

Selected Works of the NCL Special Collection

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Foreword

The National Central Library (NCL) Special Collection consists mainly of rare books from the Song, Yuan, Ming and Qing periods and general string-bound books. Most of the Song and Yuan volumes are extremely rare editions, while anthologies are richly represented among the Ming titles. The collection also contains a considerable number of bronze and stone rubbings. In recent years, the NCL has been augmenting the Special Collection with pre-1946 works on Taiwan, including over 2,400 archaic contracts from the Qing era, about 4,000 postcards with illustrations of the scenery and aboriginal life in Taiwan in earlier times, as well as various types of old publications (string-bound, lithography, and letterpress editions), ink rubbings, block prints, archaic contracts, and illustrations. The library stores and catalogs these resources for general public and research use.

Some distinguishing points about the NCL Special Collection include:

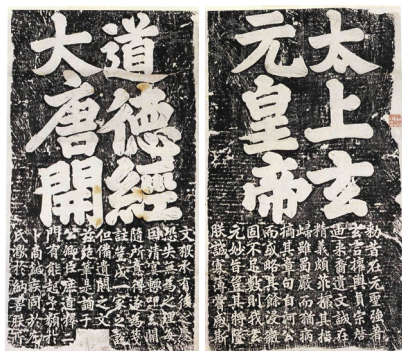
1. The collection of eminent and fine rare books for research and instructional purposes.
2. Collection of works by prominent writers and different editions of the same work for collation purposes.
3. The rich collection of Ming anthologies and historical materials provides an invaluable resource for the study of academic development and historical research.
4. Collection and acquisition of archaic Taiwan books and documents to promote nativist education and local awareness.

1. Bronze and Stone Rubbings

The NCL collection comprises 9,919 bronze and stone rubbings of 3,901 works; and 2,991 rubbings of 2,848 epitaphs, for a total of 12,910 rubbings of 6,759 works. Bronze rubbings in the collection date back to as early as the Shang dynasty, and include rubbings of sacrificial vessels, memorial inscriptions, weapons and other items; while stone rubbings include rubbings of Han dynasty engravings from steles, cliff sides and other objects.



Xian-fu-ding (Zhou), date unknown, ink rubbing, full image with inscriptions (Repository No.: Jin 0084)



"Tai-shang-xuan yuan huang-di dao-de-jing zhu" (Tang),
Su Ling-chih, engraved in October 738, ink rubbing
(Repository No.: Jin 0824)

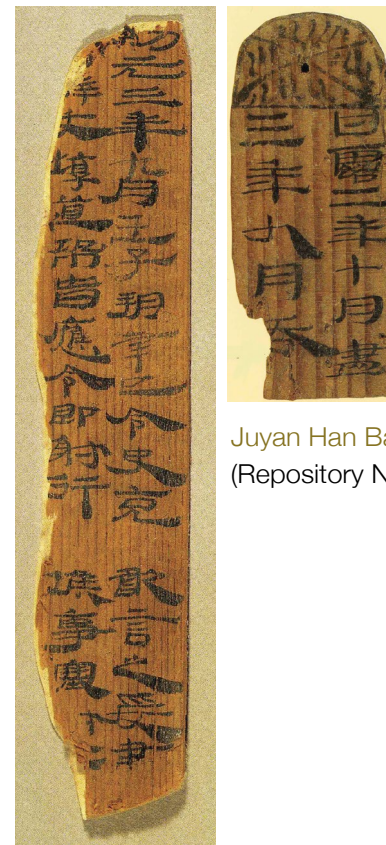


"Qing xin-nu zhi-fa zao-xiang" (regular script) (Northern
Wei), engraved in June 471, red ink rubbing, calligraphic
annotation by Han Tian-shou (Repository No.: Jin 2866)

2. Manuscript

(1) Han Bamboo Slips

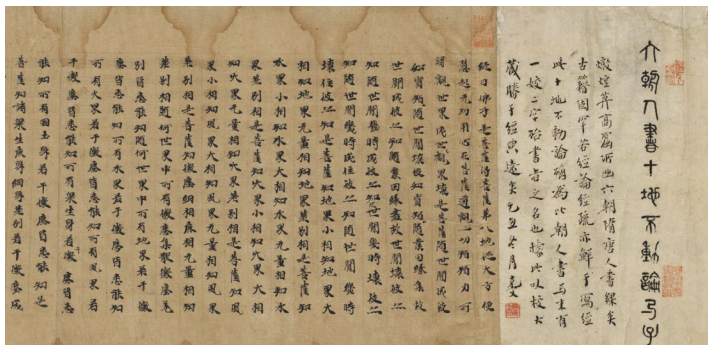
The NCL has a collection of 30 Han bamboo slips recovered from excavations between 1930 and 1931. Of the total, 28 slips are inscribed with characters, seven of them on both sides.



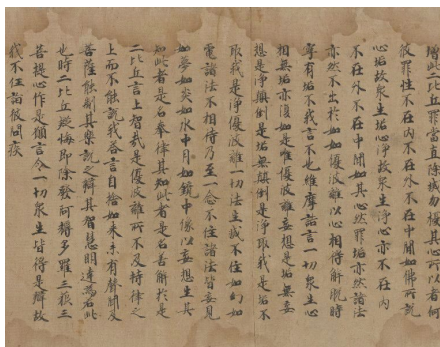
Juyan Han Bamboo Slips
(Repository No.: Box 5)

(2) Manuscript Scrolls

The NCL collection of Dunhuang scrolls consist mainly of Chinese Buddhist scriptures, as well as three scrolls of Taoist scriptures and three scrolls of Tibetan Buddhist scriptures. These works range from the Six Dynasties (220 ~ 589) to the Five Dynasties period (907 - 979)



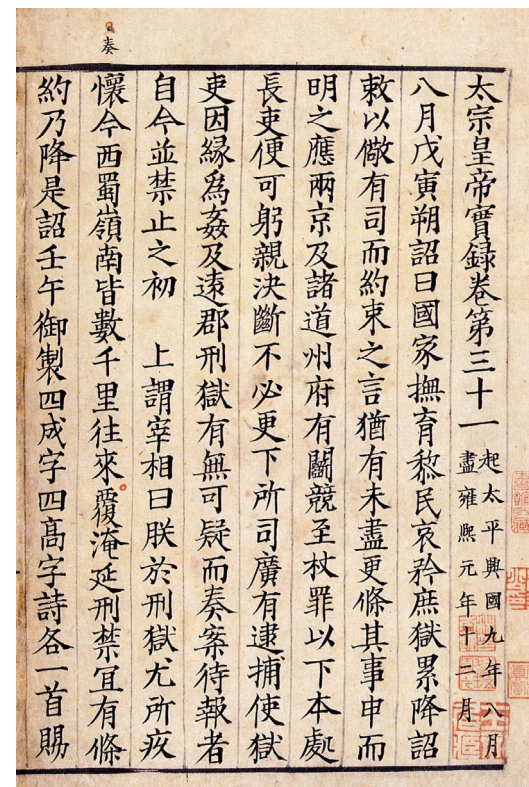
"Shi-di bu-dong-lun", one scroll (India) Tian-qin pu-sa zao; (Northern Wei) translation of the Pu-ti liu-zhi, Six Dynasties hand-written scroll (Repository No.: 08789)



"Wei-mo-jie-suo shuo-jing " one scroll (Yao Qin) translation of Jiu-mo-luo-shen, hand-written scroll from between the mid to late Tang and the Five Dynasties period (Repository No.: 08684)

(3) Manuscript Books

The NCL collection comprises nearly 3,000 manuscript books from the Song period onward. The majority of these works are from the Ming and Qing dynasties, and the oldest is a record of the Taizong Emperor in the Song dynasty. The collection also includes nearly one thousand manuscripts and collated editions from the Ming period onwards.



"Song tai-zong huang-di shi-lu", five volumes/12 chapters (Song) written by Chien Juo-shui, Yang Yi, et al, Song Emperor Li-tsung, Palace Library manuscript (Repository No.: 01944)



敦交集
李季和 名孝光永嘉人
宿魏仲遠宅
每憶君家好兄弟輕舟遠出踐深期春風吹雨
曹娥渡夕照滿山虞舜祠即問寒暄如夢寐各
言加飯尉相思重來應記呼鐙處夏蓋山前月
上還
潘子素 名純淮南人
秋日與仲遠昆季飲有懷李季和先生
涵暉軒下重經過愛客情懷久更晴日上簾分
竹色晚風移席近鷗波相看把酒賢兄弟
題詩老季和頭白校書天祿閣無由共飲恨如何

"Dun-jiao-ji" one chapters/one volume (Yuan); Edited by Wei Chung-yuan, Yuan manuscript (Repository No.: 14552)

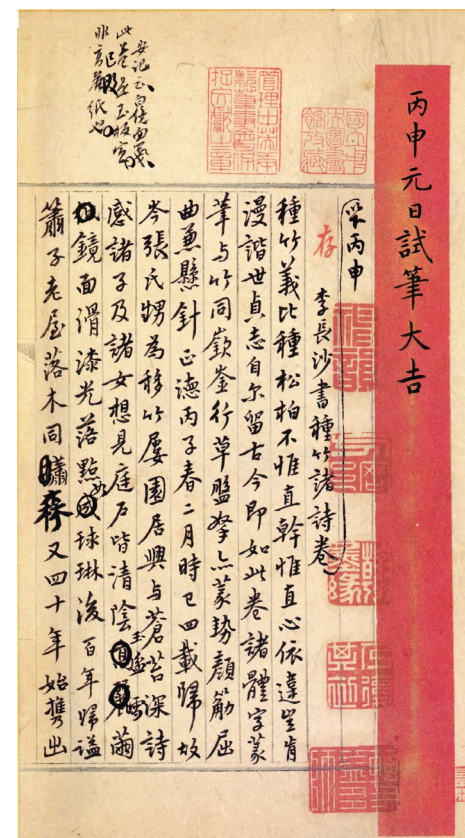
高則誠 名明永嘉人
丁酉二月二日訪仲仁仲遠仲剛賢昆季別
賦詩以謝
隱君家在越江邊烟雨江村繞舜田玉樹郎君宜
采服紫荊兄弟正青年山雲曉閣讀書屋湖水
春明載酒船何日重來伏龍下參同契裏問神仙
子素先生客夏蓋湖上欲往見而未能因賦
詩用東仲遠徵君同發一韻
夏蓋山前湖水平楊梅欲熟雨冥冥吳門亂後逢梅
福遼海來時識管寧野霧連村迷豹隱江風吹浪
送魚腥伯陽舊有衆同好共雲孫講易經
陳君逆 名達天台人

永樂大典卷之四百八十五 一東
忠 忠傳一
忠經 馬融忠經序曰忠經者蓋出於孝經也仲尼說孝經而敦事君
之義則知孝者俊忠而成是以答君親之恩明臣子之行忠
不可廢於國孝不可弛於家孝既有經忠則猶闕故述仲尼之意撰忠經
焉今皇上含庖軒之道茂勛華之德獨賢俾能無遠不奉忠之與孝天下
攸同臣融巖野之臣性則愚朴沐浴德澤其可然乎作為此經庶少裨補
誠則解理薄陋不足以稱爲忠之所存存於勸善勸善之大何以加於忠
孝者哉夫定卑高以章目引詩書以明義皆師於古曷敢徒然其或異同
從忠孝之宜也或對之以象其意或遷之以就其類或損之以簡其文或
益之以備其事以忠應孝亦分爲十有八章所以弘其至公勉其誠信本
爲政之大體陳君事之要道始於立德終於成功此忠經之義也謹序
天地神明章第一 昔在至理上下一德以徵天休忠之道也忠之爲道乃合
於天至理之時君臣同德則休氣應也天之所覆地之所載人之所履莫

"Yong-le da-dian" (Ming) Chie Chin et al, 1522-1572, palace collection revised manuscript, vol. 485, 486 (Repository No.: 07956)



"Jin-shi kun-chong cao-mu zhuang", 27 chapters/20 volumes (Ming) text, Illustrated by Madam Wen Chu, 1617-1620, original manuscript with color illustrations (Repository No.: 06921)



"Fu-chu zhai-shih wen-gao" (Qing) Weng Fang-kung, 1736-1820, author's manuscript (Repository No.: 13335)

3. Block Prints

The NCL has a collection of nearly 8,000 sets of block prints, including 174 from the Song dynasty, five from the Jin dynasty, 230 from the Yuan dynasty, and over 6,000 from the Ming dynasty, moveable type and block print editions from the Qing dynasty, and block prints from Korea, Japan and Annan.

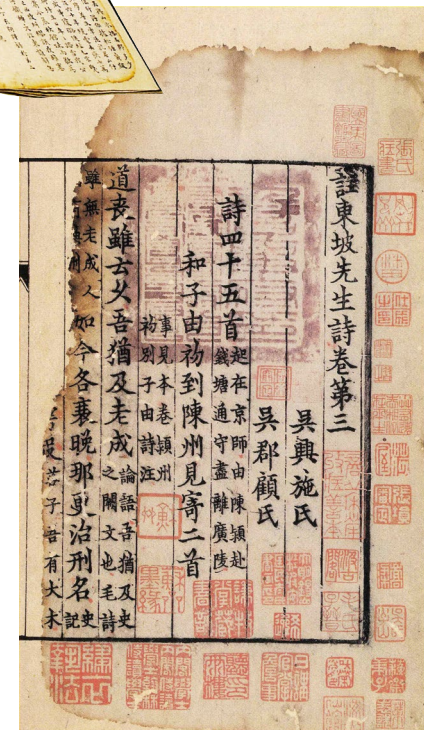
(1) Song Block Prints



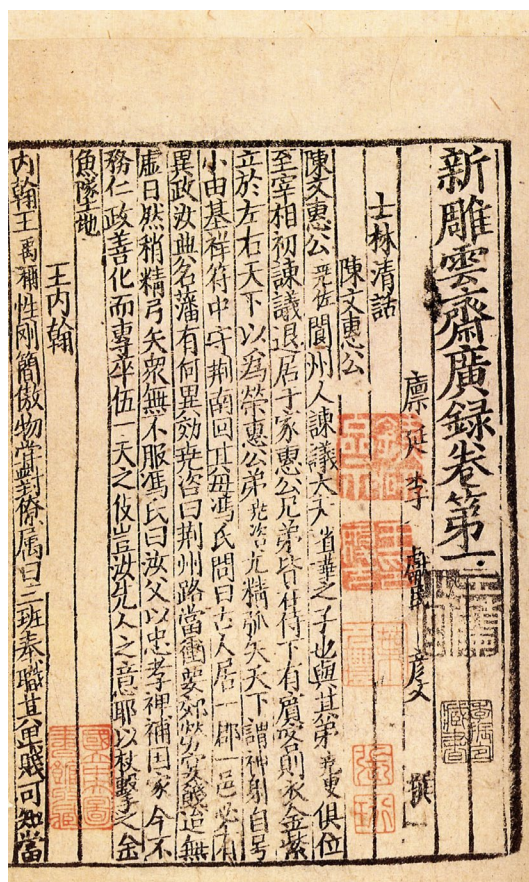
"Yi-qie ru-lai-xin mi-mi quan-shen she-li bao-qie yin-tuo-luo-ni-jing", one volume (Tang) translated by Shih Pu-tung, 975 edition (Repository No.: 08807)



"Zhu-dong-po xian-sheng shi" 19 chapters, 20 volumes (Song) written by Su Shi, annotated by Shi Yuan-chih, Shih-chih, and Gu-hsi, 1213, Huai-dong Cang-si edition (Repository No.: 10204)



(2) Jin Block Prints

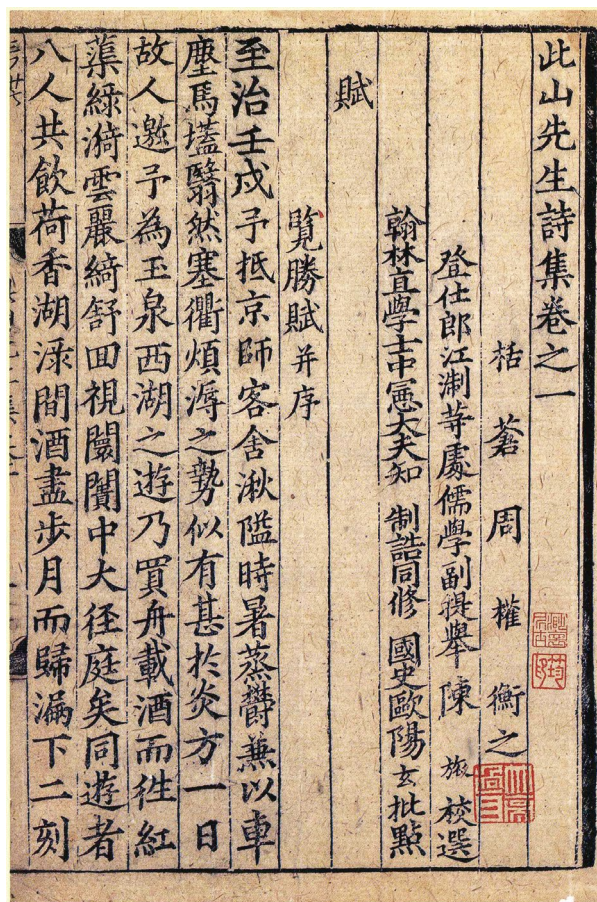


"Xin-diao yun-zhai guang-lu" eight chapters, one supplementary chapter, eight volumes (Song) written by Li Hsien-min, Jin edition (Repository No.: 08317)

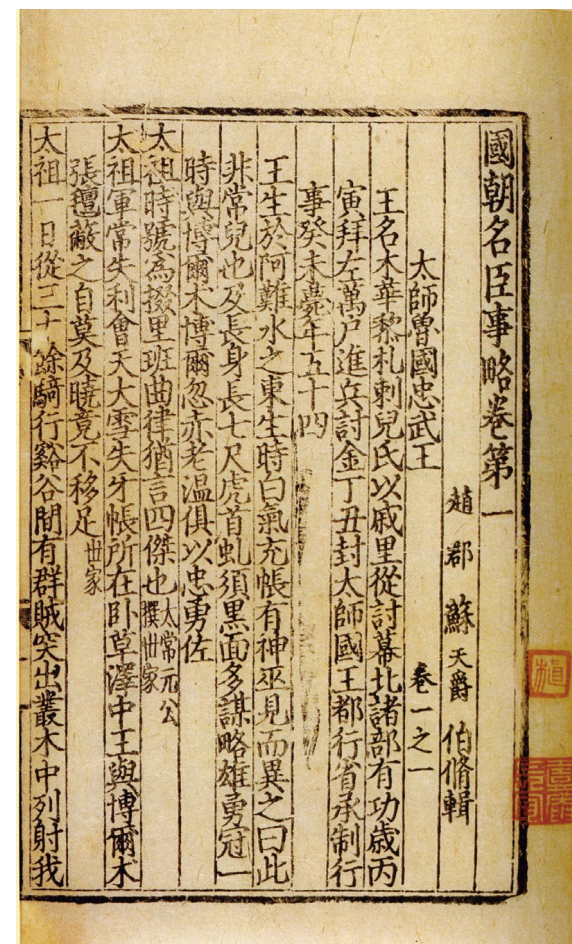


"Chong jiao-zheng di-li xin-shu" 15 chapters, 6 volumes (Song) written by Wang Zhu (Jin), collated by Pi Lu-tao, supplement by Chang Chien, 1192, Chang Chien edition (Repository No.: 06509)

(3) Yuan Block Prints



"Ci-shan xian-sheng shi-ji" 10 chapters, four volumes (Yuan) written by Chou Chuan, collated by Chen Lu, annotated by Ou-yang Hsuan, 1341-1367 edition (Repository No.: 10877)



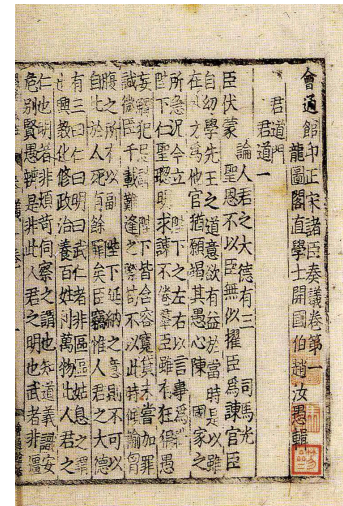
"Guo-chao ming-chen shi-lu" 15 chapters, five volumes (Yuan) by Su Tian-chueh, 1335 edition (Repository No.: 02407)



(4) Ming Block Prints



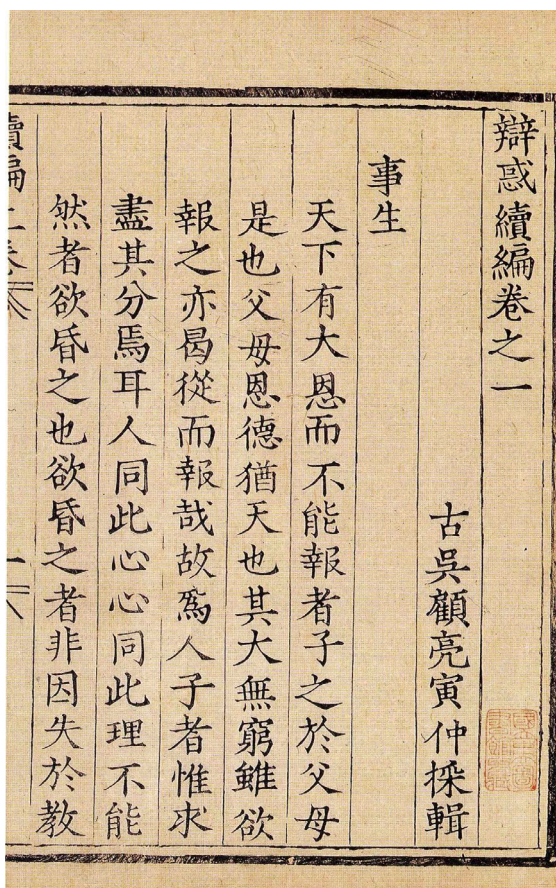
"Jin-gang bo-re bo-luo-mi-jing" one chapter (Yuan) 1341, red and black chromatograph edition (Repository No.: 08838)



"Hui-tong-guan-yin-zheng song-zhu-chen zou-yi" 150 chapters, 64 volumes (Song) edited by Chao Ru-yu, 1490, moveable bronze block small type edition (Repository No.: 04829)

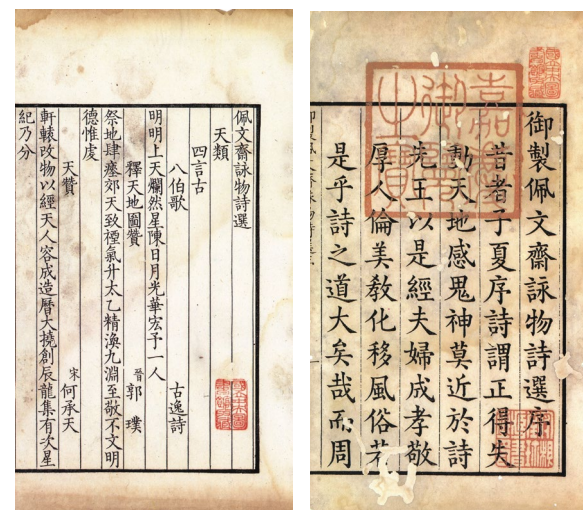


"Wen-hsin diao-long" two chapters, two pronunciation footnote chapters, five volumes, (Liang) written by Liu Hsieh, Ming five color chromatograph edition (Repository No.: 14815)



"Bian-huo xu-bian" seven chapters, two appendices, four volumes, (Ming) written by Ku Liang, 1574, moveable wood block type edition (Repository No.: 05619)

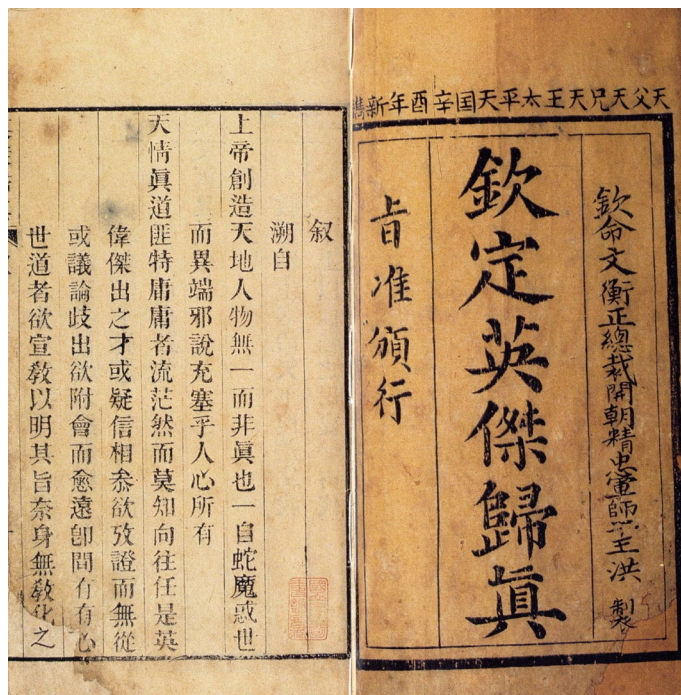
(5) Qing Block Prints



"Pei-wen-zhai yong-wu-shi-xuan" 486 chapters, 64 volumes (Qing), edited by Qing Sheng Zu, 1707 palace edition (Repository No.: 13951)



"Shi-zhu-zhai shu-hua-pu" eight volumes (Ming) By Hu Cheng-yan, Kangxi period (1621-1722), 1621-1644 color chromatograph edition (Repository No.: 06719)



"Ying-jie gui-zhen" one chapter, one volume, (Taiping Heavenly Kingdom) written by He Chun-fa et al, 1861 edition (Repository No.: 15447)

4. Manuscripts of Famous Persons

Early works and the increasing number of manuscripts donated by famous persons and authors are invaluable first-hand sources in researching modern and contemporary issues, and the history of contemporary literature and art. Due to their immense value, these have gradually become one of the important areas in which NCL desires to increase its holdings. Current holdings

include the manuscripts, diaries, and letters of famous contemporaries from historical studies, politics, and literary circles, such as Liang Qichao, Yu Qu yuan, Zheng Zhenduo, and former Directors-general Chiang Fucong and Qu Wanli. In addition the Library also has a large number of inscriptions and marginalia from common thread-bound books.

In recent years, NCL has gone to great lengths to acquire manuscripts of contemporary authors and artists, with amazing results. The Library received several large donations of manuscripts, such as Professor Wei Ziyun's research on *The Plum in the Golden Vase*, as well as letters, calligraphy, sketches, paintings, etc. by poet Zhang Mo, author Zimin, composer Li Zhonghe, and artist Liang Danfeng. Initial estimates put the number of donations at 50,000 items, with new items being received regularly.

In 2013, NCL completed construction of Contemporary Celebrities' Manuscripts database and is now working to provide full color images of these manuscripts and create

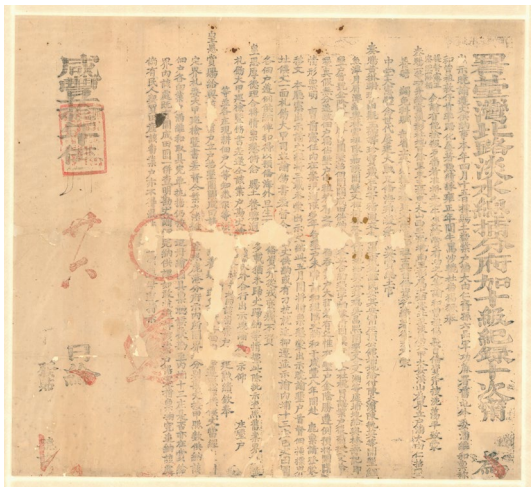
metadata records of them. The database will also incorporate content from the Images of Historical Data on Contemporary Literature system to provide more comprehensive offerings and services.



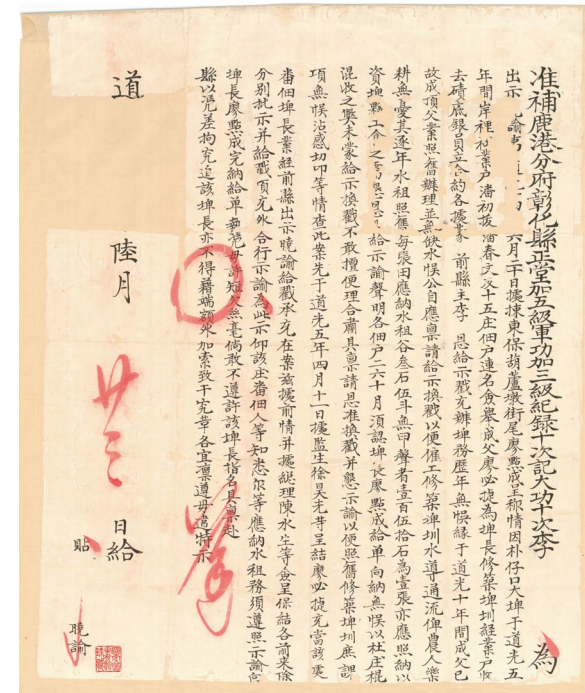
5. Taiwan Archaic Contracts

The NCL has over 2,400 archaic contracts drawn up in Taiwan between 1732 and 1951. The collection includes both official and private contracts covering such matters as land deeds, adoption, marriage, commercial transactions, and even the buying and selling of human beings. These contracts provide insight to social development and gender relations in Taiwan between the early 18th and early 20th centuries.

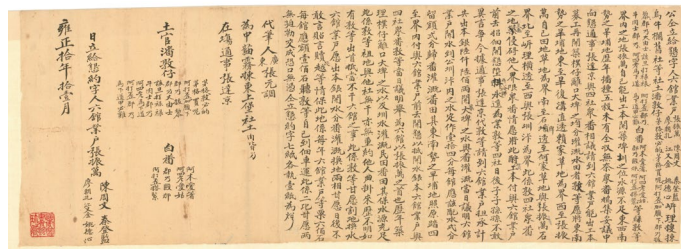
In addition to contracts between Han Chinese parties, the NCL collection includes a large number of contracts signed by indigenous people from tribal communities across Taiwan.



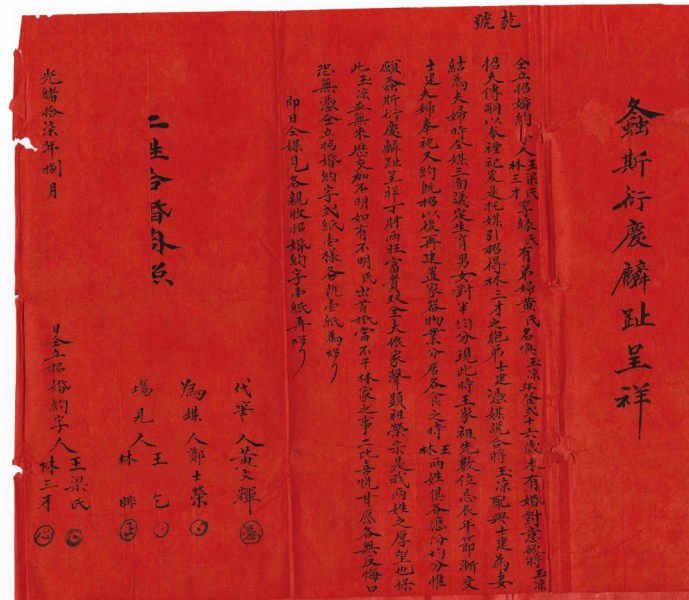
"An official instruction from the official Tung Chih-ning of Danshuei", Danjhang Village (Taichung and Changhua area), 1860, with seal, 60x65cm (Repository No.: A01112)



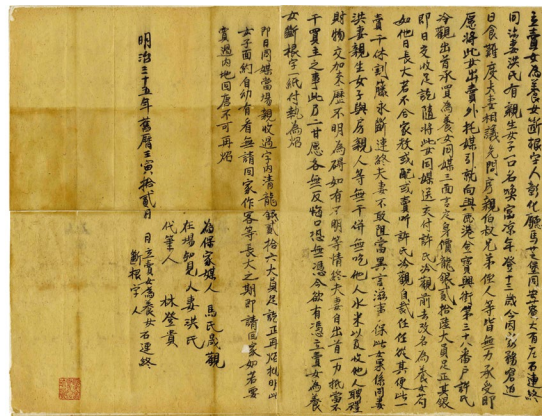
"An official instruction to Liao Tien-cheng of Changhua County", Anli Village (Taichung County), 1831, 65 x 52cm (Repository No.: A01125)



"A six-party development agreement established in Anli, Wunioulan", Jioushe Village (Taichung County), 1732, 25x67cm (Repository No.: A01118)



"Marriage agreement between Wang Liang and Lin Santai" 1891, 29 x 115cm (Repository No.: A02109)



"Shih Lian-chung agrees to sell his daughter for adoption", Dayou Village, Tonganliao, Majhihpao, Changhua Prefecture (Fenyuan Township, Changhua County), 1902, 47 x 62cm (Repository No.: A2114)

6. Taiwan Postcards

There are over 4,000 postcards from the Japanese occupation period in the NCL collection. They cover a broad range of subject matters, including portraits of Han Chinese and aboriginal peoples, traditional customs, old street scenes from the late Qing period, newer city areas, European architecture, passenger steamers, and fairs, presenting a vivid picture of life in Taiwan during the first half of the 20th century.



"Tsou aboriginals of the Dabang tribe play reed zither, nose flute, mouth flute and bow zither" (Repository No.: 2414264)



"An Atayal (Taroko) aboriginal woman with facial tattoos" (Repository No.: 2414489)



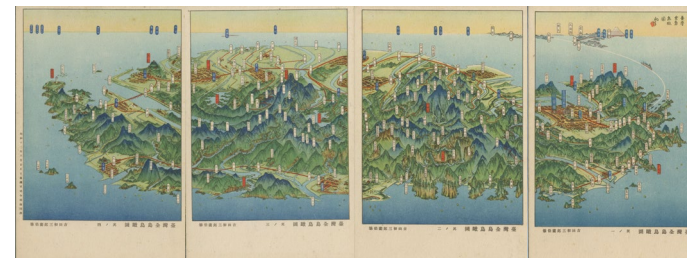
"Taiwan Governor-General Office (Current site of the Presidential Office Building) in Taipei" (Repository No.: 2416447)



"Taipei Hospital (Current site of the old Taiwan University Hospital)" (Repository No.: 2416125)



"Longshan Temple in Taipei" by Chiyoji Yazaki (Repository No.: 2415322)



"Bird's-eye view of Taiwan" (1 ~ 4) by Somezaburo Yoshida (Repository No.: 2415371-2415374)



The above mentioned Chinese rare and precious collection can be accessed through our library's website:

Rare Books & Special Collections

<http://rbook2.ncl.edu.tw/>

Bronze and Stone Rubbings Database

<http://rarebook.ncl.edu.tw/gold/>

Online Exhibition of Special Collections

<http://rarebook.ncl.edu.tw/rbookod/exhibition/>

Taiwan Memory

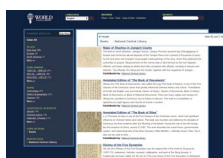
http://memory.ncl.edu.tw/tm_cgi/hypage.cgi?HYPAGE=index_e.hpg

Contemporary Celebrities' Manuscripts

<http://manu.ncl.edu.tw/nclmanuscriptc/nclmanukm>

You could also find our rare book images through the World Digital Library website:

http://www.wdl.org/en/search/?institution=national-central-library&item_type=book



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<http://www.ncl.edu.tw/>

<http://rarebook.ncl.edu.tw/>