

ABD (Asian/Pacific Book Development) is published quarterly by the Asia/Pacific Cultural Centre for UNESCO (ACCU), Tokyo, with the cooperation of UNESCO and UNESCO Member States in Asia and the Pacific. ABD serves as a newsletter for UNESCO's networking programme, Asia-Pacific Cooperative Programme in Reading Promotion and Book Development (APPREB), for which ACCU is the regional coordinating agency.

News articles in the Asian/Pacific Publishing Scenes of ABD (pp12-20) are contributed by the national correspondents of 25 countries in Asia and the Pacific.

Articles and photos without indication of copyright (© followed by owner's name) may be reprinted for educational and non-commercial purposes provided that they be accompanied by a credit line "Reprinted from ABD (Asian/Pacific Book Development), published by Asia/Pacific Cultural Centre for UNESCO" including author's name and volume/number. Three voucher copies should be sent to the Editor-in-Chief.

Opinions expressed in signed articles and news of the correspondents are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the opinions of ACCU or those of the Editorial Committee of ABD.

ABD is available on-line from Volume 31 in APPREB Internet website operated by ACCU. (URL: http://www2.accu.or.jp/09/09_02.html)

Editorial Committee Members

Akutsu Masaru
Kodansha Ltd.

Amadio A. Arboleda
Josai International University

Kanehira Shonosuke
Publishers Association for Cultural Exchange (PACE)

Machida Kazuhiko
Tokyo University of Foreign Studies

Maeda Kanji
Sanshusha Publishing Co., Ltd.

Michiyoshi Gow
Michiyoshi Design Laboratory Inc.

Shima Tayo
Japanese Board on Books for Young People (JBBY)

Shindoh Masaaki
Shogakukan Inc.

Sato Kunio
ACCU

Editor-in-Chief

Sato Kunio
Director-General, ACCU
Editorial Office
Culture Division, ACCU

Design

Michiyoshi Gow
Nakamura Kazuyo

Published in co-operation with UNESCO

All correspondence should be addressed to:

The Editor-in-Chief, ABD
Asia/Pacific Cultural Centre for UNESCO (ACCU)

6, Fukuromachi, Shinjuku-ku,
Tokyo 162-8484, Japan
phone: (81) 3 3269 4436, 4435

fax: (81) 3 3269 4510
e-mail: abd@accu.or.jp, culture@accu.or.jp
<http://www.accu.or.jp>,
<http://www.accu.or.jp/appreb>

©Asia/Pacific Cultural Centre for UNESCO, Tokyo, March 2003
132nd issue since 1969
Printed in Japan by
Kyodo Printing Co., Ltd.
ISSN 0916-7838

From the Editor-in-Chief

In a democratic society, it is indispensable that every person should have the right to gain access to information whenever necessary without any restriction. To meet this end, a system that collects materials and data, and saves them in a most appropriate way, and has them open to the public, is necessary. In this issue of ABD, two national libraries and examples of archiving networks are introduced. They will make readers aware of the goals and aims of national libraries and the quantity and diversity of their materials as well as the effectiveness of constructing archiving networks with concerned organizations.

In recent years, thanks to the rapid progress of technology, materials which otherwise might have disappeared due to neglect or poor preservation conditions, are being preserved in diverse and appropriate forms. In addition to conventional printed materials, copies on microfilm or electronic devices, digital archives on the Internet, and even archiving of websites themselves now exist. Once a person is connected to such an environment, access to global information should be markedly convenient. But of course, how people should utilize such massive information and the

widening gap to information access is an issue that needs constant discussion.

I recently attended a meeting by UNESCO on the preparation of the International Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage. In order to assure the development of a rich and diverse human society, safeguarding and promoting the traditional cultures is an important and urgent issue and task for UNESCO. ACCU, therefore, intends to extend its activities in this field in 2003. As ABD has always had deep concern over language issues, 'endangered languages' was selected as one of the themes in volume 34 at the annual editorial meeting held in March. I hope our articles will arouse interest and discussion in our readers.

Lastly, I would like to thank the Mongolian President, Mr. Bagabandi, for his warm contribution to this issue. His message conveying the importance of reading at a young age will encourage all people who have the same goals and ideals.



SATO Kunio

List of Correspondents (25 countries)

Australia—**Stephen Matthews**
Publisher, Ginninderra Press, PO Box 53, Charnwood, Act. 2615

Bangladesh—**Mohammad Mahbubur Rahman**
Member, Directing Staff (MDS), Bangladesh Public Administration Training Centre (BPATC), Savar, Dhaka

Bhutan—**Rinzin Wangmo**
Youth Information Officer, Youth Guidance & Counselling Division, Education Department, Ministry of Health & Education, Thimphu

Cambodia—**Pech Savry**
Administration Office, Non-Formal Education Department, Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, No. 169, Preah Norodom Blvd., Boeung Keng Kang 1, Chamkar Morn, Phnom Penh

China—**Wu Xusheng**
Executive Editor-in-Chief, Information on Publication, No. 38, Tai Ping Qiao Xi Li, Fengtai, Beijing 100073

Fiji and the Pacific Islands—**Linda S. Crowl**
Publications Fellow, Institute of Pacific Studies, University of the South Pacific, PO Box 1168, Suva

India—**Sukumar Das**
President, The Federation of Publishers' & Booksellers' Associations in India, 268, Sector 'A' Pocket 'C' Vasant Kunj, New Delhi 110076

Indonesia—**Alfons Taryadi**
Member, Council Board, Indonesian Book Publishers Association (IKAPI), Jl. Kaliparis 32, Jakarta 10330

Iran—**Lili Hayeri Yazdi**
Cultural Advisor, International Affairs Department, Institute for Intellectual Development of Children & Young Adults, Fatemi Ave., Hejab St., PO Box 14145/136, Tehran

Japan—**Kiyota Yoshiaki**
President, Shuppan News Co., Ltd., 2-40-7 Jimbocho, Kanda, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 101-0051

Kyrgyzstan—**Bekmuratova Zarina**
Programme Specialist for Education, Press-secretary for National Commission of Kyrgyz Republic for UNESCO, 54 Erkindik str., 720040, Bishkek

Lao P.D.R.—**Soubanh Luangrath**
Director of Children's Cultural Centre, Ministry of Information and Culture, PO Box 6244, Vientiane

Mongolia—**Jambyn Dashdondog**
Director General, Mongolian Children's Cultural Foundation, PO Box 2106 46/46, Ulaanbaatar

Myanmar—**Myo Thant**
Adviser, Sarpay Beikman Board, Printing and Publishing Enterprise, Ministry of Information, 529, Merchant St., Yangon

Nepal—**Gokul Prasad Pokhrel**
Chairman, Nepal Press Institute, Anam Nagar, PO Box 4128, Kathmandu

New Zealand—**Barbara Else**
Writer/Editor, PO Box 29-023, Ngaio, Wellington

Pakistan—**Ahmad Faraz**
Managing Director, National Book Foundation, G-8/4, Taleemi Chowk, Islamabad

Papua New Guinea—**Stephan B. Waive**
Promotions Officer, National Cultural Commission, PO Box 7144, Boroko, NCD

Philippines—**Dominador Buhain**
President, Philippine Educational Publishers Association, 84 P. Florentino St., Quezon City

Rep. of Korea—**Jong-Jin Jung**
Secretary General, Korean Publishers Association, 105-2, Sagan-Dong, Jongno-gu, Seoul 110-190

Singapore—**R. Ramachandran**
Chairman, National Book Development Council of Singapore, c/o National Library, 91 Stamford Road, Singapore 178896

Sri Lanka—**Deepali Talagala**
Director-Information, Sri Lanka Scientific & Technical Information Centre, 47/5, Maitland Place, Colombo 7

Thailand—**Chintana Bhagisuyee**
Director, Book Translation Institute, Department of Curriculum and Instruction Development, Ministry of Education, Dusit, Bangkok 10300

Uzbekistan—**Sagdullaeva Gulchekhra**
Editor in Chief, The World of Book, State Printing Committee, 30 Navoi Avenue, Tashkent, 700129

Viet Nam—**Phan Thanh Hao**
Assistant Editor-in-Chief, The Education and The Times, 1B Le Ngoc Han St., Hanoi