

East Asian Library Newsletter

News from the Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library

<https://east.library.utoronto.ca/east-asian-library-newsletter>



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CHENG YU TUNG EAST ASIAN LIBRARY'S WINTER & SPRING HIGHLIGHTS

By Hana Kim, Director, Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library

After navigating through the long and challenging period of the COVID-19 pandemic, we have been delighted to find a sense of normalcy and connection returning to the Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library during the winter and spring seasons. It is with great joy that we reflect on the meaningful moments we have experienced, providing support to our university and local communities. At the East Asian Library, we are committed to advancing the University's scholarship and fostering cultural understanding. This dedication is exemplified through our extensive range of outreach events and robust support for faculty and students. Our programming includes lectures, talks, panels, performances, and more. These events explore various facets of East Asian cultures, history, and traditions, shedding light on Asian Canadian experiences and addressing the ongoing fight against anti-Asian racism. With genuine enthusiasm, we are excited to share highlights from our recent endeavours, celebrating the enriching experiences we have had the privilege to share with our remarkable community.

U of T Families Celebrate Cultural Diversity at the Lunar New Year



Above: Guest Speaker Arlene Chan explains the Lantern Parade and prepares for the lantern procession led by the children (Image credit: The Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library)

WINTER & SPRING HIGHLIGHTS (CONT.)

In partnership with the University's Family Care Office, the Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library hosted an event on January 27, 2023 to celebrate the Lunar New Year with the University community and its families. The Lunar New Year holds immense significance in numerous East Asian and Southeast Asian cultures, each with its own unique customs and timings of celebration. The event provided an enjoyable afternoon filled with delectable Asian cuisine, engaging activities, and informative presentations. Esteemed guest speakers from the local community and the university, including Arlene Chan, Sean Chen, Kyongbin Kim, Kristina Dy-Liacco, Lobsang Dondrup, and Hy Van Luong, shared insights into the distinct ways people observe the Lunar New Year in China, Taiwan, South Korea, Tibet, and Vietnam.

Children enthusiastically participated in educational activities such as learning about zodiac signs, engaging in colouring projects, crafting lanterns, practicing calligraphy, solving Lunar New Year crosswords, and expressing their wishes on the community wish board. The event concluded with a delightful lantern procession led by the children.

One of the primary objectives of the event was to provide an inclusive platform for celebrating and introducing diverse Lunar New Year traditions from East Asian and Southeast Asian cultures. By promoting cultural awareness and understanding of these traditions, we aimed to foster a sense of belonging for University of Toronto community members and their families during this festive period.

The Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library Resources Access Grant Program (COVID-19) Scholar Talk: Exploring Neo-Confucian Learning and Knowledge Culture (1200-1700)



Above: Screen capture of the virtual talk by Dr. Lianbin Dai (Image credit: The Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library)

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the East Asian Library provided support for faculty and doctoral students in the field of East Asian Studies in Canada to conduct research in 2021 and 2022. Recognizing the restricted access to library collections, this program aimed to promote equity and ensure access to East Asian Studies resources during this challenging time.

WINTER & SPRING HIGHLIGHTS (CONT.)

On February 1, 2023, the Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library Resources Access Grant Program (COVID-19) Scholar Talk featured a lecture event with Dr. Lianbin Dai, a grant awardee of the program, a Sinologist and historian from the Department of Pacific and Asian Studies at the University of Victoria who specializes in late imperial China (1368-1911). Dr. Dai presented a thought-provoking talk titled "How to Produce Learning: Some Preliminary Thoughts on Neo-Confucian Knowledge Culture (1200-1700)." The talk, which was moderated by Professor Nathan Vedal from the Department of East Asian Studies at the University of Toronto and was generously sponsored by the Department of East Asian Studies at the University of Toronto, focused on the topic of Neo-Confucian learning.

Dr. Dai examined the intricate nature of Neo-Confucian learning, highlighting its distinction as a scholarly knowledge system that extends beyond philosophy. Rather than being solely influenced by economic and political factors, this independent system has deep roots in the Confucian Classics and historical studies. The pivotal role of Zhu Xi (1130-1200) in systematizing the construction, application, and evolution of Neo-Confucianism was discussed, as it dominated scholarly discourse for centuries. The lecture explored the controversies surrounding Neo-Confucianism, its encounters with the Yangming School, and its eventual recognition and revival.

Book Launch Event: *Asian Canadian Voices: Facets of Diversity*

In celebration of Asian Heritage Month, on May 9, 2023, the East Asian Library hosted a successful book launch event for its new publication, *Asian Canadian Voices: Facets of Diversity*.

This publication showcases the works of eleven authors who share their personal stories, reflections, and insights on the Asian Canadian heritage and experience. It is a collaborative effort, bringing together diverse perspectives from various fields of research to present remarkable narratives and insights related to Asian Canadian heritage.

The book launch began with Larry Alford, Chief Librarian of the University of Toronto Libraries, giving his welcoming remarks, followed by Hana Kim, Director of the Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library, and then Dr. Wei Djao, a longtime friend and supporter of the East Asian Library and widow of Dr. Anthony Bernard Chan.

The event attracted a diverse audience of students, faculty, and community members to hear guest speaker Dr. Larissa Lai, who delivered an engaging talk entitled "Risking Recovery: Memory, Imagination, Archive," exploring the intersection of memory, imagination, and archival research in understanding Asian Canadian heritage. Dr. Lai's presentation stimulated the audience to deep reflection on the topic. Following Dr. Lai's talk, a panel discussion moderated by Dr. Lai was held, featuring several contributing authors, including Dr. Adrienne S. Chan, Dr. Aminur Rahim, Arlene Chan, and Dr. Josephine Pui-Hing Wong. The panelists engaged in a dynamic discussion about their experiences writing for the book, the challenges of representing diverse Asian Canadian

WINTER & SPRING HIGHLIGHTS (CONT.)



Above: Larry Alford, Chief Librarian of the University of Toronto Libraries, gives his welcoming remarks to the audience (Image credit: The Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library)

perspectives, and the significance of promoting greater diversity and inclusivity in various fields in Canada.

The event was graced by the presence of the Honourable Vivienne Poy, who, as the first Canadian of Asian descent appointed to the Senate, played a vital role in the establishment of Asian Heritage Month. Her motion to create Asian Heritage Month was adopted, and in May 2002, the Government of Canada officially declared May as Asian Heritage Month.

This publication stands as a testament to the East Asian Library's commitment to promoting and preserving Asian Canadian heritage. It is also a tribute to all Asian Canadians and in particular to the late Dr. Anthony Bernard Chan, a dedicated supporter of the Library and Asian Canadian Studies. Dr. Chan's contributions and dedication were instrumental in developing the Library's outreach programs on Asian Canadian heritage from 2012 to 2014, which served as the inspiration for this publication. He was a pioneering figure in Asian Canadian Studies, widely respected as an academic leader, filmmaker, and community activist, championing Asian Canadian Studies in Canada and beyond.

WINTER & SPRING HIGHLIGHTS (CONT.)



Above: Hana Kim, Director of the Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library, delivers her remarks



Above: Dr. Wei Djao delivers her remarks



Above: Guest Speaker Dr. Larissa Lai during her talk



Above: Image of the book, *Asian Canadian Voices: Facets of Diversity*



Above: Panelist Arlene Chan



Above: Panelist Dr. Adrienne S. Chan



Above: Panelist Dr. Josephine Pui-Hing Wong



Above: Panelist Dr. Aminur Rahim

(Images credit: The Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library)

WINTER & SPRING HIGHLIGHTS (CONT.)

The event concluded with a successful book signing and reception, allowing attendees to meet the authors and continue engaging in conversations while enjoying refreshments. The book launch celebrated the richness of Asian Canadian culture and identity, while honouring the enduring legacy of Dr. Anthony Bernard Chan.

The Library continues to expand its Asian Canadian Collections, develop a hub of anti-Asian racism resources, and organize public outreach events focused on East Asian Studies, Asian Canadian Studies, and Asian heritage. In line with our dedication to promoting scholarship within the university, the Library recently curated an engaging book display centred around our Asian Canadian Studies Collection. This initiative was designed to complement the book launch event and foster a deeper understanding of Asian heritage within our community. By highlighting these valuable resources, our aim is to enrich the learning experience and encourage exploration of the vibrant Asian Canadian narrative.

The event exemplified the power of dialogue and community engagement, leaving a lasting impact on all those who attended. As we move forward, the East Asian Library remains dedicated to fostering meaningful conversations within our community and continuously illuminating the diverse and dynamic Asian Canadian experience.



**Above: Current Display on the East Asian Library's Asian Canadian Studies Collection
(Image credit: The Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library)**

WINTER & SPRING HIGHLIGHTS (CONT.)

An Afternoon of Beijing Opera with Li Jun

In May, we had the pleasure of hosting a workshop as part of our Asian Heritage Month celebrations. Titled "An Afternoon of Beijing Opera with Li Jun," this immersive event took place on May 18, 2023.

Led by renowned opera singer Li Jun (李军), the workshop offered a special performance and valuable insights into Beijing Opera, unveiling the enchanting realm of Chinese opera, music, and dance. Li Jun's portrayal of *laosheng* roles, embodying the wisdom and nobility of traditional Chinese society, left the audience captivated and in awe of his exceptional talent.

With a remarkable career as a member of the Shanghai Jingju Theatre Company, Mr. Li has played an important role in preserving and promoting the art form of Beijing Opera. He is also a member of the China Theatre Association and has received prestigious accolades such as the Gold Medal of the National Mei Lanfang Drama Competition. Mr. Li's performances are known for his sweet and rich tenor voice, impeccable diction, and emotionally engaging delivery, which deeply resonated with the attendees.

This event received generous support from Ms. Ella Shi, Founder and Chair of the Echoes from China Traditional Arts Society, and Ms. Jin Gao from the Chinese Canadian community. Ms. Gao, a Research Scientist with a Ph.D. in marine biology and a dedicated student of Beijing Opera under Mr. Li's guidance, provided English interpretation throughout the event.

The workshop served as an enlightening journey into the world of Beijing Opera, offering a glimpse into the rich heritage and artistic expressions of Chinese theatre. We are grateful to everyone who joined us for this unforgettable afternoon, as we celebrated the beauty and depth of Asian culture during Asian Heritage Month.

Exhibit: Chinese Women in the Twentieth Century

The Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library has created an exhibit project titled "Chinese Women in the Twentieth Century (近代中国女性)" that is currently on display in the Library until August 2023. This exhibit showcases resources from our collection and delves into the intersection of gender and modern nation-building in China, highlighting important issues for scholarly discussion. As China experienced rapid urbanization, women's pursuit of their needs and ideas beyond the confines of



Above: Li Jun plays Jinghu (Image credit: The Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library)

WINTER & SPRING HIGHLIGHTS (CONT.)

the domestic sphere became a symbol of social liberation. Throughout the twentieth century, there was a continuous push for women's liberation, leading to greater rights and opportunities for women. However, the tension between traditional values and modernization has persisted, shaping gender relations in China even today. The exhibit was curated under the coordination of Lucy Gan, along with the collaborative efforts of our Graduate Student Library Assistant and other members of the East Asian Library team.



Above: Professor Nathan Vedal's class examining items from the library's collection of Chinese rare books (Image credit: The Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library)

Teaching, Research, and Learning Support

The East Asian Library is dedicated to providing comprehensive support for teaching, research, and learning endeavours at the University. In connection with this goal, throughout the winter term, we offered a range of services to assist faculty and students in their academic pursuits. One notable example occurred in March 2023, when the Library hosted sessions for Professor Nathan Vedal of the Department of East Asian Studies. Professor Vedal conducted his classes, EAS335 Introduction to Manchu Language and History, and EAS1531 Comparative History of Reading in East Asia and Beyond, at the Library to utilize our extensive collection of Chinese rare books.

This unique opportunity allowed students to gain a profound understanding of classical Chinese language and the publishing culture during the Ming and Qing Dynasties.

Furthermore, throughout the 2022-2023 academic year, the Library provided support to Professor Jenny Purtle of Chinese and East Asian Art History in the Department of Art History for her class FAH465 Exhibiting China. This seminar was designed to equip students with the essential skills needed to curate an exhibition showcasing Chinese materials. Drawing from the East Asian Library's collection of Chinese artifacts and paintings, students engaged in experiential learning as they prepared for the exhibition.

In April, the Library also facilitated access to Chinese Republican period print culture through its extensive collection of serials, in support of Professor Yurou Zhong's seminar class, EAS419 Chinese Cultural Studies. Looking ahead, the East Asian Library is enthusiastic about further collaboration with faculty and students in the upcoming semester to address their teaching and learning needs. We remain committed to fostering a supportive academic environment that nurtures intellectual growth and facilitates successful research and learning outcomes.

ENHANCING THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO'S TIBETAN STUDIES COLLECTION AND SERVICES: A DECADE OF A STRONG PARTNERSHIP RENEWED WITH COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

By Hana Kim, Director, Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library

With the University of Toronto hosting Canada's premier Tibetan Studies program and Toronto being home to one of the largest Tibetan communities outside of Asia, in 2013, the University of Toronto Libraries (UTL) initiated a transformative partnership with Columbia University Library to develop our Tibetan Studies collection. This collaboration has now reached its remarkable 10th year, making a significant contribution to supporting the Tibetan Studies program at the University of Toronto and beyond.

As a result of this fruitful partnership, the Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library proudly houses the largest Tibetan collection in Canada, solidifying its position as the country's leading resource for knowledge on this important region. This milestone reaffirms our commitment to enriching the collection and providing support for teaching, learning, and research at the university.

In recognition of the achievements made through this longstanding collaboration, the University of Toronto Libraries has renewed the cooperation agreement, extending the commitment for a further three years (2023-2026). The renewed partnership includes joint initiatives such as sponsored acquisition trips to enhance the Tibetan collections of both universities. Furthermore, a shared point of service for research consultations and the original cataloguing of Tibetan materials acquired by both institutions will continue to strengthen the accessibility and scholarly value of our collections. The agreement also encompasses the arrangement for the original cataloguing of unique titles exclusively acquired by the University of Toronto Libraries.

This collaborative effort between our libraries has had a positive impact on faculty, students, and researchers, fostering a deeper understanding of Tibetan culture and heritage within our wider community.

Looking ahead, the East Asian Library will continue to enrich our Tibetan Studies collection, develop innovative programming, and expand our outreach efforts to promote awareness and engagement with Tibetan culture and scholarship.



Above: Tibetan Collection shelved in the Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library's open stacks (Image credit: The Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library)

NOTABLE ACQUISITIONS & RESOURCES

CHINESE RESOURCES:

Electronic Version of the Complete *Si ku quan shu* (the Complete Library in Four Sections) Series in EAL Collection

The East Asian Library has acquired the following sub-databases of Diaolong Full-text Database of Chinese & Japanese Ancient Books (雕龍-中日古籍全文檢索數據庫, also known as *Fan yun wen xian* 繙云文獻):

- *Xu xiu si ku quan shu* (續修四庫全書 *Continuation of Siku quanshu*);
- *Si ku cun mu cong shu* (四庫存目叢書 *Siku Catalogue*);
- *Si ku quan shu jin hui shu cong kan* (四庫禁毀書叢刊 *Banned Books from the Siku*);
- *Si ku wei shou shu ji kan* (四庫未收書輯刊 *Supplemental Texts to the Siku*); and
- *Qing dai ke ju zhu juan* (清代科舉硃卷 *Qing Dynasty Imperial Examination Genealogy and Examination Papers*).

These new additions supplement our Chinese collections, particularly the database *Wenyuange si ku quan shu* (*Wenyuange Version of Siku quanshu*) and the printed set *Si ku quan shu jin hui shu cong kan* (四庫禁毀書叢刊, 北京出版社, 1997; AC149 .S635 1997). Thanks to these additions, the East Asian Library now offers the complete *Siku* series to the University community.

Si ku quan shu contains over 10,000 titles with a total of 36,000 volumes to cover all four sections of Chinese scholarship, namely, *jing* (the Classics), *shi* (history), *zi* (philosophy and arts), and *ji* (anthologies from Chinese literature). *The Continuation of Siku Quanshu* includes additional 5,300 titles in 1,800 volumes and was the biggest compiling project after *Si ku quan shu*. Many rare Song and Yuan editions, as well as manuscripts of famous scholars, have been added into *The Continuation*. *The Siku Catalogue* contains information about 6,800 titles, which were collected during the initial compiling period in Emperor Qianlong's reign (1736-1795), but were later excluded from *Si ku quan shu* because they did not meet with the Qing ideological standards. This set of *Si ku cun mu cong shu*, published by Qilu Press in 1997, includes 4,509 titles in 1,200 volumes. *The Banned Books from the Siku* covers 634 books banned during the Qing dynasty before 1795. Most of them belong to the "ji" section and include titles by important scholars who expressed their loyalty to the preceding Ming dynasty. *The Supplemental Texts to the Siku* collects nearly 2,000 titles that, as mentioned above, have not been included in *The Siku*. The published parts include 300 volumes and were published by Beijing Press in 2000.

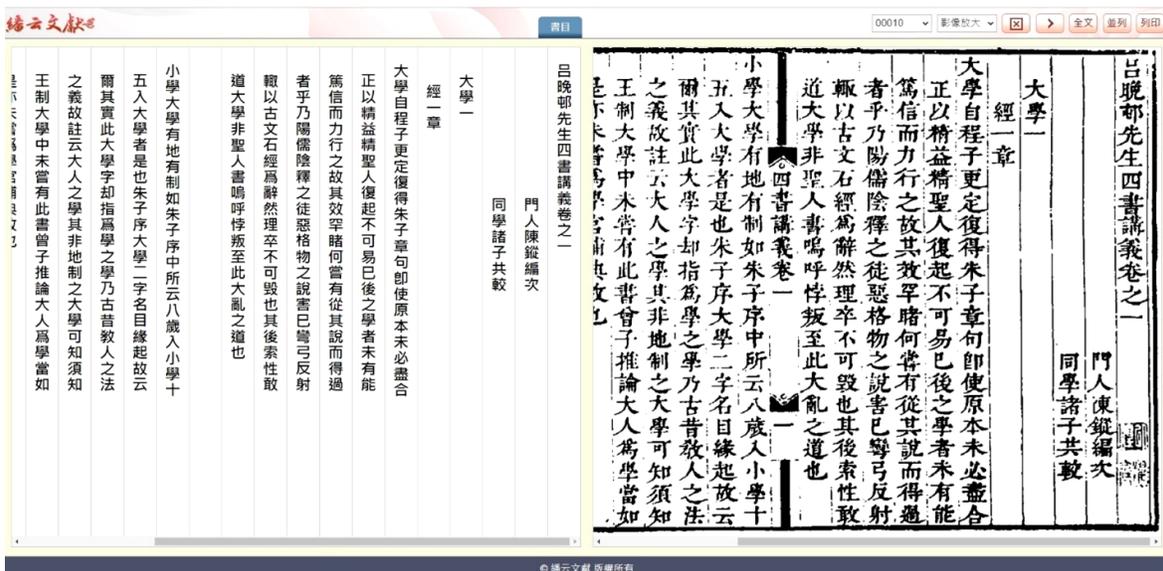
NOTABLE ACQUISITIONS & RESOURCES (CONT.)



Above: Display of a sample search result in the Diaolong database

The contents display can be set as side by side for comparison of the original book image and the text. There is a page download option to allow the current page being viewed to be saved as a Notepad txt file. A drop-down menu in the middle of page allows users to navigate between different chapters (see above image).

The database allows users to do a simple or advanced keyword search by title or author, or within the full-text. Users can also limit the search to specific dates or time ranges. To conduct a search, it is preferable to use traditional Chinese characters, although simplified Chinese characters are also acceptable. A search for the person *Lu Liuliang*, as the above image indicates, retrieves 211 items in *Xu xiu si ku*, 177 items in *Jin hui si ku*, 11 items in *Cun mu*, and 11 items in *Wei shou shu*.



Above: Display of the original scanned image of a rare book, alongside the text version of the same content

NOTABLE ACQUISITIONS & RESOURCES (CONT.)

Compared with the print versions, the e-version utilizes better editions of the same title, with much clearer and higher resolution of the original book page images. This database is accessible by title search in the UTL online catalogue and on the EAL website under Chinese classics online. (S. Qiao)

JAPANESE RESOURCE:

Visual Research and the Japanese Canadian Archival Collection

The EAL's Japanese Canadian archival holdings have continued to grow over the past few months. The Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library is now the repository and custodian for eight fonds, all focusing on Japanese Canadian internment and redress. They offer a unique perspective and documentation for those interested in conducting research into these events.

Many of our new collections contain photographic records. Our Michael Murakami Fonds include many family photographs and negatives taken by his father Dave Murakami from the 1930s to the 1950s. They capture daily life in Steveston B.C., the fishing industry, and the Japanese Canadian community in Victoria, B.C. During internment, Dave became a truckdriver and official photographer for the British Columbia Securities Commission. In this role, he was able to visually capture many moments in the camp. Though the collection focuses more on his family life, the photographs still offer a glimpse into the living conditions and daily activities of the many Japanese Canadians uprooted and interned during WWII.

We are also excited to make available the Jack Itsuo Hemmy Fonds. Jack Hemmy was a Toronto photographer who regularly captured Japanese Canadian community events. This collection includes some of his work photographing special events at the Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre, the Japanese Consulate, and Judo events in the city. The fond also includes family albums and documents. These photographs include family members when they initially arrived in Canada, and



Above: Ontario Place Bell 2nd set, 1982, 2023.04.139, Jack Itsuo Hemmy fonds (Image credit: Photograph by Jack Hemmy. The Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library)

their lives in Victoria, B.C. and elsewhere in the province. They also include the family's removal to internment and work camps. Jack Hemmy had just graduated from high school when his family was forced to leave Victoria. He was sent to work on a sugar beet farm in Glencoe, O.N., separated from his parents and brother. The many photographs he took of himself and the other workers offer a unique look at how his and his family's lives were upturned and uprooted during the expulsion of Japanese Canadians from the West coast during WWII.

NOTABLE ACQUISITIONS & RESOURCES (CONT.)

In order to better preserve some of the records, we have been working with our colleagues at the Media Commons Archive here at the University of Toronto to digitize at-risk audio and visual formats. Thanks to the team at Media Commons Archive, we have digitized all the audio material from the Gordan Hirabayashi Fonds. This means that researchers can now access these unique interviews conducted by human rights advocate and U.S. Presidential Medal of Freedom recipient Gordan Hirabayashi without concern for damaging the original recording. This also means that these materials benefit from easier use, as researchers do not need to visit our campus to gain access.

The East Asian Library's Japanese Canadian Collection continues to grow. We are excited to be collecting these unique documents and making them accessible to both researchers and the broader community. (E. Carroll)

KOREAN RESOURCES:

Nam-Pukhan Munjŏn / 남북한 문전 / A Guide to Studies on Korea (12 volumes)

The Library is pleased to introduce the book set *Nam-Pukhan Munjŏn (A Guide to Studies on Korea)*, published by Tan'guk University in Republic of Korea.

Kim Hak-chun, a prolific writer, former politician, and a seasoned political scientist, explains the purpose of his work as fostering an understanding of North and South Korea, with focuses on political science, diplomacy, and unification issues from ancient times to the present. To fulfill this goal, Kim has selected numerous domestic and foreign primary and secondary sources, classified them by date and subject, and provided commentary for each on how they relate to Korean history, politics, laws, administration, society and economy, thought, culture, science, diplomacy, and unification. While the book does not provide an exhaustive list of all publications on those subjects, instead, Kim selectively highlights scholarly discussions by various academic figures and provides their differing views on a given topic, as well as brief biographical details about the authors. For example, Kim brings together works representing various attempts at the periodization of Korean history, including the early works *Samguk Sagi* & *Samguk Yusa*, Japanese scholar Hayashi Taisuke's approach in *Chosŏn*, the views of Chosŏn intellectuals from the Japanese colonial era, Korean Marxist historians, and finally, historians of South and North Korea. *Nam-Pukhan Munjŏn*, with its interdisciplinarity of sources from diverse fields and a tactful organization of scholarly themes from prehistoric Korea to the present day, will serve as a valuable resource to any researchers seeking to enrich their understanding of Korea.

The Library currently has volumes one to eight, and the last four volumes will be acquired as they are published. Please find the link to this resource below:

https://librarysearch.library.utoronto.ca/permalink/01UTORONTO_INST/14bjeso/alma991107151212806196 (J. Chun)

NOTABLE ACQUISITIONS & RESOURCES (CONT.)

E-book: Han'guk Yŏn'gu Illyuhak Paksa Hagwi Nonmun Ch'orokchip (1946-2014)

한국연구 인류학 박사학위논문 초록집 (1946-2014)

The East Asian library is pleased to introduce the e-book *Han'guk Yŏn'gu Illyuhak Paksa Hagwi Nonmun Ch'orokchip (1946-2014)*, a comprehensive collection of dissertation abstracts on socio-cultural anthropology of Korea from 1949 to 2014. Published by the Department of Anthropology at Seoul National University (SNU) under chief editor and anthropologist O Myŏng-sŏk, this work is a systematic compilation of the highest quality anthropological research on Korea, filling an over 30-year gap since the publication of a report entitled, *Han'guk Illyuhak Kwan'gye Paksa Hagwi Nonmun Ch'orok Pogosŏ* (한국인류학관계박사학위논문초록), in 1987 by the same department.

This collection consists of 148 dissertation abstracts: 44 from universities in South Korea and 104 from universities in the Anglosphere (mostly from the United States and a few from Canada as well). English abstracts have been translated into Korean, and for some dissertations without abstracts, the compilers wrote them in consultation with the authors. The abstract collection is organized by decade, starting 1940s, and it provides a table of all dissertation titles in chronological order, as well as an author index at the back. The chronological table of dissertations helps readers to see overall trends, research activities, and the development of social and cultural anthropology both within and outside of Korea.

Socio-cultural anthropology first emerged in the 1920s, but the progress in Korea was slow due to many factors such as colonization, the Korean War, and lack of knowledge and experts inside the country. Nevertheless, the Korean Society for Cultural Anthropology was established in 1958, and the first issue of *Korean Journal of Cultural Anthropology* was published in 1968. According to Han Sang-bok, the Academy of Korean Studies invited French anthropologist Claude Levi-Strauss to Seoul in 1981 to foster intellectual exchange, which was a significant moment in history. During this decade, Korean anthropologists' participation in international symposiums and the number of doctoral students in anthropology increased, and this historical context explains the reasons behind the emergence of first doctoral dissertations on cultural anthropology in South Korea in the 1990s. Furthermore, as seen in *Han'guk Yŏn'gu Illyuhak Paksa Hagwi Nonmun Ch'orokchip*, Korean scholarship in socio-cultural anthropology has only continued to diversify.

We thank the SNU Department of Anthropology for granting us permission to provide this resource widely through our open access collection in Scholars Portal. This e-book is available to anyone with internet access. Please go to the link below to view or download the resource. (J. Chun)

https://librarysearch.library.utoronto.ca/permalink/01UTORONTO_INST/14bjeso/alma991107254211406196

Source consulted:

- Han, Sang-bok. "Han'guk Munhwa Illyuhak 30-yŏn." *Han'guk Munhwa Illyuhak*, 20, 1988, pp. 57-76.

NOTABLE ACQUISITIONS & RESOURCES (CONT.)

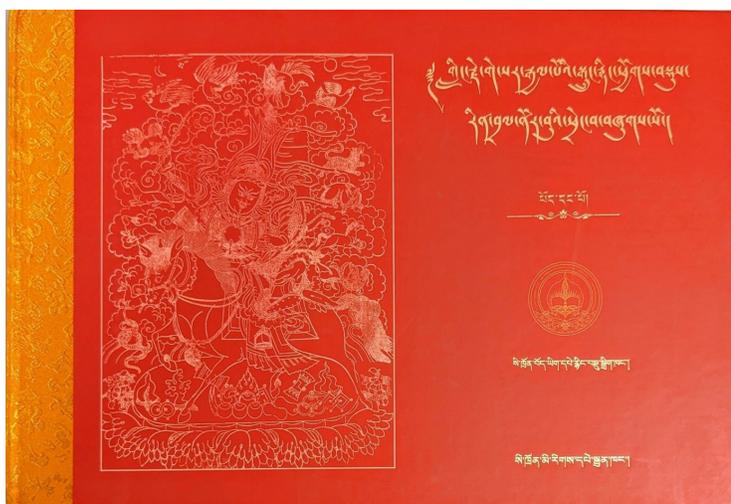
TIBETAN RESOURCE:

Gling-rje Ge-sar rgyal po'i sgrung rnying phyogs bsdus rin bral nor bu'i phreng ba

མིང་རྗེ་གེ་སར་རྒྱལ་པོའི་སྤྱོད་རྒྱུ་རྩིང་འཕྲུལ་བསྐྱེད་པའི་རྩོམ་སྐོར་སྤྱི་ཐོབ་བཞུགས།

[Priceless jewel garland collection of the ancient tales of King Gesar of Ling]

Call number: PL3748.G4 G46 2019 (118 volumes)



This publishing achievement by Sichuan Nationalities Publishing House, Chengdu, Sichuan Province, features high-quality, full-colour facsimile reproductions of Tibetan texts related to the Gesar Epic. A literary work that is found in Tibet, Mongolia, and across the Himalayas and Central Asia, the Gesar Epic celebrates the legendary King Gesar, an 11th century hero and conqueror from a kingdom called Ling in the Derge region (in present-day Sichuan Province) of Kham. The epic is largely orally transmitted,

but has a rich textual corpus as well. In 118 volumes, this recently-published collection represents over 300 texts of the epic, with different narratives or versions, and in a variety of print media, including woodblock prints, handwritten manuscripts, and decorative editions. Numerous entities—from county and prefecture governments, bureaus, and cultural organizations—in Sichuan Province contributed materials to the compilation, making for the most comprehensive publication of its kind. In the process of gathering sources, thirty old and little-known versions of the epic were also brought to light, and are published here for the first time.

This Gesar collection was compiled and edited by the Sichuan Institute for the Collection and Preservation of Ancient Tibetan Texts of Sichuan Province, the Derge County Committee, and the Derge County People’s Government, with planning and editorial boards comprised of leading community figures and Gesar scholars. It is published by Sichuan Nationalities Publishing House.

This special set will be of great value to researchers of the Gesar Epic, but also for those with interests in Tibetan linguistics, folklore, history, and print culture. Though published in 2019, because of complications in acquiring Tibetan language materials from China due to the Covid pandemic, the volumes made their way to the University of Toronto Libraries only this spring. The set finds a well-placed home within the Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library’s strong holdings in Gesar resources in both Tibetan and Chinese. (K. Dy-Liacco)

LIBRARY UPDATES

Facility Updates

We are excited to bring you some updates on recent improvements at the Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library. Our aim is to create a welcoming, responsive, and accessible environment for all our library users. Here are the key highlights of our latest endeavours:

Enhancements to Library Space:

We have implemented several improvements to enhance our users' library experience. To ensure a safe and comfortable environment, we have repaired broken floor tiles. In addition, we have addressed power outlet issues on study tables, ensuring reliable access to electricity for our users. Moreover, we are in the process of updating our library signage to provide clearer navigation and guidance, making it easier for everyone to locate the resources and services they need. We are continuously working on further updates for the remaining signs to further enhance the library experience. Furthermore, we have relocated a public printer to a more accessible area, the public terminal station, and have also relocated a charging locker unit.

Introducing the Waste Disposal Program:

As stewards of our valuable special collections, including rare books, we are deeply committed to maintaining a clean and well-maintained environment. In this regard, we are pleased to inform you that as of May 2023, we have implemented [a new waste disposal program](#). This program builds upon the achievements of our successful pilot project, which took place from February to April 2023. Through this program, we aim to accomplish the following objectives:

- Adhering to our current [EAL Food & Drink Policy](#): We kindly request all library users to refrain from consuming food inside the library. However, to ensure a pleasant and comfortable environment for everyone, we do permit consumption of covered drinks.
- Promoting Recycling Practices: We actively encourage everyone to participate in our recycling efforts by disposing of paper waste in the designated recycling blue bins. By separating paper waste, we contribute to sustainable practices and minimize our environmental impact.
- Efficient Non-Paper Waste Disposal: To maintain a clean and uncluttered library space, we have conveniently placed bins for non-paper waste outside the library, near the elevators and washrooms on the 8th floor. We kindly request that you dispose of any non-paper waste in these designated bins, ensuring a tidy and inviting atmosphere for all.

We sincerely appreciate your cooperation and support in maintaining a clean and inviting library space for the benefit of our entire community. Thank you for being an integral part of our library community. (H. Kim)

LIBRARY UPDATES (CONT.)

Staff Update: Dr. Stephen Qiao's Retirement

After a notable career at the Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library (EAL) of the University of Toronto Libraries (UTL), we announce the retirement of Stephen Qiao, Chinese Studies Librarian, who officially retired from UTL on June 30th, 2023.

During his time here, Stephen has made an invaluable contribution to UTL and the EAL community. His dedication and expertise have been instrumental in developing an outstanding Chinese Studies collection. Stephen has also played a crucial role in supporting the East Asian Library's rare book digitization projects and contributing to the library's Chinese rare book bibliography compilation and publication initiatives. He has also taken on leadership roles, serving as Acting Director at our library and as Chair of the Committee of Chinese Materials (2016-2018) under the Council on East Asian Libraries (CEAL) of the Association for Asian Studies, as well as Chair of the Committee for Professional Activities in the Society for Chinese Studies Librarians (2018-2020).

Before joining UTL in 2004, Stephen held positions as a subject librarian in various academic libraries in North America, including the University of Pittsburgh East Asian Library (1993-1995), Texas Tech University Library (2000-2001), and the Fine Art Library at Harvard University (2001-2004). Stephen's educational background includes an MLIS from the University of Pittsburgh and a BA, MA, and Ph.D. from Sun Yat-Sen University in Guangzhou, China, specializing in Anthropology. Before coming to North America, he was an Associate Professor at the Department of Anthropology, Sun Yat-Sen University.

His contributions to various publications include "Leaves of Enchantment, Bones of Inspiration: The Dawn of Chinese Studies in Canada" (Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library, University of Toronto, 2010), "Archaeology of Coastal South China in Regional Interaction Perspectives" (Guangxi Normal University Press, 2016), and "An Annotated Bibliography of Chinese Rare Books in the Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library, University of Toronto" (Guangxi Normal University Press, first edition in 2009, revised/enlarged edition in 2019).

Following his retirement, Stephen plans to embark on a journey to explore different parts of the world, and to continue his academic research. He also looks forward to pursuing personal interests such as photography, music, film, and gardening. Stephen's strong commitment to his work, his expertise, and his collegiality will be deeply missed by his colleagues and the teaching faculty, students, and the wider scholarly and East Asian library community. Please join us in expressing our gratitude to Stephen for his dedicated service and friendship, and in wishing him a fulfilling, healthy, and joyful retirement. (H. Kim)



Above: Dr. Stephen Qiao, Chinese Studies Librarian of the Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library (Image credit: The Cheng Yu Tung East Asian)

The East Asian Library Newsletter is published twice a year. Please send comments and questions to:

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If you would like to learn more about the library and its upcoming events please visit or follow us at:

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