To: Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA  
From: Kevin Marsh, ACOC representative  
Subject: Revision of RDA 9.2.2.5.3: Names Written in a Non-preferred Script

Background

RDA 9.2.2.5.3 specifies steps to be taken when determining the preferred form of a name when the name appears in a script that differs from the preferred script of the agency creating the data. Cataloguers are asked first to determine if it is the given name or the surname that is to be recorded as the first element of the name, then if there is a form of name well-established in local reference sources. If either of these conditions is unmet, cataloguers are asked to transliterate. An alternative instruction allows for the use of well-established forms of name from reference sources to be used if it is the surname that is recorded as first element of the preferred name.

ACOC found the instructions as they stand confusing because the flow and logic of 9.2.2.5.3 operates in a different way from the other sections about how to choose a preferred name (9.2.2.5.1, 9.2.2.5.2). In particular they don’t start by describing the most common case and then qualifying it, but in fact start with what is probably the least common case.

This original version of this proposal made several suggestions to make the instruction easier to understand and apply, without intending to change its meaning.

- Change the order of the instructions so that transliteration becomes the general instruction.
- Include the instruction to use local reference resources for names where the first element is given name, etc. as an Exception to this general instruction.
- Remove the special instruction for Hebrew and Yiddish names in the Alternative as this appears to be allowed for by the general instruction.

ACOC concurs with the view of other JSC constituents that further simplifications and clarifications could be made, and offers the following revised proposal. In particular this version removes the original distinction in treatment depending on whether the given name or surname of the person is to be recorded as the first element of the name.

ACOC notes that the instruction “If a name is found only in a transliterated form in resources associated with the person, choose that form as the preferred name.” is strictly redundant, since if there is only a transliterated form and no “original” script form, there can be no question of transliterating it. However, ACOC also accepts that the instruction here may be a useful reminder to cataloguers not to reconstruct the original script version of a name in order to transliterate it.

ACOC notes the inconsistencies in rendition and transliteration of Hebrew and Arabic script in the current text reported by ALA and CCC. No attempt has been made to correct them here, but these should be closely checked by the editors.
PROPOSED REVISIONS: MARKED VERSION

9.2.2.5.3 Names Written in a Non-preferred Script

The name of a person may be written in a script that is not the preferred script of the agency. Transliterate the name according to the table for the language adopted by the agency.

**EXAMPLE**

Laozi
Name appears in original script as: [Chinese characters]

Li An
Name appears in original script as: 李安

Jamāl Abd al-Nāṣir
Name appears in original script as: رضوان دبع لامج

Parvez Musharraf
Name appears in original script as: 

Yi Sŭng-man
Name appears in original script as: 李承晩

A. Skriabin
Name appears in original script as: А. Скрябин

Evgenii Evtushenko
Name appears in original script as: Евгений Евтушенко

Mosheh Dayin
Name appears in original script as: י”ד לשון

Shelomit Kohen-Asif
Name appears in original script as: קסמסיך קוסמלש

Мтрополита Омрійма
Name appears in original script as: Barack Obama

[Hebrew script]
Name appears in original script as: Martha Washington

If a name is written in more than one non-preferred script, transliterate it according to the table for the original language of most of the works.

**EXAMPLE**

Alexander
Name appears as: Άλεξανδρος

Avicenna
Name appears as: نبا س

Catherine
Name appears as: Екатерина

Confucius
Name appears as: 孔子

Homer
Name appears as: Ὀμήρος

Isaiah
Name appears as: יְסָרָאֵל

Naḥman of Brisk
Name appears as: בֹּרִיסלָב

Omar Khayyam
Name appears as: عمر خیام
Muḥammad Rizā al-Anṣārī al-Qumī
Wrote primarily in Arabic but also in Persian
Premacanda
Wrote primarily in Hindi but also in Urdu

If a name is found only in a transliterated form in resources associated with the person, choose that form as the preferred name.

If a name is found in more than one transliterated form in resources associated with the person, choose the form that occurs most frequently.

Record the other forms of the transliterated name as variant names (see 9.2.3.9).

Alternative

If there is a well established form of name in reference sources in the language preferred by the agency choose that form of name as the preferred name.

If variant forms are found in reference sources in the language preferred by the agency creating the data, choose the form that occurs most frequently.

EXAMPLE

Ang Lee
Name appears in original script as: 李安

Gamal Abdel Nasser
Name appears in original script as: رضوان داين لناسر

Pervez Musharraf
Name appears in original script as: مُشرَف زُرُور

Syngman Rhee
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Original Script</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. Scriabin</td>
<td>Льо Самал</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yevgeny Yevtushenko</td>
<td>Евгений Евтушенко</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moshe Dayan</td>
<td>ייידי השמ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shlomit Cohen-Assif</td>
<td>ייסארהכ חימולש</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alexander the Great</td>
<td>Άλέξανδρος ὁ Μέγας</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Avicenna</td>
<td>اوفي شم</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catherine II</td>
<td>Екатерина II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Confucius</td>
<td>孔子</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homer</td>
<td>Όμηρος</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isaiah</td>
<td>והיעשי</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nahman of Bratslav</td>
<td>נחמן מברסלב</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Omar Khayyam</td>
<td>ماهوم رمع</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paul I</td>
<td>Πούλος Α'</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PROPOSED REVISIONS: CLEAN VERSION

9.2.2.5.3 Names Written in a Non-preferred Script

The name of a person may be written in a script that is not the preferred script of the agency. Transliterate the name according to the table for the language adopted by the agency.

EXAMPLE

Laozi
Name appears in original script as: [Chinese characters]

Li An
Name appears in original script as: 李安

Jamāl  Abd al-Nāṣir
Name appears in original script as: رضوان دبع لامج

Parvez Musharraf
Name appears in original script as: مُشرّف زورپ

Yi Sŏng-man
Name appears in original script as: 李承晩

A. Skriabin
Name appears in original script as: A. Скрибин

Evgenii Evtushenko
Name appears in original script as: Евгений Евтушенко

Mosheh Dayin
Name appears in original script as: יידי השם

Shelomit Kohen-Asif
Name appears in original script as: פיסא־ןהכ תימולש

Μπαράκ Ομπάμα
Name appears in original script as: Barack Obama

[Hebrew script]
Name appears in original script as: Martha Washington

If a name is written in more than one non-preferred script, transliterate it according to the table for the original language of most of the works.
Muḥammad Rizā al-Anṣārī al-Qummī

Muḥammad Rizā Anṣārī Qumī

Wrote primarily in Arabic but also in Persian

Premacanda

Prem Cand

Wrote primarily in Hindi but also in Urdu

If a name is found only in a transliterated form in resources associated with the person, choose that form as the preferred name.

If a name is found in more than one transliterated form in resources associated with the person, choose the form that occurs most frequently.

Record the other forms of the transliterated name as variant names (see 9.2.3.9).

Alternative

If there is a well-established form of name in reference sources in the language preferred by the agency choose that form of name as the preferred name.

If variant forms are found in reference sources in the language preferred by the agency creating the data, choose the form that occurs most frequently.

EXAMPLE

Ang Lee

Name appears in original script as: 李安

Gamal Abdel Nasser

Name appears in original script as: رضوان دبع لامج

Pervez Musharraf

Name appears in original script as: مُشْرَف زيورپ

Syngman Rhee

Name appears in original script as: 李承晩

A. Scriabin

Name appears in original script as: А. Скрябин

Yevgeny Yevtushenko
Name appears in original script as: Евгений Евтушенко
Moshe Dayan
Name appears in original script as: ייוד הען
Shlomit Cohen-Assif
Name appears in original script as: יחסארדך ירמולה
Alexander the Great
Name appears in original script as: Αλέξανδρος ὁ Μέγας
Avicenna
Name appears in original script as: آئین نبا
Catherine II
Name appears in original script as: Екатериная II
Confucius
Name appears in original script as: 孔子
Homer
Name appears in original script as: Όμηρος
Isaiah
Name appears in original script as: הירש
Naḥman of Bratslav
Name appears in original script as: נתן מבבצלאב
Omar Khayyam
Name appears in original script as: مارغ رمی
Paul I
Name appears in original script as: Πάυλος Α΄
EXAMPLE

Alexander the Great
Name appears in original script as: Ἀλέξανδρος ὁ Μέγας

Avicenna
Name appears in original script as: انیس نبا

Catherine II
Name appears in original script as: Екатерина II

Confucius
Name appears in original script as: 孔子

Homer
Name appears in original script as: Ὄμηρος

Isaiah
Name appears in original script as: יְהוּדִיש

Nahman of Bratslav
Name appears in original script as: נחמן מברסלב

Omar Khayyam
Name appears in original script as: مائج رمغ

Paul I
Name appears in original script as: Παύλος Α’

If no form in the language preferred by the agency creating the data is found, or if no one form in that language predominates, transliterate the name according to the table for the language adopted by the agency creating the data.

EXAMPLE

Laozi
No predominant English-language form; name transliterated according to the ALA-LC Romanization Tables

Record the other forms of the transliterated name as variant names (see 9.2.3.9 ).

b)
If the name of a person whose surname is recorded as the first element (see 9.2.2.9–9.2.2.13) is written in a script that differs from the preferred script of the agency, transliterate the name according to the table for the language adopted by the agency creating the data.

**EXAMPLE**

Li An
Name appears in original script as: 李安

Jamāl Abd al-Nāṣir
Name appears in original script as: رصانلا دبع لامج

Parvez Musharraf
Name appears in original script as: ﺖﺷﺮﻓ رزووﺮ

Yi Sŭng-man
Name appears in original script as: 李承晩

A. Skriîbin
Name appears in original script as: А. Скрябин

Evgenii Evtushenko
Name appears in original script as: Евгений Евтушенко

Mosheh Dayin
Name appears in original script as: ﺏید لعس

Shelomit Kohen-Asif
Name appears in original script as: ﺎیسیاکوب تیموسل לש

If the name of a person is found only in a transliterated form in resources associated with the person, choose that form as the preferred name.

**EXAMPLE**

Bo Yeon Lee
Form of name in Korean script not found

Pattamaporn Laokiat Sophon
Form of name in Thai script not found
If such a person’s name is found in more than one transliterated form in resources associated with the person, choose the form that occurs most frequently.

If a name is written in more than one non-preferred script, transliterate it according to the table for the original language of most of the works.

**EXAMPLE**

Muḥammad Rizā al-Anṣārī al-Qummī
*not* Muḥammad Rizā Anṣārī Qumī
Wrote primarily in Arabic but also in Persian

Premacanda
*not* Prem Cand
Wrote primarily in Hindi but also in Urdu

Record the other forms of the transliterated name as variant names (see 9.2.3.9 ).