

## PAC Centre Annual Reports July 2016 – June 2017: China

### ANNUAL REPORT 2016-2017

IFLA-PAC China Centre was founded in 2004 at the National Library of China. Since its establishment, it has carried out various works actively and has made many achievements. The following is the key projects that China Center carried out in 2016.

#### **1. Objectives of the China Center**

Since its establishment, China Centre has strictly followed the rules and requirements of the IFLA PAC Center, brought into play of bridges and links and fulfilled the related work centering on the primary mission, which includes enhancing the public awareness of preservation and conservation of books, diffusing the knowledge of preservation and conservation, taking charge of translating the professional documents into native language and spreading free to domestic libraries, organizing training courses, seminars and academic conferences about preservation, conservation and security of national cultural heritage, advocating and promoting the use of standards(permanent paper, digitalization, microfilm, etc.), attending actively IFLA conference and other international meetings.

#### **2. Carry out vigorously training programs for preservation and conservation of documents**

Since the initiate of the “China ancient books preservation project”, China Center carry out vigorously the work to cultivate ancient books preservation experts, and form gradually a new talents training mode which integrates training bases, colleges and universities, training centers and volunteers.

In 2016, China Center held 19 training courses about general survey and restoration of ancient books, cataloguing of the rubbings and other topics. In the same year, it trained 758 professionals. China Center totally has held 165 training courses and has trained 8555 professionals, which has covered more than 1700 ancient books collection institutions in China.

#### **3. Annual progress of key projects on the ancient books preservation and conservation**

##### **3.1 Ancient books protection**

Since 2007, China government started “China Ancient Books Preservation Project”, China Center has carried out a lot of fruitful work

in general survey and registration of ancient books, digitization, republication, restoration of ancient books, overseas cooperative protection and protection publicity of documents. The following is the new progress of ancient books protection in 2016.

### 3.1 General survey and registration of ancient books

In view of the situation that we didn't know the specific number of the existing ancient books, China Center organized a general survey of national ancient books based on the National Chinese ancient books general survey and registration work platform. By the end of 2016 more than 2 million registration data of the general survey of ancient books all over the nation have been completed, and 1218 ancient books collection institutions have finished the general survey and registration of ancient books. Meanwhile, China Center coordinated and organized the compilation and publication of "Catalogue of General Survey and Registration of National Ancient Books" and "General Catalogue of China Ancient Books". During the 2016, 9 departments (10 volumes) of "Catalogue of General Survey and Registration of National Ancient Books" were published, and the sum of that Catalogue of 119 ancient books collection institutions has reached 30 titles (57 volumes).

### 3.2 Ancient Books Conservation and Equipments

China Center focus in strengthening the management of national ancient books restoration centers and national key protection units of ancient documents, and promoting scientification and normalization of ancient books repairs. By the end of 2016, 7 national ancient books conservation centers, including the National Library of China, Tianjin Library, Shandong Library, Ningbo Tianyige Museum, Nanjing Library, Yunnan Library and Shanghai Library, have acquired "national qualification to conserve removable cultural relics".

In 2016, China Center continued to support special work of ancient books restoration, and completed the repair of 50 volumes of "Tian Lu Lin Lang". It started the "National rare ancient books repairing project in Shanxi Province", which aimed at repairing 22 the first level rare books collected in Shanxi Library and Quwo Library. At present, 12 rare books of Quwo Library have been conserved.

In the same year, China Center continued to improve the collection condition of rare ancient books, and prepared special equipment for rare ancient books and various special subject documents that have been selected in "National Catalogue of Rare Ancient Books". For the moment, the Center has made 425 protection appliances for Gansu Library, Shanxi Qixian Library, Quwo Library, Library of Southwest University and the National Library of China.

### 3.3 Digitization of ancient books

China Center carried on digitization of national rare ancient books, and received 60,000 digital resources of ancient books. Continued the digitization of microfilms of rare books collected in library and completed more than 1.8 million. Launched 2016 annual projects to digitalize microfilm of “Zhao Cheng Jin Zang” and “Ping Guan Cang Shu”. China Center released more than 17,000 digital resources of ancient books through “China Ancient Books Repository” to promote the sharing of ancient books resources, and received wide attention and high praise from all sectors of the society.

### 3.4 Compilation and republication of ancient books

China Center protected the nativity of ancient books, while devoted greater effort to protect the reproduction of ancient books. Promote the rational use of precious ancient books by compilation and publication of various ancient books.

In 2016, China Center continued to promote the abstract and review of “The Reconstruction of China Rare Books”(Sequel) and prepared to edit the third edition of “The Reconstruction of China Rare Books”. 6 works of “China Rare Ancient Books Series” and “China Ancient Books Bibliography Series” were published. 8 types of “History behind China Ancient Books Series” were offered to the press.

### 3.5 Overseas ancient books survey and cooperative protection project

China Center officially launched the “Overseas ancient books survey and digital cooperation project”. It carried out various cooperative protection work internationally oriented including investigation, catalog, digitization and publication of ancient books.

In May 2016, the Deputy Director of the National Library of China, Zhang Zhiqing led the delegation to investigate and make professional communication with relevant libraries in Spain and Portugal. Through this visit, we had a first understanding of the China ancient books collection situation in both countries, which laid the foundation for the realization of the digital cooperation of overseas ancient books.

In 2016, China Center continued to push forward the cooperation of digitization and republication of overseas ancient books. *Annotated Catalogue of the Rare Chinese Local Gazetteers in the Harvard-Yenching Library, Harvard University, The Bibliography of the Chinese Ancient Books Collected in Pitts Theology Library in Emory University* and 25 volumes of “Yong Le Da Dian” collected in the British Library and the

Library of University of Aberdeen have been officially published.

### 3.6 Publicity of ancient books protection

China Center actively cooperated with the news media to enhance publicity of ancient books preservation by taking advantage of important projects and activities. In addition, it published exclusive pages, articles on press media, and established exclusive columns for special reports.

In March 2016, the State Council officially announced the 5<sup>th</sup> “National Rare Ancient Books Directory” with 899 titles of rare books and 14 institutions of “National Key Protection Institutions of Ancient Documents”. China Center also published 6 columns named “The essentials of the fifth group of National Rare Ancient Books Directory” on China Culture Daily, and invited experts in ancient books preservation to introduce the highlights to the public. As well as banded with various media including CCTV to advertise the Catalogue, which received wide attention from the society.

In June, the Center held the “National Memory, Spiritual Home--Special Exhibition on National Rare Ancient Books”. More than 100 rare ancient books have been exhibited. Through these ancient books, this exhibition revealed the origin of Chinese traditional culture and explained the main characteristics of Chinese civilization, which received high praise from all sectors of the society. Due to the strong public response, this special exhibition has been prolonged twice. The total audiences reached more than 34 million.

In 2016, China Center launched a memorial event for the 10th anniversary of “China Ancient Books Preservation Project” and planned to shoot a feature film for it.

In order to strengthen the publicity of new media, in 2016, the National Ancient Books Preservation Center WeChat public number was opened to publish high-quality original articles and videos, and got positive responses from the public. China Center continued to build and maintain the Ancient Books Preservation Website. In 2016, 6 special subject websites including “Ce Fu Qian Hua” have been produced.