Evaluate existing plans and find out what steps have been taken to prevent future disaster events.

**WHAT DO WE MEAN BY DISASTER MANAGEMENT?**

Disaster management: “a set of written procedures prepared in advance by the staff of a library to deal with an unexpected occurrence that has the potential to cause injury to personal or damage to equipment, collections, and/or facilities sufficient to warrant temporary suspension of services (flood, fire, earthquake, etc.)”  

**MAIN QUESTIONS**

- What is the plan?
- What is it applied when needed during a time of armed conflict? — If not, why was it not applied?

**METHODS**

1. A survey of the existing literature
2. Analysis of two cases in which libraries and archives were threatened by armed conflict or internal turmoil
3. An analysis sent to libraries and archives in the Middle East
4. Evaluate existing plans and find out what steps have been taken to prevent future disaster events.

**TYPES OF INSTITUTION**

- Academic Libraries
- Public Libraries
- Documentation Center
- Educational Leadership
- National Archive
- Academic Medical... Library/National Archive
- Private Academic Libraries
- Public Academic Libraries
- Technical Libraries
- Private

**IN EGYPT**

- King Ramses II (1303 BC - 1213 BC) established a library housing over 20,000 papyrus scrolls
- Bibliothèque d’Egypte (323 - 283 BC) established the Library of Alexandria
- House of Wisdom - established in Medieval Cairo
- Egyptian National Library - established in 1870
- National Public Library - founded in 1920 in Baghdad

**IN IRAQ**

- Assyrian Period Clay Tablet (4000 BC)
- Assyrian Period 20,000 tablets Royal Classification System
- House of Wisdom - established in Medieval Islam
- Dar al-Kutub wa al-Wathqah was founded in 1924

The disasters that have occurred in regards to Libraries and archives have affected our shared knowledge and memory. Libraries and archives in Middle East were established long time ago and the armed conflict creates disasters that threaten the history, culture and identity of not only contemporary Middle Eastern cultures but many nations that have existed or have occupied this region. Damage to archives and Libraries during wartime can have a grave impact on our understanding of human history.

**CONCLUSION**

Based on the data collected from both surveys from Middle Eastern countries and from countries with ancient history, one finds that these countries need to work on preparing disaster management plans in order to save their cultural heritage.