

# Press Release

## Deutsche Digitale Bibliothek



Berlin/ Constance, 24<sup>th</sup> June 2015

Joint press statement by the Deutsche Digitale Bibliothek and the BAM Consortium

## A boost for digital access to cultural heritage: BAM Consortium for Deutsche Digitale Bibliothek

The consortial partners of **BAM**<sup>1</sup> are recommending the transferral of all BAM data into the Deutsche Digitale Bibliothek and have decided unanimously to close down the BAM portal on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2015 because a permanently operated, nationally based, publicly funded culture portal in the form of the Deutsche Digitale Bibliothek has emerged, fulfilling the central *raison d'être* of the BAM portal.

Prof. Dr. Hermann Parzinger, President of the Prussian Cultural Heritage Foundation and Spokesperson for the Board of the Deutsche Digitale Bibliothek: “We are fully aware that the BAM portal established core values and standards for the development of the Deutsche Digitale Bibliothek, and we would like to welcome all BAM participants! Now we can concentrate our strengths and experience and work together to continue to strengthen the Deutsche Digitale Bibliothek as the national access portal.”

Supported by funds from the German Research Foundation (*DFG*), the BAM portal was financed by a consortium made up of the Library Service Centre Baden-Württemberg (*BSZ*), *digiCULT*-Verbund eG, the Landesarchiv Baden-Württemberg (*LA-BW*), the Prussian Cultural Heritage Foundation (*SPK*) and *TECHNOSEUM* Mannheim (formerly the State Museum of Labour and Technology). Many of BAM's consortial partners are also founding members of the Deutsche Digitale Bibliothek competence network and will be continuing, in partnership with the Deutsche Digitale Bibliothek, their commitment to digitisation and the digital presentation of collections.

The BAM portal was the first culture platform in the German-speaking region to bring together substantial stocks of material from three important areas – libraries, archives and museums – on a single portal. As a depository of almost 70 million data sets from over 50 institutions and groups that went online in 2002, it was a rich trove of literature, archive material and museum objects. As a digital reference platform for geographically dispersed cultural objects the BAM portal had a pioneering role in the cross-sectoral networking of digital data in the field of culture.

Dr. Ralf Goebel (*BSZ*), acting consortial partner of the BAM portal, elaborates: “BAM pointed the way for culture portals in the German-language internet. Its huge success can largely be ascribed to the participating institutions that released their data to the general public. We are delighted that the Deutsche Digitale Bibliothek is taking over the presentation and networking of BAM's digital material.”

---

<sup>1</sup> the joint portal for *Bibliotheken*, *Archive* and *Museen* (libraries, archives and museums)

# Pressemitteilung der Deutschen Digitalen Bibliothek



Funded by central and regional governments, the Deutsche Digitale Bibliothek, as national access platform, is charged with the task of uniting all fields of culture. As well as libraries, archives and museums these include monument-preservation institutions, media centres (film and photography) and other organisations devoted to the various fields of science. It also acts as national aggregator for Europeana, the European digital cultural memory organisation.

All cultural and scientific institutions that make material available to the Deutsche Digitale Bibliothek are supported and assisted by the Service Center and by the domain-specific service desks of the Deutsche Digitale Bibliothek – from their first contact through the process of data clearing to the appearance of their data on the DDB.

## About BAM – libraries, archives, museums

The BAM portal was founded in 2001 and provided information on literature, archive material and items from German libraries, archives and museums. It gave the general public and the scientific and research community unique access to the diverse collections of a wide range of cultural-heritage institutions throughout Germany. With almost 70 million confirmed data sets the BAM portal was an almost endless reference source for people with an interest in a particular area of science or culture. After more than a decade in productive operation the BAM portal is now passing on the baton to the Deutsche Digitale Bibliothek.

### Further information and contact:

Bibliothekszentrum Baden-Württemberg (BSZ)  
Dr. Werner Schweibenz  
Museen, Archive und Repositorien  
78457 Konstanz  
<https://www.bsz-bw.de/kontakt/schweibenz.html>  
<http://www.bam-portal.de>



## The Deutsche Digitale Bibliothek

The Deutsche Digitale Bibliothek links the digital material of cultural and scientific institutions across Germany and makes the data accessible on a central platform. It provides free and unrestricted online access, in digital form, to artworks, books, pieces of music, monuments, films, documents and a mass of other treasures held at German cultural and scientific institutions. The Deutsche Digitale Bibliothek functions as a network, cross-linking and presenting the digital material of its partners and contributing to the democratisation of knowledge and resources.

## Your inclusion on the Press mailing list

To be included on the press mailing list of the Deutsche Digitale Bibliothek, please reply to [presse@deutsche-digitale-bibliothek.de](mailto:presse@deutsche-digitale-bibliothek.de).