Indexing personal names

Centrepiece 4 to The Indexer, June 2008

C4: 1 Browser bar: personal names

C4: 2 Japanese names

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Browser bar

Compiled by Pierke Bosschieter

Personal names and how to index them seem to be an everlasting source of annoyance for many indexers. So here are a few web pages that can help you decide how to index names.

First and foremost the 'Centrepieces' of the *Indexer* on indexing names of specific cultural groups or language regions:

http://www.theindexer.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=85&Itemid=56

Some general sources

Names of persons: National usage for entry in catalogues: http://www.vcob.be/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/Vlacc_regelgeving/Regelgeving/vlacc_bronnen/vlacc_bronnenTitelbes chrijven/ifla NamesOfPersons/Menu.htm

Huridocs: How to record personal names:

http://www.huridocs.org/tools/doccentres At the bottom of the page is a link to the PDF file. You have to register once, which is free.

National Council on Archives: Rules for the construction of names:

http://www.nlw.org.uk/ncarules/rules2.htm#Royal AACR2, chapter 22, headings for personal names: http://www.library.yale.edu/cataloging/music/ pernames.htm

Pages for checking names

Library of Congress: http://authorities.loc.gov/ MSN Encarta encyclopedia: http://encarta.msn.com/ Highbeam Encyclopedia:

http://www.encyclopedia.com/ency4beta_default.aspx
African names database:

http://people.africadatabase.org/

Older Jewish names:

http://www.jewishencyclopedia.com/index.jsp
Australian names:

http://www.adb.online.anu.edu.au/adbonline.htm Canadian names: http://www.biographi.ca/EN/index.html New Zealand names: http://www.dnzb.govt.nz/dnzb/

Some pages with background on how names are constructed

Wikipedia: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Personal_name This is the starting point for several pages on personal names.

Chinese names:

http://www.pinyin.info/readings/texts/chinese_names.html
Vietnamese names:

http://www.saigon.com/~nguyent/hoa 03.html

Older Arabic names:

http://www.sca.org/heraldry/laurel/names/arabic-naming2.htm