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राष्ट्रीय अभिलेखागार  
NATIONAL ARCHIVES  
OF INDIA

## Lecture Series

125<sup>th</sup> Foundation Year Celebrations

**Smt. Sreya Guha, IAS**

Director General, National Archives of India

Cordially invites you to the eighth lecture in the series

by

**Mr. Bruno Racine**

Chairman and Chief Executive of the Bibliothèque Nationale de France

on

**Digitisation and Cultural Heritage**

**Date: 26 October 2015 at 4.00 PM**

**Venue**

**Conference Room, Ground Floor,  
National Archives of India, Annexe**

RSVP:

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## Abstract

The lecture will give a perspective view of the first four stages of digitisation at the Bibliothèque Nationale de France (BnF), starting with 1989 when the idea of building an on-line digital library emerged. After detailing its progress over the years, it will focus on the developments during the the last 5 years, over which the BnF has been trying to identify more of the relevant corpora and to concentrate on the documents that only it possesses. It will also give detail about a request made in 2008 to the BnF for a digitization plan to cover all French libraries and the subsequent implementation of the BnF's policy nationwide.

Linking the concept of 'national heritage' with the library collections, the lecture will dwell on the sensitive issue of copyright and protected works, underlining the necessity to reduce what has been called the 'black hole of the twentieth century'. It will also discuss the issue of funding for digitisation projects, the comprehensive strategy of the BnF (combination of mass digitisation and more targeted programmes) being made possible by several sources of income: subsidies from the State - private (non-profit) foundations interested in multinational programmes - commercially based public/private partnerships.

The distinguished speaker, who also holds the Chair of Europeana, will focus on the achievements of this foundation (setting of standard formats, consolidation of a considerable mass of content, opening of data, advances in technology) to draw conclusions on what has been/can be done in the field of digitisation and what can be improved.

## Speaker



BRUNO RACINE has been Chairman and Chief Executive of the Bibliothèque Nationale de France, (the French National Library), since March 2007.

Born in Paris in 1951, Bruno Racine studied at the most prestigious French grandes écoles, the Ecole normale supérieure, where he studied Classics, the Institut d'études politiques, and finally the Ecole nationale d'Administration (ENA), which forms France's elite civil servants.

Bruno Racine joined the Cour des Comptes, the French national audit jurisdiction, in 1979, before being appointed to the Cabinet of Jacques Chirac, then Prime Minister, in 1986. From 1988 to 1993, he was Director of Cultural Affairs of the city of Paris. In 1993, he headed the Centre d'Analyse et de Prévision at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, before joining the Cabinet of Alain Juppé, the then Prime Minister, where Mr. Racine was in charge of strategic and cultural issues (1995-1997).

Bruno Racine headed the French Academy at the Villa Médicis in Rome from 1997 to 2002, before being appointed Chairman of the Pompidou Centre (2002-2007).

A distinguished author, Bruno Racine has written many books, among which are: *Adieu à l'Italie* (2012), *Google et le nouveau monde* (2010), *Le Côté d'Odessa* (2007), *Le Tombeau de la Chrétienne* (2002), *L'Art de vivre en Toscane* (2000), and *Le Gouverneur de Morée* (1982).