WikiArabia 2016



a platform for Digital Heritage Preservation





Antwerp, Belgium







Content

- Encyclopeadia
- Transmission of knowledge
- What to collect ? Whose heritage ?
- Preservation & restoration Digitization ?
- ROI vs COI ?
- Wikipedia ?
- Closing remarks



Encyclopaedia



- Koiné Greek
- ἐγκύκλιος παιδεία, trans. "enkyklios paideia",
 - enkyklios (ἐγκύκλιος) :
 - circular, recurrent, regilary repeated of general"
 - paideia (παιδεία):
 - education, the raising of a child
 - Compund and literally translated it means "complete instruction", "learned " of "complete knowledge".



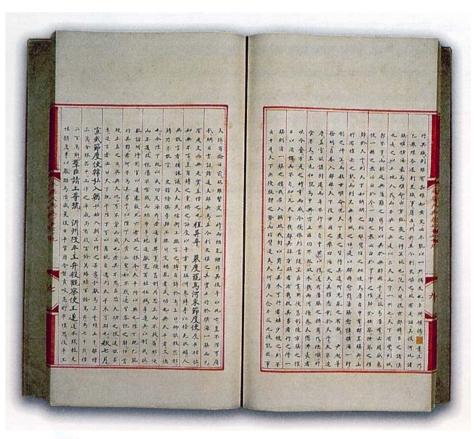
Encyclopedisme



- Since the dawn of time in human history people attempt to
 - Collect knowledge
 - To describe and store knowledge
 - Transmit knowledge
- In a hollistic way



Yongle Da Dian



- During the Ming dynastie (1368–1644 AD)
- Thousands of Chinese scholars completed it in 1408.
- 22,937 manuscript rolls (chapters and index)
- in 11,095 volumes
- Less than 400 volumes remain



Yongle Da Dian



- Chin. : the Great Canon of de Yongle era
- Canon = lit. : Many (allecompassing) Documents
- a LEISHU : an anthology (entire books were copied)
- Intended to include ALL written sources about the Confusian Canon, history, philosophy, arts and sciences
- Largest work until 2007

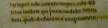


Naturalis Historiae

- By Gaius Plinii (Pliny de elder) 23-79 AD
- from Roman era : of 102 bound Manuscripts only 37 left.
- Erasmus (the Netherlands) edited for printing in 1525, and until 17th century regularly reprinted



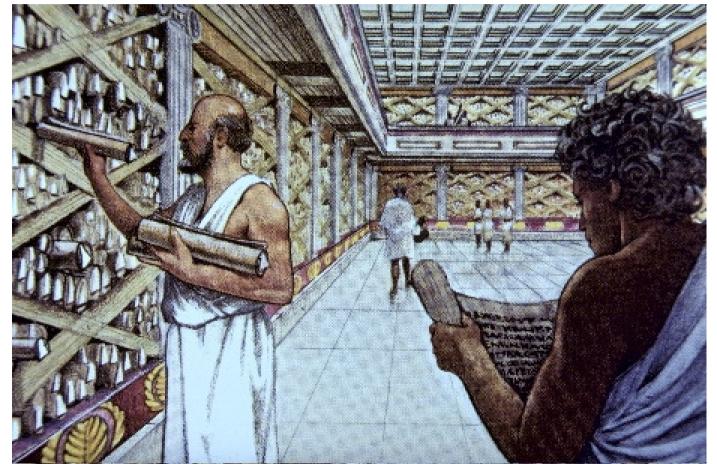
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Ancient libraries







Lost Libraries

Ephesus Celsus Library Façade

Anatolia Turkey





Mawsooa



- 960 CE, Bosra (Syria): Encyclopedia of the Brethren of Sincerity اخوان الصفا ikhwãn al-safã.
 - fifty-two treatises in mathematics, natural sciences, psychology (psychical sciences) and theology.
- (854 925 CE) Baghdad : Abū Bakr Muhammad ibn Zakariyyā al-Rāzī (أمحمّد ابن زكريا الرازي
 - encyclopedia of science : 200 manuscripts,
- (801–873 CE) Baghdad : Abu Yūsuf Yaʻqūb ibn 'Isḥāq aṣ-Ṣabbāḥ al-Kindī (أبو يوسف يعقوب بن إسحاق الصبّاح الكندي, Latin: Alkindus)
 - the Mutazilite al-Kindi's (270 books),
- (980-1037 CE) Abū 'Alī al-Ḥusayn ibn 'Abd Allāh ibn Al-Hasan ibn Ali ibn Sīnā (أبو علي الحسين ابن عبد الله ابن سينا , Latin Avicenna)
- Asharites, al-Tabri, al-Masudi, al-Tabari's, Ibn Rustah, Ali ibn al-Athir,



Al-Andalus

- Almoravid Emirate and Almohad Caliphate in Al Maghrib
- (1126-1198 CE) Abū l-Walīd Muḥammad أبو الوليد محمد ابن احمد) Ibn 'Aḥmad Ibn Rušd ابن رشد Latin Averroes)





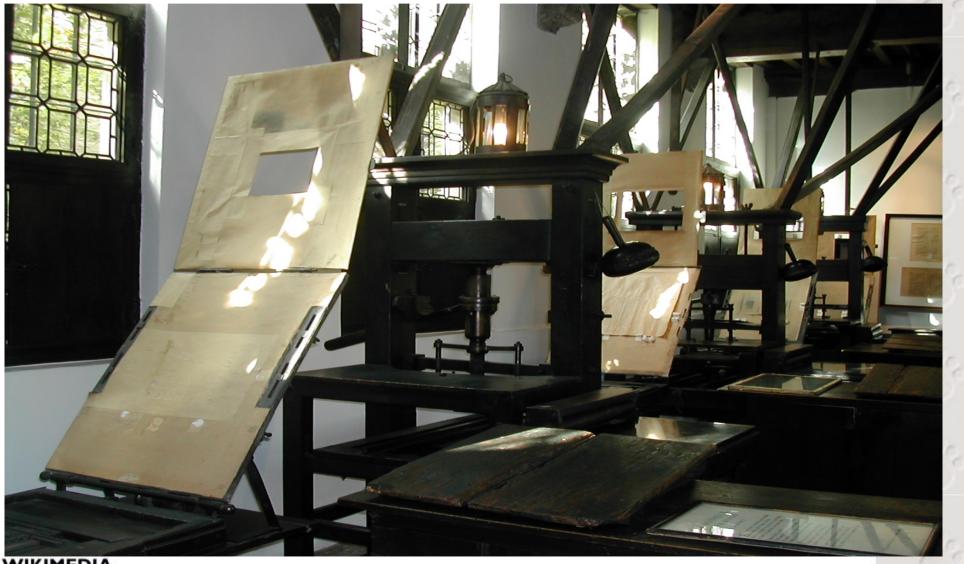
Al Andalus

- 1332 1406 CE) Abū Zayd 'Abd ar-Raḥmān ibn Muḥammad ibn Khaldūn al-Ḥaḍramī (أبو زيد عبد الرحمن بن محمد بن خلدون), Ibn Khaldūn
 - Muqadimmah contains cautions regarding trust in written records that remain wholly applicable today.





Europe : the Second renaissance



BELGIUM

Plantijn Moretus





The advent of printing



Typesetting





Biblia Polyglotta

120 300 # 2120 187

אינאר איניים אלדי שמורת בנייסראל המוש כתריקה את יקב איש וביהו באו: יראיבן שבעון לוי ויהוקדיה: ירספרובולוובניסוי הותאתי נרואשרו יויהיכל נושיצאיירך יעקכ שבעים נפט ויוקף היה בכעריכם: י ויכת יוקל וכל אחיו וכל הדור הרואו יובני יטראל פרוויסרצוירבו ויניסו נפאר סאר והכליה הארץ אחםו

י ויקטעלך תרשעל טצריםאשר לא ירעארת יוסף: יויאסראל עכז הגריז שבו בני ישראל רב ועזם מנטו: י הכה נתחכבה לו פן ירבה והורים כי הקראנה כלחכר זוניסה נכם התאינל סנאינו תלחם כנו הלה כן הארן: י הסימו עליו שר כסים לסעו ענוי בסבלרים חבו שר מסכנוריו לפרעה את שהבם וארת העמסמו י ובאשריים: איז כן ירבדהוכן יפרן וילעו כפני בני יסראל:

י ויעכרי טורים את כני ישראל בארך : יוימרדו את הייהם בעברה קשרה בחבר וכלכניכם וככל עברה בשרה ארת כל עברהב אשר שבוו נהבם יבארף: יויאפריטלן מעדים למילורה הענרורה אשר שם הארת שפרה רשם השנית פתריה ו

י י ויאטר בילרכן את העבריות וראיהן על האבנים אם כן היא והכתן את ואם בת האוהרה: י ותיראן הטילרת את האלחים ולא עשו כאשר

רבר אליהן כלך כערים והריין את הילרים: י ויקרא כלך כיגרים לכילהרת ויאכר להן כוהן

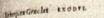
עשיהו הרבר הורהוההיין ארז הלריםו י ותאמרן הכילהרה אל פרעה כי לא מסים המצרירה העבריה כי היורה הנה כמרם הבוצא אלהן הטילור זוילרו:

IXODYS Tranflat B.Hierony, 78-ras INCIDIT LIBER HELLE LHOTH, QVEN NOT STORL DICINYS CAR I

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הרגים אינקלים

טמאמי שרשר בי לטוריט שמקר ונריוולש כיות פליו ' רשת שמעולי והשהו ואלין י שהר הלא לכן שהנו לקול אינואראו (יכן אל אין אינו אור אינו אינוארא להל אינוארא להי אורא אינו אינואר אינואר אי אינו אינואר אינואר (יכן אלא אינוארא אין אינוארא אינוארא אינוארא אינוארא אינוארא אינוארא אינוארא אינוארא אינואר 10**** ייי האורות יום לאינה שיילא כר אא מאלות זהריקה איז הליקה אין הלידו אינה לא עלאלאמו מיקאולה ו 1100.0



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CHALDAICAS PARAFMRASIS TRANSLATIO.

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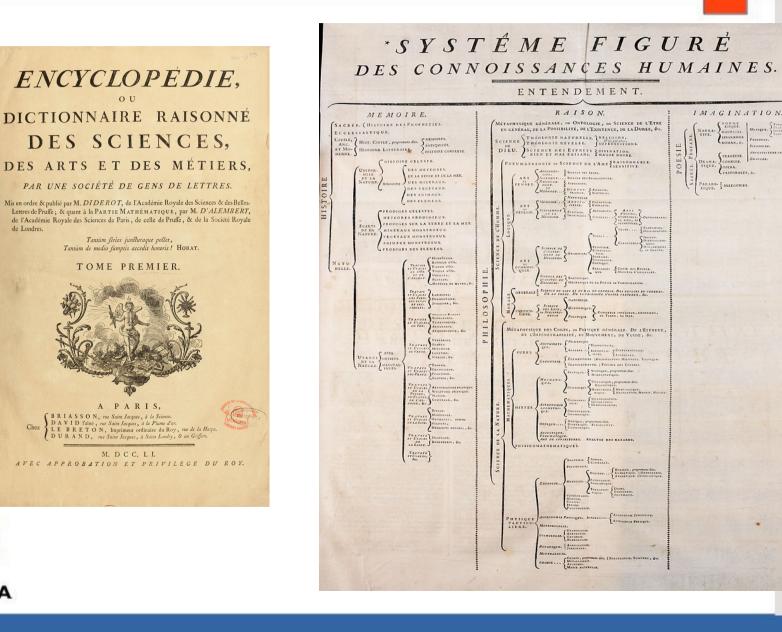


French Encyclopédists

de Londres

Chez

WIKIMEDIA BELGIUM



French Encyclopédie

- "Académies" became responsible for collection of knowledge
- Condemned by Roman Catholic Church
 - On the Index Libror
 - Until 1966...









Encyclopædia Britannica

- published by Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc.,
- 100 full-time editors and more than 4,000 contributors,
- 2010 (15th ed),
 - 32 volumes and 32,640 pages
 - Over 500.000 topics
 - Last printed edition since 1771





Antwerpen central station





Wikipedia by numbers

- Maart 2015 : Wikipedia
 - All languages : 35 million art
 - English : 5 miln
- All Wikiprojects / all languages
 - Wikisource : 20 Miln
 - Wiktionary : 20 Miljn
 - Rest : 1.5 Miln
- Polyglot
 - Commons : 28 Miljoen
 - Wikidata : 18 Miljoen



- Swedish 2.5 miln
- German 1.8 miln
- Dutch 1.8 miln
- French 1.7 mln
- Arabic 393000



Wikipedia 2015

- pageviews
 - 22 bln / month
 - 700 miln / day
 - 30 miljoen / hr
 - 7.700 per sec



Antwerpen Central station





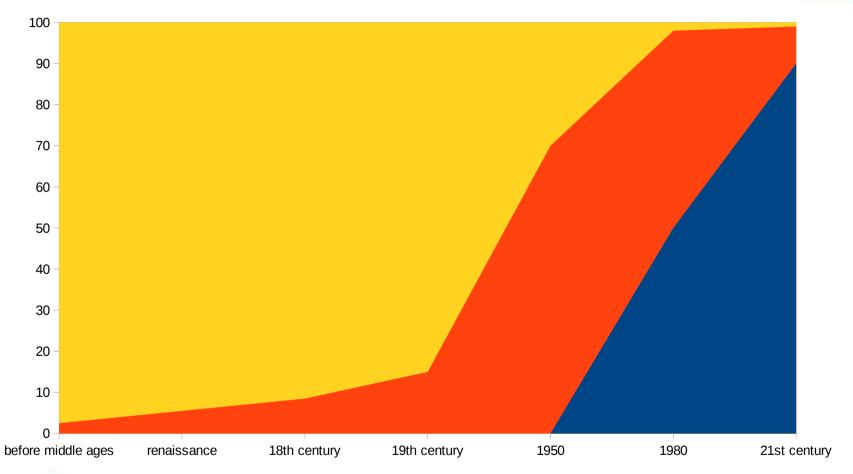


Transmission of knowledge

- Aural transmission
- Handwriting
- Printing
- Audio-recording
- Visual recording
- Digital recording



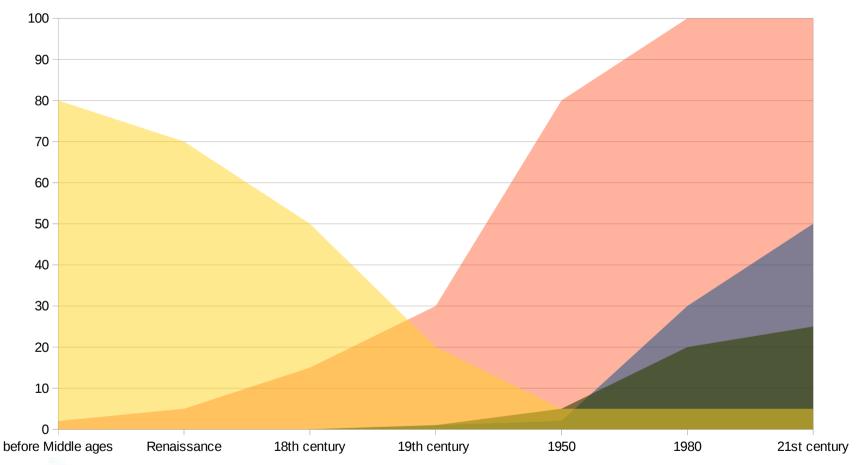
Transmission of knowledge





Electronic Written Aural

Recording of knowledge





Aural
Audio
Visual
Written

Lost knowledge

- Traditions
- Naming : and the origins of names (people, topology)
- Historic events
- The story behind the picture
- Herbal medicine
- Observations of nature (plants, animals)

Just like animals and plants in the biosphere, Knowledge can become extinct in the culturosphere.





Reasons for loss of knowledge

- Aural → written : lack of transcription
- Historic written records
 - Destruction by disaster : fire, flood
 - Destruction by war
 - Destruction by time carrier disintegration
- Audio-visual recordings / Digital
 - Idem



Future losses : carrier obsolesence



















Loss of knowledge

- Carrier obsolesence
- Quantity of material to be preserved
- Capacity to transscribe



Let's take a jump







What to collect – Whose Heritage



BELGIUM

- Curation
- Conservation & preservation
- Prioritising
- Selection
 - Relevance
 - Accuracy
 - Completeness



Political / Moral

- Political
 - Convenience
 - Desirabilty
 - Political/religious integrity
 - Expedience
 - Budgets

- Moral -Ethical
 - Inconventient truth
 - Completeness
 - Historic or scientific exactitude



Raisins au Maroc



Human representation?

- Historic
 - Non-religious
 - Religious
 - Heritage

- Contemporary
 - Art
 - Media
 - Purpose



Let's take another jump







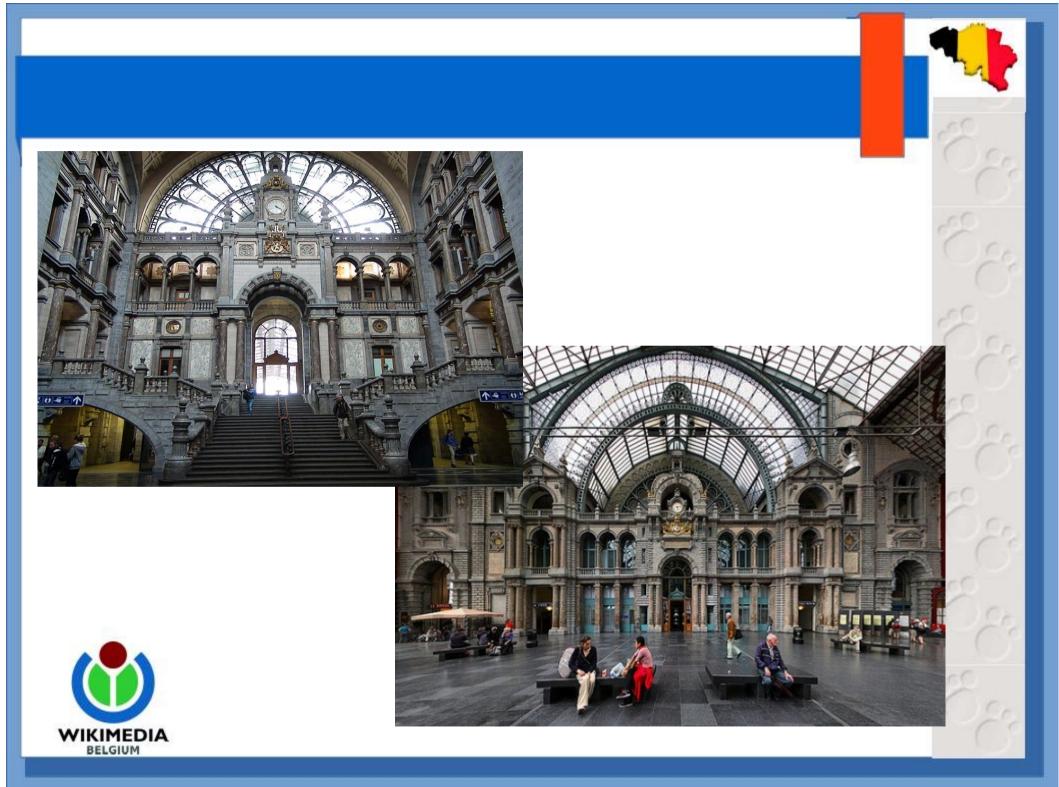
Treasures of the Arabic world

- Architecture
- Statues and Artefacts
- Libraries
- Archives

- Protection against destruction
- Theft
- Preservation against deterioration
- Restoration







Audio-visual recordings

- Audio
 - Records
 - Tapes
 - CD
- Photographs
- Film
- Video



- Restoration of tapes
- Old photographic plates
- Preservation of negatives
- Preservation of prints
- Digitisation

Issues DIGITISATION

- Quantity of material
 - Available resources
 - Human
 - Technical
 - Storage
 - Time to digitize

- Quality of material
 - Recovery (carrier deterioration)
 - Restoration
 - Transformation to digital



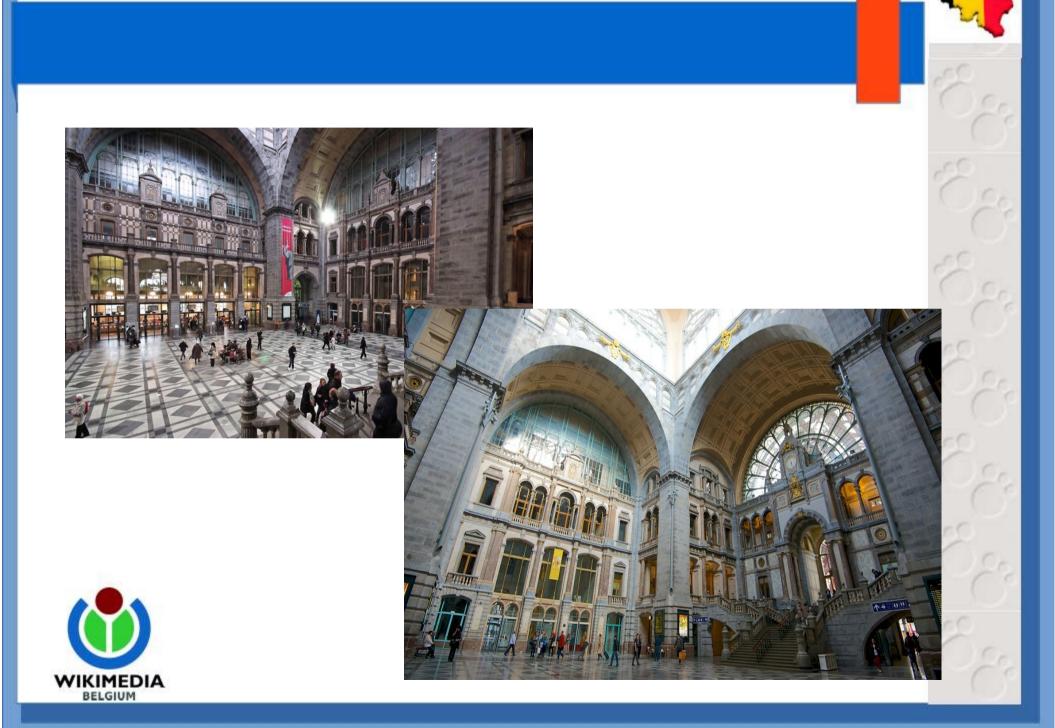
Digital archiving

- Modern Media
- Fast pace carrier obsolence
- Update programs
 - Resources
 - Funding

What about Wikipedia ?







Wikipedia 4 GLAM

- Visibility of collection
 - Images
 - References
 - Articles
 - Visibility of Institution
- Distribution of knowledge
- Preservation of Heritage

- Invite wikipedians
 - Bring derivative material on line
 - Store digitally preserved work
- Wiki becomes repository



Education

- Invite school
 - Educational tour
 - Provide wikiclass

- Invite wikipedians
 - Wikiclass room
 - Illustrate
 - Use available sources/reference material

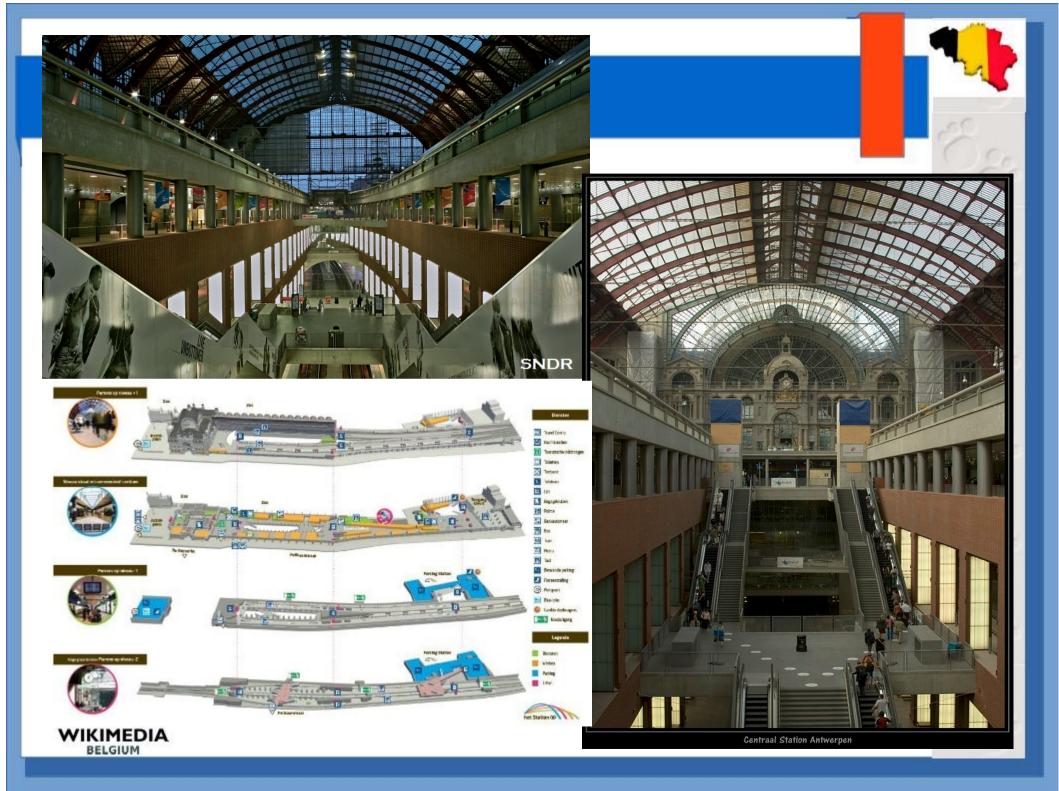


Volunteer network

- Around your collection
- Help with
 - Cataloging
 - Preservation
 - Digitisation
 - Wikification





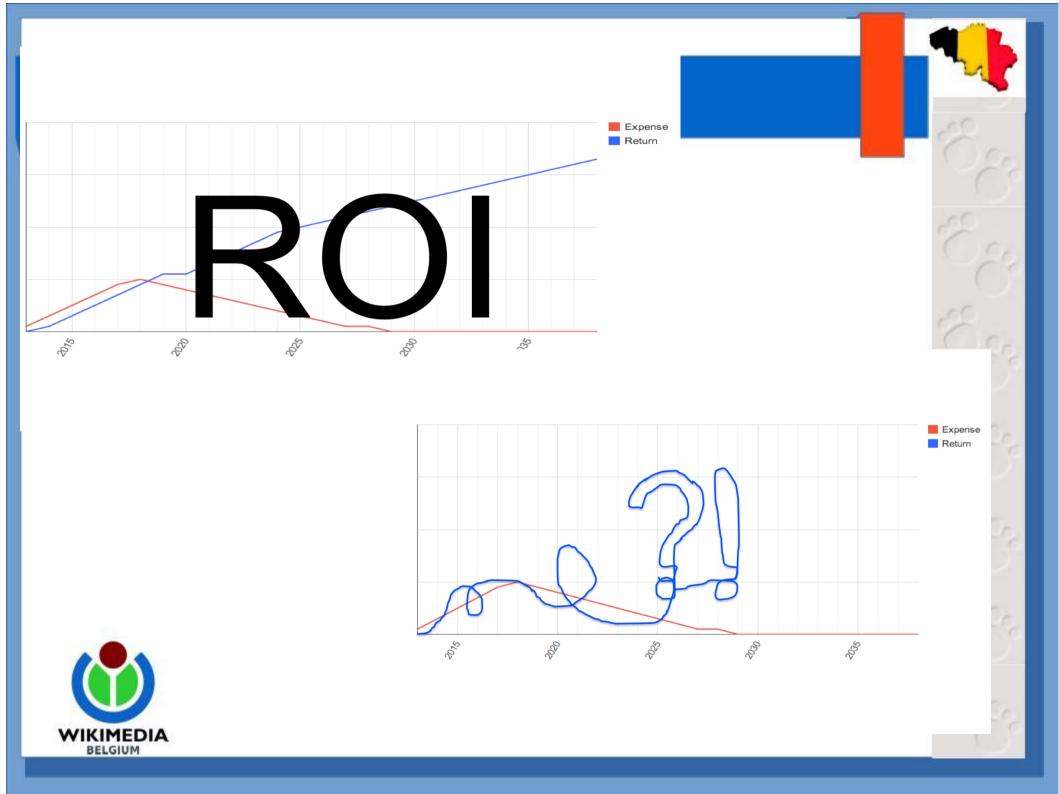


ROI?

- Investment in Heritage Collection, Restoration, Preservation
 - Question of COST
 - Problem of FUNDING
 - ==> Financial planning
- Inevitably
 - Revenue or Reterun on investment







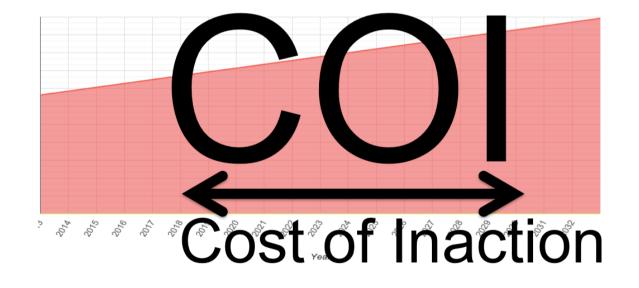
ROI KPI

- Key performance indicators
 - Cataloging
 - Restoration
 - How many items have we lost ?





ROI vs COI







Concluding remarks

- Universal memory?
- Wiki responsibility ?
- Issues in the Wikimovement tba?





Universal memory

- Knowledge that transcends local / regional / national boundaries
- Global/Wider human heritage
- Unrecorded
 - Not written (literature) or otherwise captured
- Undescribed
 - in Artefacts (paintings, statues, architecture)
 - in Audio, Visual, AV-media

but not annotated / commented / described



Not annotated







Wiki responsibility

- Does Wikipedia and the mouvement have a responsibility?
- YES, if we claim to aim for completeness
 Imagine a world in which every human being can freely access the <u>SUM OF ALL KNOWLEDGE</u>
- Doctors (MD) in poorest parts of world consult Wikipedia
 - Duty of Accuracy
 - Wikipedia saves lives ...



Issues in Wikipedia

- Near religious belief in references
 - Scientifically disproven nonsens still represented as fact
- Factual descriptions removed
 - Because of
 - Lack third party references
 - Tyranny of conventional knowledge
 - You can lead a horse to pool, you can't make it drink
 - Traditional / aural knowledge
 - Not described
 - Not documented













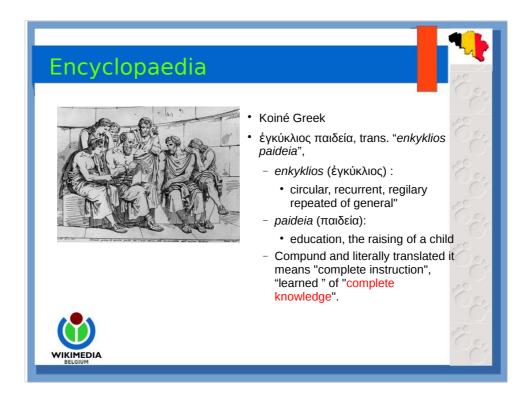
Antwerp Central station front view



I also reflected on how wikipedia should/could work, and why wikipedians should reflect about its proper principles,...

I know that people might expect speaker to contribute something to the general discussion. I will try not to disappoint you,..

So in keeping with my nickname and reputation my presentation will raise more questions then it answers...



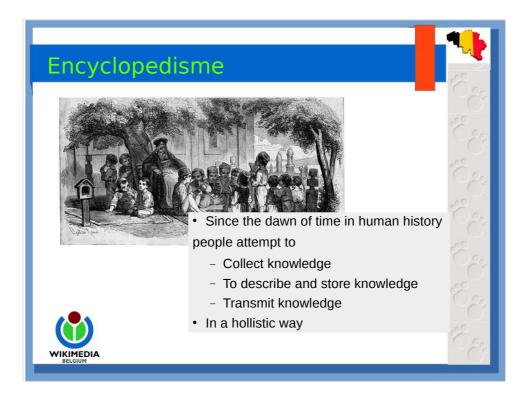
The word encyclopedia comes from the Koine Greek

ἐγκύκλιος παιδεία, transliterated enkyklios & paideia, meaning "general education"

from enkyklios (ἐγκύκλιος), meaning "circular, recurrent, required regularly, general" and paideia (παιδεία), meaning "education, rearing of a child";

it was reduced to a single word due to an error by copyists of Latin manuscripts.

Together, the phrase literally translates as "complete instruction" or "complete knowledge".



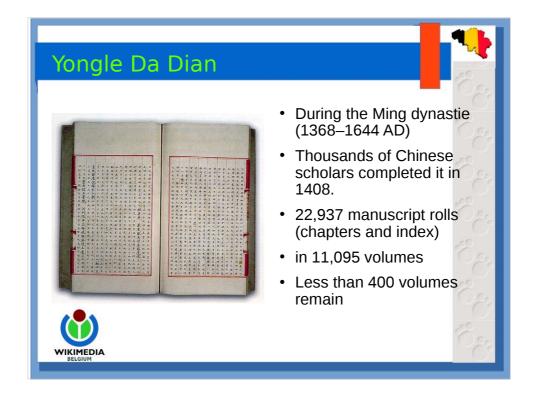
Since the dawn of human exisitance, communication was a key element of genus Homo. Language which existed long before writing, emerged probably simultaneously with sapience (the abibility to abstract thought). In my opinion, the signature event that separated the emergence of palaeohumans from their anthropoid progenitors was not tool-making but a rudimentary oral communication that replaced the hoots, growls and gestures still used by lower primates. The transfer of more complex information, ideas and concepts from one individual to another, or to a group, was the single most advantageous evolutionary adaptation for our species preservation.

As long ago as 25,000-30,000 years ago, humans were painting pictures on cave walls. Whether these pictures were telling a "story" or represented some type of ritual exercise is not the issue

The advent of a writing system, however, seems to coincide with the transition from hunter-gatherer societies to more permanent agrarian encampments when it became necessary to count ones property, or exchange produce like animals or measures of grain. We see the first evidence for this with incised "counting tokens" about 9,000 years ago in the neolithic fertile crescent known. And about 6 millenia ago other things got written down.

Ever since the human species has - in a hollistic way - been attempting to

- Collect knowledge
- Describe and store knowledge
- Transmit knowledge



The biggest and earliest encyclopedia in the world is the Yongle Encyclopedia (Yongle Da Dian in Chinese), complied between 1403 and 1408 in the Ming Dynasty by more than 2,000 scholars. It consists of 22,937 volumes.

Yongle is the reign name of the Ming emperor Yongle (1402-1424). The original edition of this large work was comprised of 917,480 pages -- in 11,095 bound books divided into 22,937 volumes. Produced by a commission of over two thousand scholars in 1408, it purported to record all knowledge of the Confucian canon, Buddhism, history, philosophy, astronomy, geography, medicine, and the arts. Although a printed edition was intended, multiple production of such a massive text proved prohibitive. Instead, one manuscript copy was made in 1567.

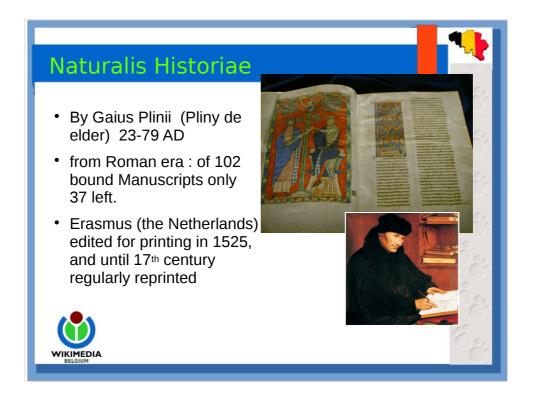
Later, the original book was lost. Some say it was buried with the Ming emperor. Then, during the Boxer Rebellion (the Siege of Peking) in 1900, the Han-Lin Academy, where the copy had been housed since the late Ming Dynasty, was set on fire. The Yongle Encyclopedia -- along with the library -- was almost entirely destroyed. It is estimated that only about 400 books remain in the world, in eight different countries and regions.



The leishu (literally: "classified books") is a genre of reference books historically compiled in China and other countries of the Sinosphere. The term is generally translated as "encyclopedia", although the leishu are quite different from the modern notion of encyclopedia.

The leishu are composed of sometimes lengthy citations from other works, and often contain copies of entire works, not just excerpts. The works are classified by a systematic set of categories, which are further divided into subcategories. Leishu may be considered anthologies, but are encyclopedic in the sense that they may comprise the entire realm of knowledge at the time of compilation.

http://www.chinaculture.org/gb/en_aboutchina/2003-09/24/content_26624.htm https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leishu



Is one of the larges oeuvres handed down form the Roman era From the work that contained 102 books only 37 remain subdivided in 10 volumes by Pliny the elder published by Pliny the younger

He died in 79 AD during his observation of the eruption of the Vesuvius.

He attempted to describe all knowledge. subjects astronomy, mathematica, geography, ethnography, anthropology, (human) fysiology, zoology, botanica, agriculture, horticulture, pharmacology, mine-engineering, mineralogy, arts like sculpture, painting and gems.

Became a model for later encyclopedia becuasew of the diversity of subjects, the referencing of original authors and its index in his foreoword the author claims having collected 20,000 factual statements form 2000 books more then 146 roman and 327 old-greek sources

His work was a manuscript (a handwritten copy) which was copied manually Already in 1350 Francesco Petrarca complained about the many copy-errors, omissions and mistakes in the manuscripts

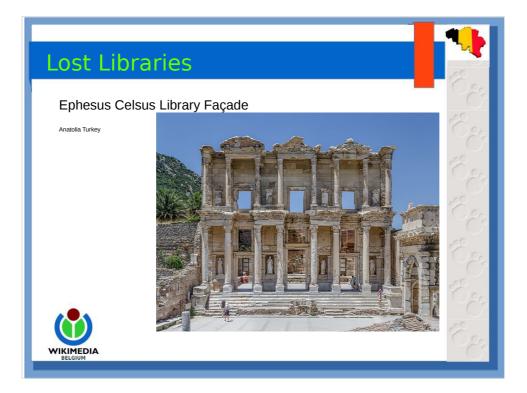
In 1525 Erasmus editied a copy for printing

Early prints by Johann and Wendelin of Speyer in Venetie in 1469, In 1601 Philemon Holland made an n English translation

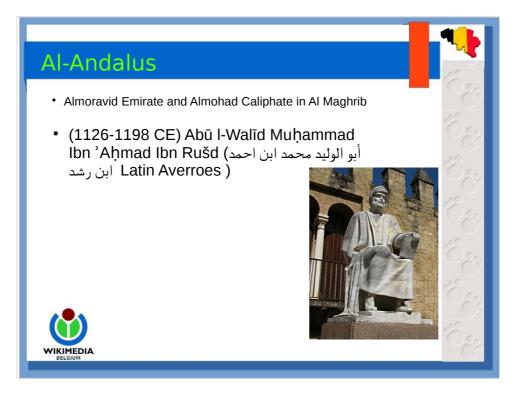
- John Bostock & H. T. Riley made a complete translation in 1855
 - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Natural_History_%28Pliny%29
 - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pliny_the_Elder
 - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Desiderius_Erasmus



- The Academy of Gundishapur Iran,
 - established during the Persian Sassanid Empire in the 3rd through 6th centuries BC.
- The Royal Library of Alexandria, Egypt,fl. 3rd century BC (c. 295 BC).
 - Founded by Ptolemy, this library was said to have amassed an estimated 400,000 manuscripts
- The Imperial Library of Constantinople, (330 CE)
 - several documents from the Library of Alexandria were spared incineration and secured at this library.
- The Library of Ashurbanipal (est 668–627 BC),
 - in Nineveh (near modern Mosul, Iraq) long considered to be the first systematically collected library, was rediscovered in the 19th century
- The House of Wisdom (Baghdad) (9th-13th centuries)
 - an Abbasid-era library and Arabic translation institute in Baghdad,
- Library of Antioch (Syria) destroyed 4th century CE
- Sufiya Mosque Library, Grand Umayyad Mosque (Aleppo) (12th Century)
 - more than 10,000 volumes were housed in this library which were entrusted to the mosque by Prince Sayf al-Dawla









- These scholars had an incalculable influence
 - methods of research and editing,
 - Islamic practice of isnad (chain of transmission)
 - emphasizes fidelity to written record,
 - checking sources,
 - skeptical inquiry.
 - Muhaddith (narrator) & riwayah (aural reporting) in the Islamic tradition require :
 - truthfulness,
 - integrity,
 - a competent and accurate memory,
 - being free of prejudice or compulsion that might be presumed to distort the reporting
 - by preserving Latin and Greek texts which would otherwise have been lost,
- rekindle the search for knowledge and methods of natural philosophy which would blaze again during the Renaissance in western Europe.

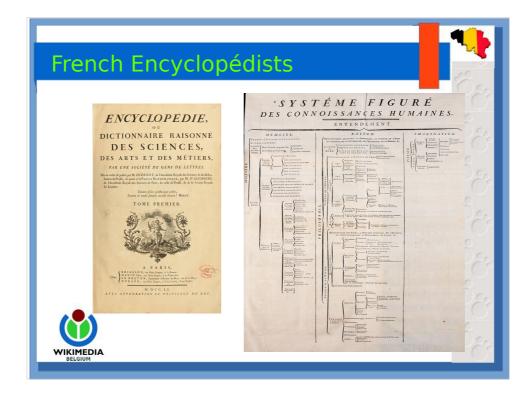


- Johannes Gutenberg, Mainz around 1440 invented printing press . Real Innovation : 16th century Antwerp •
- •
- Christoffel Plantijn, his son-in-law Jan Moretus ٠
- lead typefounding individual characters ٠
- his eight-volume, multi-language Plantin Polyglot Bible with Hebrew, Aramaic, Greek and Syriac texts was one of the most complex productions of the period. •

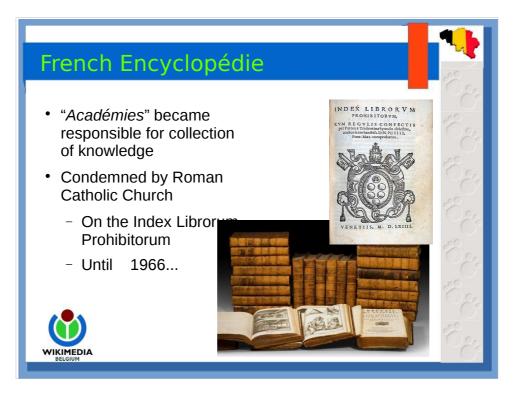




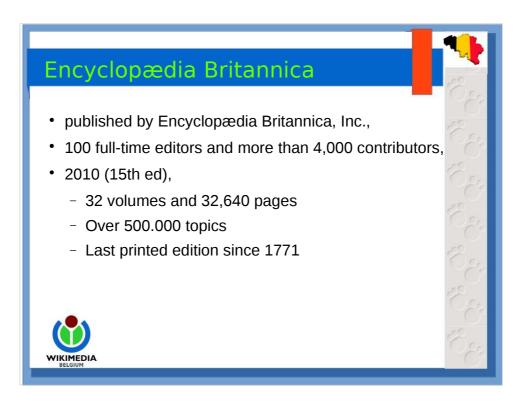




Taxonomy of knowledge

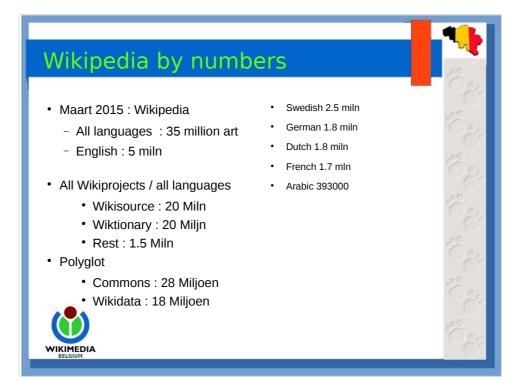


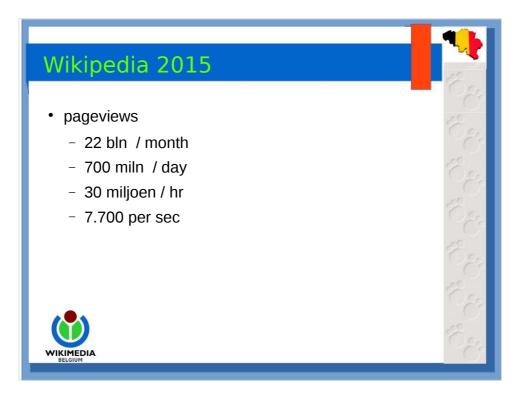
- 17 volumes published 1751-65
- 11 volumes illustrations 1762-72
- 18,000 pages text
- 75,000 item-entires
 - 44,000 main articles
 - 28,000 secondary articles
 - 2,500 illustrations
- 20,000,000 woorden
- Edition: 4,250 sets



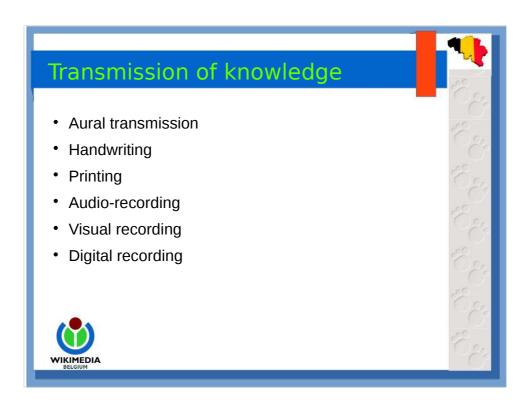
- published by Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc.,
- general knowledge English-language encyclopaedia.
- 100 full-time editors and more than 4,000 contributors,
- who have included 110 Nobel Prize winners and five American presidents.
- The 2010 version of the 15th edition, which spans 32 volumes and 32,640 pages, was the last printed edition;
- Over 500.000 topics
- The Britannica is the oldest English-language encyclopaedia still in production, first published between 1768 and 1771 in Edinburgh, since 1901 in Chicago (Illinois, USA)



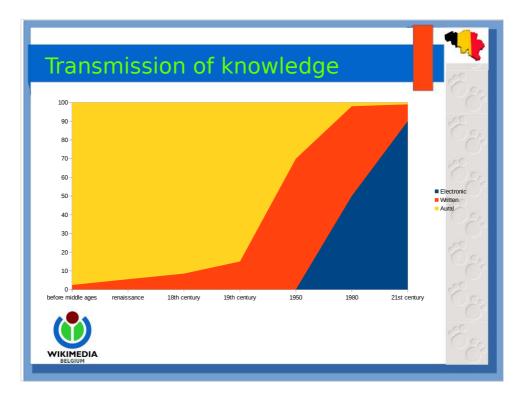


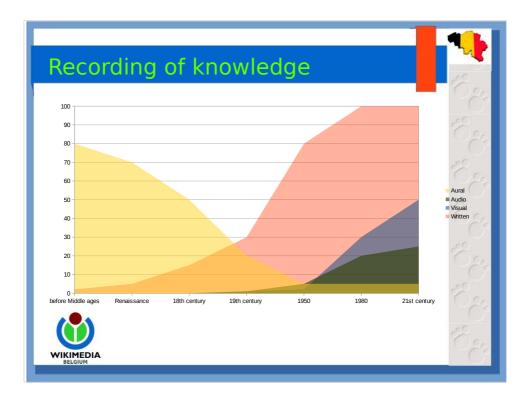


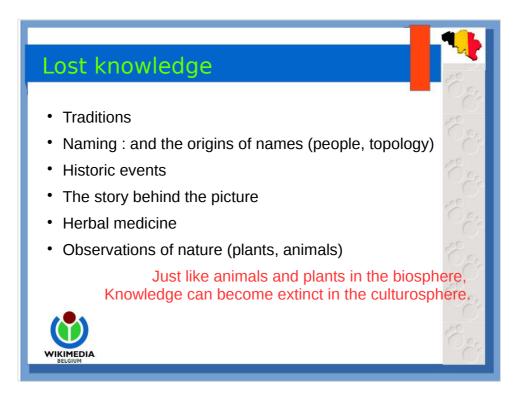




- Aural transmission
 - Classes
 - Apprentices
 - Schools
 - Universities
- Handwriting
 - Claytablets
 - Vellum
 - Papyrus
 - Paper
 - Books were copied one at the time :
 - Errors
 - Unstable orthography
- Printing press
 - like Bible, Atlasses, Naturalis HistOria : books in volume
 - Unique documents written in manuscripts
 - Charters, treaties
 - Registers of Births, Marriages and Deaths, property
 - Contracts, bookeeping ledgers
 - Industrialisation of printing press
 - Pamphlets and newspapers
 - Mechanical writing
 - Typewriters (type set = easy to read)
 - Small copiing devices
- · Audio recording and reproduction (records, tapes)
- Visual recording (pictures, film, video)
- Computerised writing / electronic / digital recording
 - Written material
 - AV

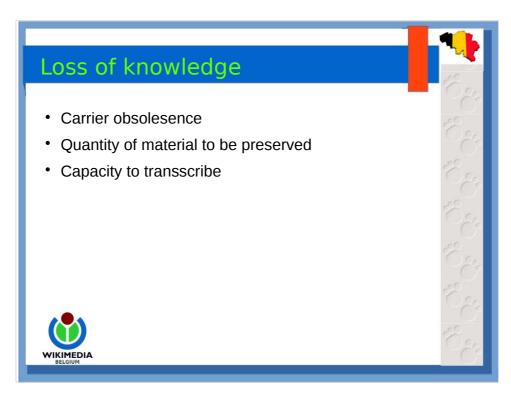
















- Pictures of buildings
- Statues or public art
- Paintings
- Books
- Pictures of the above
- Pictures of people
- Sound and vision fragments
- Architecture
- Art and culture
- Traditions
 - Ceremonies
 - Dances
 - Songs
 - Music

Political / Moral

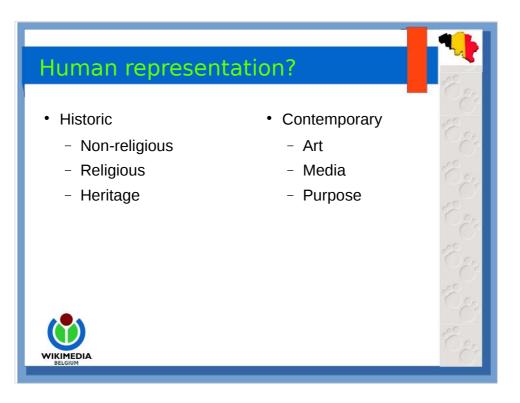
- Political
 - Convenience
 - Desirabilty
 - Political/religious integrity
 - Expedience
 - Budgets

- Moral -Ethical
 - Inconventient truth
 - Completeness
 - Historic or scientific exactitude



- Historic vs contemporary Fermented ٠
 - - Beer •
 - Wine
 - Distilled
- Reasons for consumption •
 - Health? •
 - Leasure? •

Can you ignore that drinking unboiled water can be deadly ?









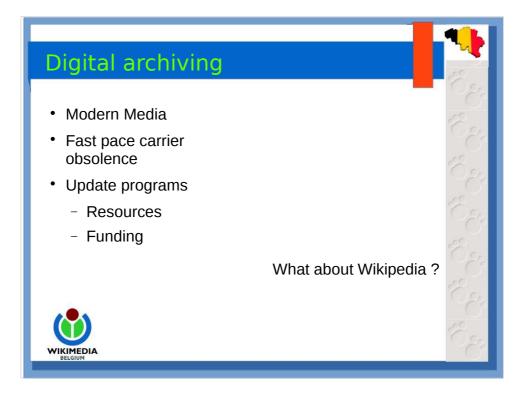
Audio-visual recordings

- Audio
 - Records
 - Tapes
 - CD
- Photographs
- Film
- Video



- Restoration of tapes
- Old photographic plates
- Preservation of negatives
- Preservation of prints
- Digitisation

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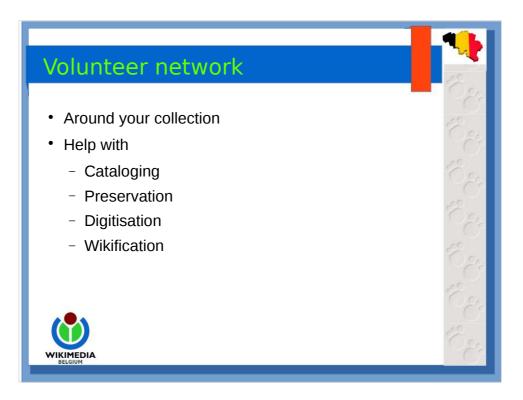


Wikipedia 4 GLAM

- Visibility of collection
 - Images
 - References
 - Articles
 - Visibility of Institution
- Distribution of knowledge
- Preservation of Heritage

- Invite wikipedians
 - Bring derivative material on line
 - Store digitally preserved work
- · Wiki becomes repository

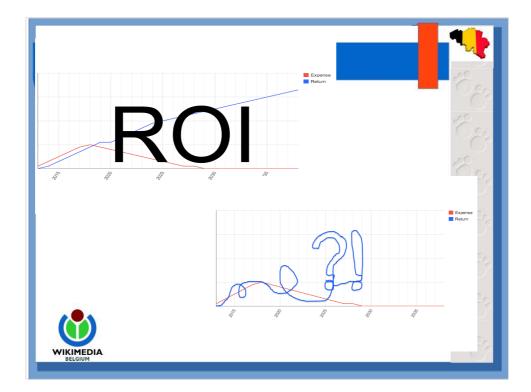
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No matter how strong our conviction , and



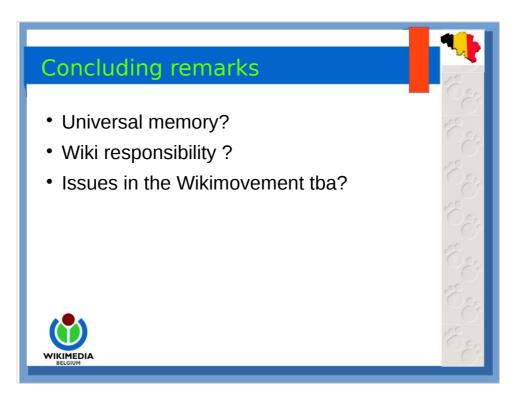


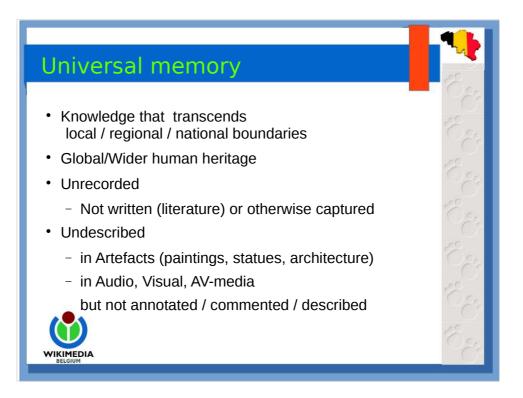


Notice that the line doesn't start at 0 and it doesn't ascend and then descend. The reality is that investment started years ago. Investments incollections don't start today with digitization and they don't go away once digitization is done.

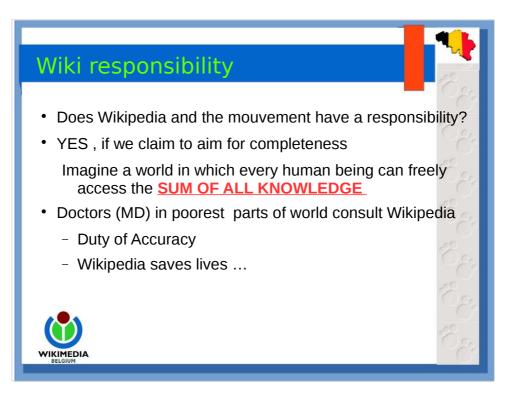
Collections have had investments in staff, facilities, management, administration, moves,..., production or acquisition in some cases, and restoration and preservation.

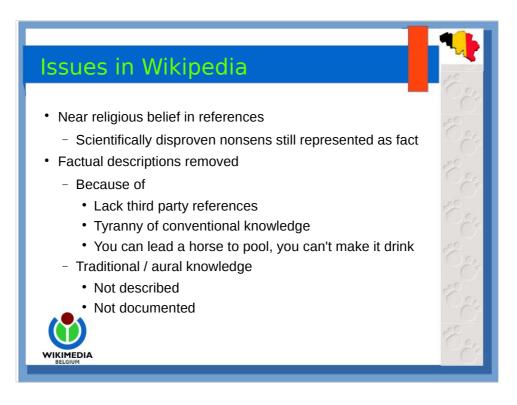
Organizations will continue to manage physical collections for decades to come So it is critical to recognize the investment made to date, and the ongoing investment made for physical collections in addition to the cost of digitization, storage preservation and accessibility

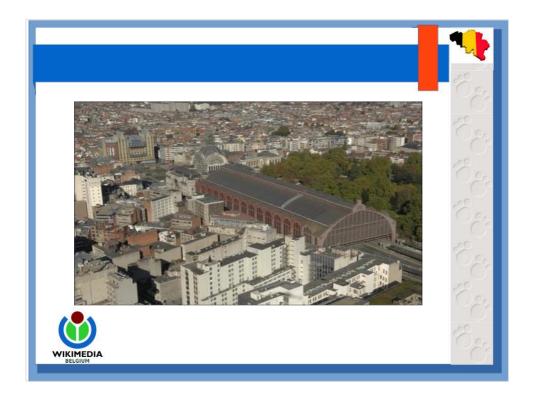












- The Antwerp central station was constructed between 1895 and 1905,
- The stone terminus building, with an impressive dome above the waiting hall (75 meters high!), was designed by Louis Delacenserie, a Belgian architect from Bruges by special request of King Leopold II
- Delacenserie inspired by the station of Luzern (Switzerland) and the Pantheon (Rome, Italy)
- The train shed (185 meters long & 44 meters high) was engineered by Clement van Bogaert and built out of steel and glass.
- At the end of the 80 the station was losing its function because it was s terminal station, major trains would only stop at its Berchem satelite station which was a through station
- The buildling was becoming more and more derelict and much needed repairs were not done
- In 1998 large-scale reconstruction works started in order to convert Antwerp Central from a terminus into a through station.
- A tunnel was excavated under the station, allowing Thalys, the high-speed trains to travel through Antwerp Central
- The project was finished in 2007
- In 2014, the station was even awarded by the British-American magazine Mashable the title of most beautiful railway station in the world.