Ziziphus mucronata *Source: JMK / Wikimedia*

VRA Core 4 in Transcultural Studies

Adopting Core 4 in a DH Environment

Matthias Arnold, Heidelberg | Session VRA Core 4 Unbound | March 13, 2014 | VRA 32nd Annual Conference

The Cluster of Excellence

"Asia and Europe in a Global Context: The Dynamics of Transculturality"

Established in October 2007 as part of the Excellence Initiative by the German Federal and State Governments, carried out by the German Research Foundation (DFG) and the German Council of Science and Humanities (Wissenschaftsrat)

Aim is to "enhance the understanding of the multi-layered interactions between and within Asia and Europe"

Ca. 60 projects organized in 17 interdisciplinary research groups and 4 research areas; DH unit: Heidelberg Research Architecture (HRA)

5 new professorships, Graduate School, M.A. Transcultural Studies

(Some) Research fields:

Anthropology, Archaeology, Art History, Buddhist Studies, Chinese Studies, Egyptology, Historical Studies, Indology, Islam Studies, Japanese Studies, Law, Media and Communication Studies, Musicology, Public Health, Political Sciences, Religious Studies, Social Sciences, Tibetan Studies, and more

Languages: English, German

Chinese, Japanese, Arabic, Hindi, Bengali, Sanskrit, Russian, etc.

The Karl-Jaspers Centre for Advanced Transcultural Studies, Heidelberg
Photo M. Arnold 2010

The Heidelberg Research Architecture (HRA)

HRA is a cooperation partner to Cluster projects providing

consultation – training – development

with partners on local, national, international level.

Small team
6 people - 3 positions for programming

Closely related to the newly established Junior Research Group
"Digital Humanities - Digital Cultural Heritage"

Main Expertise:

General Digital Humanities consultancy for projects –
Conceptual design for DH related tasks

Digitisation, MediaLab – Workflows and documentation –
Data migration – Workshops and trainings – Co-teaching

Project databases – Research analysis
Development: **Metadata Framework Tamboti**

Webportal: http://hra.uni-hd.de

Development I: Project databases

Development II: Tamboti Metadata Framework

Tamboti

A „suite of web applications that forms an integrated environment for interdisciplinary and internationally distributed studies in transcultural dynamics."

- Modular structure, applications within eXist-db

- LDAP integration, granular access control

- Users can store, organise, share, and publish multilingual metadata records of different media formats: text, image, video, audio

- Different intl. standardized metadata schemas (sustainability, data exchange); **one search for all** data/schemas

    currently integrated formats: MODS - VRA core - TEI, Wiki records, video annotation records (structured notes in MODS), text extracted from uploaded PDF files, name authority files (e.g. MADS)

Source code: https://github.com/eXist-db/tamboti   Heidelberg instance: http://tamboti.uni-hd.de

Tamboti

ASIA AND EUROPE
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[and ▾] [krishna] in [the Name Field (MODS, TEI, VRA) ▾]

inside   /resources

sorting by [Score ▾] [descending ▾]

[+ Add Search Field]   [Clear Search Terms]   [Search]

|< | < | Records 145 to 154 | > | >| of 155 records found in /resources

145 💾 🖼 **Krishna** (Depicted); Archibald Orr Ewing & Co. (Client): *Textile label of Archd. Orr Ewing & Co.*

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Bibliographic records (MODS)

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Text annotation (TEI)

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Image records (VRA core)
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Text annotation (TEI)

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A framework for metadata and annotations
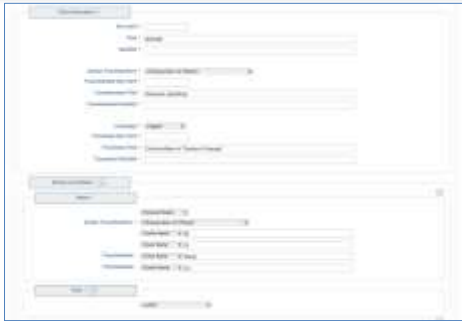
Bibliographic information in MODS

Part of video and part of audio annotation with pan.do/ra

Part of image annotation with HyperImage

Image metadata in VRA core 4 with Ziziphus

Ziziphus mucronata *Source: JMK / Wikimedia*

Ziziphus – The VRA Core editor

Digital still image metadata editor

HeidIcon data

Title/Object	Fauhara Chhap (Fountain Brand) bidi
Title (transcription)	Hamesha Fauhara chhap bidi pijiye
Title (characters)	हमेशा फौहारा छाप बीड़ी पीजिये
Series title	(none)
Series title (transcript)	(none)
Series title (characters)	(none)
Detail/element	(none)
Artist/author	Michelangelo <Buonarroti>
Artist (characters)	重其昌
Form/genre	Photography
Form/genre (transcription)	(none)
Form/gere (characters)	(none)
Context	(none)
Location/building	Agra / Tadsch Mahal
Persons	Mohandas K. Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru
Depository (SWD)	(none)
Depository (List)	Delhi / The Priya Paul Collection of Popular Art
Standardized subject heading (SWD)	Werbung, Kalender
Standardized subject heading (list)	Agra, H. A. Mirza and Sons, Mughal Emperors, Mughal period tomb, Mughal architecture, postcard, Uttar Pradesh, India, checked
Description	##description-en: A five-storied mausoleum of the Mughal emperor Akbar, a pathway leads to the main gate, and the pathway is flanked by rows of trees which are part of a beautiful more...
Inscriptions (text)	##text-en: The tomb of Akber the Great Alias Sikandara, Agra. Built by the Emperor Jahangir in 1605 A.D.
Material/technique	Chromolithograph, Cardboard
Size/measures	H 10 cm, L 15 cm, landscape
Site of discovery	(none)
Context of discovery	(none)
Region / Location of origin	(none)
Dating	1613
Period	Mughal Empire
Recording date	(none)
Local systematics	(none)
Inventory number/ shelfmark	(none)
Signature/initials (translation)	M. L. Sharma
Signature/initials (transcription)	(none)
Signature/initials	(none)

Work Record
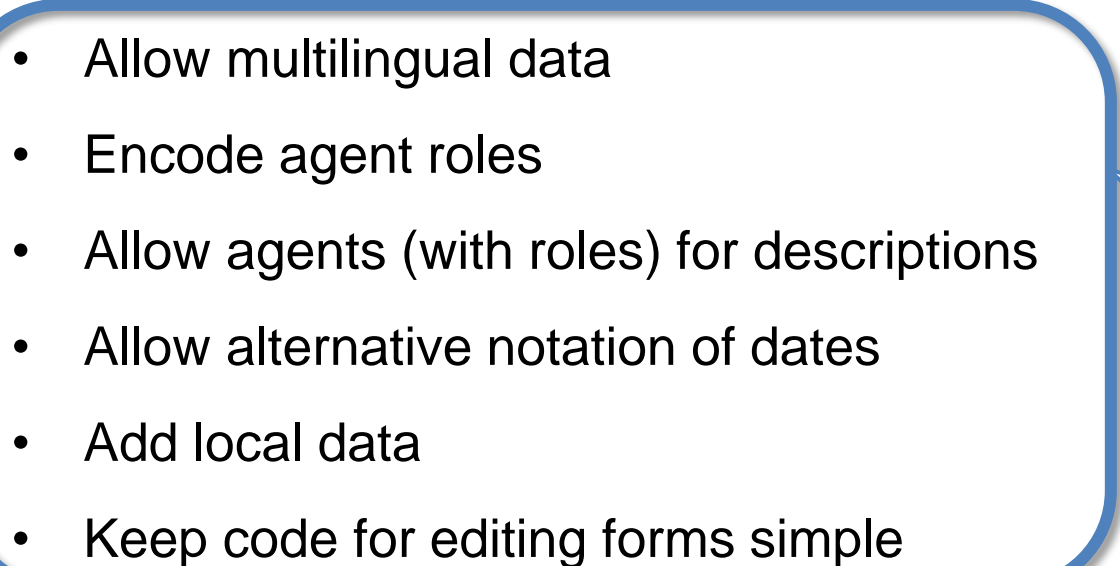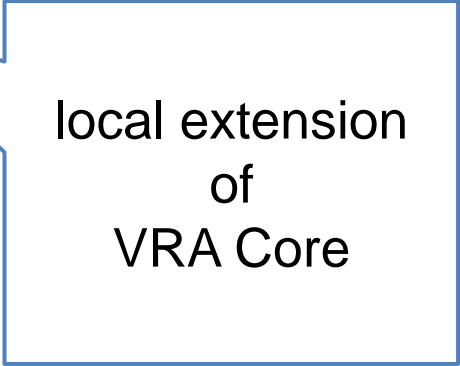
Title	Fauhara Chhap (Fountain Brand) bidi		edit
	type: translated | eng - Latn	preferred	
	हमेशा फौहारा छाप बीड़ी पीजिये		
	Hamesha Fauhara chhap bidi pijiye		
	type: brandName | hin - Deva - Hindi/ALA-LC		

Agent	Michelangelo <Buonarroti>	SWD 40391243	add/edit
	painter (artist) | AAT 300025136	type: personal	

Date	creation	Chinese Cultural Revolution	add/edit
	alteration	2011-07-19	

Style Period	Late 19th/early 20th century	local hd1234	add/edit
	Impressionist	AAT 300021503	
	Kalender	SWD 40292903	

Inscription	Evening View - No. 522 (Series "X"). If any customer selects Series "X" pictures to be printed with the same advertisement matter as on the other pictures of his order, an extra of RS 10/- per 1000 or part thereof, will be charged.		add/edit
	eng - Latn | text | lower bottom		

Description	On this calender from Madurai Mills Co.Ltd, Lord Krishna can be seen riding a peacock and interacting with Lord Ganesha, while Lord Shiva and Parvati watch the scenery from Mount Kailash, the home of Lord Shiva.		add/edit
	eng - Latn		

Subject	Late 19th/early 20th century	local hd1234	add/edit
	Impressionist	AAT 300021503	
	Kalender	SWD 40292903	

Location	Delhi / The Priya Paul Collection of Popular Art		add/edit
	repository | SWD 123456 | personal	preferred	
	Paris / Louvre		
	repository | SWD 40758734 | corporate	preferred	
	RefID (accession): Inv. MR 299		

Measurements	H = 50 cm, W = 40 cm	portrait	add/edit

Material	Paper	support	AAT 300014109	add/edit
	Ink	medium	AAT 300015012	

Technique	Chromolithograph		AAT 300041384	add/edit

Worktype	Poster		AAT 300027221	add/edit

Relation		add/edit

imageIs: 118499 118500 118501 118496 118498

relatedTo: 114212 118945 109979 109960 100321 100334

Source	Davis, Richard H. "Temple in a Frame: God Posters For and Of Worship." Tasveer Ghar: A Digital Archive of South Asian Popular Visual Culture <http://www.tasveergharindia.net/cmsdesk/essay/97/index.html>	add/edit
	page 3, fig. 23	repository: Tamboti

Image Record

Title	generalView	Overall view	add/edit

Agent	Cluster of Excellence "Asia and Europe in a Global Context", Heidelberg University	add/edit
	corporate | local || digitizing | AAT || pref	
	Tasveer Ghar – A House of Pictures	
	corporate | local || digitizing | AAT	

Date	creation	2008-05-28	add/edit

Description	This image was digitized and its metadata first edited in a collaborative project between Tasveer Ghar – "A House of Pictures" and the Cluster of Excellence "Asia and Europe in a Global Context", Heidelberg University.	add/edit

Location	Image Database, Heidelberg Research Architecture (HRA), Cluster of Excellence "Asia and Europe", Heidelberg University	add/edit

Measurements	width x heigth	1150 x 1800 px	add/edit
	5120 kb | 8 bit | 300 ppi		

Technique	digital imaging	AAT 300237903	add/edit

Worktype	digital images	AAT 300215302	add/edit

Relation	imageOf	Advertisement calendar of Robert Barbour & Brother, Manchesterr ID 118492	add/edit

Rights	Copyrighted. http://priyapaul.uni-hd.de	add/edit
	Licensed for academic use by: The Priya Paul Collection. Reproduced with kind permission of the collector.	
	Copyrighted. Copyright with the original artists and publishers.	

Material	

State Edition	

Textref	

Some requirements

- Integration with Tamboti Metadata Framework

- Saving data writes XML (store directly into db)

- Form based editing (do not expose xml to users)

- Customisable interface (e.g. based on editor roles)

- Integration of controlled vocabularies

- Allow multilingual data

- Encode agent roles

- Allow agents (with roles) for descriptions

- Allow alternative notation of dates

- Add local data

- Keep code for editing forms simple

local extension
of
VRA Core

1) Multilingual data

VRA Core allows xml:lang

Problem: encoding more complex data
      xml:lang="ja-Latn-x-ala"

=> new global attributes:

- @language
  three-character code according to ISO 639-2b (e.g. eng, ger, chi, hin)

- @script
  four-character code according to ISO 15924 (e.g. Latn, Arab, Hans, Deva)

- @transliteration
  list of "transliteration schemas" based on ALA-LC (e.g. "Arabic/ALA-LC", "Chinese/modified Wade-Giles")

2) Agents: roles and „description-authors"

- additional @vocab and @type to accommodate list of MARC relator terms

- allow repeatable agents ("author") within <description>

```
<description>
    <text lang="eng" script="Latn">some description</text>
    <author>
        <name vocab="local" type="personal" refid="uuid of person">
            name of author</name>
        <role vocab="marcrelator" type="code">aut</role>
    </author>
    <author>
        <name vocab="local" type="personal" refid="uuid of person">
            name of editor</name>
        <role vocab="marcrelator" type="code">edt</role>
    </author>
</description>
```

3) Dates: uncertainty and alternativeNotation

- based on recommendations in CCO:
  additional **@type**: about, before, after, active

  ->will allow better computing of numerical date values

  <earliestDate **type**="before">1256</earliestDate>

- subelement <alternativeNotation> for non-western calendar data
  ```
  <date>
       <earliestDate>1941-03-06
       <alternativeNotation lang="chi" script="Hant">民國三十年三月六日
            </alternativeNotation>
       <alternativeNotation lang="chi" transliteration="Chinese/ALA-LC">
            Minguo 30 nian 3 yue 6 ri</alternativeNotation>
       </earliestDate>
  </date>
  ```

4) Avoid „code explosion"

VRA Core 4 very flexible:

- all global attributes may be attached to every element

- we even added more global attributes

- for automatically generated forms: editor too flexible!

=> restriction:

global attributes may only be used below <elementSet> level

Ziziphus mucronata *Source: JMK / Wikimedia*

Ziziphus Demonstration (Screencast)

Watch the video online:

http://kjc-sv030.kjc.uni-heidelberg.de/OM/480p.webm

Ziziphus mucronata *Source: JMK / Wikimedia*

Outlook

Ziziphus

Next steps in development:

- Implement controlled vocabularies: VIAF (ongoing), Getty AAT

- Improve batch upload

- Relations editor

- Group editing: viewer (ongoing) -> editor

- Documentation

Medium-term plans

- Read/write embedded metadata

- Export to RDF

- Standalone editor

Ziziphus

Currently working on Beta 2 version (v0.30):

https://github.com/betterFORM/ziziphus/

Access Tamboti/Ziziphus for testing:

- testuser accounts (name is password)

  - testuser1 - testuser2 - testuser3

- documentation in preparation

  - http://ziziphus-help.uni-hd.de

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Are you interested in working with us on the VRA editor?

We are seeking collaboration partners to further develop Ziziphus.

VRA Core

Documentation of our VRA Core 4 extensions: [Google docs](#)

VRA Core

Possible further additions/modifications

- Grouping of elements

  - put original script, transliteration, and translation in one element, e.g. inscription, title

- Calendar information

  - Identify the calendar, e.g. Julian/Gregorian, Minguo, Japan, Hindu, Coptic, Buddhist…

- Dealing with user-defined elements

  - not all variants of data can be covered by the core – how to allow users to add their own elements?

VRA Core

Expanding the use of VRA Core

Tamboti

- Wiki and slideshow modules use images from Zizphus
  Next step: use VRA Core metadata (e.g. title, description)

External applications

- HyperImage (part-of-image-annotation): add VRA core as metadata schema

- pan.do/ra (part-of-video annotation): include image metadata

Provide sample records

- from Priya Paul Collection: whole collection is available
  http://priyapaulcollection.uni-hd.de/

- in preparation: 10 records as full metadata samples

Contact:

http://hra.uni-hd.de

http://tamboti.uni-hd.de

http://ziziphus-help.uni-hd.de

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