

# ABD

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## Archiving in Modern Libraries

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**ACCU**

Asia/Pacific Cultural Centre for UNESCO

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## 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

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# The National Diet Library in Japan: Unchanging Mission, New Services

Tsukamoto Takashi

"The National Diet Library is hereby established as a result of the firm conviction that truth makes us free and with the object of contributing to international peace and the democratization of Japan as promised in our Constitution." This is the preamble to the National Diet Library Law of 1948 (hereafter referred to as "Law"), enacted not long after the end of World War II.

Following the preamble, the objectives of the library are described as "collecting books and other library materials for the purpose of assisting the members of the National Diet in the performance of their duties and also for the purpose of providing certain library services as hereinafter specified for the executive and judicial agencies of the national government and for the people of Japan" (Law Article 2).

The National Diet Library (NDL) collects all types of publications produced in Japan through a legal deposit system, and produces the national bibliography. It also collects publications from foreign countries through purchasing and international exchanges. NDL uses this collection to assist the legislative activities of the Diet by providing information and research and also offers a variety of library services to the entire nation, including, executive and judicial agencies, libraries and the general public.

## The Deposit System and Electronic Publishing

Publishers are required to deposit copies of their publications with NDL. According to Law Article 24, publications issued by or for agencies of the government "shall be deposited immediately with the National Diet Library for its official use or for its use in exchange for the publications of other gov-

ernments and in other international exchanges," whereas publications by the private sector (one copy for each) shall be deposited "in order to contribute to the accumulation and utility of cultural goods" (Law Article 25). The system differs in nature from the pre-war system in which publications were deposited with the Ministry of Internal Affairs to ensure its control over content. The current deposit system allows the NDL to make official government publications available to the Diet and the general public, as well as to collect and preserve national cultural heritage in the form of publications for future generations and to contribute to their official and general use.

When the Law was first enacted, the term "publication" was defined as books, pamphlets, serials, maps, motion picture films, and other material. A revision in 1949 added "music scores," "phonographic records and works produced by machines designated to reproduce sound mechanically," and "works (besides those mentioned in the foregoing items) reproduced as documents or charts by printing technique and other mechanical or chemical processes." With the emergence of the CD-ROM, a new form of publication, the Law was revised in 2000 to add "texts, images, sounds, or programs recorded by electronic, magnetic, or other methods which cannot be directly perceived by human senses."

Network system electronic publications, including websites, represent the most recent area requiring the NDL's attention in "the accumulation and utility of cultural goods" or "official use." It is not uncommon for paper or CD-ROM publications that exist one day to disappear the next, becoming available only on the Internet. The content of Net publications is frequently revised and updated or, conversely, elim-



National Diet Library, Japan, complete view (photos pp.3-5 courtesy of © National Diet Library)

inated altogether. There is no doubt that the NDL should be collecting them in some form.

Many questions arise, however, when attempting to devise a deposit system that would work. How extensive should the category be? How should one (and who should) deposit or, alternatively, what method should be used for collection? What about copyright, use of material and monetary compensation? A council comprised of knowledgeable outsiders was established by NDL and is currently deliberating on these issues in order to devise a deposit system for web publications. ([http://www.ndl.go.jp/jp/aboutus/deposit\\_council\\_book.html](http://www.ndl.go.jp/jp/aboutus/deposit_council_book.html)) (Japanese language only)

There is also the technological concern of how to ensure that electronic data produced by a particular application will be readable in the future and, before that, there is the issue of whether it will be possible or not to collect materials through automatic data retrieval. The Web Archiving Project (WARP), which was launched to address this issue, is experimenting with collecting and accumulating websites and online periodicals, having obtained permission individually. (<http://warp.ndl.go.jp/>)

### **Expansion of Services and New Developments in Infrastructure**

Two new facilities of NDL opened in 2002. One was the International Library of Children's Literature, which opened in May (it partly opened in May 2001), and the second was the Kansai-kan, which opened in October. The Tokyo Main Library, Kansai-kan and International Library of Children's Literature are organically linked in a unified system that provides various services to the Diet and the general public.

#### **The International Library of Children's Literature**

The International Library of Children's Literature located in Ueno Park, Tokyo is "a branch library of the National Diet Library that provides, through international collaboration,

library services concerning books and other library materials whose main readers are assumed to be proximately eighteen years of age or less (Law Article 22)." Its objectives are to provide services to children, accumulate children's literature from Japan and other countries and related material (about 200,000 books and 1,600 periodicals, etc.) and support research on the publishing and culture of children's books. Its activities also include the hosting of exhibitions and the development of a union catalogue database of children's books in cooperation with libraries in Japan that own major children's book collections. (<http://www.kodomo.go.jp>)

#### **Kansai-kan of the National Diet Library**

Located in Seika-cho, Kyoto prefecture in Kansai area, the Kansai-kan of NDL was established in the central library (Law Article 16-2) to provide services to the entire nation and handle specific NDL responsibilities. Exclusive lines connect the Tokyo Main Library and Kansai-kan to the same information system, and access by users and daily business affairs can be carried out regardless of physical location.

In addition to providing regular library services for users who visit the facility, the Kansai-kan offers remote services, such as mailing photocopied materials on request, Asia-related data services based on documents in various Asian languages, collaboration with other libraries in the production and management of a union catalogue and training programs, and implementation of the electronic library project including developing the framework and content and the abovementioned WARP. The Kansai-kan, which will eventually have a total storage capacity of twenty million titles, is also designed to accommodate increases in NDL holding. (<http://www.ndl.go.jp/jp/service/kansai/index.html>)

#### **Electronic Library Services**

The Electronic Library provides information access to anyone, anywhere, anytime which includes both secondary information (bibliographical data such as authors' names, titles,



Stocks of the main building, National Diet Library



Annex well, National Diet Library

etc.) and primary information (the actual contents of books). With regard to secondary information, the NDL-OPAC System is the first to be mentioned. The system which was launched in October 2002 provides an online catalogue of 2.6 million Japanese titles from 1876 to the present and an index to 5.4 million periodical articles from 1948 to the present, and registered users can apply for copies of materials, etc. (<http://opac.ndl.go.jp>) The NDL-OPAC system also makes available a catalogue of 110,000 magazines and newspapers produced in Japan and 280,000 doctoral theses that are kept by the NDL. Korean and Chinese newspapers, magazines and books from 1986 in the Diet Library can be retrieved at Asian Languages OPAC. (<http://asiaopac.ndl.go.jp/>)

In November 2002, the National Diet Library Database Navigation Service (Dnavi), a pilot project, was launched on the library's website. Users can search about 5,000 domestic Internet databases by name, author, category, etc. to find links to appropriate databases. (<http://dnavi.ndl.go.jp/>)

The Digital Library from the Meiji Era is an important source of primary information. An image database of approximately 30,000 publications from the Meiji period, the copyrights for which have been cleared, is available on the website (<http://kindai.ndl.go.jp/index.html>). Digitization of publications will be extended as far as possible within the limits of copyright law.

A database for Diet meeting minutes, developed jointly with the House of Representatives and the House of Councilors, is also primary material. It is possible to search and retrieve the plenary sessions and questions and answers from committee meetings in text and image form from the first Diet session (May, 1947) to the present.

Other primary information includes The Gallery, which displays colourful images of priceless picture scrolls, and colour woodblock prints from the Edo period, and WARP.

## Unchanging Mission, New Services

NDL's mission mentioned at the beginning of this article, has not changed since enactment of the National Diet Library Law fifty years ago. The significance of the preamble has increased with the evolution of political, economic and social conditions in Japan and developments in the surrounding international environment. The NDL's roles as a library and a research agency for the Diet and its duty to provide library services to the general public remain unchanged. In order to fulfill these obligations, it must strive to collect and preserve publications appropriate for the times and enrich its services, fostering close communication with other libraries and related institutions.

(translated by Cathy Hirano)

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# National Library of Singapore and Its Archive Function

Mohamed Bin Salim



Mohamed Bin Salim

## Background

The National Library of Singapore was established in 1960 when the library operations were taken out of the Singapore Museum building. Since then, it has been instrumental in developing library services in Singapore, playing the dual role of a national library as well as a public library.

As a result of a study by the Library 2000 Committee, the National Library Board (NLB) was established on 1 September 1995 to spearhead the formulation of new policies, strategies and the implementation of the recommendations of the Library 2000 Report. The Board is also responsible for setting up a world-class library system that would be convenient, accessible and useful to the people of Singapore. The mission of the Board is to expand the learning capacity of the nation so as to enhance national competitiveness and to promote a gracious society. NLB now operates a network of libraries, which includes 2 regional libraries, 18 community libraries and 42 community children's libraries.

## NLB's Resources

The Board acquires materials that meet the information needs of different segments of the population in the 4 official languages namely English, Chinese, Malay and Tamil. Besides print and non-print materials, special materials such as filmstrips, microforms and databases are also acquired or subscribed to. By end of March 2002, its collection was 4,277,007 materials in English, 1,695,183 in Chinese, 553,073 in Malay and 187,931 in Tamil.

Increasingly, more and more electronic resources are being acquired, mostly in the form of databases subscriptions. Depending on the types of databases, these are made accessible either on-site or through the web.

In terms of subject coverage, most of the branch libraries house popular subject areas for children right up to working adults and they are mostly for lending. The National Reference Library on the other hand, provides a diverse range of research and reference services to government departments, business and industry sectors as well as the general public, including students.

The National Reference Library houses a special collection of over 100,000 printed items on Singapore and South-east Asia, including about 2,000 rare books in addition to the non-print materials such as microfilms, microfiche and CD-ROMs. These constitute an important resource of Singapore's historical and cultural heritage and contribute to enhancing the special character of the library. These form part of NLB's heritage collection.

## Acquisition Strategies

Most of the materials are purchased through a list of registered book vendors who represent local and foreign publishers. Their performances are regularly monitored and reviewed. All purchases are done centrally, processed and distributed to all the relevant branches.

The materials are also acquired through donation from private collectors, well-wishers and supporters as well as through a network of more than 100 exchange partners, both local and abroad. We were able to acquire a lot of unpub-

lished materials and sometimes obscure imprints through such channels. Many of our heritage materials are acquired through such methods as most of them were kept by the writers themselves or were in the hands of private collectors, academic and social organisations as well as government institutions. It was usually very difficult for commercial book vendors to lay their hands on such materials.

Locally published materials are acquired through legislation. Under the National Library Board Act, 2 copies of all print and non-printed materials that are published or produced in Singapore, intended for sale or public distribution must be deposited with the Legal Deposit Section which includes:

- a) Any printed books, periodical, annual reports, newsletter, newspaper, pamphlet, musical score, map, chart, plan, picture, photograph, print and other printed matter;
- b) Any film (including microfilm and microfiche), negative, tape, disc, sound track and any other device in which one or more visual images, sounds or other data are embodied so as to be capable (with or without the aid of some other equipment) of being reproduced from it. Examples of non-print materials to be deposited are video recordings, CDs, sound recordings and computer software.

Materials are either deposited in person or sent in through the post. Publishers are constantly alerted about the legal deposit requirements through notices sent to them when they apply for ISBNs and ISSNs. The library also sends letters regularly to publishers to remind them about their responsibility to deposit titles published with the library.

## Archival Initiatives for the Heritage Documents

The heritage collection includes all materials on or about Singapore. It also covers materials which are published in Singapore and are in all formats, all languages, published and unpublished. Also included are about 5,000 rare books, mainly on Singapore or the ASEAN region. These materials are kept in the National Reference Library and in the Legal Deposit Section. There are also copies of most of these materials available either as reference or for lending at the various branch libraries.

Heritage materials housed at the National Reference Library are kept in a dedicated room with controlled temperature and limited access facility. Wherever possible, duplicate copies are made available on the open shelves to facilitate open access to these materials. The rare books are kept in a separate room with 24-hour air-conditioning and controlled relative humidity. Users need to get special permission to enter the room and to use the collection.

Some of these materials are also sent for microfilming and readers are encouraged to use these microfilm copies, thus minimizing the usage of the original materials. Currently, those microfilmed include selected foreign newspapers, government gazettes, all local newspapers, selected rare books and other precious publications. All master microfilms are kept in a strong room with controlled temperature and relative humidity. Only duplicates of these materials are made available to users.

Less frequently used reference materials, especially those relating to Singapore and Southeast Asia, those which are out of print and those that carry the status of being "the last copy" in the system are kept in the Repository Used (RU) Collection. These materials are eminently suited for research purposes and are kept as a repository collection to enable us to fulfill readers' request for such materials. Materials are made available on request only.

For those housed in the Legal Deposit Section, different storage conditions for different formats are adopted. All printed materials are placed in acid-free storage boxes, which are then placed in 25 m high x 5 m wide mobile shelves. Non-print and rare materials are stored in a dehumidified room with controlled temperature and relative humidity.

To ensure proper inventory and easy access, every item received under the Legal Deposit is registered and given a unique registration number. They are then processed and shelved separately by formats. These materials are not for use by readers, unless under very special circumstances. This is to minimize the possibility of damaging the materials, as we have to keep them for posterity.

Another strategy adopted was to keep the materials deposited at two different locations. It is two-pronged approach; one is to ensure that there will be another copy in the system should disaster strike while at the same time allowing users to gain access to these materials. The other copy is kept separately for preservation and is not accessible to users except under very special circumstances.

The Library views preservation as very important in its effort to be the guardian of the country's literary heritage. It is currently looking into engaging a consultant to advise on suitable methods that could be applied to preserve the heritage collection. In the meantime, as and when materials are

found to be in need of repair or restoration, they are sent to the National Archive and treated based on the advice given by the experts there.

## Digitisation

The Board has so far digitized some 6,000 images from its collection of rare books. The images are chosen based on the two themes of *Sir Stamford Raffles* and *Singapore Landmarks*. The rare books/materials from which the relevant information on the two themes is obtained, are digitised in full, to make the digital copy more widely accessible as well as to preserve the original rare materials from too much handling. Metadata records based on MARC21 were also created for these images.

## Future Prospects of Archive Function

One of the objectives of the Board is to preserve the literary heritage of a nation and this could only be achieved through proper preservation and archiving programmes. Every heritage material acquired either through purchase, gift or legislation must be properly archived to ensure its accessibility by both present and future generations of users.

The challenge is how to ensure that the preservation and archiving methods chosen would ensure that the materials would continue to be accessible regardless of technological changes.

## The Challenges Faced in Promoting Archiving Programme

One of the many difficulties faced in promoting an archiving programme is the lack of expertise within the organisation. More often than not, we need to depend on external experts to identify archiving needs and what needs to be put in place to ensure that archiving is effectively planned and carried out. The consequence of this is the library's inability to plan and implement a total archiving plan that could be used for an extended period of time.

The other major issue is the difficulty of getting publishers to deposit materials in the archival formats. For print materials for instance, not many publishers would want to publish titles using acid-free paper due to its comparatively higher cost and it is not practical to demand that publishers print copies that are to be deposited using acid-free paper while the rests of the print run is done using ordinary paper.

This is also true for non-print materials. Titles produced in the preservation formats are usually the master copies and these are usually very expensive. What were eventually released in the market are access copies and would not be suitable to be kept for an extended period of time.

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Website of National Library Board of Singapore (<http://www.nlb.gov.sg/>)

# Some Examples of American and European Library Networks

Matsumoto Shusaku



Matsumoto Shusaku

The following article is an excerpt which was originally delivered at a symposium "Asian and African Area Studies and Research Materials—Towards Establishing Networks of Researchers, Libraries and Archives", organised by the Centre for Documentation and Area-Transcultural Studies of 21st Century COE (Centre of Excellence) Programme, held on 22 February 2003, Tokyo University of Foreign Studies, Japan.

## Collaborative Efforts in American Libraries

This article presents a brief introduction of collaborative efforts in America to acquire and preserve South Asian research materials over the past fifty years. The results of these efforts can be clearly seen in the attached table showing publications received from each country and in each language in South Asia by libraries in the United States. Cooperative Acquisitions Programs were established and implemented from the early 1960s to the mid-1990s under the Public Law 480 (PL 480) Program funded by government-financed sales of agricultural surpluses to developing countries. The Library of Congress, which coordinated the Acquisitions Programs, set up regional offices in New Delhi and Karachi (later on moved to Islamabad) to collect materials from every part of South Asia east of and including Afghanistan and deliver them to the approximately thirty university and research libraries participating in the programme along with biblio-

graphical data prepared by regional office librarians specializing in each language. With regard to materials from India, twenty-six participating libraries received publications in various languages, but only the Library of Congress and the University of Chicago Library acquired materials in every language. These materials were published in the Accessions List, which was one of our best information sources. The countries and languages covered by each participating library are presented in the table.

Similar programmes have been implemented in Southeast Asia by the Jakarta Office, in the Middle East by the Cairo Office, in Brazil by the Rio de Janeiro Office and in East Africa by the Nairobi Office. Japan's National Diet Library has been participating in and receiving materials under the Co-operative Acquisitions Program for Southeast Asia (CAPSEA) since 2000.

## Participating Libraries and their Language Coverage

Participants	Countries/region and Languages																																
	Bangladesh			Mongolia			Nepal				Pakistan						Sri Lanka				Tibet												
	Bengali	English	Others	English	Mongolian	Others	English	Hindi	Nepali	Newari	Sanskrit	Arabic	Balochi	Dit	English	Gujarati	Punjabi	Persian	Pusho	Sindhi	Urdu	English	Sinhala	Tamil	Others	Bhutan	China	India	Mongolia	Nepal			
LC	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
Berkeley	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	-	-	X	-	X	X	X	-	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
Los Angeles	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	X	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
Chicago	X	X	X	-	-	-	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
Columbia	X	X	X	-	-	-	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	-	X	-	-	X	X	X	X	X	X	-	-	-	X	X	X	X	X		
Cornell	-	X	X	-	-	-	X	X	X	-	X	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	X	X	X	X	X	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Duke	-	X	X	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-		
Harvard	-	X	X	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	X	X	-	-	X	-	-	X	-	-	X	X	-	-	X	-	-	X	-	X	X		
Hawaii	X	X	X	-	-	-	X	-	X	-	X	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	X	X	X	-	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
Illinois	-	X	X	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	X	-	-	X	-	-	X	-	-	X	X	-	-	X	-	-	X	-	-	-	-		
IASWR*	-	-	-	X	X	X	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	X	X	X	X	X		
Iowa	-	X	X	-	-	-	X	X	-	-	X	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Michigan	-	X	X	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	X	X	-	-	X	-	X	X	-	-	X	X	-	-	X	X	-	X	X	X	X		
Minnesota	-	X	X	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Natl Agric Lib	X	X	-	-	-	-	X	-	X	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	X	X	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Ntl Lib Medicine	-	X	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
New York Public	-	-	-	X	X	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	X	-	X	X	X	X	X		
Ohio State	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Pennsylvania	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	-	-	X	X	X	X	-	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Princeton	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Syracuse	-	X	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Texas	X	X	X	-	-	-	X	X	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	X	-	X	X	-	X	-	-	-	-	-		
Toronto	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	-	X	-	-	X	-	X	X	-	X	X	-	X	X	X	X	X	-	X	-	-	-	-	
Virginia	-	X	X	X	X	X	X	-	-	-	X	-	-	X	-	-	X	-	-	X	X	-	X	X	-	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Washington	-	X	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	X	-	X	-	-	X	-	-	X	X	-	X	-	-	-	X	X	X	X	X		
W. Washington	-	-	-	X	X	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Wisconsin	-	-	-	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	-	X	-	-	X	-	-	X	-	-	X	-	-	-	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Yale Law	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Indiana Univ.	-	-	-	X	X	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Maryland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

X Receiving materials  
- Not receiving materials

\*Institute for Advanced Studies of World Religions  
Center for Research Libraries (Chicago) receives serial publications only

A table for India is omitted for want of space.

source: *Accessions List South Asia*, Vol. 15, Jan.-Mar. issue, p. 3, 1995

In the mid-1990s when PL 480 funds allocated for the South Asia Cooperative Acquisitions Program (SACAP) were exhausted, the system was revised to cooperative acquisition through annual fees and the formerly indiscriminate collection methods became more selective, resulting in a decline in the number of materials collected. Although the era in which American libraries walked off with everything is over, participating American libraries still possess more extensive collections of the latter half of the twentieth century than the national libraries of any other country.

A comparison of materials in any one South Asian language reveals that, at least with regard to those published in the country of origin during the last fifty years, participating American library collections are superior in both quantity and quality to the best collections in Japan. Even the quantity of materials in collections of that period belonging to national or other representative libraries in any South Asian nation cannot compare. The day will inevitably come when students and scholars of late twentieth-century South Asia will be forced to conduct their research in the United States simply because it is the only country where materials are still preserved. British scholars conducting research at the Oriental and India Office Collections in the British Library, which has the greatest concentration of political and economic materials of the nineteenth and the first half of the twentieth centuries, are outnumbered by scholars from South Asia, North America, Japan and other regions, and a similar situation is expected to occur in the near future in the Library of Congress in Washington or the University of Chicago with regard to materials of the late twentieth century.

Libraries and research institutions participating in this programme subsequently formed a consortium, continuing the cooperative acquisitions system coordinated by the Library of Congress. The consortium also maintains a network for microfilming historical source materials. In 1962, it launched the South Asian Microfilm Project (SAMP) in cooperation with the Center for Research Libraries (<http://www.crl.uchicago.edu>), and remarkable achievements have been made in recording archeological materials, settlement reports, banned books and other materials from India.

The Center for Research Libraries (CRL) was established specifically for university and research libraries and provides services only to member institutions. It collects and preserves a broad spectrum of materials including government publications from every state of the United States, foreign newspapers, and European dissertations. Located near the University of Chicago, the CRL is housed in a four-storied building that has windows only on the ground floor where the offices are located. All other floors are windowless and designed to shut out natural light and provide complete air-conditioning in order to prevent deterioration of the materials. Japan has reached the stage where it requires the establishment of a similar system to ensure the preservation of valuable materials and their collaborative use.

### Establishment of Regional Library Facilities

The South Asia Cooperative Acquisitions Program (SACAP) policy in the late 1990s shifted away from exploitative collection methods towards the establishment of regional library facilities for each language and onsite preservation. The



Website of Library of Congress, USA (<http://lcweb.loc.gov/>)

United States provides the funds while regional organizations have become the central actors. The Roja Muthiah Research Library (Chennai, <http://www.lib.uchicago.edu/e/su/southasia/RMRL.html>) and the Urdu Research Centre (Hyderabad) are examples of this trend.

More recently, the Center for South Asian Libraries (CSAL) was founded by the Columbia University, the University of Chicago and the Center for Research Libraries (CRL) in January 2000 with the objectives of acquiring, processing and preserving historical source materials in the South Asian region.

After the 9.11 terrorist attack, the United States began committing significant sums to research on South Asia, with a reported twenty million dollar increase in annual funds allocated for this purpose. In 2002, the Council of South Asia Library Centers was established and became a CSAL member. The Roja Muthiah Research Library, Sundarayya Vignana Kendram and the Urdu Research Centre also became members while the Asiatic Society (Dhaka) is currently being considered for membership. These are anticipated to become nodal institutions for various language materials and regional research. The cataloguing of materials has the highest priority.

The Committee on Research Materials on Southeast Asia (CORMOSEA, <http://www.library.wisc.edu/guides/SEAsia/cormosea/>) is a network of libraries in the United States with connections to Southeast Asia.

### Examples of Networks in European Countries

There are many different networks for libraries concerned with materials and research on Asia and Africa in England, of which the Society of College, National and University Libraries (SCONUL, <http://www.sconul.ac.uk/>) is a typical example. The Standing Conference on Library Materials on Africa (SCOLMA, <http://www.soas.ac.uk/scolma/>) is also very active, holding annual conventions for information exchange and presentation of research as well as hosting seminars and coordinating the collection of materials by country and subject.

The International Institute for Asian Studies in Holland publishes a newsletter and provides convenient information on library activities (<http://www.iias.nl/>).

(translated by Cathy Hirano)

### Matsumoto Shusaku

After working as Reference Librarian (South Asia) in the Institute of Developing Economies, JETRO from 1966 to 2000, Mr. Matsumoto has been a lecturer (Library Science), Daito Bunka University, and COE Fellow, Tokyo University of Foreign Studies since 2002. He has studied and had interest in the history of libraries, archives and mass media in South Asia, and the history of South Asian studies in Japan, and written some books (joint works) in Japanese and an English article in the field.

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e-mail: [s.matsumoto@nifty.com](mailto:s.matsumoto@nifty.com)

# National Libraries in Asia and the Pacific

## Australia

National Library of Australia  
Canberra, ACT 2600  
phone: (61) 2 6262 1111, fax: (61) 2 6257 1703  
e-mail: [www@nla.gov.au](mailto:www@nla.gov.au) URL: <http://www.nla.gov.au/>

## Bangladesh

Bangladesh National Library and Archives  
32 Justice Sayed Mahbub Murshed Sarani  
Sher-e-Bangla Nager (Agargaon), Dhaka 1207  
phone: (880) 2 326572

## Cambodia

National Library of Cambodia  
St. 92, Daun Penh Section, Phnom Penh  
phone: (855) 23 430609, fax: (855) 23 362344  
e-mail: [nationallibrary@bigpond.com.kh](mailto:nationallibrary@bigpond.com.kh)

## China

National Library of China  
No. 33, Zhongguancun Nan Dajie, Haidian District, Beijing, 10081  
phone: (86) 10 88545022  
e-mail: [webmaster@publicf.nlc.gov.cn](mailto:webmaster@publicf.nlc.gov.cn)  
URL: <http://www.nlc.gov.cn/english.htm>

## India

National Library of India  
Belvedere, Kolkata (Calcutta) 700027, West Bengal  
phone: (91) 33 4791381, fax: (91) 33 4791462  
e-mail: [nldirector@rediffmail.com](mailto:nldirector@rediffmail.com) URL: [www.nlindia.org/index2.html](http://www.nlindia.org/index2.html)

## Indonesia

National Library of Indonesia  
Jalan Salemba Raya 28A, P.O. Box 3624, Jakarta 10002  
phone: (62) 21 3101472, fax: (62) 21 3101472  
e-mail: [info@pnri.go.id](mailto:info@pnri.go.id) URL: <http://www.pnri.go.id>

## Iran

National Library of the I. R. Iran  
Anahita Alley, Africa Ave., Tehran 10176  
URL: <http://www.nli.ir/english/>

## Japan

National Diet Library  
1-10-1, Nagatacho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, 100-8924  
phone: (81) 3 3581 2331, fax: (81) 3 3506 3301  
e-mail: [webmaster@ndl.go.jp](mailto:webmaster@ndl.go.jp) URL: <http://www.ndl.go.jp/en/index.html>

## Kyrgyzstan

National Library of Kyrgyzstan  
208, ul. Sovetskaia, 720875 Bishkek  
URL: [http://www.unesco.kz/heritagenet/kg/nlpub/index\\_en.htm](http://www.unesco.kz/heritagenet/kg/nlpub/index_en.htm)

## Lao PDR

National Library of Lao  
PO Box 122, Vientiane  
phone: (856) 21 212452, fax: (856) 21 212408  
e-mail: [nll@pan-laos.net.la](mailto:nll@pan-laos.net.la)

## Malaysia

National Library of Malaysia  
232, Jalan Tun Razak, 50572 Kuala Lumpur  
phone: (60) 3 26871700, fax: (60) 3 26927082  
e-mail: [pnmweb@www1.pnm.my](mailto:pnmweb@www1.pnm.my) URL: <http://www.pnm.my/>

## Maldives

National Library of the Maldives  
59 Billoorijehige, Malé  
phone: (960) 323945, fax: (960) 313712

## Mongolia

State Central Library of Mongolia  
4 Chinggis Avenue, Ulaanbaatar 210648  
phone: (976) 1 323100

## Myanmar

National Library of Myanmar  
No. 18-51, Corner of East Race-course Road & Lay-daung-kan Road,  
Tamwe Township, Yangon  
phone: (95) 1 559280, fax: (95) 1 212367

## Nepal

National Library of Nepal  
Harihar Bhawan, Pulchowk, PO Box 182, Lalitpur  
phone: (977) 1 521132, fax: (977) 1 536461  
e-mail: [nnl@nnl.wlink.com.np](mailto:nnl@nnl.wlink.com.np) URL: <http://www.nnl.gov.np>

## New Zealand

National Library of New Zealand  
Corner of Molesworth & Aitken Streets, PO Box 1467, Wellington  
phone: (64) 4 474 3000, fax: (64) 4 474 3035  
e-mail: [reference@natlib.govt.nz](mailto:reference@natlib.govt.nz)  
URL: <http://www.natlib.govt.nz/en/contact/index/html>

## Pakistan

National Library of Pakistan  
PO Box 1982, Constitution Avenue, Islamabad  
phone: (92) 51 921 4523, fax: (92) 51 922 1375  
e-mail: [nlpiba@isb.paknet.com.pk](mailto:nlpiba@isb.paknet.com.pk) URL: <http://www.nlp.gov.pk>

## Papua New Guinea

National Library Service  
PO Box 734, Waigani, NCD  
phone: (675) 325 6200, fax: (675) 325 1331  
e-mail: [ola@datec.com.pg](mailto:ola@datec.com.pg)

## Philippines

National Library of the Philippines  
TM Kalaw Street, Ermita, PO Box 2926, Manila 1000  
phone: (63) 2 5253196, fax: (63) 2 5242329  
e-mail: [nanie@nlp.gov.ph](mailto:nanie@nlp.gov.ph) URL: <http://www.nlp.gov.ph>

## Republic of Korea

The National Library of Korea  
San 60-1, Banpo-Dong, Seocho-gu Seoul, 187-702  
phone: (82) 2 590 0544, fax: (82) 2 590 0546  
e-mail: [nlkpc@sun.nl.go.kr](mailto:nlkpc@sun.nl.go.kr) URL: <http://www.nl.go.kr/eng/use.php3>

## Singapore

National Library board  
91 Stamford Road, Singapore, 178896  
phone: (65) 332 3255, fax: (65) 332 3248  
e-mail: [ref@nlb.gov.sg](mailto:ref@nlb.gov.sg) URL: <http://www.nlb.gov.sg/>

## Sri Lanka

National Library and Documentation Services Board  
PO Box 1764, 14 Independence Avenue, Colombo 07  
phone: (94) 1 687583, fax: (94) 1 685201  
e-mail: [nlds@nlb.gov.lk](mailto:nlds@nlb.gov.lk) URL: <http://www.natlib.lk>

## Thailand

National Library of Thailand  
Samsen Road, Dusit, Bangkok 10300  
phone: (66) 2 2810263, fax: (66) 2 2817543  
e-mail: [siripchi@emisc.moe.go.th](mailto:siripchi@emisc.moe.go.th), [natlibthai@yahoo.com](mailto:natlibthai@yahoo.com)  
URL: <http://www.natlib.moe.go.th/eng/main.htm>

## Uzbekistan

National Library of Republic of Uzbekistan  
URL: <http://navoiy.libraries.re.uz>

## Viet Nam

National Library of Viet Nam  
31 Trang Thi Street, Hanoi  
phone: (84) 4 8285027, fax: (84) 4 2533457  
URL: [www.nlv.gov.vn](http://www.nlv.gov.vn), e-mail: [hdan@nlv01.gov.vn](mailto:hdan@nlv01.gov.vn)

## What Do Mongolian Children Read?

One of those wonders that come in childhood is a book. Heroes of books invite little readers into their magical worlds and help them to become good people. They present bright ideas and good character and teach them how to live. Thus it is impossible to imagine childhood without books.

Every Mongolian school has its own library. The most reliable and the closest friend and teacher of herdschildren is the book. Our children are never apart from books even when they ride horses or camels, and herd sheep and goats in the countryside.

Like people of other nations, Mongolians have preferred to bring up their children with oral and literary arts since ancient times. For thousands of years Mongols have been teaching their children the tender poetry of cradle lullabies from a very young age, and sharpening their minds with tales, puzzles and blessings.

The teaching of Genghis, the Great Khan and founder of the Mongolian State, to his four children and younger brothers, has been inherited as "Genghis' spirit" and became the "Alphabet" by which Mongolians educate their children even now.

The main types and forms of ancient Mongolian literature include tales, epics, blessings, praises, proverbs, puzzles and songs. Mongolia is very rich in tales and epics and heroic epics like "Geser" and "Jangar" are as famous as the western "Chanson de Roland", "Nibelungen Lied" and "El Cid".

Children's contemporary literature started to develop from the very beginning of the 20th century, when talented writers specializing only in children's writings appeared. Many writers such as D. Natsagdorj, Ts. Damdinsuren, D. Tsevegmid, Ch. Lodoidamba, Ch. Lkhamsuren, L. Tudev, M. Chimid, P. Khorloo, B. Baast, D. Sodnomdorj, J. Dashdondog and S. Nadmid created and are still creating various books, poems, narratives, novels, dramas and movies for children.

Since H. C. Andersen's fairy tales were interpreted at the beginning of the last century, books of globally well-known children's writers including the Grimm brothers, Charel Perro, Daniel Defoe, Jonathan Swift, Mark Twain, Lewis Carroll, Selma Lagerlef, Seton Thompson, Astrid Lindgren, Matsutani Miyoko, Agnia Barto and Samuel Marshak have already taken their places among children's reading in Mongolia.

Today the process of shifting into the democratic system and market economy is continuing in Mongolia. State-



Mongolian children enjoying a reading programme with Mr. Dashdondog (right)



Natsag Bagabandi

owned publishing companies have been privatized. Business-oriented people are establishing new publishing and printing companies, but they are not interested in publishing books for children since the cost of those books is high and it is also necessary to publish them in good-quality colour and pictorial covers. As people cannot afford expensive books nowadays, this less profitable sector is not of interest to publishers, though recently a number of books were published on volunteer initiative.

The Mongolian Writers' Union has decided to publish a series of 50 books as a "Children's Library" and has delivered the first edition to the readers. Children's writer Jamba Dashdondog has initiated "Golden Tales" and published 108 volumes containing the best stories for children. Meanwhile, children's reading books travelled over 20,000 kms in the form of a mobile library.

The organization of the "State Competition on Best Creation" by the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science was a great step towards the enrichment of children's books.

It was decided to turn one branch of the State Library into a "Children and Youths' Library" and it is now in the process of organization. However, for Mongols it is necessary to establish a system comprising companies and publishing offices that publish high quality books professionally just for children, as well as distributors. Children and youths constitute half of the population, therefore, we support any initiative to cooperate with international children's publication offices. New types of publications including sound books, illustrated books and electronic books are being diversified and developed. For our sparsely populated country, it is necessary to find a way of distributing children's books through a network.

A book for children consists not only of writing and but also of pictures. Over 40 writers specialize in children's literature, though it is essential to train professional painters that specialize in illustrating children's books. It is to be appreciated that young Mongolian painters took part in the International Noma Concourse for Picture Book Illustrations which was recently held for illustrators of Asian, African and Latin American countries.

Our children are attracted to both western and eastern children's literature. We consider that it will be of great significance if our country takes part in the Asian/Pacific Co-publication Programme (ACP) that has been implemented successfully for 30 years by the Asia/Pacific Cultural Centre for UNESCO (ACCU). It is sure that books, co-published by this Programme, would contribute to creating friendship among Asian and Pacific children and bringing up an entire generation with the proud maxim: "We are from the Peace Continent".

Natsag Bagabandi  
President of Mongolia

### Publishing Circumstances

All articles in *Publishing Circumstances*, some in more detail, are available on-line at "Trends in Books and Reading" (<http://www2.accu.or.jp/02/02-02/02.html>) of APPREB Internet Website (<http://www.accu.or.jp/appreb>).

#### Australia

##### The Future of the Book

Much money and time has been spent in the last few years trying to persuade readers to buy and use various forms of hand-held electronic books, but they have failed to catch on in the way that, for instance, DVD players have. This may be because print lends itself more to paper than to a flickering screen.

However, while no one has yet managed to create a device to supplant the book, technology is having a vast impact on the production of the book as it is traditionally known.

A joint project between Common Ground Publishing and RMIT University, based on research funded under the Australian government's Infrastructure and Industry Competitiveness Scheme, has identified several possibilities for the future.

It may become possible to print one book at a time at the moment it is ordered. There may be immediate and simultaneous mixed-medium publication from a common source file. Both a physical book and an electronic file may be downloaded over the Internet to personal computers or dedicated reading devices.

Printed books may gain enhanced functions, such as copyright relationships in which an individual book number will give access to an updated online edition, fully searchable with live hypertext links, and audio and visual annotations.

Of critical interest to those who create content, writers may get paid as often as every purchase. They may even become the main risk-taker, and the main beneficiary of any commercial success.



A book about future of book, C-2-C, Creator to Consumer (Australia)

#### Bhutan

##### School-based Reading Programme

The Supplementary Reading Programme was first initiated in 20 primary and community schools in 1999. It was expanded to 140 schools in 2002, and in 2003 it will be introduced to 110 more primary and community schools. Coordinated by the Curriculum and Professional Support Division of the Education Department, this programme is an effort towards instituting a reading programme in the schools. It has a multi-pronged approach, the schools being supplied with library books and furniture for the library, while teachers are trained on library management and reading guidelines are developed. With such an approach there is no doubt that students will be encouraged to read not only for information but leisure too.

#### India

##### 100 Years of Spiritual Journey

The first inaugural centenary celebration of Motilal Banarsidass, a reputed Indo-logical publishing house in Delhi, began at their place in Naraina on 5 January 2003. It will continue in phases the entire year at its branches all over the country. The first session of the celebration was held in the presence of Hon'ble Shri T. N. Chaturvedi, governor of Karnataka. He spoke about the services of Motilal Banarsidass in sowing seeds of Indian culture and ancient wisdom all over the world. Motilal Banarsidass was the oldest and first ever in India to publish valuable Vedic and Sanskrit Literature. Mr. Chaturvedi himself was associated with its architects, Lala Sunderlal Jain and Padmashri Shantilal Jain, who brought much reputation and goodwill to the company. He himself was fond of collecting and reading books from Motilal Banarsidass Bookstores.

Shri N. P. Jain, the Director of the Motilal Banarsidass, gave a brief history of the firm and described how the work of publication and distribution was faced with several problems, especially during the partition of the country in 1947. In the communal frenzy the family home and the Motilal Banarsidass Bookshop were reduced to ashes, but rose like a phoenix against all odds. It took 11 years to re-establish the publishing house in Varanasi.

It is worth mentioning that Mr. Chaturvedi presented gifts to the old and present staff members for their honest and sincere contribution to the firm. Five of the old workers received special honours and awards. The inauguration concluded with great joy.

##### X-Pressions 2003 Quiz 'o' Books Carnival

The Federation of Publishers' & Booksellers' Association in India (FPBAI) along with Salwan Public School (SPS) has organized a unique Quiz 'o' Book Carnival on 8 and 9 February 2003 in New Delhi to promote reading habits among schoolchildren. Approximately 10,000 schoolchildren participated in the two-day book carnival.

Sukumar Das, President, FPBAI, said that the Carnival was neither a Book Fair nor a commercial enterprise but that its sole objective was to bring children to books, and stressed the need for developing in children a passion for reading books.

Sushil Dutt Salwan, Chairman, SPS expressed his anguish at the decline of reading habits and also failure to recognize important authors. He rued that today students can identify Bollywood & Cricket stars but hardly anyone can identify a Ruskin Bond in the crowd. He said that there was an urgent need to glamorize books and authors just like superstars. He felt the need to take this up as a challenge and find ways and means of making children love books. He explained that the whole concept of this Carnival was to "ignite" in children good reading habits and make parents also realize the importance of books. He said that in this 2-day Carnival books should become the buzz of the town.

Vandana Puri, Principial, SPS, said that the Quiz 'o' Book Carnival was to make children associate excitement and joy with books and to let them have a feel of books throughout the 2-day Carnival through different book stalls., quizzes, competitions, attraction, prizes, etc. She firmly believes that love for reading can be induced through innovative strategies by which children can be lured towards books. This carnival was a step in that direction. She also expressed hopes that all parents would try to take advantage of this unique "mega-event".

Terry O'Brien, the Quiz Master, was asked how quizzing is related to books, he answered that just as the fundamentals of education are the 3 Rs, Reading, Recording and Recalling are the ingredients of Quizzing. It is through quizzing that a child is able to understand the importance of reading and how interesting reading can be. Quizzing can actually goad a child gently into embarking on a journey into the world of books and literature. In a lighter vein he said that the carnival and other competitions would actually enable a child to "race" for books. A number of publishers and many eminent writers participated in the Book Carnival.



Dr. Terry O'Brien, the quiz master, conducting quiz for school children at Quiz 'o' Books Carnival (India)



Games for reading promotion in remote area (Lao PDR)

Iran

**Festival of Books for Children and Young Adults**

The 10th Festival of Books for Children and Young Adults was held from 18–27 December 2002 by the Institute for the Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults (Kanoon), and attended by the Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance, Managing Director of Kanoon, writers, scholars, students and many interested people. At the festival, writers, illustrators and translators won fifty-three prizes; including a golden plaque, and Honorable Diplomas for their works published during 2000–2002.

Twenty-eight judges studied and selected from 1,400 titles in six fields, as follows: Plays; Science; Young Adults' Poems; Design (Book Cover Illustrations); Humanities; and Stories. The special prize, a "Flying Pencil", went to Bahram Khaef and Keshavarz, two eminent illustrators.

**Donating 1,000 Books to Tatarstan**

Iran donated 1,000 volumes to the Kazan Library of the Muslim Russian Republic of Tatarstan.

The Head of Iran's Islamic Culture and Relations Organization (ICRO) referred to the cultural religious and artistic features of the two nations and mentioned that Iran is eager to enhance bilateral relations with Tatarstan in various fields.

Cultural and music festivals, translation of selected literary works by prominent figures from both sides, participation in joint cultural projects, exchange of writers and publishers, literary and poetry-reading sessions and gatherings for renowned poets and writers are some of the activities planned for the near future.

It also provides bilateral cooperation in establishing centres for displaying and distributing the valuable works of distinguished literary figures from both countries.

Japan

**Publishing Situation in 2003**

Due to the current recession, it is difficult to predict what will happen in the publishing industry in Japan in 2003. The main points presented by leaders in the industry in their New Year's messages can be summarized as follows:

1. Sales for 2002 fell short of the previous year for the sixth consecutive year.
2. The sales slump appears to have hit bottom, particularly in books, which registered a slight increase of 0.4%.
3. The government is moving to implement the total price system (the inclusion of tax in the price) from April 2004 along with a future consumer tax hike. The publishing industry has lodged a protest with the Taxation System Research Council, appealing for continuation of the current method in which the book price and tax are indicated separately (book price + tax).
4. The publishing industry is working for legislation on publishing company rights.
5. Various programmes are being implemented to promote reading.
6. Protests have been launched against the media control bills (legislation introduced to restrict media activities).
7. Flexible operation of the resale price maintenance system will be continued.

The key issue in the industry is low sales. However, the volume of books borrowed from libraries has leaped dramatically, reaching 500 million a year. Annual sales of bargain bookstores, the new trend in second-hand bookstores, amount to 90 billion yen. New *manga* coffee shops, where clientele can read as many comic books as they like, continue to open.

Despite low sales for new publications, books are clearly being read. The real problem may be that readers are not attracted to recent publications simply because they are not good books. Up to 73,000 new titles are published annually. Because of mass-production of inferior goods, books quickly become boring stereotypes that no one wants to buy, creating a vicious circle. It is time for publishing companies to slow down and publish only after careful examination of each manuscript.

Lao PDR

**Young Readers Ferment New Love of Books**

Librarians from the Mobile Library Project say that primary school children will soon be more enthusiastic readers than their older teenage brothers and sisters, even their parents.

The project run by the National Library in Vientiane, involves vans packed with books travelling to primary schools in the countryside and encouraging poor students to spend their time reading. Director of the National Library, Kongdeuane Nettavong, said that since its inception in 1990 the Mobile Library National Reading Promotion Project has been a great boon to primary education. The Library encourages children who live in remote areas to read five times per week. Some new books are available for students to read in the mobile libraries at their school. This year the project will have three vehicles for its mobile library service.

Library plans to send staff to foreign countries for training as librarians and to construct a new library building for readers' comfort to accommodate 500 people.

Myanmar

**National Literary Awards**

Myanmar has had 85 weekly journals, 134 monthly magazines and several hundred registered private publishers during the past year. The National Literary Awards Selecting Committee has scrutinized about 1,500 books eligible for the Award for published works during the preceding year of 2001.

The year 2003 saw author awards, this time for unpublished manuscripts in five categories, and one Life-long Achievement Award. Eleven writers won prizes for their manuscripts in five categories. The Life-long Literary Achievement Award goes to U Myo Thant, Ex-chairman of Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association and Advisor to the Ministry of Information, who writes under the pseudonym: Maung Hsu Shin. The prize-giving ceremony was held at



Life-long Literary Achievement Award presented to U Myo Thant (Myanmar)



King Gyanendra with the recipients of Mahendra Vidya Bhusan for Ph. D. degree holders on the occasion of the 28th National Education Day on 25 February 2003 (Nepal)

the National Theatre in Yangon, attended by the State Secretary and high-ranking officials along with Myanmar literati.

### Nepal

#### Use of Indigenous Languages

A veteran geographer and planning expert of Nepal, Dr. Harka Gurung, has asserted that the ethnic and aboriginal minorities of Nepal have attained an enhanced level of awareness of their tribal existence and languages. Speaking at a seminar organized by Nepal Janajati Mahasangha on the topic: "Challenges to Development of Indigenous Languages", Dr. Gurung stated that the 10th national census concluded in 2002 had collected data on 97 ethnic languages as against 32 languages recorded in the previous census held in 1991. He felt that the increase in the number of peoples speaking indigenous tongues was in proportion to the rise in population. During the last ten years, the number of people speaking indigenous languages showed an increase by 36.4% as against a 22% increase in the population of Indo-European languages.

#### New Copyright Act to Protect the Interest of Authors

A two-day national seminar on Copyrights Regulation was held in Kathmandu on 26-27 February with a view to gather suggestions from the stake-holders in the wake of formulating the regulatory measures by the government. The new Copyrights Act replacing the old Act of 1965 was promulgated in August 2002 and the Regulation is in the process of finalization by the government. The seminar was held under the joint aegis of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation and Copyright Protection Society of Nepal (CPSN) with the assistance of Japan Copyright Office.

Enforcement of the copyright legislation is a big challenge in the absence of an efficient mechanism, said Kuber Sharma, Minister of Culture and Tourism. The minister also emphasized the need for launching a public awareness campaign at grass-roots level against copy-

right violations that take place in various forms such as illegal copying, piracy, infringing and counterfeiting.

WIPO has been assisting Nepal in upgrading the copyright laws, ensuring their conformity with international treaties and conventions in the field of copyrights and related areas and the WTO's Agreement on Trade-related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS). Santosh Sharma, Chairman of Copyright Protection Society of Nepal, called on Nepal to join the Berne Convention so that Nepal's creative works get protection in more than 140 countries of the world.

Dairaku Mitsue of the Hokuriku University spoke about the Japanese experience in reaping benefits from the copyright industry.

Nepal's new copyright law covers economic and moral rights of the authors on art-related works such as musical compositions, operas, films, choreography, dramas, computer programmes and databases, research works, architectural designs, literary works, paintings and sculptures.

### New Zealand

#### NZ Presence at Frankfurt Book Fair

At the 2002 Frankfurt Book Fair, the New Zealand stand was again supported by a grant from the NZ Trade Development Board, the Government's trade promotion agency mandated to help increase NZ's foreign exchange earnings. Thirteen NZ publishers attended, representing educational and children's publishing, cook books, fiction, pictorials, non-fiction, university and mass-market titles.

Though the main aim was to sell rights and co-editions of NZ books, some publishers also picked up agencies or individual titles to distribute in NZ. NZ publisher Ann Mallinson, noted particularly for books for children, as reported in *The Publisher*, the newsletter for the Book Publishers Association of New Zealand, says that coming from a country as far away from the rest of the world as NZ, it is vital to maintain a presence at the fair each year. If there is not very much new product, it is still important to attend as it is still possible

to sell back-list material as well as make crucial new contacts.

#### New Award in National Book Awards

This year there is provision in the annual Montana New Zealand Book Awards for a Maori Language Award in addition to the awards for the eight categories of Fiction, Poetry, History, Biography, Environment, Lifestyle and Contemporary Culture, Illustrative, and Reference and Anthology. The new discretionary award, judged independently from the other categories, is to reward excellence in books written in the Maori language. The judge is looking for a well written book of high literary merit which demonstrates creative insight. A winning book will be a significant addition to the literature of New Zealand Aotearoa.

### Pakistan

#### Encouragement and Support to Creative Pakistani Publications

Books are highly important for the cultural growth of society and as input for the development of human resources. There exists a general consensus that book promotional activities need encouragement. In this regard, the NBF is playing a very positive role by running a highly innovative book promotional scheme entitled "Encouragement and support to creative Pakistani publications" particularly in the field of science, technology, social sciences, history, etc., which aims to meet the ever increasing demand of the students/public and to motivate the public to read quality reading material at affordable prices.

The scheme is advertised in the press to invite submission of manuscripts. The entries are scrutinized by the in-house committee, and the selected titles are then sent to the subject experts for evaluation and for final approval.

The printed copies of the approved manuscripts are then purchased from the authors. Each year 400 copies of about 30 titles in a year are being purchased from the authors. These books are distributed to national and public libraries of the country, free of cost. In addition, four cash awards of Rs.25,000 each are given to the authors of the best four manuscripts.

The scheme is highly beneficial for writers to publish their new work. It has always received highly encouraging response from all circles of society.

Dr. Prapatpong Senarith, Director-General, Department of Curriculum and Instruction Development, the chairman of the meeting giving a speech and special lecture at the Meeting (Thailand)



Philippines

**Legislation and Executive Order Affecting Educational Publishers**

Stakeholders in the book industry would like to seek clarification by holding a conference to be spearheaded by the Philippine Educational Publishers Association (PEPA) on the mechanics of the new law R.A. 9184 or the "Government Procurement Reform Act". The highlights of the law are as follows:

- a) To put a specific timeframe, notice of award to the winning bidders must be given within 15 calendar days from the time the Bid and Awards Committee (BAC) submits its recommendation; if the head of office purchasing does not act on the contract within that period, the contract is deemed approved.
- b) Interested bidders must accomplish a sworn affidavit that neither he or she nor any officer of his or her corporation is related to the head of the procuring entity by consanguinity or affinity within the 3rd civil degree.
- c) Penal sanctions such as imprisonment from 6–15 years await public officials for the following acts: (1) opening or divulging the contents of a sale bid prior to appointed time for the public opening; (2) delaying any stage of the bidding process beyond the period fixed by law; (3) causing splitting of contracts.—C.1 Private individuals pay sanction particularly when, after qualifying as the winning bidder, he or she refuses to accept by not submitting requirements within the specified period to force the procuring entity to award to another bidder;
- d) Government Procurement Policy Board (GPPB) is established to ensure a sustained training programme to develop the capability of BAC, BAC Secretariat and Technical working group of procuring entities. The law provides for incentives for members of the BAC in the form of honoraria. To be headed by the Secretary of the Department of Budget and Management, the GPPB is tasked to prepare a standardized form and procurement manual for all offices and agencies.
- e) To encourage development in the province, if the lowest bidder for a provincial bid is not based in the province where the project is to be undertaken, the lowest bidder among the local provincial contractors will be given the chance to match the lowest bid within five years from when the law takes effect.
- f) To prevent collusion, the law institutionalizes the online publication of the invitation to bid, thus encouraging

many to participate in the bidding process.

President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo recently issued an order that the medium of instruction in schools shall be English; thus all subject areas and their corresponding textbooks and related materials except Filipino and Social Studies are to be taught and written in English.

Rep. of Korea

**Publishing and Printing Industry Promotion Law to Take Effect**

The Publishing and Printing Industry Promotion Law was established on 26 August 2002 with the aim of promoting the publishing and printing industry as the hub of the knowledge industry with the advent of the era of knowledge and information in the 21st century. Its enforcement decree was passed at the State Council on 18 February 2003 and took effect on 27 February 2003.

One of the remarkable features of the law is the provision about the fixed book price system. The system has been in operation since 1977 with the goal of normalizing the distribution system. However, book discounts have been spreading recently, causing turbulence in the market. The director of the Fair Trade Committee and the minister of Culture and Tourism agreed that it should be mandatory to sell books at cover prices as long as they were published not more than 1 year ago. Violators of this law will be fined.

However, discounts of up to 10% are allowed for book sales on the Internet, which are regarded as a refund of the distributional margin for the readers.

The provision about the fixed book price system will be enforced for five years from the day the law takes effect.

Thailand

**The Production and Development of Learning Materials Policy**

In order to respond to the New Basic Education Curriculum B.E. 2544 (A.D. 2001), and the National Education Act of B.E. 2542 (A.D. 1999), the Ministry of Education, Thailand has launched a Policy on the Production, Development and Utilization of Educational Materials and Technologies. This policy prescribes that the Ministry of Education support and promote the production and the refinement of educational materials and technologies for all types, all 8 learning strands, and all grade levels; that it give the private sectors the opportunities to compete under fair conditions; and that it ensure the educational institutes have

adequate utilization of quality educational materials and technologies in the teaching-learning process.

The operation process is that the producers must establish a quality assurance system by setting up a proof-reader committee and an editorial committee to audit the quality of their learning materials, and the Ministry of Education shall evaluate the quality and efficiency of the production before and after the distribution.

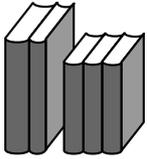
In this regard, the Ministry of Education also organized the meeting to explain and make sure the publishers and producers of the educational materials understood the policy, standard and guideline for implementation of the policy on 6 February 2003. Another meeting was organized for 26 February 2003, inviting the experts, who will be the Ministry of Education's evaluation committee, to exchange ideas and experiences, and to understand the policy, principles and standard of the evaluation of the quality of the learning materials produced by private sectors.

Viet Nam

**Present State and Issues of Publishing Scene**

The publishing scene in Viet Nam continues to boom, with the amount of publications increasing by 10% annually. According to the data given by the Book Distribution Agency in Ho Chi Minh City alone, 9.8 million copies were sold in 2002, bringing a turnover of 207.5 billion VND to the Agency. But literary books in general, constituted only 30% of the total sale, and the majority of those were translations. This is to say that, in the three years which have passed since the beginning of the new millennium, many new publications such as encyclopedias, scientific and technical books, textbooks, children's books, criticism, etc., have accounted for most of the domestic book market. Meanwhile, except for translated novels, and some collections of short stories, Vietnamese writers haven't made any striking impact in the literature world yet.

Some art critics comment that some eminent writers who are now in their 40s "are getting old before being grown up" and don't respond to the hopes of readers, their writings are now all the same, the subjects are not new, and their styles haven't improved.



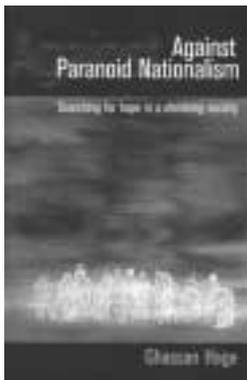
## Outstanding New Books

### Australia

#### Against Paranoid Nationalism: Searching for hope in a shrinking society

Ghassan Hage, who teaches Anthropology at the University of Sydney, defines societies as mechanisms for the production and distribution of hope and argues that the rise of paranoid nationalism throughout the world is linked to the shrinking ability of Western nations to distribute hope among their citizens. He makes a plea for a shift away from neo-liberal policies towards the creation of a caring society.

*Against Paranoid Nationalism: Searching for hope in a shrinking society* by Ghassan Hage, Pluto Press Australia (Locked Bag 199, Annandale, NSW), 174 pages, A\$29.95 (approx. US\$17.50), ISBN 0-b5036-533-3



Against Paranoid Nationalism (Australia)

### India

#### Gitanjali

Coinciding with the Kolkata Book Fair, UBS Publishers' Distributors Pvt., Ltd. in collaboration with Visva Bharati released *Gitanjali* (song offerings) of Rabindranath Tagore in a new shape, size and style.

Even though the English translation of *Gitanjali* bears the same name as the original Bengali edition, the poems featured in the two editions are neither identical nor the same in number.

On the left-hand pages are featured the manuscripts of the original Bengali poems. The English translations done by the poet himself appear on the right-hand pages. Wherever the original Bengali manuscript is not available the Bengali version of the poem has been reproduced.

This edition features introduction to *Gitanjali* by W. B. Yeats, the English translation of the introduction to the French edition of *Gitanjali* by Andre Gide, Rabindranath Tagore's Nobel Prize acceptance speech, a selection of



Prof. Sujit Kumar Basu, Vice Chancellor of Visva Bharati University, releasing Tagore's *Gitanjali* (India)

newspaper clippings reporting the award of the Nobel Prize for Literature to Tagore, excerpts from introduction to *Gitanjali* translated in several languages which gives readers a taste of the impact of the work across the world, etc.

*Gitanjali* by Sujit Kumar Basu, originally by Rabindranath Tagore, 2003, 312 pages, Rs395, ISBN: 81-7476-427-5

### Iran

#### The Eighth Valley

This book is a satirical look at the story; *The Conference of the Birds*, the world-renowned work of Farid Urdin Attar, the twelfth-century Sufi poet.

In *The Eighth Valley*, the birds gather again, to find their king, Simurgh. They should pass through seven valleys on their way again. But this time, a modern 21st century narrator is telling the story, so it seems quite different. The modern birds (humans), face many problems along the way, which Attar never mentioned in his work, such as jealousy, conspiracy, lying, dishonour, disbelief, etc. In satirical language, Ghasemzadeh confronts the dark side of human faith; even the king is not any more the glorious king that one may imagine.

From the glorious and ancient civilization and thought of Iranian culture, only a shadow has remained, a shadow of despair. But the author doesn't believe so, as he believes that the language of satire is still a powerful tool in the hands



The Eighth Valley (Iran)

of the Iranian nation, and they can still use it to overcome any obstacle that blocks their ways toward their goals.

This book is winner of the First Paulo Coelho Literary Prize in the fiction category.

*The Eighth Valley* by Mohammad Ghasemzadeh, Caravan Publishing House (PO Box 14145-186, Tehran), 2001, 145 x 210 mm, 136 pages, ISBN: 964-7033-06-0

### Japan

#### Let's Go to the Library

There has been much debate surrounding libraries recently. Authors have accused libraries of being "free bookstores," claiming that because they lend large volumes of bestsellers and other books at no charge, they are partly responsible for low book sales. Libraries retort that in order to respond to local user demand, they must provide bestsellers along with other reading material and that the number of books borrowed does not amount to a significant number when compared to the total.

In the midst of this debate, a new book aimed at children *Toshokan e iko* ("Let's Go to the Library") has been published. It explains in easy-to-understand language what libraries do and how books are organized on the shelves, and introduces unique libraries. The book points out that, as opposed to bookstores, which mainly stock new titles that are likely to sell, the essential purpose of libraries is the provision of a well-balanced collection of titles most of which were published five or ten ago, and some of which are much older. Written by a librarian from her own experience in communicating with library users, the work is very convincing and has the potential to inspire children to visit the library.

*Toshokan e Iko* by Tanaka Kyoko, Iwanami Shoten, Publishers (2-5-5 Hitotsubashi, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 101-8002), 2003, 192 pages, ¥740 (approx. US\$6.30), ISBN: 4-00-500423-7



Let's Go to the Library (Japan)



Meena's Three Wishes (Lao PDR)



Striking the Bell with a Stalk of Thatch Grass (Myanmar)

Lao PDR

Meena's Three Wishes

Recently, the "Meena's Three Wishes" cartoon book has been published in Lao language by UNICEF. The story tackles the issue of hygiene and sanitation. One wish was that people would use clean latrines, another was that people would use safe, clean water so that they would not fall ill, and the other was that people would wash their hands before eating and after using the latrine or bathing a baby.

UNICEF is using Meena, which is the name of a famous nine-year-old girl character in the animation cartoon, to teach the people about child rights in Laos. The cartoon products include posters, stickers, books and films.

Meena was produced in India in 1992 and it has already been reproduced in Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan, Bhutan, Sri Lanka, Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam in 13 series. It appeared in Laos in 1998.

*Meena's Three Wishes*, illustration: Lao adaptation by Chongkham Phonekeo, UNICEF, Lao PDR, 2003, 210 x 148 mm, 44 pages, not for sale

Myanmar

World of Books

Published by Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association for the first quarter of 2003, it is a form of journal covering local and international literary scenes including review on books and writers. Contributors to the issue are noted-writers, translators and poets. The journal is a quarterly affair in Myanmar language.

*World of Books*, Myanmar Heritage (No. 197, B-33rd str. Yangon), 145 x 210 mm, 167 pages, Kyats500

Striking the Bell with a Stalk of Thatch Grass

This is a collection of short stories that mainly focus on the role of teachers depicting episodes with the human

touch. Twelve original short stories written mostly by writers from teaching profession mainly in rural schools. Many of them are personal accounts in the lives of teachers in diversified settings. The book was published to commemorate the 5 October, International Teachers Day for the year 2002.

*Striking the Bell with a Stalk of Thatch Grass*, Ministry of Education, 2002, 210 pages, 120 x 190 mm, Kyats500

New Zealand

Swallowing Diamonds

The fringes of New Zealand society are explored in this new novel by experienced New Zealand writer Marilyn Duckworth. Bundle, abandoned as a baby in a dormitory townlet and brought up in foster homes, is now a young woman existing on part-time work and unemployment benefit. Soon after she makes contact again with Stella Sumpster, the one teacher she found approachable at school, Stella places her elderly aunt in a retirement home and leaves the country. Bundle feels abandoned once again, but finds another companion in sixteen-year-old Arthur, who is flirting with transsexualism. The novel shows Duckworth's tangible realism and strong feeling for character.

Marilyn Duckworth has won many honours including a Fulbright Visiting Writers Fellowship in the US. In 1996 her novel *Leather Wings* was shortlisted for the Southeast Asia and South Pacific Writers Prize.



Swallowing Diamonds (New Zealand)

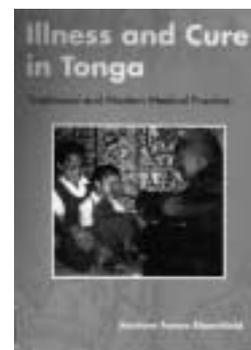
*Swallowing Diamonds* by Marilyn Duckworth, Vintage, Random House (18 Poland Drive Glenfield Auckland), 197 x 125 mm, 236pages, approx. US\$14.00, ISBN: 1-86941-548-5

Pacific Islands

Illness and Cure in Tonga: Traditional and Modern Medical Practice

A look at traditional cures and their practitioners in Tongatapu and the remote Nuias of Tonga, with emphasis on maternal and child health and family planning. The author examines values and belief systems related to sicknesses and their cures. Tongans are very concerned with health, but emphasize the social aspect of health and the spiritual side of social life. Good health, in the Tongan context, is related to the feeling of freedom and of knowing that one has performed all family and social duties. Sickness is believed to be caused by breakdowns in social relationships, thus, forgiveness is vital in regaining health.

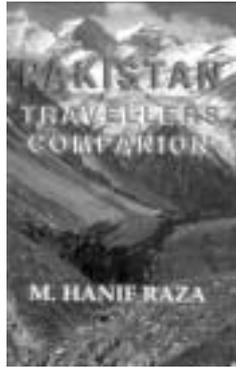
*Illness and Cure in Tonga: Traditional and Modern Medical Practice* by Siosiane Fanua Bloomfield, Vava'u Press (PO Box 958, Nuku'alofa, Tonga), 2002, 147 x 210 mm, 192 pages, ISBN: 982-213-005-8



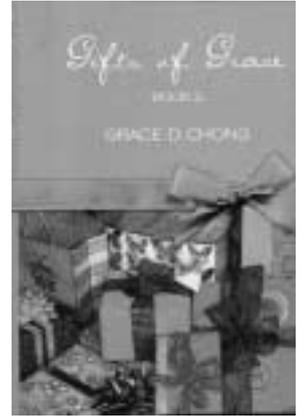
Illness and Cure in Tonga (Pacific Islands, Tonga)



Nauru One Hundred Years Ago (Pacific Islands, Nauru)



Pakistan Travellers Companion (Pakistan)



Gifts of Grace Book 2 (Philippines)

**Nauru One Hundred Years Ago**

Father Alois Kayser, a Missionary of the Sacred Heart, arrived on Nauru in 1902. He stayed for 40 years, then was exiled along with many Nauruans to Chuuk by the Japanese during the Second World War. He and most of his flock died far away from their home. His legacy to Nauru has not been forgotten, however. Besides Nauru's enduring Catholic Church, he left a rich record of Nauru's ethnography.

This series of books on the use of pandanus, fishing tackle and practices, games and sports, and oil processing marks the 100th anniversary of Nauru's Catholic Church. It also marks Father Kayser's service to the Nauruan people. Most of all, the series shares Nauru's past with contemporary society. Volume 1 is about the pandanus tree and the uses of its fruits for food and leaves for clothing.

*Nauru One Hundred Years Ago; volume 1, Pandanus* by Alois Kayser, MSC, University of the South Pacific Centre (Nauru), and the Institute of Pacific Studies, University of the South Pacific (PO Box 1168, Suva, Fiji), 147 x 210 mm, 30 pages, ISBN: 982-02-0353-8

Pakistan

**Pakistan Travellers Companion**

The author has been documenting life for the past twenty years, and this book is the product of several years observing the most difficult regions of the world and its people.

The book starts by giving basic facts about Pakistan and some useful tips for travellers. The major part of the book is an A to Z companion guide to various places, hotels, sights etc.— whatever comes to the mind of a traveller can be easily found in this book. Most important are its very impressive photographs and for each topic, more than one photograph is given. In short, the book is descriptive as well as fully illustrated with scores of colour pictures, maps etc. In its annexes, details about foreign missions, hotels, and accommodation are provided.

It also contains information about the highest mountain peaks and their world

rating, including the highest peaks of Pakistan. There is exact and accurate information about Pakistan's mountains, details of major glaciers, Pakistani cuisine, regional food specialities, transportation used along the trails, famous rivers, picnic spots, tribal systems, etc. The author has also focused on the archeological sites and monuments; details about the main art; facts recovered from various sites of the Indus civilization have also been highlighted.

The cultural and historical aspects of these areas are also covered in the book. The author has also narrated love stories from some regions of Pakistan, like "Sussi Punnun" "Heer Ranjhan", etc. Details about famous tombs, mosques and shrines, historical personalities, etc. are also given.

At the end of the book, all the relevant maps and accurate guidance are given. This book combines all his wandering through various parts of Pakistan. Going through this book, one can know a lot about Pakistan without even going there.

*Pakistan Travellers Companion* by M. Hanif Raza, photography by M. Hanif Raza, Waqar Hanif and Tariq Hanif, Best Books, 2002, 528 pages, 215 x 139 mm, US\$15.00, ISBN: 969-8657-01-0

Philippines

**Gifts of Grace Book 2**

In this sequel to the bestselling *Gifts of Grace*, be touched and cheered by the stories of people whose lives impart life-lessons on faith, contentment, honesty, excellence, humour, and many more acts of grace.

Grace Dacanay-Chong recently left her post as EVP Creative of the ad agency DYR-Alcantara to do "new things" and creative writing. A graduate of the University of the Philippines, Columbia College in Illinois, USA, and the Chicago Art Institute, Grace is now a lecturer at the Southville International School and Creative Consultant for an NGO and Prime Advertising Systems, Inc. Among her published works are two advertising books, and five children's books, two of which won first prize in the Carlos

Palanca Memorial Awards for Literature (one was nominated for a 2001 National Book Award).

*Gifts of Grace Book 2* by Grace D. Chong, OMF Literature, Inc., 2002, 125 x 175 mm, 184 pages, US\$7.25

Rep. of Korea

**All about Seonbi or Men of Virtue of Joseon**

*Seonbi* or men of virtue began to appear in Korea a thousand years ago and established themselves through the 500 year-old history of Joseon. They can be regarded as the model of the Korean-style noble leadership. In particular, the leadership of *Seonbi* played its pivotal role during social turmoil, invasions by foreign forces and other national crises.

What kind of role models do Koreans need in the time of changes as well as reforms in society and politics and especially, when war clouds hang over international society? This book proposes such models by examining 25 *Seonbi* from various perspectives. It will be fun for readers to choose inspirational figures whom we need in our own time— some of whom contributed a lot to the sustainability of the Joseon dynasty which lasted as the longest single dynasty in the world. Furthermore, it will provide readers not only with culture but also with insights into the times.



All about *Seonbi* or Men of Virtue of Joseon (Rep. of Korea)



Encyclopedia of Sri Lanka  
(Sri Lanka)

*Uriga jeongmalro araya hal uri Seonbi* by Jeong Ok Ja, Hyonam Publishing Co., 2002, 424 pages, 148 x 210 mm, 25,000 won (approx. US\$20.00), ISBN: 8932311560

Sri Lanka

**Encyclopedia of Sri Lanka**

The *Encyclopedia of Sri Lanka* is an A to Z guide to Sri Lanka. It is the first work of its kind in English and fills a gap in the reference literature on the island. It is a comprehensive general encyclopedia, covering almost every aspect of the country. It offers a wealth of information culled from a wide variety of sources. The range of information—presented in an easy-to-find style—is not to be found in any other single publication.

There is information on the country's geography and history, places and people, politics, religions, artists, academics, scientists and writers, presidents and prime ministers, economy and trade, education and health, agriculture and industry, and, art and culture. There is also information on the island's banking, cinema, cuisine, ethnic problems, population growth, telecommunications and much else.

The Encyclopedia is intended for the general reader and will be found useful in libraries, institutions, officers and homes. Visitors to Sri Lanka will welcome it, as will people abroad who have an interest in the country

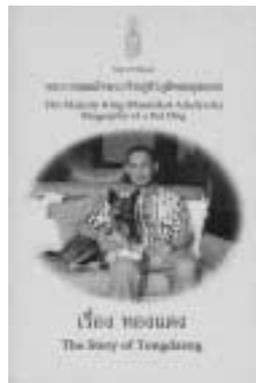
The book is illustrated with nearly 100 pictures, including 20 in colour.

*Encyclopedia of Sri Lanka* by C. A. Gunawardena, Sterling Publishers Private Lts. (A-59, Okhla Industrial Area, Phase II New Delhi 110020, India), 336 pages, LKR1,500, ISBN: 81207 2536 0

Thailand

**Biography of a Pet Dog: The Story of Tongdaeng**

This book was written by His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej of Thailand, telling the charming story of the life of his favourite pet dog named Tongdaeng (it means 'copper' for her reddish-brown colour), who used to be a stray, and is



Biography of a Pet Dog: The Story of Tongdaeng (Thailand)

now a common dog who is uncommon.

It is a bestselling book that has captured much attention from the press and the public. 50,000 copies were sold out in a few hours and 100,000 copies were ordered in the first day of its launching.

Tongdaeng is a four-year-old dog with special features including a white spot on her nose and the tip of the tail, a half necklace on her neck, four white socks, and a curly tail. Her dominant characteristics are cleverness and quickness to understand, good manners, gratitude, respect and utmost consideration.

*The Story of Tongdaeng* shows that with kindness, stray dogs can be taught to be good pets and man's best friends as the King says that, "Most adopted stray dogs are usually humble and exceptionally faithful to their owners as if they are grateful for this kindness. Some are attractive or have a distinctive smart look like Tongdaeng". This book is also a parable with clear messages, offering readers a rare insight into the private world of the King, his kindness and ideas that provide us with lessons of morality, gratitude and social manners. It is written in the third person style in Thai and English languages included with one hundred attractive photographs of the King and his pet.

*Biography of a Pet Dog: The Story of Tongdaeng*, content and picture by His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej, Amarín Printing and Publishing Company Limited (phone: 662-882-2000), 2002, 266 x 172 mm, 84 pages, 299 Baht (approx. US\$ 7.00)

Uzbekistan

**Arbain Qirq Khadis**

This book, consisting of forty quatrains, was written by Alisher Navoi in 1481 on the basis of forty kaddishes (prayers) of prophet Muhammad and in reference to Arbain by the Persian poet Djami. These poems carry ideas of kindness, nobleness and spiritual perfection in a person. It is especially relevant now, after years of Soviet ideological pressure, due to the national spiritual renaissance in Uzbekistan and Central Asia as a whole. Now



Arbain Qirq Khadis  
(Uzbekistan)

that this work has been translated into Russian language by Aydin Nadjafov it is accessible to an even wider audience. This book is also currently available at this web-site: [www.islam.ru](http://www.islam.ru)

*Arbain Qirq Khadis* by Alisher Navoi, translated into Russian by Aydin Nadjafov, Ijod Dunyosi (Tashkent), 2002

Viet Nam

**A Journalist, a Diplomat, a Personality and His Writings**

In this collection of memoirs and articles from this late hero's friends, colleagues and family members, a historical period of Viet Nam re-appears before the readers' eyes. That was the hardest moment of the struggle for national salvation and for the reunification of Viet Nam in which these persons and Truong Xuan Tham himself had been involved, and he himself had written about it in various ways: diaries, articles, reportages by a special style of a journalist, reporting about his diplomat's life travelling the world over.

This might not be just a story of a brave man's life, but also a relic for researchers to understand about Viet Nam and Vietnamese in the light of the past.

*Truong Xuan Tham, Nha bao, nha ngoai giao, con nguai va tac pham*, A collection of writings edited by Chu Giang, Vietnam Literature Publishing House, 2003, 145 x 200 mm, 336 pages, 60,000 VND (approx. US\$4.00)



A Journalist, a Diplomat, a Personality and His Writings (Viet Nam)

# GATHERINGS



Date	Title	Country (City) Organisers	Content	Bangkok International Book Fair 2003 sticker (Thailand)
2003 Mar. 27 –Apr. 7	<b>Bangkok International Book Fair</b>	Thailand (Bangkok) Ministry of Education, Publishers and Booksellers Association of Thailand (PUBAT)	This book fair is organized with the slogan “Open a Book: Open the World”, which conveys the idea that books are the gateway to the world. The aims of the fair are to foster a love of books and reading habits among children and the public, to stimulate the publishers in Thailand to publish a wide variety of quality books, and to provide a global meeting place for the exchange of ideas for people interested in the publishing industry. Programme comprised of exhibitions, workshops, seminars, training courses, speed reading contest, and lectures by Thai writers who received the S.E.A. Write Award. Contact: Book Development Centre, Department of Curriculum and Instruction Development, Ministry of Education, phone: (66) 2 2821816 ext. 502, and PUBAT, phone: (66) 2 9549563, e-mail: pubat@inet.co.th, <a href="http://www.bangkokibf.com/">http://www.bangkokibf.com/</a>	
Apr.	<b>Asia International Book Fair (AIBF) and International Library Expo (ILE)</b>	Singapore	AIBF/ILE is to provide Asian book and library professionals with the opportunities to network with business contacts at international level, conduct rights business, obtain the latest products and services, and view the latest technologies. <a href="http://www.aibf.com.sg">http://www.aibf.com.sg</a>	
April 2	<b>International Children’s Book Day (ICBD)</b>	International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY)	It is to inspire love of reading and to call attention to children’s books on or around 2 April, Hans Christian Andersen’s birthday. Brazil is the sponsoring country of this year’s ICBD with a poster by the Peruvian artist Rafel Fabrice Yockteng Benalcazar. The theme is “Books: The World in an Enchanted Network”. Contact: Brazilian Section of IBBY, e-mail: fnlij@alternex.com.br	
Apr. 22 –24	<b>Book Conference 2003</b>	Australia (Cairns)	This conference will address a range of critically important themes relating to the future of the book, as well as its past and the state of the book industry, books and reading today. Themes: An Enduring Information Architecture, New Technologies of the Book, Transforming the Book Business, and Changing the Work of the Writer. <a href="http://book-conference.com">http://book-conference.com</a>	
Apr. 23	<b>International Book and Copyright Day</b>	UNESCO	UNESCO seeks to promote reading, publishing and the protection of intellectual property through copyright by celebrating this Day throughout the world.	
Apr. 24 –27	<b>Tokyo International Book Fair (TIBF) 2003</b>	Japan (Tokyo) Japan Book Publishers Association (JBPA) and others	TIBF is the gateway to the world’s second largest publishing market, Japan. 6 specialized fairs are concurrently held with TIBF 2003, such as Children’s Book Fair, Editorial Production Fair, Digital Publishing Fair, etc. TIBF 2002 welcomed 541 exhibitors from 28 countries and attracted 42,565 visitors. <a href="http://web.reedexpo.co.jp/tibf/english">http://web.reedexpo.co.jp/tibf/english</a>	
May 4 –14	<b>16th Tehran Book Fair</b>	Iran (Tehran) Iran Cultural Fairs Institute	At this fair, publishers supply books directly, negotiate for future business, and exchange ideas. For Iranian society, this fair is the festival of books. e-mail: <a href="mailto:info@tibf.co.ir">info@tibf.co.ir</a> , <a href="mailto:reqbook@tibf.co.ir">reqbook@tibf.co.ir</a> , URL: <a href="http://www.tibf.co.ir/">http://www.tibf.co.ir/</a>	
May 19 –25	<b>Sydney Writer’s Festival</b>	Australia (Sydney)	A very popular annual event attracting writers from around the world. <a href="http://www.swf.org.au">http://www.swf.org.au</a>	
June 2 –27	<b>Book Development Fair</b>	Philippines National Book Development Board (NBDB)	The fair aims to showcase to the public the best of the book publishing industry. It will be held at the Glorietta in Ayala Center, Makati City. Paper manufacturers/suppliers, suppliers of printing machinery, and book forwarders, among others will be invited to show-case their wares in forty booths.	
June	<b>Public Reading Programme on Book Publishing and Marketing/Forum on Book Exportation</b>	Philippines NBDB	In June, in the 1st and 3rd week, the reading programme is in line with the agency’s commitment to promote good reading habits among Filipinos. It will initially be implemented in Metro Manila and will cater to various sectors, such as out-of-school youth; parents/housewives, and skilled workers. In the 2nd and 4th week, the Forum will be undertaken in coordination with the Book Exporters Association of the Philippines (BEAP), Philippine Educational Publishers Association (PEPA) and Book Development Association of the Philippines. Contact: NBDB, URL: <a href="http://www.nbdb.gov.ph/">http://www.nbdb.gov.ph/</a>	
Aug. 21 –22	<b>2003 APPA Annual General Assembly</b>	India (New Delhi)	2003 Asian Pacific Publishers Association (APPA) Annual General Assembly and APPA Publishing forum will be hosted by Federation of Indian Publishers (FIP). Contact: FIP, 18/1C Institutional Area (near JNU), New Delhi 110067, phone: (91) 11 696 4847, fax: (91) 11 686 4054	
Sep.	<b>Colombo International Book Fair</b>	Sri Lanka (Colombo)	The 2003 Colombo International Book Fair will be held in connection with the literary month, September, when many book exhibitions and fairs are held every year.	
Oct.	<b>International Congress</b>	Iran	International Congress of “Seda-ye Pa-ye Ab” (Foot Step of Water) will be held to commemorate the 75th birth anniversary of contemporary poet and painter, Sohrab Sepehri. e-mail: <a href="mailto:info@sohrab-sepehri.org">info@sohrab-sepehri.org</a> , <a href="http://www.sohrab-sepehri.org">http://www.sohrab-sepehri.org</a>	



## World Book and Copyright Day 23 April 2003

By celebrating this Day throughout the world, UNESCO seeks to promote reading, publishing and the protection of intellectual property through copyright.

23 April: a symbolic date for world literature for on this date and in the same year of 1616, Cervantes, Shakespeare and Inca Garcilaso de la Vega all died. It is also the date of birth or death of other prominent authors such as Maurice Druon, K.Laxness, Vladimir Nabokov, Josep Pla and Manuel Mej Vallejo. It was a natural choice for UNESCO's General Conference to pay a world-wide tribute to books and authors on this date, encouraging everyone, and in particular young people, to discover the pleasure of reading and gain a renewed respect for the irreplaceable contributions of those who have furthered the social and cultural progress of humanity. The idea for this celebration originated in Catalonia where on 23 April, Saint George's Day, a rose is traditionally given as a gift for each book sold. The success of the World Book and Copyright Day will depend primarily on the support received from all parties concerned (authors, publishers, teachers, librarians, public and private institutions, humanitarian NGOs and the mass media), who have been mobilized in each country by UNESCO National Commissions, UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations, Associated Schools and Libraries, and by all those who feel motivated to work together in this world celebration of books and authors.

from UNESCO website  
[http://portal.unesco.org/culture/ev.php?URL\\_ID=5125&URL\\_DO=DO\\_TOPIC](http://portal.unesco.org/culture/ev.php?URL_ID=5125&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC)



## 2003 UNESCO Prize for Children's and Young People's Literature in the Service of Tolerance

Created in 1995 as a follow-up to the United Nations Year for Tolerance, the UNESCO Prize for Children's and Young People's Literature in the Service of Tolerance is awarded every two years. It honours works for the young that best embody the concepts and ideals of tolerance and peace and pro-

mote mutual understanding based on respect for other people and cultures. The Prize was awarded for the first time in 1997.

For the 2003 awards the Organization received 353 entries from 54 countries in 35 languages, which were evaluated by independent readers in the original languages. A total number of 55 pre-selected books were submitted to the International Jury which met on 9 and 10 December 2002. From these, the Jury recommended to the Director-General one prize-winner for each of the two categories, who will receive US\$8,000 each donated by UNESCO's partner and prize sponsor, Ediciones S.M. of Spain.

The Prize-giving ceremony will be held at UNESCO, Paris, on 23 April 2003, World Book and Copyright Day.

### Books for children up to the age of 12:

#### *La Composición*

by Antonio Skármeta (Chile), illustrated by Alfonso Ruano, from Ediciones Ekaré (Venezuela)



"La Composición" (The Composition/La Rédaction)

A story about a boy living with his family under military dictatorship. He sees how his classmate's father is taken away in a military jeep, and one day a man in uniform visits his classroom and asks the children to write a composition about "What my family does at night". Thus Pedro must answer for himself the question he once asked his father: "Can children be against dictatorship?" With the creative force of a child's words, Pedro invents a story that will save his parents from coming under suspicion.

### Books for young people aged 13-18:

#### *Because Pula Means Rain*

Jenny Robson (South Africa) from Tafelberg (South Africa)

A story about what it means to be different. Emmanuel is an albino who lives in small village in Botswana with his grandmother. His greatest wish is to be brown like everybody else; he is ostracised by his peers, pregnant women turn away from him in fear and even his mother cannot bear to live with him. His story has an undercurrent of deep sadness and is one of a search for identity, a sense



"Because Pula Means Rain"

of purpose and meaning for this lonely boy. The writer highlights the effects of all kinds of discrimination, that against a "coloured" or mixed-race girl, or that against a blind girl. The story is also about different belief systems co-existing, for "in such a wide and open land spread out under such a wide and open sky, there is room enough for many beliefs and many truths."

## ACCU Activities in Jan.-July 2003

**2003 Invitation Programme for Korean Teachers of the ACCU Invitation Programme for International Educational Exchange of Teachers and Professionals**  
15-28 January, Tokyo, Japan

**Planning Meeting for the Afghan-UNESCO-ACCU Project for Promoting Literacy and Non-Formal Education in Afghanistan**  
28-29 January, Kabul, Afghanistan

**Production Meeting on PLANET 3 "Waste Management"**  
5-7 March, Tokyo, Japan

**Consultative Meeting for Establishing of the Literacy Resource Centre for girls and Women (LRC) in Sri Lanka**  
13-14 March, Moratuwa, Sri Lanka

**Meeting and International Symposium on Megalithic Culture—Comparing Prehistoric Ruins of the East and Europe**  
19-21 March, Nara, Japan

**Capacity Building Workshop for Literacy Resource Centres for Girls and Women (LRCs) in Asia and the Pacific**  
9-18 April, Chongqing, China

**"Palette of Dream Colours"**  
Exhibition of winning works of the 2002 Noma Concours for Picture Book Illustrations, co-organized with International Library of Children's Literature  
25 April-6 July, Tokyo, Japan

**International Seminar on Endangered Language in Asia and the Pacific**  
11-12 June, Tokyo, Japan

**Traveling Photo Exhibition in Asia and the Pacific "Joy of Sport"**  
23-27 July, Tokyo, Japan

**UNESCO Asia-Pacific Forum**  
29-31 July, Tokyo, Japan

(as of March 2003)



Planning Meeting for the Afghan-UNESCO-ACCU Project, Kabul, Afghanistan

## 20th Regional Workshop on Capacity Building for Trainers of NFE Facilitators in Asia and the Pacific

ACCU, the UNESCO Asia Pacific Regional Bureau for Education, and the Myanmar Education Research Bureau (MERB) of the Ministry of Education, jointly organized the 20th Regional Workshop in Yangon, Myanmar, from 3 to 12 December 2002.

Thirty-four experts, in responsible positions for training literacy and non-formal education (NFE) personnel in the areas of planning teaching-learning activities and producing learning aids/materials, and three resource persons, participated from 21 countries. Among these countries, the Workshop particularly welcomed Sri Lanka's first-time participation and Afghanistan's participation for the first time in 9 years.

One of the Workshop's main objectives was to provide training for trainers in the field of NFE, especially on: (1) understanding the factors which contribute to effective job performance as a trainer of NFE facilitators; and (2) developing, utilizing and managing learning aids/materials. During the Workshop, the activities were conducted in a very participatory manner. The participants enjoyed this participatory learning experience and friendly learning environment of the Workshop, and found the use of participatory training techniques and processes very useful and effective for their training programmes back home.

Throughout the workshop sessions, the participants developed their knowledge and skills to prepare a training programme for NFE personnel at grassroots level, which was the other main objective of the Workshop. As a result of the workshop, national follow-up action plans for national training activities in the field of capacity building of NFE personnel and material development utilizing ACCU/APPEAL resource packages were submitted.

ACCU and UNESCO will support these national follow-up activities both financially and technically, and place stress on mon-

itoring and evaluating these follow-up activities in order to help each country establish a framework for further strengthening the capacity building programmes for NFE. This is considered very important, with the belief that enhanced capacity of non-formal education in each country will contribute to realization of the goal of "Education for All".

### Contribution to Promotion of literacy and Non-Formal Education in Afghanistan

The Ministry of Education of Afghanistan, UNESCO and ACCU jointly organized the Planning Meeting for the Afghan-UNESCO-ACCU Project for Promoting Literacy and Non-Formal Education in Afghanistan from 28 to 29 January 2003 in Kabul, Afghanistan. Thirty-two participants gathered from the Literacy Department, Ministry of Education of Afghanistan, UNESCO and other international organizations, and local/international NGOs.

The main objectives of the Meeting were (1) to review the present situation of literacy/NFE in Afghanistan, (2) to share ideas on feasible NFE projects in the context of NFE policies of Afghanistan and (3) to explore an effective coordinating mechanism among key organizations for implementation of literacy/NFE projects, including "Literacy and Non-Formal Education Development in Afghanistan" (LAND AFGHAN).

The signing ceremony of LAND AFGHAN was held prior to the Meeting. The Plan of Operation was signed by Mr. Sayed Mohmood Khaliq, Deputy Minister for Education of Afghanistan in charge of literacy, and Mr. Martin Hadlow, Director, UNESCO

Kabul, in the presence of the Japanese Ambassador to Afghanistan and the participants of the Meeting.

In the course of the Meeting,

- the present literacy situation and on-going activities in Afghanistan were presented by the Literacy Department, Ministry of Education, UNESCO Kabul and UNICEF and reviewed by the participants;
- LAND AFGHAN was elaborated by UNESCO HQ and discussed by the participants. The project consists of two phases: Phase One is resource development and master trainers' capacity building and Phase Two is Literacy/NFE facilitators' capacity building and implementation of literacy/NFE classes with developed resources;
- technical resources which are adaptable in Dari and Pashtu languages in LAND AFGHAN were shared by UNESCO BKK, ACCU, Japanese National Commission for UNESCO and the National Federation of UNESCO Associations in Japan (NFUAJ) and resource persons. The regional resources available included *APPEAL Handbook for Non-Formal Adult Education Facilitators*, *APPEAL Handbook for CLC Establishment and Management*, *ACCU/APPEAL Handbook for Adult Learning Materials Development at Community Level*, *ACCU/APPEAL Literacy Clip Art and ACCU Material Kits on Health & Sanitation, Environment, Women's Empowerment, and Income Generation*, and
- the timeframe of LAND AFGHAN was discussed and the first draft was unanimously adopted.

It was reported during the Meeting that 69% of the total population of Afghanistan still lack the basic skills of reading, writing, and numeracy. Although many efforts have been made after the ending of more than two decades of turmoil, activities in the areas of adult literacy and non-formal education have not been progressing at the pace which had been anticipated, taking into account the large number of people in Afghanistan, men and women, urban and rural, who are very much in need of it. The LAND AFGHAN project is expected to meet this need.



Children participating in Income Generation Programme at CLC (Community Learning Centre), Myanmar

(20th Regional Workshop on Capacity Building for Trainers of NFE Facilitators in Asia and the Pacific in Myanmar and the Planning Meeting for the Afghan-UNESCO-ACCU project were financially supported by the "ACCU International Exchange Programme under the UNESCO/Japan Funds-in-Trust for the Promotion of International Cooperation and Mutual Understanding".)



Chinese teachers greeting to elementary school children in Okayama prefecture (Japan)



Some of newly published ACP vernacular versions

### ACCU Invitation Programme for International Educational Exchange of Teachers and Professionals

In August 2002, ACCU, in cooperation with the United Nations University (UNU), launched a new personnel exchange programme entitled the "ACCU Invitation Programme for International Educational Exchange of Teachers and Professionals". The programme aims to promote human capacity development and mutual understanding among teachers and professionals mainly in Asia and the Pacific region, and consists of two types of invitation projects, one for elementary and secondary school teachers and administrators, and another for scholars and professionals in the fields of education, culture, science and technology. During the first year of the programme ACCU invited to Japan about 200 school teachers from China and the Republic of Korea, and about 100 scholars and professionals from more than 30 countries in Asia and the Pacific.

As the "School Teachers Invitation Project", ACCU invited 97 elementary and secondary school teachers and administrators from China for two weeks from 1 to 14 December 2002, in close cooperation with the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of Japan (MEXT) and the Ministry of Education of the People's Republic of China. This programme was organized in commemoration of the 30th anniversary of the normalization of Japan-China relations, and was intended to provide Chinese school teachers with opportunities to observe and understand the Japanese educational system as well as Japanese culture.

The programme started with an opening ceremony in Tokyo, followed by lectures by MEXT staff on themes such as the Japanese educational system and teachers' training. In the reception on the same day teachers were welcomed by Minister Toyama Atsuko. After the visits to schools and a museum in Tokyo and a one-day tour to Hakone, they were divided into four groups, one group of elementary school teachers, another of junior-high school teachers and two other groups of high school teachers. Then, each group moved to one of the designated prefectures, namely Wakayama, Kochi, Okayama and Hiroshima respectively, and observed school class activities and exchanged opinions on various educational topics with Japanese teachers in those prefectures. They also

visited other educational institutions such as a prefectural institute for educational research and in-service teachers' training. The Chinese teachers participated very actively. In some groups, members held a meeting on their own initiative and compiled a list of questions to submit to the schools to be visited next day. In one evening during these activities, they visited several volunteer families in smaller groups and enjoyed dinner with members of the host families.

After six days in each prefecture, four groups assembled in Kyoto, where they visited several historic monuments of ancient Kyoto, one of the UNESCO World Heritages in Japan and the monument of Zhou Enlai in Arashiyama Park. The programme concluded with presentations by group leaders on activities in each prefecture to share experiences with other groups. ACCU hopes that these experiences and knowledge about the Japanese educational system will be widely shared with fellow Chinese teachers and their students, and facilitate mutual understanding of both countries.

### Newly Published ACP Vernacular Versions in 2001 and 2002

During Japanese fiscal years 2001 and 2002 (from April 2001 to March 2003), a total of 17 ACP vernacular version titles were published, or are still under production.

The basic scheme of the ACP vernacular version production is that ACCU lends the positive films free of charge to those countries wishing to use them, and sometimes buys a portion of the total copies printed, in order to encourage the publica-

tion by reducing the cost. The production of some versions was realised thanks to the financial support provided by such organisations as Japanese Trade Union Confederation (JTUC), Japan Association of Travel Agents (JATA), and Koishikawa Rotary Club.

What is noteworthy this time is that *Meet My Friends!* is now being published in two of the major Afghan languages, Pashto and Dari, with the kind cooperation of the National Book Foundation, Pakistan, and Institute for Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults, Iran. Those ACP national agencies have done production and distribution work for their neighbouring country. This is a part of the ACCU project called "Educational Support for Reconstruction of Afghanistan," and the book production was made possible by the financial assistance from the Tokyo Club, Japan.

The books are to be distributed to Afghan children living in refugee camps as well as inside Afghanistan. We sincerely hope the book brings some light to the children living in the war-torn environment, however difficult it may be to convey its version of the culture of peace.

Meanwhile, the titles from the Ecology Series continue to be translated and republished as local versions. This achievement has reported at the session "Water and Cultural Diversity," at the 3rd World Water Forum in Kyoto, Japan, in March 2003. ACCU welcomes the efforts and encourages publishers in the participating countries to produce vernacular versions of not only the latest titles but also the older ones, so that more children would have the chance to appreciate Asian and Pacific cultures.

Titles	Country	Language	Financial support providers
<i>Meet My Friends!</i>	Viet Nam	Vietnamese	
	Iran	Farsi	JTUC
		Dari	Tokyo Club
	Pakistan	Urdu*	JTUC
		Pashto	Tokyo Club
	Japan	Japanese*	
	Thailand	Thai*	
	Indonesia	English*	
<i>The Earth</i>	Iran	Farsi	
	Nepal	Nepali	JATA
	Thailand	Thai*	
	Indonesia	English*	
<i>Water</i>	Bangladesh	Bengali	JTUC
	Rep. of Korea	Korean	
	Myanmar	Myanmar	Koishikawa Rotary, ACCU
<i>Trees</i>	Iran	Farsi	
	Bangladesh	Bengali	JTUC

\*under production as of March 2003

# ACCU-LRC Network for the United Nations Literacy Decade (2003-2012)

(Literacy Resource Centres for Girls and Women)



**India (Jaipur)**  
Rajasthan Adult Education Association (RAEA)



**Mongolia** National Centre for Non Formal and Distance Education (NFDE)



**Philippines** Notre Dame Foundation for Charitable Activities Inc., Women in Enterprise Development (NDFCAI-WED)



**Bangladesh** Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM)



**India (Indore)** State Resource Centre for Adult Education, M.P., Bhartiya Grameen Mahila Sangh (SRC Indore)



**Myanmar** Myanmar Education Research Bureau (MERB)



**Sri Lanka** Sarvodaya Shramadana Movement of Sri Lanka (Sarvodaya)



**Bhutan** Non Formal Education Division, Education Department, Ministry of Health and Education (INFED)



**Indonesia** Studio Driya Media (SDM)



**Nepal** National Resource Centre for Non-formal Education (NRC-NFE)



**Thailand** Hill Area and Community Development Foundation (HADFI)



**Cambodia** Cambodian Women's Development Agency (CWDA)



**Iran** Literacy Movement Organization (LMO)



**Pakistan** Pakistan Girl Guides Association Punjab Branch (PGGA)



**Viet Nam** National Organization for Community Education, Continuing Education and Development (NOCEAD)



**China** Research and Training Centre for Literacy Education (RTCLE)



**Lao P.D.R.** Non-formal Education Development Centre (NFEDC)



**Papua New Guinea** Papua New Guinea Integral Human Development Trust (PNG Trust)



**ACCU**  
Asia/Pacific Cultural Centre for UNESCO



## The ACCU-LRC Network Promoting Literacy in Asia and the Pacific

The ACCU-LRC Network consists of leading literacy/NFE organisations in the Asia-Pacific region, providing technical, human, material and information resources for the individuals and organisations working for promotion of literacy in each country. With the start of the United Nations Literacy Decade from 2003, ACCU and LRCs would like to seek stronger partnerships with the publishing sector in each country to promote literacy and reading habits in the region.

More information about ACCU-LRC Network at <http://www.accu.or.jp/litdbase/literacy/lrc/> and the UN Literacy Decade at <http://www.unesco.org/education/litdecade>