

*from China: Trauma, Memory, and Identity in Modern Taiwan* (Cambridge University Press, 2020) was awarded the Memory Studies Association's First Book Award in 2021. It was also nominated for the International Book Award in history.

In this lecture, Dr. Yang talked about the discussion that resulted after his book was published. He reflected on the main points of the book and his theory on memory. Dr. Yang holds that given current tensions between Taiwan and China, society still is influenced by the remaining emotions of the civil war between the Nationalists and the Communists. However, for those who actually went through this conflict, can they survive in the contemporary field of memories? For whom are these memories still important? Can Taiwan's memory tell us about the academic results of the last resistance the Nationalists and Communists engaged in for China? During the lecture, Dr. Yang shared with those in attendance his views on these questions and engaged in deep discussion with them.



Dr. Yang gave his lecture

### ■ 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 January and March, 2024, 2 scholars gave their presentations. Topics and speakers for each session are as follows:

On February 21th, 2024, Prof. Min Jung, Distinguished Professor of Korean Language & Literature, Hanyang University in Seoul, Korea, gave the lecture on “The Historical Value of the *Dongguo Jiaoyou Shang Jiao Huang Shu* in the Fu Ssu-nien Library.” At the same day, Prof. Kwangsu Lee, HK Research Professor of Center for interdisciplinary Research on China, Kookmin University in Seoul, Korea, gave the lecture on “Comparison of Taiwanese University Students’ Understanding of Mainland China and Korean University Students’ Understanding of North Korea.”

## News from Taiwan Libraries

### ■ National Library of Public Information and Three Major National Art and Cultural Venues form the Inter-Disciplinary “Science, Drama, Art and Libraries Alliance”

On the initiative of, and with the planning of, the National Library of Public Information, the National Taichung Theater, the National Taiwan Museum of Fine Arts, and the National Museum of Natural Science have been invited to form the “Science, Drama, Art and Libraries Alliance.” Representatives of the four major art and cultural venues signed a memorandum of cooperation for this purpose on January 31. Through cross-venue and interdisciplinary cooperation, they will create a shared experience platform for science, art, culture, and reading jamborees, and forge diverse interdisciplinary services. From January 31st to February 28th, the first show will feature “Dinosaurs,” to connect with the launch of a joint “Follow the Dinosaurs Where? Science, Drama, Art and Libraries” event. The “Science, Drama, Art and Libraries Alliance” will drive more creative

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cooperation projects in the future, including experience sharing in sustainable development and net-zero carbon emissions, etc.

### ■ National Taiwan Library Borrowing Statistics: the Number of E-book Borrowings Once Again Surpasses the Number of Physical Book Borrowings

According to statistics from the National Taiwan Library, the total number of library visitors in 2023 reached 2,027,158, and the number of physical service visits increased by more than 26.5 percent. The total number of books borrowed was 1,360,473, a slight decrease of 3.45 percent compared with 2022, and the number of physical books borrowed throughout the year was nearly 630,000, accounting for 46.24 percent. More than 730,000 e-books were borrowed, accounting for 53.76 percent. The National Taiwan Library stated that e-book borrowing exceeded that of physical books in 2021, and fell slightly behind in 2022. In 2023, the borrowing volume of e-books once again exceeded that of physical books, showing that the digital reading trend is unstoppable. In addition, the number of physical book borrowings has decreased, but the actual number of people visiting the library has increased significantly. This reflects the purpose of people using library resources and space, not just for reading; showing diversified development

and such promotional activities as exhibitions and lectures, etc., becoming purposes for readers to enter the library.

### ■ Hualien City Library Launches “Healing Library”

As the pressure of modern life continues to increase, people are increasingly paying attention to mental health. Hualien City Library launched the "Healing Library" in March with a series of emotional healing activities, combining the library's collection resources with emotional healing activities, including an emotional healing book exhibition at the municipal library, displaying picture books on emotional education as well as books on psychology, self-growth, meditation, etc. for readers to borrow. Reading books or picture books can not only help children understand various emotions and learn how to express and adjust emotions, but also allow participants to experience the methods and effects of emotional healing personally.

I-lin Chen, director of Hualien City Library, said that the purpose of "Healing Library" activities is to make more people realize the importance of emotional healing and learn to manage their emotions effectively, and that the expectation was that the public would learn from them more about the self, so that parents and children can understand each other's emotions.