### The Role of the International and Regional Organizations in Reconstructing Iraqi Libraries in the Liberated Cities from Daaish (ISIS) Terrorist Organization

#### -University of Mousl Library as a Model-

Dr. Jinan Mohammed Abbas Al-Tmemi

Dr. Imad Mutair Al-Shemri

**Al-Mustansiriyah University** 

University of Anbar- College of Arts

### Abstract

The special protection of the cultural property is considered one of the protections afforded by the international law for the World Cultural Heritage in the period of the armed conflict (1). The Iraqi cities that were ravaged by Daaish gangs in 2014 AD had known over the centuries with its libraries rich with the books of different languages, and these gangs burned the libraries and books. After regaining the Iraqi cities from Daaish, several campaigns were organized to refill the roofs of the central libraries with the books and manuscripts, where the response was great by governmental and civil parties, Universities, individuals and civil organizations. This research paper tries to investigate the role played by the international and regional organization and the governments of the World States to reconstruct the library of the University of Mousl and the points of the success and the shortcomings in this field.

#### The Problem of the Study and its Questions

In the present time, the university library performs a prominent role in the university educational process, since it considers a basic for assisting the university to perform its research, educational and academic message by providing different sources of the knowledge to its employees which reflects impact in developing the education outputs (2). The library of the University of Mousl considers one of the most important Iraqi Universities libraries which exposed to a vicious crime represented by destroying its contents of tens of thousands of books and rear manuscripts that dated back to different historical periods which qualified to be one of the most important ingredients of the constructing heritage of Mousl city in particular and of Iraq in general. Today, maintaining and developing the historical origins and heritage sites acquire a priority in the polices of International Community and national governments, for the main role it can assume in enhancing the development of the States, therefore; we found that the World States and its working organizations have fastened to contribute in reconstructing the library of the University of Mousl after liberating the city from Daaish terriost gangs through providing it with what it needs of books, furniture or training for its cadres to use modern technologies in the field of the technical work and utmost benefit from the technology of information and the study will endeavor to answer the following questions:

What is the scale of the destruction and damage the library of the University of Mousl exposed to and what are the capabilities of compensating what it lost of precious library collectibles? What are the efforts exerted to reconstruct the library after liberating the city?

Are the efforts of the International Organizations and friendly governments consistent with the volume of the crime that the library exposed to? What are the most prominent countries and organizations that contributed in the efforts of reconstructing the library of the University of Mousl?

#### The Importance of the Study

There are some reasons urged us to choose this subject that could be briefed as follows:

1. The importance of the University of Mousl and its library for Iraq and Arab Homeland in terms of its volume and rarity of what it contains of scientific books and prominent architectural manuscripts.

2. The hugeness of the crime of burning and destroying the library for what it represented of a flagrant violation for the values of the human civilization which guaranteed by all doctrines of the heaven and earth and the ugliness of what the terriost gangs gave of justifications for burning and destroying this human cultural legacy.

3. The importance of highlighting the international human cooperation in reconstructing this cultural edifice and the international volunteer efforts that exerted by the governmental organizations at various quarters of the world to reconstruct the library for what it has of the spirit of challenge for the values of ignorance and superstition which tried to distort the Islamic religion and its human tolerant civilization.

#### The Method of the Study

This study is an analytical theory, depends in it achievement on the descriptive documentary library mode aims at collecting data from the literatures and scientific references relevant to the field of the research and depending on the historical method during narrating the historical events that the library passed through in order to set off towards the explanation of the reality, as well as it has been depending on the analytical method which based on the comprehensive follow up of the efforts of reconstructing the library of the University of Mousl and the donation

campaigns done by the States and International Organizations in this respect.

#### The Plan of the Research

In order to state the topics that considered included within the domain of the research and to give this research paper its required dimensions and to deal with all of its theoretical sides we decided to divide the subject into a set of points preceded by an introduction and followed by a conclusion. These points will deal with the history of the library of the University of Mousl and the details of burning and destroying it and the efforts of reconstructing it as well as the States that contributed in reconstruction and we shall conclude this study with the most important results and suggestions we have come out during the research.

## First: The History of the Central Library of the University of Mousl and its branch libraries

The library of the University of Mousl consists of the main library and other 24 branch libraries, including the library of the College of Medicine. All these libraries contain 3500

subscriptions in sober world Journals. Although, It was like the other libraries of Iraqi Universities which cut off the world and didn't buy any book during the period of the economic blockade imposed on Iraq in 1990 till 2003 AD except the free copies of the books and journals gifted to the library, but it maintained a collections of the rare books that collected during the period of its prosperity. The library of the University of Mousl was small at the beginning was furnished and equipped by required developed sets for serving the researchers by one of the Danish companies in 1980 and a building with an area of 2500 square meters was erected to it with four floors and 36 reading halls. After liberation, it moved to the substitute position with an area not exceed 300 square meters. The library was contained more than one million and half books in addition to more than 4000 titles for foreign, Arab and Iraqi periodicals, and 7000 references, as well as precious collectibles such as a copy of Holly Qur'an dated back to the 9<sup>th</sup> AD Century and manuscripts dated back to more than one thousand years..at various scientific, literary, philosophic, law, and cultural fields in addition to the ancient historical maps and manuscripts dated back to the Othman Era and old Iraqi newspapers which also contained rare books registered in UNESCO. The Central library of the University also contained 6000 rare books some of them dated back to the period 1700-1800 AD, in addition to 5000 governmental sources since the establishment of the Iraqi State in 1921. Moreover, the library contains a special booth for the rare books and manuscripts available for the senior researches(3), in addition to another booth for the Digital Archiving of the books, periodical issues, documents and manuscripts that

Documents the Modern history of Mousl that never restored again. The library of the University of Mousl started to flourish in 1968 when 60 domestic libraries donated to it from their historical collections. After that, it has become a center for researches in Mousl visited be approximately 1500 students per day as well as the number of the borrowings before Daaish reached about 500 borrowings daily, (4) " the library started work in 2013 to computerize the sources and it was the sole library in Iraq that possesses the membership of OCLC which is a system of a digital indexation across Spider Network (5), and " the library of the University of Mousl considers among the basic pillars in education in the Middle East, where it includes more than a collection for the World Literature. In the Past, the library had the best of the bloggers who published their opinions across the social media after Daaish occupation for Mousl and destroying the library. The basic of the "precious and valuable manuscripts and rare publications in the Arab region. The library was contained many manuscripts, books and references such as Al-Tabri's books, Ibn Al-A'theer's books and Al-Masoudi's books and all books that deal with the ancient and modern of Iraq's history. It also had a section for electronic technologies, and it was "the first library that inserted Internet and electronic technologies" in Iraq. The library contains more than one section and among its sections and branches the Assyrbanipal Library and Ibn Khaldoon Library and other historical and cultural centers. There was within the building of the Central Library a stand contained cultural publication of different foreign languages to give an opportunity to the researchers and students to explore the variety of the traditions, customs, habits and cultures in other remote States and Islands.

Figure (1) A photo for the library of the University of Mousl before the terrorist burning operation



#### **1.Assyrbanipal Library**

The library of the University of Mousl contains several branch libraries such as Historical Library of Assyrbanipal, which was designed in a shape resembles the building was predominant in the Assyrian Era where the discovery of remains of Assyrbanipal Library dated back to 1854, when a British mission discovered in the site "Kyongek" in Nineveh province, 26000 clay tablets recorded on them texts in Akkadyian language dated back the 7th Century B.C. in the last kings' palaces of the Assyrian Empire, "Assyrbanipal" which was burned after destroying Nineveh in 612 B.C. which was the event that shook the scientific and cultural circles all over the world. The royal library was established in the 7<sup>th</sup> Century B.C. and its name attributed to the king Assyrbanipal the last kings of the Assyrian Empire, (7). Its contents are amounted by 100.000 thousands clay tablets, and the library includes many of the important topics like the news of wars, letters and conventions held by king Assyrbanipal and was classified into five Volumes kept in the British Museum in London and a large proportion of them were in Akkadyian language, in addition to a number of Aramaic and Assyrian manuscripts and other of reeds scrolls and clay tablets. Its importance is due to that the Assyrian started writing the history on the form of annals dated back to ages of some of their prominent kings. It was clarified from the architectural studies that most what recorded in these annals was true. The clay tablets contained subjects related to the legislations, foreign sending, contracts and aristocratic advertisements, the financial matters and hymns for different gods, in addition to the tablets dedicated for the medicine, astronomy and literature. Among these texts in Assurbanipal's library, we find ten expressive, rhythmic and literary works such as Epics and Legends which were survived like Gilgamesh Epic, which is a masterpiece of ancient Babylon poetry as well as a story of Babylon Creation (Anoma Aleesh) and the legend of Adapa in addition to stories such as the story of the Poor Man from Neebour (8).

Some of the remains related to the library were found in the site of archaeological excavation in Kyongek (ancient Nineveh and the capital of Assyria), on which was built the present city of Nineveh in the left coast of Mousl city. There are also more than 200.000 thousands of archaeological pieces dated back to the Era of Assyrbanipal taken from Nineveh palaces at the early of 19<sup>th</sup> Century found in the British Museum. The idea of establishing a modern library by name of Assyrbanipal appeared in 2001 to be specialized in Archaeology and Cuneiform studies, but the project stopped in the wake of the US invasion in 2003 then the work was resumed by completing the project in 2004. The favor for doing this belongs to the US University of Stony Broke initiative which donated by more than 1000 books and periodicals (9).

The library also received books from the British Institute for Studies and from other archaeological institutes but the library was neglected after that in general and has become in the end of the list of priorities of the University of Mousl to reconstruct it. It was hopeful for the library to be the largest one in the Arab World and in the region as for the architectural construction similar to what was the library in the age of Assyrbanipal, and as for its property and assets where the museums and universities from Britain, Germany and America showed their readiness to provide the library with all related to the ruins, manuscripts and regulations of Assyrbanipal era. The world pay attention to revive Assyria library due to its ancient cultural place, where this library was called by "the Royal library", considers among the most important libraries in the ancient libraries as being the national library for ancient Iraq in the 7<sup>th</sup> Century B.C. The Assyrbanipal library taken up currently a place in the ground floor of the Central library of the University of Mousl which contains 4097 publications, 2607 foreign and Arabic books and 1490 foreign and Arabic periodicals. These publications were provided in cooperation between the Central library and the College of Arts. A British institute will provide the library with rare books and manuscripts as well as Mousl library and Museum which possesses many of the Assyrian books and manuscripts. Egyptian Elexandaryah University contributed in collecting more than 1000 books and references related to the rule of Assyrbanipal. The Administration of the British Museum has showed its agreement to provide Iraq with high quality digital photos for all archaeological pieces, paintings and manuscripts to keep them in the library which its modern building, that not achieved yet, was designed on the Assyrian archaeological style, where it used the shape of the winged ox, towers, balconies and terracing that the Assyrian archaeology distinguished with, and a one was erected in the ground floor of the Central library of the University named by "Assyrbanipal" till finishing the implementation of the library buildings (10). It is decided that the Assyrbanipal will contain five floors, two of them are underground dedicated for storing books and other materials, where as the underground floor will contain according to the schemes halls for symposiums and conferences as well as rooms to display the archaeological pieces from the Iraqi historical Assyrian, Babylonian, Akkadyian and Sumerian periods that preceded the Islamic Age then the various Islamic Ages, as well as rooms to display nonoriginal copies of the authentic clay tablets which had been found in the library and now preserved in the British Museum. The educational staff of the University of Mousl urge the government and cultural institutions to endeavor to direct invitations to the international cultural organizations to assist in completing the project of Assyrbanipal Library. Museums and Universities in Britain, Germany and US said that they will provide the library with requirements and books contribute in reviving the library (11).

#### 2.Ibn Khaldoon Library

Ibn Khaldoon Central Library was established in 2000 AD which a part of the Central Library of the University of Mousl. At the beginning of its establishment contained three sections which were indexation, classification and references, after that it took to develop to inaugurate new sections such as the section of the foreign references, the section of the borrowing, the section of the bookbinding and the section of the issuing identification cards for the students and personnel of the second complex of the University of Mousl. A section for computer and Internet was created and according to it the library of the automated indexation was opened and applying the system of Koha which make available for the researchers to reach quickly to the references. In the second complex of the University of Mousl which was reopened in 2019 after it exposed to destruction by Daaish terrorists gangs and after accomplishment of reconstructing and rehabilitating it within a plan adopted by **UNDP United Nations of Development Programme** in cooperation with the Iraqi government and funding by Federal Republic of Germany (12).

## Second: Operations of Destructing the Library and a process of its Reconstruction

#### 1. Burning and Destructing the Library of the University of Mousl

The operation of the destruction the library of the University of Mousl by Daaish terrorist gangs was a programmed one as within 32 months of Daaish's rule to the city, it had been closing the center of the library gradually, which it lies inside a region surrounded by trees near Tigris river and then the place burned fully deliberately. The library was affected with extremely damages. Daaish endeavored to eliminate the thoughts found in these walls or preventing people to deal with them as well as the Organization collected the valuable books and sold them in the black market to finance its crimes in Iraq and Syria, and the first operations of burning the library started at the evening of Saturday, 22th of February 2015 AD in front of masses of the city people who particularly the Sheikhs tried to prevent the members of the Organization to do their work and to convince them the necessity of maintaining the library for what it contains of rare books and manuscripts as this library considers one of the oldest historical libraries in Nineveh but their attempts had failed and after one day of burning thousands of books and manuscripts, "Daaish" exploded the central building of the library, to lose the city one of its most important cultural and archaeological treasures. The Organization executed burning of the library more than once as the burning had been carried out for several times, since from time to time they were throwing thousands of books outside the University in a pretext that these books were abuse the doctrine and bring atheism.

and after months the library was wholly burned, a matter proves that the justifications taken by the regime were flimsy, particularly that thousands of the Islamic books were among the burned books since the destruction included more than 100.000 rare manuscripts and documents extends over centuries among them what were recorded in the list of the rarities of UNESCO (13). "Members of Daaish burned hundreds of books that they saw anti their ideology or non-Arabic books and among the burned rare books there were books written in Armenian language". Daaish members also burned after the liberation operations other books for a silly reason, as in their belief that the smoke will protect them against targeting them by the fighter aircrafts through the rising smoke from the papers and burned equipments but the burning of the library left expensive cultural loses for Iraq as among one million titles which included 30.000 periodicals, 7000 references, a copy of Holly Qur'an dated back to the 19<sup>th</sup> Century, as well as 70.000 governmental archived documents dated back to the forties of the past century which all lost within hours except what were saved by some of the volunteer campaigns that saved 3000 rare books and 96 old Volumes for Iraqi and Arab newspapers and old researches dated back to the second decade of the past century. The losing of the rare books was worse than what was left by the destruction that affected Mosul's libraries, as "there were books that cannot be compensated dated back to the periods of 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, in addition to the rare books and special closets that Sheikhs and scholars of Mousl donated which its number amounted 60 closets that couldn't be compensated". The burning operation of the library led to a great cultural massacre and Erena Bokova, the General Director of UNESCO, described the library of the University of Mousl after burning it as " similar to a global melting pot for several religions and ethnics", considered that " the systematic destruction to the legacy of minorities, moreover their oppression in the aim of eliminating the cultural variety which represents the spirit of the Iraqi people. The burning of books also considers an attack on the culture, knowledge and memory"(14).

Figure (2) The Library of the University of Mousl after burning it by Terrorist Daaish



#### Third: The Reconstruction of the Library

The process of the reconstruction the library of Mousl included two sides, the first one the construction of the destroyed building of the library which was more delayed. Although, the city was liberated in 2017 but the works of construction didn't start just in 2019 where " the technical and engineering staffs of the University of Mousl and in cooperation with Faw Engineering Company started the construction of the Central Library in financing from UNDP". The Engineering team which embarked to construct the Central Library didn't determine a fixed time to accomplish the construction and rehabilitation of the building which includes three floors inside the University Campus. It's expected that the cost of the construction process may reach about 11 millions dollars, where some of the international organizations donated part of the amount. According to the plans of the Iraqi government and supporting organizations a new Central library of the University of Mousl will be constructed

and will be due to what planned as a window towards the future which the latest developments of technologies in managing libraries such as the electronic classification, documenting publications electronically and the participation of the materials with other institutions in the field of the higher education and scientific research internationally. This future institution (i.e., new library) will be a place for gathering the students, researchers, academics and the population of the city as well as creating modern environment for this. The library will also be an important position for cultural events and artistic fairs in addition to the festivals and displaying cultural and documentary films as well as increasing of the services to rise the reality towards a new horizon of hope (15).

The second side of the reconstruction process of the University of Mousl library which related to the restoring books and compensating the lost ones has started early by mutual governmental and public efforts where the individuals, institutions, organizations of civil society, governments of the friendly States and international organizations have been participated and through which a great quantity of the books were collected by wide donation campaigns inside and outside Iraq. Urgently after liberating the left coast of Mousl city in which the building of the University lies a substitute headquarter for the library was opened in the College of the Civil Engineering to receive donations of books, where the committee of striping books gifted to the Central library has stripped and divided the gifted books according to its specializations and within the need of the Central library with its two branches moreover, the need of the colleges and departments libraries which ensures meeting the needs of the students and researchers for the academic information according to the general and accurate specialization serving the researching movement in the University of Mousl. The number of the gifted books at all sites has reached about 30.000 thousands sources in 2017, whereas the 1<sup>st</sup> Festival of the Reading in Mousl has contributed about 6000 thousands books collected from different important Iraqi and Arab Houses of Publication. In 2018, the number of the books has reached about 200,000 thousands, but till now there are no plans or funding to reconstruct it and among the main obstacles that encounter this campaign the logistic services particularly the shipment of the books to Iraq and sending them to the city and till December, 2019 it has been reached to the University great numbers of the books reached Mousl for the degree that the University disabled to find a suitable place to keep them till reconstructing the library. After two years passed through on restoring the control on the city from the fist of Daaish, the students and researchers encounter extreme difficulties in accomplishing the research papers due to the lack of the sources inside the University as well as the management of the library and as a result to what has obtained to the University position and its library intensifying in the system of borrowing books even the borrowing has been confined to the postgraduate students (16).

Figure (3) Advertisement poster for the donation campaign with the books for the Library of Mousl, where numbers of mobiles are fixed for communication by those who want to participate in donation.



The special donations for reconstructing the library of the University of Mousl didn't confine on the books only, but it included necessary equipments for the substitute position for the library which contained books roofs, tables, chairs for reading, computers, printers, duplicating devices, cooling units to keep the books against climate damage.... And so on. It also included donation with modern periodicals particularly dictionaries, scientific encyclopedias, academic and scientific publications belong to the UN Statistical Section. It also devices of modern technologies which are using in the field of the copying and duplicating as well as electronic recording to work copies of the valuable materials that saved from the old destroyed building. Moreover, the International Organizations presented training to the cadre of the Central library towards the latest developments of the library work in the modern libraries and technologies that entered this field in addition to the English translation. However, most of the library staff was cut off from the world and the work of the libraries since 2014 and this led to losing and convoying the developments in the outer world in the specialization of the Libraries. The International Organizations also granted training chances or training fellowships globally for the staff of the library to acquire knowledge in this field of the work. Through Table (1) and Figure (4) have shown that most donations came from society organizations and individuals as well as shown the absence of governmental efforts for most of Arab Gulf States except United Arab Emirates which collected 8920 thousands books in it, whereas Palestine, though, hard conditions it passes through

it topped up the list of the donated countries by 22.000 thousands books followed by UAE then Jordan with about 5500 thousands books while the foreign countries were topped up by Britain with about 27350 thousands books followed by France with about 21199 thousands books.

Country	Number
Palestine	22000
Arab League	3000
Canada	5560
Ein Organization/ Mousl	12000
Jordan	5500
Armenia	969
India	890
United Arab Emirates	8920
Egypt	2500
Belarussia	2140
South Korea	1559
Britain	27350
France	21199
Morocco	2330
US	7583
UNESCO	1300
Swede	2470
Spain	3800
Australia	2780
Other States and Organizations	15680

Table (1) The numbers of the books that were donated by the donating countries

Source:- The work of the researchers depending on :-

1.Iraqi daily papers and some sober electronic sites.

2.Personal interviews with the staff of the library of the University of Mousl.



Figure (4) A chart illustrates the numbers of the books that were donated by the donating countries

# Forth: The countries and organizations that contributed in reconstructing the library of the University of Mousl

#### 1.Palestine

Palestine contributed in a prominent and important role in reviving the library of the University of Mousl through civil and governmental efforts made by Palestinian people in addition to the organizations of the civil society, where the Ministry of Education belongs to the Palestinian National Authority worked to collect thousands of different scientific books, and donated them to the library of the University of Mousl. The Ministry of Education's donations included about 12000 thousands books sent within three times, the first one included about 5000 thousand books, its implications varied among History, Geography, Education, Culture, Poetry, Politics and Economics in addition to the Statistical Studies. These books handed over to the Iraqi Embassy in Amman by a high-level Palestinian delegation headed by a member of the Central Committee of Fatih Movement Dalal Salama, under the auspice of the Palestinian President Mahmood Abbas. These books were collected from Palestinian territories from Gaza Strip and West Bank through an initiative released by the Iraqi-Palestinian Friendship Society to support the libraries of the University of Mousl. The Society also sent 2000 thousands books from different titles to the University of Mousl through an initiative made by a group of students called by " The Graduates of the Iraqi Universities that raised a slogan 'Back the Debt' where a lot of Palestinian

students who studied in the University of Mousl participated in this campaign namely that the University of Mousl, according to the opinion of the Society's members, the University considers one of the most important scientific edifice in the Arab Homeland, and was for many years works to provide Arab students. The Palestinian Society of the Sciences, Knowledge and Arts contributed in another campaign to collect books which headed by a large and senior group of the Palestinian academics and educated who initiated to visit the Palestinian Universities and cultural and researching institutions to urge them to donate for the University of Mousl with books to reconnect this old university with the outer world. The initiative has enabled during the primary stage to collect more than 5000 thousands books at the field of Literature, History, Geography, Culture and Poetry in addition to many other books The first quantity of the books handed over in August 2018 to the Embassy of Republic of Iraq in Jordan, other 3000 thousands books also collected and were handed over in the second time (14).

#### 2. Arab League

The Arab League represented by the department of the Information Management and Documentation in it has gifted 3000 thousands books to the library of the University of Mousl which include a selected group of books and references in various fields of the Joint Arab Work and human sciences in Arabic, English and French languages. The Arab League also held an official workshop to support the Central library of the University of Mousl in the General Secretariat of the Arab League library in presence of senior officials of the General Secretariat and a number of the Arab States representatives, which aimed at collecting other books gifted from the specialized Arab Organizations and the institutions of the Joint Arab Work, in addition to another group of books presented from the Arab States at various of economic, social, political and cultural fields of knowledge (18).

#### 3. Canada

From Canada Dr. Sayar Al-Jameel, one of the University of Mousl pioneer whose residence is in Canada, has donated his large personal library which include 5000 thousands books to the University of Mousl contains precious and rare collectibles at various sorts of knowledge over 40 years from his life, and the University dedicated a special wardrobe for the unique collection of Dr. Sayar which bears the name of the Professor Dr. Sayar Al-Jameel distinctively with a definitions of this distinguished scientific personality. Ibn Rushid University in Canada also called for a campaign in coordination with Iraqi Cultural Parliament in Diaspora and participating cultural figures which resulted in collecting more than 560 hundreds books and that the sponsors of the initiative obliged the donators that the books must be only scientific,

historical, literary and poetic to avoid any sectarian tension may be resulted in from donating with certain religious books (19).

#### 4. Ein Mousl Organization

"It is a civil volunteer organization which launched a wide donation campaign included different quarters of the world and started when the Iraqi military declared the campaign of regaining Mousl and liberating it where it received an intention from individuals and organizations inside and outside Iraq and from the fruits of this campaign restoring about 2000 thousands books from books of the library of the University of Mousl which were upon

individuals got them after occupying the city by Daaish by different ways such as purchasing them from members of Daaish among them 100 rare books. The campaign of collecting books didn't confine on Iraq exclusively , but it widened to include the world and it obtained different editions of books from several countries. The response with the campaign was quick and great from Australia, US and Europe. The campaign collected 10000 thousands books to support the project. This group considered the process of reconstructing the library as a great challenge but the books that have been collected are the most important way according to the group individuals 'opinions to reconnect Mousl with the outer world in order to bring the city to the top and to be an important cultural centre as the world saw it before "Daaish". Although the individuals of this volunteer group have not known each them, but the donation to succeed this project seemed a priority that a large number of youths agreed unanimously about it and this is a matter – according to the chief of the group- emphasizes their determination and insistence to make change (20).

#### 5. Jordan

Jordan has a prominent role in reconstructing the library of the University of Mousl not only by donation but through it has become a primary reception centre for the donations of other countries of books before carrying them to Mousl. The Jordanian government represented by Ministry of Culture initiated to donate about 4500 thousands books presented by the Minister of Culture Basim Al-Tousi to the Iraqi Embassy in Amman as well as there were donation campaigns lunched by the individuals and Jordanian institutions in addition to the civil organizations and educational institutions and Iraqi residents in Jordan. Jordanian citizens also launched an initiative to collect books for the library of the University of Mousl as the Jordanian writer Abo Al-Taib Mohammed Al-Batanyah and the critics Hussein Da'ssah for collecting about 1000 specialized and valuable books and they handed over to the Iraqi Embassy which sent them to Mousl (21).

#### 6. Armenia

Armenian contribution included about 969 books have been collected in the framework of the invitation launched by the governmental University of Yerevan to the Armenian Universities and Cultural Institutions to contribute the donation in books in order to revive the library of the University of Mousl. The campaign started on 27/2/2017 by organizing a celebration in the University Campus included video display on the University of Mousl and a speech to Dr. Aram Semonyan, the president of the governmental University of Yerevan in which he praised the long history of the University of Mousl and its library which according to his saying it stayed provide the humanity with science and knowledge over history, then the books were received from the donators and handed over to the Iraqi Embassy in Yerevan (22).

#### 7. India

Indian assistance included holding Indian cinema shows and fashion shows, music, fine arts and all kinds of arts in the library of the University of Mousl and donating about 890 books from Indian publications and books as well as the Indian side presented a suggestion to install a statue for the Indian leader Al-Mahatma Ghandi in the Library of the University of Mousl (33).

#### 8. United Arab Emirates

The Regional Centre for Maintaining Cultural Heritage in Arab Homeland (Ecrome-Al-Sharjah) in cooperation with the Foundation of Prince Klause in the framework of the response programme with Cultural Emergence (CER), sent donations of books and publications to the library of the University of Mousl that reached about 6920 and because the library got around the world great donations of the books to assist in refilling the library roofs and because there wasn't a place to maintain them, the Ecrome-Al-Sharjah Centre and the Fund of Prince Clause presented the equipments of the safe storing to keep these publications and provide them for the readers and users, such as books roofs, chairs, tables, computers, and machines of printing and copying, all contribute in enhancing the high morals that the population of the city bear in the time they reconstruct their most important library in the country. The Emirati researcher Khalefa Saif Hamed Al-Teneji has gifted Assyrbanipal Library about 2000 thousands books in Arabic and English languages from his private library. The gifted collection important books in History, Politics, Geography, Literature Encyclopedias, and Arabic and foreign novels. Emirati Centre of Jum'ah Al-Majed which his centre in Dubai donated quantities of the library equipments for the library

of the University of Mousl in addition to a material donation to purchase new books (24).

#### 9. Egypt

In Egypt, Alexandria gifted about 2500 thousands books to the University of Mousl distributed on two advances which the first one included 1500 book titles whereas the second one included 1000 books presented by Alexandria Library during a cultural celebration held in the Diplomatic Club in Cairo. The library also issue a lexicography of the Sumerian words two languages the Akadian and Arabic and it gifted copies of it to the library of the University of Mousl as well as it adopted a programme (The Digitizing the Library of the University of Mousl) in addition to that Alexandria Library participated in the conference held in Mousl in 2019, which centred on rehabilitation the archaeologies of Nineveh. Alexandria Library has gifted in 2004 AD The University of Mousl about 5000 thousands books, but they lost or looted during the burning of the Central Library of the University of Mousl after less than year of ISIS control on the city of Mousl in the Summer of 2015. Alexandria Library considers itself owe to Iraq which largely contributed in reconstructing this library through donating by 50 million dollars to revive Alexandria Library. The responsible of the management of Alexandria Library considered the donation by books as a kind of grateful kinds to Iraq. Alexandria Library is about to do a number of projects that it will present to Iraq and to Mousl in particular which included constructing Iraq's digital memory and the memory of the library of Mousl that includes documents, photos, films, stamps, and the heritage of Iraq and Mousl and presenting it by its cultural side on Internet. The Library also launched International and Arab campaign to support the project of the University of Mousl to revive its library "Assyrbanipal". Dr. Khalid Azab, president of the sector of the central projects and services in Alexandria Library has led this generous International and Arab initiative aimed at providing Assyrbanipal Library with 100.000 books and Dr. Azab exerted great efforts to urge the individuals and cultural and scientific institutions in Egypt and Arab countries to present gifts to the library of the University of Mousl (26).

#### 10. Belarussia

The Republic of Belarussia has contributed by more than 2140 books to the library of the University of Mousl. It also moved books to Iraq through coordination with the concerning parties (26).

#### 11. South Korea

The South Korean contribution in reconstructing the library of the University of Mousl represented by providing about 480 books donated by the Mayor of the Capital Seoul Park Woon Soun where these books handed over to the Embassy of Iraq in Seoul and the Iraqi Expatriate Ahmed Aziz Thabet moved the books gifted from the Mayor of Seoul city to the library of the University of Mousl on his private expenditure. The Municipality of Seoul also contributed about 1079 books and it chose this number of books deliberately because it symbolizes to the date 9/7/2017 the declaration of the victory and the defeat Daaish Terriost Organization in addition to this number symbolizes to the friend in Korean language to mirror the desire of the Korean people in establishing the ties of the friendship with the Iraqi people (27).

#### 12. Britain

The Saving Book International Foundation of Britain contributed about 10000 thousands books in two advances, in the first advance there was 3580 books and 5073 in the second advance. It's expected that the foundation to donate in 2024 about 50.000 thousands books within the programme of the vision of the year 2024 for constructing the library of the University of Mousl. The importance of these books the Foundation contributed with its quantity and quality but in the clear message it bears of interest of the International and British Community in the University of Mousl. A group of the British Academics made large campaigns of donation among them Dr. Carolyn Sandees from the World Council for archaeological Monuments and Sites- Branch of UK, Dr. Ales Koenig senior instructor in Classics in the University of Saint Androse, Miss Kate Walker- an Educational Advisor and a PhD student in Sheffield University-UK. In addition to a support by from other colleagues (among them members in the Young Academy in Scotland belongs to the Royal Society in Edinbrough which succeeded in collecting about 6000 thousands books. There were also volunteers from the professors and students in Britain as well as the company of Laster for Publications in London declared its readiness to send "a great number" of books and references to the library in addition to the various library equipments. The University of Plymouth contributed about 3000 thousands books, and the University of Manchester also contributed about 1500 books. The University of Lancaster prepared a project to provide the personnel and instructors of the University of Mousl and its library with technological expertise across the Internet. The Saint Androse University contributed in 2018 contributed 800 books to the library of the University of Mousl where they collected donations of books and materials and then the Foundation of the "Book Aid International" adopted the shipment of the books to the University of Mousl where it was shipped

more than 3000 thousands of books to Mousl, and then a second shipment was sent in 2019 which amounted 2600 thousands of books. A group of British Academics constructed a project of bridge Mousl books, to assist in renewing the library sets in the library as well as the library of "Book Aid International" ], which lies in London, contributed about 450 books.

The support of the British Universities didn't confine on books only but include training and administrative support, e.g. the University of Lancaster helped to support teaching of languages for the library staff and providing guidance to the employees and students across holding conferences across video circle and presenting consultancy as well as the freedom of choosing a free training course through Internet in addition to the campaigns of donation made by the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), (28).

#### 13. France

In France, a small organization which is Organization of the Mediterranean Solidarity and Cooperation has contributed with 20 tons of the important books, as these books will be moved from Marseille Harbor to Basra's harbors, since the president of the organization says that the only way to heal societies from its evils is the reading and learning, and he adds " in order to fight extremism and radicalism... the society must read, read and read". Moreover, a great number of French Organizations have contributed with a large amount of books and novels in both French and English languages. A group of French Academics pledged to present 15 tons of books and a container full with seats and chairs". A French citizen of Tunisian origin, Mohammed Hermi who works in Marcelle and runs a Charity Organization: " collected about 1199 books from some of the French Universities as well as the library of (La Reve de L'escalier) in Marcelle has collected donations to purchase sets of archiving for the University of Mousl (29).

#### 14. Morocco

The Moroccan Ministry of Culture has donated about 1780 books and all these books are different academic references which include Literature, humanities and pure scientific references which cover fields of the University education. The Moroccan Ministry of Culture also contributed to Assyrbanipal Library belongs to the University of Mousl, about 550 books which included subjects relevant History of Morocco and Literature in addition to varied studies and periodicals (30).

#### **15. United States of America**

The most prominent donators of books in US is the project of the American-Iraqi reconciliation, which its main headquarter is in Menaploice City, where it collected

about 3570 books, as well as the University of Boston presented books and library equipments. Interestingly, many of American institutions presented donations of books of the famous English writer William Shakespeare and the reason behind focus on the books of this author is that Daaish Terriost Organization and "during the first days of Daaish occupying the University Campus, the teaching of his works were banned, and one of the professors discussed them saying " by this way we teach English", and when a member of Daaish asked him: "but what can Shakespeare learn Muslims? he is disable to learn them how to fight. The donators with Shakespeare's books justified their step that they try to reach a message to the terrorists that we are alive, and you cannot kill us or eliminate our thoughts, through banning Shakespeare or alike". The US Department of State made a detailed study about the fields of rehabilitation of the library of the University of Mousl and provided it with the computers and modern equipments and sets as well as determing the electronic references and sources that must be available for these facilities and to provide them with good electronic communication services. It has been primarily agreed to assist the libraries of the University of Mousl and the

procedures of shipment has been done in assistance of the military shipment from the US to Iraq. The US Administration also contributed in providing the library of the University of Mousl with the library electronic systems and achieving systems such as WINISIS and moving inputs to the more developed electronic system. The US University of Cloneel provided the library with the journals and publications digitally where it made achieving for 450 issues of its Journal that issued over 220 years, with the sets of storing and screening which allocated for the colleges of the Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine". The University of Boston has also donated with a number of the sets of achieving books whereas University of Stoney Broke in New York presented more than 1000 books and periodicals as well as the Center of History, Arts and Islamic Culture (IRCICA) presented 50 varied books included historical books, manuscripts and Islamic books transformed into the library of the college to benefit from its content before the professors, students and researchers. The American University in Iraq- Sulaimanyah declared today launching a campaign organized by the Students Association in the University to support the library and through this campaign the Students Association of the University collected academic publications, books and used school books whether in English or Arabic and the number of books amounted 780 (31).

#### 16. UNESCO

The UNESCO held the first International Conference in the affair of "revival the spirit of Mousl", in partnership with the Iraqi government in Paris in 2017 in order to reconstruct the city of Mousl and a part of this reconstruction directed to construct

libraries and on top of them the library of the University of Mousl, since the Organization's efforts aimed at reviving the education system for Mousl and refreshing the cultural life in it, and "according to the UNESCO belief the people of Mousl will never come back again effective parties in the process of reviving their country except by restoring their joint cultural heritage and refreshing the educational and cultural life. This is the ambition that UNESCO aims to". The UNESCO presented a series of the pioneer projects to construct the libraries of the University of Mousl as well as it donated about 1300 books at various specializations (32).

#### 17. Czech Republic

The Czech contribution represented by a wide popular campaign launched in 2018 and wide spectrum of the Czech people participated in it through collecting approximately a half million Czech crona which aimed at rehabilitating the library of the University of Mousl and the campaign was called as "Let us Assist the library", which is a joint project for the library of the college of Arts in Charles University and the Organization "The People in Need". The donation collectors finished their work on 31th of December, 2018, where 500.000 Czech corona were collected to revive the Central library of the University of Mousl. Another charity donation campaign called as "Let us Assist the Library", launched on 2th of November in 2017 which collected more than 280.000 millions Czech corona from the donators. The collected money used to purchase equipments the library needed in order to be a social educational center. The amount of money were raised will cover new equipments for the library of the University of Mousl (33).

#### 18. Australia

"The Preparing Committee for the Australian-Iraqi Academic Society", participates in the Academic Forum of the Australian-Iraqi in coordination with "Iraqi Academics Association in Australia", in the campaign for rehabilitation of the National library in Mousl and library of the University of Mousl as well as the campaign directed to the Iraqi and Arab academic figures in Australia which resulted in a donation about 2780 books (34).

#### 19. Spain

The Spanish government donated two original copies of the Winged OX statues for the library of the University of Mousl. The copies of the statues were built in 2016 by the Spanish Foundation of (Factom), which is a specialized foundation in manufacturing original copies of the world archaeological pieces. "Original statues were decorating the throne room of the Assyrian king Assyrbanipal the Second( the King of Assyria between 859-883 B.C. ), and the copies of the statues were donated.

The Iraqi government through the Ministry of Defense- Iraqi Air Force will assume to move these copies to Mousl which will be in the center of the gardens of the University of Mousl near the historical library of Assyrbanipal". "The project of bringing these statues to the city of Mousl was emerged after the Terrorist Daaish destroyed two of the most important monuments of the Assyrian civilization which are Assyrbanipal library situated within the University of Mousl Campus where it is the oldest royal library in the world with its archaeological storage which was amounted 30.000 thousands Cuneiform clay tablets that it were burned wholly". The Spanish University of Barcelona provided the library of the University of Mousl with three dimensions photography equipments for the books as well as the group of the Spanish Universities donated about 3800 thousands books (35).

#### 20. Sweden

In Sweden, the Babylonians Society for Culture and Arts and in cooperation with the Mandaee Society in Stockholm on 27/1/2017, made donations campaign for the library of the University of Mousl. The campaign focused on the Iraqi community in Sweden whose number amounted 220.000 persons and "according to this initiative the Iraqi societies active in Sweden have become centers for collecting books and periodicals that its members donated with whereas the Iraqi Embassy in Sweden assumed the responsibility and logistic support through transferring books into Iraq and most of the books were scientific and cultural. The Iraqi residents in Sweden donated about 2470 books as well as the coordinating committees of the two organizations received Iraqis' donations of books and periodicals in a support of the Iraqi Embassy (36).

#### Conclusions

Through what aforementioned, a group of conclusions can be deduced as follows:

1. The library of the University of Mousl lost about 90% of its books and library equipments during the period of Terriost Daaish's occupation of the city of Mousl as well as it lost it buildings that exposed to the large destruction and sabotage which made it out of service in addition to that its cadre of employees exposed to systematic killing and displacement.

2. The efforts of the Iraqi government in reconstructing the library after liberation of Mousl were not in the level of the responsibility the University of Mousl enjoys with on the two Iraqi and Arab levels and the attempts of the reconstructing were shy and the University was only sufficient to move what were stayed in the library into a

small building not fit with the volume and name of the library of the University of Mousl.

3. The initiatives done by ordinary people inside and outside Iraq have the most prominent role in providing good quantities of books and library equipments which largely contributed in compensating a part of what the library has lost during Daaish's occupation for Mousl.

4. The role of the UN Institutions represented by UNESCO was weak and did not fit with what the library had presented to the humanity through defending the values of the civilization and resisting the backwardness and arrogance of Daaish Terrorist Gangs.

5. The governmental explanation of the library tragedy to the foreign public opinion was weak or even naughty whereas the Iraqi civil society's organizations succeeded in transferring the disaster of the library to the international cultural and academic circles through simple media campaigns which received striking success and response.

6. The response of the Arab countries was divergent as the response of Palestine and Jordan was great but the initiatives of the Arab Gulf States were disappeared from the list of the donators. There were study curricula and education systems that didn't convoy the tremendous developments at fields of science and technology. The contribution of the Arab countries was divergent except the efforts of UAE.

7. The Iraqi communities resident all over the world had a great role in succeeding the processes of the donation that launched to reconstruct the library of Mousl after ending the operations of the liberation.

#### Recommendations

Based on what aforementioned and for the advancement of the library of the University of Mousl it must work on the following:

1.Compensating the lack of contents occurring in the library of the University of Mousl as for scientific references, precious manuscripts and rare books through allocating suitable financial sums to purchase these books from inside and outside Iraq.

2.Reconstructing the building of the library through contracting with sober international companies specialized in building libraries which fits the place of the University of Mousl and its library.

3.Working on accomplishing Assyrbanipal Library and developing its collectibles in order to take its cultural role in highlighting an important side of Iraq's great civilization represented by Assyria historical civilization.

4.Coordinating with the UN Organizations and sober world universities to assist the University of Mousl in developing its library staff through developing courses particularly those related to the use of modern technologies in the field of the indexation and electronic documentation.

5.Providing library with modern equipments that fit with what the modern science has been reached of progress and in a way that makes the library of the University of Mousl convoy its counterparts in the Arab countries as it didn't surpass them in the field of the library digitization and developing its library technologies.

#### Margins and References

1.Saleh Mohammed Badereldeen, The Protection of the Cultural and Natural Heritage in the International Conventions. Dar Al-Nahdhah Al-Arabia, Cairo, 1999, p.15.

2.Mahmood Hassan. The Technology used in the University Libraries – The Syrian state, Cairo, 2010, p.143

3. https://en.calameo.com/read/005197922e22e7109d9871f

4. <u>https://share.america.gov/ar/rebuilding-mousl-university-(4)library-one-book-time/</u>

5.Ahmed Aziz, University of Mousl Back to Life, Al-Sabah Al-Jadeed Iraqi Newspaper, Baghdad, Issue No. 27- July 2019, p.8

6.Haider Sa'doon, The Libraries of Mousl Flourish with Victory, Al-Shabaka Magazine, Baghdad, Media Authority, Issue of April, 2019, p.87

7.Haider A'dham Al-Taee, The Theft of the Iraqi Cultural Property in the light of International Law, A published research paper in Hqooq Journal, Al-Mustansiriyah University, 6<sup>th</sup> year, 4<sup>th</sup> Vol. Issue 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>, 2018, p.45

8.Mohammed Sameh Omro – The Provisions of Protecting Cultural Property during the Periods of the Armed Conflict and Occupation- A published research paper in th Book of the International Human Law (Horizons and Challenges)- Al-Halabi Lawful Publications-Beirut- 2019- p.244

9.Nareeman Abdulqader, The International Human Law and Hague Convention of 1954 and its Protocols to Protect the Cultural Property in the Time of the Armed Conflict, A published research paper in the Book of the International Human Law (Horizons and Challenges), Part 2, ed 10<sup>th</sup>, Al-Halabi Lawful Publications- Beirut, 2019, p. 85-86

10. org/doha/

11. Yahya Yassen S'oud, The Cultural Property and its Means of Protection and Restoring Internationally, A research paper published in Hqooq Journal, Al-Mustansiriyah University,  $6^{th}$  year,  $4^{th}$  Vol. Issue  $15^{th}$ , 2019, p. 107

12. Th official page for Ibn Khaldoon on the website of the Social Media

Facebook <u>https://web.facebook.com/pages</u>

- 13. <u>https://medium.com/@UNDPArabic</u>
- 14. https://www.al-fanarmedia.org/ar
- 15. <u>https://medium.com/@UNDPArabic</u>

16. https://newsabah.com/newspaper/156214

17.Salim Mhadeen, Back of the Debt, Jordanian Lewaa Newspaper, Amman, Issue No.9876, 0n 19<sup>th</sup> of December, 2018, p.17

18. The official website of the Iraqi Foreign Ministry on the Internet on 22th of July, 2018.

*19. The special page of Dr. Sayar Al-Jameel on the Social Media Facebook on 5<sup>th</sup> of June, 2019* 

20. <u>https://newsabah.com/newspaper</u>

21. A delegation of the donators meet The Iraqi Ambassador in Amman. A news published on the home page of Jordanian Al-Destor Newspaper, Issue 38765 on 7<sup>th</sup> of March, 2018

22. https://iraqi.dk/news/esknde/2017-08

23. Minister of Culture discusses with Indian Ambassador the ways of the cultural cooperation. The official website for the Iraqi Ministry of Culture on the Internet, on 22th of November 2019

24. https://altahreernews.com/2266/

25. https://diyaruna.com/ar/articles/cnmi\_di/

- 26. <u>https://www.mawazin.net/Details.aspx?Jimare=4129</u>
- 27. https://www.mawazin.net/

28. https://www.uomousl.edu.iq/ar/libCentral

29. https://www.al-fanarmedia.org/ar/2017/05

- 30. https://www.almaghribtoday.net/
- 31. Different Electronic Websites

32. Mohammed Salman, Constructing Mousl is a Human Task, Al-Omran Journal, Issue No. 570, Beirut, 2017, P. 23

- 33. https://www.ahewar.org/debat/show.art.asp?aid
- 34 https://www.sotaliraq.com/2017/08/27/%D9%86%D8%AF%D8%A7%D8%A
- 35. <u>https://www.zowaa.org/</u>

36. https://www.alkompis,se%D8%A5%D8%B9