



# iBBY Asian Newsletter

December 2011

No.2

## Dear IBBY colleagues around the world!

This is the second Middle East and Asian Regional Newsletter. We are very glad that this time we have more contributions from the regional national sections to reflect more comprehensively the efforts of our IBBY colleagues in this part of the world. In 2012 we plan to publish two more issues and sincerely hope that all national sections in the region will join us in this opportunity to share their news and achievements with the IBBY family. We have to thank Mehrdad Mohammadi, the Iranian colleague, for doing the layout of this newsletter. Please don't hesitate to send us your comments and requests. We are looking forward to receiving them. Please accept our early best wishes for 2012.

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## Australia

### IBBY Australia

2011 has indeed proved to be a challenging year for IBBY in Australia. A major step was taken at our AGM held on the 2nd April, in Sydney, NSW when we passed our Constitution enabling us to become an incorporated body, an essential step in legalizing and formalizing our work in this country. Technology has assisted our communications over this vast continent, with email, three electronic newsletters and the first teleconference of our committee, facilitating being in touch with one another and building a sense of community and commitment.

Three fundraisers this year have contributed to the payment of our annual levy, the 2012 HC Andersen Award nomination fees and postage costs. We are pleased to have nominated writer Christobel Mattingley, AM and illustrator, Bob Graham. Currently we do not receive any government support, so fund raisers and increasing our membership base have been essential to meet our IBBY commitments.

International Children's Book Day (ICBD) was celebrated in Sydney with presentations by Nadia Wheatley and Jeannie Baker and honouring Dr Maurice Saxby with Life Membership, a Dinner in Fremantle, WA where readers and writers spoke about their favourite childhood poem, lunches in Tasmania in both Hobart and Launceston, and storyteller Bettina Nissen inspiring school children at a Queensland state school.

A thrill for all in the children's literature network in Australia was Shaun Tan winning an Oscar for the short animated film *The Lost Thing* and also the 2011 Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award. Shaun's international success has delighted us and we look forward to his keynote address at the 2012 London IBBY Congress.

ICBD - Fremantle, WA where IBBY members spoke about their favourite childhood poems and stories.



ICBD - Sydney with Jeannie Baker and Nadia Wheatley receiving flowers from students at Santa Maria del Monte School.



## Cambodia

### IBBY Cambodia

Cambodia was accepted as a National Section of IBBY in April this year, following the Executive Committee meeting at the Bologna Bookfair. We would like to thank the EC and IBBY for accepting our application, Liz Page for her assistance as we prepared the application, and the IBBY sections and members from around the world who have sent messages of support. In particular, we would like to thank IBBY Sweden who generously sponsored our membership.

Our institutional members are local publishers and international NGOs and our individual members include writers, illustrators, editors, lecturers, teachers, and other professions. We have formed a committee of volunteers to organize and manage the activities of IBBY Cambodia. The first of which was to nominate titles to the IBBY Honor List 2012 in the categories of author and illustrator. We are delighted that Cambodian produced and published books will be represented in this international collection. The selection process has also been an interesting experiment for IBBY Cambodia as this is the first time this has been undertaken with children's books in Cambodia. We are currently discussing ideas for how to promote the shortlisted books locally, and to use this as an opportunity to raise awareness of quality standards in producing children's books.

IBBY Cambodia is also preparing for our first event, a workshop to be held in early 2012. The workshop is targeted at people working in producing children's books, or involved in related fields, and we hope will introduce IBBY Cambodia to a wider audience. We also aim to discuss some of the issues currently affecting publishers and others involved with creating and producing books in order to get feedback on areas of interest which IBBY Cambodia could target in future activities.

IBBY Cambodia is also looking forward to future opportunities to communicate and collaborate with our IBBY colleagues in the region and around the world.



## China

### CBBY (IBBY China)

#### Shanghai Book Fair

The Shanghai Book Fair was held in Shanghai Exhibition Center in August. Covering an area of 22,000 square meters, the Shanghai book fair featured approximately 500 publishers from all over China presenting over 150,000 titles. The Fair is a great festival of books and provides a feast of reading for book lovers.



A special hall is dedicated to children's book, and there is also a International Children's Book Carnival followed by a variety of reading promotion events. Unusually, a great number of original books in the English language were exhibited and sold. Sir. Moritz Neugebauer from the Consulate General of Germany in Shanghai, executive committee member of IBBY Mr. Mingzhou Zhang and chief editor from Popular Science Press Mr. Yan Shi were invited as special guests to give speeches at the launch of a German series detective book for children "Kugelblitz Kommissar", namely Detective Lightening Ball by Schneiner Press, Germany.

#### National Children's Book Fair (Shenyang City)

In September, the national children's book fair was held in Shenyang, capital city of Liaoning Province in the northeastern part of China. Around 15,000 books from 33 professional children's publishing houses were presented. Titles included early childhood education, popular science for teenagers, children's literature, cartoon and animations, half of which were newly published this year. President of CBBY Mr. Hai Fei completed the variety of books on display, and commented on recent publishing trends.





## National Children's Book Summit & International Children's Book Fair (Shenzhen)

September also brought the National Children's Book Summit which was held in Shenzhen Children's Library. This was largest summit for the country's library system and provides a forum to study how to serve the needs of young people better. Approximately 90 children's libraries from around the country were represented. The audience also included children's books reading promoters, children's literature writers and representatives from more than 30 publishing houses.



During the same time, International Children's Book Fair was also held in the Shenzhen Children's Library. The fair presented more than 500,000 titles of books for children ranging from 0-18 years old. The materials and documents were not only from domestic Press but also from publishers around the world. The aim of the event is to introduce excellent international children's books to the Chinese reader. The organizers hope that one day the atmosphere and significance of the fair might equal the Frankfurt Book Fair in Germany and the Bologna Children's Book Fair in Italy.

## Reading Promotion Lecture-"Let the Popular Science Reading Be a Fashion" in Shenzhen

In September, the chief editor of Popular Science Press Mr. Yan Shi was invited to Shenzhen Nanshan School Affiliated with China National Institute for Educational Research to give a lecture to their 5th and 6th grade students, titled "Let Popular Science Reading Be a Fashion". During the lecture, editor Yan Shi firstly gave an overview introduction of the world popular science reading among children, then showed the students animations about popular science and reading promotion.. He also gave some recommendations to the students of outstanding original local publications and imported from abroad.



## India

### IND BBY / Association of Writers and Illustrators for Children (AWIC)

AWIC is organizing the International Conference on Book Therapy, to be held from February 9 to 11 2012 in New Delhi, India. This conference is a pioneering effort to present a different dimension to reading, using books as a means to heal children affected by trauma in its various forms.

The Conference has been designed in response to worldwide concern over the impact of violence and psycho-social traumas on the growth of children. Participants will deliberate upon the therapeutic aspect of literature and the impact of children's books on the victims of natural catastrophes and man-made disasters. Book Therapy is considered to have potential for far-reaching impacts upon the mental health and all-round personality development of children.

Book Therapy also cultivates reading interests, instills positive values and builds a hope for future.

The Various sessions and themes of the Conference will include:

- Writing that heals
- Reading to heal
- Activities to heal through books in schools, libraries hospitals and community
- Mitigation techniques in Disaster Management

So far, 20 from different countries are confirmed. There will be three exhibitions connected with the theme of the Conference- one from Hiroshima museum, one of books for children with special needs, and a third exhibition of picture books. There will also be an interactive session for children by a renowned illustrator under the theme of 'Art for Healing'.

#### Workshops on Book therapy

Two workshops on book therapy have already been conducted with the objectives of creating awareness about Book-Therapy, its application and benefits, and providing training and demonstration in the use of Book-Therapy. Participants were teachers, educationists, psychiatrist librarians and NGOs.

Both the workshops were well appreciated by the participants. In the end some of the situations were dramatized by the members.



Inaugural session of Workshop on Book Therapy



### Workshop on story writing

AWIC has also facilitated a workshop on story writing for young children. Stories created were illustrated by the participants themselves who produced 20 handmade books ready for publishing.

### AWIC Library project

AWIC has set up about 150 libraries in the remote areas of the country. In appreciation, Raja Ram Mohun Roy Library Foundation, under the Ministry of Culture India, provided a grant which has been used to establish and equip five more libraries in areas where there are no libraries.



Oklha Center



Oklha Center



## Indonesia

### INABBY (IBBY Indonesia)

This year, IBBY Indonesia organized many activities to promote reading and quality picture books in Indonesia, including four important events we would particularly like to note. In February we visited again the earthquake and tsunami affected areas in Pariaman and Mentawai Islands in West Sumatra Province. In cooperation and supported by IBBY, we donated more than 200 books for 14 schools in Mentawai Islands and storytelling devices for 21 early childhood education centres. Each centre also received 31 books. This program is a continuation of our previous visit.

INABBY has also focused attention on children with special needs. In cooperation and supported by Dutch IBBY we donated storytelling devices, such as wallhanging-finger and hand puppets-to a small school in Jimbaran area, Bali. The school provides education for hyperactive and autistic children, and children with concentration and hearing problems, from 3 up to 13 years old. They looked happy and enthusiastic to be involved in storytelling activities given by INABBY volunteers.



A storytelling Storytelling device given to a small school in Bali.

INIBBY has also prioritized trainings and workshops for young illustrators and students of schools of design, communication, and visual arts in producing quality picture books. On May 23rd-24th, we organized a two day seminar and workshop entitled "Go International through Picture Books". The aim of the workshop was to equip writers, illustrators, editors, and also publishers with a broader view about international picture books and how to produce good quality picture books. Patsy Aldana, previous IBBY President, was the main guest speaker. Other prominent speakers were Dr. Murti Bunanta, and three senior illustrators: Suyadi, Hardiyono and Isnaeni M.H. More than 110 participants attended the event.



Patsy was surrounded by young illustrators for comments.





To improve the young illustrators' skills we also sent Maria Christania and Pandu Sotya Kusuma to take part in a one week workshop organized by Bibiana (Slovakia) as part of BIB 23rd international competition. For one week they were trained by Peter Uchnar, a prominent Slovak illustrator. INABBY is also proud to mention that Murti Bunanta of INBBY was appointed as the President of the Jurors BIB 23rd. The session of the International Jury was held August 29-Sept 1, 2011.



Murti Bunanta, President of the Jurors, BIB 23rd handed over the Grand Prix Award, September 2nd, 2011.



## Iran

### IBBY Iran: Children's Book Council of Iran

#### Friend from Abroad

Patsy Aldana, former President of IBBY and current President of IBBY Foundation visited Iran for 7 days in September, as part of her journey to the Middle East and North Africa. It was her first visit to our county. While preparing her program we remembered the visit by Dr. Peter and Antonia Schneck, during his IBBY President. During Ms Aldana's visit, we aimed to acquaint her with the wide spread aspects of IBBY in Iran through meetings with The Children's Book Council/CBC which acts as Iran's National Section and other organizations affiliated with CBC, including The Research Institute on the History of Children's Literature where she met Zohreh Ghaeni, former HCA Jury President, Donya Children's Research Institute, MAM Modern Attitude Mothers, House of Librarians and the Promotion of Reading, and the Hosseiniyeh Ershad Public Library. At the Promotion of Reading Ms Aldana also met groups involved in the "Read with Me" Project for working children and The Centre for the Cultural Development of Children.



A lunch, held in honor of Ms Aldana's visit, was hosted by Touran Mirhadi, CBC Founder (1962) and Chief Editor of The Encyclopedia for Young People and attended by more than thirty colleagues. A number of lively questions were raised and Ms Aldana was invited to do TV and press interviews. Colleagues with different literary and artistic interests accompanied Patsy on various outings during her visit. On a short trip to Isfahan she met with the Founders of The Digar Institute, which is working for the preservation of cultural heritage among young people, and had a glimpse of this historic city. Last but not least were Ms Aldana's three very inspiring and informative talks on "Reading Promotion, International Experiences", "Selection Criteria, as a Publisher" and "Publishing Children's Literature, an International Overview", well attended and in different locations on Sept. 3, 4, and 7 respectively. Having Ms Aldana has been a privilege and a wonderful experience. The next stage of her trip was with Noushin Ansari (Iranian NS Secretary General) to Kabul, Afghanistan.

#### Historical Exhibition on Iranian Childhood Culture

A historical exhibition on the Childhood Culture and Education of Iranian Children was presented at the Hosseiniyeh Ershad Public Library from Oct. 9 to 17. Organized by The Institute for Research on the History of Children's Literature in Iran (IRHCLI), the exhibition displayed historical documents and objects relating to children and childhood from 1904 to 1970 gathered by the IRHCLI during its research. Launched 15 years ago to conduct fundamental studies on the life, culture, and literature of Iranian children, the IRHCLI has published a 10-volume reference book on the history of children's literature in Iran. The exhibition in-



cluded photos, books, toys, costumes and educational medium and tools.

More than 2,000 school children, ranging from preschoolers to high schoolers, visited the exhibition in addition to hundreds of adults. The works on display were enthusiastically received by children, giving them opportunity to reflect of differences between the generations and the definition of history. Visitors were able to explore the lifestyles, education systems, and pastimes of previous eras through the exhibition.

The Institute looks forward to the day when a national museum reflecting the lives of Iranian children throughout history will be launched.



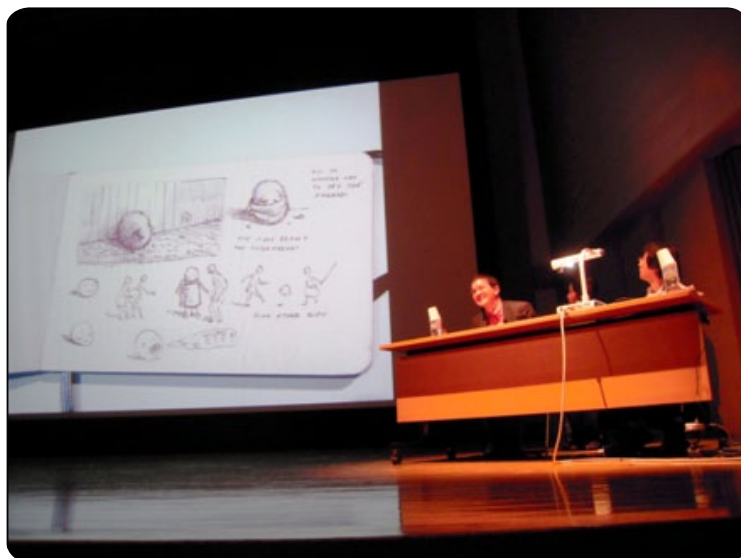


## Japan

### JBBY (IBBY Japan)

#### Lecture by Shaun Tan: *Toward the New World in The Arrival*

JBBY held a lecture featuring Australian artist Shaun Tan at Tokyo's Tsuda Hall on October 22, 2011. Winner of the Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award 2011, Tan's *The Arrival* was also chosen for the IBBY Honour List 2012. His 1999 work, *Memorial* (text by Gary Crew) is included in the Picture Books for Peace and Tolerance collection created by the Munich International Youth Library. Tan's short film, *The Lost Thing*, based on his book of the same title, won the Best Animated Short award in the February 2011 Academy Awards (U.S.). It was Tan's first visit to Japan, and 350 fans of all ages packed the hall to view the prize-winning film and hear his talk.



Lecture with Shaun Tan at Tsuda Hall, Tokyo, October 22, 2011

#### “Books for Tomorrow“ Project for Children

Launched in collaboration with three other organizations, the “Books for Tomorrow” project supports the children of the Tohoku region affected by the March 11 earthquake and tsunami disaster through the medium of books. Activities have included renovating an old bookmobile, which, stocked with about 2,000 books for children, has made the rounds of the disaster-struck area. The Project also supports the building of a library for children to open in the city of Rikuzen Takada, Iwate prefecture.



Participants in the Yamagata Reading Workshop, October 10, 2011



### Reading Workshop for Children with Overseas Roots

This project was designed for children recently arrived in Japan from other countries, studying Japanese, or with non-Japanese language and cultural heritages. By having the children read aloud poems and short stories in small groups, JBBY members and university student volunteers sought to introduce the children to the pleasures of working together and communicating with others. On October 10, about 20 children of Fukushima prefecture from China, Thailand, Afghanistan, the United States, and other countries, who have been unable to play outdoors because of high levels of radiation in the air, went by bus with their parents to neighboring Yamagata prefecture. They participated in practice sessions and then presented their readings as their parents watched. The "Books for Tomorrow" bookmobile took time out from its tour of the Tohoku disaster-affected region to bring the children gift books to commemorate the event.



Daycare center children visit the Tohoku benefit "Books for Tomorrow" bookmobile.



## South Korea

### KBBY (Korean Board on Books for Young People)

#### One Grand Prix and One Golden Apple for BIB 2011

Of the 14 picture books submitted by KBBY to the Biennial of Illustration Bratislava (BIB) 2011, two received awards. Eun-Young Cho received a grand prix for *Run, ToTo!* and Joo-Yun Yoo received a golden apple for *A Day*. KBBY and Borim Publishing Co. celebrated by inviting the award winners and other guests to a lunch in their honor. Christina Hyeon-Kyeong Kim (KBBY Secretary-General) participated in BIB 2011 as a International Committee Member and Youn-Duck Kwon (Chair of KBBY-BIB Executive Committee) presented her research at the BIB Symposium 2011. Ms Kwon and Ms Kim delivered the certificates and trophies to the winners from Bratislava.



\*Photo: (From left,) Sang-Hyun Choun (KBBY Vice-President), Christina Hyeon-Kyeong Kim (KBBY Secretary-General), Sook-Hee Choi (Member of KBBY-BIB Executive Committee), Youn-Duck Kwon (Chair of KBBY-BIB Executive Committee), Eun-Young Cho (Winner of Grand Prix), Joo-Yun Yoo (Winner of Golden Apple), Sae-Hee Kim (KBBY President), Jeong-Sun Choi (Member of KBBY-BIB Jury), Sung-Ok Han (Ex-Chair of KBBY-BIB Executive Committee), Yong-Gi Jeong (Member of KBBY-BIB Jury)

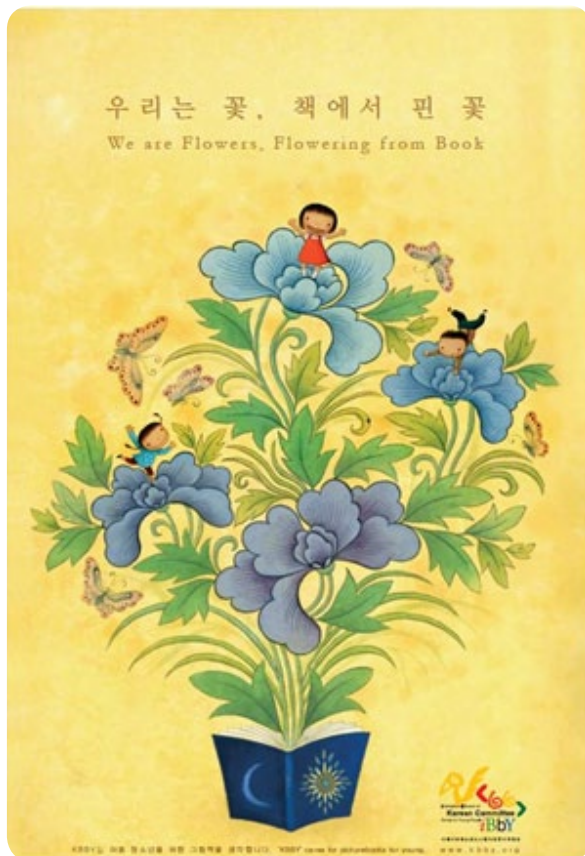
#### Korean Nominees for Hans Christian Andersen Award 2012

KBBY is proud to nominate Sun-Mi Hwang as a writer and Seong-Chan Hong as an illustrator, both representing South Korea, for the HCA 2012. Mr Hong's illustrations, published in elementary school textbooks for many years, are greatly enjoyed by children and fondly remembered by adults. Ms Hwang, a beloved writer for children and young people in Korea, Her book *Leafie, a Hen into the Wild* was recently made into a very successful animated film.



### 2011 KBBY Poster for Reading Promotion

KBBY creates a KBBY Poster for Reading Promotion every year. A member of KBBY volunteers to organize the production. This year, Ms Sook-Hee Choi took on this role and made a beautiful image for the 2011 KBBY Poster for Reading Promotion. Ms Su-Jung Kim contributed the slogan, We are Flowers, Flowering from Book. Finally, Mr Sang-Hyun Choun designed the image into a poster.



\*Photo: 2011 KBBY Poster for Reading Promotion  
by Sook-Hee Choi

KBBY hopes many people and organizations use and enjoy this poster to promote reading. As a part of the reading promotion movement, KBBY supported the IBBY section of Pakistan by sending five copies of this poster to the Children's Literature Festival. Also, anyone can download this poster on the KBBY website at no charge (<http://www.kbby.org>).

### Registration as a Non-Profit Organization

KBBY has registered as a Non-Profit Organization under the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism. As a registered Non-Profit Organization, KBBY will be eligible for funding from the government with the submission of a business plan.

### Additional KBBY Vice-President

Ms Su-Jung Kim was appointed as Vice-President of KBBY. A famous author and translator of children's books as well as researcher and lecturer in South Korea, KBBY appreciates her acceptance and looks forward to her activities in support of children's book.

### KBBY Seminar and BIB 2011 Report

KBBY will hold the KBBY Seminar and BIB Report on 2nd Nov at the National Library for Children & Young Adults. The theme of this seminar is "Translating and Selling Copyright of Korean Children's Books." Three presenters- Yeon-Joo Oh (Member of KBBY, Professor of Daelim College), Sae-Hee Kim (President of KBBY) and Chan-Ki Min (Member of KBBY, Editor of Borim Publishing Co.) will present their research on this theme. Also, Youn-Duck Kwon (Chair of KBBY-BIB Executive Committee) and Christina Hyeon-Kyeong Kim (KBBY Secretary-General) will report on their visit to BIB 2011.



## Pakistan

### IBBY Pakistan, Alif Laila's Activities

#### Living Libraries

The core purpose of this project is to establish a sustainable and effective model library set-up allowing school-going and out of school children access to a wide variety of books as well as creating an enabling environment for inculcating reading habits among children. We expect interested donors and sponsors will be encouraged to set up a network of similar libraries across the country. This goal will be attained through the following objectives:

1. Establishment of a permanent library in a school in a centrally located semi-rural area of District Sheikhpura catering to a cluster of schools (at least four).
2. Setting up a mobile library to provide services to children in schools and communities further away, visiting two schools daily 20-25 days a month, total 40 -45 schools per month.
3. A yearlong robust campaign for changing behavior of children and communities towards reading, books and libraries through promotional activities.
4. At least 25 meetings with state and non-state stakeholders for creating a supportive environment to a reading culture.
5. Training of at least 30 teachers including 8 to 10 teachers of those schools where government has provided libraries but librarians have not been trained to inculcate reading skills.
6. Planning and developing a special training course and library manual that is easy to access and contains lots of ideas on book related activities.

#### The Story Teller Bus

Alif Laila Book Bus Society is taking 'Dastaangou', the Story Teller bus to hospitals to spread the joy of reading to children confined to the hospital bed. At Shaukat Khanum Memorial Trust Hospital Lahore, a story telling session / puppet show was arranged for children, followed by an art activity administered under careful supervision of play therapists. The children were eager to take part in the activity and thoroughly enjoyed themselves.



#### Libraries for Madrassas

This project introduces a reading program in five targeted madaris aimed at developing a larger understanding of different cultures and people and demonstrating the joy that reading can bring in order to develop lifelong readers and learners. Library materials are being provided in five selected madaris. A library schedule will be followed allowing children of all classes some regular time for reading as well as borrowing books.

A baseline survey in the target madaris, ongoing monitoring of libraries, and support to teachers and students will ensure the smooth running of the program. Evaluation over 12 months will monitor children's progress. Changes in the perceptions of children at the end of the program will be measured using data collected from the targeted madaris.

Funds for this project have been made available by the Yamada Fund.





## Books Build Bridges

Alif Laila is working to bring back smiles to those children who have lost their homes and schools during the floods of 2010. Volunteers visited Muzaffargarh in Punjab province where out of 2183 schools, 1175 are rendered unsafe, 785 were being used as relief camps and 100,000 school dropouts are feared. Our volunteers distributed food, clothes, books, and reading promotion hats which were a great success, even the older women wanted them. Alif Laila's book, *Kahani Aik Jungle Ki* "A Jungle Tells its Tale", on self-reliance and taking-action-for-change, fascinated children.



We used bibliotherapy after the 2005 Earthquake in Pakistan and are doing so again here. We aim to provide our 'Books Build Bridges' libraries to as many relief camps and schools as funds allow. The library kits were developed on the concept of bibliotherapy and play therapy for children. A generous donation from Lahore Grammar School 55 Main enabled Alif Laila to set up 15 "Books Build Bridges" libraries for children affected by the floods. Books Build Bridges libraries supported by friends from IBBY also went to 85 schools all over Pakistan. The Indus Resource Centre, Sindh and Salik Development Foundation, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa are also facilitating provision of library kits to 20 schools each. Another 25 kits are also underway through donations sent in by friends from IBBY.

## Reading Promotion Campaign (FOSI):

Alif Laila Book Bus Society held Independence Day Celebrations on 14th August at the Government Girls Elementary School Ranikeminara. Children from the school and community joined the Alif Laila team to celebrate the special day turning the event into a major success.



In addition to other activities the Alif Laila team ran a campaign with children and teachers of the school, where children formally pledged to 'Read to Succeed'. The participants wrote comments on pieces of cloth that were later made into a quilt.

National Assembly Member, Mr. Irfan Dogar attended the event, announced construction of much needed classrooms for the elementary school, and publically thanked the Alif Laila team for their efforts.





## Palestine

### IBBY- Palestinian Section

The highlight of the last few months came with the facilitation of a workshop titled: "Encouraging the Culture of Reading among Palestinian Children in Refugee Camps in Lebanon"

This was our first activity focusing on Palestinian refugees in Lebanon. Many children in these communities are only semi-literate and school libraries are scarce. Drop-out rates from schools are high as many children are required to help support their families.



The workshop focused on how to promote reading for pleasure in children's libraries. The participants were empowered with techniques of promoting reading among children and youth. While the workshop acknowledged that building a reading culture is an on-going process that needs time to be fully developed, the facilitators also emphasised that any simple activity or project can help in promoting reading. Workshop participants requested further training and assistance in enriching their libraries with quality books. The workshop was implemented under the IBBY Yamada Program by PBBY in cooperation with The Arab Resource Centre for Popular Art).

### Monthly Meetings

- PBBY convened a meeting with the writer Safa Ameer to discuss her two new books *Come Play with Me* and *Omar & Haha*, the former of which won the prize of the Palestinian Ministry of Culture for children.
- We hosted an interesting meeting with the writer Majdi Shomali who led a discussion on plot in children stories
- PBBY also hosted writer/publisher Mohammad Badarneh, director of Friends of Arab Children Society, established in 1986 in Haifa. Badarneh, who spoke about the mission of the Society, its publications of magazines, stories, the Palestinian Popular Heritage Encyclopedia.
- PBBY arranged a meeting with Nabeela Espanioli, Director of Al-Tufula Centre in Nazareth who spoke about the foundation of the centre, the mission and the publications and its role in promoting Palestinian national identity, emphasising the need to provide suitable resources, libraries, and support systems to the Palestinian societies living there.

An interesting discussion followed, and all attendees emphasized the importance of such meetings and interaction between Palestinians everywhere: the Occupied Territory, in exile and inside the Green Line.



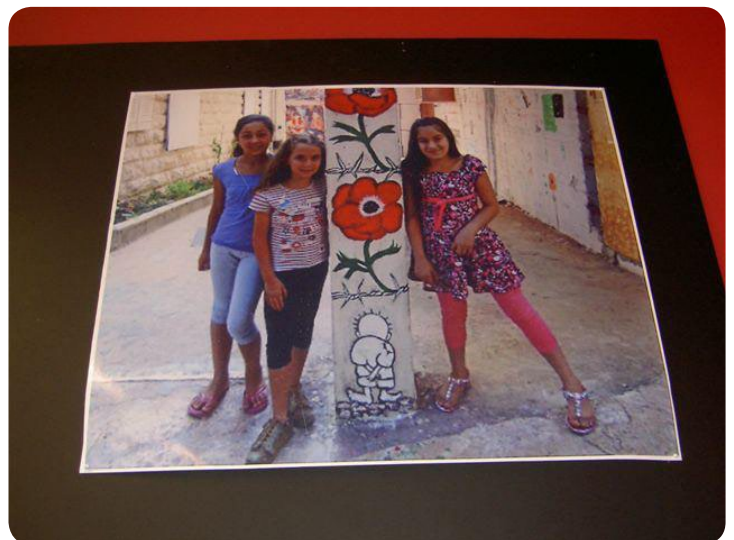
## IBBY Palestine on Facebook

In May PBBY decided to create a Facebook profile. The initiative, surprisingly, was very successful and has received a warm response. Of course we still have to learn a lot about how to use and promote Facebook effectively. We now have an IBBY Page for our official posting and IBBY Wall for the Friend's posting.

Already, we have at least 141 Friends from around the world, even from places where there is no IBBY national section such as Jordan, Morocco, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and other places.

Please visit us on Facebook to keep up to date with PBBY and our supporters

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/IBBY-Pal/201745309860731>





## UAE

### UAEBBY

Ms Patsy Aldana visited UAEBBY in early in September. HE Sheikha Bodour Bint Sultan Al Qasimi, President of the UAEBBY welcomed the Canadian Publisher and former President of the International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY). During her five-day stay, Ms Aldana visited a number of publishing-related concerns. In addition to a special meeting with Sheikha Bodour, she also held a meeting with the Jury for the UAEBBY-organised Etisalat Award for Arabic Children's Literature, and with the Culture Department's Ahmed Al Amri, Director of the Sharjah International Book Fair.



UAEBBY organized an interactive reading session of the award-winning book 'Al Noqta Al Sawda' (The Black Dot), at the Australian Victoria International School. The book, which won the second edition of the Etisalat Prize for Arabic Children's Literature in 2010, was read by its author and illustrator, Walid Tahir. The reading session coincided with the closing date for entry into this year's edition of the Etisalat Award for Arabic Children's Literature, ahead of the announcement of the winning book and author at the Sharjah Book Fair in November.

In the last week of September, the UAEBBY announced their 'Long List' of books that have been nominated for the 2011 Etisalat Award for Arabic Children's Literature. Judges selected the top 10 books among the books entered in the competition. The judging panel includes five members (a publisher, an author, an illustrator, a critic and an international expert) from the Arab World and Europe. The winning book will be announced on 16 November, on the sidelines of the opening ceremony of the Sharjah International Book Fair.

The UAE's National Section, called UAEBBY [UAE Board on Books for Young People] which was launched on 1 January 2010, has representatives from each of the seven emirates to ensure country-wide coordination of activities to promote reading. The Board is keen to host local, Arab and foreign writers and illustrators with the aim of enhancing the cultural movement among the younger generation while developing their reading habits through interaction with literary figures from all over the world.

