

### ■ *NCL Book Exhibition and Book Donation at the National Library of Vietnam*

The National Central Library (NCL) held a book donation ceremony and book exhibition at the National Library of Vietnam (NLV) on December 3, 2008. The two events aimed to strengthen exchanges and cooperation with Vietnamese libraries and expand access to Chinese language books for the general public and researchers in Vietnam.

The NCL was represented at the book donation ceremony by Ms. Yu Hsiao-ming and Dr. Armande Liao. The ceremony was attended by about 50 people, including officials of Vietnam's Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism and Ms. Chu Tuyet Lan, director of the Han Nom Studies Library under the Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences. The local news media was also on hand to report the event. The books were presented on behalf of the NCL by Mr. Liang Ying-pin of Taiwan's representative office in Vietnam and received by NLV Director-general Pham The Khang. The 481 donated works (490 volumes) included government and private sector publications on philosophy, religion, natural science, social sciences, economy and trade, business management, technology, and library and information science. In a speech during the ceremony, Representative Liang said that books are



*The front entrance of the National Library of Vietnam (Photo provided by National Library of Vietnam)*



*The NCL book donation was presented by Mr. Liang Ying-pin (left) of Taiwan's representative office in Vietnam to the NLV, represented by NLV Director Pham The Khang. (Photo provided by National Library of Vietnam)*

the most precious assets of mankind. The book donation, he added, represents Taiwan's wish to share its knowledge, experience and friendship with Vietnam. In recent years, Taiwan and Vietnam have developed closer trade and investment ties. Cooperation between the two sides has moved steadily forward in education, technology, tourism, academic and cultural affairs. Publication exchanges not only help libraries to build their collections, but also provide an invaluable resource for promoting mutual understanding of the society, history and customs of a country.

After the book donation ceremony, Director Khang accompanied Representative Liang, Ms. Yu and Dr. Liao on a tour of the NLV's reader services facilities. The visitors learned about the use of modern information technology by the library to preserve and digitally convert special collection materials at the NLV, as well as cooperation between the NLV and private sector to improve the library facilities.

### ■ *Asia National Book Donation Plan Picks NCL Recipient Library*

The National Central Library (NCL) was selected as a recipient library under Korea's "Asia National Book Donation Plan." Also known as "Window to Korea," the plan was created by Korea's National Assembly Library to promote cooperation

and awareness of Korea in other Asian countries. The National Assembly Library will donate about 500 books annually to each of eight national libraries in Asia from 2008 to 2012. The NCL will receive about 2,500 books under the plan, including works on political science, economics, sociology, culture and technology. Each of the donated books will have a "Window to Korea" logo. Recipient libraries are encouraged to display the books in a special shelf or reading room. The libraries are also required to promote the resources to readers through their websites, library introductions or other related channels.

The National Assembly Library maintains publication exchange relations with 326 institutions around the world, including close ties with the NCL. Over the past five years (2003 to 2008), the NCL has received 689 books and 1,613 periodicals through its exchange relations with the National Assembly Library. In 2008, the NCL donated about 2,000 publications from the Cabinet-level Research, Development and Evaluation Commission to the Korean library.

### ■ *Lan Pi-shan Painting Donation and Exhibition*

Ceremonies for the donation of a painting by Lan Pi-shan and the opening of the "Lantern Festival



*NCL Director-general Karl Min Ku presents a certificate of appreciation to Mr. Lan Pi-shan (right)*  
(Photo by Yi Ming-ke)



*Participants in the painting donation ceremony (Photo by Yi Ming-ke)*

Painting Exhibition" were held at 10:00 a.m. on February 9, 2009 at the NCL's Arts and Audiovisual Center. The library is especially indebted to Gen. Ko Tun-hua, national policy advisor to the president, for assistance in arranging the donation of Mr. Lan's landscape painting "Intoxicating Autumnal Scene" and the painting exhibition. Mr. Lan is an internationally acclaimed ink painter. He also holds positions as the chairman of the Taiwan Ink Painting Association and advisor to the Art and Cultural Society of the Buddha's Light International Association. Over the years, Mr. Lan's paintings have been displayed at major art exhibitions at the National Museum of Modern Art in Tokyo and Beijing Art Museum. His works have also been displayed at Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Hall, National Dr. Sun Yat-sen Memorial Hall, and many other venues in Taiwan. Mr. Lan is also among the prominent artists included in the "Dictionary of Major Chinese Artists." In 2009, Mr. Lan is arranging a global touring exhibition of his works, selections from which were included in the exhibition at the Arts and Audiovisual Center.

Since opening on October 27, 2008, the Arts and Audiovisual Center has served as a repository of art and AV resources in the NCL collection. It has also played an important role in promoting culture and arts by arranging art exhibitions and other events. In support of this mission, Mr. Lan provided over 30 paintings for the center's first exhibition. Continuing until March 31, the exhibition presents a visual feast representing both the continuity and innovations of traditional Chinese painting.