

Human Library as a Method of Applying Historical Contents to Museum; focused on Cyber Information and Communications Museum

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1. Research background and research purpose

Currently, proper Information and Communications Museums are not existed in Korea. In 1993, Netizens paid a lot of attention to electronic information and communication historical sources exhibition in Yongsan telephone company, although the size was small. However, it was closed in the process of KT privatization that Yongsan telephone company changed into KT Yongsan branch. A Cyber Information and Communications Museum opened in 2005 and has been run, but the use rate is low. Now, 7,562 historical sources are kept in museum storage, but reading is impossible except research and survey. In this situation, the offline permanent exhibition restoration will have difficulty practically.

This study is originated from the proposition; form of Cyber Information and Communications Museum is not needed to be offline permanent exhibition. Especially, in information and communication field, only relic exhibition is not enough for serving vivid reality experience. Therefore, the purpose of this paper is to pay attention to meanings of cyber information and communication museum from the real life perspective and to find ways to actualize user experience contents. As one method, a historical contents museum application model using a concept of human library will be started here.

2. Preceded research and theoretical background

Nowadays, life history have gained popularity as a new study object in many study fields. Kim, Joo-Kwan and Ham, Han-hee are representative life history researchers who deals with similar timeline with this paper. They put emphasis on the need of collecting oral life history for those who does not have history. They also give explanations about archive effectiveness as a basic step for life history research method based on 20th century's folk life archive cases with democracy movement as a theme.

When describing ethnographic history which is to study social and cultural aspect deeply, the way of making meanings by 'common' people should be paid attention. The ways can be used in life history and also make new contents production possible in the future[1][3]. Especially, Kim Jugwan stressed on aggressive participation by informant.

However, Huh Yeongran pointed out limitations of existing oral archive. Oral history research has been postponed, compared to accumulation of oral resources. The original purpose was not achieved to make researchers and citizens approach to oral archive easily. She suggests alternative history writing to overcome the limitation[2].

In this study, alternative for oral archive introduces the concept of human library. The attention for oral history with experience has been expanded from the appearance of human library. The study of human library is not established in Korea, but the attention has been higher from the National Assembly Library. A method of human library is to get rid of discrimination and prejudice. It was started by Ronnie Evergall, from Denmark February, 2000. Various human books are registered in human library and they give readers their knowledge, experience, information, and know-how like. 4 or 5 people get together as a group and discuss for 50 minutes[5].

3. System construction and management solution

To plan a appropriate human library management model which fits to information and communication history contents, case analysis; Nowon human library(<http://www.humanlib.or.kr/>) is considered in this paper that opened in March, 2012. Furthermore, new name of cyber Information and Communication Museum is defined as communication history human library.

3.1. Classification system

Human library with core values such as sharing, communication, sympathy provides 20 types of classification; inhabitant, businessman, volunteer, reporter, health care provider, cultural artist, minorities, and so on[1]. Compared to this, communication history human library's themes are specific. Classification is provided depending on communication history period and subjects. See Table 1.

[Table 1] Human library classification table

Classification	Expected human book
Wire telephone	Female magneto telephone operator Public phone coin collecting manager First released facsimile business manager
Wireless telephones	International marriage successor through HAM Major firm telex worker
Mobile communication	Those who still use pager Mobile phone early adaptor
PC communication	addiction experienced user Private BBS developer
Internet	First manager for personal Homepage
Smart device	I am the real apple maniac SNS human relation management specialist

3.2. Operation method and website reorganization

First, people who participated in each step of information and communication history are picked, and human book in human library is constructed as DB. Second, with their field experience and knowledge, contents are managed through website. Third, offline based special exhibition and meeting with readers and Human book are implemented regularly. Next, oral text from human book is accumulated in oral archive, the book is used as research and historical resources. Those who wants to apply for human book select classification and put provided contents' subject and text; text, image, and movie as reading resources. Excellent contents by managers and users are selected as information and communication history human book. The people who have the contents evaluate as great ones gain honor and make the quality well-managed. In offline festival, famous person is invited once a month, over 30 readers participate in Communication History Human Book Reserved Seat Event, recommended human books and two people are selected, and small size of human book reading event is implemented in This Week Recommended Human Book Event. Over 100 events are proceeded, oral archive is constructed at the same time, and is used as web contents. The event place would be library or Olleh square. Heritages in museum storage are displayed and they are provided for the people to read. Contents system reconstruction and oral archive are needed to be built reflecting human library classification system and operation system. Website reorganization is needed to activate various contents and to link to SNS network.

4. Conclusion and future task

This paper is focused on the meaning of communication and information museum from the life history perspective. Exhibition limitations centered on heritage can be solved, using human library. Through the historical contents museum application model as a result of the study, Information and communication history is shared and expanded with users online and offline, feedback is added, and the feedback is used for the oral archive construction again.

The model can be new museum activation solution when using special museums focused on life history such as agriculture museum, newspaper museum, poor hillside village museum, and others. Soon after, the model and plan's specification should be made through actual implementation process and experimental process. Also, oral archive's public and academic practical cases should be searched.

5. References

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