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Selected Topics on Hebraica Cataloging from the Heb-NACO Listserv

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[Editor's Note: Caroline Holt traveled from California to study Hebraica and Judaica Cataloging with me at YIVO in the Spring of 1993. She often posed specific questions on the establishment of name headings that could only be answered by a representative of the Library of Congress. In monitoring early printouts from the Heb-NACO listserv, I was pleased to note that Ms. Holt was an active participant, and that she was finally able to get her questions answered by LC catalogers. I invited her to write a column for Judaica Librarianship in which the key decisions reported on the listserv were presented systematically and thus could be shared with a wider audience.—B. H. W.]

Abstract: The Hebrew NACO (Name Authority Cooperative Program) Funnel Project, which began in October 1994, was the catalyst for creating the Heb-NACO listserv. Although the listserv was specifically designed to cover only Hebraic authority issues, it functions as a discussion group for all issues pertaining to Hebraica cataloging.

This paper reviews topics discussed over the first year of the listserv; sources of author names; Encyclopaedia Judaica printing dates; choice of language of entry; conflicting headings, cross references, and additional identifying information; items lacking collective titles; name changes; romanization issues; place names; subject issues; and Hebrew NACO Funnel Project statistics.

Introduction

The Heb-NACO (Name Authority Cooperative Program) listserv began as a result of the Library of Congress's Hebrew NACO Funnel Project to contribute Hebraic name authorities to the national database. The Funnel Project began in October 1994. The listserv provides a means for Funnel Project members to communicate and discuss topics relating to the establishment of Hebraic name authorities. In 1995, the scope of the listserv broadened slightly to include discussions on any topic relating to the cataloging of Hebraic and Judaic materials (private communication with Yossi Galron, listowner, August 15, 1995). Most queries are answered by Joan Biella, Heb-NACO's liaison to CPSO, and some by Paul Maher (former Team Leader, LC Hebraica Team). Questions on subject cataloging are answered by subject catalogers on LC's Hebraica Team, including Lenore Bell (Team Leader), Henry Lefkowitz, and Theodore Wiener.

To provide further detail on the content of this listserv, I quote the welcome screen sent out to all new subscribers:

Welcome to Heb-NACO. This listserv is dedicated to the sharing of topical and technical expertise among catalogers of Hebraica and Judaica. At present subscription is restricted to participants in the Name Authority Cooperative Program (NACO) of the Library of Congress; we hope it will eventually expand to include other Hebraica/Judaica catalogers worldwide. In addition to providing a forum for discussion of the technical aspects of cataloging using AACR2R (Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules, 2nd edition, revised), the Library of Congress Rule Interpretations, and Library of Congress Subject Headings, the list offers access to LC's Cataloging Policy and Support Office (CPSO). Information regarding LC's policies and practices provided via this list is intended to supplement, not replace, access through subscribers' NACO liaisons at their respective institutions, or through direct consultation of CPSO via Internet (at cpso@loc.gov). Queries from Heb-NACO, however, will benefit from on-the-spot negotiation by the list's liaison to CPSO, a cataloger on LC's Hebraica Team. (June 23, 1995)

Questions of broad interest are presented in this column. An attempt has been made to arrange them in a logical sequence, beginning with those relating to general principles and sources for establishing Hebraica name headings, and concluding with specialized topics. Basic knowledge of Library of Congress cataloging practices and tools is assumed on the part of the reader.

[Editor's Note: The NACO Hebraica Funnel Project was first mentioned in Judaica Librarianship vol. 8 (1994) in Note 3 to Rachel Simon's article, "Contributing Hebrew Name Headings to NACO: A Participant's View" (pp. 61–68). JL readers may wish to consult this article for further background on Library of Congress Hebraic authority practices.—B. H. W.]

Sources of Authority for Names

Encyclopaedia Judaica Printing Dates—One of the first major points brought up on Heb-NACO concerned the fact that Hebrew NACO contributors consult two different editions of the Encyclopaedia Judaica (EJ); 1971 and 1972. In addition, we determined that there are several printings of the 1972 edition, and not all are the same. These facts came to light when Rachel Simon (of Princeton University) researched a name and found inconsistent spellings in the different printings of the 1972 edition. This issue is especially important, because according to the Library of Congress Rule Interpretations (LCRI) for AACR2 rule 22.3C [Feb. 1, 1989], the EJ is the major authority (aside from the piece being cataloged) according to which Hebrew names are established. Joan Biella of LC suggested that we record the copyright date accurately to identify the edition of the EJ being used and not worry about the printing date. If someone discovers that a different printing has a variant spelling for a name, then that new form should be cited in a "sources found"

Other Research Tools—Some list-ings concern possibly duplicate authority records, i.e., two different headings for one person. Many questions concern already-established authors, in particular those who wrote on rabbinic topics, and whose similar names make them difficult to distinguish.

The first pair discussed were Vaisblum, El’ezre Lipa (authority record number n79-093277, see Figure 1) and El’ezre Lipa ben Elimelekh (record n80-034415, see Figure 2). Some listserv subscribers have access to research tools that others don’t. In this case, Yossi Galron of Ohio State University checked the card catalog of the Jewish National and University Library in Jerusalem as well as the CD-ROM Bibliography of the Hebrew Book, 1473–1980. Information provided by these sources enabled him to distinguish between the two authors (June 26, 1995). As a result, citations for sources found (the 670 fields in MARC authority records) were added to clarify which author wrote which book. Additional notes (in 667 fields) specifically distinguishing the two were also added (June 28, 1995).

Choice of Language of Entry

Several questions arose about choice of the preferred heading when a piece being cataloged presents forms of a name in more than one language. A question regarding personal names was presented by Rachel Simon. The book in hand was in Hebrew, but the name appeared prominently in Hebrew, in Arabic, and in Roman characters. The name was clearly Arabic in derivation. Rachel referred to LCRI 22.3C (Feb. 1, 1989), which concerns “names of persons with surnames written in the Hebrew alphabet.” It states, “Follow this order of preference for Hebrew and Yiddish persons with surnames.” To the question Who is a “Hebrew person?” Joan Biella responded that unless there is evidence to the contrary (such as information that the work in hand is a translation), a “Hebrew person” is one who writes in Hebrew script and should be established according to AACR2R rule 22.1B. In the case presented by Rachel Simon, where translation is not involved and we know of no other works by the author, he should be established neither from the Arabic form of his name nor from the Hebrew one, but from the Roman one, as per LCRI 22.3C (Feb. 1, 1989) (January 19, 1996). Many rabbinic texts written in pre-1917 Russia (and reprints of these) present both the names of authors and titles in Cyrillic at the bottom of title pages, following the Hebrew portion. When the chief source of information is in two different languages, which should be used for the heading? Since both forms appear on the chief source, they are equally “prominent.” However, the one in the original language of the entire work (in this case, Hebrew) is preferred (AACR2R rule 22.1B). For example:

Form on title page in Hebrew: Moshe Shalomoh ha-a.b.d. di-k.k. Nashelsk u-Partseve

Form on bottom of title page in Cyrillic: M. Sh. Levinson

Heidi Lerner (of Stanford University) asked how to determine the official language of a corporate body located in the United States but publishing in Hebrew (June 26, 1995).

Joan Biella responded that a corporate body should be established according to the formal presentation of its name in items issued by itself. “Formal presentations” are found in publisher statements and “at head of title.” If these are found in more than one language, an attempt is made to determine the “official language” of the body, per AACR2R rule 24.3A. The practice of LC’s Hebraica Team is to assume that a corporate body being newly established publishes in its official language, i.e., in the language of the item in hand. Thus Ms. Lerner’s heading was established as Hovat “Tsion” (Baltimore, Md.), with a reference from Zion Association (Baltimore, Md.). If further information about the body comes up at a later date regarding its official language, then the authority record can be changed (June 27, 1995). The Cataloging Policy and Support Office (CPSO) amplified this by saying that, in cases of doubt in identifying the official language, another option, per LCRI 24.3A [Jan. 5, 1989], is to establish a heading for a corporate body that uses more than one language according to the language of the country where the body is located (June 28, 1995).

Romanization and Script Issues

An issue not prompted by a specific problem or question concerned the use of the special character мăгкii znak (or “prime”). Hebraica Cataloging (HCM) (Maher, 1987, p. 14) says, “A мăгкii znak . . . is placed between two letters representing two distinct consonants when the combination might otherwise be read as a digraph [two letters representing a single sound].” In Hebrew this confusion can only occur between “h” and “s” when they represent tav-samekh with no vowel between them and “ts” when it represents tsadie; between “s” and “h” (samekh-he with no vowel between) and “sh” representing shin; and between “k” and “h” (kaf-he with no vowel between) and “kh” (khaa). The combination “kh” (tav-he with no vowel between) is not ambiguous, since “kh” is never read as a digraph in Hebrew romanization (August 4, 1995).

Examples:

Hithavutah—no мăгкii znak
Hilideshalmer (мăгкii znak between “s” and “h”)

Kalkhaim (мăгкii znak between “k” and “h”)

Another issue that I posted to Heb-NACO as well as Hasafra (the general listserv of the Association of Jewish Libraries) concerned the native script of the Ladino language (August 14, 1995). An answer was posted to Hasafra by Zachary Baker via

Key to Initialisms and Acronyms

AACR2—Anglo-American Cataloging Rules, 2nd ed.
AACR2R—Anglo-American Cataloging Rules, 2nd ed., 1988 revision
BGN—U.S. Board on Geographic Names
CDS—Cataloging Distribution Service
EJ—Encyclopaedia Judaica
GNS—GEOnet Names Server
GPO—Government Printing Office
HCM—Hebraica Cataloging: A Guide to ALA/LC Romanization and Descriptive Cataloging, by Paul Maher
LC—Library of Congress
LCCN—Library of Congress Control Number
LCRI—Library of Congress Rule Interpretations
MARC—Machine Readable Cataloging
N—authority record contributed by LC
NACO—Name Authority Cooperative Program
OCLC—Online Computer Library Center
RLIN—Research Libraries Information Network
Figure 1. Name authority record using a 667 note to distinguish it from another established heading. See Figure 2 for the parallel record.

Figure 2. Name authority record using a 667 note to distinguish it from another established heading. See Figure 1 for the parallel record.
myself. Zachary stated that Ladino was originally written in Hebrew script but in the 20th century it has been more commonly written in Roman script. Varying Romanizations have been used, depending upon the country of publication (Turkey, the former Yugoslavia, etc.) but Hebrew is the default script (Haseflan, August 15, 1995). [See Mr. Baker's article on Ladino romanization in Judaica Librarianship vol. 9 (1995), pp. 48-56—Ed.]

A related question concerned the formatting of the new language note field (MARC tag 546) for Ladino language in Roman characters (see Cataloging Service Bulletin no. 78, pp. 38-40). (In a formatted language note, the first subfield consists of the name of the language, and the second subfield ("b") consists of the script in which it is written—C.G.H.) LC does not use the second part of the field to indicate the script the language is written in if it is the normal script for that language. If the work is in Ladino in Hebrew script, for example, LC does not spell that out explicitly, but if the script is Roman, the 546 note would read: "In Ladino +b (roman)." If both Hebrew and Roman scripts are found in the piece, the note would read: "In Ladino +b (roman and Hebrew)." Similar examples can be found in LCRI 1.782. [The designation of the script is enclosed in parentheses. It does not follow a semicolon as indicated in the OCLC documentation (Bibliographic Formats and Standards, 2nd ed., 1996)—C.G.H.] (August 24, 1995).

Joan Biella reminded us that LC has recognized that the name alef-yod-yod-zayin-yod-laut is "characteristically Yiddish" (like "Levy," the example in HCM, p. 23), and should therefore be transcribed as "Ayzik" in systematic romanization. All "Aiziks" have been removed from the LC Name Authority File, except for a few Russians, a couple of Hebrew authors established in non-systematic Romanization, and a few references from the old form which she left in records when she changed the heading to "Ayzik." For new records, the form "Aizik" need not necessarily be used even in see references (October 12, 1995). The designation "characteristically Yiddish" applies only to forenames, not to surnames (October 13, 1995).

Conflicting Headings, Cross References, and Additional Identifying Information

When it is necessary to set up a heading that conflicts with a cross reference in another record, some sort of additional information, such as a date, a fuller form of name, or other distinguishing terms (AACR2R rules 22.17—22.19) must be added. If several types of "conflict breakers" are available (e.g., a date and a title), how many should be included in the heading? The name which provoked this query was "Kohen, Mosheh Yehudah," which conflicted with an identical see reference on the record for "Kohn, Murray J."

Joan Biella writes that in such circumstances, it is desirable to qualify the new heading in some way, if possible, to distinguish it from the identical cross reference. (If this is not possible, the next best choice is to qualify the conflicting reference in the already-established record.) The chief source of the piece in hand reads "ha-R. Mosheh Yehudah Kohen, H.y.v., shamashe k'k Kenezet Eliyahu," and the term of address "ha-R." can be used to qualify the new heading. (No amplification of an abbreviation, such as "ha-Ray," should be used unless that actual form is found with the name, per AACR2R rule 22.1981. AACR2R generally calls for the omission of titles such as Rabbi, unless needed to break a conflict with an existing heading.) As a result, this author was established as "Kohen, Mosheh Yehudah, ha-R."

If a heading and a reference conflict and no suitable qualifier can be found, the see reference can be re-coded as a see also reference (change the 4XX to a 5XX, in MARC tags), per LCRI 26.2C [Feb. 15, 1994]. If two headings cannot be distinguished, however, there is no choice but to create an "undifferentiated" or "non-unique" name per AACR2R rule 22.20A, putting both names into the same authority record (July 20, 1995).

Another issue regarding conflicts arises when two headings differ but their cross references conflict. The examples cited were "World Zionist Organization. Dor Hemshech Institutes" and "World Zionist Organization. Young Leadership Division" (LC record numbers n83-163830 and n77-8644). Each record includes references with variants of the words "Dor Hemshech," but none of the references in either record is exactly identical to any of those in the other. Even if some of the references in these records were identical there would be no problem, since it is legitimate for references to be identical. Special conflict-breaking measures must be taken only when a reference conflicts with a heading or headings conflict with each other, as described above (July 20, 1995).

When establishing a name for which additional identifying information is available (date, title, fuller form of name, etc.), how much may you add, and in what situations? For names entered with initials, dates and fuller forms are required additions if this information is available, with certain limitations (see section below, "Mix and Match" Romanization Issues). If the name being established does not include a surname, AACR2R rule 22.8A1 advises us to "include in the name any words or phrases denoting place of origin, domicile, occupation, or other characteristics that are commonly associated with the name in works by the person in reference sources"—substantive elements, in other words, excluding blessings such as zal, shelita, z'y'a, and the like. CPSO interprets the phrase "associated with the name" to mean "immediately contiguous to the name." (Note: The Hebraica Team, with the help of CPSO, is considering possible revisions to the current practice described here.)

If the cover of a book is being used as the chief source of information, as is the case for many reprints, no source inside the book is considered prominent. Thus, if the author's name does not appear on the cover, the fullest form found elsewhere in the piece should be taken as the heading. If an eligible form of the name is found which includes a surname, the "word or phrases, etc." information (MARC tag 1XX, subfield "c") must be omitted per AACR2R rule 22.15C (even if it is "associated with the name"); because rule 22.8A1 applies only to headings without surnames (September 29, 1995).

Joan Biella brought to everyone's attention that headings can be found in the authority file which, incorrectly, do not conform to AACR2R rule 22.15C. The rule reads: "Do not add other titles or terms associated with names entered under surname unless they are required to distinguish between two or more persons with the same name and neither dates nor fuller forms of name are available." This generally means that no name entered under surname may have a "title or term associated with the name" qualifier (MARC subfield "c"), unless the heading would otherwise conflict with another. If, for example, the Encyclopaedia Judaica calls someone "Phinehas Shapiro of Korets," the heading will be "Shapiro, Phinehas," not "Shapiro, Phinehas, of Korets" unless there is a conflict with some other Phinehas Shapiro that cannot be broken by means of a fuller form of name (appearing in MARC subfield "q") or dates (appearing in MARC subfield "d"). Note that the "titles" "ha-Kohen" and "ha-Levi" (appearing in MARC subfield "c") are exempted from this rule since they are treated as "titles of nobility" (AACR2R, rule 22.12A1). As such, they can occur with both surname and forename-only headings (November 8, 1995).
I posted a query regarding how much information to include in a heading entered under forename. My text read: "Me'ir a.b.d. di-ḳḳ Korstshov ve- Hodorkov ben ha-Rav Natan (see Figure 3). Joan Biella responded that according to LC's interpretation of AACR2R rule 22.8A1, when a sequence of names is interrupted by something substantial, such as "any words or phrases denoting place of origin, domicile, occupation, or other characteristics that are commonly associated with the name," LC stops transcribing names at that point. This is why, in some cases, even authors whose actual surname appears on their title pages sometimes end up established without it, if "words or phrases, etc." interrupt the forename(s). ... surname sequence (October 3, 1995). [See Figure 4 for the resulting authority record—LC record number 95c48740—C.G.H.] (Note: The Hebrewica Team, with the help of CPSO, is considering possible revisions to the current practice described here.)

The LC Hebrewica Team came upon a book with an author's name in Hebrew on the title page and a non-systematically Romanized form of the name on the verso of the title page. They were prepared to set the heading up according to the non-systematically Romanized form (LCRI 22.3C0) [Feb. 1, 1989] but found that it conflicted with an identical heading already established in the authority file. On p. [4] of the cover the author's name in Hebrew appeared, preceded by "Dr." (in Hebrew). The Team asked CPSO whether it would be valid to "mix and match" this kind of qualifier for a name, that is to say, attach the "Hebrew" "Dr." to the "English" form of the name used in the heading, in order to avoid a conflict. The response from CPSO was that this is legitimate, if no other way to break the conflict is available (November 3, 1995). In other words, qualifying "words and phrases, etc." (MARC subfield "c") can be "mixed and matched" but not fuller forms of name qualifiers (MARC subfield "q") (November 29, 1995).

I asked why a full Hebrew form of name from the title page cannot be used as a heading if the non-systematic Romanization on the verso of the title page (or other prominent source) would conflict with an existing heading. Joan responded that this is one of the consequences of the strongly-felt desire expressed by Judaica librarians to be allowed to use prominent Romanized forms of name found elsewhere than the chief source, if the chief source is in Hebrew script. This practice, which is established in a footnote in AACR2R (p. 390, alternative rule 22.3C2), is unique to languages in the "Hebraic" script; the rule was made in response to requests from

Figure 3. Title page of a work by Me’ir, a.b.d. di-ḳḳ Korstshov ve- Ḥodorkov.  
catalogers of Hebraica. [The rule change is documented in Judaica Librarianship vol. 2 (1985), p. 15, in the CATALOG DEPARTMENT column edited by Pearl Berger and Sharona R. Wachs—Ed.] Occasional cases like the one described here are the price we pay for being allowed, exceptionally, to use non-chief-source forms at all. Only catalogers working with "Hebraic" script have the freedom to use prominent Roman-script forms in headings as prescribed in LCRI 22.3C [Feb. 1, 1989] (November 3, 1995).

Items Lacking Collective Titles

I came across a book issued by a commercial publisher that was originally issued as three separate books (a common situation with rabbinic materials). I found three separate LC printed card sets relating to this volume, with post-AACR2 dates [AACR2 was originally published in 1978—C.G.H.] in the prefix of the LC card numbers (LCCN's): 81-456064, 81-458065, and 81-458066. I located these records in the PreMARC database (pre-1978), but not via LC's LOCIS (1978-current records). All three works were by Leopold Greenwald, and all three titles were listed on the cover: Shem ha-gedolim, Korot ha-Toar, and Li-felagot Yi'asher, Each work had a separate title page. Was it correct to create three separate records if the works were issued bound together by a commercial publisher, as the three separate LC card sets suggested?

More recent LC records (e.g., LC record number 85-132740) list the titles of all the works in the title field (MARC tag 245) on one record with various notes. Which is the correct way to catalog these items? (August 17, 1995)

Paul Maher gave us some clues for detecting pre-AACR2 records. In spite of the "81-" prefixes, all of these records are AACR1 records, not AACR2. Here are some indications:

1) AACR2 printed cards issued by LC all carry the legend "AACR2" in the lower-right portion of the card.
2) "s.l.: s.n." is used in the imprint statement. AACR2 requires "H.m.: h. mo.") [H.m. = Hazer makom; h. mo. = Hazer moti le-or—C.G.H.]
3) Theoretically, there are no AACR2 records in the PreMARC database, as alluded to in HCM, p. 56.

For those curious about LC trivia: Prior to 1981, before Hebrew cataloging was produced in machine-readable form, cards accompanied the books through the cataloging stream and were edited, added to, etc. After completion of the cataloging process, these cards were sent to the Government Printing Office (GPO), via the Cataloging Distribution Service (CDS), for typesetting. The LCCNs were assigned subsequent to the cataloging process, which is how some pre-AACR2 bibliographic records ended up with an "81-" prefix in the card numbers. These were in the "pipeline."

Regarding the other portions of my question:

1) LC does not create "in" analytics except in very special circumstances (LCRI 13.5) [Jan. 5, 1989].
2) If the three items were "issued bound together by a commercial publisher," under AACR2R a single record would be made. AACR2R rule 1.1G (and its rule interpretations) would apply (August 21, 1995).

As Heidi Lerner suggests, the chief source of information is any source which contains information about the entire contents of an item. A note specifying the source of the title (e.g., "Title from cover") and analytical added entries for the individual titles are required, as provided by various rules. If there is no collective chief source of information, a general note can be substituted: "No collective title page; titles transcribed from individual title pages" (August 18, 1995). If any source is found that is "title-page-like" and refers to the whole item, not just to one of its parts (e.g., Sheloshah sefarim niftahim), it should be treated as a collective title, per AACR2R rule 21.7B (September 19, 1995).

Another issue regarding items lacking a collective title is the transcription of the statement of responsibility if it differs in the sepa-
arate works within the piece. According to AACR2R rule 1.1G3, when a piece consists of individual works without a collective title but by the same author, the titles in the 245 field are separated by semicolons. How is the statement of responsibility to be transcribed if it varies on the individual title pages? In my example, the first title page had: me-iti Yekuti'el Yuda Grinvald (Yuda spelled yod-yay-dalet-alef); the second and third works had: me-eti Yekuti'el Yehudah Grinvald (August 22, 1995). The Cataloging Policy and Support Office (CPSO) responded:

When there is more than one statement of responsibility for the same personal author, it is a matter of cataloger judgment which one to record in the title and statement of responsibility area (August 30, 1995).

Name Changes

Paul Maher reminded us that if an author changes his or her name, then the heading should be changed to reflect that fact, and the related bibliographic records also need to be changed. It is not sufficient just to record information about the new name in the "source data found" (MARC tag 670) field of the authority record and to make new references to it. According to AACR2R rule 22.2C1, the heading must be changed and the bibliographic records must be modified accordingly. (LC must also be notified in these instances so that they can change the records in their database.) A recent example of LC's adherence to this rule is the heading for "Ron-Feder, Gaillah," which has been changed to "Ron-Feder-Amit, Gaillah, 1949-" (August 10, 1995).

Some name-change situations can be still more complicated. Joan Biella brought up another which had to be addressed by CPSO. The piece in hand gives the Yiddish author's name on the verso of the title page in Roman script in the form "Solomon Brodsay." The title page records the name as "Shelomoh Brodski (Shuler)." The Leksikon fun der nayer Yidisher literatur informs us that Brodski was his original name and Shuler his later name. Which form takes precedence, the prominent Roman form or the later, that is, the changed form?

CPSO replied that, since the later form is on the title page, that is the form that should be used in the heading per AACR2R rule 22.2C1. In this example, a form other than a prominent Roman one takes precedence, and furthermore, a form presented in parentheses in the chief source of information is used in the heading. Neither of these results is common. The case of Avi'el, Avraham, 1929— (LC record number nr95-26920) provides a similar example. The title page had "Avraham Avi'el" in Hebrew, the verso of the title page had "A. Aviel Lipkuruski" in Roman, and the back of the cover had "Avraham Avi'el (Lipkunski)" in Hebrew (September 18, 1995).

Joan Biella sent a general reminder that when establishing an author of belles-lettres, any NACO library may request that LC assign the author an "official" cutter number (MARC 035 field), which can then be input into the name authority record. A NACO library may also request an 053 field retrospectively for authors who have already been established but still lack LC bibilographic records. Information relating to establishing cutter numbers is found in section F632 of the Subject Cataloging Manual: Classification, 1st ed., 1992 (December 5, 1995).

"Mix and Match" Romanization Issues

Heidi Lerner wished to establish an author whose name was recorded prominently as "S. M. Brod" in Roman characters. The Hebrew title page gave his name as "Shemu'el Menahem Brod." She had also identified an RIN heading for "Brod, Samuel Menahem." Her question was, Is such an RIN heading a legitimate source of information for the "fuller form of a name" when a heading is to be established in non-systematic Romanization? (September 15, 1995).

Yossi Galron stated that he would establish the name as "Brod, S. M.," with cross references from "Brod, Shemu'el Menahem" (the systematic Romanization from the Hebrew title page) and another cross reference from "Brod, Samuel Menahem" (the form from RIN). He feels that the information available so far does not provide the author's own choice of non-systematic Romanization for his forenames (September 15, 1995).

Joan Biella restated the query as follows: If the piece in hand gives an author's name with forename initial(s) only, and the only source which spells out the initial(s) is a (non-LC) heading in RILIN or OCLC, may we add the forename from the RILIN or OCLC heading to the new heading in a qualifier statement, if this does not create a "mix and match" situation of systematic Romanization and non-systematic? These situations usually occur when the new heading will be in non-systematic Romanization, and usually when the forename in question is a standard English-Bible one, like "Samuel" in Heidi Lerner's example. Opinions varied among LC Hebraica catalogers about this query. Did the author himself ever use the name "Samuel" or did some cataloger put in the "biblical" form of the forename just because of a local practice, as LC used to do in pre-AACR2 times?

It is, however, agreed that the bibliographic utilities and other Roman-script sources may legitimately provide such information. LCRI 22.18A requires the cataloger to feel that the full form of the name is known "with certainty," which means it is a matter of judgment. Joan Biella and Heidi Lerner agreed to take the liberal view and accept the forenames provided in the RILIN heading as reasonably certain; they would establish the heading as "Brod, S. M. (Samuel Menahem)," Yossi Galron, taking the conservative viewpoint, would not add the qualifier. Either view is legitimate. However, it is definitely not legitimate to use a forename from RILIN or anywhere else in a qualifying statement if your "sources found" notes (MARC tags 670) show more than one possible spelled-out form for the initial(s) in the heading—both the non-systematic romanizations "Samuel" and "Shmuel," for example (September 19, 1995).

Place Names

It is rare for an Israeli geographic name to be established in the name authority file in anything but systematic Romanization. Why does it work out that way? LCRI 23.2 [May 1996] (p. 1) states:

For other names [i.e., those not in the United States, Great Britain, Australia, New Zealand, or Canada], base the heading on the form found in the work being cataloged together with a consideration of the form found on GNS [GEOnet Names Server, Defense Mapping Agency (the BGN [U.S. Board on Geographic Names] foreign names system)]... GNS may be accessed through the World Wide Web (http://www.nima.mil/wns/html/index.html) (or an appropriate gazetteer if access to the World Wide Web is not available).

The LCRI continues, "If the BGN approved both a vernacular and an English form (called a conventional name in BGN terminology), use the English form."

The LC Hebraica Team practice is described in Paul Maher's Hebraica Cataloging (HCM) (1987, pp. 66-67). The Team members apply the option of using the BGN Gazetteer of Israel (2nd ed., 1983) for all place names in Israel. They also use the 1992 Gazetteer of the West Bank and Gaza Strip. In applying this rule interpretation,
they must consider the form found in the work together with the form provided by BGN. In practice, this produces an established form which is:

1) in ALA-LC (also called "standard" or "systematic") Romanization,
2) as found in the work being cataloged,
3) unless BGN provides a non-systematic Romanized form and marks it "conventional." This condition is rare; the record for Haifa (Israel) is an example (July 20, 1995).

Subject Heading Issues

"Controversial literature."—Since "Karaites—Controversial literature" is a valid subject heading, why do we find "Judaism—Controversial literature" and not "Jews—Controversial literature"? Henry Lefkowitz of LC clarified the passage in Subject Cataloging Manual: Subject Headings, 5th ed., 1996 (H1472): “Use the free-floating subdivision—"Controversial literature" under religions and their sects. Christian denominations, and monastic and religious orders...". "Karaites—Controversial literature" was assigned to certain works because Karaites are being treated under this memo as a sect of Judaism. LC has treated the subject heading "Jews" as a heading for an ethnic group, for which "Controversial literature" is inapplicable (December 13, 1995).

Note: CPSO is currently considering a proposal to discontinue use of the subdivision—Controversial literature, as well as the related subdivision—Apologetic works. An article and invitation for comment appeared in the Winter 1998 issue of Cataloging Service Bulletin (no. 79), p. 29.

Hebrew cross references.—I asked why there are no cross references to "Ma'asfer" in the record for "Tithes," especially since "Ma'asfer" is the original biblical term. Theodore Wiener and Lenore Bell responded by citing the Subject Cataloging Manual: Subject Headings, H373, section 7: "Do not add UFs [used for] references to topical headings from their equivalents in foreign languages, unless they are in widespread English language usage."

A related question was why there is no cross reference from "Aseret ha-dibrot" in the record for "Ten commandments." Joan Biella pointed out that "Ten commandments" is an old name authority record which could use some updating. She reminded us that there is no rule prohibiting us from adding Hebrew cross references to a name authority record as long as we can back them up with the appropriate "sources found" fields (December 8, 1995).

Hebrew NACO Funnel Project Statistics

Rosalie Katchen, the Hebrew NACO Funnel Project coordinator, reported that as of October 1, 1995, there were 314 new name authority records and 49 updates of name authority records contributed by Funnel Project members. As the larger contributors become independent contributors of personal names, she expects the statistics to be even higher (October 24, 1995).

Current statistics for the Hebrew NACO Funnel Project are as follows. For fiscal year 1996, the Funnel contributed 413 new name authority records, 25 series authority records, and 67 changes. For fiscal year 1997, the Funnel contributed 344 new name authority records, 40 series authority records, and 97 changes.

Conclusions

The Heb-NACO listserv has proven itself to be a valuable tool for its subscribers. Active contributors, including members of the LC Hebraica Team, have given invaluable input for dealing with complicated Hebrew authority issues. On several occasions, subscribers were able to check reference tools to assist others who did not have them available. In the past, Hebraica catalogers had to rely solely upon the Library of Congress's printed documentation for guidance in setting up local authority records. Now, as more of us are able to contribute full Hebrew authority records to the national database, the Heb-NACO listserv has provided opportunities previously never available to us—to consult with other Hebrew catalogers as well as to consult with LC Hebraica Team members directly, and to have our queries to LC's Cataloging Policy and Support Office mediated by a liaison from LC familiar with the specific problems of our cataloging genre.

References


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Joan Biella, M.L.S., holds a Ph. D. from Harvard in Near Eastern languages. She is a descriptive cataloger on the Hebraica Team at the Library of Congress and acts as NACO liaison for the Hebrew Funnel Project. She coordinates the Heb-NACO listserv.