

Study on Iranian librarian's commitment to professional ethics



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Introduction:

Archival centers must select the best methods in order to access to their collections for researchers. Using information management systems is necessary for optimum management of information.

Using integrated archival software on the basis on standard structure can cover information needs of archivists and clients. Some of archival centers in Iran are using integrated library softwares for managing their archival resources. But, there is a challenge. These softwares focused on library materials, not archival materials.

Findings:

Studies revealed that in 15 archival centers in Iran, 12 archival softwares are used. These softwares include: Rasa, Simorgh, Access, Ganjineh, Naghshe Jahan, Mava, ParsAzarakhsh, Oracle, Shenanameh Farhangi, Document Management Systems, and Office Automation. Although neither of these softwares are not designed for archives, but Iranian archivists use them.

Findings indicated that Rasa Software can support information needs of archivists and their users. 76.8 % of Iranian archivists that had practical experience with Rasa, stated that this software is the most used feature on Iran to meet the needs of them.

Component in providing an optimal software archive in Iran



Research Questions:

1. Which softwares are used in Iran archival centers?
2. Which software is the most used feature on Iran to meet the needs of archivists?
3. What component in providing an optimal software archive in Iran, should be considered?



Literature Review:

Spiro (2009) in her report about Archival Management Software for the Council on Library and Information Resources found that Hidden collections pose complex challenges to archives and special collections, but implementing appropriate software can help organizations work more efficiently and provide broader access to archival information.

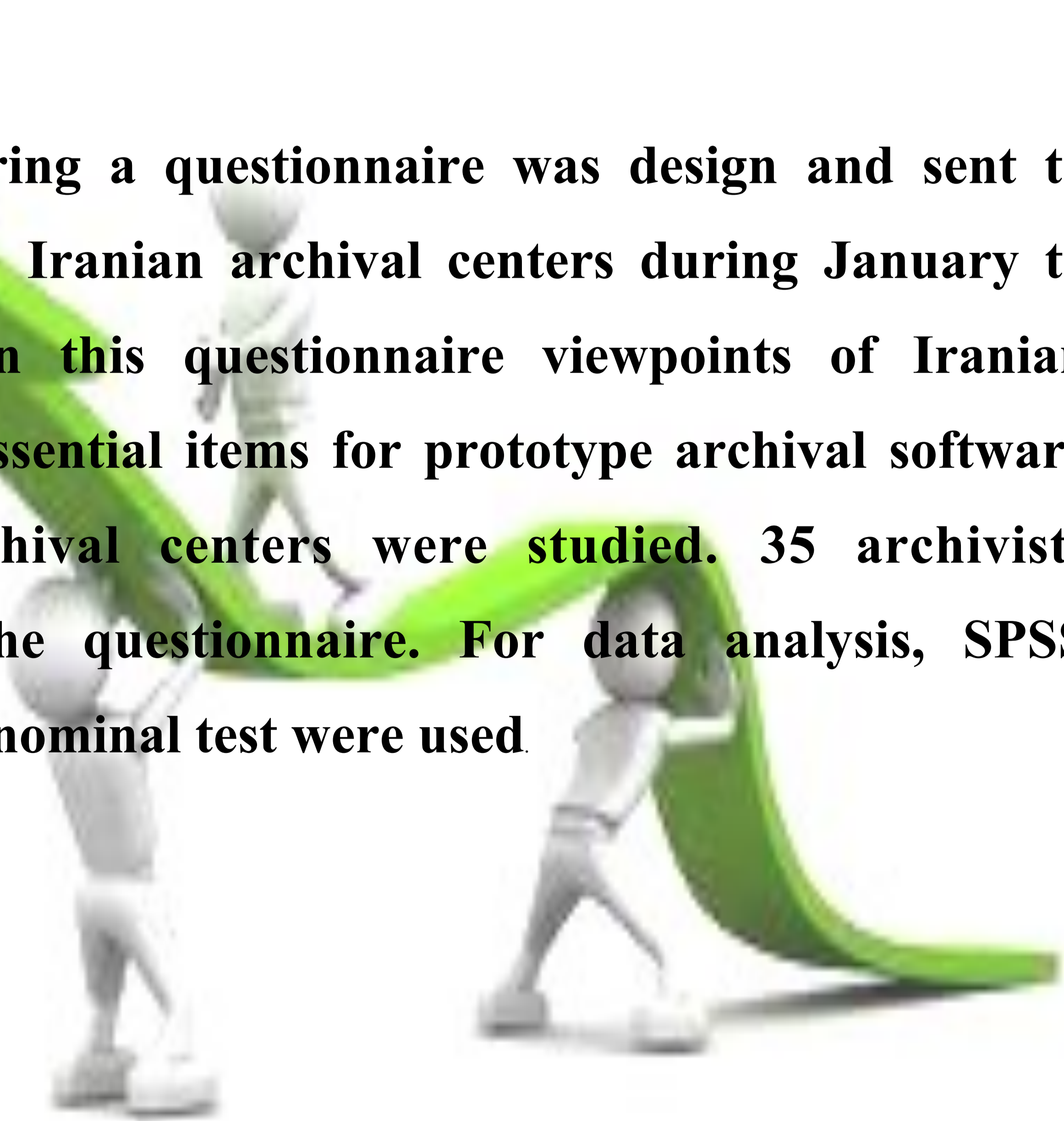
Galloway (2009) in his research indicated that Archiving born-digital materials brings with it the problem of how—or if—to implement standard hierarchical modes of archival description in an environment where the user can potentially make granular searches of repository item-level metadata and the primary materials themselves, thus bypassing mediating finding aids and even disregarding collection and series boundaries altogether.

Bogdan-Florin Popovici (2010) stated that that Radenci the author presented a point of view about the compatibility between ISAD(G) and Romanian regulatory provisions for “records management”.

In Iran, Ghaebi(1995), Moosavi Chelak (1999) and Fattahi (2009) had some studies on Iranian Library softwares but they

Methodology:

For data gathering a questionnaire was design and sent to archivists of 15 Iranian archival centers during January to March 2011. In this questionnaire viewpoints of Iranian archivists for essential items for prototype archival software in Iranian archival centers were studied. 35 archivists answered to the questionnaire. For data analysis, SPSS software and binominal test were used



Conclusion & suggestions:

Findings revealed that from Iranian archivist's viewpoint, prototype archival software for Iranian archival centers must cover 10 sections. These sections include: 1. Data Entering 2. Information search and retrieval. 3. Help. 4. Reportage. 5. Security capabilities. 6. Archival standards. 7. Metadata. 8. Acquisition. 9. Limitations of Operating System. 10. Web based tools.

In each section, special items were studied. Research indicated that from 119 items that was presented in questionnaire, 109 items were accepted by Iranian archivists.

most of studied softwares focused on the library materials and did not use archival standards.

Surveys showed that Rasa Software can be selected as archival software that can be used by Iranian archivists. But this point is important that Rasa software basically is not archival software and its architecture has to customize for archival goals.

Current research indicated that UNIMARC and IRANMARC are suitable for library materials and are not usable for archival materials.

Finally, current research presented a prototype for standard archival software for Iran archival centers. This suggestion was

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