

in the renovated old Jhutian Train Station, has a collection of over 6,000 books donated by Dr. Ikegami, including books and magazines on society, history, language and other topics.



*The Dr. Ichiro Ikegami Library has a comfortable rest area
(Photo by Wang Yi-chin)*



All of the library books were donated from Japan. (Photo by Wang Yi-chin)

Dr. Ikegami was a Japanese national who lived in Jhutian from 1943 to 1945, before returning to Japan after the war. He returned to inaugurate the library

with his wife at a ceremony on January 16, 2001, marking his 91st birthday. Dr. Ikegami passed away only two months after visiting Taiwan, but he lives on in the memory of the people of Jhutian. (Chinese text adapted from the report by Wang Yi-chin)

■ *National Taiwan Library Opens "Book Hospital"*

The National Taiwan Library (NTL) opened Asia's first "book hospital" with facilities to restore acid and pest damaged books. Books are treated with a book acid removal system imported from Germany, extending their life by about a hundred years.

The 90-plus-year-old NTL has many precious works from the Japanese occupation period and Southeast Asian resources with considerable research value. The library is preserving these works with an array of advance equipment at the "book hospital," including the acid removal system, refrigeration device to remove pests, and instruments to test paper moisture, pH value, and paper thickness. Acidity removal is a particular benefit in book preservation, since acid makes it easy for pages to break and fall out. The library will first restore Taiwan documents in its collection, and later may provide commissioned restoration services for the National Palace Museum, Office of the President, and National Museum of History. (Chinese text excerpted from a June 27, 2007, report by Chen Ying-chu on the Broadcasting Corporation of China website)

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