



*The "A Shared Sky" ancient books and documents exhibition held at the UM Main Library*

In conjunction with the exhibition, the National Central Library also held a "Taiwan Sinology Lecture" and invited Professor Jin-chu Huang, former professor of the Department of Chinese Literature at National Chung Cheng University, to give a lecture entitled "The Fate of a Female Journalist in the Late Qing Dynasty: The Life and Story of Hsieh-fen Ch'en." Through the life journey of this pioneering female journalist in the late Qing Dynasty, the book emphasizes her advocacy of women's rights, practice of women's autonomy, and her shift from women's education to revolutionary thought, ultimately resulting in her death from depression because of the constraints of the patriarchal system. The speech was rich in content and received enthusiastic responses, fully demonstrating Professor Huang's academic depth and charisma.

The National Central Library will continue to use cultural diplomacy as a bridge to promote in-depth exchanges in knowledge and humanities between Taiwan and the rest of the world through collection and academic promotion, so that everyone can experience the touching and charming ancient book culture that transcends time and space.



*The "Taiwan Sinology Lecture" which Professor Jin-chu Huang, former professor of the Department of Chinese Literature at National Chung Cheng University, was invited to deliver*

## Events

### ■ NCL Signs Collaborative Agreement with Institute of Modern History at Academia Sinica to Digitize Ancient Books and Exchange e-Resources

The National Central Library has long been dedicated to the digitization of rare books and archival materials, while actively expanding its collaborations with government agencies and universities. The partnership established on May 26, 2025, with the Institute of Modern History at Academia Sinica, represents the Library's first major collaboration in recent years with Academia Sinica that integrates both physical collections and digital archival files. This initiative carries profound significance.

The Institute of Modern History at Academia Sinica (hereafter referred to as IMH), is focused on the study of the multifaceted historical transformations of modern China. In recent years, IMH has also actively engaged in archival digitization, establishing numerous databases with remarkable success. This collaboration with the National Central Library not only supports the digitization of rare books but also involves the exchange of existing digital archives. The scope of cooperation encompasses significant documents across various fields from the period of the Nationalist Government, providing highly valuable resources for the study of modern Chinese history and serving as an indispensable foundation for future research.

Looking ahead, we hope that through the digitization and reciprocal sharing of unique collections preserved at the Kuo Ting-ye Library, these precious materials may be safeguarded and passed down, opening new horizons for historical scholarship and public education alike.

In her remarks, Director-General Wang expressed her gratitude to Deputy Director-Generals Jen-shu Wu and Ling-ling Lien, as well as Director Ling-chun Lin and their colleagues, for their support and dedication to this collaborative project. The Kuo Ting-ye Library of the Institute of Modern History is renowned both domestically and internationally as a professional research library specializing in the collection of materials on modern Chinese history. This collaborative project not only ensures the digital preservation of valuable pre-1949 holdings from the Kuo Ting-ye Library but also facilitates the exchange of its existing digital archives, which include a wide range of historical sources on Chinese history and early KMT documents.

Moving forward, the National Central Library will make the digitized results of both parties' rare book holdings and archival materials accessible through the "Taiwan eBook database, thereby underscoring the lasting significance of digital preservation and its role in sustaining cultural heritage.



國家圖書館王館長致詞

*NCL Director-General Wang during her remarks*

In her remarks, Deputy Director-General Wu emphasized that the old books involved in this collaboration are extremely valuable, with some even absent from major databases in mainland China. She also expressed gratitude to colleagues at the National Central Library, who consistently assist in promoting the publications of the Institute of Modern History during international exchanges. The core value of digitization lies in preservation and accessibility. Through collaboration with the National Central Library, not only can these precious documents be properly preserved and widely utilized, but under the premise of sustainable transmission, this initiative can further foster in-depth global academic and cultural exchange, collectively contributing to the preservation of cultural heritage and the advancement of scholarship. Beginning with digitization, this collaboration sets the stage for closer future efforts in promoting cultural materials, allowing the world to recognize Taiwan's achievements in this field of scholarship.



國家圖書館與中央研究院近代史研究所交換合作協議書

*The signed collaborative agreements*

Following the signing ceremony, IMH also held further discussions with the Library on academic collaboration. This partnership is not limited to the digitization and exchange of documents; it also aspires to foster joint activities such as lectures or publications. Such initiatives aim to enrich scholarly exchange between both institutions and lay a solid foundation for future academic collaboration.



國家圖書館同仁與近代史研究所同仁進行學術交流

*Group photo following the exchange between the National Central Library and the Institute of Modern History at Academia Sinica*

## ■ Yun-wu Wang Foundation Donates Rare Books to the National Central Library, Enriching the Holdings of NCL's Southern Branch

The National Central Library, dedicated to the preservation of cultural assets and the promotion of scholarly research, is committed to the acquisition, organization, and safeguarding of bibliographic resources, while also fostering a culture of reading among the public. Today, the Library received a generous donation from the Yun-wu Wang Foundation, consisting of more than 18,400 volumes from the personal collection of Mr. Yun-wu Wang. This extensive collection includes a wide range of Chinese and Western works, as well as 103 rare classical texts. These treasured materials will become part of the holdings of the Library's Southern Branch, thereby enriching its resources for academic research and public reading once the branch officially opens.

NCL Director-General Han-ching Wang remarked that Mr. Wang Yun-wu was a distinguished educator, statesman, and publisher, and a key figure in shaping the knowledge system of the Chinese-speaking world. The donation of Mr. Wang's personal book and manuscript collection by the Yun-wu Wang Foundation will be preserved at the Library's Southern Branch, serving as an invaluable resource for scholarly research and cultural services. Among the rare books in this donation, the earliest dates back to the 10th year of the Xuande reign in the Ming dynasty (1435), *Huian xiansheng wuyan shicao* (originally cataloged as *Huian shichao xu*). Other notable works include the Qing dynasty titles *Xiao wanjuan zhai jingjin gao* and *Han bei yinwei kao*, as well as Japanese translations from the Taishō and Meiji periods such as *Wayaku Rōshi* (Japanese Translation of Laozi) and *Wayaku Sōshi* (Japanese Translation of Zhuangzi). Together, these works illustrate the rich intersections of Chinese, Japanese, and Western cultures. The