



Different types of libraries provide support for different types of societies and organizations. A national library naturally provides reading support, information support and knowledge support services on a national scale." The entire staff of the NCL should therefore devote its full efforts to meeting the challenges of the new century.

To this end, and in order to better inform the public of the library's operations, the NCL published its first-ever annual report. Entitled the *National Central Library 2008 Annual Report: Celebrating 75 Years*, the report is arranged into chapters offering a glimpse at the library's achievements in the areas of annual work plans and utilization of government budget and social resources, while also embodying the principle of open government information. (Chinese text by Wu Ying-mei)

■ *Agrarian Life in Early Taiwan: A Collection of Photographs by He Hui-kuang*

Photographer He Hui-kuang opens a window to rural life in Taiwan's Yunlin, Chiayi, and Nantou counties during the 1970s and 80s in a series of 148 photographs donated in digital form to the NCL. In order to bring these images to a wider audience, the library recently published a selection of these photos in an album titled *Agrarian Life in Early Taiwan: A Collection of Photographs by He Hui-kuang*. This is the second album of old photographs on life in early Taiwan to be produced by the NCL since the publication of "*Photographic Memories: Historic Photos of Taiwan (Vol. 1)*."

The cover of Agrarian Life in Early Taiwan: A Collection of Photographs by He Hui-kuang



A self-portrait of He Hui-kuang

In these photos, Mr. He has captured portraits agrarian life in Taiwan, from people and events to culture and the natural environment, framing the ordinary in a way that brings the subjects vividly to life. Fishermen, elderly women, homes, work and rest, clothing, weddings, funerals, landscapes, and temple activities all immortalized under Mr. He's lens, taking one back across time to the Taiwan of old. (Chinese text by Sung Mei-chen)

■ *Taichung during the Japanese Occupation Period*

Taichung during the Japanese Occupation Period is the volume 3 in a series of Images of Taiwan. This series include *Taipei during the Japanese Occupation Period* and *Tainan during the Japanese Occupation Period*.