

at the development of Taiwanese historical research over the years in reference to various works, such as *Writing in History (1950-2000): Tradition and Transformation, 1950-2000*. The lecture touched on Taiwan's emergence in the 1970s and 80s as the top economic performer among the four Asian tigers, the huge social changes brought about by the termination of martial law, the flourishing of intellectual thought at that time, and the evolution of historical studies in Taiwan from the public to private domains and from national ethnicity to social life. It probed into the "small issues" of women, ceremonies and customs, home life and religion, and did not restrict itself to just the "big matter" of national ethnicity. It noted that deepening traditional generalities can enrich cultural content, but also posed the question, "Are not the small things are also beautiful?" Economic development in Taiwan has slowed significantly from the past, the social climate is filled with Greater China thinking, and historical research today, many years after the shift from the public to private domains, must comprehensively survey "the boundary between the divine and the human" and "the adjustment from ancient times to the modern world." For example, this social need is apparent in Prof. Hsu's critically-acclaimed *Across the River of Time: Cultural Transition in Chinese History*. There is a desire for a restructuring of history today. In his deconstruction and reconstruction of the deep significance of Taiwanese historical study, Prof. Wang proposes that we move from "little history" to "macroscopic history" in an attempt to set a new course for the study of Taiwan history.

The two CCS seminars attracted a high turnout and animated discussions. (Chinese text by Te-Erh Kao)



Mr. Otsubo Yoshiyuki (front row second from left), Prof. Wu Chih-keng (front row, second from right), and seminar participants (Photo by Caesar Tsai)



Prof. Wang Ching-chia (front row, third from left), Prof. Hsu Cho-yun (front row, second from right), NCL Director Juang Fang-rung (front row, far right) and seminar participants (Photo by Caesar Tsai)

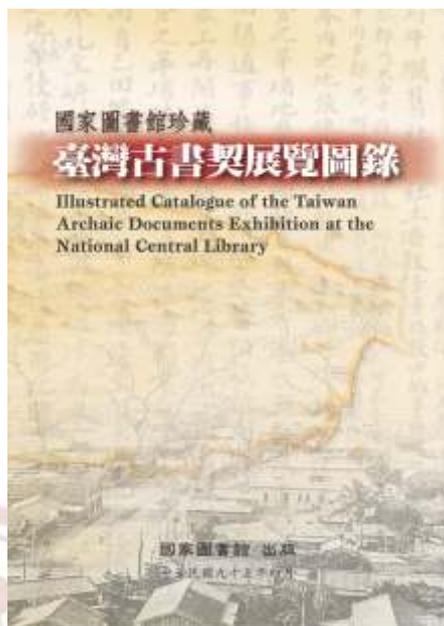
Review

■ *Illustrated Catalogue of Archaic Document Exhibition*

The NCL collection contains over 2,400 archaic documents, ranging from legal contracts dating back

to 1697 to a joint land cultivation contract established in 1732. The latest of these materials are private contracts from the Japanese occupation era. In order to facilitate broader access to such documents both among academics and the general public, the NCL published on the occasion of its tenth anniversary an illustrated catalog of major archaic documents in its collection. The selection comprises 62 documents, both official and private. The library hopes that the catalog will broaden understanding of Taiwan's early social and economic development, as well as provide a glimpse at the changing local customs and geography of the country.

The text of the catalog were written by Prof. Wen Chen-hua of the Graduate Institute of Taiwan History at National Taiwan Normal University and Dr. Hung Li-wan, a research fellow at the Institute of Taiwan History, Academia Sinica. Prof. Wen was also in charge of selecting the documents included in the catalog.



NCL International Exchange Events

Jan. 3: Sarah S. Elman, Associate Curator of the East Asia Library Sterling Memorial Library at Yale University visited the NCL.

Jan. 13: A delegation of 39 people led by Panama's Ambassador to the ROC Julio C. Mock and Fermin Tomas Chan, President of the Chen Feng-tian Memorial Library at the ROC-Panama Cultural Center, to sign a library cooperation agreement

Jan. 18: Dr. Hwa-Wei Lee, Director of the U.S. Library of Congress Asian Division, and Dr. James KK Ho, Associate Director of Howard University Libraries visited the NCL to discuss cooperation on digitization of East Asian library resources.

Jan. 25: A delegation from mainland China visited the NCL, including Prof. Wan Rongshui, director of the Department of Publishing Organizations Management at Nan Hua University, and Beijing University Professor Xiao Dongfa, Leader Cultural Enterprise Co. head Su Xinyi, and Fengyi Knowledge Industry Co. CEO Wang Rui.

Feb. 7: Dr. Mi Chu Wiens, head of the Chinese Section at the Asian Division of the U.S. Library of Congress, Dr Tai-loi Ma, Director of the East Asian Library at Princeton University, and Sally C. Tseng Executive Director of the Chinese American Librarians Association visited the NCL.