Chapter Three

Development of Higher Education in Jordan
CHAPTER THREE

DEVELOPMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN JORDAN

3.1 BRIEF HISTORY OF JORDAN

The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan is inhabited by 5,760,000 persons (2005) and landspace of 92,300 sq km, it is situated on the Southern Western of Asia. It borders with Palestine in the west, with Syria in the north, Iraq in the northeast, and Saudi Arabia in the east and south. Amman is the Jordan’s capital and its largest city. In addition to the capital, important cities include Zarqa, Petra, Irbid, Aqaba, and Salt. Jordan is a land steeped in history. It has been home to some of mankind’s earliest settlements and villages, and relics of many of the world’s great civilizations can still be seen today. As the crossroads of the Middle East, the lands of Jordan and Palestine have served as a strategic nexus connecting Asia, Africa and Europe. Thus, since the dawn of civilization, Jordan’s geography has given it an important role to play as a conduit for trade and communications, connecting east and west, north and south. Jordan continues to play this role today.

Because of its centralized location, the land of Jordan is a geographic prize which changed hands many times throughout antiquity. Parts of Jordan were included in the dominions of ancient Iraq, including the Sumerian, Akkadian, Babylonian, Assyrian and Mesopotamian Empires. From the west, Pharaonic Egypt extended its power and culture into Jordan, while the nomadic Nabateans built their empire in Jordan after migrating from the south of the Arabian Peninsula. Finally, Jordan was incorporated into the classical civilizations of Greece, Rome and Persia, the relics of which are
scattered across the Jordanian landscape. Since the mid-seventh century CE, the land of Jordan has remained almost continuously in the hands of various Arab and Islamic dynasties. (Encyclopedia Britannica, 1993).¹

The second geographical factor which has helped shape the history of Jordan concerns climate. Only the northern highlands and the Jordan Valley have received enough rainfall to support large populations. Therefore, this area has always been more settled by farmers, villagers and townspeople. Most of the urban civilizations of Jordan have been based in these fertile lands. To the south and east, meanwhile, there is very little rainfall and no rivers for irrigation. These desert areas, which comprise the majority of Jordan, have rarely supported large settled populations. In some periods, there appears to have been no settled population at all. The lifestyle of the Bedouin inhabitants of these desert lands has remained similar in some respects to that of their Edomite or Nabatean predecessors. The contrast between the pastoral "desert" and agriculturally fertile lands is particularly pronounced in Jordan, and much of the areas in history can be linked to population shifts between large urban centers and more dispersed, nomadic tribal groups.

The country situated is on the eastern bank of River Jordan, and has 16 miles (26 km) of coastline on the Gulf of Aqaba. Area: 34,495 sq mi (89,342 sq km). Population (2005 est.): 5,389,000. Capital: Amman. The vast majority of the populations are Arabs, about one-third of whom are Palestinian Arabs who fled to Jordan from neighbouring Israel and the West Bank as a result of the Arab-Israeli wars. Language: Arabic (official). Religion: Islam (official; predominantly Sunni). Currency: Jordan dinar. Four-fifths of the country is desert; less than one-tenth of the land is arable. The highest point of elevation, Mount Ramm (5,755 ft [1,754 m]), rises in the uplands region on the east bank of the Jordan
The land that became Jordan forms part of the richly historical Fertile Crescent region. Its history began around 2000 B.C., when Semitic Amorites settled around the Jordan River in the area called Canaan. Subsequent invaders and settlers included Hittites, Egyptians, Israelites, Assyrians, Babylonians, Persians, Greeks, Romans, Arab Muslims, Christian Crusaders, Mameluks, Ottoman Turks, and, finally, the British. At the end of World War I, the territory now comprising Israel, Jordan, the West Bank, the Gaza Strip, and Jerusalem was
awarded to the United Kingdom by the League of Nations as the mandate called "Palestine Trans-Jordan." In 1922, the British, with League approval under the terms of the Mandate, partitioned Palestine at the Jordan River and established the semi-autonomous Emirate of Trans-Jordan in those territories to the east. The British installed the Hashemite Prince Abdullah I while continuing the administration of separate Palestine and Trans-Jordan (later shortened to "Jordan") under a common British High Commissioner. The mandate over Trans-Jordan ended on May 22, 1946; on May 25, the country became the independent Hashemite Kingdom of Trans-Jordan. It ended its special defense treaty relationship with the United Kingdom in 1957.

Trans-Jordan was one of the Arab states opposed to the second partition of Palestine and creation of Israel in May 1948. It participated in the war between the Arab states and the newly founded State of Israel (see 1948 Arab-Israeli War). The armistice agreements of April 3, 1949 left Jordan in control of the West Bank and provided that the armistice demarcation lines were without prejudice to future territorial settlements or boundary lines. In 1950, the country was renamed "the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan" to include those portions of Palestine annexed by King Abdullah. While recognizing Jordanian administration over the West Bank, the United States, other Western powers and the United Nations maintained the position that ultimate sovereignty was subject to future agreement. (Mahafdah, Ali 1989)4

Jordan signed a mutual defense pact in May 1967 with Egypt, and it participated in the June 1967 war between Israel and the Arab states of Syria, Egypt, and Iraq. During the war, Israel gained control of the West Bank and all of Jerusalem. In 1988, Jordan renounced all claims to the West Bank but retained an administrative role pending a final settlement, and its 1994 treaty with Israel allowed for a continuing Jordanian role in Muslim holy places in Jerusalem. The U.S.
Government considers the West Bank to be territory occupied by Israel and believes that its final status should be determined through direct negotiations among the parties concerned on the basis of UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338.

3.2 Land and People

Jordan falls into two main geographical regions. Eastern Jordan, which encompasses about 92% of the country's land area, is made up of a section (average elevation: 2,500 ft/760 m) of the Arabian Plateau that in the northeast includes part of the Syrian Desert. In the western part of the plateau are the Jordanian Highlands, which include Jabal Ramm (5,755 ft/1,754 m), Jordan's loftiest point. Extreme western Jordan is made up of a segment of the Great Rift Valley and includes the Jordan River, the Dead Sea, and the Arabah (a dry riverbed). The inhabitants of Jordan are mostly of Arab descent. The Palestinians (about 50% of the population) also descended from the people who lived in Palestine before the Arab conquest in seventh century, whereas the inhabitants of East Jordan (many of whom belong to Bedouin tribes) are of predominantly Arab ancestry. There are small minorities of Armenians and Caucasians. Arabic, the official language is spoken by virtually everyone. Many in the higher socio-economic groups also speak English. Over 95% of the people are Sunni Muslims; about 5% are Christians, most of whom are Greek Orthodox.

3.3 Economy

In the late 1990s, Jordan had an unemployment rate of almost 25%, while nearly 50% of those who were employed were on the government payroll. Poverty and a large foreign debt remained major problems. Less than 5% of the country's land is arable, and farm output is further limited by the small size of most farms, inefficient methods of
tilling the soil, and inadequate irrigation. The principal crops are wheat, barley, lentils, tomatoes, eggplants, citrus fruits, olives, and grapes. Many Jordanians support themselves by raising sheep, goats, and poultry. Manufactures are largely limited to basic items such as foods, beverages, clothing, construction materials (especially cement), and other consumer goods. Nearly 50% of the country's industry is based in Amman. Numerous artisans make items of leather, wood, and metal. Phosphate rock, fertilizers, and potash are produced in significant quantities. Oil was discovered in 1982, and a small oil industry that includes petroleum refining has been developed. During the 1970s and 80s aid from other Arab countries and remittances from Jordanian workers living abroad were important factors in the country's economy. A slowdown in both sources of income in the 1990s, as well as an influx of refugees, has slowed economic progress.

Jordan's transportation system is limited to a small network of all-weather roads and a narrow-gauge railroad (formerly part of the Hejaz RR) that enters Jordan from Syria and runs through Amman and to Aqaba, the country's only seaport. A modern highway running from Aqaba to Iraq has made trade and transportation more efficient. The annual cost of Jordan's imports usually far exceeds its earnings from exports. The principal imports are crude oil, machinery, transport equipment, foodstuffs, and manufactured goods; the main exports are phosphates, potash, fertilizers, and agricultural products. Jordan's leading trade partners are the European Union nations, Iraq, India, Saudi Arabia, the United States, and Japan. (Abu Jaber, Kamel, 1984)\(^5\)

3.4 Government

Jordan is a constitutional monarchy. Under the 1952 constitution as amended, the most powerful political and military figure in the country is the king. He appoints a cabinet (headed by a prime minister
who exercises executive power in his name), which is responsible to the bicameral parliament consisting of a 40-member senate (appointed by the king) and a 110-member house of representatives (popularly elected to four-year terms). The 1989 elections were the first in 22 years, and in 1993 political parties were again permitted to field candidates, resulting in Jordan's first multiparty elections in 37 years. Jordan is divided into 12 administrative governorates (Muhafazah).

3.5 Early History to Independence

The region of present-day Jordan roughly corresponds to the biblical lands of Ammon, Bashan, Edom, and Moab. The area was conquered by the Seleucids in the 4th cent. B.C. and was part of the Nabatean empire, whose capital was Petra, from the 1st cent. B.C. to the mid-1st cent. A.D., when it was captured by the Romans under Pompey. In the period between the 6th and 7th cent. It was the scene of considerable fighting between the Byzantine Empire and Persia. In the early 7th century the region was invaded by the Muslim Arabs, and after the Crusaders captured Jerusalem in 1099, it became part of the Latin Kingdom of Jerusalem. In 1516 the Ottoman Turks gained control of what is now Jordan, and it remained part of the Ottoman Empire until the 20th cent.

After the fall of the Ottoman Empire in World War I, the region came under (1919) the government of Faisal I, centered at Damascus. When Faisal was ejected by French troops in July, 1920, Trans-Jordan (as Jordan was then known) was made (1920) part of the British League of Nations mandate of Palestine. In 1921, Abdullah I (Abdullah bin Hussain), a member of the Hashemite dynasty and the brother of Faisal, was made emir of Trans-Jordan, which was administered separately from Palestine and was specifically exempted from being part of a Jewish national home. A Jordanian army, called the Arab
Legion, was created by the British, largely through the work of Sir John Bagot Glubb. In a treaty signed with Great Britain in 1928, Transjordan became a constitutional state ruled by a king, to be hereditary in the family of Abdullah I, who was placed on the throne by the British. The country supported the Allies in World War II, and, by a treaty with Great Britain signed in 1946, it became (May 25) independent as the Hashemite Kingdom of Trans-Jordan.

3.6 Ancient Jordan

3.6.1 Paleolithic Period

During the Paleolithic period (c. 500,000-17,000 BCE), the inhabitants of Jordan hunted wild animals and foraged for wild plants, probably following the movement of animals seeking pasture and living near sources of water. The climate during this period was considerably better than today and therefore large areas of modern-day desert were open plains ideal for a hunting and gathering subsistence strategy. Evidence has also been found of Paleolithic inhabitation near a large expanse of water at Azraq. Paleolithic man in Jordan left no evidence of architecture, and no human skeleton from this period has yet been found. However, archaeologists have uncovered tools from this period such as flint and basalt hand-axes, knives and scraping implements. Ancient man also left clues to the nature of his existence beginning in Paleolithic times and continuing through the Neolithic and Chalcolithic eras.

3.6.2 Neolithic Period

During the Neolithic period (c. 8500-4500 BCE), or New Stone Age, three great shifts took place in the land now known as Jordan. First, people settled down to community life in small villages. This corresponded to the introduction of new food sources—such as cereal
agriculture, domesticated peas and lentils, and the newly widespread practice of goat herding- into the diet of Neolithic man. The combination of settled life and "food security" prompted a rise in population, which reached, into the tens of thousands.

The second basic shift in settlement patterns was prompted by the changing weather of the eastern desert. The area grew warmer and drier, gradually becoming virtually uninhabitable throughout much of the year. The distinction between the desert to the east and the "sown" areas to the west dates back to this watershed climatic change, which is believed to have occurred from around 6500-5500 BCE. The most significant development of the late Neolithic period, from about 5500-4500 BCE, was the making of pottery. Earlier attempts to fashion pottery from plaster have been discovered, but it was during the late Neolithic period that man began to systematically create vessels from clay. It is likely that pottery-making was introduced to the area from craftsmen arriving from the seminal civilizations developing to the northeast, in Mesopotamia.

The largest Neolithic site in Jordan is at Ein Ghazal in Amman. It consists of a large number of buildings, which were divided into three distinct districts. The houses were rectangular with several rooms, and some of them had plastered floors. The stone tower and walls found at Jericho show that defense was a consideration for Neolithic villages, as well. It seems as though Neolithic man practiced ancestor veneration, as archaeologists have unearthed skulls covered with plaster and with bitumen in the eye sockets at sites throughout Jordan (Ein Ghazal and Beidha), Palestine and Syria. Recently, archaeologists finished restoring what may be one of the world's oldest statues. The relic, which was found at Ein Ghazal, is thought to be 8000 years old. The statue is just over one meter high and is of a woman with huge eyes, skinny arms, knobby knees and carefully depicted toes.
3.6.3 Chalcolithic Period

During the Chalcolithic period (c. 4500-3200 BCE), copper was smelted for the first time. It was put to use in making axes, arrowheads and hooks, although flint tools also continued to be used for a long time. Chalcolithic man relied less on hunting than in Neolithic times, instead focusing more on sheep and goat-breeding and the cultivation of wheat, barley, dates, olives and lentils. In the desert areas the lifestyle was probably very similar to that of modern Bedouins. Tuleitat Ghassul was a large Chalcolithic village in the Jordan Valley. Houses there were built of sun-dried mud bricks with roofs made of wood, reeds and mud. Some dwellings were based on stone foundations and many were planned around large courtyards. The inhabitants of Tuleitat Ghassul used the walls of their houses for artistic or ceremonial purposes, painting bright images of masked men, stars and geometric motifs, perhaps connected with religious beliefs.

3.6.4 The Old Testament Kingdoms of Jordan

The Iron Age (c. 1200-332 BCE) saw the development and consolidation of three new kingdoms in Jordan: Edom in the south, Moab in central Jordan, and Ammon in the northern mountain areas. To the north in Syria, the Aramaeans made their capital in Damascus. This period saw a shift in the level of power from individual “city-states” to larger kingdoms. One possible reason for the growth of these local kingdoms was the growing importance of the trade route from Arabia, which carried gold, spices and precious metals through Amman and Damascus up to northern Syria. The bulk of the Biblical Old Testament took place during this period. There is little archeological evidence to fully support the Biblical account of the Israelites’ occupation of Palestine. Although archaeologists have demonstrated that certain cities supposedly taken by the Israelites were indeed destroyed during
this period, it is equally feasible that they may have been sacked by invading Egyptian armies. It is probable that the "conquest" occurred more gradually than in the Biblical narrative, with the process more akin to waves of ethnic migration than a conventional military campaign.

According to the Biblical account of the Exodus from Egypt (c. 1270-1240 BCE), the Israelites requested permission to pass unharmed through the Kingdom of Edom. After having been denied permission, they skirted Edom to the east and continued north until they reached the borders of the Amorite country near Madaba. Not trusting the Israelites' intentions, and not wishing to place the added strain of thousands of migrants upon his food and water stores, the Amorite leader Sihon refused them passage as well. This time, the Israelites fought back and defeated Sihon, occupying his territory.

According to the Bible, the Israelites then continued their northward trek into the Kingdom of Moab, where the Moabite king set up an alliance between the five tribal kings of Midian (the Hijaz of Arabia). The increasingly powerful Israelites triumphed over the Midianites as well, and some of the tribes settled in the conquered territories. The prophet Moses apparently climbed, or was carried, to the top of Mount Nebo, where, according to some sources, he died. Joshua then led the remaining tribes across the Jordan River into Palestine. A united Kingdom of Israel arose there about 1000 BCE with Saul and David as its first kings. After the death of David's son King Solomon in 922 BCE, the kingdom divided into two, with Israel in the north and Judah in the south.

3.6.5 The Hellenistic Period

Although the influence of Greek culture had been felt in Jordan previously, Alexander the Great's conquest of the Middle East and
Central Asia firmly consolidated the influence of Hellenistic culture. The Greeks founded new cities in Jordan, such as Umm Qais (known as Gadara) and renamed others, such as Amman (renamed from Rabbath-Ammon to Philadelphia) and Jerash (renamed from Garshu to Antioch, and later to Gerasa). Many of the sites built during this period were later redesigned and reconstructed during the Roman, Byzantine and Islamic eras, so only fragments remain from the Hellenistic period. Greek was established as the official language, although Aramaic remained the primary spoken language of ordinary people. Alexander died soon after establishing his empire, and his generals subsequently struggled over control of the Near East for more than two decades. Eventually, the Ptolemies consolidated their power in Egypt and ruled Jordan from 301-198 BCE. The Seleucids, who were based in Syria, ruled Jordan from 198-63 BCE.

3.6.6 The Mysterious Nabateans

Before Alexander's conquest, a thriving new civilization had emerged in southern Jordan. It appears that a nomadic tribe known as the Nabateans began migrating gradually from Arabia during the sixth century BCE. Over time, they abandoned their nomadic ways and settled in a number of places in southern Jordan, the Naqab desert in Palestine, and in northern Arabia. Their capital city was the legendary Petra (now included as one of the Seven Wonders of the World on (07.07.2007), Jordan's most famous tourist attraction. Although Petra was inhabited by the Edomites before the arrival of the Nabateans, the latter carved grandiose buildings, temples and tombs out of solid sandstone rock. They also constructed a wall to fortify the city, although Petra was almost naturally defended by the surrounding sandstone mountains. Building an empire in the arid desert also forced the Nabateans to excel in water conservation. They were highly skilled water engineers, and irrigated their land with an extensive system of
Higher education in the world includes the basic and Secondary Education. Higher Education has been of a great concern since twentieth century, in the hope of the role in the process of socioeconomic, cultural and political development. Human nature has turned into a special productive power through culture, which characterizes our age and future ages; in this framework, education represents an influential role in renewing work power and developing it quantitatively and qualitatively. (Saiyeadawi, Ahmad 1988) In spite of the discrepancy of the experts and researchers view in regard to the importance of university education, they agree that university education must face the world problems in which human beings face, including Jordan, the most prominent of which are the following. (Sangar, Salehah, 1988) firstly, the shortage of natural resources and their high cost, secondly, Environmental pollution and the large scale of damage, thirdly, the decrease or drawback of economic growth; fourthly, the non-correspondence between the necessary needs of human beings and the products of science of technology, fifthly, the lack of identity of great sectors of society, especially young people, sixthly, the increase of hygienic problems, seventh, the contradiction of economic, political and social values, and eighthly, the growing increase of the population of the third world countries and the growing increase of food.

3.7.1 IMPORTANCE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

The importance of university stems from the fact that it is responsible for preparing intellectual, scientific, literacy, artistic and professional leaderships at their different levels and for all institutions of
society and sectors and facilities of these institutions. University is basically responsible for conducting researches and studies at all fields of life and domains of knowledge. University also has an important role in the field of public service in society by offering practical services to society on the part of teaching staff and students, utilizing its various facilities. The most prominent problems which face Jordanian society are: firstly, the continuous cultural and ideological modernization coming from the West and the Palestinians of conflict among three ideologies: Islamic, communist and capital, secondly, the continuous scientific and technologies challenge coming from the west and the east and the needs of the Jordanian society for the different experiences and skills of advanced societies. In this way, the west and the east control the offering of advanced appliances and industries to Jordan according to certain conditions, thirdly, the occurrence of social, economic and political problems resulting from the rapid progress accompanied by an imbalance between the values and aims imposed by the material progress and the host of values and aims polarized the interaction of the ideological heritage and society needs, and fourthly, the development of new intellectual and faith currents within Jordanian society, one of them tries to assert the identity of the Arab-Islamic society, and the other tries to borrow the western or Eastern solutions resulting from the material progress. Each of them has its philosophy which supports its positions and manner of treatment.

3.7.2 POLICY OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN JORDAN

The higher education in Jordan is being defined according to the law of higher education Act No 28 of the year 1985 as “the Education that is not less than one full Academic year after secondary stage”. And according to the same Act the institution of higher education is defined as the “institution which is conducting higher education in Jordan,
including universities, higher institutes and the community's colleges and institutes."

3.7.3 Principles of Educational Policy in Jordan:

The principles of Educational policy in Jordan are as follows:

(i) Guiding the educational system to be in much conformity with the needs of the individual and society and to reach balance between them.

(ii) Providing opportunities to achieve the principles of sustainable education and to exploit the types of parallel education in coordination with authorized parties.

(iii) Emphasizing the importance of political education in the educational system, consolidating and practicing the principles of participation justice and democracy.

(iv) Guiding the educational process in a way that develops in the citizens' personality the ability to analyze, criticize, initiate, create, and have positive dialogue and to reinforce the values originating from the Arab, Islamic and Humanitarian civilization.

(v) Firmly establishing the scientific approach of educational system in regard to planning, execution assessment and developing research, assessment and prosecution systems.

(vi) Expanding the types of education in educational institutions to include the program of special education and talented students.

(vii) Emphasizing the concept of comprehensive experience to include professional and technological experience.
(viii) Emphasizing the fact that education is a mission and a profession which has its ethical and professional rules.

(ix) Guiding the educational system in a way that insures the centralization of general planning and the de-centralization of management.

(x) Cherishing scientific and social position of the teacher and his/her distinctive role in building the human being and society. And

(xi) Emphasizing the importance of military education and environmental culture.

3.7.4 The Means of Implementing the Policy of Higher Education:

The ministry of higher education was established in 1985 to take up control of the educational, cultural, instructional and scientific policy of the government within the scale of the institutions of higher education. Its aims are achieved under the regulations of higher education 1985 through the following means:

(i) Integrated scientific planning of higher education in the light of needs of society, including the planning for establishing the institutions of higher education and determining the type, level and degree of this education.

(ii) Supporting the autonomy of universities through their council and departments and co-ordination between them in different fields.

(iii) Direct supervision of non university education to prepare well trained human powers required for development plans and co-operation with other ministries, committees and institutions which have the same tasks.
(iv) Providing human and technical potentials for the institutions of higher education to promote the level of scientific research expand its domains and co-ordination, with the co-operation of concerned institutions and committees.

(v) Holding agreements related to higher education and exchange of information with Arab and other countries, and representing Jordan in conferences and local and foreign meetings related to higher education.

(vi) Organizing the affairs of students, professors, researchers and scientific delegates coming to Jordan from other countries in co-operation with concerned parties.

(vii) Organizing the work of the offices of student's services, supervising their affairs and evaluating their performance.

(viii) Preparing studies and projects and offering initiatives in regard to what concerns higher education and its development in Jordan.

3.7.5 The Philosophy of Higher Education in Jordan:

The following philosophy of Higher Education in Jordan is generally recognized:-

(i) Jordanians are equal in regard to rights, political, social and economic obligations and they are distinguished by the level of their efforts and belonging to their society.

(ii) Abiding by the freedom and dignity of the individual.
(iii) The progress of society depends on the organization of individuals in a way that insures national integrity.

(iv) Political and social participation in the frame of democratic system in a right for the individual and an obligation to society.

(v) Education is a social necessity and it is a right for all each one according to his/her own capabilities.

(vi) Abiding by the spiritual heritage of the Arab nation.

(vii) Abiding by unity of the Arab homeland.

(viii) Abiding by freedom, Democracy and social equity.

(ix) Abiding by achieving openness on development heritage.

(x) Abiding by the fact the university education is for public service.

(xi) Abiding by the scientific approach.

(xii) Abiding by the fact that university education is for all individual who can benefit from it.

(xii) Abiding by the independence and freedom of universities.

3.7.6 The Aims of Higher Education in Jordan:

The higher education in Jordan is aimed at:-

(a) Bringing up citizens who believed in God, belong to their country, bear responsibility, know and cherish the heritage and civilization of their nation and are aware of the issues, values and progress of humanity.
(b) Providing learners by an adequate amount of knowledge, sciences and applied skills which offer them a level of specialization that enables them to perform duties and give them the opportunity to broaden their range of vision and let them acquire intellectual and behavioral attitudes to increase their mental abilities, specialized information, fields of activities and creativity.

(c) Providing human powers for the needs of the plans of economic, social and cultural development, serving community and creating interaction, participation and co-operation between the institutions of higher education and other institution of society.

(d) Supporting, promoting and expanding scientific research and linking it to the needs of society, plans of development and production and civilization of nation.

(e) Using Arabic as the language of science and education at all stages of higher education.

(f) Making sure that learners master another foreign language at least to be a means of getting knowledge about the production of other nations at the fields of their specialization.

(g) Increasing scientific and cultural co-operation and broadening its domains in the field of higher education, with other states and institutions in the world, especially the Arab and Islamic countries.
Legislation is the official source of the state in which it expresses the legal rules in a written form. It is divided into three types: First one is the Constitution, secondly, Law and thirdly, Systems. Constitution or the basic legislation means “the host of rules which determine the political organization of a state” which is put forward according to two ways: being granted by the absolute rules, or by the way of contract between the absolute ruler and the representatives of people. The democratic way of drawing up constitutions is by a constituent association or general referendum. Constitution is placed high at the peak of the legal structure of state. There is no authority that can revolt against its rules; in the same way, there is no legal rule that contradicts with its rules. On the other hand, a law or a normal legislation comes next after constitution, and it is issued within the limits constituted by constitution to organize the different affairs of life in society. Constitution nominates the specialized authority to pass this legislation. In Jordan, it is the “legislative authority” which is attached to the parliament and the king. The parliament consists of lower house and senate.

The importance of legislations in organizing higher education is by referring to the Jordanian constitution of 1992, we find that it guaranteed the rights of individuals by stating: “Jordanians are equal before the law, no discrimination among them in regard to rights and duties, even if they differ in race, language or religion.”. The Jordanian constitution guaranteed free education and considered it, to some extent, an obligation.

In accordance with these texts, many rules, systems and regulations were issued. Their starting point was the law of education number 16 for the year 1964 which it was stated that learning is free
and obligatory at elementary and preparatory stages and free at all
types of secondary education. It was followed by the law of higher
education number 3 for the year 1980. Then it was replaced by the law
of higher education number 28 for the year 1985, and the law of
Jordanian universities number 19 for the year 1987 which combined the
common characteristics of official universities. The law Higher
Education, number 28, for the year 1985, clarified the aims of higher
education, stressing the necessity of educating citizens who belongs to
their country, religion and Arabic nationalism, ensuring the need of
development, economic, social and cultural plans, as well as supporting
scientific research and linking it to the growing needs of society. (AL-
Tal, Ahamad, 1998)^

3.8 MINISTRY OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND SCIENTIFIC
RESEARCH

Higher education in Jordan has obtained a great position in the
last decade in regard to content, programs and modes of teaching and
learning which govern quality and quantity education. The council of
Higher Education and the Higher Committee of Scientific Research
supervise the programs offered by public and private institutions of
higher education in order to evaluate their effectiveness for
accomplishing their missions and aims. Jordanian society has been
greatly influenced by the revolution of information technology and
communications. Quick positive measures have been taken to reach the
standard of knowledge in societies. Jordan has realized the importance
of developing its potentials and human resources to interact and deal
with information economy through launching and carrying out several
programs at both levels of general and higher education. All of this
stems from the noble guidance of his majesty kind Abdullah II. "The
development of human resources is one of our priorities for forthcoming
stage because the greater fortune of Jordan lies in Jordanian human
being. Therefore, my government will take care of all the comprehensive aspects of information economy, curricula development and enhancement of scientific research and higher education:

The ministry of higher education and scientific research had formed ten specialized committees since the beginning of the academic year 2004-2005. Consequently, a higher committee has been formed to present an integrated strategy of higher education and scientific research for the years 2005–2010. Its aim has been the achievement of an already determined vision of developing higher education in Jordan to reach an international level in order to play a basic role which could lead to information economy.

(www.mohe.gov.jo)^10

3.9 THE PUBLIC SECTOR UNIVERSITIES IN JORDAN

The Universities are primarily considered to be responsible for conducting research and studies in all areas of knowledge and also life. The universities play an important role in public service of the society. Successive Jordanian Governments have recommended the establishment of universities and work to develop and provide full support to them through directions and orientations of His Majesty the late King Hussain. Thus, the first university in Jordan was established in 1962 and then many public and private universities were established in the kingdom totaling 26 in the year 2007; of them ten are public universities and sixteen are private universities, among them four universities are specialized in postgraduate studies. The government has issued a series of laws concerning higher education and Jordanian universities. The Uniform Code of universities Act 29 of 1987 confirmed that the university is a national institution of higher education and scientific research that aimed at: firstly, to disseminate knowledge,
develop and contribute to the progress of human thought. Secondly, providing opportunities of university education theoretical and applied to the qualified students and researchers. Thirdly, encouraging scientific research and development of scientific curriculum, intellectual independence, and personal initiative and developing sense of belonging to the nation and the spirit of responsibility and teamwork. Fifthly, deepen of the Islamic faith, spiritual, moral and also paying care towards Arab civilization and Islamic heritage. Sixthly, providing service to the Jordanian society and its needs and contribute to the service of the Arab society.

3.9.1. Public Sector Universities

1.1 University of Jordan
1.2 Yarmouk University
1.3 Mu'tah University
1.4 Jordan University of Science & Technology
1.5 Al al-Bayt University
1.6 The Hashemite University
1.7 AL-Balqa Applied University
1.8 AL-Hussein Bin Talal University
1.9 Al-Tafila technical University
1.10 German-Jordanian University
3.9.2. Private Sector Universities

Table 3.1 Private Sector Universities

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<th>S.No.</th>
<th>Name of the Universities</th>
<th>Year of the Established</th>
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<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Al – Ahliyya Amman University</td>
<td>1990</td>
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<td>2.</td>
<td>Al – Isra Private University</td>
<td>1991</td>
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<td>5.</td>
<td>Jerash Private University</td>
<td>1992</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Educational Sciences Faculty</td>
<td>1993</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>Philadelphia University</td>
<td>1993</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>Irbid National University</td>
<td>1994</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>Zarqa Private University</td>
<td>1994</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.</td>
<td>University of Petra</td>
<td>1994</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As per the scope of the present study, only Public Sector Universities have been described as under:-

- 80 -
3.9.1.1 University of Jordan

Established in the year 1962 and is located at Amman city. The University of Jordan's educational mission is based on the following pillars:

(i) The provision of quality education at both the undergraduate and graduate levels,

(ii) The adoption of the principle of democracy in the education and decision-making processes,

(iii) Interaction among students, with the local community, and at the international level, and

(iv) Support of goal-oriented research, particularly research activities which are in line with the national development plans. It has a number of faculties of different fields, such as, the Faculties of the university are. Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmacy, Nursing, Engineering and Technology, Science, Business Administration, Law, Shari'a (Islamic Studies), Humanities and Social Sciences, Educational Sciences, Rehabilitation Sciences, Agriculture, Physical Education, Arts, Information Technology, Graduate Studies (FGS). The University of Jordan launched its first graduate program after six years of its establishment (1968/69). This was an MA program in Educational Administration and Guidance, to be followed, three years later, by an MA Program in History. The University gathered momentum in the second decade of its life; new faculties were established and it started to pay more attention to research and graduate studies. This was reflected in launching eight new graduate programs in the
academic years 1972/73 and 1973/74. To administer these graduate programs, the Deanship of Research and Graduate Studies, as of 1984 the Faculty of Graduate Studies, was established in 1973 with the following aims:

(i) To increase human knowledge,
(ii) To lay foundations for research in the University,
(iii) To develop students' capabilities in research methodology in all fields,
(iv) To graduate specialists of high standards to help in national development,
(v) To direct studies toward local, regional and Arab problems.

The Faculty of Graduate Studies admits students from many Arab and foreign countries either through the International Graduate Program or through cultural exchange programs.

Table 3.2 Academic staff of the Public University

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No.</th>
<th>Name of Universities</th>
<th>Full Prof.</th>
<th>Associate Prof.</th>
<th>Assistant Prof.</th>
<th>Instructor</th>
<th>Lecturer</th>
<th>Res. Ass.</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>The University of Jordan</td>
<td>331</td>
<td>222</td>
<td>352</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>1129</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Yarmouk University</td>
<td>206</td>
<td>176</td>
<td>205</td>
<td>116</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>770</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Mu'tah University</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>149</td>
<td>152</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>538</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rank</td>
<td>University</td>
<td>AS</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>AP</td>
<td>AS</td>
<td>AP</td>
<td>AP</td>
<td>AS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------------</td>
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<td>-----</td>
<td>-----</td>
<td>-----</td>
<td>-----</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Jordan University of Science &amp; Technology</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>282</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>138</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>688</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>AL al – Bayt University</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>138</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>229</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>The Hashemite University</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>445</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Al-Balqa’ Applied University</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>113</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>302</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Al-Hussain Bin Talal University</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Tafila Technical University</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>German Jordanian University</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Shows academic staff of the university for the year 2005/2006. It is observed the University of Jordan has the largest rank of academic staff of 352 assistant professors, followed by 331 full Professors, 222 associate professors, whereas, the other remaining ranks, have the...
lowest academic staff in order, 91 lecturers, 79 teaching and research assistants, and 54 instructors, during the academic year 2005/2006.

**University Library**

The University of Jordan’s main Library was established in 1962 and it has been endowed with major attention. Providing it with a qualified technical staff and the required financial shares, have contributed in establishing it as a pioneer library in both the Arab World and the Middle East region. More than 800,000 library titles are available in forms of books, periodicals, theses, microfilms besides a number of audiovisual materials. The library offers a number of services for the university members, the students, the academic and administrative staff as well as researchers from outside university and the local community. It opens its doors to offer its daily services to visitors range between 5000 and 10000 a day. The library has undergone an automation project offering a computerized system of acquisition, borrowing and returning books. Through its effort to enhance the role of technology in modern libraries, UJ library has activated the project of the e-library by allocating certain databases for subject-heading search, thesis abstracts search, the UJ educational publishing search including studies, and the educational magazines. It has recently undergone a project of providing a full-text search for theses defended since 2002.

By coping with the latest technological events to maintain our service in providing all kinds of information resources that cover all sorts of disciplines available at the faculties of the University of Jordan, we can ensure the easiest and the most efficient access to all of the library items. Working on our vision to see the light, we have recently signed an agreement with the official Jordanian universities to form a Consortium that combines all of the universities libraries under the
name of "Jordanian Center of Excellence for public University Library Services" located at Yarmouk University. The aim of the Consortium is to manage Jordanian universities libraries information network and coordinate its services for multi-economical purposes (expenditure rationalization, information resource sharing and unifying mechanism for library work among the member libraries. Thus was the choice of a new library system namely, Horizon to be installed in the year of 2006.

(www.ju.edu.jo)\textsuperscript{11}

3.9.1.1 Yarmouk University

Yarmouk University is located at Irbid and founded in 1976 by a Royal Decree. It has since grown in size and stature to become one of the most prestigious universities not only in the country but the region as a whole. It is a foremost institution of higher learning, known for its innovative approach to academic management, human resource development and the pursuit of excellence in research and teaching in varied areas of the arts, humanities and social sciences. The university is a government funded institution, but enjoys a considerable degree of autonomy. The main missions of the university are: The first is to provide quality education to our students in all fields of specialization and at every level. The second is to encourage meaningful research programs that not only are relevant to the economic growth and development of the country but also to human welfare and prosperity. The third is to engage in public service at the local, national and international levels by fostering cultural enrichment and providing educational and training opportunities to the public at large. Being aware of the importance of partnerships and cooperation, we have academic agreements with several universities and institutions all over the world. It is committed to the discovery of new knowledge and techniques, exchange of information, and transformation of our youth
and nation to be able to face the challenges of the future. It has a number of faculties of different fields, such as, The Faculties of Engineering and Technology, Information Technology and Computer Sciences, Science, Economics, Arts, Law, Shari'a and Islamic Studies, Education, Archaeology and Anthropology, Fine Arts, Physical Education. Table 3.2 shows academic staff of the university that has the largest rank of 206 full Professors, followed by 205 Assistant Professors, 176 Associate Professor, 116 Instructors and 67 Research Assistant.

University Library

The library of Yarmouk University was established in 1976, with an aim to

(i) Provide all sorts of information sources to different classes of library users.

(ii) Processing these sources, and making it organized and systematic

(iii) Developing sufficient understanding among the users so as to enable them to fully utilize the available information sources.

The library has more than 500,000 sources in various fields and diverse languages. These sources range from printed materials, microfilms to digital ones. There are 400,000 books, 70,000 volumes of printed journals, 1900 microfilms, in addition to a collection of Bibliographic data on CDs or internet. The library subscribes 600 periodicals in different disciplines of the university. The yearly record of lending and returning of books reaches 4500.
The library uses the latest international system for organizing, retrieving its treasures of knowledge. Library of Congress Classification, and Anglo-American Cataloguing rules are followed for processing the documents. The Horizon system is also used in different library operations. For systematic photocopying and printing, machine cards are used. The library is also equipped with a modern laboratory for producing and processing microfilms. To access local as well as international database, the library has a versatile lab for automated search. The development of (EBSCO) like digital library for standard academic periodicals of the Arab world is underway. Yarmouk University/Library, built on an area of 18000 sqm., has all Information Technology (IT) requisites and public security arrangements. To conclude, the library is sufficient enough for the necessities of the university community for 30 years to come. (www.yu.edu.jo)

3.9.1.3 Mu’tah University

Mu’tah University was established in the year 1981 and is located at Karak. The aims of the university are to qualify military and civilian professionals, capable to face current and future challenges through an integrated educational environment that fosters applied teaching and research to enrich national sustainable development. The University is currently undergoing vigorous expansions in all academic domains so as to enhance its role in serving the local community and the country as whole in addition to providing quality education for the students. At present, the University comprises twelve faculties such as Arts, Engineering, Science, Law, Business Administration, Educational Sciences, Sports Sciences, Shari’a, Agriculture, Nursing and Paramedics, and Medicine, Social Sciences. This is in addition to the Deanship of Students’ Affairs, the Deanship of Scientific Research, the Deanship of Higher Studies, and the Center for Southern Studies and Continuing Education, Computer Center and many other facilities. All of
these Faculties are equipped with the most modern laboratories and computers facilities to serve teaching and research. In the field of postgraduate studies, the University has recently established a Ph.D. programme in Arabic language and literature in addition to various master programs in Mathematics, Arabic and English Languages, Geography and Electrical Engineering (Communications), Law and Police Studies. There are many plans to establish other programmes to keep up with contemporary changes in science, technology and education. The University ranks as number one amongst Jordanian Universities in enrollment for evening studies. The evening studies programme has been established with the aim of serving employees in the local community and in Jordan as a whole to continue their education. In addition, the university offers parallel studies Programs in many fields of studies. Mu'tah University is considered now as one of the biggest universities in the country with a total intake of nearly 16,000 students from all over the country and abroad. Table 3.2 shows academic staff of the university. It has a number of faculties such as-152 Assistant Professors followed by 149 Associate Professors,106 Full Professor, 96 Lecturers, 22 Instructors and 13 Research Assistants.

**University Library**

Established in 1984, the library of Mu'tah University has been linked and developed in the fields of higher education and scientific research. It has grown to achieve the development in the fields of general knowledge, information technology and documentation needs of its users. The library offers a variety of services through the central library and its branches. The library is becoming a member of the governmental consortia and the Centre of Excellence enhances the adoption of the e-archiving and Horizon project. The library has many sub-libraries such as: the library of military wing, the Medical library situated at the medical campus in al-Mosherfeh, al-karak, and the
library of princess Mona Nursing College situated at al-Hussein Medical City in Amman. The library of the Faculty of Agriculture situated at al-Raba north of al-Karak city. This library was founded to offer a variety of library materials to fulfill the needs of researcher. Its major function is to: offer the academic and culture library material which facilitates the process of research, and scientific studies by the variety of resources of the general knowledge. Secondly, using the modern technologies to arrange the special library collections. Thirdly, it offers a variety of services to the university faculty members, researchers, students, and interested readers from local society. Fourthly, it helps to develop the educational and instructional process and help the library members and students gain access to the necessary library reference as well as other library material in the fields of specialization. Fifthly, the library has grown steadily and expanded its services and holdings to local society and abroad, and sixthly, the library is responsible for all the library maternal borrowings process. In addition to the various reading halls for its users, and lastly, it works as centre of information technology. It is responsible to provide assistance to readers and researchers. (www.mutah.edu.jo)\textsuperscript{14}

3.9.1.4 Jordan University of Science and Technology

Jordan University of S&T was established in the year 1986 and is located at Irbid. it has a number of faculties of different fields, such as The Faculties of Graduate Studies, Engineering, Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmacy, Nursing, Applied medical Sciences, Veterinary Medicine, Agriculture, Computer and Information Technology, Science and Arts. The University recognizes its obligations to contribute to the development of human and material resources of Jordan through the proper pursuit of knowledge and the achievement of academic excellence. In compliance with dictated objectives as contained in the
constitution of the University, it endeavors to realize these ambitions, including:

(i) Offering of specialized higher education in established and emerging disciplines of science and technology.

(ii) Preparation of properly trained human resources in areas of science and technology, with particular emphasis on quality programs.

(iii) Expansion of graduate studies, and support of scientific research and professional studies in the pursuit of promoting community service and bilateral links with industry. Last but not the least of all, the development of student personality traits of national pride and professional ethics via a balanced program of extracurricular activities envisaged to form an integral part of student life on campus. Table 3.2 shows academic staff of the university with 282 Assistant Professors, followed by 153 associate Professors, 138 Lectures, and 97 full Professor, the other remaining academic staff are 15 lecturers, and three instructors.

University Library

The library of Jordan University for Science and Technology is established in 1986; the university library has close links to the educational and instructional process of the university. It aims at providing information resources to the university community in support of the instructional and research programs of the university. It works towards developing the students’ skills in using its resources to achieve their academic goals. The Library has collection of books and periodicals which comprises 115,000 books, 45,000 volumes of back issues of periodicals. In organizing its collection the Library adopts the
Library of Congress Classification Scheme. It uses the Anglo-American Cataloging Rules and the International Standard of Bibliographic Description in cataloging its collection. To cope with the new technologies in the field of library and information science, the Library in the year 1993, started to offer retrieved information services through a good number of necessary databases, which are available on CD-ROM or online. The University Library provides high quality library collections and information services in support of teaching, research, and service functions of the university. The Library of Congress Classification system is used to arrange books on the shelves. The letters stand for broad topical areas are arranged alphabetically. The main mission of the Jordan University Science and Technology Library is to support the educational program of the College. The library has been established so as to achieve the following objectives for serving this mission: firstly, to develop a collection of library materials in a variety of formats to support the curriculum; secondly, to provide access to the library collection as well as to off-site resources in a timely and efficient manner; Thirdly to provide information literacy program for the academic community; fourthly, to renovate the library and to acquire additional interior library space in order to enhance the learning environment, and fifthly, to maintain a highly qualified library staff capable of providing appropriate services to support the library mission. (www.just.edu.jo)

3.9.1.5 AL al-Bayt University was established in the year 1993 and is located on the outskirts of the city of al-Mafraq 65 Kilometers to the north-east of the capital Amman. The university has integrated academic facilities Islamic Jurisprudence and Law, Art and Humanities, Information Technology, Sciences, Economics and Administrative Sciences, Nursing, Educational Science, The Institute of Earth and Environment, The Institute of Architecture & Islamic Arts, The Higher Institute of Islamic Studied, The Institute of Bayt al-Hikmah (House of
Wisdom). Al al-Bayt University is a public educational institutions of an Arab and Islamic nature, It aims to:

(i) Form the rounded Muslim personality that is attuned to its environment and to the civilization of the modern world by combining and harmonizing modern scientific knowledge and methodology in teaching, and the requirements of belief and clarity of vision,

(ii) Acquaint the Muslim not only with his own culture, but with the numerous cultures of the world, in order that he/she may place his/her own culture in the context of different cultures and identify the role he/she may play to enrich modern civilization with elements derived from his/her own background,

(iii) Activate Muslim participation in all fields of modern life without any debilitating sense of alienation or isolation, and to strengthen the Muslim's ability to communicate with other people in an atmosphere of tolerance and friendliness,

(iv) Deepen the values of freedom of thought and expression, and of tolerance and co-existence based on dialogue and mutual understanding,

(v) Present the true image of Islam as a way of life that does not seek imposing itself on others,

(vi) Purify Islam of all secret intentions entrained by individuals or groups and of attempts at achieving sectarian, factional, or individual advantages,
(vii) Teach Islam through persuasion and understanding, not preaching and proselytizing, and,

(viii) Teach the various sciences that can promote the mission of the University, with a view to preparing the Muslim both scientifically and religiously. Table 3.2 shows that the academic staff of the university has moderately large rank of academic staff as of 138 Assistant Professors, while the reaming ranks of 55 Instructors, 19 Associate Professors, and 17 Full time Professors,

**University Library**

The library was established in 1994/1995 with an aim to provide all sorts of information sources, both conventional and automated. Al-Albait library serves the users through online search, circulation, photocopying and reference sections.

The library owns 179000 books, of which 140000 books are in Arabic and 39000 in different foreign languages. The numbers of subscribed journals reaches 121 in foreign languages and 50 in Arabic. In addition to it, the library has scores of international database on CD’s and access to internet based based services including EBSCO.

For the systematization of its collection, the library follows Library of Congress Classification System and Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules.

The library consists of three main buildings and also departmental and seminar libraries of the university. ([www.aabu.edu.jo](http://www.aabu.edu.jo))

3.9.1.6 The Hashemite University The Royal Decree ordaining its establishment was issued in, 1995. Since then, it has been working in
support of higher education, scientific research and community service through providing the society with competent and qualified graduates and specialists in different fields and majors. Teaching at the University started at the outset of the Academic year 1995/1996, and the students were admitted to the three functioning faculties at the time. The university has grown in size, status and stature over these few years. The university now includes faculties, Engineering, Sciences, Medicine Nursing, Allied Health Sciences, Economics and Administrative Sciences, Educational Sciences, Physical Education and Sport Sciences.

The Hashemite University adopts the credit-hour system which is characterized by flexibility and the freedom of choice and variety it provides to students. Moreover; this system facilitates the interaction between students of different majors especially when they meet in selective courses chosen according to their personal tendencies and desires. The University is a four-year coeducational institution committed to excellence in teaching and research. Its grand mission is to offer service and consultation to the local community in addition to the larger society. The University's Educational mission is based on the following pillars:

(i) Giving the opportunity of studying and specializing in different fields and majors to both students and the community,

(ii) Increasing general knowledge with concentration on the levels and quality of teaching,

(iii) Conducting and encouraging scientific research, intellectual independence, taking personal Initiatives and team-work spirit,
(iv) Taking care of humanities, sciences, arts, culture and national and universal heritage,

(v) Cultivating the Arab Culture and the Islamic Faith by spreading their heritage, promoting their values and morals and fostering a sense of belonging and the spirit of responsibility towards one's homeland,

(vi) Ensuring a qualified staff of Professors, Technicians and Administrative personnel, preparing plans for the processes, studying and evaluation in accordance with the traditions of higher education in Jordan,

(vii) Helping students develop a strong personality in all the academic, cultural and physical aspects of their personalities, and,

Holding a strong belief in the principle of full cooperation and coordination with other universities and scientific institutions home and abroad. Table 3.2 shows academic staff of the University with 200 Assistant Professor followed by 88 Research Assistants, 50 lecturers, while, 45 Associate Professors, 38 Full Professor, and, 24 Instructors

University Library

This library is established in 1995, it is committed to providing effective literature and information support to the academic and research activities through a wide variety of resources and services. The library has a collection of more than 150,000 volumes of books and journals, approximately three thousand items in microform, and a selection of audio-visual media. In addition to more than fifteen thousands online, Internet accessible titles through different online Databases, the University library acquires five hundred current Arabic
and foreign periodical titles through subscription, gift and exchange: (i) online databases (ii) Ulrich's periodicals (iii) global periodical (iv) Arabic periodical (v) electronic books, and (vi) databases CD-Rom.

An inter-library loan system has been developed to acquire materials not available in the library from major, local and foreign libraries and information centers. The book stock is arranged in a classified sequence based on the Dewey Decimal Classification System. Books and periodicals are housed on open stacks, providing a free and an easy access to library materials. To provide better services, all major library functions have been computerized using the ORACLE database management system. Fifteen terminals are available in the library for searching the OPAC. The library has a microfilm/microfiche reader-printer, eight photocopiers, and a complete set of audio-visual units. Three CD-ROM work stations and internet terminals are available for literature searching in the Databases Division. In addition, the library holds an internet and computer lab, which comprises more than eighty four terminals, to be used by researchers and students. The library consists of two main departments: The department of library services, and the technical department. The staff of the library is committed to providing the best possible service to the University faculty members, researchers, students and interested readers from outside the University. (www.hu.edu.jo)17

3.9.1.7 AL- Balqa Applied University is a public university established by the virtue of a royal decree in the year 1997 under the auspices of his majesty the late King Hussein, to provide qualified professionals who could focus on applied technical studies, besides the academic studying in different fields to encounter all contemporary challenges faced by advanced technology. The University has been located the year 1993 and located at al-salt and has the faculties of Engineering, Agricultural Technology, Planning and Management, Graduate Studies
and Scientific Research, Science and Information Technology. In addition to this, the University has a Department of Studies and Research. The aim of establishing this department is focused upon the following: firstly, encourage applied studies and scientific research directed towards servicing the developments of the community. Secondly, set a master plan for scientific research projects and seek financial support for these researches from various institutions in Jordan and abroad. Thirdly, Encourages and seek collaboration with scientific institutions in Jordan and abroad for integration purposes which serves the scientific research and to improve its standard. Fourthly, establish joint scientific research projects with other institutions inside Jordan and abroad to serve the development of the societies. And fifthly, to supervise graduate student with the collaboration of the academic departments to do their research project in the department. Table 3.2 shows academic staff of the University with 113 Assistant Professor followed by 73 Research Assistants, 51 Instructors, while, 29 Associate Professors, 22 Full Professor, and 14 lecturers.

University Library

This library was established in the same year along with the university during the academic year 1997/98. The university administration has given special attention to its library by providing the required well-trained and skillful staff. Also the university administration provides the needful financial support which puts the library among the best in the country. The library is situated on land of 45,000 m² area and it has more than 28,000 academic items. The teaching faculty, students and administrative staff are benefited from the books. Also the researchers from other Arab and Jordanian universities are benefited from the library's books and references. The library had introduced the electronic books surfing system (e-library) in all of its sections which had given and provided the needful information in convenient time through
the internet. The main objectives of Library of al-Balqa University are as follow:- Firstly, provides the required data, scientific information and stands as sources to the teaching community, students, administrative staff and the society. Secondly, arranging and storing the resources in order to be referred easily. Thirdly, developing and training of the library staff and also the staff of other libraries through the modes of giving lectures and training workshops. Fourthly, to provide the needed cooperation, exchange of experience and information with other centers of information internally and also externally (inside and outside Jordan). The fifth major objective of the library is to provide book-exhibition and participate in publication of books which help the students and the society in general. Sixthly, the library, technically supervises over the medium size libraries of the university's different faculties (colleges) which are functioning as subordinates to it. This supervision is through, giving the needful assistance, development and providing technical courses and workshops to the staff. (www.bau.edu.jo)

3.9.1.8 AL-Hussein Bin Talal University was established by a Royal Decree in April 1999. It is located in the southern part of Jordan, where almost all educational disciplines are needed, particularly Tourism, Hotel Management, Science, Computer Engineering, Education, and Mining Engineering. The University's main campus is located seven Kilometers to the west of the city of Ma'an. Objectives of the university are providing specializations and high quality programs responsive to the needs of the surrounding human and natural environments that contribute positively in the national development, conducting scientific researches that heavily concentrate on the application field, contributing in the development of the local communities, and, excelling in application of quality assurance standards on education, management, and installations. Table 3.2 shows that academic staff of the university has moderate rank of 67 Assistant Professors, followed by 15 Associate
Professor, 15 Lecturers, while, the other remaining ranks have nine Instructors, six Full Professors, and six Research Assistants.

University Library

The Library was set up in 1999-2000 to serve the faculty members students as well as the local populace, organizing information sources as per the latest international systems of storage and retrieval. Dewey Decimal Classification system and Anglo-American Cataloguing rules are in practice.

The library has several halls of a total area of 11000 sq.mt. and 53000 books both in Arabic and foreign languages. This is an addition to subscribed periodicals and on line international database. The provisions of reference, issue & return, photocopying and online search services are available in the library. (www.ahu.edu.jo) 19

3.9.1.9 Al-Tafila Technical University was established in the year 2005 at al-Tafila and has the faculties of Engineering, Science, Administration and Financial Management, Education Science, Arts.

Table 3.2 shows academic staff of the university with moderate rank of academic staff of 40 Assistant Professors, followed by 21 Research Assistants and, 20 Instructors, 20 Lecturers, 14 Assistant Professors, and Three Full Professors.

University Library

The Library aims to develop and modernize its services, and increases its treasure of books covering various disciplines offered by the university. The library uses ICT in all its functions, and computerization of its collection in order to keep pace with developments of the university, by using Horizon system through the
Centre of Excellence. The area of the library is almost 1,050 sq.mts. The initial asset of the library was about 22,000 books and reference sources in 2005. It rose to 70 percent the very next year i.e. 2006, by adding another (13,000 books and reference sources) Total number of Periodicals subscribed by the library is 67 only. Library started subscriptions of the electronic databases in 2007. The electronic resources available are about 250 CDs. The seating capacity is only 320, where as the number of students is about 2500. There is a 400 sq.mts hall for books, another hall of 300sq.mts for Reference Sources and a third hall of 150 sq.mts for periodicals. An internet lab with 27 computers has recently been operational since October 2006.

Objectives of the Library are: To index library books according to the Library of Congress Classification. Secondly, to an additional increase the books and references sources to 10,000 titles during the year 2007. Thirdly, to subscribe electronic periodicals through databases of Science Direct, IEEE, EBSCO. Fourthly, to develop OPAC for library collections and computerization of other in-house library operations. Fifthly, to provide in-service training of the staff to use the (Horizon) system through center of excellence, in order to computerize its assets particularly in sections of acquisition of books, circulation and periodicals. Sixthly, to encourage the teaching staff and students to go to the library and take advantage of its services. Seventhly, to communicate with the local community, universities and institutions at home and abroad through gift and exchange programme. (www.ttu.edu.jo)

3.9.1.10. German-Jordanian University was established in the year 2005 at Madaba. It has School Business, Medical Science, Information and Computing, Technological Science, Applied Natural Science, Architecture and Design.
Table 3.2 shows academic staff of the university has lowest rank of academic staff with 8 Lecturers followed by 5 Assistant Professors, 3 Full Professors, and two Associate Professors.

University Library

The University Library was founded during the academic year 2006/2007 aiming at collecting sources of all different sorts of traditional and electronic information. The library is using the latest automation systems to organize their collections, retrieval and transmission using Anglo-American Cataloguing rules. The library has used Horizon system for computerization through the Centre for excellence (network of universities libraries). The Library seeks to keep pace with modern developments through participation in electronic databases to provide better services to its research faculty members, students and the society. The library also keeps its staff up-to-date by involving them in sessions convened by the Center for excellence in using the Horizon system. (www.gju.edu.jo)

3.10 Jordanian Centre of Excellence for Public University Library Services:

The centre, having it headquarter at Yarmouk University, was setup in April 2004 with the collaboration of ten universities namely-

Library of Yarmouk University, Library of University of Jordan, Library of Mu'tah University, Library University of Science and Technology, Library of Al al-Bayt University Library, Library of Al Hashimiyah University, Library of Al- Balqa Applied University, Library of al-Hussain Bin Talal University, Library of al-Tafila Technical University and Library of German Jordanian University. The establishment of this centre is based a memorandum of understanding signed by all these Jordanian public universities. The Centre attempts to manage the public
university library network in Jordan and coordinates its services to achieve expenditure channelization, information resource sharing and unifying mechanism and tools for library work among member libraries. The objectives of the centre are: to maximize utilization of human, physical and financial resources available at the member libraries. Expenditure channelization through unification of purchasing mechanism and collective subscriptions of printed as well as electronic information resources. The centre is to reinforce a constructive cooperation framework among member libraries, and unifying work mechanism and its tools according to professional library standards, and also establishing the national information networks and the Jordan digital library.

Functions of the centre are:

(i) Managing the integrated library system (ILS) centrally to minimize the burden of individual management on each member library.

(ii) Establishing and maintaining the union catalog to facilitate the access to the accumulative information resources available at the member libraries.

(iii) Providing consultation and advice in library automation and integrated library systems.

(iv) The Centre is assisting in gathering and facilitating access to different information sources by virtue of creating electronic linkages among them.

(v) Providing education, consultations and training in librarianship and information disciplines, and issuing training certificates on behalf of the Center.
(vi) Designing user interfaces for local and regional information library systems.

(vii) Managing authority files and ensuring quality to the bibliographic database.

(viii) Also the centre has to facilitate inter-library borrowing among member libraries as well as document delivery services.

(ix) Marketing the services of the centre at domestic and international levels.

(x) Strengthening the collective discussions among the member libraries for purchasing or subscribing the relevant electronic information sources.

(xi) Financing the workshops, conferences and other opportunities for technical promotion.

(xii) Supporting other activities approved by the Board of Trustees.

The Center is managed by a Board of Trustees consisting of Jordanian public University Library Directors, headed by a Vice President of a member university for a term of one year.

Management: The Jordanian Center excellence for Public University Library Services is governed by the laws of higher education in Jordan.

Membership: Each university constitutes an independent member at the Centre and is committed to pay the membership fees as approved by the Board of Trustees. Each University must contribute with its bibliographic records for the purpose of creating and maintaining the union catalog. The member library should also participate in inter-library borrowing program as agreed upon by the Board of Trustees. This participation is a basic condition for membership in the Center. Any
member in the Center is also committed to provide document delivery services to support the inter-library borrowing. A member university shall be committed to contribute to the management of the Center's functions through effective involvement in the Center and work groups formed to maintain the union catalog and inter-library function. Each university shall be committed to the responsibility of copyright protection and fair use of assets according to the local copyright laws in Jordan.

(www.jopuls.org.jo)²¹
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