), and some are distinguished, like OLM 263, which is claimed to be the oldest Maronite Syriac Liturgical textbook for the Palm Sunday Office of Readings, copied at Qozhaya Monastery in 1493.



The newspapers and periodicals collection has been acquired by USEK since the opening of the Library, as well as from generous donations. **The most important titles that have research and heritage importance include Al-Jawaib, Al-Jinān, Al-Ahram, Thamarat Al-Funun, Al-Muktataf, Lissan Al-Hal, Al-Hoda, New Lebanese American Journal, Al-Muhajjer, Al-Haqiqah and Al-Ma'rad.**



Rare books  
Incunabula



# THE CONSERVATION AND RESTORATION CENTER

Launched in 2002, the Conservation and Restoration Center oversees the up-keep of the conservation and restoration of heritage collections including manuscripts, rare and valuable books, archives, maps, photos, etc. Expertly cared for and preserved, the Library makes its collections accessible and usable for research purposes.



The center also provides conservation and restoration services for the private collections of individuals, collectors, dioceses, municipalities, universities, families, etc.

Click [here](#) for a step-by-step demonstration of the restoration of the Maronite evangeliary.





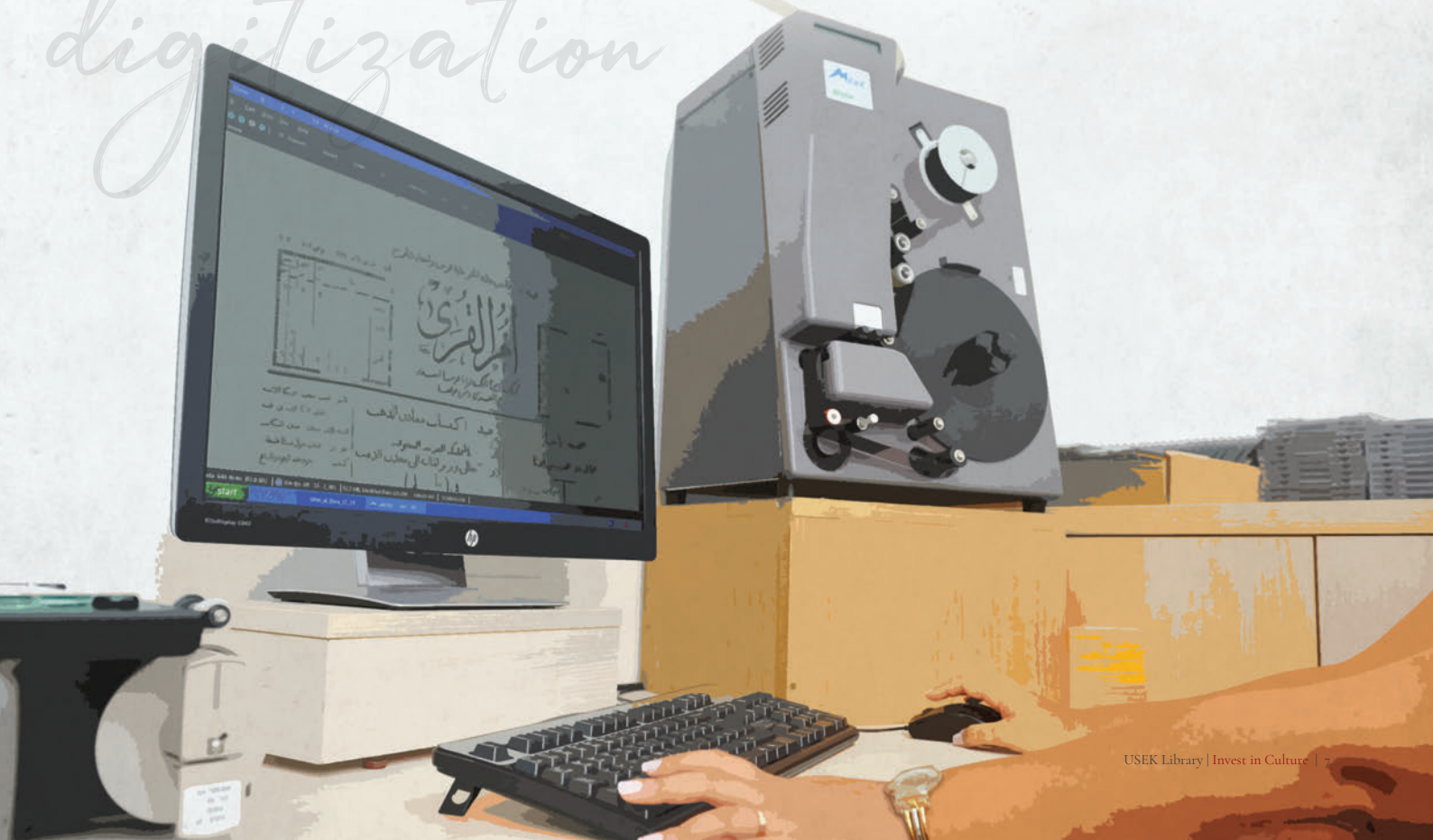
# THE DIGITAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER

The Digital Development Center plays a very important role in sharing knowledge through library resources and services. Its mission is to focus on the digitization of USEK Library collections and rare materials to make them available to teachers, researchers, individuals in the USEK community, and temporary (visiting) Library users.

To support research, the Digital Development Center seeks to make USEK's collections accessible for research and educational use, and this includes the easy reproduction and publication of materials found in the collections.



*digitization*





# THE PHOENIX CENTER FOR LEBANESE STUDIES

The Phoenix Center for Lebanese Studies (PCLS) preserves Lebanese heritage by protecting important archives from being lost forever and putting them at the disposal of researchers and students for cultural and scientific research, encouraging the publication of future articles and literary works to keep Lebanon's legacies alive.

These archives represent the memory, history, originality and identity of Lebanon. As such, their preservation is essential for the sake of current and future generations.

The center also manages a variety of political, legal, familial, ecclesiastical, etc. archives (to name a few) comprising:

- original visual documents: papers, maps, plans, manuscripts, glass plates, photos, etc.,
- audio documents: disks, magnetic tapes, etc.,
- audiovisual documents: movies, videos, documentaries, etc.

**The PCLS is in charge of the publication and distribution of USEK's works about Lebanon and its heritage.**



## A GLIMPSE INTO THE PCLS COLLECTIONS:

Camille Chamoun | Fouad Chehab | Elias Sarkis | Bachir Gemayel | Lady Yvonne Sursock Cochrane | Adonis and Joseph Nehme | Wadih El Safi | Salah Tizani (Abou Salim) | Studio Baalbeck | Baalbek International Festival | Casino du Liban | Maurice Gemayel | Youssef El Sawda | Kamal El Salibi | Mount Lebanon *Mutasarrifate* | *Qaimaqamiya* of Keserwan | *Qaimaqamiya* of Batroun | Gibran Khalil Gibran | Elias Abou Chabke | Bechara El Khoury (Al Akhtal As-Saghir)

Protecting important  
archives



**FOR DONATION TRANSFER OUTSIDE LEBANON**

**AUSEK** (Association loi 1901 reconnue d'intérêt général  
par les services fiscaux sous la référence 2016-274)

Société Générale

Suresnes Charles Péguy (04060)

9 Promenade St. Leufroy

92150 Suresnes - France

IBAN : FR76 3000 3040 6000 0372 6493 003

BIC : SOGEFRPP

**Ordre Libanais Maronite, Universite Saint-Esprit Kaslik**

Lebanon, Sarba, Kaslik street, P.O.Box 446 Jounieh

IBAN : LB19 0075 0000 0001 140Z 3203 2400 USD

SWIFT : BABELBBE

Bank of Beirut sal

Lebanon, Sarba, Kaslik street, USEK Bldg

**FOR DONATION TRANSFER INSIDE LEBANON:****Ordre Libanais Maronite, Universite Saint-Esprit Kaslik**

Lebanon, Sarba, Kaslik street, P.O.Box 446 Jounieh

IBAN : LB71 0075 0000 0001 1401 3203 2402 USD

SWIFT : BABELBBE

Bank of Beirut sal

Lebanon, Sarba, Kaslik street, USEK Bldg

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