

Abstract:

Fire is one of the most dangerous agents of deterioration to museums, archives and other cultural heritages, which may rarely occur, but if it is not controlled, it could lead to irreversible consequences. Current study -Fire risk management and control in museums and archives- in reaching its practical objectives in preventive conservation of historical and cultural properties, beside identifying fire causes, growth and spread, and introducing direct and indirect damages caused by this factor, offers a framework to identify, analyze, evaluate and control fire through defined mechanisms in risk and disaster management. The research method, in terms of objective, is practical developmental method, and in terms of descriptive method is survey and case study. In this regard, required information has been provided from literature, as well as visiting museum.

Malik national library and museum of Tehran, is the first non-governmental appropriate museum, in which a great deal of precious works are preserved; and a lot of them are made of organic materials. In order to present fire risk management plan in this museum, according to the theoretical framework and previous studies, fire risks were assessed based on the likelihood and severity, and control recommendations were provided for them. The method used to assess the risks in this study is preliminary hazard analysis or PHA, which is a qualitative method. Assessment result show that the most important reasons that can cause fire in this institute are include: arson, earthquake, war, conflicts, and electrical and gaseous systems and equipment failure. Most of these could eliminate after applying control recommendations, but war, conflicts and arson are the risks that management can have less impact on them; and thus preparedness for disasters caused by these hazards is required.

Keywords: preventive conservation, fire risk management, disaster management, risk assessment, Malik national library and museum