



# **Library Catalogues and Digital Repositories**

Steve Cooney: April 2022



# Libraries: Value in Baha'i terms

- ▶ Libraries are part of the Institution of the Haziratu'l-Quds

...whether local or national, will, as its component parts, such as the Secretariat, the Treasury, the Archives, the Library, the Publishing Office, the Assembly Hall, the Council Chamber, the Pilgrims' Hostel, are brought together and made jointly to operate in one spot, be increasingly regarded as the focus of all Bahá'í administrative activity, and symbolize, in a befitting manner, the ideal of service animating the Bahá'í community in its relation alike to the Faith and to mankind in genera – God Passes by 339-40





# Searchable Cataloguing

- The key thing is being able to find information
- I am driven by improving the quality of research output by building on our existing body of published work so we are always advancing forward
- So I am interested in a search engine rather than the minutiae of shelving systems and where to physically place materials.
- The purpose is to reduce the unknowns



# The Idea of a Union Catalogue: Cataloguing something you don't possess.

- ▶ There are several possibilities here. One is to have a catalogue that aggregates local libraries into a union catalogue. So you would record a bibliographic held in a local library but identify the holdings held in other places



# Want Lists

- ▶ Every library has gaps, specialised areas it wants to develop (say in my case New Zealand material).
- ▶ Want lists are made much easier when you have a working catalogue. Potential contributors/donaters can see your gaps.
- ▶ Crowd sourcing new material.



# Evolving the National Baha'i Reference Library: Digital Repositories

- Ingestion: Archivematica: CERN Open Source Project
- Presentation: AtoM : Access to Memory (international Council on Archives)
- More Standards to Comprehend: METS, PREMIS, Dublin Core, the Library of Congress Baglt



# Standards: MARC (Machine Readable Cataloging)

- ▶ Variants MARC21 (MARC for the 21<sup>st</sup> century) Esp US and Canada
- ▶ UNIMARC (International Federation of Library Associations)
- ▶ MARCXML (Human readable, more or less)
- ▶ Widespread so inertia for change is high
- ▶ BIBFRAME is the successor



# Collection Policy and Scope

- Broad and catholic collection of materials
- Primarily in English but also the languages of Polynesia and Melanesia because there are significant members of these communities in New Zealand.
- Best efforts in terms of the languages of revelation. This is currently quite incomplete but expected to be filled out as the current generation of Iranians pass away. We will enrich these catalogues with digital material eventually
- Other “foreign” languages where the material is significant, original, the only source for material: Persian, Arabic, Spanish, French, German, Portuguese, Russian. So this means we do not keep translations of Baha’u’llah and the New Era or other common materials but we do have, for example, a significant collection of Vahid Rafati’s works



# Software Tools: Koha

- ▶ Koha  
<https://koha-community.org/>  
Horowhenua Library Trust 1999 Rural region of New Zealand

- ▶ Koha in Te Reo Maori means gift

Commercial Forks – LibLime known as Bibliovation

Commercial Hosting of Koha:

<https://koha-community.org/support/paid-support/country/>

<https://bywatersolutions.com/>

<https://www.catalyst.net.nz/koha>



# Challenges: Cataloguing Edited Volumes

- ▶ In some cases we have collected volumes of quite disparate material and then it becomes a cataloguing challenge of how to classify the material
- ▶ Other cases are where we have an edited volume with a Bahaí chapter. First issue is whether to acquire the volume

<https://library.abs.org.nz/cgi-bin/koha/opac-detail.pl?biblionumber=30180>

# Challenges: Subject Authorities

- ▶ Key aspect of Bibliographic Control: Categorization and Classification
- ▶ Library of Congress Authorities
  - ▶ <https://authorities.loc.gov/>
- ▶ Library of Congress Linked Data
  - ▶ <https://id.loc.gov/>
- ▶ See also Publications by William Collins in *Cataloging and Classification Quarterly*

Collins, W. P. (1987). "Classification of Materials on the Bahá'í Religion : Expansion of Library of Congress BP300-395." *Cataloging & Classification Quarterly* (Binghamton, N.Y.) 8: 99-133.

Collins, W. P. (1993). "Classification for Materials on the Bahá'í Religion : A "B200" Schedule Based on the Dewey Decimal Classification - Part 1." *Cataloging & Classification Quarterly* (Binghamton, N.Y.) 16(4): 103-121.

Collins, W. P. (1993). "Classification for Materials on the Bahá'í Religion : A "B200" Schedule Based on the Dewey Decimal Classification - Part 2." *Cataloging & Classification Quarterly* (Binghamton, N.Y.) 18(2): 71-86.



# Challenges: Editions

- ▶ Every book retained requires storage space and maintenance overheads. The question of which editions to keep needs to be considered.
- ▶ Do you need to acquire every edition of say Lights of Guidance?
- ▶ Do you need multiple editions of the Guardians writings which have different prefaces and forewords but the body of the text is unchanged.?



# Challenges: Link Rot

- It is impossible to guarantee that a digital artifact will be where you found it when you go back.
- Manage your own reliable store of digital documents



# Challenges: Print on Demand/Self Publishing

- ▶ Missing metadata (Publisher, date of publication, ISBN, Place of publication)



# Challenges: Kindle only Publications, Digital Rights Management, Licensing

- ▶ Some Bahá'í material is only available in Kindle format, licensed from Amazon to an individual person. This makes it difficult to have a holding of this title although it is always possible to have a bibliographic record.
- ▶ Amazon Kindle titles are not generally available through libraries although there is software integration with Amazon

# Cataloguing in Koha

## Editing *Resurrection and Renewal : The Making of the Babi movement in Iran, 1844-1850* (Record number 30554)

Save | Q Replace record via Z39.50/SRU search | Link authorities automatically | Settings | Cancel

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

210 222 240 243 245 246 247 250 260 270

### Section 2

≡ 210 ?   - ABBREVIATED TITLE

≡ 222 ?   - KEY TITLE

240 ?   - UNIFORM TITLE

243 ?   - COLLECTIVE UNIFORM TITLE

245 ?    - TITLE STATEMENT

≡ a Title  *Required*

≡ b Remainder of title

≡ c Statement of responsibility, etc.

≡ h Medium

≡ 246 ?   - VARYING FORM OF TITLE

≡ 247 ?   - FORMER TITLE

≡ 250 ?   - EDITION STATEMENT

≡ a Edition statement

≡ b Remainder of edition statement

≡ 260 ?   - PUBLICATION, DISTRIBUTION, ETC.

≡ a Place of publication, distribution, etc.

≡ b Name of publisher, distributor, etc.

≡ c Date of publication, distribution, etc.

≡ 270 ?   - ADDRESS

# Cataloguing View

**Results**

←

→

**Normal**

MARC

ISBD

Items

Holds (0)

Analytics

Checkout history

Modification log

+ New
Edit
Save
Add to cart
Add to list
Print
Place hold

## Resurrection and Renewal : The Making of the Babi movement in Iran, 1844-1850

**By: Abbas Amanat**

Material type: Text

Series: Studies in the Babi and Baha'i Religions ; 20

Publication details: Los Angeles Kalimat Press 2005

Edition: 2005 paperback reprint with additional extended preface by author

Description: xxiv, 461 p. ; 24 cm

ISBN: 1-890688-42-8

Subject(s): Babism -- History | Shi'ah -- Iran -- History | Iran -- Religion -- 19th century

DDC classification: 297/.88

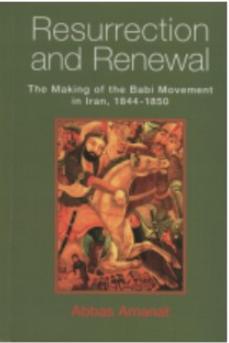
LOC classification: BP340 | .A45 1989

Online resources: PDF Resurrection and Renewal: The Making of the Babi Movement in Iran, 1844-1850 Studies in the Babi and Bahá'i Religions, Volume 20, 2005

→ The most complete academic treatment of the early years of the Babi Faith. With energy and power, eminent historian Abbas Amanat communicates fully the sense of elation and terror that accompanied the birth of the New Age. He recounts the full story of the early converts and martyrs, the message of the Prophet, the shaping of the community, and the final break with Islam. A brilliant and important work of scholarship!

OPAC view: [Open in new window.](#)

MARC preview: [Show](#)



Local cover image

● ●

**Holdings (1)** | Descriptions (3) | Acquisition details | Images (2)

▼ Activate filters | ✓ Select all | ✕ Clear all

Showing 1 to 1 of 1 entries Search:  ✕ ⚙ ⬇

	Item type	Current library	Home library	Call number	Status	Last seen	Date accessioned	Date last borrowed	Barcode	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Printed or electronic book	New Zealand National Baha'i Reference Library	New Zealand National Baha'i Reference Library	297/.88	Available	05/08/2022	05/08/2022			<a href="#">Edit</a> ▼

Showing 1 to 1 of 1 entries

# OPAC View

Development site:

<https://library.abs.org.nz/>

The screenshot shows the Koha library system interface. At the top, there is a search bar with 'Library catalog' selected and a 'Go' button. Below the search bar are links for 'Advanced search', 'Authority search', 'Tag cloud', and 'Library'. The main content area displays the details for the book 'Tahirih in History: Perspectives on Qurratu'l-'Ayn from East and West'. The book cover is shown on the left, and the title and author information are on the right. The 'Contributor(s)' field lists Sabir Afaqi [Editor] and Jan Teofil Jasion [Assistant]. The 'Material type' is 'Text'. The 'Series' is 'Studies in the Babi and Baha'i Religions; 16'. The 'Publication details' are 'Los Angeles Kalimat Press 2004'. The 'Description' is 'XIV, 292 pages; 23 cm'. The 'ISBN' is '1890688355 (pbk.)'. The 'Subject(s)' are 'Tahirih Qurrat al-'Ayn', 'Babism -- History', 'Letters of the Living', and 'TAHIRIH'. The 'Contents' section lists various chapters and their page numbers. The 'In:' field is 'Studies in the Babi and Bahá'i religions'. The 'Tags from this library' section shows 'No tags from this library for this title.' Below the details, there are tabs for 'Holdings (1)', 'Title notes (2)', and 'Images'. The 'Holdings' tab is active, showing a table with columns for 'Item type', 'Current library', 'Call number', 'Status', and 'Date due'. The table contains one row: 'Printed or electronic book' from 'New Zealand National Baha'i Reference Library' with a status of 'Available'.

**Search** Library catalog

[Advanced search](#) | [Authority search](#) | [Tag cloud](#) | [Library](#)

Home > Details for: Tahirih in History : Perspectives on Qurratu'l-'Ayn from East and West

Normal view | MARC view | ISBD view

**Tahirih in History : Perspectives on Qurratu'l-'Ayn from East and West**

**Contributor(s):** Sabir Afaqi [Editor] | Jan Teofil Jasion [Assistant]

Material type: Text

Series: Studies in the Babi and Baha'i Religions ; 16

Publication details: Los Angeles Kalimat Press 2004

Description: XIV, 292 pages ; 23 cm

ISBN: 1890688355 (pbk.)

Subject(s): Tahirih Qurrat al-'Ayn | Babism -- History | Letters of the Living | TAHIRIH

Contents:

→ One hundred and fifty years ago, Tahirih stunned Iran and shocked her fellow believers by removing her veil in the company of men at the conference of Badasht. This volume is a compilation of historical work that has been written about her in the years since. It brings together most of what we know about Tahirih Qurratu'l-'Ayn. Included is history from Baha'i sources: 'Abdu'l-Baha and Shoghi Effendi; the work of scholars in India and Pakistan, where Tahirih's work is well known; and essays by Western scholars, such as E. G. Browne, A.-L.-M. Nicolas (translated from French), Abbas Amanat, Farzaneh Milani, and others. Many of these are new research published in this volume for the first time. An essential book for anyone interested in Tahirih!

→ Table of Contents Sabir Afaqi Preface xi Acknowledgements xv Baha'i Sources 'Abdu'l-Baha Jinab-i Tahirih 3 Shoghi Effendi Valiant Tahirih 15 Eastern Impressions Sabir Afaqi Qurrat-ul-'Ayn in Urdu Literature 23 Muhammad Iqbal Javid-nama: The Sphere Of Jupiter (Excerpts) 45 M. Hidayat Hosain A Female Martyr of the Babi Faith 51 Muhammad Ishaque Qurratu'l-'Ayn-a Babi Martyr 57 Mohammad Ali Siddiqui Qurrat ul-'Ayn: A Profile In Courage 67 Masudu'l Hasan Qurratu'l-'Ayn Tahira 71 Khwaja Masud The Cry of Tahira 75 Suleyman Nazif Passages on Tahirih from: Nasiruddin Shah ve Babiler 79 Western Considerations Edward G. Browne Kurratu'l-'Ayn 85 A.-L.-M. Nicolas Quorr't-oul-Ane: Prodigy in 'Knowledge and Beauty 97 Abbas Amanat Qurratu'l-'Ayn: The Remover of the Veil 113 Farzaneh Milani Becoming a Presence: Tahereh Qorrotal'Ayn 159 Susan Stiles Maneck Tahirih: A Religious Paradigm of Womanhood 185 Negar Mottahedeh Ruptured Spaces and Effective Histories 203 Jan Teofil Jasion Tahirih on the Russian Stage 231 The Writings of Qurratu'l-'Ayn Denis MacEoin The Writings of Qurrat al-'Ayn Qazvini 241 A Prayer of Tahirih A Gathering of the Poems 253 Poems of Tahirih in the original languages 257 Bibliography 265 Contributors 280 Poems of Tahirih in the Original Languages

In: Studies in the Babi and Bahá'i religions

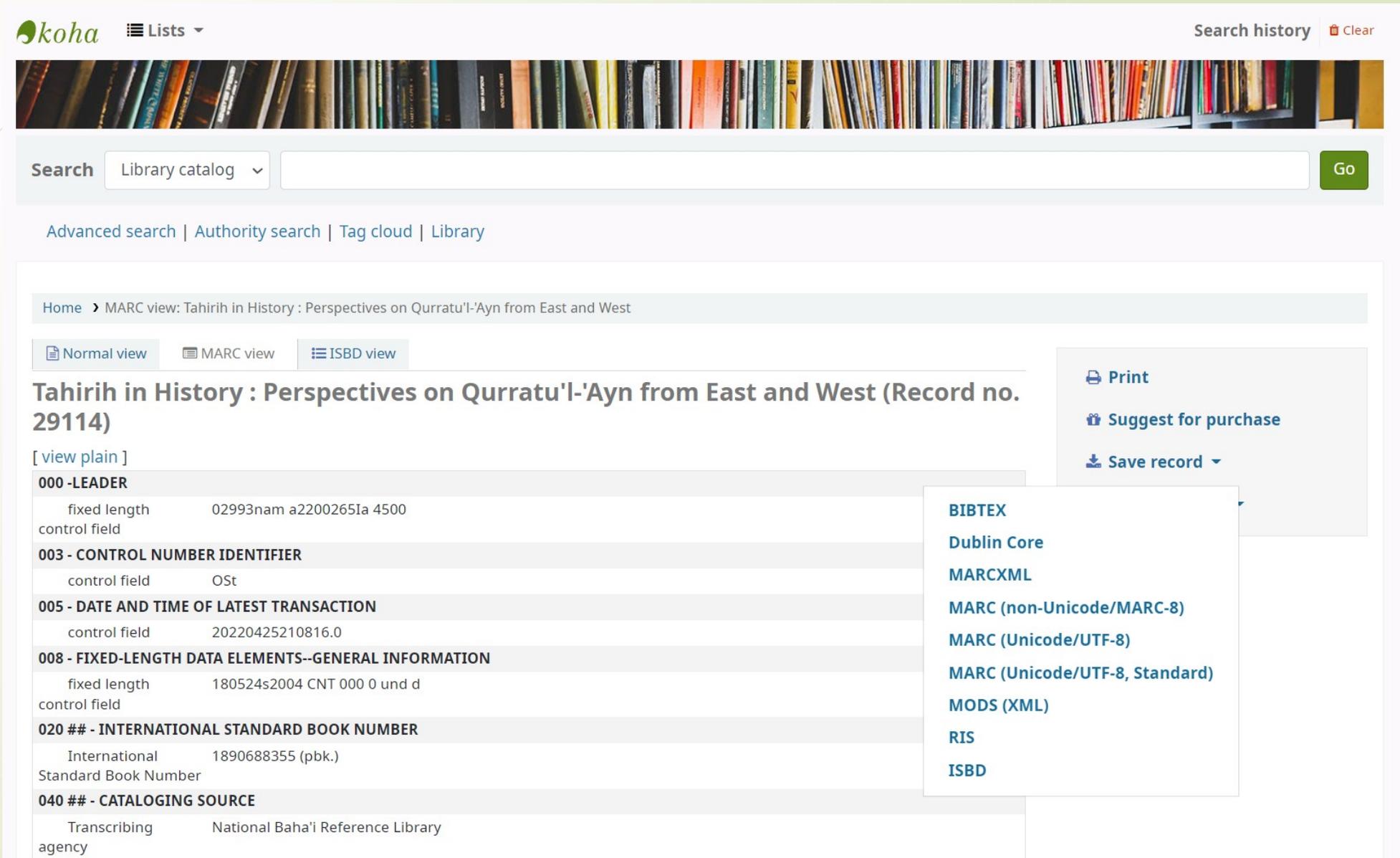
Tags from this library: No tags from this library for this title.

Holdings ( 1 ) | Title notes ( 2 ) | Images

Item type	Current library	Call number	Status	Date due
Printed or electronic book	New Zealand National Baha'i Reference Library		Available	

# MARC View From OPAC

This allows export of the bibliographic record to bibliograph collection tools (e.g. BibTex, RIS)



The screenshot shows the Koha library OPAC interface. At the top, there is a search bar with a dropdown menu set to "Library catalog" and a "Go" button. Below the search bar, there are links for "Advanced search", "Authority search", "Tag cloud", and "Library". The main content area displays the title "Tahirih in History : Perspectives on Qurratu'l-'Ayn from East and West (Record no. 29114)" and provides options for "Normal view", "MARC view", and "ISBD view". A dropdown menu is open, showing various export formats: BIBTEX, Dublin Core, MARCXML, MARC (non-Unicode/MARC-8), MARC (Unicode/UTF-8), MARC (Unicode/UTF-8, Standard), MODS (XML), RIS, and ISBD. Other options like "Print", "Suggest for purchase", and "Save record" are also visible.

**000 -LEADER**  
fixed length 02993nam a22002651a 4500  
control field

**003 - CONTROL NUMBER IDENTIFIER**  
control field OST

**005 - DATE AND TIME OF LATEST TRANSACTION**  
control field 20220425210816.0

**008 - FIXED-LENGTH DATA ELEMENTS--GENERAL INFORMATION**  
fixed length 180524s2004 CNT 000 0 und d  
control field

**020 ## - INTERNATIONAL STANDARD BOOK NUMBER**  
International 1890688355 (pbk.)  
Standard Book Number

**040 ## - CATALOGING SOURCE**  
Transcribing National Baha'i Reference Library  
agency

- BIBTEX
- Dublin Core
- MARCXML
- MARC (non-Unicode/MARC-8)
- MARC (Unicode/UTF-8)
- MARC (Unicode/UTF-8, Standard)
- MODS (XML)
- RIS
- ISBD



# MARC21 and Classification Resources

- MARC 21 Format for Bibliographic Data
  - <https://www.loc.gov/marc/bibliographic/>
- RDA Steering Committee
  - <http://www.rda-rsc.org/>
- C# MARC Editor
  - <https://csharpmarc.net/>
- MarcEdit
  - <https://marcedit.reeset.net/>