NATIONWIDE CATALOGUING PETITION CAMPAIGN CONTINUES

BY SANFORD BERMAN

The Cataloguing Consumers Network (CCN) today began circulating another petition in its year-old campaign to achieve basic cataloguing reforms through grassroots action. Directed to the Library of Congress’ Office for Subject Cataloguing Policy and dealing largely with minority, ethnic, and Third World topics, the new petition urges not only that the dates for the Jewish Holocaust be expanded from “1939-1945” to “1933-1945,” thus coinciding with the period of the Third Reich rather than just World War II, but also asks for the creation of a heading to represent the Romani Holocaust. Another request is to replace such alien and frequently derogatory ethnonyms as ESKIMOS, FALASHAS, LAPPS, AND GYPSIES, with those people’s self-preferred, authentic names: INUIT, BETA ISRAEL, SAMI, and ROMANIES. One more suggestion is to employ the more familiar terms, NAZISM and NAZIS, instead of the currently-used NATIONAL SOCIALISM and NATIONAL SOCIALISTS. The petition concludes with a “laundry list” of needed descriptors, ranging from ANTI-BARBARISM, ANTI-SEMITES, ETHNOCIDE, and HATE CRIMES, MULTICULTURAL EDUCATION, PALESTINIAN UPRISING, 1987-, and THIRD WORLD LITERATURE.

CCN invites journals, newsletters, groups, and individuals to reproduce and circulate the petition. For more copies of this latest reform effort, as well as the 13 petitions issued last year, contact: Sanford Berman, Convenor, Cataloguing Consumers Network, 4400 Morningside Road, Edina, MN 55416; Phone (work) (612) 541-8570 (home) (612) 925-5738.

To: Mary K. D. Pietris, Chief, Office for Subject Cataloguing Policy, The Library of Congress, Washington, DC 20540

WE, the undersigned, urge the Library of Congress to:

Change the present heading, HOLOCAUST, JEWISH (1939-1945), to HOLOCAUST, JEWISH (1933-1945), thus making the Holocaust coincide with the Third Reich instead of appearing to be merely a byproduct of World War II;

Replace NATIONAL SOCIALISM and NATIONAL SOCIALISTS with the more familiar and commonly used forms, NAZISM and NAZIS;

Convert FALASHAS, ESKIMOS, LAPPS, and GYPSIES to these people’s self-preferred, authentic names: BETA ISRAEL, INUIT, SAMI, and ROMANIES (or ROMA);

Fully implement recommendations made in 1983 by the American Library Association’s Ad Hoc Subcommittee on Concepts Denoted by the Term “Primitive” (for details, see Technical Services Quarterly, v. 2, nos. 1/2, Fall/Winter 1984, p. 121-53);

Eliminate “Christian primacy” in all religion-related headings; e.g., assign to works on the Christian deity a new form, GOD (CHRISTIANITY), instead of the unmodified and, therefore, pre-eminent GOD;

Substitute HANSEN’S DISEASE PATIENTS, both terms sanctioned by the U. S. Public Health Service, for the stigmatizing LEPROSY and LEPERS;

Establish and assign these warranted and essential headings:

AMISTAD REBELLION, 1839
ANTI-ARABISM
ANTI-SEMITES
ANTISEMITISM IN CHRISTIANITY
ANTISEMITISM IN THE ARMED FORCES
CULTURAL IMPERIALISM
DISABILITY RIGHTS MOVEMENT
DREADLOCKS
ETHNIC POLICY
ETHNOCENTRISM IN CHILDREN’S LITERATURE
ETHNOCIDE
FOOD AS A WEAPON
HANDELICAPISM
HATE CRIMES
HATE GROUPS
HOLocaust ROMANIS (1933-1945)
INTERNATIONAL FRIENDSHIP
LA PENCIA, NICARAGUA, BOMBING, MAY 30, 1984
MULTICULTURAL EDUCATION
NATIONALITY POLICY
NAZI AMERICAN HOLOCAUST (1492-1900)
NAZI COLLABORATORS
NAZI FUGITIVES
NAZI HUNTERS
NECOLONIALISM
NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER
NEW WORLD INFORMATION ORDER
NONALIGNED MOVEMENT
NONRACIST CHILDREN’S LITERATURE
NORTH-SOUTH RELATIONS
PALESTINIAN STATE (PROPOSED)
RACISM IN BIOLOGY
RACISM IN CHILDREN’S LITERATURE
RACISM IN CHRISTIANITY
RACISM IN EMPLOYMENT
RACISM IN HOUSING
RACISM IN LAW
REAGAN DOCTRINE
SKINHEADS
THIRD WORLD LITERATURE
THIRD WORLD SUPPORT GROUPS
TRAIL OF BROKEN TREATIES, 1972
VIOLENCE AGAINST GAY MEN & LESBIANS
VIOLENCE AGAINST MINORITIES