

series of historic Taiwan postcards from the Japanese occupation period. *Maritime Transport in the Japanese Period* presents a collection of over 200 postcards in the NCL collection related to the maritime industry in Taiwan during Japan's occupation of Taiwan (1895~1945), as well as related information on ports and shipping at that time. Edited by NCL staff, the book introduces ports and the development of shipping lines, with separate sections focusing on trade ports, port lighthouses and other navigation facilities, and the development of trade and transportation networks from traditional to modern times. Readers can follow the shifting center of Taiwan's maritime industry from Anping (Tainan) and Danshui (Taipei County) to Keelung and Kaohsiung, as well as further understand the development of Taiwan's ports, shipping and maritime industry in modern times.

■ *Yuan Period Black and Red Ink Reproduction the Diamond Sutra*



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ISBN 978-957-678-515-3 (12.5×33.2 cm)

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Books distill the wisdom of humanity through the ages, and rare books are one of the defining elements of the National Central Library (NCL). The library has over 12,000 manuscripts and block print books, totaling nearly 130,000 volumes.

The block printed works number nearly 8,000, including 201 works from the Song period, 5 from the Jin period, 230 from the Yuan period, over 6,000 from the Ming period, and one copy of the Jiaxing Tripitaka. The remainder is made up of movable type texts and rare block prints that were taken to Korea, Japan and Vietnam during the Qing period.

The Diamond Sutra is the 577th division of the Mahā-prajñāpāramitā Sutra. There are 6 major translations, the most accepted of which is the work of Master Kumārajīva.

The Wanli period of the Ming dynasty (1573~1620) was a prolific time for the production of color process printing. The NCL's edition of the Diamond Sutra is a dichromatic (black and red) print that proves its provenance and makes it a rare resource for the study of the history of printing in China. Some scholars believe that this volume was printed with separate pressings for each color, similar to later day color process printing. Looking at the original work with naked eye, it is apparent that separate printing processes were used, a technique that is somewhat cruder than later color printing methods and represents an inevitable stage in the development of printing technology.

In order to promote its rare book collection, the NCL has published a reproduction edition of the Diamond Sutra, making this rare work available through exchanges with major libraries around the world.

LIS Seminars

■ *The Conference on the e-publishing of academic resource and application between Taiwan and mainland China*

Host Organizations: Library Association of the Republic of China (Taiwan), Interlibrary cooperation Association, National Taiwan Normal University Library, and China Knowledge Resource Integrated Database (CNKI)

Meeting Time: 14 June

Meeting Location: National Taiwan Normal University

■ ***The Conference on the e-publishing of academic resource and application between Taiwan and mainland China***

Host Organizations: NCL Center of Chinese Study, College of International Studies and Education for Oversea Chinese, National Taiwan Normal University

Meeting Time: 24, 25 June

Meeting Location: National Central Library

■ ***The Evolution of invisible Readers V.S. The Application of Future e-Resources***

Host Organizations: National Cheng Kung University Library, Feng Chia University Library, Elsevier Taiwan

Meeting Time & Location:

23 June / Feng Chia University Library

24 June / National Cheng Kung University

25 June / GIS NTU convention center

■ ***10th Cross Strait Library & Information Science Academic Conference***

Host Organizations: Chinese Association of Library & Information Science Education, Department of Information Management, Nanjing University, National Central Library, Cheng Shiu University, MeiHo University, National Cheng Kung University, and National PingTung University of Science and Technology

Meeting Time: 5-7 July

Meeting Location: Nanjing, China

■ ***Creative technical and vocational college library management seminar***

Host Organizations: China University of Technology Library, National Kaohsiung University of Applied Sciences Library

Meeting Time: 13 July

Meeting Location: China University of Technology

■ ***The Foresight Conference on library e-books in Asia***

Host Organizations: National Kaohsiung University of Applied Sciences Library

Meeting Time: 15 July

Meeting Location: National Kaohsiung University of Applied Sciences Library

■ ***8th Cross Strait Children and Middle-Primary Schools' Libraries Academic Conference***

Host Organizations: Library Association of the Republic of China (Taiwan), National Taichung University

Meeting Time: 23-24 August

Meeting Location: National Taichung University

News from Taiwan Libraries

■ ***National Good Book Exchange Day***

The seventh "National Good Book Exchange Day" was held at Culture Square on July 17. Organized by the National Taichung Library (NTL) with guidance from the Ministry of Education, the event was joined by 395 public libraries in 25 counties and cities across Taiwan.

In addition to the book exchange activity, a special exhibition, Q&A prize giveaway, crayon coloring, and joke telling activity were arranged to mark the centennial of the death of the father of American literary humor, Mark Twain.

NTL Director-general Lu Chun-chiao, Section Chief Chen Ying-fang of the Research, Development and Evaluation Commission, and Taichung representative for Linking Publishing Company Mr. Tang Fu-nien jointly attended the opening ceremony. The event sponsor also arranged a concert and coffee service to set a relaxing mood for reading.

About 50,000 books were provided for the exchange activity this year. The books were delivered free of charge by Taiwan Pelican to libraries with fewer books and libraries in remote areas to ensure a sufficient volume of books were available for exchange in these areas and help bridge the urban-rural gap in reading resources.