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 Editorial

Dear IBBY Colleagues,

It is our pleasure to send out the 10th Asia, Oceania and North Africa Newsletter just before the 35th IBBY international congress in New Zealand. Before flying to Auckland, we all have time to take a look at what we have done in recent months. It is really encouraging to see all the branches around the world make such incredible effort to open more windows to a more safe and beautiful world for children.

We look forward to the opportunity to have a gathering in the Congress in which to review the challenges of our sections in the region once again, and see in which way we can help each other to create more achievements for our children. Unfortunately, the children of the world, specifically in our region, are experiencing a very tough situation. The immigrant children we see all around or on our screens are experiencing a complex trauma far greater than the adults in their world. They experience war, violence, homeless, starvation, illness, the death of loved ones. We cannot stop the wars and change the political landscape. But we can act as an umbrella to protect these children so they don’t lose hope.

We hope by gathering the IBBY family in Congress and exchanging their views, we could find more solutions and relief for the children in crisis of this region. We have also to thank Marit Törnqvist, the great artist from Netherland for her cover page illustration and Mina Yousefi, our Iranian colleague for making the layout of this newsletter. We are looking forward to seeing you all in Auckland soon.

Zohreh Ghaeni <zghaeni@gmail.com>
Susanna Coghlan <scoghlans@gmail.com>
Kia Ora (Greetings) and Haere Mai (Welcome) IBBY Friends

It is almost time for us to welcome you to the IBBY World Congress in Auckland, August 18 -21. Delegates from 58 countries have already registered. If you haven’t registered yet, please do so now ... there will be an especially warm welcome to our IBBY Regional colleagues.

Our international speakers include Meshack Asare (Ghana), 2014 Hans Andersen winner Nahoko Uehashi (Japan), Julia Eccleshare (UK) Guardian children’s book editor, and from the USA, Raina Telgemeier, whose novel Smile has been on the New York Times best-selling list for four years, Leonard Marcus, internationally renowned picture book authority. Australian speakers include Markus Zusak, author of The Book Thief (now an acclaimed movie), Leigh Hobbs, the newly appointed children’s laureate and indigenous illustrator, Bronwyn Bancroft. Our local speakers include Joy Cowley, New Zealand’s nominee for the Hans Christian Andersen award, Gavin Bishop, esteemed illustrator, Sir Richard Taylor and Martin Baynton from Weta Workshop and Witi Ihimaera, acclaimed academic and writer committed to telling the indigenous story.

The full programme and list of speakers are available here: http://ibbycongress2016.org/programme.html

All delegates are invited to attend the Welcome Reception and The Hans Christian Andersen Award Gala dinner which will honour author Cao Wenxuan, the first Chinese author to receive this award, and illustrator Rotraut Susanne Berner, Germany.
You’ll be able to browse the book exhibitions, amongst them The 2016 IBBY Honour List, the 2015 IBBY Selection of Outstanding Books for Young People with Disabilities and the 2015 Silent Books, a second collection of wordless books selected to meet the needs of refugee and immigrant children arriving on the Mediterranean island of Lampedusa, Italy. There’ll also be exhibitions of art by NZ illustrators and award-winning NZ children’s books.

There’s a real treat in store with the World Final of the Kids’ Lit Quiz. The knowledge and enthusiasm of the teams of four ten to thirteen year old students who have won their national competitions is just astonishing. www.kidslitquiz.com

To celebrate the first time that the World Congress has been held in the Oceania Region, delegates will join with families participating in the Auckland Storylines Free Family Day on Sunday August 21. The programme will include a presentation by Sir Richard Taylor and Martin Baynton (animators of Thunderbirds are Go! and The Wot-Wots), performances of Tim Bray’s production of Witi Ihimaera’s The Whale Rider.

There are a few places left for a tour of a range of Auckland’s libraries on Wednesday August 17. Get in quickly for a chance to visit not only some schools but to see more of Auckland.

We urge you to check visa requirements when visiting New Zealand, with a link on our website: http://ibbycongress2016.org/entry-into-nz.html Don’t leave it too late to get a visa.

Some Māori words you might encounter:
Aotearoa – land of the long white cloud (New Zealand)
Haere Mae – welcome, enter
Hui – meeting, gathering
Kai - food
Kapai - good
Kia Ora - greetings
Manuhiri - guests
Mōrena – good morning
Nau Mai - welcome
Tamariki - children
Tapu – sacred
Waiata - song
Whānau – extended family
Tēnā Koe – formal greeting to one person
Tēnā Kōrua – formal greeting to two people
Tēnā Koutou – formal greeting to many people
Tēnā tātou katoa – formal inclusive greeting to everybody present
More Māori words on this link: http://www.nzhistory.net.nz/culture/maori-language-week/-100maori-words

Images below of the Arataki Visitors Centre, on Scenic Drive, Waitakere Ranges, Auckland

Frances Plumpton
Chair IBBY NZ
Bookbird
New Bookbird Issue 2016/3

Bookbird: A Journal of International Children’s Literature (ISSN 7377 0006) is a refereed journal published quarterly by IBBY.

Bookbird aims to communicate new ideas to the whole community of readers interested in children’s books.

Bookbird is open to any topic in the field of international children’s literature. The editor will also include themed issues and will post calls for manuscripts on the IBBY website. Bookbird will include News of IBBY projects and events that are highlighted in the Focus IBBY column. Bookbird is open to any topic in the field of international children’s literature. The editor will also include themed issues and will post calls for manuscripts on the IBBY website. Bookbird will include News of IBBY projects and events that are highlighted in the Focus IBBY column.

Other regular features include coverage of children’s literature studies and children’s literature awards around the world. Bookbird also pays special attention to reading promotion projects worldwide.

Also look out for the Bookbird special Hans Christen Andersen Award issue with information on all the nominees from around the world.
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Annual subscriptions can start at any time of the year, and you will receive the current issue and the next three, after which you will be asked to renew your subscription.

For more information and for direct ordering please go to: [www.press.jhu.edu/journals/bookbird/](http://www.press.jhu.edu/journals/bookbird/)

Bookbird back issues

All back issues of Bookbird from 1963 to 2008 are available to download from the IBBY Archives at ALO: [http://www.literature.at/collection.alo](http://www.literature.at/collection.alo)

All issues 2008 to 2010/3 are available by subscription through Project Muse: [http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/bookbird/](http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/bookbird/)
IBBY Australia:

Once, long ago, people who loved children and books and believed they belonged together met at a great gathering in Santiago de Compostela and decided they should spread this news far and wide throughout their region. Two women, Susanna of Ireland who lived in Cambodia and Zohreh of Iran, combined their skills and knowledge and so in April, 2011 the first Asian newsletter was born. Once again, they have combined to produce this, our 10th newsletter and Oceania and the Middle East have long been included. We give thanks and our congratulations for their perseverance and commitment.

2016 was an exciting year for IBBY Australia as we celebrated our Golden Anniversary and the founding of our Section by our first President, Ena Noël, in 1966. Once Upon a Time: a Celebration of 50 years of IBBY Australia was held at Santa Sabina College, Sydney, NSW on Saturday, 2nd April. With a riveting opening address entitled IBBY in the Age of Globalisation from Dr Mark Macleod, this was followed by the HCA Award Australian nominee for illustration, Bronwyn Bancroft, in conversation with Libby Gleeson as they explored her eventful life and artwork. Owen Belling led a special session for teachers and introduced many Aboriginal texts for use in schools. Interviewed by Robyn Sheahan-Bright, Ursula Dubosarsky, the HCA Award Australian nominee for writing, responded in an engaging way to thought-provoking questions. Both Australian nominees will participate in the 2016 Auckland Congress programme. National President, Robin Morrow also announced the winner of the 2016 Ena Noël Award for young writers/illustrators which was won by Kate Gordon for Writing Clementine published by Allen & Unwin.

Across the continent and five hours flying time away, Western Australians celebrated the Golden Anniversary with a gold themed Quiz Night. Presented by MC and storyteller Glenn Swift, challenging questions around Hans Christian Andersen
and the gold theme were woven in and out of the evening. During the break, duelling artists James Foley and Kelly Canby illustrated The Emperor’s New Clothes as it was read aloud.

A different form of celebration took place in Brisbane, Queensland, when a group of emerging writers celebrated their third year as a group. Further north, in Gladstone, Queensland another innovative celebration took place at the local Aquatic Centre. On the 2nd April, Hans Christian Andersen’s birthday was honoured with the launch of the Dads Read programme, which encourages fathers, grandfathers, big brothers and uncles to read to their children.

The new Australian Children’s Laureate for 17-2016 was announced in February and Leigh Hobbs was presented with his Magpie Award in the State Library of Victoria on the 12th February. Well known for creating Old Tom, Mr Chicken goes to Paris and Horrible Harriet, Leigh has a subversive sense of humour that delights children everywhere and you will have a chance to meet him at the Auckland Congress in August.

Cementing our links with other national sections, IBBY Australia contributed picture books to Fundação Nacional do Livro Infantil e Juvenil – FNLIJ) the Brazilian Section of IBBY, for their exhibition Children’s Stories: a heritage for humanity, for the Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro, an international collection of children’s books 19 – 8th June. We also sent two editions to IBBY México/A leer for their collection of editions of Alice in Wonderland to

One of the fathers with his children at the launch of Dads Read launch
celebrate the 150th anniversary of Alice.
The peak body for children’s literature in Australia, the Children’s Book Council of Australia celebrated the 70th anniversary of their Book of the Year Awards, first established in 1945. The 12th National Conference was held in Sydney from the 21-20st May where the Shortlist for the Book of the Year was announced, with the final announcement to take place at the commencement of the annual Children’s Book Week on Friday 19th August. Another milestone was reached at this conference with an afternoon tea for the Centenary of the NSW School Magazine. Around 50 of those present had contributed to the School Magazine during its long life of publishing a high quality literary magazine for children.
Another innovative and imaginative fundraiser for The Children in Crisis Fund has been orchestrated by our creative fantasy writer Isobelle Carmody to celebrate the release of her final Title, The Red Queen. last of the Obernewtyn Chronicles and a journey of over 30 years. A unique collection of masks created by 22 of Australia’s talented creators was first unveiled at The Masked Ball extravaganza in Melbourne at the end of last year. An exhibition at the Geelong Regional Library has displayed the masks from Friday, 6th May – Sunday, 3rd July. An online auction of the masks was also launched with the proceeds to be shared between IBBY’s Children in Crisis Fund and Animals Asia’s Bear Sanctuary in Chengdu, China. Ann
James spoke at the launch of the work of Jella Lepman and her vision, and the importance of the Children in Crisis Fund in bringing books and hope to the children of the world who have been affected by the trauma of war and natural disasters.

The Executive Committee and members of IBBY Australia look forward to meeting up with our overseas friends and sections at the 2016 IBBY Auckland Congress.
IBBY Cambodia:

International Children’s Book Day 2016

On March 26th the fourth national celebration of International Children’s Book Day at a public park in the city. This year we also made the day a full day (the previous years it was only in the afternoon). We welcomed over 1,000 visitors through the day to join in our celebration of books. Activities included drawing, storytelling, puppet shows, dramas, science activities, reading competitions and a make your own book session. We had a great number of publishers, schools, organizations, illustrators, authors, and other volunteers hosting the activities. Nine publishers exhibited books and the British Embassy provided 100 books as prizes. As always, we are grateful to our sponsors and volunteers for their support. Each year we are attracting a wider network of partners, sponsors, media coverage, and general public, showing the growing interest in reading and books in Cambodia. The International Children’s Book Day has become a significant event in the ‘reading calendar’ and we believe that it is a key part of promoting reading and literacy to children, families, educators, and others, and we were delighted to see so many active participants this year.
New Logo

IBBY Cambodia has a new logo. Thank you to Rebeca Jiménez Pintos for the design.
IBBY China:

On April 4th this year, Wenxuan Cao won the 2016 H.C. Andersen Award for writing at the IBBY Press Conference in Bologna. He became the first Chinese author to receive this award. Media coverage on him has been very hot for at least two months, as all media are keen to interview him. This is a very good chance to promote the HCA Awards as well as IBBY.

From 29 May, the Original Exhibition of Bologna Illustration Awards started on rotation tour across China. Andersen Awards winners, Roger Mello (2014) Wenxuan Cao (2016), and IBBY EC member Mingzhou Zhang were invited to have professional discussions at the opening ceremony and at related seminars. Mingzhou Zhang introduced Roger Mello and Wenxuan Cao to work together on a picture book titled The Feather in 2013. What is interesting is that almost immediately after the publishing of the picture book, the illustrator and the author won the H.C. Andersen awards one after another. Within the three years since its publication, this book has been translated into 10 different languages.
The Feather, and its author, illustrator and publisher CCPPG.

At the opening ceremony of the Bologna Illustration Exhibition in Beijing
Shen Zhen Children’s Library: new award

Shen Zhen Children’s Library pioneered an award voted by half a million children across China with their true names strictly registered through internet technology. This is the very first time such a book selection program has been initiated in China, giving young readers right to vote for which ones they like best. In order to guarantee the basic quality, nine experts were chosen to select 30 titles in three categories: literature novels, picture books, knowledge books. Young readers will then chose nine top titles, three in each category.

Forum on Alibaba Rural Teachers Initiative

Alibaba Founding Chairman Ma Yun invited H.C. Andersen awards winner Wenxuan Cao, IBBY Executive Member Mingzhou Zhang to participate a charity Forum on Alibaba Rural Teachers Initiative (a charity program sponsored by Ma Yun to help teachers from rural areas across China) on July 9th. Also invited were UN Secretary General, Mr. Pan Gimun, former UK Prime Minister James Gordon Brown as well as other non-government and non-profit organizations in the open forum.

Alibaba Group is a world known Internet-based group of business, and already bigger than its competitors eBay and Amazon.com
combined in 2012. Mingzhou Zhang has promoted IBBY to its chairman and he hopes to cooperate with IBBY in the future.

**China Delegation to IBBY Congress 2016**

In August, CBBY will send a delegation of 30 people to IBBY Congress in Auckland, the biggest delegation to the IBBY Congress ever. Delegates include writers, illustrators, editors, rights managers, publishers, and journalists.
IBBY India:

Setting Up Rural Libraries and Workshops

16-2015 had been an eventful year for the Association of Writers and Illustrators for Children (AWIC). With the Yamada Fund generously given by IBBY, we set up a library in the remote village of Shamli in District Kandela of U.P. in India. In the first part of the project three members went to Kandela by road carrying 200 books and other accessories for starting a library there. It was given to an organization called Kartavya, a voluntary organization, successfully working with the underprivileged children and women. Kartavya is looked after by a young advocate Manish Jain who has dedicated his life for this cause. The area where the library was set up, was a part of the village which was still not fully developed and some of the roads were not good. These members also distributed storybooks and stationary among the students.

This was followed by a workshop for teachers and librarians from the schools of nearby villages, conducted by three members consisting of Indira Bagchi, Shail Tiwari and Kiran Babal. The workshop was attended by 100 teachers and librarians. In this workshop one
session was taken up by Indira Bagchi to explain the importance of reading, motivating children to read, the method of setting up a library, classification of books according to the age group and subjects, teaching children how to look after the books, knowing the interest of the children coming to the library, creative writing and how to do story telling in order to make their subjects interesting. There was a storytelling session, which was attended by students and teachers. Shail Tiwari told them a story by pasting pictures on sheet.

Indira Bagchi speaking to the teachers and librarians.

Kiran Babal demonstrating puppet making to the students.

Afterwards Kiran Babal taught them how to make puppets and animals with papers and other material. All these activities were greatly enjoyed by everyone.
Free Distribution of Books under the ‘Literacy Project’

One of our Japanese friends gave us a generous donation for our Literacy Project. With this money we bought alphabet books, Hindi nursery rhymes and got storybooks printed and distributed free in the remote areas of India. So far we have distributed nearly 30,000 books to the poor and underprivileged children.

Publishing Picture Books

Under the Literacy Project we have also had some picture books written and illustrated by our members. We are also going to distribute some of these books.
Asian Festival on Children’s Content

A team of 10 members participated in the Asian Festival of Children’s Content (AFCC) held in Singapore organized by the Singapore Book Council. It was a very useful festival with lots of seminars on children’s content. Japan was the focus country and many eminent writers and illustrators had good interactive sessions with the participants. Books from all the countries were displayed. Many booklovers and young mothers were happy to see such a large number of children’s books in one place.

One of the outstanding features of AFCC was the International story competition organised by Scholastic. It was won by Aditi Rao from India.
IBBY Indonesia:

**Inauguration of Society for the Advancement of Children’s Literature (SACL) Branch in Yogyakarta**

SACL inaugurated a new branch in Yogyakarta on 24 February 2016. SACL has its main office in Jakarta. Yogyakarta is a special area near central of Java. The number of activities in Yogyakarta requires opening of a branch in that area. Four members of SACL and four members of INAby (Indonesian Board Book of Young Adult) in Jakarta participated in the opening of a branch in Yogyakarta. The program is made possible by the support of IBBY (International Board on Books for Young People).

The inauguration of a branch in Yogyakarta was formally started by opening a library in the home of a member of SACL. The concept of home library was integrated into several planned library programs and activities such as providing reading books collection, storytelling, as well as presenting activities outside the library such as learning how to make a story by making a simple book in paper and learning English by singing accompanied by guitar.
During the opening, activities were carried out such as a seminar, and activities for children. The seminar was about reading interests, which was attended by teachers and communities around the new library. The seminar discussed interest in reading and showed techniques to build children’s interest in reading by teachers and parents. During the seminar, the local organizing committee also provided the audiences with traditional food of Yogyakarta area and live music. Children at the opportunity to learn how to paint on paper puppets.

**Seminar on Reading Interest by Dr. Murti Bunanta**

**Storytelling in a Train Journey from Jakarta to Yogyakarta**

Four members of INAbby and four members of SACL took a train journey from Jakarta to Yogyakarta on 23 February 2016. The purpose was to launch a SACL branch in Yogyakarta. It took 8 hours journey from Jakarta to Yogyakarta by train so the members of SACL and INAbby decided to fill the travelling with storytelling. It is the first time program of storytelling on the train in Indonesia.

There are four members of SACL and four members of INAbby participating in the journey to Yogyakarta. All of them were involved in storytelling along the way. Preparation for the storytelling on the train included; choosing short and interactive stories, adjusting the position of the storyteller in the train’s corridor, and preparing the storytelling media such as hand puppet, finger puppet, and string. We also sent the permission letter to train administrators for presenting storytelling in the train.

The train left early in the morning and our group decided to tell stories from around 9am until lunch time. We noticed that some of the passengers brought their children, so we began by asking the children if they would like to listen to the story. The first story was about frogs and locusts, then the group moved from one carriage to another carriage sharing more
stories. Five stories were brought to life on the train from Jakarta to Yogyakarta; the «Frog and Locust», «Mouse Deer and the Tiger», «Hare and Tortoise», «The Jovial and the Moody» and «Mosquito Giant».

The children looked quite happy with short storytelling using hand puppets and finger puppets. Though we started by asking the children, some adult passengers were also curious and wanted to hear the story, especially storytelling using the string. They even practiced to tell a story with a string. They said they wanted to tell the story for their families and grandchildren.

INABBY and SACL at AFCC (Asian Festivals of Children’s Content) 2016

AFCC is a yearly festival held in Singapore. The festival focuses on content for children in various mediums such as books, e-books, movies, and other forms. It gathers writers, illustrators, researcher, parents, and teachers to discuss about children’s content in seminars and workshops. It also provides publishers in Asia the opportunity to exhibit and exchange rights. This festival has Board of Officers that come from different parts of Asia: Indonesia, Singapore, Korea, Japan, and Myanmar. Each year, the festival selects a country of focus to highlight the current trends and issues from the country. Indonesia will be the next focus of the country in 2017.

The president of INAbby is one of the Board of Advisors of AFCC. As the Board of Advisors
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August 2016

meeting decided Indonesia as the country of focus in 2017, the president of INAbby and her team, members of SACL and INAbby are providing input to government, NGOs, publishers, about this event and to discuss the programs for the next year. Thus, members of INAbby and SACL are highly involved in AFCC 2017. As the result of several meetings, preliminary programs have been planned for the coming event which covers four main activities; presentations, Indonesian night, joint publishing books, and a books fair. These main programs have been presented by a team from Indonesia represented by Emilia Nazir (secretary general of INAbby) and Ida Farida (Liason officer of INAbby) in AFCC 2016 in front of BOA meeting. This year at AFCC, three publishers and one NGO from Indonesia participated in the book fair. The publishers are Gramedia book publishing, Borobudur agency, and Kanisius. The NGO that participated was SACL. The president of INAbby presented two papers. One on important special collections from around the world, and another on what makes a book award-worthy?. The first paper is about her private children books collection in her library at home and the second paper highlight the issue of the benefit of children's books awards. The second session was a panel where Dr. Murti joined with Leonard Marcus, a historian, writer, book critic and exhibition curator.

Dr. Murti Bunanta was sharing her view about the benefit of children's book awards

Dr. Murti Bunanta was sharing her private documentation library at AFCC 2016

INAbby and SACL members at AFCC 2016
Celebration of 30 years anniversary of SACL

In commemoration of 30 years of SACL’s dedication for the people of Indonesia, SACL will carry out several events from 4 to 7 August. The events are varied and include an illustration workshop, a seminar on children books, a storytelling workshop, storytelling festival, and dance opera. These programs will take place in two locations: Dia Lo Gue art space in Kemang, Jakarta and Graha Bakti Budaya, Taman Ismail Jakarta (TIM). The anniversary of 30 Years SACL is supported by INAbby and IBBY.

The illustration workshop will be on August 2016 ,4. The workshop facilitator is Mr. Tassies from Spain, the winner of the Grand Prix BIB Competition 2009 in Slovakia.

The seminar on the children’s book will take place on second day, August 2016 ,5. There will be two activities in that day. In the morning session, there will be a seminar. While, in the afternoon session, there will be a storytelling workshop. The facilitator will be Uncle Fat (Former Navy, Storytellers Leading-Taiwan) and Made Taro (leading Storytellers Bali-Indonesia).

On 6 August 2016, a storytelling Festival will be held and it is open to the public from morning until dawn. There are many storytellers who will share their stories. Among them are: Made Taro from Bali, Uncle Fat from Taiwan, children of the group of Arasta from Bengkulu, children storyteller winners from Jakarta and Yogyakarta, storytellers team with insect puppets from Yogyakarta, and of course the SACL team.

The peak of this anniversary will be a symphonic legends adapted from Indonesian folktales by Dr. Murti Bunanta for which she has collaborated with a renowned composer Ananda Sukarlan, to be presented on 7 August 2016. The orchestra includes youth orchestra members and a choreographer, Chendra Panatan.

Reported by Ida Farida
Liaison Officer of INAbby
IBBY Iran :

Read with Me wins the IBBY-Asahi Reading Promotion Award
April 2016 ,05

Read with Me won the most prestigious and prominent international Reading Promotion award of IBBY-Asahi. The IBBY-Asahi Reading Promotion Award is given biennially to two groups or institutions whose outstanding activities are judged to be making a lasting contribution to reading promotion programs for children and young people. In 2016, Read with Me from Iran and Big Brother Mouse from Luang Prabang City, Laos were the two winning projects of this precious award among 11 nominees.

The winning projects were announced at the IBBY press conference at the Bologna Children’s Book Fair on Monday, 4 April 2016 and the presentation will be made in Auckland at the 35th IBBY World Congress in August 2016.

Understanding the important role of Book Reading and Reading Aloud in learning a language, now it is almost five years that the Institute for Research on the History of Children’s Literature (IRHCL) has implemented the Read with Me project. Read with Me is a Reading Promotion project for children in low-income families, deprived children and children in crisis. The objective of this project is to make quality books accessible to this group of children and young adults who may not be able to access quality books in the routine of their lives. After
years of research in the field of children’s history and culture and studies on the situation of children’s book in the society, IRHCL believes that book promotion among children and young adults, especially book reading can grow talents and mental abilities of next generations and change their lives. So this institute has suggested and implemented Read with Me project since August 2011 in different parts of Iran in order to bring the idea of “All children have the right to read quality books” into reality.

One of the RWM principles is to share books with children and young adults by reading aloud, which is held along with conversations and book related creative art activities in order to have deeper effects on children. The goal of sharing books by this method is to help children benefit from the joy and delight of reading and encourage their aesthetics and conceptual motivations. Based on this approach and objective, in addition of conscious selection of quality books and delivering them to children in deprived areas, RWM tries to empower teachers and tutors by holding different workshops about reading aloud and related activities.

One of the other principles of this project is to improve living values and skills through book reading, establishing small local, rural and school libraries with quality books, preparing reports and documenting activities and book reading sessions, and constant evaluation of the project based on qualitative and quantitative criteria.

Through this method and principles, Read with Me has been implemented in 13 provinces in Iran and it has achieved major successes in book promotion and getting children interested in books. During the five years of Read with Me implementation, about 24,000 children have been reached by the project and benefited from its advantages.
Among the reasons for the project’s successful implementation and impacts, it could be noted that this project has high flexibility and at the same time it persists on its principles and basics. In doing this, it has drawn on a wide range of methods and reaches a great variety of children including: students in deprived areas, child patients, child labourers and street children, orphans, and children of workers and employees in a factory.

Bamdad Group to Receive the Sharjah/IBBY Children in Crisis Fund

More than ten year ago, in the House of Librarians for the Promotion of Reading among Children and Young People the group known as the Bamdad Group for the Development of Children’s Libraries in the Deprived Sector was formed. The main objective of the BG was getting books to children who had no access to them. In 2014, BG executed a scheme for setting up and supporting children’s libraries in deprived sectors of religious and ethnic minorities. This scheme, entitled “Setting up and maintaining children’s and young people’s libraries in deprived sectors of ethnic and religious minorities”, is targeted at deprived youth in the province of Sistan and Baluchistan.
Jabbar Baghcheban Award for Reading Promoters 
May 2016,15

On the 130th anniversary of Jabbar Baghcheban’s birth, May 9, the founder of modern preschool education and also deaf education in Iran, the Institute for Research on the History of Children’s Literature has decided to establish the Jabbar Baghcheban Award for Reading Promoters to honor this prominent educator, promoter, and children’s playwright. This prize will annually recognize the 10 distinguished and creative teachers who have made outstanding achievements in reading promotion and made remarkable contributions to the Read with Me project. The sponsor of this Award is Omran Azarestan Company. The Award consists of a sum of money and a plaque. Omran Azarestan Company, has financially supported several Read with Me projects in Sistan and Balouchestan province.
Enrichment of Public Libraries in National Children’s Literature Day (8th July)

123,000 copies (more than 750 titles) of children and YA books have been donated to public libraries by Cultural Association of Publishers of Children’s and YA books in celebration of National Children’s Literature Day (8th of July). As the need for new sources in rural libraries is much greater, most of the books will be sent to rural and mobile libraries. At the moment more than 592 public libraries are located in poor and marginalized villages and there are 19 mobile libraries. Currently more than 1,700 public libraries have a separate section for children and adolescents with special design and equipment that are providing services to children throughout the country.

Exhibition of Children’s Visual Culture in Iran (1980-1950)

For the first time at the Tehran Museum of Contemporary Art an exhibition reviewing three decades of visual creations for Iranian children have been held. The ‘Karnameh’ Exhibition of Visual Culture of Iranian Children is a journey through the early illustrations of school books, documentaries and works produced by pioneers of illustrations in Iran specifically from 1950 to 1980. Children’s Book Council of Iran, The Institute for the Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults, the National Film Archive of Iran and the Film Museum of Iran have collaborated in the project, which will be running until August 15.
CBC General Assembly and EC Election

CBC General Assembly was held on 5th of June 2016, since there were to be elections for both EC and auditors, there was a large turnout of the official/voting membership. After the ratification of the various reports, votes were cast and the newly elected EC was announced to serve during 2018-2016.

The 2nd CBC Biennial Conference Call for Paper

The second CBC Biennial Conference on Children’s Literature and Childhood Studies entitled “Children, literature and the joys of reading» will be held in the autumn 2016. The main theme of the conference is to present research on the various aspects of the phenomenon of reading, with special emphasis on the pleasures of reading and children’s literature. Besides academic contributions, workshops and round tables are planned.

Visitor from Belgian Section of IBBY - Flemish Branch

CBC hosted the President of the Flemish Branch of Belgium IBBY, Ms. Eva Devos and her librarian colleague. During the visit CBC’s activities were presented, reporters got interviews, CBC members prepared a collective lunch enjoyed by more than 25 guests, visitors kindly talked about children’s literature in Belgium, the work with refugees and listeners got a chance to ask questions and exchange experiences.
In April 2016 came the welcome news of the publication of a new volume of the EYP. This volume containing articles of letters Z, J, S of the Persian alphabet, contains 252 articles, 601 illustrations, 29 maps and 65 diagrams. As an EYP general policy one third of the articles relates to Iran. The EYP Administrative Council has also announced that it will be bringing out a revised version of the earlier volumes of this monumental work achieved through the dedication and voluntary work of some 200 experts and colleagues.
IBBY Japan:

1. ICBD Festival in Tokyo

We had the ICBD Festival on 22-21 March 2016 at the Gate City Hall in Tokyo, over 1,800 people came to the venue and enjoyed.

One of the main programmes was the International Books Exhibition; HCAA winners’ books, IBBY Honour List books, and outstanding books for disabled young people. Past ICBD posters were displayed.
Several workshops were held for children; making picture books, science experiences, and drawing with genuine paint tools.

Japanese edition of ICBD poster 2016; 6,000 pieces of posters were distributed throughout Japan including all of public libraries.
2. JBBY International Lecture (1) by Leonard Marcus and Akira Nogami

“Between Innocence and Experiences: How American children’s Literature Came of Age” by Leonard Marcus
On 21 May 2016 at the Sola City Conference Center in Tokyo, 150 participants listened to the lecture of Dr. Marcus and Mr. Nogami, juvenile literature commentator in Japan.

3. JBBY International Lecture (2) by Wendy Cooling from

On 10 July 2016 at the Wainright Hole of Ginza Kyobunkwan in Tokyo, over 100 people listened to the lecture about Roald Dahl’s fantastic world and his imagination. Ms. Cooling is the founder of BOOKSTART project for newborn babies in UK as well as one of the IBBY honorary members.
4. Report of “Books for Tomorrow:

Project for victims of 3.11 Great Earthquake and Tsunami”

We finished “Books for Tomorrow: Projects to support children of the stricken area from the Great East Japan Earthquake in 2011» under cooperation with some other organizations at the end of March 2016. On 2 July 2016 at the Japan Publishers Club, about 100 people came to hear our activity report for 5 years. After briefing session, we talked about future support at a social gathering.
IBBY Malaysia:

International Children’s Book Day 2016

Malaysia IBBY (MBBY) celebrated the Intentional Children’s Book Day 2016 by organizing a special programme at Putrajaya Primary School Presint 1(8). The event attracted 1,200 school children. Amongst the activities organized by MBBY were reading sessions with the children, storytelling sessions, Kamishibai performance, art and colouring contest, handicraft session and book exhibition. The children also performed the cultural dances and storytelling. The President of Malaysia IBBY, Dato Ahmad Redza was present and launched the event.
Children performing the cultural activity

Colouring session for children
**World Book and Copyright Day 2016**

In conjunction with the World Book and Copyright Day 2016, Malaysia IBBY organized ‘Meet the Authors’ session with author Mohana Gill from Malaysia and Ary Nilandari from Indonesia. It was held on 23 April 2016 at the University of Malaya.

Mohana Gill is the author of recipe books on healthy living for children. She has produced five books for children and one book for adults and all of them have won various awards at the Gourmand World Cookbook Awards organized by Gourmand International. The books are *Fruitastic (2005)* which won The Gourmand Special Jury Award in 2006 and Best of the Best Fruit Cookbook in 2015, *Vegemania (2006)*, won the Gourmand Best Vegetarian Cookbook in the World in 2007, and her latest book *Happylicious (2015)* won The Best Food and Family Book in Malaysia 2015 and second place in the Best in the World by Gourmand Cook Book Award 2016 in China. Her two other publications *Hayley’s Fruitastic Garden (2010)* won the Best Health and Nutrition Book (Malaysia) and *Hayley’s Vegemania Garden (2010)* won the Best Vegetarian Cookbook in Malaysia and Best in the World 2010.

All of Mohana’s books stress on the importance of fruits and vegetables as essential foundations of good health especially to children. Most of the recipes are vegetarian and use lots of fruits, vegetables, nuts and grains. There are recipes for breakfast, snacks, desserts and dinner that are easily created by parents working with their children in the kitchen. Mohana had also written *Myanmar: Cuisine, Culture and Customs* where she wrote about her country of birth (Myanmar) and shared more than 70 recipes. The book won the Best Cuisine Book in the World Award at the Gourmand World Cookbook Award in Frankfurt in 2014.

In 2010, she was commissioned by the Federal Agricultural Marketing Authority of Malaysia to produce books for children introducing fruits and vegetables to them. The books were distributed to primary and secondary schools in Malaysia as part of the government initiative to promote good eating habits among children.
The second speaker was Ary Niladari, and she was from Indonesia but now residing in Malaysia. She has written many children’s books in Indonesia and had won various awards namely the Winner in Samsung Kid’s Time Author Award for I Know What You Meant, Runner-up in Scholastic Picture Book Award 2015 for Pandu: The Ogoh-Ogoh Maker. At the session, Ary spoke on the on the Challenges and Opportunities of Indonesian Children’s Books Authors. She is now writing her sixth book in her famous series of children’s novel known as Keo and Noako series.
Storytelling Activities by Summer Enrichment Programme Exchange Students

Malaysia IBBY and the University of Malaya organized a four series of storytelling sessions by students from Japan, Korea, Indonesia and Malaysia in February 2016. The students were in Malaysia for the Summer Enrichment Programme at the University of Malaysia, and one of their assignments was to perform storytelling sessions. From Indonesia the students were from Universitas Indonesia Jakarta and Universitas Islam Negeri SGD Bandung, from Korea, they were from Pukyong National University Busan, Sejong University Seoul, and University of Seoul, and from Japan they were from Kwansei Gakuin University Osaka, Totori University and Waseda University Tokyo. They brought along storybooks from their respective countries and donated them to the school library. In addition to storytelling, they played traditional children’s games and sang children’s songs. It was a good cultural exchange programme for the foreign university students and the Malaysian school children.
Group photograph of the participating students from Indonesia, Korea and Japan, and with the Dean of the Faculty of Arts and social Science University of Malaya Prof. Dr. Md. Sidin Ahmad Ishak
IBBY Palestine:

Children in Crisis in Gaza: Librarians Training

The work of our two libraries is progressing, in defiance of the horrible siege and the inhumane conditions imposed by the Israeli occupation. Creative activities are pursued and new books are arriving. However, the major activity was a very successful training. The training of the librarians targeted 20 librarians that included also school teachers/librarians and librarians from community based children’s libraries. The training was aimed at giving the librarians the skills to organize and animate the library with creative activities promoting reading and critical thinking.

The main subject of training were:

- Making dolls/puppets and how to use them in storytelling and puppet show
- Book classification; the librarians were given new information in the science of classification, based on Dewey decimal system.
- Analyzing the text and story selection; the training was based on activities about how to help the child understand the text of the story and how to choose the appropriate book for different age groups
- Expressive arts training was impressive as librarians learnt how to animate stories.
- Drama in the library training clarified the importance of drama in library activities; the trainer was able to reflect this through acting to express the ideas and concepts appropriately
- Bibliotherapy/Treatment through Books.

For the Bibliotherapy/Treatment through Books section, the trainer developed the librarians’ skills in this activity. The trainer clarified how to implement treatment with reading and writing, what are the ways that can be used to address an issue in individual cases, and how to reach Palestinian children in Gaza who suffer and are traumatized because of the horrible Israeli aggressions and the great human suffering there.

All of the attendees expressed their appreciation and recommended to have similar training every year.
Beverley Naidoo in Palestine: A Long Awaited Visit!

Beverley Naidoo has been very popular among children and youth in Palestine after her two famous books Journey to Jo’burg and Chain of Fire were translated into Arabic and thousands of copies were distributed to schools and libraries. Palestinian children loved the books and connected with South African children’s suffering and struggle. The award-winning writer visited Palestine for two weeks in April/May 2016. It was her first visit since 2000, in response to a joint invitation from Tamer Institute, IBBY Palestine and the British Council. The full program included visits to schools and libraries for children in Jerusalem, Nablus, Battir, Salfit and Jenin; two workshops with “Yara’at” youth journalists in the West Bank and in Gaza via video.
Her IBBY Palestine lecture in Ramallah - “A Journey with Beverley Naidoo” - was gripping! She talked about her transformation, her long struggle against racial discrimination and for justice, and her long road with writing and creativity.

Her tour finished with a very lively interactive meeting with children of two schools from Ramallah and Nablus in the 10th Palestinian Book Fair.
The visit was very successful, Beverley is a great story teller and excellent at engaging children. Everyone was impressed with her enthusiasm and ability to reach out and initiate serious thinking. She answered questions such as “What made you think out of the box?” “Why do you write for young people?” and “What makes people racist?” She also asked questions. In response to “Why do you write?” she received replies such as, “I find myself in writing” “I want to make something and leave a print before I leave... to express my mind in writing” and “My only freedom is in writing.” Beverley was especially touched by expressions of the hope that literature can offer: “It is nice to have you travelling to Jenin because we have been travelling with you in Journey to Jo’burg... and this journey has planted hope again in our souls with the political corruption of this world.” What a coincidence: the visit of Beverley coincided with the inauguration of the statue of the Nelson Mandela that Johannesburg presented to Palestine as the great leader inspires every Palestinian!
IBBY UAE:

UAE Board on Books for Young People Instils Love of Reading in Emirati Youngsters

The UAE Board on Books for Young People (UAEBBY), the national branch of the International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY), is implementing a set of initiatives and activities to promote reading among children and young people in the country throughout the year in line with the UAE’s Year of Reading.

The move by the national literary organisation is in line with its mission to attract children and young people to books and instil in them a love of reading. It comes within the framework of the UAE’s ‘Year of Reading’ initiative for 2016, launched by the President, His Highness Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan.

Established under the directives of Sheikha Bodour bint Sultan Al Qasimi, Founder and Patron of UAEBBY, the organisation aims to promote the publication and distribution of high quality children books in the Arabic language across the UAE. It aspires to provide professional and amateur authors and illustrators - as well as publishing houses based inside the UAE - with opportunities to communicate, exchange experiences and develop educational capacities. It also works to provide support and training for those involved with children and children’s literature.

Following the edict from President His Highness Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan that 2016 would be celebrated as the UAE’s Year of Reading, UAEBBY has intensified its efforts to implement a number of plans this year.

The past six years have seen literary organisation achieve remarkable results locally and internationally. During the past six years, UAEBBY has embarked on a programme of activities designed to promote a culture of reading among children and to help raise the standards of children’s books in the UAE. Among the projects it has introduced; ‘Kan Yama Kan,’ a scheme that provides stationary and mobile libraries for children living in areas with limited or no access to books, and the ‘Read, Dream, Create’ campaign, which encourages young people to develop their skills with composition, creativity and prose. With an aim of raising the standard of children’s literature in the region, the UAEBBY has launched several initiatives, including the ‘Etisalat Award for Arabic Children’s Literature’ and ‘Books - Made in UAE’ project.
Etisalat Award for Arabic Children's Literature acknowledges the most important children’s literature in the Arab world

The Etisalat Award for Arabic Children's Literature was launched in 2009 under the directives of Sheikha Bodour bint Sultan Al Qasimi, Founder and Patron of UAEBBY. The award aims to enrich a culture of reading and love of Arabic books among children through highlighting the best work from authors, illustrators and publishers of Arabic children's literature. Its prize is worth a total of one million dirhams distributed across five categories: ‘Best Children’s Book of the Year,’ Best Young Adult Book of the Year,’ ‘Best Text,’ ‘Best Illustration’ and ‘Best Production.’

In line with the Year of Reading initiative, the Etisalat Award for Arabic Children's Literature launched its eighth edition this year. The award’s Organising Committee started receiving applications in April, with the deadline for all submissions being August 2016,31. The winners of the award’s various categories will be announced at the opening ceremony of the 35th edition of Sharjah International Book Fair, which takes place November 2016,2.

In 2013, the Etisalat Award for Arabic Children’s Literature launched a new programme titled: ‘Warsha.’ The initiative is comprised of a range of workshops in illustration, writing and publishing and provides participants with the opportunity to gain international exposure. The aim is to build the capacities and skills of young individuals in the creation of books that are rooted in local Arab culture and which meet and exceed international standards in the field of children’s literature.

Warsha programme gives Arab illustrators the opportunity to participate in international events

In April 2016, under the Warsha programme, a group of Arab illustrators and experts in children’s book artwork attended the ‘Illustrators Café,’ which took place on the side-lines of the 53rd edition of Bologna Children’s Book Fair. The forum is one of the world’s most important events for creative networking among children’s book illustrators. Their participation at the acclaimed international gathering followed an invitation from the Etisalat Award for Arabic Children’s Literature to attend as part of its commitment to nurturing the children’s book industry in the Arab world.

During the same month, also under the Warsha programme, a group of Emirati and Arab publishers of children’s and young adults’ books participated in the 31st edition of the International Publishers Congress in London, UK, one of the most influential platforms
to discuss current opportunities as well as challenges that face the publishing industry worldwide.

‘Read, Dream, Create’ campaign aims to connect young people with books

In 2013, UAEBBY launched a reading campaign titled: ‘Read, Dream, Create,’ which aims to bring children and books together. The project encourages young people to read, innovate and create prose. It assists children in developing their writing skills and in transforming their ideas into engaging, well written stories.

Under Read, Dream, Create, UAEBBY organises a competition titled ‘Creative Writing.’ It encourages children to read and listen to short stories through its array of activities and programmes, motivating them to apply their imagination in recreating the stories according to their own visions. The contest sees the children either re-imagining the stories using their own narratives or illustrating them with their artwork.

In March 2015, UAEBBY launched a new initiative under the umbrella of the Read, Dream, Create campaign. Themed: ‘Reading Challenge,’ the project targets social media celebrities and challenges them to undertake reading sessions for students in schools and kindergartens across the UAE. The idea of the challenge is that one activist on Twitter, Facebook, or Instagram will read different stories - with a focus on the winning books from the Etisalat Award for Arabic Children’s Literature - to a group of school children. The activist then nominates another social media celebrity to do the same in a different educational institution. The process aims to increase communication between users of modern media and children under the age of ten years, encouraging them to read and enjoy books.

Books - Made in UAE

‘Books - Made in UAE’ is a project launched by UAEBBY and Goethe Institut – Gulf Region in 2011. It aims to encourage the creation of children’s and youth-oriented titles that reflect the cultural values of the UAE and which are written and illustrated by Emirati authors and illustrators. The project seeks to build the capacities and skills of young Emirati children’s book writers and illustrators under the supervision of a group of internationally renowned authors and illustrators.

When the project first started, its focus was on illustrated books, grouping famous and aspiring children’s book authors and illustrators in pairs for them to collaborate in creating new, original children’s titles. The series of workshops were conducted by German children’s book author and illustrator, Ute Krause, with UAEBBY focusing on young adult books, especially
fantasy and science-fiction genres. The board encouraged Emirati children’s authors to write books for young people in an attempt to open up new genres in the UAE and in Arabic children’s literature. The project provided support and training for Emirati authors and illustrators under the supervision of the world’s leading exponents involved with children and young adult literature.

The fifth edition of ‘Books – Made in UAE’ saw the participation of 12 Emirati and UAE-based Arab illustrators. This edition, which focused on ‘Manga’ - Japanese comic Art - was officially sponsored by Knowledge without Borders, with its training workshops conducted by acclaimed German comic artist and ‘Mangaka’ Inga Steinmetz. The project was aimed at giving participants the opportunity to create and develop new narratives and to train them how to tell their comic stories in an exciting and convincing way.

**Book Donation Campaigns**

All year round, UAEBBY launches book donation campaigns which target individuals, government departments and private sector organisations willing to contribute to society. These campaigns have enjoyed a huge degree of interaction and acceptance among all segments of Emirati community. UAEBBY has used the drives to provide books in a variety of genres for disadvantaged children who have a desire to read and find a great difficulty in accessing reading material encompassing education, knowledge and entertainment.

**Celebrating International Children’s Book Day**

International Children’s Book Day (ICBD) is an annual, global event celebrated on or around April 2nd, the birthday of the late literary giant Hans Christian Andersen, with the aim of inspiring a love of reading among children and drawing attention to children’s books. UAEBBY is keen to celebrate this day each year and in 2015, the UAE had the honour of preparing the ICBD message and poster. The poster was designed by talented art designer and children’s book illustrator Nasim Abaeian, while the message was written by Marwa Al Aqroubi, President of the UAEBBY Executive Board.

**Sharjah IBBY Fund Sponsors Participation of Regional Representatives at IBBY International Congress**

Regional representatives of the International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY) will be taking part in the forthcoming IBBY International Congress and General Assembly in
Auckland, New Zealand, under the sponsorship of the Sharjah IBBY Fund. Launched by the UAE Board on Books for Young People (UAEBBY) and the International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY), the Sharjah IBBY Fund has agreed to finance the cost of registration, travel and accommodation for IBBY representatives from the Central Asia and North Africa (CANA) region to attend the IBBY International Congress from August 21–18 under the theme ‘Literature in a Multi-Literate World.’

**UAEBBY Sponsors Participation of Two UAE-based Literary Luminaries at 35th Edition of IBBY International Congress**

Initiative aims to provide platform for Emirati cultural exchange at international event. The UAE Board on Books for Young People (UAEBBY) sponsored a leading UAE-based author/illustrator and a renowned academic in the field of literature to attend the 35th edition of IBBY International Congress and General Assembly, which took place in Auckland, New Zealand, on August 2016, 21-18 under the theme ‘Literature in a Multi-Literate World.’ The decision formed part of UAEBBY’s strategy to ensure that the Emirates are represented at the most important meeting on the IBBY calendar and that the UAE’s cultural output receives the widest audience of members from IBBY, an organisation that aims to connect children and young people from across the globe with books. Maitha Al Khayyat’s role at the Congress saw her participate as a board member and also give a poster presentation to delegates titled: ‘E-Books vs. Print Books: Which Engages Young Readers?’ while professor Osa delivered a presentation about promoting reading in the UAE.