

# **History of Library Catalogue Codes**

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# History of Library Catalogue

A library catalogue may be defined as a list of documents and other materials organized in a systematic order, available in a library. The basic purpose of a library catalogue is to serve as a guide to the collection of materials acquired for the library. Primarily the library catalogue reveals to users of a library the documents in a library, and helps the person in finding out whether documents of the person's interest are available in the library or not. It also serves users as a retrieval tool. According to C.A. Cutter, a library catalogue should: 1) enable a person to find out a document of which a) the author, or b) the title, or c) the subject is known; 2) show to users what the library has d) by a given author e) on a given subject f) in a given kinds of literature 3) assist users in the choice of a document g) as to its edition (bibliographically)h) as to its character (literary or topical)

# Early Stage (250 13:C. - 800 A.D.)

- The discovery of Assyro-Babylonian clay tablets, the wall inscriptions at Edfu and the extant remnants of the papyrus rolls of the Egyptian, Greek and Roman civilizations testify this fact. The catalogues and the materials they listed, both were in primal forms (clay tablets, inscriptions and papyrus rolls). From the archaeological finds of the Assyro-Babylonian clay tablets (1668-626 B.C.), the antiquity of the library catalogue can be easily placed around 2000 B.C. Efforts were made later in compiling inventories. A list of books given by Gregory the Great in the 8th century AD to the church of St. Clements (Rome) was the earliest of the monastic library catalogues. It was a marble tablet with an introduction or prayer and a few biblical works inscribed on it. The catalogue of the monastic library of York composed by Alcuin in verse, which could be either a list of famous authors or a bibliography was the next. A third example is De Trinitate of St. Augustine, which too was a simple list of works transcribed on the flyleaf of a work.

## Age of Inventory (1200 A.D. -1500 A.D.)

- Louis Pious (814-840 A.D.) issued a decree requiring the monasteries and cathedrals to list all the books in their possession. So the catalogues of the monasteries and cathedrals were compiled to serve the need for inventories of the material possession. Books were arranged not by author but by the importance of the work in the order of Bible, other religious works and secular works.

## Age of Finding List (1600 A.D. - 1800 A.D.)

- The 16th century witnessed the Catalogue of St. Martin's Priory of Dover, the Syon Catalogue, the Catalogue of the Bretton Monastery, etc. contained many additional details such as content notes, names of editors, translators, etc. in the entry and provided with author and other indexes.
- By the close of the century, although the vestiges of the inventory catalogue still existed, the need for uniformity and systematic approach to catalogue was clearly recognized. Full description became evident. Author entry gained importance as the primary entry providing the basic approach. Added entries were sought for additional approaches. The Bodleian catalogues produced during the century marked a milestone. Bodleian library (in the typical manner of the 16th century shelf list) was printed in 1605. Thomas Bodley and Thomas James were the principal men behind it. The last of the Bodleian catalogue issued under the guidance of Thomas Hyde in 1674 marked further improvement. It continued the alphabetical order and other procedures as in the earlier catalogues. The 18th century was rather a period of stabilization than innovation or solution.

# Modern Catalogue (1900 A.D.)

- The 19th century was an age of great many codes: Catalogue was considered a finding list with the Bodleian concept of literary unit occasionally given expression in compilations. There ensued a spate of debates on the relative merits of author, dictionary, classed and alphabetioclased catalogues. Author (under surname) and title (for anonymous work) entries constituted the author catalogue. From this author catalogue did develop the dictionary catalogue. It consisted of duplicate entries under authors, titles, subjects and forms. The first half of the century was, thus, characterized by a variety of combinations of arrangements and indexes, broadly divisible into two' categories. The first category constituted 22 lists arranged in subject or classed order, i.e., broad subjects or classes in shelf list order with works sub arranged according to accession and chronologically by imprint date, title or author. The second category consisted of alphabetically arranged indexes to classified file which was not a systematic one. The ALA published such a list entitled, List of Subject Headings for use in the dictionary catalogue in 1895. It was considered as a standard list suitable for all types of libraries and found wide acceptance. The third and final edition was brought in 1911 when the Library of Congress List of Subject Headings (issued in 3 parts between 1909 and 1913) replaced it. In addition, the introduction of printed catalogue card service in 1901 by the Library of Congress was yet another development.

# British Museum Cataloguing Rules

- British Museum, Department of Printed Books. Rules for compiling books, maps and music in the British Museum. - Rev. ed. - London: British Museum, 1936. printed by order of the Trustees. In 1757, the Royal Library (merged earlier in 1753 with Cottonian, Harleian and Sloan Collections) was transferred to the British Museum. The library's total stock of books at this time touched 5,00,000 mark. British Museum Cataloguing Rules known also as Panizzi's 91 Rules. In fact, Panizzi did not author the rules all alone and entirely by himself. The code was the result of collaboration involving the concerted efforts of Edward Edwards, J.W. Jones, J.H. Parry and Thomas Watts besides Sir Anthony Panizzi. Each one first compiled a code individually which were then collectively studied and criticised to formulate rules by consensus so as to reflect the best in the cataloguing philosophy of the time. Initially 79 rules were formulated which were expanded to 91 rules in the final code published in 1841. These rules, clearly, were written to provide for the catalogue of one larger library, It was certainly a pioneering attempt although it lacked guiding principles to ensure consistency as needed especially for any subsequent formulation and addition of new rules for treating new types of materials which contingency was admittedly anticipated by Panizzi.

# Jewett's Rules

- Jewett, Charles Coffin. Smithsonian report on the construction of catalogues of libraries and their publication by means of separate stereotyped titles, with rules and examples. - 2nd ed. -Ann Arbor, Mich.: University Microfilms, 1961. - Reprint of the original 2nd ed. published Washington, D.C.: Smithsonian Institution, 1853. A small pamphlet, this was first published in 1852 under the title, The Smithsonian Report on the construction of catalogues of libraries, and their publication by means of stereo-titles contained a proposal and a plan of action envisioning a cooperative system of cataloguing through the application of the technology of stereo-typed plates for producing and printing of library catalogues. The second edition published in 1853 included 33 rules written by Jewett. Jewett's proposal envisioned a national system of centralised and cooperative cataloguing applying the then available, technology of stereotyped plates. The advantages claimed were economy in the cataloguing costs of individual libraries since printing and updating of the book catalogues was highly expensive while they still remained less efficient. According to Jewett, a library catalogue was a list of titles of books designed to show what the particular library contained. It was generally not required to give any more information "than the author gives or ought to give in the title page, and publisher, in imprint or colophon; except the designation of the form which is almost universally added. Persons who needed more information should seek for it in bibliographical dictionaries, literary histories or similar works. Like Panizzi, Jewett preferred alphabetical catalogue. His rules were basically the same as those of Panizzi but for minor modifications, He established the concept of corporate body more clearly and sought to place them in one category by providing for entry under the name of the body.

# Cutter's Rules

- Cutter, Charles Ammi. Rules for a Dictionary Catalogue. - 4th ed., rewritten. - Washington D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1904. - Republished: London: The Library Association, 1953.
- The US Bureau of Education commissioned Cutter to write a status report on the public libraries in the United States to commemorate the nation's centenary year. The report, Public libraries in the United States, prepared, accordingly by Cutter, was published in 1876 along with his code entitled, Rules for a Printed Dictionary Catalog which constituted the second part of the report. The chief merit of the code lies in the pragmatism applied by the author in the making of the rules and in setting forth "what might be called a set of first principles" to govern the creation of rules and their practical application. Cutter, postulated principle called the 'principle of convenience of the public.'
- The second principle is the 'principle of collocation.' The third principle relates to subject entry/heading. This may be called the 'principle of specific and consistent subject entry.' Besides these three principles, a couple of principles may also be inferred and added. The fourth one may be termed as the 'principle of adequate description.' A further principle which can also be surmised is the 'principle of probable association.' The choice of entry (from among possible alternative methods), Cutter started, "choose that entry that will probably be 'first looked under by the class of people who use the library. Structurally, it is a well laid comprehensive code, the rules covering the whole of cataloguing procedures. In fact, Cutter's code exerted on the subsequent efforts of code making. This aspect will be revealing itself as we progress in studying the later codes.

# ALA Code of 1908

- Cataloging rules: author and title entries / compiled by Committees of the Library Association and the American Library Association. - English edition. - London: Library Association, 1908. - American edition: Chicago: American Library Association, 1908.
- At the turn of the, present century there were divergent codes in application among the libraries both in America and in England. American libraries were using various codes such as Cutter's rules, ALA rules, Dewey's rules, etc. In addition, the introduction of printed card distribution by the Library of Congress made many libraries to adhere to the LC's practice. In England, the BM rules, LA rules, Bodleian rules, etc. were in use among the libraries. There was a renewed debate over the need for a sound philosophy of cataloguing to find better solutions to the problems of bibliographic organisation and to establish cooperative and centralised systems for ensuring greater uniformity and economy in cataloguing practices.
- The aim was to meet the "requirements of larger libraries of a scholarly character". This set the precedent so that the subsequent codes were similarly aimed at and were largely drawn up primarily oriented to the needs of large research libraries. On account of practical considerations; the code had to work out compromise between the differing practices of the LC and other American research libraries. Next, because the two collaborating American and British groups could not reach full agreement on all details, alternative rules were made to accommodate the British and American preferences that differed. As a result the code was published in two somewhat differing texts (American and English texts).

# Prussian Instructions

- The Prussian instructions. Rules for the alphabetical catalogues of the Prussian libraries I translated from the 2nd edition, authorized, 1908; with an introduction and notes by Andrew D Osborn. \_ Ann Arbor Mich: University of Michigan Press, 1938.
- This code represented the German practice which differed from the Anglo-American tradition, at least in two aspects. It prescribed grammatical rather than mechanical title. In title entry, the first grammatically independent word instead of first word (other than article) as opposed to Anglo-American practice, was prescribed. The second major difference was that the code did not accept the concept of corporate authorship. It treated corporate publications as a class of anonymous publications.

# Vatican Rules

- Vatican Library. Rules for the Catalogue of Printed Books I translated from the 2nd Italian edition 1938, by the very Rev. Thomas J. Shanahan, Victor A. Shaefer, Constantine T. Vesselowsky; Wyllis E. Wright, editor. -- Chicago: American Library Association, 1948. - 3rd Italian edition published in 1949.
- The code was the result of a decision taken in 1927 to prepare a new catalogue of the printed books in the Vatican Library (Rome) which was in the process of reorganisation. Since the catalogue of the Original collection prepared at the end of the 17th century was incomplete and also outmoded, a new up-to-date catalogue was contemplated.

# Classified Catalogue Code

- Ranganathan (Shiyali Ramamrita) (1892-1972). Classified Catalogue Code with Additional Rules for Dictionary Catalogue Code. Ed 5. Assisted by A Neelameghan.
- The first edition appeared in 1934 and was continued through five editions, the last (i.e., the 5th edition) coming in 1964. Each later edition was an improvement on the earlier one, the revision, addition or improvement made on the basis of practical application and critical examination supported by teaching and reasoning. Ranganathan's comparative study of classified and dictionary catalogues and evaluation of Cutter's rules helped him publish his Dictionary Catalogue Code in 1945. The third edition (1951) added rules for compiling union catalogue of periodical publications, abstracting periodical and incorporating as well, a glossary of English Sanskrit terms to be helpful for developing cognate terminology in other Indian languages. The fourth edition (1955) implemented the lay-out for a catalogue code (in the light of Heading and Canons), added supplementary rules for national bibliography, rearranged the rules for determination of authorship, choice of heading and rendering the heading. The fifth edition (1964) included new chapters on Law of parsimony, physical form, centralized cataloguing, homonyms in class index entries and feature headings, and non-conventional documents. The rules are marked for their simplicity, clarity and brevity. The code draws a distinction between a library catalogue and a bibliography. The empirical approach and application of normative principles in drafting and arranging the rules have CCC a model code yet it needs revision and rethinking so as to capture and respond to the many changes that have come about after its publication in 1964.

# ALA Rules (prel 2nd ed)

- American Library Association. ALA Catalog Rules: Author and Title Entries. - Prel 2nd ed. - Chicago: American Library Association, 1941.
- The rules were organised in two parts, viz., entry and heading, and description. The code followed the existing practices than prescribing the ideal and the right. The attempt to render all the bibliographic variations into something like a statute law was stated as the principal fault of this draft code. The professional opposition to the size and the complexity of the code first manifested in the area of descriptive cataloguing and next, of course, in the rules for author and title entries. Further improvement (revision work) on part 2 (description) was therefore deferred or given up.

# LC Descriptive Rules

- Library of Congress. Rules for Descriptive cataloging at the Library of Congress Adopted by the American Library Association. - Washington, D.C.: Library of Congress, 1949.
- As evident from the title, it was adopted and given official recognition by the American Library Association as the standard for descriptive cataloging. As a natural consequence, it replaced the second part (i.e., descriptive rules) in 1949 ALA rules, 2nd definitive edition which was also published by the ALA in the same year.

# ALA Rules (2nd definitive edition)

- American Library Association. ALA cataloging rules for author and title entries. - 2nd ed. / Clara Beetle, editor. - Chicago: American Library Association, 1949.
- The criticism of the 1941 draft code of ALA rules faulted the code in general and the descriptive rules part more in particular. The code needed revision, recasting and finalisation.
- This code (1949. ALA 2nd ed.) was limited to rules for entry and heading only. It represented somewhat an expansion and elaboration of the 1908 code. It did not state and apply any guiding principles. The code proved exceedingly complicated to use.
- For about a decade and a half (i.e., until the AACR I appeared) the arrangement of using the twin codes (the 1949 ALA 2nd ed. and the 1949 LC rules) in conjunction as the American standards for cataloguing continued.
- But cataloguers always found it tedious and inconvenient to have to refer to one code for entry and heading work and another for description. Like the earlier preliminary draft second edition, the definitive second edition too was targeted for criticism. While the LC descriptive rules looked forward, the ALA code looked backward. A more coherent and unified code therefore was demanded.

# AACR 1(1967)

- Anglo-American cataloging rules / prepared by the American Library Association, the Library of Congress, the Library Association, and the Canadian Library Association. - North American ext.- Chicago : American library Association, 1967. - Reprinted in 1970 with supplement of additions and changes. - British text published : London Library Association, 1967.
- The new code (known as AACR 1) appeared in 1967 and was received by the profession with, a mixed reaction. The rules in the code were organised in 2 parts, part 1 dealing with entry and 'heading consisting of four chapters, and part 2 covering description presented in 10 chapters. The code applied reevaluation of the existing practices. It was seen as a better code in terms of its more logical grouping of the rules with emphasis on conditions of authorship rather than on classes of authors (married women, princes of blood, etc) and kinds of publications dictionaries, encyclopaedias, etc).

- When work on AACR 1 began, books and periodicals were the basic and popular materials. Card catalogue was the norm. But when the code appeared in 1967 the situation changed vastly. As a result of technology, a variety of new media (non-book materials) found their way into libraries. Computer manipulation of data made possible other forms of catalogue. The need to integrate the descriptive records (catalogue entries) of different forms of material (book and non-book items) necessitated studies to find analogies between their characteristics). IFLA brought out a document entitled International Standard Bibliographic Description (for single and multi-volume monographic publications) in 1971. This was later improved/revised and published in 1974 as ISBD(M): International Standard Bibliographic Description for Monographic Publications, 1st standard ed. Along with it another standard for serials, viz., ISBD(S) International Standard Bibliographic Description for Serials was also published. The AACR I incorporated these documents and revised chapter 6 (separately published monographs) in 1974 followed by chapter 12 (for audio-visual media and special instructional materials) in 1975 and chapter 14 (for sound recordings) in 1976. IFLA's International standards for other kinds of material including a general one followed in succession.

# AACR 2 (1978)

- Anglo-American cataloging rules/ Prepared by the American Library Association, the British Library, the Canadian Committee on Cataloguing, the Library Association, the Library of Congress; edited by Michael Gorman and Paul W. Winkler. 2nd ed. - London: Library Association; Chicago : American Library Association, 1978.
- This second edition proved superior revealing basic principles that provided the edifice of the code. It followed "the sequence of cataloguers' operations in most present-day libraries and bibliographic agencies," i.e., first examining the item and describing it and then determining the access points. The code therefore, presented the descriptive rules in part 1 followed by rules for determining and establishing headings/access points in part 2. Part 1 begins with a general chapter which can be applied to all materials in general followed by chapters on specific media which are elaborations of the provisions of the general chapter. These rules were also based on ISBDs (the general and specific ones). In the description the code permitted alternative rules and options to suit the needs of the libraries and cataloguing agencies. In the rules for access points, it worked out many terminological improvements to remove conceptual irritants, eg, statement of responsibility in place of statement of authorship, corporate entry, instead of corporate author, etc. It standardized punctuation to conform to the pattern established in ISBDs.

# AACR 2, 1988 revised

- Anglo-American cataloging rules/ prepared under the direction of the Joint Steering Committee for Revision of AACR, a committee of the American Library Association, the Australian Committee on Cataloguing, the British Library, the Canadian Committee on Cataloguing the Library Association, the Library of Congress; edited by Michael Gorman and Paul, W Winkler. - 2nd ed., 1988 revision. - Ottawa: Canadian Library Association; London : Library Association Publishing Limited; Chicago: American Library Association, 1988.
- The implementation of AACR 2 (1978) code was begun by the Library of Congress in Jan 1981. Like the earlier edition (AACR1), the second edition too appeared at a time when there were rapid developments taking place. More important and of greater immediate relevance was the emergence of many new forms of material which were still in shaping. Although the code (AACR2) resolved the problems of authorship more satisfactorily, the rules were found inadequate in dealing with new media. In course of implementation of the code, some rules presented themselves as confusing, insufficient and complicated. This gave rise to differences in interpretation. Therefore, attempts were made to clarify, expand or alter rules in necessary cases. The Library of Congress notified the interpretations and modifications in its Cataloguing service bulletin.

- Three sets of revisions of AACR 2 comprising of Geographical corrections, Textual amendments, and altered and additional rules were issued in 1982, 1984 and 1986. These were followed also by a draft revision of chapter .9 for computer files. The code too came into wider use and found translations in many languages (e.g., Arabic, Bahasa Malaysia, Chinese, Danish, Finnish, French, Italian, Japanese, Norwegian, Portuguese, Spanish, Swedish, Turkish, Urdu and possibly others) In view of the changes and additions that were brought out and the growing popularity and use of the code, it was decided to revise it. The revised code, it was further decided, to be named as AACR 2, 1988 revision and not as 3rd edition. The revision sought to incorporate the additions and modifications already made as well as further revisions contemplated, viz., description of material for the blind (tactile), rethinking of the concept of separate bibliographical identities, treatment of titles, author headings, geographic names and corporate bodies, corrections, rewording and addition of new examples.
- The rules are presented in two parts (as was the case also in the 2nd ed). Part one consists of descriptive rules in 13 chapters. Part 2. Headings, uniform titles and references. The third part constitutes the end matter. It consists of Appendixes, A. Capitalization, B. Abbreviations, C. Numerals, and D. Glossary, and an Index.

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Thank You

Any Questions??

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