International Cataloguing

Contents

IFLA activities

48th IFLA General Conference, 22-28 August 1982, Montréal

The IFLA General Conference was last held on the North American
continent in 1974 in Washington, and IFLA last met in Canada in
1967 when the venue was Toronto. For many participants Canada
will be a new experience, one which promises to be rewarding both
culturally and professionally. IFLA is holding its annual conference
in Montréal at the invitation of ASTED (Association pour l'avance-
ment des sciences et techniques de la documentation), an association
of information specialists and documentalists. The theme is "Net-
works", and the two plenary sessions will explore their implications
in the field of information.

The IFLA International Office for UBC has received notice of the
following meetings:

Section on Classification and Subject Cataloguing
    24 August 1100-1230 Report on the adaptation of Library of
    Congress subject headings into French by Michel Fournier, Head
    of division of documentary analysis, Université Laval, Quebec;
    Problems of adopting the University of Laval subject headings in
    French libraries by Suzanne Jouguelet, Conservateur, Biblio-
    thèque nationale, Paris
    25 August 1600-1730 New developments in UDC and FID by
    Morten Laursen Vig, Head, Roskilde University Library,
    Denmark and Vice-Chairman of FID Central Classification
    Committee; International aspects of DDC. A panel of speakers
    chaired by John Humphrey, Executive Director of Forest Press

Section on Serial Publications
    25 August 1100-1230 The role of the subscription agent vis-à-vis
    publisher and librarian by J. B. Merriman, Director, Blackwell's
    Periodicals Division, Oxford; 1400-1530 Serial networks with
    particular reference to CONSER by Barrie Burns, Acting
    Director, Cataloguing Branch, National Library of Canada;
    Reports on ISDS and NOSP: Speakers to be arranged

Section on Information Technology
    24 August 1100-1230 Introduction to open and closed networking
    concepts by Robert Bennett, Director, Network Development

Directorate, National Telecommunications Branch,
Communications Canada; Pilot implementation of an open
library network concept for Canada by Cynthia Durance,
Director, Office for Network Development, National Library of
Canada; The Dutch PICA library automation network by Look
Costers, PICA-Bureau, The Netherlands
25 August 1100-1230 Problems involved in interlinking online
interactive library networks by Frederick G. Kilgour, Vice
Chairman, Board of Trustees, OCLC Inc. Dublin, Ohio; Paper
by Karl Neubauer, Staatsbibliothek Preussischer Kulturbesitz

Division of Management and Technology
    23 August 1030-1200 Implications of transborder data flow to
    library networks by Hugh P. Donaghue, Vice President, Control
    Data Corporation, Arlington, Va.; Findings of the IFLA inter-
    national study on the copyright of bibliographic records in
    machine-readable form by Dennis McDonald, Vice President,
    King Research Inc., Rockville, Maryland

Section on Bibliography
    24 August 0900-1030 Report from the Working Group on a
    bibliography of IFLA publications; Reports from the Working
    Groups on restrospective bibliographies; Reports on the
    Canadian retrospective bibliographies
    25 August 0900-1030 The automated national bibliography of the
    Federal Republic of Germany by Kurt Nowak, Deputy Director,
    Deutsche Bibliothek, Frankfurt am Main; The automated
    national bibliography of Romania by Angela Popescu-Bradiceni,
    Director, Biblioteca Centrală de Stat, Bucuresti

Section on Cataloguing
    24 August 1400-1530 and 1600-1730 The speakers at both of the
    sessions will give papers examining the use of numbering systems
    for bibliographic control; ISBNs: their development and potential
    by Karl Neubauer; ISSNs: their development and potential by
    Marie Rosenbaum; Numbering and coding systems for bibliographic
    control in use in the United States by Lois Chan

The Conference Organizing Committee is arranging for the pre-

human resources necessary for the National System... .

12) To establish a National System of Public Libraries, through formal agreements with institutions of the public and private sectors.

13) To give technical assistance to the Ministry of Education in the creation of a System of Library Services in educational establishments.

14) To collaborate with the university libraries in the creation and implementation of mechanisms of standardization and coordination.

15) To evaluate periodically the quality of services in the National System of Library Services operating in the country, correcting their deficiencies and contributing to their modernization."[3]

The major changes which have occurred from 1974 to the present are:

— The automation of technical services and the development of a data base which increasingly serves national information needs.
— The automation of the National Bibliography in preparation for a cumulative edition.
— The centralization of acquisition and cataloguing for the National Library and the public libraries.
— The translation and adoption of international bibliographic standards, (for example, ISBDs; Anglo-American cataloguing rules 2nd ed. (AACR2); MARCAL).
— The training of professional librarians of many institutions in the use of international standards and automated systems.
— The formation of a National System of Public Libraries in collaboration with the state governments which share costs of personnel and materials.
— Consultancy in and coordination of standards for special libraries of the country.
— Inclusion, for the first time, of a section on Library and Information Services in the sixth five-year National Plan.
— The establishment of a National Centre for the Preservation and Care of Documents.
— The reorganization of international exchange programmes, including formal agreements to exchange materials and technical assistance with other countries.

In conclusion, it can be said that the National Library is now performing the traditional functions of institutions of its kind, in addition to several innovative programmes related especially to serving the information needs of the nation's population at all levels. There are several projects under way to develop special services for different particular needs of the government, and other groups, such as a documentation service for the Venezuelan Congress, special collections for the handicapped, and audio-visual centres in the Public Library System.

Finally, the National Executive has begun the construction of a building adequate to house the programme initiated, and to permit development of a collection of five million volumes.

This building should be finished for the two hundredth anniversary of the birth of Venezuela's greatest son, Simón Bolívar, which occurs on 24 July 1983. This will be another outstanding date in the history of libraries and librarianship in Venezuela.

References

1 Venezuela. Ley del Instituto Autónomo Biblioteca Nacional y de Servicios de Bibliotecas. Caracas : Biblioteca Nacional, 1977. p.7

2 Ibid., p.2

3 Ibid., p.16

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Cárdenas Ramírez, Julio. "Biblioteca Nacional." *In: Diccionario Bibliográfico de Venezuela*, 1953

Ramírez, Libia de y Padilla, Carmen Julia de *Historia de la Biblioteca Nacional Desde su Origen Hasta 1899*. Caracas : Universidad Central de Venezuela, 1951

Ramírez, Libia de y Padilla, Carmen Julia de *Historia de la Biblioteca Nacional Desde 1900 a 1939*. Caracas : Universidad Central de Venezuela, 1951

Venezuela. Decreto Nº 559 del 19 de Noviembre de 1974 por el cual se crea la Comisión Nacional para el Establecimiento del Sistema Nacional de Información. Caracas : Gaceta Oficial, 1974

Venezuela. Decreto Nº 1283 del 25 de Noviembre de 1975 que crea la Fundación para el Rescate del Acervo Documental Venezolano. Caracas : Gaceta Oficial, 1975

Venezuela. Decreto Nº 1759 del 7 de Septiembre de 1976 por el cual se crea la Comisión Nacional para la Organización del Sistema Nacional de Servicios de Bibliotecas e Información Humanística, Científica y Tecnológica. Caracas : Gaceta Oficial, 1976

Venezuela. Decreto Nº 2531 del 3 de Enero de 1978, que es una ampliación del Decreto Nº 1759, que crea la Comisión Coordinadora del Sistema Nacional de Servicios de Bibliotecas e Información Humanística, de Información Científica y tecnológica, de Archivos y de Estadísticas e Informática. Caracas : Gaceta Oficial, 1978

Venezuela. Decreto Nº 2178 del 27 de Junio de 1978, el cual dispone que cada Ministerio cuente con una Biblioteca Central, adscrita a la Dirección General. Caracas : Gaceta Oficial, 1978

Venezuela. Decreto Nº 2719 del 27 de Junio de 1978, el cual crea el Archivo Audio-Visual de Venezuela. Caracas : Gaceta Oficial, 1978

Venezuela. Decreto Nº188 del 27 de Junio de 1979, que crea el Sistema Nacional de Servicios de Bibliotecas Escolares. Caracas : Gaceta Oficial, 1979

Recommendations for Somali entries in library cataloguing systems

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Since the introduction of a national orthography in 1972 books and articles by Somali authors have been finding their way on an increasing scale into library catalogues in universities and centres of learning outside Somalia. Somali author entries are likely to present some difficulty for cataloguers and library users not acquainted with the Somali cultural background, and these brief notes are offered in the hope that they will be of some use to them.

Somali naming system

As in many other Muslim countries, surnames are not normally used in Somalia. Instead, a person is identified by a sequence of names which begins with the given name, followed by the name of his or her father and sometimes also by the name of his or her grandfather. This reminiscent of the system used in Arabic, except that the words corresponding to 'son' or 'daughter' are omitted. This omission is possible since in Somali the accentual patterns indicate the nature of the relationship between the components of the sequence. The Somali orthography does not represent these accentual patterns, since they are implied in the word order used. The only possibility of confusion could occur when a person uses a nickname in addition to his other name or names; this again is marked by specific accentual patterns which the orthography represents by placing all nicknames between inverted commas or in parentheses.

In view of this, the order of Somali names should not be inverted according to the convention used in Europe or America: thus while names like Mario Martino Moreno would be normally presented in a catalogue as MORENO, MARIO MARTINO, Jaamac Cumar Ciise or Axmed F. Cali 'Idaajaa' should be entered in the order of the names. If it is difficult to change the entries in existing catalogues, entries in the order appropriate for Somali should be added and cross-referenced with the old ones.

Divergences in the spelling of names

Before the introduction of the national orthography in 1972 Somali names were usually spelt according to the convention used in Italian or English. Thus the same name could have more than one graphic form, e.g. Giama/Jama, Shire/Scire. The new orthography departs from these conventions so far that sometimes identification of the name of the same author is difficult, e.g. Hassan Ali becomes Xasan Cali. If one wishes to relate the pre-orthographic names variants to the orthographic ones the following characteristics of the Somali orthography should be borne in mind:

a) The pronunciation values of vowel letters correspond roughly to those used in Italian; the doubling of vowel letters represents length.

b) The letter C represents a voiced pharyngeal fricative, corresponding roughly to the Arabic 'ain'. In Italian or English conventions this sound is usually ignored, hence Ali, Said or Omar instead of the orthographic forms Cali, Saciid, Cumar.

c) The letter X represents a voiceless pharyngeal fricative, corresponding roughly to the initial sound in the Arabic word 'hamd' (praise). In the Italian and English conventions this is usually represented by the letter H, hence Hussein or Hussen, Mohamed, Mahmud instead of the orthographic forms Xuseen, Maxamed, Maxamuud.

In catalogues Somali names referring to the same author should be cross-referenced and the orthographic form should be regarded as the basis. To do this kind of cross-referencing one has to seek guidance from a person who knows Somali, but nowadays this is not very difficult since Somali students can be found in many universities which have African studies programmes. Appeal should be made to all bibliographers that if possible they should cross-reference divergent name forms referring to the same author.

Honorofic titles

Some Somali authors use honorific titles, and these are:

Aw — a learned man of religion

Sayid — master, lord: a title of high honour usually reserved for the descendants of the Prophet

Shariif — title given to a descendant of the Prophet

Sheekh — a learned man of religion of high rank: this is often abbreviated to Sh.

Xaaji — a person who has performed a pilgrimage to Mecca.

When these titles precede the given name (i.e. first name) on title-pages they should be placed at the end of the whole sequence of names described above in catalogues and bibliographies; they could be graphically marked as honorific titles by being placed between square brackets or oblique strokes. However, the titles often appear as second or third items in the sequence of names, that is, they are attached to the name of the father or grandfather of the author, and in these cases they should be left intact as on the title-page. For example, Sheekh Maxamed Nuur would be entered as MAXAMED NUUR /SHEEKH/, and Cabdi Sheekh Cabdi as CABDI SHEEKH CABDI.