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Summary

LIBRARIANS AS RESEARCHERS AND CUSTODIANS OF CULTURAL AND HISTORICAL HERITAGE: MATERIALS FOR THE HISTORY OF THE BUILDING OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NIŠ

The University Library of „Nikola Tesla“ has become an outstanding referential and information centre, not only for academic, but also for the whole local community, within which it has been conducting its rich cultural and educational activities for more than fifty years.

The search for reliable historical resources as well as a wish to present the historical documents in words and pictures, with the priority given to the records uncovering the turbulent history of the city of Niš, have occupied a significant part of socio-cultural activities of the library and in this way has placed itself where it actually belongs, among the greatest contributors to the city.

The main topic of this study, recognizable in many years of devoted work by the library staff members being involved in outlining and introducing the library`s cultural and educational content is the recorded history on the edifice of the University of Niš (the place where, among others, the University library is located), a renowned historical building that is known under the name of Banovina up to present days.

This study is dedicated to the distinguished librarians of the University Library of „Nikola Tesla“ in Niš, who, by exploring both national and local historiographies, meticulously classified and presented through documented stories afterwards, the valuable historical documents to the city of Niš and this library, and by their own example, encouraged younger colleagues into new research undertakings.

Keywords: *libraries, librarians, cultural and historic heritage, culture and education field, Morava banovina, the District administration palace, the University of Niš edifice.*