



Director-General Han-Ching Wang of the National Central Library and President Hui-ping Chen of National Tainan University signed the "Cooperation on Digitization of Taiwan's Ancient Books and Documents"

National Tainan University was founded in 1899. Its predecessor was Tainan Normal School. It is one of the most historic centers for teacher training in Taiwan. The ceremony coincided with its 127th anniversary. The University of Tainan has long been committed to the cultivation and preservation of local cultural and educational resources, and has actively invested in the research and promotion of library resources. This collaboration will prioritize the digitization of typical old books in the collection, including rare documents, such as "Granulated Sugar Manufacturing Method" (1905), "Taiwan Railway Taitung Line" (1917), "Taiwan Postal History" (1918), and "Tainan City Revised Town Names and Places" (1919). These documents cover industrial development, transportation construction, and urban governance, and are of great academic value for understanding Taiwan's modern social changes.

Director-General Han-Ching Wang said in her speech: "What we collect is not only books and knowledge, but also our lives. These life trajectories should be recorded and preserved." She also mentioned that the National Library South Branch is expected to open next year and will focus on biotechnology, emerging technologies, children and education, and historical research. We hope to collaborate with the University of Tainan in the future, not only in the digitization of old books, but also in the integration of knowledge in various fields.

In her speech, President Hui-ping Chen quoted the saying, "How can we allow history to turn to ashes?" to express her emphasis on document preservation. She stressed that the digitization of precious cultural relics amounts not only to respect for history, but also to responsibility to future generations. "Digital archives have profound significance, both for contemporary research and for the future preservation of history." She also thanked the National Central Library for facilitating this collaboration and looked forward to more in-depth exchanges and cooperation opportunities in the future.

The National Central Library would like to

express special thanks to President Hui-ping Chen, Director of Library Resources Tsung-hsi Chen, and the library team for their strong support, which made this collaboration go smoothly. In the future, the National Central Library will continue to expand its cooperative network, deepen cross-sector collaboration, and promote the digital preservation and knowledge sustainability of Taiwan's cultural assets, allowing more people to learn about history, connect with culture, and inspire innovation through the internet.

■ **The National Central Library and National Taichung University of Education Jointly Promote the Digital Preservation of Ancient Books and Documents, Marking a New Milestone in Knowledge Inheritance**

On June 25, the National Central Library and National Taichung University of Education held a signing ceremony for the "Taiwan Ancient Books and Documents Digitization Cooperation." Han-Ching Wang, Director-General of the National Central Library, and Pai-ch'en Kuo, President of the National Taichung University of Education, jointly signed the cooperation agreement, officially launching the digital preservation of National Taichung University of Education's library's precious ancient books. This collaboration is not only an important milestone in the National Central Library's mission to preserve cultural assets but also responds to the trend of sustainable development of contemporary digital humanities and knowledge, setting a new benchmark for the preservation and revitalization of Taiwan's documents.

National Taichung University of Education was founded in 1899. Its predecessor was Tainan Normal School. With its long history, it is one of the most historic centers for teacher training in Taiwan. The school has been deeply engaged in education, humanities and language research for many years and has achieved rich results. The library of National Taichung University of Education houses over 1,000 old books, including the work "The Art of Teaching," published in 1891 by the first president, Kunimasa Kinoshita. The old books on Taiwan-related themes that were digitized in cooperation with the National Library on this occasion include "Normal School Arithmetic Textbook", "Elementary Science Teaching Book", "Normal School Physical Education Textbook", etc. The most typical of the digitized documents in this collaborative project is the Japanese-Taiwanese Dictionary published in 1907. The dictionary was compiled by Japanese scholar Naoyoshi Ogawa. It is the first dictionary in Taiwan's history to systematically organize the Taiwanese language and includes the first language distribution map of Taiwan. It has profound linguistic and historical research value. After digitization, it will become an important reference material for domestic and foreign academics to study

Taiwan's language and culture.

Ogawa Naoyoshi (1869–1947) was an editor in the Education Department of the Governor-General's Office during the Japanese colonial period and a professor at Taipei Imperial University. He dedicated himself to the investigation and research of Taiwanese Chinese dialects and Austronesian languages. He is known as a pioneer of Taiwanese linguistics. The work which best represents him, "Japan-Taiwan Dictionary," has had a profound influence on the linguistics community. Academician Li Ren-gui of the Academia Sinica even called him a "pioneer of Taiwanese linguistics."

Director-General Han-Ching Wang said in her speech: "National Taichung University of Education has played a vital role in Taiwan's education, humanities, and arts for a century. Its profound historical heritage and cultural contributions cannot be ignored. This first collaboration between the National Central Library and Taichung University of Education is an important starting point. We look forward to continuing to expand multi-faceted cooperation in the future to jointly protect Taiwan's intellectual assets."

President Pai-ch'en Kuo said that National Taichung University of Education is honored to join the ranks of digitizers of Taiwan's ancient books and documents and to contribute to cultural preservation. He also said he hoped that this cooperation could be extended to local revitalization projects such as USR (University Social Responsibility) in the future, further deepening the connection between the school and the local area and social contributions. He especially thanked the National Central Library for its trust and for its invitation, which enabled the launch of this epoch-making collaboration.

Looking ahead, in addition to continuing to promote the digital preservation of old books, the two parties will also combine resources such as on-campus academic units and the Lin Chih-Chu Memorial Hall to expand cross-domain cooperation and jointly build a complete digital knowledge system of Taiwan's cultural assets, allowing historical wisdom to be passed on sustainably through technology.



Director-General Han-Ching Wang of the National Central Library and President Pai-ch'en Kuo of National Taichung University of Education are photographed with copies of the agreement

■ The National Central Library's Digital Audio-Visual Service System Includes the Teco Technology Foundation's Amazing Music and Dance and Other Indigenous Audio-Visual Resources

The National Central Library has partnered with the TECO Foundation to collect audio-visual materials, including Indigenous music and dance performances and ancient folk songs, on the "Digital Audio-Visual Service System" (<https://dava.ncl.edu.tw/>). Simply access the "Digital Audio-Visual Service System" and click "Exclamation Mark - Indigenous Peoples' Sustainable Education Project" in the selected theme area to view precious audio-visual resources authorized by the TECO Foundation for the National Central Library's collection and public broadcast. This is the first large-scale audio-visual licensing cooperation since the National Library's "Digital Audio-visual Service System" was launched in September 2024. The high-definition audio-visual archive resources provided by the TECO Foundation vividly reproduce the results of the integration of Taiwan's indigenous traditional culture with international art. These results have been nominated for the Golden Melody Awards for Traditional Arts and Music eight times. Among them, the 2020 "Amazing Music and Dance" won the Best Traditional Performing Arts Audio-Visual Publication Award at the 32nd Golden Melody Awards.

Since 2003, the TECO Foundation has been involved in the "Exclamation Mark - Indigenous Peoples' Sustainable Education Project," and "Exclamation Mark - Taiwan Indigenous Peoples' Music and Dance Feast" is the most important annual performance of the project. The Foundation has long been deeply involved in tribal work, supporting more than ten ethnic groups and more than forty tribes or school teams, helping them establish a teaching system that is people-oriented and rooted in culture. In 2005, "Amazing Music and Dance" began to hold performances of its achievements and transformed into theater form in 2010, encouraging the team to challenge themselves on a professional stage. This is not only an exhibition, but also a platform for each team to build their production, performance, cultural preservation and revitalization capabilities. Through meticulously designed programming, ancient Aboriginal songs, dances, and rituals are presented to the audience in a spirit of "returning to nature," hoping that Taiwan's traditional Aboriginal culture can connect with international art, allowing these ancient songs, which "only have language but no written text or music," to be passed down.

Every year, "Amazing Music and Dance" will present traditional music and dance from different ethnic groups, such as the Paiwan, Bunun, Tsou, and Amis. The program content delves into the traditional songs, dances and rituals of various ethnic groups,