

The ways of developing the Diplomatica Indica Database

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It is possible to talk about three stages of the system advance.

- I. The first stage is that of accumulating the information. Two main sub-DBs were accumulated: 1) List (modern Copperplates) and 2) Bibliography (modern Publications). The level of these sub-DBs structuring tended to be simple. Its fields were not developed; some of the data was kept encrypted. At the moment the 1st sub-Db contains more than 1250 entries of which copperplates are more than 1020 entries, while the 2nd sub-Db contains more than 3250 entries.
- II. The second stage is that of developing the DIDB structure. The structure should reflect the whole data level both clearly and with high capacity. It should be the structure that transforms the moderately simple Db into the system pretending to describe some objective historical model. The main principle of developing the structure will be “one field – one meaning”.
- III. The third stage is that of analytical modeling. It is possible even now to use the DIDB for providing the answers to some very interesting and important questions, for instance the ways and directions of copperplates expanding. At first assessment the number of such micro-studies can easily exceed 50. The DIDB could be considered as a powerful tool that can considerably raise the level of objectivity of historical studies at least in the area under consideration.

The DIDB web-site is being built now as a system with multi-users access. At the moment the online access to the system is limited. However the <http://www.didb.org> site is already opened. Everybody can 1) visit it and know the news, 2) register and receive news by email, 3) after opening DIDB visit it, comment it, and participate in developing it.

Looking forward to your appreciation the system