

this event as a means to enable these scholars in Taiwan to project Taiwan’s cultural allure onto the international stage. We extend a warm invitation for their return to Taiwan, to become an integral part of our community, and to immerse themselves in the vivacity of Taiwan’s cultural tapestry.”



Scholars make incense bags for the Dragon Boat Festival.

NCL Publications

■ NCL’s Library Exploration of Historical Sources Series 1-4: Salvaging Compilations of Ancient Texts



Published in April 2023
 ISBN 9789576787294
 ISBN 9789576787300
 ISBN 9789576787317
 ISBN 9789576787324

A complete set of four volumes, collected during the period of the National Central Library’s founding between 1940 to 1948, when the Anti-Japanese War moved westward, followed by demobilization

and return to Beijing, in order to avoid the outflow of important classics, an order was issued in two areas—Shanghai’s enemy-occupied districts and Hong Kong—to entrust the private Document Preservation Association secretly to seek and purchase historical materials related to the second-grade project concerning lost illustrations and books, such as administrative documents, correspondence, express mail, collectors’ bibliographies and purchased bibliographies, totaling 965 pieces and 2,420 images. Specifically, Chia-hua Chu and Lih-wu Han from the Sino-British Board of Directors for the Management of Gengzi Reparations’ and Lifu Chen from the Ministry of Education emerged to lead by putting up funding. Fu-tsung Chiang, Senyu Xu, Kung-Ch’o Yeh, Yüan-chi Chang, Shouyong Zhang, Ping-sung Ho, Zhenduo Zheng and others separately carried out the project: the undertaking and originating of the case, Hong Kong and Shanghai’s competition for purchase, the process of the disappearance and return, etc., of historical items and records.

■ NCL’s Library Exploration of Historical Sources Series 5: Salvaging Ancient Heritage Treasures



Published in April 2023
 ISBN 9789576787331

From 1940 to 1941, when the Anti-Japanese War was at its height, a group of insightful people living in the occupied areas of Shanghai spontaneously formed the “Document Preservation Association,” and, with the great support of the Nationalist Government risked in Shanghai and Hong Kong alike secret operations to purchase ancient books frenetically. With insight and courage that transcended the times, they demonstrated the lofty ambition of scholars to serve the country.

During the past two years, I have spent whole days working with book collectors and bibliophiles in the north and south, exhausted my energy and hard work from beginning to end on the pulse of the national culture, and achieved a National Central Library of proud of renown. This book describes the ups and downs of dealing with ten typical bibliophiles during the association's operation to rescue ancient books. Through the sorting of letters and historical library documents, the once obscure historical past was sorted out, and the rare books and precious volumes of various collectors were introduced in essence.

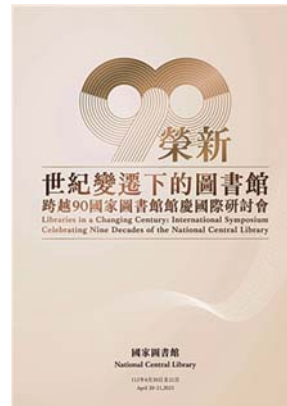
■ NCL Library Exploration of Historical Sources Series 6: Salvaging Key Ancient Figures



Published in April 2023
ISBN 9789576787348

Salvaging Key Ancient Figures collects the biographies of 14 patriots and sages who participated in the task of rescuing ancient books and protecting national literature during the Sino-Japanese War of Resistance. The characters are demarcated by three places, namely Chongqing, Shanghai, and Hong Kong, depending on their tasks or where they lived. Content narratives include images of people, their biographies, important positions and experiences, participation in the process of salvaging ancient books and their specific contributions, and texts are accompanied by historical National Central Library documents, newspapers, and manuscripts of related books or graphical data. We hope to commemorate the achievements of these cultural patriots, and commend the heroic behavior and honor they showed in saving rare ancient books and documents and preserving the lifeline of culture during a difficult time for the country.

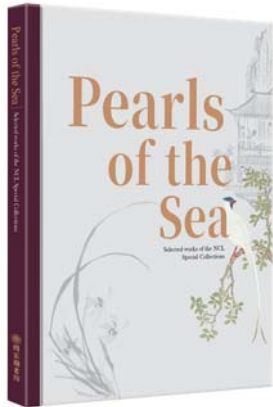
■ Libraries in a Changing Century: International Symposium Celebrating Nine Decades of the National Central Library



Published in April 2023
ISBN 9789576787393

To celebrate the 90th anniversary of the National Central Library, an international symposium entitled “Libraries in a Changing Century: International Symposium Celebrating Nine Decades of the National Central Library” is held from April 20-21, 2023. National librarians from various countries and domestic scholars are invited to attend and give lectures, in order to understand the latest trends in library information from various countries, promote professional cooperation and international exchanges, and further enhance Taiwan's international visibility. Themes of this International Symposium include 1. The Pandemic as an Impetus for Change in Libraries; 2. Smart Technology Leading Libraries into a New World of Service; 3. Libraries Practicing Sustainable Development as a Force for Good in the World; 4. Interregional Exchange Creating New Values for Integrated Library Development.

■ Pearls of the Sea : Selected Works of the NCL Special Collections



Published in April 2023
ISBN 9789576787263

In commemoration of the ninetieth anniversary of the NCL, and in presentation of the extensive curation and meticulous organization of our treasury of valuable ancient texts, a distinctive edition in the form of an English monograph titled Pearls of the Sea is being unveiled.

Within the pages of this volume, a selection of ninety representative works from our collection is introduced. These works are categorized into five main themes, namely handwritten works, woodblock-printed works, those produced using moveable type, hand-illustrated works, and printed illustrated works. These ninety pearls have been compiled for readers to first and foremost enjoy, and guide users to understand the historical heritage and inspire new knowledge. But in one respect, we desire to verify or even supplement the older records of these works, as well as showcasing original materials to assist Sinology research; and in another, by calling attention to developments in printing technologies, we hope to contribute to our overall understanding of the history of book production.

Chinese Studies Symposium

■ The Center for Chinese Studies Holds Academic Seminars for Global Chinese Studies Lectures

The Center for Chinese Studies (CCS) promotes academic exchanges in order to increase interaction between the local and overseas Chinese Studies communities. To this end, the CCS established the

Research Grant for Foreign Scholars in Chinese Studies, which every year assists 20 overseas scholars in coming to Taiwan to conduct research for periods of between 1 to 6 months. Besides hosting Academic Seminars for Global Chinese Studies from time to time at which these scholars can present the fruits of the research, the center also often invites renowned scholars from around the world to visit and deliver lectures. Between April and June, 2023, 8 scholars gave their presentations. Topics and speakers for each session are as follows:

On April 25th, 2023, Prof. Ulug Kuzuoglu, Assistant Professor of History, Washington University in St. Louis, USA, gave the lecture on “Chinese Scripts in the Global Information Age.” At the same day, William Beswick, PhD candidate, University of Oxford, UK, gave the lecture on “ ‘The Openness of Death’: How the Indigenous Peoples in Taiwan Represent Themselves through ‘the Other.’ ”

On May 24th, 2023, Prof. Yoshihisa Amae, Research Fellow of Center for International Reconciliation Studies, Waseda University, Japan, gave the lecture on “Becoming Korean: Repatriation, Decolonization, and Everyday Lives of Ethnic Koreans in Postwar Taiwan.” At the same day, Thiago De Oliveira Braga, PhD candidate, University of California Davis, USA, gave the lecture on “Tea Art and the Politics of Tea Drinking in Taiwan.”

On June 13th, 2023, Christoph Henninger, PhD candidate, Ruprecht-Karls-Universität Heidelberg, Germany, gave the lecture on “Festivals for Local Deities, Spirit Mediumship, and Cultural Heritage in Taiwan.” At the same day, Jiwon Kim, PhD candidate, The University of Tokyo, Japan, gave the lecture on “Imperialist Strategies in Establishing Colonial Universities.”

On June 28th, 2023, Prof. Evan Dawley, Associate Professor of History, Goucher College, USA, gave the lecture on “Ethnogenesis in Colonial Taiwan, 1880s-1950s: Reflections on *Becoming Taiwanese*.” At the same day, Prof. Lorenzo Andolfatto, Senior Researcher of Human Geography Research Unit, University of Fribourg, Switzerland, gave the lecture on “Between Nature and Nation: On the Cultural Politics of National Parks in Taiwan.”