National Bibliographies the Chinese Experience

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China National Bibliography: History

- China National Bibliography (中国国家书目 (1985)) was published in 1987.
- Compiled by the National Library of China
- Ceased to be published in 1994, because of
 - Financial problem,
 - Annual increase of publications,
 - Limited market.



Online National Bibliography

 Online database of the National Library of China is regarded as the electronic version of the China National Bibliography



CNB: Printed to Electronic

- Problem 1: Low legal deposit rate
- Problem 2: NLC doesn't collect children's books and school textbooks
- Problem 3: Lack of cooperation among Chinese libraries

CNB: Printed to Electronic

- Online Library Cataloging Center (OLCC, 全国图书馆联合编目中心) a part of the Acquisitions & Cataloging Department (图 书采选编目部) of NLC, discussing with Ex Libris to make an online cataloging module in its Aleph500 system
- To form a National Union Catalog.

CNB: Online Services

- Online Library Cataloging Center is distributing CNMARC records
- Source: NLC and other participating libraries
- Z39.50 access
- National center and provincial subcenters
- 1.2 million records with 0.1 million new records every year

Legal Deposit Policies in China

- No legal deposit law
- Regulations by government departments
- Not very effective
- Legal deposit copies (monographs):
 - GAPP (General Administration of Press and Publications): 1 copy
 - National Depository Library: 1 copy
 - National Library of China: 3 copies

Reasons of Low Deposit Rates

- NLC is not responsible for ISBN registration.
- About 70% for monographs.
- We are appealing to draft a national library law, which should include legal deposit issues.

Hong Kong, Macau and Taiwan

- Hong Kong returned to Chinese sovereignty in 1997
- Macau returned to Chinese sovereignty in 1999
- Special administrative regions of the People's Republic of China and have some independent powers: no legal deposit copies
- Taiwan: Political, not technical reasons.
- OLCC can provide CNMARC records of these publications collected in NLC.

Different Formats and Rules

- Mainland China: CNMARC based on UNIMARC
- Hong Kong: MARC21 and Western cataloging rules
- Macau: CNMARC and MARC21
- Taiwan: CMARC (similar to CNMARC) and MARC21
- Different rules, e.g. romanization of "毛泽东": "Mao Zedong", "Mao, Zedong", "mao ze dong".



Another National Bibliograhy?

- National Depository Library (NDL) under GAPP publishes National Register of Books (全国总书目) annually.
- A kind of national bibliography partly based on CIP information.
- Acquisitions librarians sometimes use it as "Books in Print"
- It doesn't strictly use library cataloging rules, and does not have output functions.



Authority Control

- Controversies among different library systems in China: Chinese characteristics and internationalization.
- NLC plans to correct records in its name authority database and the corresponding headings in bibliographical records.
- NLC is also making efforts to realize coordination with other libraries.



Problems (I)

- Two "national bibliographies".
- No foreign languages in the China National Bibliography.
- Narrow coverage.



Problems (II):

- Services to Foreign Libraries:
 - Conversion from CNMARC to MARC21 formats
 - Conversion from *Chinese Library Classification* to DDC
 - Conversion from Chinese characters to Pinyin Romanization and creation of 880 fields for Chinese characters
 - Manual and automatic conversion

Conclusions

- National Library of China is trying to consolidate its position as the national bibliographical agency.
- Make the National Bibliography Database more complete.
- Provide records with different formats for different users.



Thank you! 谢谢!

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