

News from Taiwan Libraries

■ *Taiwan Studies Lecture*

The National Taiwan Library held six Taiwan studies lectures from July to December 2009. Topics included: the Rice and Sugar Colonial System during the Japanese Occupation Period; Ethnic Gene Studies in Taiwan; Public Health Development in Contemporary Taiwan; Deity Worship in Taiwan; Historical Figures in Taiwan; and Historical Studies of Post-war Politics in Taiwan. (source: National Central Library, Taiwan branch, website)

■ *Taiwanese History through the Shutter*

The National Central Library, Taiwan branch, held an exhibition on "Taiwanese History through the Shutter" at National Taichung Library (NTL) and National Cheng Kung University Library on August 19 to October 4.

The NTL was established in 1914 as the Taiwan Governor-General Office's Library, and its collection still contains books and documents from that earlier period. This exhibition focused on the historical materials in the NTL collection and the "Japanese Occupation Period Taiwan Document Full-text Image System." The exhibition consisted of eight categories: the Japanese expedition against Taiwan and Prince Kitashirakawa Yoshihisa; visits to Taiwan by imperial princes and imperial family members; construction and public works; famous historic sites



The exhibition at National Taichung Library. (Photo provided by Huang Wenyu)

and local images; daily live images and fairs; mountains and national parks; aboriginal resistance to the Japanese and others.

The purpose of the exhibition was to promote NTL's rare collection, enhance understanding of Taiwan's history, improve public access to Taiwan historical resources, and thereby support Taiwan history programs and maximize the benefits of historical materials. (Chinese text by Huang Wenyu)



The exhibition at National Cheng Kung University Library. (Photo provided by Huang Wenyu)

■ *NTL Works on New NT\$2 Billion Home*

The National Taichung Library broke ground on a new NT\$2 billion home this September, with work anticipated to wrap up in 2012. The new facility will house an expanded collection of two million volumes, while the old building will become a branch of the library.

NTL Director-General Su Chung said that the current library building was built in 1975. The facilities are showing their age and space is limited. The new building will have seven floors, including two below ground, and a total floor area of 41,000 square meters. The space will be planned into areas for reader services, collection, and information access. With the completion of the new library, Taichung City will have three world-class spaces for art and culture, along with the National Museum of Natural Science and National Taiwan Museum of Fine Arts. (Text translated from the United Daily News)