

The Imperatives of Classifying Legal Materials using Moys Classification Scheme in Nigerian Law Libraries

Moses C. Nwosu^{1*} Olayinka O. Tuyo² Charity Ngozi Aniche³

1. Abia State University Library Uturu Abia State, Nigeria
 2. Nigerian Law School Bwari, Abuja, Nigeria
 3. Imo State University Law Library Owerri, Imo State, Nigeria
- *E-mail holymoses1@yahoo.com

Abstract

This paper discusses Moys Classification Scheme. It reviews the problems associated with classifying law books and highlights the reason for the late entrance of classification of law library collections in librarianship. The basic structure of the scheme was discussed in line with how the scheme is used for classifying legal materials. The paper observes that the advantage of the Scheme over other schemes apart from its arrangement of materials in a way that reflects the way lawyers think about legal materials is its provision of class KP for own country. It also states that in line with the directive and mandate of the Council on Legal Education many academic law libraries in Nigeria have adopted the scheme to organize their resources. The paper concludes that as a result of the unique nature, inherent qualities and coverage of the scheme, it is more suitable for legal materials in law libraries in Nigeria.

Keywords: Classification, Moys Classification Scheme, Legal Materials, Law Libraries, Nigeria.

1. Introduction

Classification of law materials has over the years, been known to present special problems for both the legal profession as well as librarianship and for which general cataloguing rules, practices, and subject lists are at times inadequate, incomplete, and conflicting. Simply, classification can be described as a means of bringing all information resources in a library on the same subject together in a place thus facilitating the organization of library materials to ensure that their retrieval will not pose difficulty for library users. Cataloguing and the related process of classification of legal information materials have been vilified as unnecessarily complicated, illogical or oversimplified. This vilification, Kenyon (1963) observes, is in part due to the nature of legal materials and the methods of supplementation by pocket parts, loose-leaf pages, semi-loose-leaf supplements, replacement volumes, advance sheets, and other devices. Following from this, the title page, relied upon for general cataloguing purposes, he further explains:

“is a will-o’-the-wisp in the case of the supplementary types of publications”. Abridgments, digests, and indexes of law reports, to cite common examples of law books published in common law countries for the past 500 years, are frequently initiated by a compiler who in the course of years is succeeded by other compilers, while the continuous work itself becomes known by a non-title popular name.

Another ordinary but misleading publication, the author adds, is the legal periodical which is issued in the form of a serial, and titled as such, but which contains law reports as well as material in other fields, often in separately paged sections. Furthermore, the professional terminology required by lawyers and legal researchers is more specific than that offered by general subject heading lists. The nature of these publications is further exacerbated by the unavailability of a standard scheme that will take care of these and the inarticulateness of cataloguing librarians/law librarians in the area of law classification. To state the obvious therefore, in matters of subject classification, according to Moys,(2001) it is virtually impossible to divide the subjects of law into neat watertight compartments, as there is inevitably a great deal of overlapping of different aspects of subjects. The fact remains that some areas of law can be treated as subjects in their own right, or they can be regarded as aspects of other subjects as the case may be. It is partly for this reason that legal practitioners have shown reluctance in the introduction of subject classification in their libraries. On the part of the law library users, they almost invariably approach the study of a subject of law within the context of the law of a particular jurisdiction and only very rarely from the point of view of comparative law. A jurisdiction according to Moys, (1987) frequently coincides with a nation state, but does not necessarily do so. For example, the United Kingdom, although not a federal state, contains three separate jurisdictions: England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland. Therefore, the classification approach usually adopted for many other main subjects, namely giving primacy to various subjects and sub-arranging them either by traditional sub-division methods or by facet analysis, is inappropriate for law. Law practitioners in their use of the law library frequently know the author of the books they want, or think they want, but if the books are arranged alphabetically by author, they are likely to miss other, possibly more recent, books on the subject which might be helpful to them. It thus becomes clear that alphabetical arrangement is also inappropriate. Although classifying law materials is a complex technique that

requires a combination of general cataloguing principles, intellectual skill, and knowledge of and experience with legal publications, the development of a standard scheme provides the solution. Therefore, such skills and competencies of cataloguers and law librarians in matters of classification can hardly be wasted as they are integrated to existing skills in legal research for the ultimate realization of effective programmes of a new dimension in library service for the legal profession. Pound, (1924) quoted in Borgeson, (1964) summarizes the matter thus:

Classification is not an end. Legal precepts are classified in order to make the materials of the legal system effective for the ends of the law. A classification is scientific, not because it has an appearance of universality, but to the extent that it organizes in a logically coherent scheme of exposition, the best that we know and think about those material

Reinforcing Pound's assertion, Omekwu, (2008) observes that cataloguing and classification are not ends in themselves but essentially the bedrock for providing information to the clientele system. As a result, cataloguers have, for many years believed that the provision of access to library materials through high-quality cataloguing using standard classification scheme supports the fundamental values of the profession.

1.1 Main Features of Legal Information Materials

The main features of legal information materials can be divided into two main types in common law jurisdictions - primary and secondary sources [Pannella, 1991]. According to [Bin - Lucchi, 2002] in countries based on civil law the division is slightly different. For instance in Italy, it is commonly divided into "legislazione", "giurisprudenza" and "dottrina". Primary sources are documents containing the law itself, documents of law rather than documents on law [Blunt, 1980]. They include statutes, administrative regulations, constitutional provisions and also court opinions, the so called "case law", while the latter is about materials which describe, explain or recommend legal developments such as textbooks, treatises, periodicals, practice manuals and so on [Panella, 1991]. [Cohen, 2000] identifies a third type of legal literature which he describes as "finding tools". These are search aids and include citations, indexes, digests and other materials that are used to find out both primary and secondary sources. They play main roles in legal research since the body of legal literature is constantly growing.

1.1.1 Subject Classification of Law Materials

The advantages of subject classification for law libraries share similar characteristics with non-law libraries. Part of which are that it improves the usefulness of the books to the reader by enabling him to find information on a particular topic, even if the specific volumes he asks for are not available. However, the strength and weaknesses of a library's book stock are immediately apparent, so that a well-rounded collection can more easily be developed. A law library therefore, is an organized collection of information sources, properly housed and organized for service to meet the needs of the legal profession and the legal information needs of the legal public. It is this system of housing and organizing of legal materials that occupies the thinking of the Council on Legal Education in Nigeria and the law librarians/cataloguers/ classifiers today. Such a law library is crucial to legal practice and administration of justice because law is a specialized and very technical discipline. Law libraries have traditionally placed more emphasis on reader and reference services than on technical services, but research capabilities are severely hindered if the technical aspects of librarianship are ignored or de-emphasized [Panella, 1991]. As a result, Hess, (1976) explains that law librarians were relatively late in turning their attention to the question of classification; so ingrained in their thinking was the alphabetical shelving of books by the author. Reinforcing this thinking, Tuyo, (2013) agrees and adds that like law librarians, classification of law library collections also arrived late in librarianship when compared with other subjects' collection. This, she states could be attributed to the fact that law library collections were initially limited and the alphabetical arrangement suited the purpose of the law librarians then. Moreover, many of the general classification schemes in use treated law as part of social sciences. The fact that law libraries did not increase greatly in size until the turn of the century may also have had its effect on the reluctance of law librarians to realize the need for scientific classification (Hess, 1976: 33). The LCC Scheme used to classify law books with their subject matter evidently resulted in scattering or disjointed placement of law books on the shelves. For instance, materials on land law are classified in HD 1141-1239. This negates the whole idea of subject classification.

1.1.2 Classification Schemes

In the performance of this task, cataloguers deploy the skills they acquired both in the library school and in experiential learning in using tools known as classification schemes to classify information sources. These schemes are publications containing systematically listed terms or notations representing discipline and sub-disciplines. They aim at assisting cataloguers to organize library resources, and the users in locating desired information sources easily and quickly. According to Fear, (1999) classification schemes are like complex puzzles. They break down an area of knowledge into small parts and then put them back together in as logical an arrangement as is possible. This results from the fact that no individual subject can be put in more than one

place and the arrangement has to be linear. The purpose of the scheme is to arrange material in a way that reflects the way lawyers think about and use legal materials. As it were, legal information materials lend themselves to a logical arrangement as these are distinct types of material and subjects.

Classification schemes that are in use in libraries worldwide include:

Bernard Classification Scheme (BCS)
BLISS Bibliographic Classification (BC)
Colon Classification (CC)
Dewey Decimal Classification (DDC)
Library of Congress Classification (LCC)
Moys's Classification Scheme for Law Books (MCS)
Universal Decimal Classification (UDC)

Apart from Bernard Classification Scheme, each of these schemes has provisions for law collections and related disciplines (Amusa and Iyoro,2011).

1.1.3 Moys Classification Scheme

Originally, the scheme was written by Elizabeth [Betty] Moys as a thesis to substitute the missing class K for law materials in the Library of Congress Classification and more importantly to improve on the provisions for Law Collections by Dewey Decimal Classification. Known as Moys Classification Scheme for Law Books- the scheme was devised based in part on existing Classification Schemes, Library of Congress Classification Scheme and Dewey Decimal Classification Scheme to express the unique characters of law collections and their categories. Elizabeth M. Moys (Betty) started work on the scheme as a project leading to her becoming a Fellow of the Library Association (Great Britain). After university graduation, library training, and experience as a law cataloguer in a leading London law library, Moys worked in two African countries.

In 1961, while at the University of Ghana, Moys produced a classification scheme (Classification Class K, Law), "based on one used by a College Library in London".

Three years later, while at the University of Lagos, Nigeria, Africa,[1963-65] she developed A Classification Scheme for Law Books which she submitted in 1965 for Fellowship of the Library Association. The lack of a classification scheme for law materials led many law libraries to devise their own home made schemes to suit their purpose- information retrieval. Undeterred by this development, while simultaneously building up the schedules of her scheme, the challenge provided her the opportunity of classifying the law collection. In point of fact, as Tuyo further reveals, it can reasonably be assumed that the University of Lagos Library was the first to use the scheme for its law collection. The LCC made substantial effort to correct this anomaly by providing the class "K" for law books but this effort was inadequate because it was not robust enough to take care of the ever growing areas of law. Therefore, the demand for a legal classification in Commonwealth countries led to the publication of Moys Classification Scheme for Law Books by Butterworth's in 1968. The second edition was published in 1982 with the new title Moys Classification Scheme for Law Books; the 3rd and 4th editions, published in 1992 and 2001 respectively, were titled Moys Classification and Thesaurus for Legal Materials while the 5th edition edited by Diana Morris, Helen Garner, Sarah Wheeler and Elizabeth M. Moys was published by De Gruyter Saur in 2012. The classification scheme was adopted by law libraries in Australia, New Zealand, Canada, the UK and Nigeria. In her will, Moys bequeathed the copyright and therefore the royalties from the Moys Classification Scheme to the British and Irish Association of Law Librarians (BIALL) so that the work may be continued.

1.1.4 Basic Structure and Arrangement of the Scheme

Typically, Moys Classification Scheme is divided into the following parts namely:

Synopsis - provides a very useful overview of how to use the scheme. It is particularly useful as a guide on how to go about classifying legal information.

Schedules-The schedule contains the list of all the main classes and sub-classes of the scheme with their corresponding notation: the notation is a sign or symbol in a definite order representing disciplines, and subjects listed in the schedule;

Tables - used to build numbers;

Index of jurisdictions -gives the classification numbers for particular countries and the cutter numbers for countries when dividing by jurisdiction A-Z. The scheme also provides in its preliminary pages how cutter numbers are to be constructed, and,

Index – Thesaurus -an alphabetical list of subject provides quick access to the schedule.

The main principles according to Fear, (1999) are:

- General always comes before specific;
- Material is primarily arranged by jurisdiction;
- Common law jurisdictions are special in that they are homogeneous and their materials should therefore be kept together;
- Primary and secondary materials are separated;

- Primary materials are arranged by type of material;
- Secondary materials are arranged by subject and are grouped into three broad categories: general subjects; public law subjects; and private law subjects

A. General and non-national legal system

Books that are of a general nature such as reference materials [digests, legal encyclopedias and legal dictionaries] are placed at the beginning of the collection while more specialised books such as commentaries and textbooks appear later in the collection. Thus, in the first group we have the following classes-

K - Journals and reference books 340.01-9.[Moys devotes the first part of the scheme (K) to journals and reference books.] Others are:

KA –Jurisprudence [Books on theory of law are placed before books on substance of law]

KB -General and comparative law 340.1[Laws of two or more legal systems from different countries]

KC -International Law 341[Includes private and public international law-Conflict of laws]

KD- Religious Legal Systems 342[Legal systems connected with religious groups]

KE -Ancient and Medieval Law 343

B. Modern national legal systems

The second group consists of all modern national legal systems. The areas in which the common law is to be found can be divided into three main categories:

1. those whose legal systems are entirely, or almost entirely based on the common law, i.e. England, Ireland, Canada, the United States, most of the West Indies, Australia and New Zealand;
2. those whose legal systems consist of a mixture, in various proportions, of the common law and other systems e.g. India, Cyprus, Guyana, Nigeria;
3. those areas within a basically common law jurisdiction which have retained their own non-common law systems, albeit influenced to some extent by the common law, e.g. Scotland, Quebec, Louisiana.

The common law section of Moys consists of materials from countries with “pure common law system” with six classes allocated to it. One class was allocated to each of the remaining non-common law continents, and another class was allocated to own country.

KF -British Isles i.e. England and Wales, Scotland and Ireland

KG –Canada[1-280], US[301-377] West Indies and Caribbean

KH –Australia and New Zealand[1-347]

KL- General 345[covers non-specific legal topics such as the legal profession, legal education, research, administration of justice and legal history]

KM -Public Law 346 [governs the relationship of individuals and the state and includes constitutional and administrative law, taxation and criminal law]

KN- Private Law 347 [regulates the relationship between individuals and includes contract,torts, property, family, health, industrial, equity and commercial law]

Other modern legal systems

KP- Own country (Optional alternative)

KR- Africa 349.6 [Primary and Secondary]

KS -Latin America 349.8 [Primary and Secondary]

KT- Asia and Pacific 349.5 [Primary and Secondary]

KV- Europe [Primary and Secondary]

KW- European Communities 349.4

C. CLASS KZ

The third group consists of the class for non-legal subjects which may be possessed by specialist law libraries. The subject law can be read with various subjects such as Industrial Relation, Information Technology, Management, Psychology and Sociology. Thus, it might be imperative that materials in these subject areas are acquired for the law library to enhance legal research. As a result these materials are better classified using the class KZ. Though general purpose libraries which are not strictly law libraries are advised not to use class KZ as it is expected that they will have a large collection of these non-legal materials for the other users of the library. For these categories of materials it is advisable that the LCC be used in classifying them.

1.1.5 Characteristics of Moys

Bird, (2010) asserts that Moys classification does for law what NLM (National Library of Medicine classification) does for medicine, creating a broad subject arrangement which reflects the use of material by professionals in the field. Principles of the scheme are the move from the general to the specific, a distinction between national laws and non-national laws, the separation of common law and civil law jurisdictions and public and private law. Moys is one of the most user-friendly class systems available for law. The scheme adopts an alpha-numeric system (similar to the LC Classification system), with the K representing legal materials, as originally adopted from the LC scheme. Unlike other disciplines the study of law is usually approached in terms of its jurisdiction. Moys incorporates both enumerative number building concepts (based on Library of Congress

classification scheme, ie insert a table of subject numbers into an allocated block of numbers) and faceted theory adopted by Dewey (a subject approach to number building). Moys adopted a different way of organising legal materials, due to the difficulty associated with mixing primary and secondary law. The scheme was split into Primary law, Secondary law, Law reference and Law journals.

1.1.6 Arrangement of Materials by Jurisdiction

Moys recognizes the difference between law and other disciplines since the study of law is usually approached in terms of its jurisdiction. Since Moys aims to arrange material in the way lawyers use the materials, books are separated by jurisdiction before subject.

This means that rather than all books on a particular subject being arranged together on the shelf, all books from a particular jurisdiction are kept together and the subjects are scattered. However, Moys approach for common law jurisdictions is entirely different.

1.1.7 Collection Management of Primary and Secondary Materials

Arrangements of primary and secondary materials are separated because of their nature. Whereas primary materials consist of documents that contain the law, namely: legislation, law reports and parliamentary materials, secondary materials on the other hand comment on and discuss primary materials such as textbooks, monographs and treatises. As a result of their nature primary materials sub-arrange themselves in chronological order as they are generally serials and therefore expand at a very different rate from textbooks. Thus, this separation makes collection management easier.

Following the general/specific principle, primary materials come before secondary materials. Therefore, common law primary materials (KF-KH) precede common law secondary materials (KL-KN) and non-common law primary materials (Table I) precede non-common law secondary materials (Table II). Similarly, primary materials are arranged by form as follows: Parliamentary materials first, followed by legislative materials and then case law. Others are citations, indexes and digests Secondary materials (textbooks) are arranged by subject (Fear, 2010).

Class KP

Class KP is a special class for own country. Questions have been asked why class KP when Moys had already taken care of such in class KR for Africa. KP has been set aside by Moys to separate a particular jurisdiction from the rest of the collection. Class KP is to be used with numbers from the most appropriate column from Tables I and II depending on the likely size of the collection. The Scheme provides 60 units of numbers for primary materials in class KP and 150 units for secondary materials. Thus, there is provision of 60+150=210 units of numbers for own country using KP which in our own situation is Nigeria. The advantage of class KP for own country is glaring over KR as KR has only 20 units for primary materials and 60 units for secondary making a total of 80 units of numbers. Using class KP, Table 1 is for primary materials while Table 11 is for secondary materials. Undoubtedly, table 11 is not as detailed as the provision made in other sub classes as KL, KM and KN. It is expected that subsequent revision of the scheme will take care of some of these identified lapses. The scheme recommends that law libraries, professional cataloguers including law librarians who require more detail may deploy their ingenuity and skills to expand the block numbers provided by the table without compromising the number of the next subject. An example of classifying a law book written by a Nigerian [author from own country] for Nigeria [own country] will be as follows: The Administration of Justice in Nigeria by Peter Oluyede. KP will be used in conjunction with table 11 column A.

Example	K Notation	Dewey Notation
The Administration of Justice Nigeria	Table 11column A(82) KP [Own country]	346.4
Cutter no for author [Oluyede]	.O4	
Full number	KP82.O4	

1.1.8 How to Classify Law Journals

The theory of placing law journals unclassified lies in the need to find the journal citation without using the library catalogue. The titles of many law journals give no indication of the country of origin, and classification by subject and jurisdiction can be a hindrance. The ease of finding journals is more important to most lawyers than subject classification. As a result, the title of the journal forms the classification number of the journal. Articles such as "A" "An" and "The" are disregarded. As practiced in the University of Lagos Law Library the alphabets are substituted for the numbers - first three letters of the title, then file alphabetically by title. For a journal with the title

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

African Human Rights Law Journal would be classified as follows:

Example	K Notation	Dewey Notation
African Human Rights	K[Journal]	
A	1	
F[Next alphabet as Cutter	.F	
R [Cutter no]	8	
I [Cutter no]	4	
Full no	K1.F84	

1.1.9 General Use of Tables

Moys scheme like DDC and LC makes use of tables to ensure specificity in the classification of information sources. Specific instructions (notes) on how each table should be used are provided. The tables are to be used in conjunction with the main schedules wherever the scheme so directs. For example, where the schedule provides block numbers it directs as to which table is to be used to get the class number.

The scheme has eight tables which are placed after the schedules. They are the main devices used to build numbers. They are used in two ways:

- to provide Cutter numbers which are attached to the end of existing numbers in order to keep like books together; or
- numbers from the tables are substituted into a block of numbers given in the schedule to complete the individual classification number

The tables are:

Table I Primary materials- used to subdivide primary material for all non-common law jurisdictions (KR-KV) and those common law jurisdictions which do not have numbers fully enumerated in the schedules (KF-KH)

Table II Subjects of Law- used to subdivide secondary material for all non-common law countries (KR-KV) and the alternate class KP [own country].

Table III Dates- not important in the law, but are used: as a Cutter number, to arrange material by date and to sub-arrange primary material

Table IV Common Law Jurisdiction- used in conjunction with KL-KN to group material by jurisdiction within the run of the common law treatises

Table V Courts- used with a block of numbers when instructed in the schedules or as a Cutter number when required

Table VI Special legal forms and topics- used as a Cutter number whenever required .Z I - .Z 18 covers primary materials which have been classified primarily by subject rather than form

Table VII Persons- used with a block of numbers when instructed in the schedules or as a Cutter number when required.

Table VIII Non-legal forms and treatments- Use as a Cutter number whenever desired to group like forms together.

Table IX European Communities Law

2.0 Number Building

According to Fear, (1999) Moys employed both the enumerated and faceted schemes. While some parts of the scheme are enumerated in great detail with numbers in the schedules for very specific subjects' e. g. KL-KN however other parts are provided in skeletal form as blocks of numbers, the details of which need to be filled in using tables and other number building devices e.g. KP-KZ . According to Moys, (2001) in applying the Tables, it will be seen that the numbers in Tables I and II follow on from each other, with Table I for primary sources and Table II for secondary sources of the same jurisdiction. She further emphasizes that:

the number found in the Tables is NOT added to the first number in the block, but is SUBSTITUTED for the appropriate number in the block.

Therefore, constructing a number using the K notation as Fear, (1999) reinforces:

- (1) Find the block of numbers for the jurisdiction using the Index of Jurisdictions.
- (2) Locate the block in the schedules and note the column number
- (3) Locate the number in the relevant column of table I corresponding to the form of the material
- (4) Substitute that number into the block OR add the number from table I to the first number in the block and subtract I.

The columns mentioned here is Columns A-D which is used with the K notation. However, the column to use depends on the size of the block of numbers assigned to a jurisdiction. This in turn depends on the size of the collection and perceived relevance of the jurisdiction. The relevant column letter is given beside each block of numbers in the schedules. The Moys schedule provides a block of numbers for each country for example Kenya

KR 3101-50 [C]. Thus, in the classification of a text like Administration of Justice in Kenya-since the text is a book which as it were is a secondary material and not a primary material table 11 will be used.

Example	K Notation	Dewey Notation
The Administration of Justice Kenya	Table 11column C(15) KR[3101-50]	346.4
Cutter no for author [Kenyatta]	.K4	
Full number	KR3115.K4	

In addition to these tables, the scheme has appendices on Criminology, Nigerian States, their historical periods, and cutter numbers from the index of Jurisdictions.

2.1 Notation and Index-Thesaurus

Amusa and Iyoro, (2011) observe that Moys scheme has two complete alternative system of notation: Library of Congress-style [K] and Dewey Decimal-style [340] system. This style of notation provides opportunity for law libraries to choose either of the notations, and still enjoy the benefits of the scheme. The scheme has a subject index to the schedule. The index is both specific and relative. Specific index gives only topics while relative index gives topics with their interrelations with topics. The index of the scheme is referred to as "Index thesaurus", because it combines the quality of thesaurus with index. The thesaurus terms used in the index are: **RT** - Related term. **SN** - Scope not. **UF** - Used for. **USE**

2.1.1 Alphabetical Subdivisions

The instructions "By topic, A-Z" appear throughout the schedules. This means that the logical subdivision of the subject has reached its limits and an alphabetical subdivision is required. Depending on the subject matter this can be achieved in two ways:

- jurisdiction -use Cutter numbers set out in the "Index to Jurisdictions" with the K notation and the DDC country numbers with the Dewey notation
- topic- insert a suitable letter and number to achieve an alphabetical arrangement of topics giving consideration to the likelihood of future growth.

2.1.3 Imperatives of Using Moys

The use of Moys classification scheme by law librarians to organize their law collections have been found to be very easy and not difficult going by the fact that it is a one volume scheme. It is a flexible scheme that can be adapted to suit the needs of very small to very large collections. The scheme was developed to provide for the shortcomings arising from the treatment of law collections by DDC and LC. Because law collections comprise legal information sources that are dynamic, Moys classification scheme recognizes the peculiarity of the nature of the law collection because law is regarded as a growing discipline. It is a very manageable classification scheme and has the quality of covering one subject area-law. It is relatively new- having only been in use since 1968 when the first edition was published and the latest edition- 5th edition in 2012. That of course means it does not have the anomalies that usually come with the older and more frequently revised schemes. While other schemes treat legal publications from subject perspectives, Moys organizes law collections by their nature and jurisdiction- that is primary sources, secondary sources, and law reference and law journals. The class KP for own country provides a more robust number of units to address various areas of own country's legal system. This facilitates easy access to law and legal publications of a country needed by the users. In Nigeria's case, the scheme provides an appendix on legal information sources emanating from Nigerian States, from independence to date (Amusa and Iyoro, 2011). Appearing in a one-volume publication, its preliminary pages, introductory matters, schedule, Tables, index of Jurisdictions, Index-Thesaurus makes the scheme easy to use in classifying legal information sources as it is more compact than DDC and LC. It offers two notations, one that looks like Library of Congress classification (K) and the other that looks like Dewey (340 etc.). In this way the scheme can be used to classify the legal part of a larger collection that is classified in either L C or Dewey without the users having a flimsy idea of it. Moys Classification Scheme aims to arrange materials in a way that reflects the way lawyers think about and use legal materials. Fortunately legal materials lend themselves to a logical arrangement as there are distinct types of material and subjects (Fear, 1999) Moys Scheme has been adopted as the Classification Scheme for legal materials worldwide. On the directive and mandate of the Council on Legal Education working in tandem with the National Universities Commission many academic law libraries in Nigeria have adopted the scheme to organize their resources. As a result of the unique nature, inherent qualities and coverage of the scheme, it can be stated that Moys Classification Scheme is more suitable for legal materials.

2.1.4 Conclusion

Classified arrangement of law books constituting a law library collection, their surrogates in a catalogue and entries in other databases enhance the efficiency of retrieval while legal information users conduct exhaustive search for resources on a topic. The typical 19th century attitude of law management toward the law library collection was that of hostility and aloofness as it was common at that time to find large law collections--100,000 volumes and above-completely un-catalogued, or only partially catalogued, and the entire bibliographic record carried in the head of the librarian (Kenyon,1963). As a result, it has become increasingly evident that law

library administrators recognize the vital need for a classified arrangement in order to establish and improve their catalogues to encourage full exploitation of their collections. That, perhaps, provides the alibi for Terry's, (1884) [19th century] whimsical reveries:

What is wanted is . . . to so arrange the whole as to make it as easy as possible for persons who have occasion to do so to find out what the law is upon any given point. . . What-ever arrangement best promotes these ends is the best, whether it is 'philosophical' or not. To prefer any other to it on any grounds of a priori theory is to play the doctrinaire or pedanta.

It can safely be concluded therefore that Moys classification scheme offers law libraries the best arrangement that promotes these ends and makes it easy to find out what the law is upon any given point.

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About the Authors

1. *Moses C. Nwosu is Chief Cataloguer/Head Technical Services Department of Abia State University Library and Doctoral student in the Department of Library and Information Science Abia State University Uturu. He holds two Master Degrees viz MSc Pub Admin. MLIS in addition to an Advanced Dip. Pub.Admin., Post Graduate Dip. Pub Admin. Certificate in Computer Literacy (ABSU), Dip. Lib. (Ibadan) and a Chartered Librarian (CLN).

2. Olayinka O. Tuyo –Barrister-at-Law is Head of the Nigerian Law School Bwari, Abuja, Nigeria. She holds Dip.Lib(Ibadan), BSc Bus. Admin. (Lagos), LLB and LLM. (Lagos), MLIS (Ibadan) and a Chartered Librarian (CLN).

3. Charity Ngozi Aniche is Law Librarian of Imo State University Law Library Owerri, Imo State, Nigeria. She holds ACE, LLB, BL, and MLIS. She is also a Chartered Librarian (CLN) and presently pursuing a PhD programme.

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