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People Profile: Madjid Dahmane

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Overall, the size of the set and its “academic” subject matter will make it more appropriate for college, university, and professional libraries. However, larger public libraries where there is strong interest in environmental issues may want to consider making the commitment. At last check, both the first volume, *The Spirit of Sustainability* (978-1933782157, \$135) and the second volume, *The Business of Sustainability* (978-1933782133, \$135) can be ordered online.

(Sustainability is getting increasing attention in the reference literature. Greenwood’s three-volume *Encyclopedia of Sustainability* (2009, 978-0-313-35261-4, \$265) is now available and Springer is planning the release of the ten-volume *Encyclopedia of Sustainability Science and Technology* for 2012. Obviously far more technical in nature and intended for large university libraries, the projected price is \$8,100 and the ISBN is 978-0-387-89469-0.)

Depending on the type of library and the nature of the collection, some reference works are equally, if not more, appropriate for circulation. ABC-CLIO’s *The Great Depression and the New Deal: a Thematic Encyclopedia* (2010, 978-1598841541, \$180) is a case in point. These two volumes focus on a discrete but seminal period of American history that, given the current economic climate, is of increasing interest to students as well as the general public.

True to its subtitle, the *Encyclopedia* is divided into five separate themes or “depressions” that the editors feel define the Great Depression era. Volume one treats the economic, political, and social depressions while the second volume focuses on the artistic and ethnic depressions. Although all of these themes are critical to understanding this period, the section on the Ethnic Depression is particularly valuable in focusing on the plight of African Americans and other ethnic minorities. Their story is often overshadowed by the sheer magnitude of this national crisis. This set gives it the attention that it deserves.

Regarding the structure of these individual sections, each is introduced by an informative essay that recounts the essentials, as well as providing background and context. This initial essay is then followed by individual entries that consist of biographical sketches of prominent people, discussions of relevant laws, court cases and important government actions, and articles on specific occurrences, events, films, books, and other relevant works of art.

Overall, this is an effective arrangement. The introductory essays are very helpful in providing a broad and informed narrative while the entries fill in the specifics. The approach followed by the individual authors is straightforward and factual. The set is rounded out by close to 120 pages of primary source material, a chronology, and an index which, given the thematic structure of these two volumes, is essential in pinpointing specifics.

against the grain people profile

Madjid Dahmane

BORN & LIVED: Algiers.

EARLY LIFE: Algiers.

FAMILY: Married, three daughters (14), (10) and (04).

EDUCATION: License (documentary science) **University of Algiers**; Master (documentary science) **University of Bordeaux France**; Doctorate (documentary science) **University of Bordeaux France**.

FIRST JOB: As a researcher and teacher.

PROFESSIONAL CAREER AND ACTIVITIES: Researcher and associate professor.

IN MY SPARE TIME I LIKE TO: Reading.

FAVOURITE BOOKS: Library science, information systems, competitive intelligence.

PHILOSOPHY: The creed on knowledge.

MOST MEANINGFUL CAREER ACHIEVEMENT: Publishing of articles, books, organizing proceedings, and conception of softwares.

GOAL I HOPE TO ACHIEVE FIVE YEARS FROM NOW: Take part in setting a national library network, organize seminars on documentary systems, and set a doctorate in information sciences.

HOW/WHERE DO I SEE THE INDUSTRY IN FIVE YEARS: See the development of information content industry more than it is today, particularly in multimedia edition. 🌿

As noted above, *The Great Depression and the New Deal: a Thematic Encyclopedia* could find a home in either reference or circulation, depending on need and the nature of the collection. It should also appeal to a variety of libraries including high school, public, and undergraduate. Students will find these two

volumes a valuable resource for completing short assignments as well as getting a start on larger papers. At the same time, general readers will turn to them to get facts and perspective on one of the most trying and difficult eras in American history. 🌿

Rumors from page 28

I wondered if the piracy was extending to academic books as well and asked John if this was a potential topic for the **Charleston Conference**. Coming in November?

http://www.publishers.org/main/PressCenter/Archives/2010_January/EpidemicofOnline-BookPiracy.htm

More **Charleston Conference-wise**. Was talking to the effervescent **Joyce Dixon-Fyle** <joyfyle@depauw.edu> during the 2009 conference. **Joyce** is coordinator of Collection Development at **DePauw**. **Joyce** has agreed to be our **publisher profile column editor**. See one on **Berkshire Publishing Group** in this issue, p.70.

Cara Battaglini <cbattaglini@sla.org> sent the slate of candidates for the **SLA 2011 Board**. I was excited to see that the always-do-

ing-something-great **David Stern** was one of the candidates for President-elect. **David** is listed as “Maximize Information, Providence, RI” and I found him on **Facebook**. Good luck, **David**, and hope to hear more from you! www.sla.org/ www.facebook.com/

Reportedly, **Reed-Elsevier** is holding on to **Variety** after all. You’ll remember that **Reed Business Information** had put most of its U.S.-based trade magazines up for sale in 2008. <http://www.foliomag.com/>

Recently met up with **Philip Larson** and his lovely wife **Susan**. <parker-fox@msn.com>. They are booksellers and run **Parker-Fox, LLC Books** in La Grange Park, IL. And, they just put pictures of their two cats — **Percival** and **Huxley** — on the **ATG Pets Webpage**. Do you have a picture of a pet you can send us? <hindsl@gmail.com>.

<http://www.against-the-grain.com/category/pets/>

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<<http://www.against-the-grain.com>>