





## Satellite Meeting "Conservation and preservation of library material in a cultural-heritage oriented context" 31 August - 1 September 2009 Rome, Italy

#### Organized by IFLA Core Activity on Preservation and Conservation and IFLA Preservation and Conservation Section

Thanks to the support of:







The Istituto centrale per il restauro e la conservazione del patrimonio archivistico e librario

Armida Batori Director of ICPAL





**The Central** Institute for the restoration and conservation of archival and library heritage (ICPAL) was born as a result of the merging of...

Istituto centrale per il restauro e la conservazione del patrimonio archivistico e librario





with the Centro di fotoriproduzione, legatoria e restauro degli
Archivi di stato (Centre for photo reproduction,
binding and restoration of State Archives)

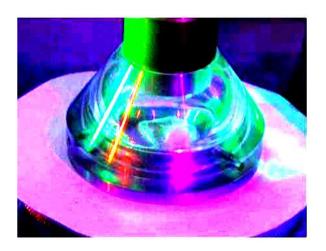
ICPAL is not merely a restoration laboratory but most importantly a research centre. Since its foundation, the Institute has been an organisation that reflects the interdisciplinary approach that inspired its establishment:

the Institute is equipped with research laboratories for chemistry, biology, physics, and materials technology, and it has a specialist library and museum.







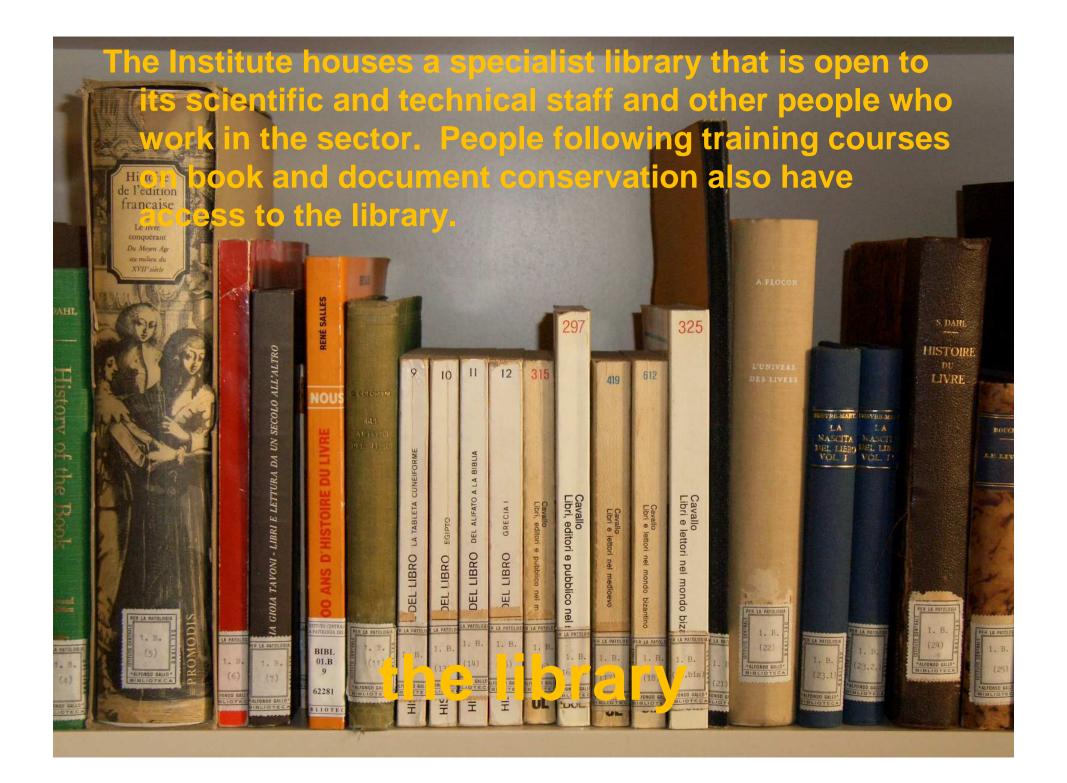


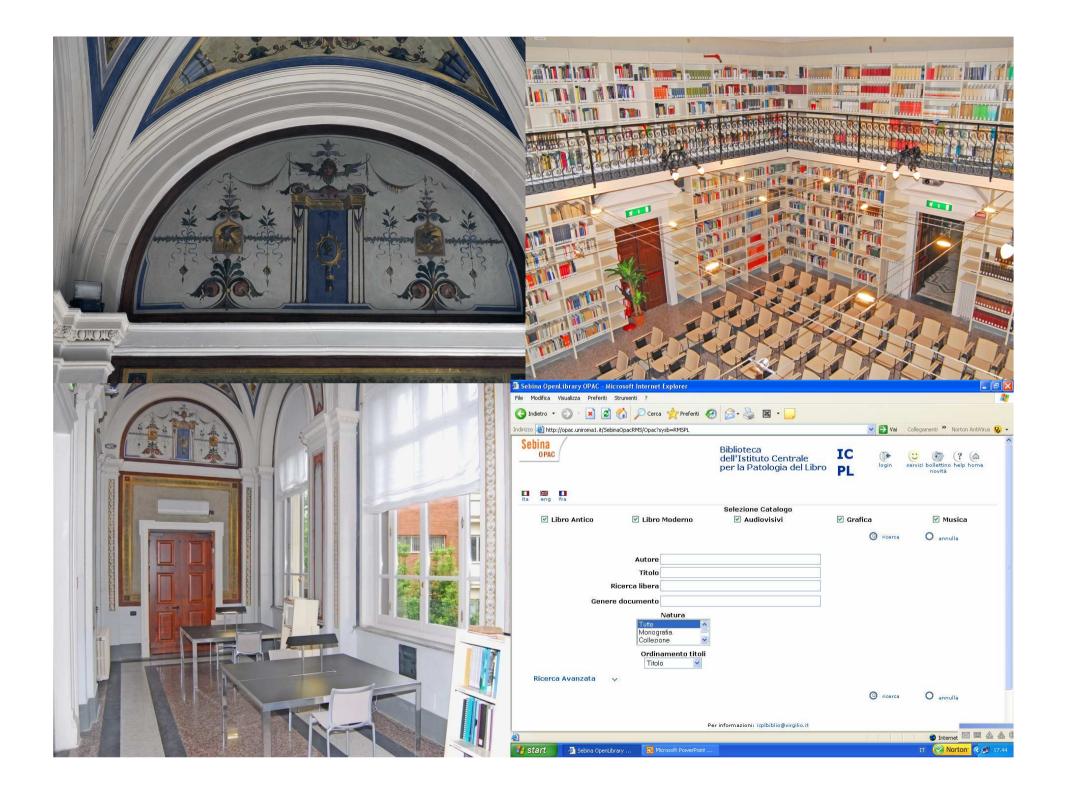
As a result of the new institutional organisation, ICPAL's scientific and restoration laboratories and its services are structured as follows:

- Restoration
- Preventive conservation
- Conservation of digital supports
- Environmental factors
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Physics
- Technology
- Documentation and information
- •Communication and cultural promotion
- Teaching methodology











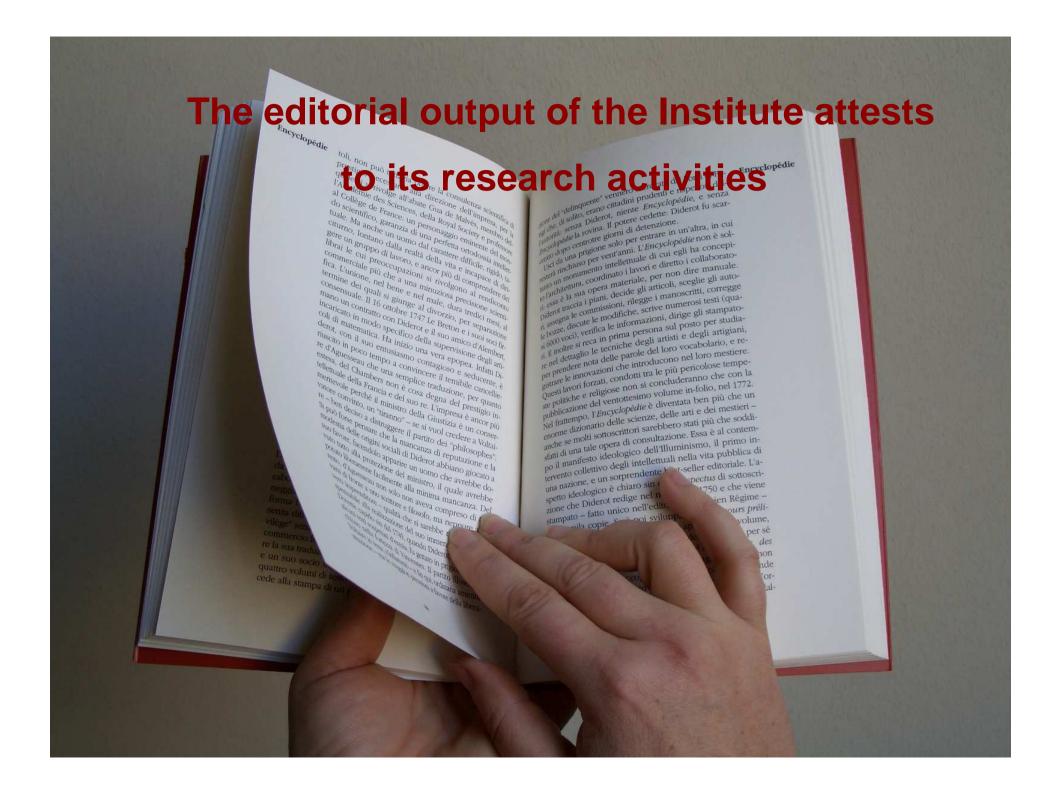


The Scuola di Alta Formazione e Studio (School of advanced training and study) for restorers of archival and library materials is set to be opened shortly at the Institute.

ICPAL and the Faculty of Arts and Philosophy at the Università degli Studi di Roma "Tor Vergata" have set up a master's degree course in "Restoration of library materials (Remlib)" for the academic years 2008-2009 and 2009-2010.









A cura di Rita CARRARINI e Carla CASETTI BRACH Libri & carte. Restauri e analisi diagnostiche Roma, Editore Gangemi, 2006, p. 172



#### A cura di Flavia PINZARI

Scienza & ricerca per i beni culturali. Microscopia elettronica a scansione e microanalisi Roma, Editore Gangemi, 2008, p. 96

Mariasanta MONTANARI, Elena RUSCHIONI, Pasquale TREMATERRA Archivi & biblioteche. Sugli infestanti e le infestazioni Roma, Editore Gangemi, 2008, p. 80





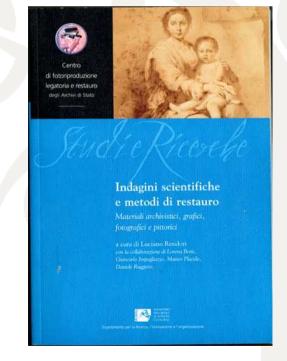


#### A cura di Cecilia Prosperi

Il restauro nei lavori della Commissione istituita nel 1909/10. Materiali per una storia della teoria del restauro documentario Roma, 2006

#### A cura di Luciano Residori

Indagini scientifiche e metodi di restauro, Materiali archivistici, grafici, fotografici e pittorici Roma, 2008











#### PROTEGGI I LIBRI

Strumenti per la conservazione preventiva dei beni librari

## Engagement in international cooperation with consultancy and training





#### **JAPAN**





Istituto centrale per il restauro e la conservazione del patrimonio archivistico e librario

#### Japan







#### **CHINA**



#### **CHINA**



#### **EGYPT**

### Collaboration began in 2006





Seven scholarship holders from the National Library and Archives of Egypt in Cairo took part in a practical and theory-based stage at the Institute

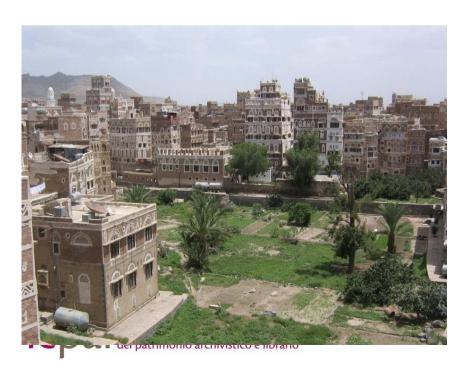
#### **EGYPT**

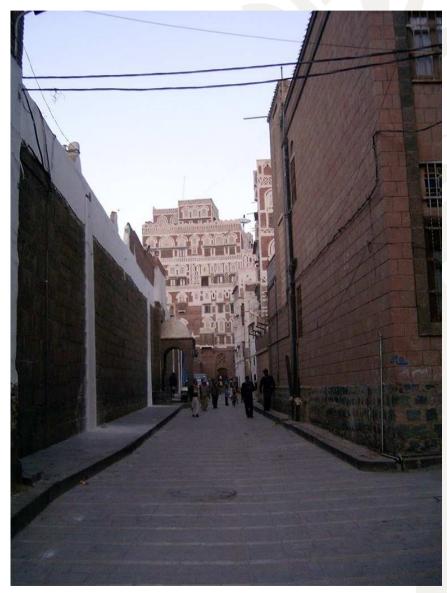






#### **YEMEN**





#### **YEMEN**









Istituto centrale per il restauro e la conservazione del patrimonio archivistico e librario

#### **ARGENTINA**



#### **ARGENTINA**









The history of ICPAL is marked by emergency operations following disasters

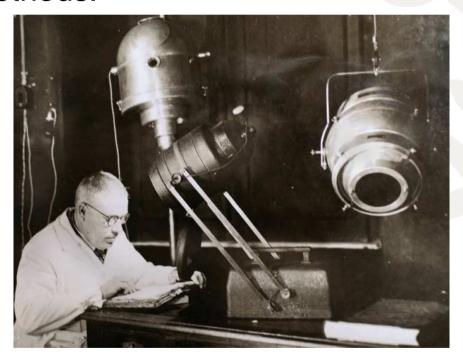








Just as Cardinal Franz Ehrle's conference in St Gallen had done (1898), the experience of salvaging manuscripts in Turin drew attention to the overwhelming need to organise restoration methods.



## ICPAL and the emergencies 1904 fire in Turin

Manuscripts thrown into via Po during the salvage operations

During the night of 25 December 1904, a fire struck the Turin National Library, devastating five of its rooms.

Declared a national library in 1873 at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, it housed 250,000 volumes, 4,200 manuscripts and 1,000 incunabula



- The **fire**, the cause of which is not known, spread rapidly due to the library's wooden structure.
- The fire brigade, who rushed to the scene after a passerby reported seeing the glow of a fire, found the **only access point** was blocked by the fire.
  - When they reached the Manuscript Hall in the early hours of the morning, they discovered that it had been engulfed by the fire and that the roof and the ceiling had collapsed on the shelves and the glass cases where the manuscripts were permanently exhibited.

The fire destroyed half of the Oriental, French and Italian manuscripts and 30,000 volumes, including Piedmontese incunabula and Aldine editions



1939-45 war some 12 million books were destroyed

or severely damaged in Europe during World War II



1939-45 war



MINISTERO DELL'EDVCAZIONE NAZIONALE

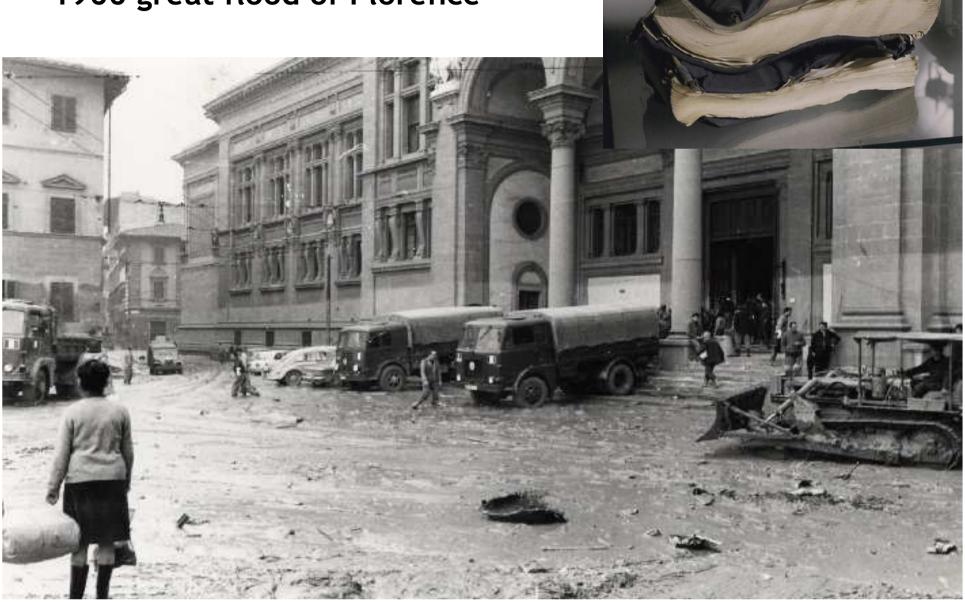
Direzione Generale delle Accademie, delle Biblioteche
de Mari Generali e del Gersonale

alcuni rifugi destinati ografico pregevole si sia riscontrata fe nei libri conservati

> V'incarico quindi di compiere in tal senso ispezione nei detti ricoveri.



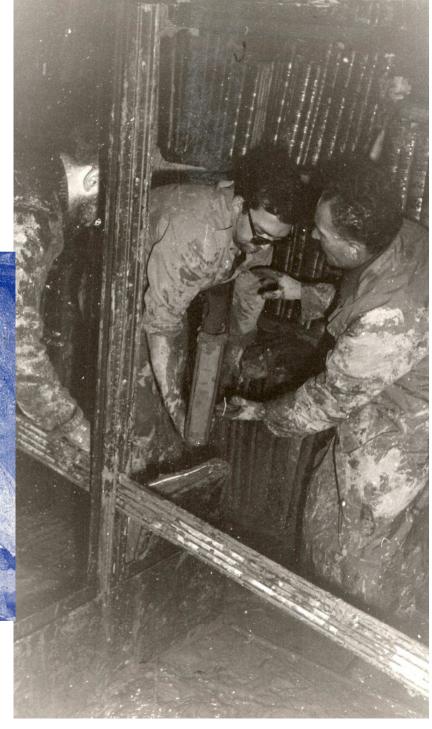
1966 great flood of Florence



## ICPAL and the emergencies 1966 great flood of Florence

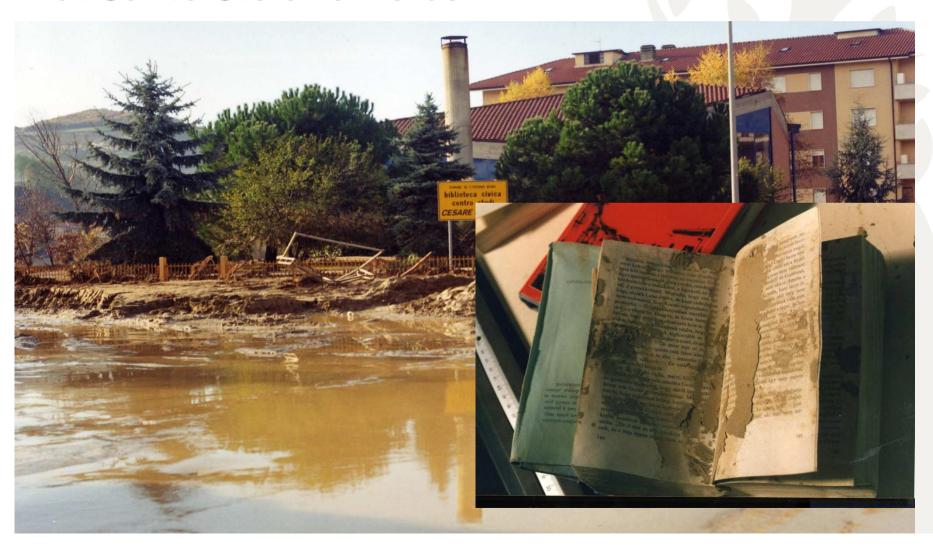
1,200,000 volumes damaged





Istituto centrale per il restauro e la conservazione del patrimonio archivistico e librario

## 1995 the River Tanaro burst its banks at Santo Stefano Belbo



earthquake Messina 1908



## ICPAL and the emergencies 2009 l'Aquila



earthquake the libraries

From an initial inspection it is estimated that some 1,150,000 volumes were destroyed or had to be removed from dangerous buildings. Technical staff from the Ministry of Cultural Heritage and Activities (MiBAC) and the Libraries Office, the Civil defence, volunteers from the Lega Ambiente (the **Environmental League** 

association) carried out

salvage operations.

Istituto centrale per il restauro e la conservazione del patrimonio archivistico e librario



52 volumes from the ancient section of the library of the Santa Chiara convent were frozen and and transported courtesy of Bofrost freezer vehicles to a secure area

## ICPAL and the emergencies 2009 l'Aquila

#### earthquake the archives



The State Archive and its library, together with other public and private archives, were made secure and will shortly be available to the public in a specially built building in the industrial area of Bazzano, 10km from l'Aquila





# MINISTERO PER I BENI E LE ATTIVITÀ CULTURALI MINISTERO PER I BENI E LE ATTIVITÀ RECULTURALI RECUL

#### earthquake

A MiBAC Office was set up, in which the Istituto superiore per la Conservazione e il Restauro, the Istituto centrale per il Restauro e la Conservazione del Patrimonio Archivistico e Librario and the Opificio delle Pietre Dure are taking part.

ICPAL is also committed to collaborating in the rafting of guidelines for salvage operations and the carrying out of training for volunteers.