

Indexing personal names

Centrepiece 4 to *The Indexer*, June 2008

C4: 1 Browser bar: personal names

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C4: 2 Japanese names

John Power

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_regeIgeving/Regelgeving/vlacc_bronnen/vlacc_bronnenTitelbeschrijven/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>