

**Conference of Directors of National Libraries in Asia and Oceania
Annual meeting of 2016 – at the National Library of New Zealand, Wellington NZ**

Annual report of the National Library of China

Period covered by this report: calendar year 2015

Name of country: China

Name of library: National Library of China.

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1. RELATIONSHIP TO GOVERNMENT:

On Dec. 9th, 2015, the Legislative Affairs Office of the State Council issued the *Public Library Law of the People's Republic of China (Draft)*. This law, which is the first library law in China, will be voted by the National People's Congress in 2016. It ensures the lawful right of the National Library to collect all kinds of publications.

2. FACTS AND FIGURES:

1483 library staff.

211 thousand newly registered readers in 2015 and 2.21 million in total.

3,882,927 visits to the library.

23,081,232 circulations of library collections.

1.45 billion hits on NLC websites.

35,181,472 library items.

3. A BRIEF GENERAL OVERVIEW OF RECENT MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS:

The State Council has approved the program of building a National Repository for Strategic Preservation, which ensures the permanent preservation of national strategic collections and comprehensive reserve of important documental resources.

4. NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN BUILDING AND MANAGING COLLECTIONS:

Among the newly included collections, there are three block-printed documents with key historical significance: the *Sutra of Maitreya's Ascension* (block-printed edition of the 2nd year of Tiancheng during Tang Dynasty), the *Sutra on Maitreya's Descent* (block-printed edition of Wudai during the late Tang Dynasty) and the *Diamond Sutra* (block-printed edition by Li Renrui). These documents are important resources for studying folk culture of Wudai during the late Tang Dynasty. Among them, the *Sutra of Maitreya's Ascension* is the second block-printed document in the world with a specific year of printing, making it a paradigm in the world printing history.

5. NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN PROVIDING ACCESS TO COLLECTIONS:

Hold "Immortal Greatwall—The Collection Exhibition on the 70th Anniversary of the Victory of Sino-Japanese War and World Anti-Fascist War";

Issue the "Database of the Tokyo Trial";

Publish the *Series of Chinese Precious Ancient Books*;

Publish the *Fifth National Directory of Precious Ancient Books*;

Initiate the compilation of *Comprehensive Catalogue of Collections during the Period of the Republic of China (Books)*.

6. NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN OTHER SERVICES:

Hold classes for the elderly, teaching them how to use apps on the smartphone;

The new Children's Library has opened to the public. Its area and the number of collections and seats have both doubled;

Make audio books and provide them to the blind through the National Digital Library for the Blind;

Promote "NLC MOOC". The NLC has held more than 900 courses through the internet, covering 16 subjects and 12 features;

Hold 12 lectures for ministerial leaders on history and culture, and initiate a database of videos of these lectures;

Establish the 16th ministry-level branch library—Branch Library of the Supreme People's Court;

Establish NLC's Scientific Evaluation Center, providing consultation for users in the areas of STM research and education;

Initiate the program of "Metro Library" so that the public can enjoy mobile reading.

7. NOTES ON YOUR COLLABORATION WITH OTHER LIBRARIES, ARCHIVES AND MUSEUMS IN YOUR COUNTRY:

The number of members of the OLCC(Online Library Cataloguing Center) has amounted to 2530 with more than 11200000 records of bibliographic data and 1390000 records of authority data. The annual uploaded data is 105000 records and downloaded data has exceeded 9090000;

The Promotion Program of Digital Library Service has already had 275 members.

NLC has fulfilled 54 thousand requests for document delivery, interlibrary loans and international loans.

The 10th Wenjin Book Award has given honors to 10 books, issued 60 recommendations and held tour exhibitions in over 80 domestic libraries.

8. NOTES ON INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION:

Initiate “Cooperation Program for the Survey and Digitization of Overseas Chinese Ancient Books” to promote the return of digitized version of these books;

In accordance with the strategy of “One Belt One Road”, NLC has been actively cooperating with national and regional libraries along the Silk Road and jointly held the First Assembly of Sino-Arabic Experts on Library and Information with the Secretariat of the League of Arab States;

By signing cooperation agreements with the National Libraries of Tunisia, Turkey and Azerbaijan and the Central Library of University of Tehran in Iran, the NLC is planning to establish “Silk Road Library Consortia” and “Silk Road Digital Library”.

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