

iBBY Asia-Oceania Newsletter

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ICBD Special issue

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Dear IBBY colleagues around the world

We are very glad to present the fifth edition of the IBBY Asian newsletter. This is a special issue covering International Children's Book Day (ICBD), and includes news of two important events in the region. These are the IBBY Conference for the Region of Central Asia and North Africa (CANA); and the first Asia–Oceania IBBY Regional Congress, held in Bali.

It is inspiring to read about the celebration of ICBD around the world, especially when comparing news from a country with a long established tradition of its celebration, as with the Children's Book Council of Iran, with news from a country such as Cambodia where the national section celebrated this day for the very first time.

Again we feel we are members of a large family, sharing our experiences through different ways, including this e-newsletter. Thank you all for your sincere contributions.

For this edition Robin and Jenni from IBBY Australia have done all the proofreading. A thousand thanks to both of them.

We have to thank Keivan Akbari, Iranian illustrator, who has once again designed a beautiful header and Mina Yousefi, our Iranian colleague for making the layout of this newsletter.

Please don't hesitate to send us your comments and requests. We are looking forward to receiving them. I hope you enjoy reading this special issue.

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THE 1st ASIA-OCEANIA IBBY REGIONAL CONGRESS IN BALI: INABBY REPORT

INABBY, The Indonesian Section of IBBY, has successfully organized The 1st Asia-Oceania IBBY Regional Congress in Bali, May 23rd–26th, 2013. No doubt this first step taken by INABBY will be followed by other national sections of IBBY in the region, to continue such regional congresses in the future.

This first congress was attended by 120 participants from 19 countries: India, South Korea, Japan, China, Cambodia, Thailand, Malaysia, Australia, USA, Switzerland, Austria, Norway, Finland, Denmark, New Zealand, Brunei Darussalam, Singapore, Taiwan, and Indonesia. Forty-three papers were presented, divided into two themes. The main theme: “How to Strengthen Asia-Oceania IBBY” was intended to find a way to encourage all the national sections to work hand in hand. And the sub-theme: “Knowing Your Neighbours” showcases the uniqueness of stories from Asia and Oceania to the world, and their role in the world of children’s literature.

Sharing of knowledge through the presentations was done in a relaxed atmosphere of enjoyment and friendship. The congress provided the participants with good talks, memorable moments, opportunities to enjoy Indonesian cultures and stories of the world through the paper presentations, cultural events and storytelling sessions.

Children’s and community libraries, teachers and students were all involved in this important and fruitful first IBBY Asia-Oceania Congress in Bali 2013. You can witness some accomplishments of the congress through these pictures.

Report by Murti Bunanta, President of INABBY



The congress was officially opened on May 23rd, with the sound of “kentongan”, traditional Balinese musical instrument.



Welcome speech from Dr. Murti Bunanta, the president of INABBY



Book donations for four community libraries in Bali were not forgotten at the congress



Balinese traditional performance at the opening ceremony



After the IBBY National Sections meeting on May 24th, 2013



Some of the paper presentations: Tetsuta Watanabe from Japan (left) speaking about the Kumata Bear books written by Shigeo Watanabe; and Sylvia Vardell from USA (right) speaking about children's poems.



A very entertaining storytelling session by Margaret Read MacDonald (USA) and Hans Laurens (Denmark)



Enjoying Indonesian traditional dancing together: poco-poco



CANA Conference

The city of Sharjah in the United Arab Emirates hosted the first IBBY Conference for the Region of Central Asia and North Africa (CANA), with the theme of Bringing Books and Children Together on 21 and 22 April 2013, at the Sharjah Chamber of Commerce.

Over two days and ten sessions, forty speakers, from twenty countries across the CANA Region and beyond, shared their experiences and opinions on a variety of topics related to children's literature and reading promotion.

The conference was attended by representatives of all nine IBBY National Sections in the region, including Afghanistan, Egypt, Iran, Kuwait, Lebanon, Pakistan, Palestine, Tunisia and the UAE.

The Conference aimed to highlight the different initiatives taking place in the region for the promotion of reading, to shed light on the main trends in the children's book publishing sector, to encourage the establishment of new National Sections of IBBY in the CANA region, and to identify practical suggestions and steps for cooperation and networking on national, regional and international levels.

In choosing the mascot of the conference, the UAEBBY drew from the rich cultural past of the Gulf Region. Okaz is a young Arab boy, whose name refers to the well-known Okaz market (Souq Okaz), one of the largest open markets in ancient Arab history and a hub of cultural activity in the Gulf region. Alongside his faithful companion Jammoul the camel, he delivers books to children in the region and spreads awareness among them about the importance and pleasure of reading.

The opening of the conference included a brief performance from the play Young Okaz and welcome speeches by Bodour Al-Qasimi, UAEBBY Patron and Ahmad Redza Ahmad Khairuddin, IBBY President. The Conference included ten sessions covering topics such as writing for young adults, illustrations in children's books, the portrayal of political issues and human diversity in children's books, accessible books, folk and oral traditions, reading promotion in schools and the community, and the important work being done by the IBBY National Sections in the CANA region.

During the conference, meetings were held between Liz Page, IBBY Executive Director; Patsy Aldana, IBBY Foundation President; and Hasmig Chahinian, IBBY Vice President; with participants from Jordan, Syria, Iraq, Qatar, Algeria and Morocco concerning the establishment of new IBBY national sections in those countries.

The Conference was followed by workshops on bibliotherapy, children's book illustration and tactile illustrated books.



Every two years, a different National Section from the CANA region will host the Conference with a different theme.



CANA Conference explores the cultural significance of reading and books



First IBBY Conference for the Region of Central Asia and North Africa (CANA) kicks off with activities and discussions



First IBBY Conference for the Region of Central Asia and North Africa (CANA) kicks off with activities and discussions



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المجلس الإماراتي لكتب اليافعين
The UAE Board on Books for Young People



مجلس الإمارات لكتب الأطفال
Etisalat Award for Public Children's Literature

www.uaebby.org.ae
www.etisalataward.ae



workshop on Bibliotherapy for Children in Hospitals



Tactile illustrated books workshop



Children's Book Illustration Workshop



Australia:

International Children's Book Day 2013 was celebrated on Saturday, 6th April with two different events. Feasting on Literature was an afternoon event held at Santa Sabina College, Strathfield, NSW. Cassandra Gibbs gave the welcome to Darug country and national President, Dr Robin Morrow spoke briefly of the work of IBBY Australia. Professor Robin Ewing of the University of Sydney gave a presentation 'Spaces' and 'Places' to Play: the importance of literary texts ('real books') in learning to be literate. The theme of the afternoon was highlighted with the definition of feasting: to partake of a rich or sumptuous or abundant meal; to dwell with gratification or delight, as on a picture or view; to celebrate or commemorate a special occasion or person. Decoding is only part of the process of learning to read, as on its own, it does not enable meaning and understanding. The importance of adults modelling the enjoyment of reading in a variety of contexts was stressed with quality literature enabling children to make an emotional engagement, whether it be sad, funny, scary, wonder or happiness.

Author and illustrator of the Tashi series, Anna Fienberg and Kim Gamble enhanced the importance of playing, reflecting, imagining and observing in the creation of literary texts. While Anna spoke, Kim working swiftly with chalk pastels to create a magical image, which was later raffled and won by Sook San Ang. A highlight of the afternoon tea which followed was a Tashi cake to celebrate the birthday of Hans Christian Andersen.

On the other side of the continent, in Perth, a group of IBBY members and friends gathered for their celebration. For some years the Western Australians have chosen a theme for the evening to bring along and share one of their favourite children's books. This year the theme was "My favourite animal from a children's book" and the tables were decorated with a range of soft toy animals including Piglet, Kanga, Roo, the Gruffalo, Elmer the Elephant, Stripey the Emu, the Enormous Crocodile and many others. Snowy the Dog from Herge's TinTin series, Hush and Grandma Poss from Possum Magic by Mem Fox, Rudyard Kipling's The Cat Who Walked By Itself, Gene Zion's Harry the Dirty Dog, Tigger and Eeyore from AA Milne's Winnie the Pooh, the water buffalo from Shaun Tan's Tales From Outer Suburbia and

Elizabeth Coatsworth's The Cat Who Went to Heaven were some of the eclectic mix of animals that had appealed to and influenced our diverse audience. This year's raffle was a framed and numbered print from Shake a Leg by Jan Ormerod, kindly donated by Lesley Reece, Director of The Literature Centre.

National Vice-President Jenni Woodroffe with the raffle prize - a Jan Ormerod print from Shake A Leg.



A highlight of both events was the decision to announce the Australian nominees for writing and illustration for the 2014 Hans Christian Andersen Award, and both audiences were pleased to



receive the news: Ron Brooks for Illustration and Nadia Wheatley for Writing.

Since our last contribution to this newsletter we were delighted to learn that three Australian titles have been included in the 2013 Outstanding Books for Young People with Disabilities. They are *The Invisible Hero* by Elizabeth Fensham (UQP), *Whisper* by Chrissie Keighery (Hardie Grant Egmont) and *Two Mates* by Melanie and Maggie Prewett (Magabala Books).

Shaun Tan's *The Arrival* (Lothian Books) was selected as an Honour Book for the Silent Books: from the world to Lampedusa and back project and Jeannie Baker's *Mirror* (Walker Books) was also included. Two other titles by Australians were submitted by the UK Section, Jan Ormerod's *Sunshine* (Francis Lincoln) and Jeannie Baker's *Belonging* (Walker Books) and a third from the German section was Gregory Rogers *Der Bar im Zauberwald* (Midsummer Knight), first published in Belgium in 2006.

It is with sadness that we record the passing of two of our IBBY Honour List nominees for illustration, Jan Ormerod (nominated for *Lizzie Nonsense* in 2006) who died on the 23rd January, 2013 and Gregory Rogers (nominated for *The Hero of Little Street* in 2012) who died on 1st May, 2013.

Western Australian author, Dianne Wolfer was the IBBY Australia representative at the 1st Asia and Oceania Regional IBBY Congress held in Kuta, Bali; and IBBY members and friends living in WA will have the opportunity of hearing Dianne reprise her presentation and experiences at a gathering in the home of IBBY member Patricia McMahon on 2nd July.

We have established a PayPal account and can now promote the sale of the Limited Edition print *Story Furnace* by Shaun Tan to our overseas friends. For further information please see our website at

<http://ibbyaustralia.wordpress.com/24/01/2013/limited-edition-prints-by-2008-hc-andersen-australian-illustrator-nominee-shaun-tan/>

We look forward to reading news of the activities of our neighbouring sections in the rest of this newsletter.



Prof Robyn Ewing, Kim Gamble, Anna Fienberg and students from Santa Sabina College.



WA authors and illustrators having fun with their favourite soft toy characters from the theme "My favourite animal in a children's book is..."



Cambodia:

IBBY Cambodia was pleased to organize the first celebration of International Children's Book Day in Cambodia. Our dedicated team planned and prepared an event focusing on books for toddlers and our member organizations provided the entertainment and activities.

Hosted at a local pre-school the event was attended by about 100 participants including young readers accompanied by parents and teachers. Activities included:

The event was reported on by a popular TV station and newspapers, helping to spread the mission of IBBY across Cambodia, and ensure an even bigger attendance at our next reading promotion event.

the Japanese art of kamishibai storytelling, provided by Shanti Volunteer Association;



© So Seng/Sipar



© So Seng/Sipar

a puppet show from Sipar;



© So Seng/Sipar



© So Seng/Sipar



drawing with Room to Read;



© So Seng/Sipar

dancing, and an exhibition of books from a range of publishers.



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A big thank you to all the organizations and individuals who provided interactive events for the children on the day, to World Kid's School for hosting the event, to our sponsors for their generous support, to the teachers and parents who came along and helped out, and to all our very special guests on the day - the children who joined in the activities and enjoyed the opportunity to read together.



China:

Contribution from China

1. 'Let's Tell a Story Together'

At the Bologna Book Fair, on 26th March, CBBY and CCPPG held an interesting panel discussion entitled 'Let's Tell a Story Together.' Renowned Chinese children's literature writer, Cao Wenxuan, and Brazilian illustrator, Roger Mello, both nominees for the H C Andersen Award, have signed a contract with CCPPG, China's biggest children's press and publishing group for a new picture book, *The Feather*. Based on this book, the author and the illustrator held a dialogue on their understanding of the story and the way the artist will illustrate the book. The panel discussion was moderated by CBBY Vice President Mingzhou Zhang, and participants were IBBY president, Ahmad Redza Ahmad Khairuddin; H C Andersen Awards President, Maria Jesus Gil; IBBY Treasurer, Ellis Vance; Vice President of China Writers Association, Gao Hongbo; and CCPPG President, Xueqian Li.



2. Dialogue on the internationalization of original Chinese picture books

Also at the Bologna Book Fair, CBBY and CCPPG held another dialogue, on 27th March, between Patsy Aldana and Gao Hongbo, Vice President of China Writers Association, and author of the picture book series about a piggy named Joey. This was the base for an in-depth discussion about understanding children's literature, and the promotion of Chinese picture books worldwide.

3.100 Young Readers camping in Shenzhen Library

On the night of 20th April, Shenzhen Library for Young People held an event called 'Library Night'. One hundred young readers were invited to attend the reading activities which included picture book reading, English language reading, fairytale reading, classical Chinese reading and many storytelling activities. Overnight, the hundred young readers also stayed in tents scattered inside the Library. The hundred young readers were mainly selected from reading promotion volunteer families, as a symbolic appreciation and thanks to the volunteers and their quiet contribution to the public. Others were selected from the most active young student readers.



On the second floor in a tent, a young reader is reading 3D books



On the third floor, a young reader is reading a magazine



On the third floor, kids are using torchlight to play hide-and-seek



In the tent, with torchlight, shadow of two kids



Tents are scattered around the inside of the library

4. CBBY Annual Meeting

In July, the CBBY annual meeting will be held, in Nanning City, capital of China's Guangxi Autonomous Region. During the annual meeting, there will be a seminar on how to enhance international exchanges, especially with IBBY and its national sections. The meeting will also elect a new CBBY President.



India:

News from Indian BBY

The Association of Writers and Illustrators for Children (AWIC) celebrated ICBD by organizing a poetry recitation competition; and also by awarding the Reader of the Year prize to the children who had read the maximum number of books in their libraries.

The Asia-Oceania Congress in Bali

The Indian Section of IBBY was represented by ten members who participated in this first regional Congress, and they were highly impressed by the well organized and extremely hospitable Congress hosted by the Indonesian IBBY, under the capable leadership of Murti Bunanta and her young team in the picturesque setting of Bali. It was a great bonding experience for the delegates of the Asia-Oceania region and beyond,

Four members from the section highlighted the main theme through PowerPoint presentations and reading papers. Two members read papers on the sub-theme and others participated in the Storytelling session. Everyone enjoyed the hospitality offered by the Indonesian BBY.

The Congress highlighted the culturally rich traditions of stories and books of this region. The Storytelling sessions were very good and lively. We came away with a better understanding of each others' aspirations and limitations. The Congress opened avenues for mutual acceptance and greater appreciation of the national sections of the region. Although no joint initiatives were started, the ground has been laid for such events in future in the spirit of cooperation.

There were concrete suggestions on how to strengthen the Asia Oceanic region.

Some of the suggestions for the future regional Congress are as follows:

1. There should be more deliberations on the main theme by the participants.
2. An exhibition of books from all the sections would be appreciated.
3. As well as the seminar sessions, an opportunity to follow-up on ideas and suggestions should be provided.
4. Simultaneous translation in English would make it easier for the participants to understand and enjoy the stories.





International Conference on LITERACY THROUGH LITERATURE 6-8 February 2014

6-8th February 2014, International Conference on Literacy through Literature to be held in New Delhi, India organized by IBBY India/Association of Writers and Illustrators for Children (AWIC)

See:

http://www.awic.in/events/forthcoming-events/international_conference_on_literacy_2014.html

for further details.

<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);"> Conference Organizer Association of Writers and Illustrators for Children (AWIC/IndianIBBY) Nehru House 4 Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg New Delhi - 110002, INDIA Tel: 91-11-43603871, 23316970-74 Email: info@awic.in www.awic.in </p> <p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);"> INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LITERACY THROUGH LITERATURE 6 - 8 February 2014 </p> 	<p>libraries; the oral tradition and storytelling; plays and other activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Role of NGOs – Addressing the issue of drop-outs; the girl child; special children • Technological Literacy – Computer literacy; digital literacy; other technological skills • Towards a Better Tomorrow – Expanding the scope of literature to include moral values, environmental awareness, civic sense, health and hygiene; the role of parents and teachers. <p>Each session will have a keynote presentation followed by a panel discussion. Afternoon sessions will be devoted to book-related activities with children, workshops and storytelling. Exhibitions and displays will be held through the day while colourful cultural programmes will enliven the evenings.</p> <p>For further information, please contact: Conference Organizer Association of Writers and Illustrators for Children (AWIC) Nehru House 4 Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg New Delhi – 110002 INDIA Tel: 91-11-43603871, 23316970-74 Email: info@awic.in www.awic.in</p>	 <p>Association of Writers and Illustrators for Children (AWIC) Indian Section of International Board on Books for Young People (Int. BBY)</p> <p>INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LITERACY THROUGH LITERATURE</p> <p>6 – 8 February 2014 New Delhi, India</p> <p>Venue India Habitat Centre Lodhi Road New Delhi, India</p>
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<p>INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LITERACY THROUGH LITERATURE</p> <p>The Association of Writers and Illustrators for Children (AWIC/IndianIBBY), the Indian Section of the International Board on Books for Young People (Int. BBY), is organising a three-day INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LITERACY THROUGH LITERATURE from 6 to 8 February, 2014 at the India Habitat Centre, Lodhi Road, New Delhi, India.</p> <p>Literacy is a global issue today. Literacy has been commonly defined as proficiency in the three R's – reading, writing and arithmetic. More recently however, literacy has come to include technological, visual and other aspects of literacy and education, both formal and non formal. In fact, the Right to Education has been recognised worldwide as one of the fundamental rights of the child.</p> <p>Books and reading can play a crucial role in the promotion and sustenance of literacy. An increase in literacy will no doubt promote human development and lead to a better world.</p>	<p>The Association of Writers and Illustrators for Children (AWIC/IndianIBBY), a voluntary organisation founded in 1961 by the Late K. Shankar Pillai, has been actively involved in developing good literature for children and promoting the reading habit through its different activities. AWIC launched the AWIC Literacy Project in 1995, and has published alphabet books in several Indian languages.</p> <p>THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LITERACY THROUGH LITERATURE provides a platform for eminent authors, illustrators, educationists, NGOs and researchers to highlight the importance of literacy in promoting literacy for the all-round development of the child.</p> <p>The various themes and sessions of the Conference will include -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Importance of Literacy and the Role of Books – for Individuals, Communities and Societies • Creating the Right Literature in Steps to Literacy – Picture books, literature for different age groups and young adults; educational texts; the role of the illustrator in promoting literacy • Reaching Books where there are None – Promoting literacy through 	<p style="text-align: center;">REGISTRATION FORM</p> <p>INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LITERACY THROUGH LITERATURE 6 - 8 February 2014, New Delhi, India</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 60px; height: 40px; margin: 0 auto; text-align: center; padding: 2px;">PHOTO</div> <p>Name: _____ (in Capital Letters) Occupation: _____ Address: _____ Nationality: _____ Passport No.: _____ Date of Expiry: _____ Country: _____ Postal / Zip Code: _____ Telephone: _____ Email: _____</p> <p>Signature: _____</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Registration Fee: Earlybird - USD 250 (upto 31 July 2013) USD 400 (from 1 August 2013)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Send your draft/cheque in favour of AWIC Conferences</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre and Post-Conference tours available • For hotel bookings and other information <p style="text-align: center;">CONTACT: Conference Organizer Association of Writers and Illustrators for Children Nehru House, 4 Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg New Delhi - 110002, INDIA Tel: 91-11-43603871, 23316970-74 Website: www.awic.in Email: info@awic.in</p>
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Iran:

'Read with me' project celebrates ICBD in Yazd

Children in the 'Read with me' project in Yazd celebrated International Children's Book Day at their sessions on 2nd April 2013. ICBD coincided with the end of the two-week New Year holiday in Iran. It was organized that each child in the project would read one of her or his beloved books during the holiday, and choose one part for a reading aloud celebration on that day. The best readers were encouraged and awarded by their teachers.

'Read with Me' is a reading promotion project launched by The Institute for Research on the History of Children's Literature in Iran (IRHCLI). It focuses on reading with children of low-income and deprived families and street children, and it aims to provide suitable and quality books for children who normally don't have access to such books.



Book Exhibition in Isfahan on ICBD

Isfahan's Society for Children's Literature Enthusiasts (ISCLE) celebrated ICBD by holding a three-day book exhibition from 2nd to 10th April in Isfahan. Many children with their families visited the exhibition. The book-reading promoters were ready to answer the parents' questions on how to choose quality books and how to encourage their children to read more books.

ICBD 2013 in Iran

ICBD 2013 coincided with the 50th Anniversary of CBC, special programs were held to show ICBD through the past decades.

- Jella Lepman, her contributions to Children's literature and her visit to Iran in 1956 were introduced.



- The 1993 ICBD message and poster from Iran, were discussed with contributions from both



author M. Kashkouli and illustrator Nouredin Zarrinkelk, ICBF messages of the past decades were illustrated in a workshop attended by children aged 7 to 13, the film and the exhibition were shown at CBC.



- Puppeteers created shows based on the first ICBF message by Jella Lepman, the 1993 message from Iran, and other ICBF messages.

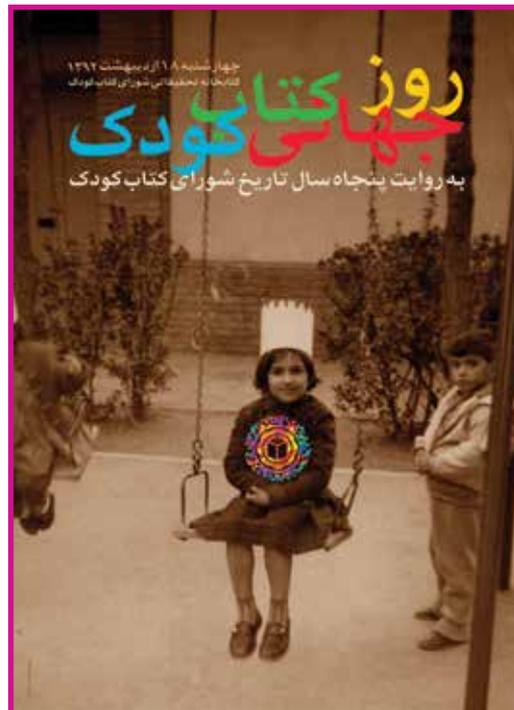
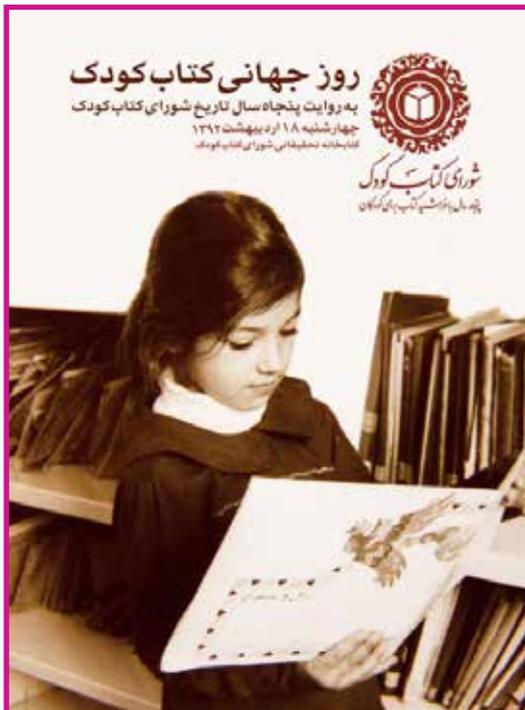


- To commemorate ICBF masquerades of the 60's and 70's, twenty illustrators attended a workshop and made masks of classic and modern children's literature characters.





Two posters and a logo were designed in limited numbers to commemorate ICBD 2013.



- The 2014 ICBD message was translated, 10,000 copies were printed and made available to children all over the country through bookmarks, calendars and in the electronic format.



The Association of Writers for Children and Young Adults, held a meeting to celebrate ICBD 2013 and in this well attended gathering the distinguished Iranian translator Razi Hirmandi made the key note speech entitled “A future full of hope, full of spring”.





Japan:

Participation in the Bologna Children's Book Fair 50th Anniversary

In conjunction with the Japan Publishing Industry Foundation for Culture (JPIC), JBBY exhibited at a booth designed to introduce Japanese children's books overseas under the title 'Fresh Japan'. This year more than 1,200 booths from 75 countries presented distinctive displays of books from different countries and publishers.

Our 'Fresh Japan' exhibition was enlivened by the logo designed by Katsumi Komagata. The JBBY booth displayed photos of Japanese authors active since 2000 together with 45 of their works, including ten picture books published after the Great East Japan Earthquake that relate to the disaster, and twenty unpublished picture books by young authors, all with summaries translated into English.

The JBBY booth presented different events each day, in order to give publishers and other visitors from overseas opportunities to see Japanese children's books firsthand, in the hope that some of the books will be translated and published overseas. At the reception held on the opening evening, JBBY staff members tried to reach as many people as possible and handed out English summaries of the content of the books on display. JBBY's guided tours of the Japanese publishers' booths for the first three days of the fair, led by English-, French- and Spanish-speaking staff, were well received. The second day featured book talks by Taro Miura and Ayano Imai, both of whom are well known artists in Japan and had made their debuts at the Bologna International Picture Book Illustrators' Exhibition. The third day featured a mini-lecture by Junko Yokota of the United States on Japanese Picture Books, and a talk by Roberta Tiberi, an Italian researcher in Japanese children's literature about the atomic bomb. All these events were well attended, making the book fair a great success in introducing Japanese picture books and other books for children to fair attendees.

2nd Charity Auction for Support of the 11-3 Disaster Zone

The second charity auction was held to raise funds for the 'Books for Tomorrow Project for Children'. JBBY works with the help of other organizations in Japan for support of the Great East Japan Earthquake disaster zone. In response to the appeal JBBY made at the IBBY Congress in London, we received more than 160 works from children's book artists in Japan and overseas. The some 3 million yen raised from the auction made it possible to continue operation of the bookmobile visits to tsunami-stricken areas and other events. JBBY received many messages from those who bought the works, expressing their joy at receiving wonderful works of art and also their deep sympathy for those affected by the disaster. We would like to share some of these messages and also express our gratitude to supporters around the world who cooperated in this project.

- As I gaze at this work day to day, my prayers go forth to the people of the disaster zone. I am



honored to have been able to obtain this wonderful work and will treasure it always.

- I would like to express my deep respect and gratitude to the artists who have generously shared their work for the sake of the children of the disaster zone.
- I am especially glad to have obtained this work as a way of supporting reading among children of the disaster zone. I hope to continue to participate in this kind of long-term support. I feel fortunate to have obtained works by artists from other parts of Asia, whose work is of special interest to me.
- What I like about this project is the transparency in the use of the raised money.
- This project would not continue without the cooperation of the picture book artists, but many victims of the disaster are still living in temporary housing to this day. I hope that JBBY will by all means continue this project next year as well, for the sake of the children of the disaster zone.





Korea:

News from KBBY (Korea Section)

1. 2013 First KBBY Meeting Held

KBBY held a New Year's Exchange Meeting on Feb 2013, 21 at the National Library for Children and Young People. The meeting started with the inauguration of the new president, followed by the introduction of the new committee members. Each Committee gave reports on their annual activities. The second part of the meeting consisted of the presentation by Yeo-ju Lim, new committee member, on "The Forum for Free Discussion Regarding Child and Juvenile Books", and another presentation by Sun-young Heo on "The Result and the Vision after 10 Years of the Miracle Library in Soon-cheon City".



2. Appointment of the First Korean Juror for the Hans Christian Andersen Award

Sang-Wook Kim, children's literature critic and professor of Choon-chon Education University, was nominated as an international juror for the Hans Christian Andersen Award 2014. As for the Korean candidates for the HC Andersen Award, Jin-gyeong Kim was selected for writing and Byong-ho Han for illustration.

3. KBBY Starts Non-profit Private Organization Public Service with Support of Security Administration

The KBBY Public Service Committee received funds for 2013 from the Security Administration, which enabled public service such as continuing the 'Meeting Authors Makes Me an Author' program from 2012. The first quarter public service was held from May 14 to June 18 at Chaegirang Library in Song-nam City, with authors Jin-hyun Kim and Jeong-wan Park.

4. KBBY Attends the 1st Asia-Oceania IBBY General Congress

The first Asia-Oceania IBBY General Congress was held in Bali, Indonesia, from May 24-26, 2013. KBBY sent 7 committee members along with 2 officers from the National Library for Children and Young People, and took part in the Congress, by both presenting and presiding.



Lebanon:

Lebanese Board on Books for Young People

LBBY started the year with a brainstorming meeting for a whole day, when we had a professional person come and help us evaluate our achievements to date, revise and focus our aims and objectives and organize our activities calendar for the year. It was a very fruitful meeting which pumped some energy into all the members. The members were then divided into smaller working groups to assume responsibility for the following activities: the reading competition, fundraising, documenting the history of LBBY, and communications and public relations.

These are some of the accomplishments of the year:

1. A Facebook presence that is attracting quite a bit of attention from local readers and from Lebanese abroad, was established: timeline: www.facebook.com//lbby.lbby
The LBBY webpage was also updated in text and pictures: www.lbby-lb.org.

2. A new brochure was prepared for LBBY. Two outstanding Lebanese artists, Ms Joelle Achkar, who donated her talent to illustrate the front page, and Ms Zeenalee Ayoub, who donated her expertise in graphic design to do the layout, were the creators of a beautiful work of art. We are very grateful for their assistance.

3. We donated five portable libraries to different needy groups in Lebanon. One went to a Caritas refugee center that has about 300 refugee children from Syria. Two libraries were given to public schools in a slum area in the city, that accommodates about 800 children, the majority of whom are refugees. One was offered to a social center in a slum area that offers, in addition to their regular activities, a summer program for refugee children. The fifth one was presented to an orphanage that has over one hundred children. Costing between 800\$ and 900\$, each library holds 120-100 books in Arabic, English and French, languages read by the children served.





4. A number of international guests, interested in children's literature, from Europe and the Arab countries, came to Lebanon and we had the pleasure of meeting them, briefing them on LBBY activities and mission and assisting them in their needs. Others wrote seeking information on LBBY and the status of children's literature in Lebanon, and we provided that with pleasure.
5. A group of LBBY members attended the CANA conference on Bringing Books and Children Together that was organized by the UAEBBY on April 2013 ,22–22; four of them participated as lecturers in the sessions.
6. Four Arabic books printed and published in Lebanon, addressing children with special needs, were sent to IBBY Documentation Centre for Disabled Young People.
7. Three young artists, along with a few others, have joined our organization and we are trying to recruit more members to widen the circle.
8. LBBY's affiliation with USBBY continues to give us great support and satisfaction. They are trying to help us seek funding to work on a Behavior Management project with traumatized Syrian refugee children who are in great need.
9. On May 9 at the UNESCO palace in Beirut, a ceremony was held for the yearly competition which LBBY organizes in a number of public and private schools in Lebanon to promote reading.





This honored the winners of the reading competition held among grade four students in 35 schools. For the first time this year Alhadi School for the Deaf joined in the competition.

The kids with their teachers assisted us in all activities and their contribution was appreciated by all.

The top three readers in every school were invited along with their parents, teachers and school directors.

The first part of the event was dedicated to interactive book-related activities between the children, authors and illustrators.



The second part of the program was dedicated to visiting the book exhibition of 2013-2012 prize winning Lebanese books that were displayed in an adjacent area.

All guests had the opportunity of discussing the books with the authors and illustrators who were present.

The last part of the program was the climax of the event, when children received their prizes and certificates for their serious reading efforts within the last five months. LBBY president, Doha Slim, introduced the members of the organization and thanked them for their hard work in making the event a reality.

Every participating school brought their three champion readers who came forward accompanied by their teacher. Each winner received a selected book as a gift, and a certificate in appreciation



of his /her achievement.

Directors and teachers of the schools that join annually in the LBBY Reading Competition received an attestation, in recognition of their continuous efforts in promoting reading in their schools and thus in their communities.





Malaysia:

9th Annual General Meeting of Malaysia IBBY Kuala Lumpur June 2013 ,22

Malaysia IBBY held its 9th Annual General Meeting on Saturday June 2013 ,22. In conjunction with this event, Malaysia IBBY organized a public lecture on Transformation of Literature in context with Children's Literature in Malaysia. The Public Lecture was given by Malaysian National Laureate Dato' Baharuddin Zainal, or better known by his pen name Baha Zain. About 70 members and friends of MBBY attended the Public Lecture. Dato' Baha Zain stressed the importance of Malaysia IBBY working closely with the relevant government authorities and various segments of the book industry to undertake measures necessary for the development of children's books, and that there should be proper guidelines in the Malaysian National Book Policy.

After the Public lecture, the 9th Annual General Meeting began. Mr. Ahmad Redza, the MBBY President, chaired the meeting and presented the report of events and activities of MBBY. On the meeting agenda was the election of the President and 9 members of the Executive Committee. The new committee will hold office for two years, 2013-2015.

Congratulations to Mr. Ahmad Redza on being elected as the President for the second term. Other members of the Executive Committee were Professor Dr. Md. Sidin as Vice President, Mr. S H Poh as Honorary Treasurer, Ms Anita Mohd Jali as Honorary Secretary and 6 Executive Committee members, namely Alimah Salam, Mahaya Yassin, Mohd Yusof Ismail, Norhayati Razali, Siti Rodziah Othman, and Dr. Zulkiflee Latiff. The Executive members elected represent the different areas of expertise in the children's book industry, namely, publishers, writers, illustrators, librarians and academicians.

Another event for the day was a poster workshop. 18 illustrators took part in producing posters for Malaysia IBBY. Mr. Mohd Yusof Ismail conducted the workshop.



Mr. Ahmad Redza, President of Malaysia IBBY chairing the 9th Annual General Meeting held on Saturday June 22, 2013



Mr. Ahmad Redza addressing the illustrators during the MBBY Poster workshop with Mr. Mohd. Yusof Ismail, the facilitator of the workshop



Participants at the MBBY Poster Workshop held in conjunction with the MBBY 9th Annual General Meeting, Kuala Lumpur June 22, 2013



Dato' Baha Zain, Malaysian National Laureate giving his Public Lecture at the 9th MBBY Annual General Meeting, Kuala Lumpur, June 22, 2013



Pakistan:

2013 heralded in joyful activity for IBBY Pakistan and its members. The steady activity of the previous year spilled into the new.

Rumana Husain had thought 2012 was a landmark year for her with more than a dozen children's books written, but she was mistaken. Since January 2013, the pace of creating books for children, participating in her book launches as well as storytelling sessions and getting involved in other activities related with children's literature has been, if anything, on the increase. She has written her first book for CLF publications, covering different regions of the country, working simultaneously on a book of myths, legends and fables from Pakistan, and another story for which she has created a rag doll. The latter book will be illustrated photographically.

At the two-day CLF held in Islamabad in May, a rhyming book written in both English and Urdu, *Laddu is Born*, was launched by the Ambassador of the Netherlands. *Laddu*, Rumana's creation, is a Pakistani monkey, and the story is original but the book follows Play and Learn with Miffy and Bruna's pedagogy of rhyming-story and minimalist illustrations.

We now move on to the Funkor Childart Center.

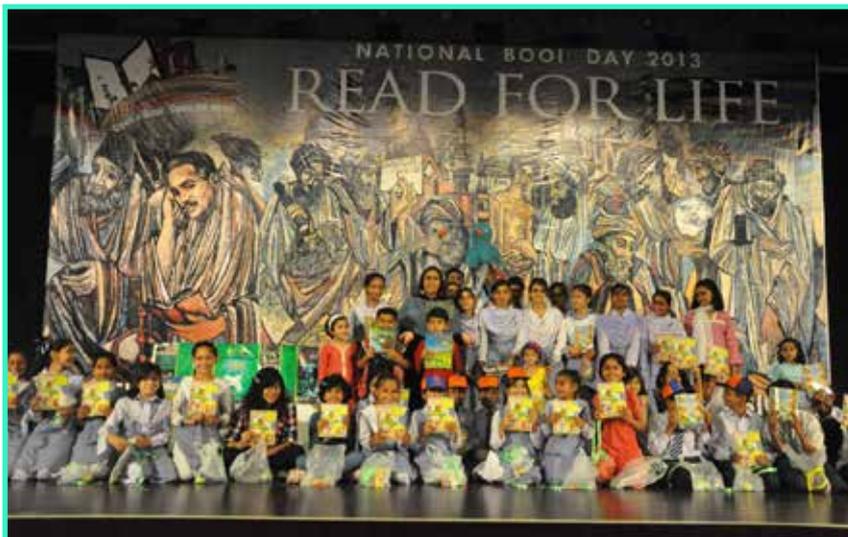
Funkor participated in the Children's Literature Festival in Bahawalpur in January. The festival, organized by OUP and ITA, was held at the historic Sadiq Reading Library.

Children visited Funkor's stall, read Fauzia Minallah's books and took photographs with Amai and Rangoo.

In February, Fauzia gave a presentation 'Digital Stories' at the Children's Literature Festival in Karachi. *Amai: The Bird of Light and Malala and Amai* were screened. After watching the digital stories, the children spoke about Amai's love for children of all religions, and a mural 'Peace in Karachi' was started by students under Fauzia's guidance.

In March, a mural, part of the International Intercultural Mural Exchange, was started by school children in Japan and completed by school children in Pakistan with a Skype conference between them at its completion.

In April, at the National Book Day organized by the National Book Foundation, Fauzia Minallah gave a presentation on *Amai: The Bird of Light*. Children were shown *Amai: The Bird of Light and Malala and Amai*, and then invited on stage to talk about them and create their own stories.



National Book day Ceremony

Amai and her friend Rangoo travelled all the way to Umerkot to celebrate Holi with children from the most marginalized community of Hari Hindus who work as bonded labourers. The Society for Promotion of Education and Awareness invited Funkor Childart Center to entertain the children of Joseph Colony, Lahore, who experienced horrific arson attacks on their homes. Amai and Rangoo were there to show their solidarity with Christian children and celebrate Pakistan Day with them.

At the Children’s Literature Festival in Islamabad on 25 May, Bano, Billoo and Amai: The Paper Doll Book by Fauzia Minallah was launched. This book introduces the traditional dresses of Pakistan: Bano and Billoo travel with Amai to different parts of the country, dress up in different traditional clothes, and discover the cultures of Pakistan.

Fauzia Minallah was awarded 2nd prize in the Education in Emergencies category by the Pakistan



Coalition for Education. This was given for 'Amai's Nest' set up by the Funkor Childart Center and implemented by Idara Barai Taleem o Taraqi Swat, for children affected by the floods in Kohistan, Swat.

Maqbool Books, founded to publish and promote children's books, became a member of IBBY Pakistan in April. Maqbool Books is presently working on promoting ancient Persian and Arabic children's literature through translations in the Urdu language. It is a regular participant in the world's major book fairs and also an international award winner.

For Alif Laila, 2013 has been exciting; with old projects being cemented and new ones taking shape. The Book Bus continues to reach out to children with its same mystique: the Reference Library is visited on a regular basis by schools during the academic year and by children from the community during the summer. The StoryTeller visits schools and communities regularly and the Madrassa libraries encourage children who are learning the Quran to expand their hearts and minds through exposure to different peoples and places.

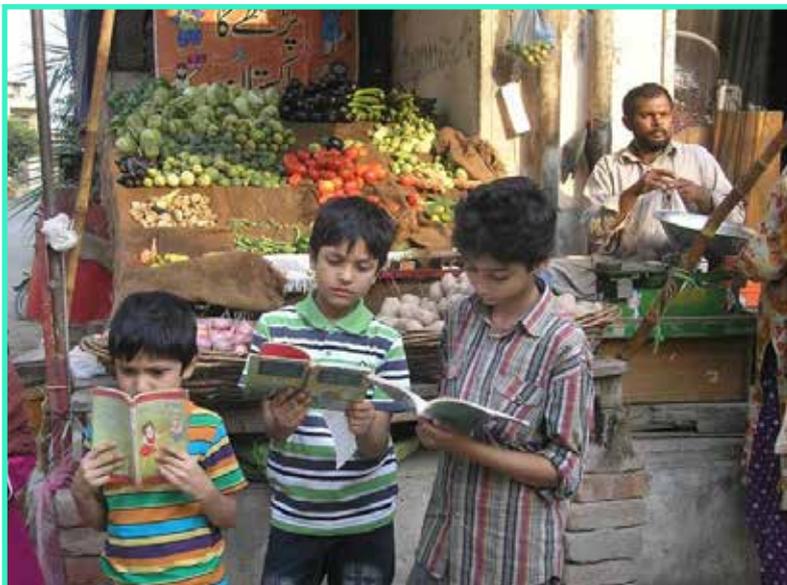
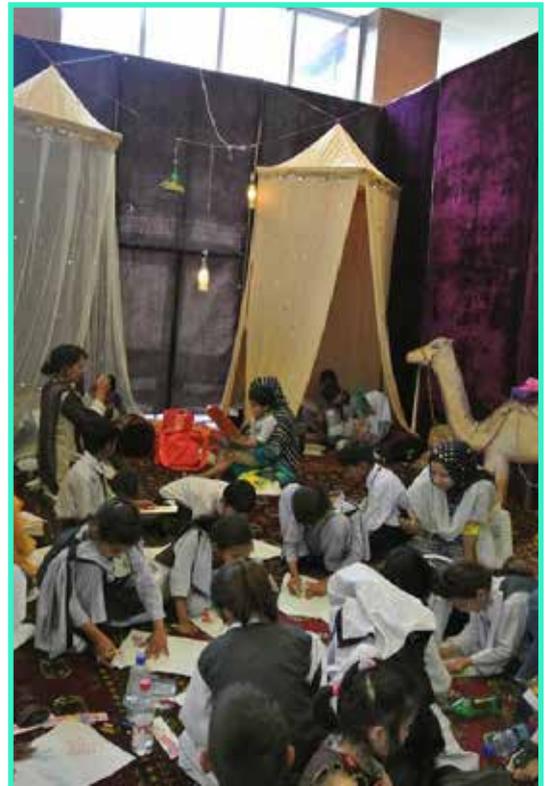
The Living Libraries in Sheikhpura continue to act as change agents with children, teachers and the community eager for more.

Reaching out to the community in cost effective ways and spreading the joy of reading through Rickshaw and Vegetable Shop Libraries is gaining momentum and creating both an interest and a need for libraries.

The Book Bus which is now an icon for children's libraries in Pakistan told its tale through Basarat Kazim at the IBBY CANA Conference in Sharjah this April, and has been declared an Ambassador for the Children's Literary Festivals in Pakistan.



At the launch of two of Rumana Husain's books in 2013



National Book day Ceremony



Palestine:

• *Reading and Creativity*

Is there a relationship between creativity and reading? With these words, Dr Sharif Kanaana, a well known anthropologist, opened the panel organized by PBBY in cooperation with Tamer Institute during ICBD week.

The panel hosted three prominent writers who spoke about their childhood experiences: poet Ahmad Dahbour; Mahmoud Shukair, a writer for adults and children; and Aisha Odeh, a writer and a freedom fighter who spent several years in the Israeli jails.

Dahbour, whose family was forced to leave Haifa, spoke about how the experience of the Diaspora affected him tremendously. 'Reading has to do with how you live in another world parallel to the life you live (...); imagination is what made me reach Haifa and the Carmel Mountain'.

Shukair started reading late because books were not available to him. A book entitled Majdoline attracted him to reading; after reading it, he read every book that he could get. Books were not all stories, but some of them were about the rights of women and political books: 'Books made me see the world differently'.

Odeh said 'Reading gave me a broader perspective; (...) books made me what I am...I read to change my world. My readings helped me while being interrogated. I was repeating to myself a quotation I had read: "You little man, do not die before becoming equal!"'

Jehan Helou
PBBY







• *IBBY Solidarity Visit to Gaza*

The visit of a high ranking IBBY delegation to Gaza, in mid April 2013, coincided with almost ten years from the declaration of IBBY Palestine as the 65th section of IBBY. This solidarity visit to the children of Gaza who suffer from occupation, oppression and siege was the best celebration of International Children's Book Day, and it highlighted the importance of the Children in Crisis Fund.

The delegation consisted of Ahmad Redza Ahmad Khairuddin, President of IBBY; Patsy Aldana, President of the IBBY Foundation and previous President of IBBY; Liz Page, Executive Director of IBBY; and Jehan Helou, President of IBBY Palestine.

Unfortunately, the visit was for two days only. Almost one day was spent at the Rafah crossing because of the complicated arrangements for the permits, but the delegation members were determined to enter Gaza and they did!

After a quick tour of Rafah, the delegation headed to the PBBY library at al Shawka around 8 pm. The children had been waiting enthusiastically and patiently since 3 o'clock. The delegation saw the smiles on the children's faces, and their love of books and their library. The same enthusiasm and warmth were witnessed in the PBBY al- Ata'a library in Beit Hanoun. Children spoke about their experiences in the library, how it changed their personality and widened their knowledge, and about books they had read and stories they had written. Children read from the stories they had written and illustrated; and they spoke about their trauma and fears, having to endure the continuous horrific Israeli aggression and siege.

In both libraries the delegation met with parents, who expressed their satisfaction and pleasure at the very positive role of the library in the lives of their children; they said their school performance has improved, as well as their positive development and enhanced self- confidence.

Qattan Centre for the child hosted a meeting organized with Tamer Institute; the meeting was attended by many representatives of NGOs, and cultural personalities. Jehan spoke about the Children in Crisis project in Gaza; Redza spoke about the mission of IBBY and its history; Liz elaborated on the different programs of IBBY; while Patsy spoke about Bibliotherapy. A short film was screened about the creative work of PBBY Palestine with children with hearing impairment; this was followed by general discussion.

<http://www.alwatanvoice.com/arabic/news/385123/22/04/2013.html>

The IBBY visit was a manifestation of the vital and moral role IBBY plays in supporting The Child's Right to Become a Reader!

