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# **Strategies of Selection and Implementation of Integrated Library Systems in Riyadh Libraries**

A thesis submitted to the Faculty of Social Sciences in fulfillment of the  
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## Abstract

This study explores selection and implementation strategies of integrated library systems (ILS) in Riyadh Libraries. The study problem lies in the unclear vision of these strategies, especially with the rareness of published reports regarding this topic. The main object of the study is to identify the strategies used in libraries when selecting ILSs. And also to uncover the different methods of implementation.

The study hope to be of help to planners and the decision makers when selecting and implementing new systems. It will provide them with the experience of other libraries, as well as the findings and the recommendations come out of the study.

The descriptive research methodology was adopted to conduct the study. Instructed interview was used to collect needed data.

The most important findings of the study are :-

- 1- Most used ILS is Horizon (74%) then comes Unicorn (10%).
- 2- Planning for selecting ILS was done by a committee (librarians and specialists from the computer department) in about one third of libraries (35%). Similarly, (35%) done by library director independently.
- 3- The proposed selection strategy was followed by (68%) of the libraries.
- 4- In general, libraries are satisfied with their selection of the system.
- 5- For the proposed implementation strategy, the study reveal that it was used by (62%) of the libraries.
- 6- The level of success for implementation vary from Excellent (36%) to Good (61%).
- 7- The most important obstacle faced by libraries is technical problem related to the system (52%).
- 8- The study showed the system acceptance by librarians was marked Excellent and Good by (42%) each.
- 9- In regard to cooperation, about half of the libraries (52%) have no cooperative activities with other libraries.

Based on the study findings, several recommendations were made :

- 1- The study stress on using practical written strategies for selecting and implementing ILSs.
- 2- It is recommended that the selection decision should be made by a co-committee of librarians and computer specialists.

- 3- Training librarians on ILSs should be a priority to improve their performance and productivity.
- 4- The study stress on documenting selection and implementation procedures and making them available for other libraries.

