

***The Global Digital Theological Library***  
***A Religious Studies Library for the Developing World***  
<http://globaldtl.org/>

**Mission:** The Global Digital Theological Library (GLDTL) makes high quality, digital content in religious studies available to academic institutions in the developing world in an economically feasible manner. The GLDTL accomplishes this mission by licensing with publishers and vendors of behalf of very small institutions and creating one shared and professionally managed, global library for institutions in the developing world.

**Ownership:** The GLDTL is owned by the Digital Theological Library, a non-profit corporation and 501c3 public charity based in California.<sup>1</sup>

***Scope of Collections:***

Ebooks:

- Over 1,00,000 ebooks in total collections
- Over 600,000 ebooks from the last 25 years
- Over 300,000 ebooks from the last 10 years
- Over 100,000 ebooks from the last 5 years

***Criteria for Institutional Membership in the GLDTL as Patrons:*** Participation in the GLDTL will be limited to academic institutions which meet the following criteria:

- (1) The institution must be located within a nation which is designated as “developing” by the United Nations.<sup>2</sup>
- (2) The institution must be located in a nation with a per capita income under \$15,000 annually (as calculated by the [World Bank](#) (or the [US state department](#), if the per capita income is not provided by the World Bank).<sup>3</sup>
- (3) The institution must have religious education as a core part of its mission.
- (4) The institution must be not-for-profit.
- (5) The institution must have fewer than 2,000 students.
- (6) The institution must limit access to the GLDTL to current students and employees.

***Discovery Service & System Security:*** The GLDTL uses OCLC’s WorldShare management system and OCLC’s ez-proxy to deliver its content and to ensure secure authentication. Publishers and patrons use an authentication code for access.

**Pricing for Participation in the GLDTL**

Per Capita Income	Number of Students	Fees
<\$5,000	1-100	\$150
<\$5,000	101-500	\$300
<\$5,000	501-1,000	\$500

<sup>1</sup> The DTL is recognized by US Internal Revenue Service as a “public charity” under IRS regulation 501c3.

<sup>2</sup> See [https://www.un.org/development/desa/dpad/wp-content/uploads/sites/45/WESP2018\\_Annex.pdf](https://www.un.org/development/desa/dpad/wp-content/uploads/sites/45/WESP2018_Annex.pdf) (Table C, page. 142).

<sup>3</sup> <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/NY.GDP.PCAP.CD?locations=ID>

<\$5,000	1,001-2,000	\$800
		<i>*56 countries fall into this category</i>
\$5,000-\$10,000	1-100	\$250
\$5,000-\$10,000	101-500	\$500
\$5,000-\$10,000	501-1,000	\$1,000
\$5,000-\$10,000	1,001-2,000	\$1,500
		<i>*32 countries fall into this category</i>
\$10,001-\$15,000	1-100	\$500
\$10,001-\$15,000	101-500	\$1,000
\$10,001-\$15,000	501-1,000	\$2,000
\$10,001-\$15,000	1,001-2,000	\$3,000
		<i>*27 countries fall into this category</i>

### ***Volume Discounts:***

Because it is time consuming and expensive to invoice schools individually and to transfer funds between countries, the GLDTL offers volume discounts to institutions which join the GLDTL at the same time as a single cohort and pay a ***single invoice from one bank account*** for all of the participating schools in the cohort. Existing members may form a cohort and have their membership fees reduced, but there cannot be more than one existing GLDTL member in a new cohort.

- 3-5 schools 10% discount***
- 6-10 schools 20% discount***
- 11-20 schools 30% discount***
- over 20 schools 40% discount.***

### ***Frequently Asked Questions:***

***What is in the collections?*** Just go to the site and begin searching (there are over 1,000,000 ebooks and hundreds of thousands of articles in the rapidly growing collections.)

***Does this comply with copyright law?*** Yes. Our “vendors of good will” have provided their content at dramatically discounted prices because they believe in the mission of providing all people with access to scholarship.

***If my institution joins, how much library expertise do we need to make this work?*** None. The librarians at the DTL manage everything. Users simply visit the website.

***Can individuals in the US or other developed nations join?*** No. Membership is limited to developing nations. However, individuals (or organizations) in the US and other developed nations can sponsor institutions in the developing world.

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