

Conference of Directors of National Libraries in Asia and Oceania
Annual meeting of 2018 – at the National Library of Myanmar (Naypyitaw), Myanmar
Annual report of the National Library of China
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1. RELATIONSHIP TO GOVERNMENT:

The National Library of China supports the government by providing literature and information services for national legislative decision-making and carrying out library legislation support and career development research with cultural authorities.

1.1 Provide Information Services for the National Legislative Decision-Making

First, we provided services for the National People's Congress and the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, organized and compiled information for the topics of the "two sessions" and themed literature information report. Second, we held lectures of history and culture to help ministerial-level leaders broaden their cultural horizons, understand and grasp the law of social development, and improve their level of leadership and governance. Third, we established branch libraries in ministries, and carried out targeted services for relevant government departments and legislative organizations. As of the end of 2017, we have built 16 branches and created a new model of institutions learning "Book Bar of the Development and Reform", jointly working with the National Development and Reform Commission. Fourth, we provided related departments information consultation for the formulation of "Public Library Law" and some other regulations.

1.2 Carry out Research on Library Legislation Support and Career Development

First, we carried out supporting research on library legislation. "Public Library Law of the People's Republic of China"-a millstone in the public library development of one hundred

years-was issued on 4 November 2017 and was put into implementation on 1 January 2018, which fills in the blanks in the library legislation since the founding of the PRC and guides ways for future development. Article 22 indicates that the country set the National Library of China bearing the functions of collection and preservation of national literature, compilation of national bibliography and joint catalogue, provision of legislation and decision-making to the central government, organizing the protection of national ancient books, making library theoretical research, carrying out international exchange and providing guidance and support for other libraries. It indicates that the NLC also has the function of public library. It was the first time that the status and functions of National Library of China were confirmed in legal form, which provided legal safeguard for its future development. The NLC will continue to cooperate with relevant departments to actively promote the implementation of the law and organize the compilation of “Interpretation of the Public Library Law” and “Questions and Answers of Public Library Law” as well as carry out series of publicity and interpretation work.

Second, accepting the commission of the Ministry of Culture of the PRC, we carried out research in the fields of building modern public cultural service system, developing public digital culture development, purchasing public cultural services and other key areas. The NLC also organized the formulation of “Public Library Services Specification”.

2. FACTS AND FIGURES:

	Item	Figure (Jan-Dec)
1	Visitors	5,839,000
2	Reader Cards	213,000
3	Literature Circulation	25,558,000
4	Consultations	1,049,000
5	Exhibitions, Lectures, Trainings and Performances	2460
6	Website Visits	910,000,000
7	Digital TV in the world	90,000,000
8	Wechat fans/ Active users	200,000/75,000
9	Children Readers	340,000

3. BRIEF GENERAL OVERVIEW OF RECENT MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS:

In 2017, several cultural projects conducted by the NLC, including the “National Literature Strategic Reserve Project”, “Chinese Ancient Books Preservation Plan”, “Minguo Documents Preservation and Conservation Programme”, and “A Hundred Classic Books of Chinese Traditional Culture”, make remarkable achievements. Following are the introduction of each project:

3.1 National Strategic Depository of Document Preservation Project

The design unit and the design plan were confirmed through domestic open bidding. Then, the NLC signed architecture design contract with the successful bidder and continuously promote the optimization of the design plan. Fully cooperating with the National Development and Reform Commission and other relevant departments, the NLC prepared and submitted the feasibility study report for approval.

3.2 Chinese Ancient Books Preservation Plan

The first special protection plan for ancient books- Work Plan of National Ancient Books Protected in 13th Five-Year Plan- was officially released since the founding of the PRC. Series of activities celebrating the 10th anniversary of its implementation were successfully held; Twenty-one provinces basically completed census work; 30 units of census data including 143, 604 pieces were newly released; 19 kinds of 32 volumes included in “National Catalogue of Ancient Census and Registration” were published. The NLC also compiled the “Survey Project for Chinese Rare Ancient Book Overseas” entrusted by the State Administration of Cultural Heritage.

3.3 Minguo Documents Preservation and Conservation Programme

The NLC compiled “Outline of Minguo Documents Preservation and Conservation Programme in 13th Five-Year Plan” and a special office was set up. We conducted in-depth literature surveys, adding 5,858 new bibliographic data and 58,568 data items and completed the digitalization of microfilm of 2.2 million pages. The project of “Research on Deacidification of Literature and Development of Deacidification Equipment” was continued and one of the invention patents was obtained.

3.4 Compilation project of “A Hundred Classic Books of Chinese Traditional Culture”

Highly valued by the Central Propaganda Department and the Ministry of Culture, the project was list in the National Social Science Fund's major commissioned projects. The first batch of 10 books was published in September 2017 with positively response. The second batch of 18 books completed the sample submission, and the fifth batch of 9 books completed the selected bibliography and 9 kinds of books included in the fifth batch have been selected. The national major publication project of “Luxun Manuscript Complete Works” was formally launched; the “Classics Collection Project of National Traditional Culture” was approved for establishment; the first batch of four selected item projects such as the “One Belt and One Road”, maritime documents, and stone-carving literature collation and research were launched.

4. NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN BUILDING AND MANAGING COLLECTIONS:

4.1 Library Literature Resources added in 2017

	Item	Figure (Jan-Dec 2017)
1	Documents	2,260,000 volumes
2	Internet Resources	48.24TB
3	Oral Materials	380Hrs
4	Literature Digitization	36,826Items
5	Video Source Digitization	1030Hrs
6	Microform Digitization	3,600,000 Pages
7	Animation Material Digitization	23000 Pieces
8	Special Websites	22
9	Special Groups Service Websites	2

4.2 Management of Library Literature Resources

We formulated and improved series of business standard specifications, such as Chinese digital resource metadata, foreign language bibliographic records and the construction and disclosure of “Chinese Memory” project resources.

	Item	Figure (Jan-Dec 2017)
1	Bibliographic Data	710,000
2	New Data added in Wenjin Research	45,000,000
3	Repaired Documents	2949 volumes
4	Long-term Persevered Digital Resources	124.37 TB.

4.3 Overview of Library Collections (As of December 2017)

	Categories	Volumes/Items
1	Chinese Books	25,688,900
2	Foreign Languages Books	11,997,300
3	Rare Books	340,200
4	General Ancient Books	1,628,900
5	Digital Resources	1603.87TB
6	Number of Out-sourced Databases	255

5. NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN PROVIDING ACCESS TO COLLECTIONS:

5.1 Literature Collation and Publishing

Relying on the “Chinese Ancient Books Preservation Plan”, “Minguo Documents Preservation and Conservation Programme” and other key cultural projects, we edited and published “Bibliography of Chinese Rare Books in Princeton University Library”. We implemented the compilation work of “A Hundred Traditional Chinese Culture Classics”, planned the “National Traditional Cultural Classics Organization Project”, and initiated the editing of the “Lu Xun manuscript”, “Chinese Library History”-the first truly general library history-was published in 2017. Seven publishing projects won the national funds.

5.2 Construction of Thematic Resource Database

“The Integration of Digital Publishing Resources for Local Historical Documents and Platform Construction” was selected in the Reform and Development for Press and Publication Project.

5.3 Development of Cultural Creative Product

The NLC took the lead in the establishment of the “Product Development Alliance for National Library Cultural Creative” and organized a library training course on cultural and creative product development. In cooperation with social forces, a total of more than 130 cultural and creative products were developed throughout the year. We promoted the display of cultural creative development achievements. AR interactive of “Qing Shang Shengping” and smart calligraphy learning packages of “Hanmo Shuxiang” received multiple awards in Beijing and other cities.

6. NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN OTHER SERVICES:

6.1 Digital Cultural Services for the Public

The “Digital Library Promotion Project” continued to be implemented. The online scholarly resource search platform was put into trial operation. We completed the platform deployment for 68 libraries across the country and retrieved more than 1 million metadata records, initially implemented one-stop search service for the promotion program.

6.2 Nationwide Reading Services

On 23 April, on the occasion of the 22nd World Book and Copyright Day, the 12th Wenjin Book Award was announced. 160 libraries across the country held the Wenjin Book Awards Prize-winning book tour and 12 libraries were jointly organized to carry out the book raising event. Meanwhile, the exchange activity of “Culture Walking, Reading in Haidian” was kicked off. The themed activity to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the return of Hong Kong was launched on the same day. The two events were cumulatively watched by more than 300,000 people. The achievements of the “Chinese Memory” project were gradually provided to the society. The 2017 “Cultural and Natural Heritage Day” documentary screening activities were held and 22 Intangible

cultural heritage documentaries shot in recent years were broadcast to public.

The “Wenjin Classical Reading” project was carried out online and offline simultaneously. The “National Library Open Course” recorded 20 lectures, 49 issues throughout the whole year with 3,000 people participating in live recordings and 14.5 million visits on the Internet. We planned the “Across Time and Space—China-UK Literature Dialogue” with 8 platforms broadcast live, a total of 1.02 million viewers watched the program. The “Traditional Art Open Class” became the first project funded by the National Arts Fund to use the Internet and new media to promote the communication.

The NLC Audio-Visual Service Center was officially opened on September 9, 2017, which was the 108th birthday of the NLC. With music art as the theme, and Audio-Visual Space and the NLC Art Center as the position, the NLC Audio-Visual Service Center carries out public art education popularization and promotion activities in manners of reading, audio-visual services, lectures, show, achieve one-stop service that combines online and offline services, physical and digital resources, and satisfies the public's increasing demands for audio-visual resources.

6.3 Innovation and Entrepreneurship Services

The Science Evaluation Center of the NLC was established, and reached cooperation intentions with a number of research institutions, libraries, resource providers, analytical tool developers and service targets. The “Enterprise Information Service Platform Phase IV of the NLC” was put into use, and a total of 620,000 pieces of data were published to provide users. In the whole year, a total of 8141 information consultations were completed, of which 3,423 were papers verified and 231 were technology verification.

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

7.1 Cooperation with Libraries at all levels

First of all, relying on the national provincial public library decision-making advisory service platform, the National Library Reference Advisory Network, the National Library literature microfilm replication center and other business cooperation platform, we continued to promote the public libraries joint services. In 2017, the National Library Joint Catalog Center had 2,150 members, 2722 users. Their total collection was 13.56 million copies and items, and the annual volume of upload data was nearly 109,000 with download data 10.19 million. Second, we continued to organize the implementation of “Chinese Ancient Books Preservation Plan”, “Minguo Documents Preservation and Conservation Programme”, “Digital Library Promotion Project” and other key cultural projects. We united libraries at all levels to cooperate in several fields, such as resource development, service activities, technology development, and personnel training, focusing on key areas of business development. Third, working closely with Chinese Library Association and other organizations, we supported the Chinese Library Association to

undertake the sixth assessment of public libraries at and above the county level by the Ministry of Culture and carried out training program to more than 4,000 county library directors and Grassroots library workers. The “Cultural Voluntary Service for Cultural Census of Chinese Ancient Books” was expanded to 10 provinces across the country.

7.2 Cooperation with Other Cultural Institutions

First, relying on the National Museum of Classic Books, we gave full play to the library and the museum's integration advantages. We cooperated with other cultural and educational institutions through joint, loan, and itinerant exhibitions. Twenty-two special exhibitions such as “World Illustration Exhibition”, “The Treasures of the British Library” and “Confucius Collection Documentary Exhibition” were held, and more than 1.23 million people visited. Second, we strengthened the cooperation with museums, archives, and other institutions during the implementation of the “Chinese Ancient Books Preservation Plan”, “Minguo Documents Preservation and Conservation Programme”. In 2017, we cooperated with the Confucius Museum to develop all-around cooperation; signed a strategic cooperation framework agreement with the Second Historical Archives of China; established the “Antiquities Protection Equipment R&D Center” in cooperation with the China Academy of Launch Vehicle Technology.

8. NOTES ON INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION:

We fulfill the functions of foreign culture exchange on behalf of the central government, carrying out in-depth exchanges and cooperation with other countries and regions. By the end of 2017, we had established staff exchanges and cooperation relationship with 50 countries and worked closely with 552 institutions from 117 regions. We received 45 batches, 354 people visits throughout the year and sent 21 batches, 59 people visits out to other countries.

In 2017, two important conferences were held in Beijing, China. The 25th Conference of Directors of National Libraries in Asia and Oceania was held in the NLC and more than 30 attendees from 20 national libraries or institutions assuming the functions of national libraries attended the conference. The theme of the conference was “Building Sustainable Regional Network of National Libraries”. The attendees introduced the latest development achievements and shared the practices and experiences in carrying out international cooperation of their libraries.

The Second China-Arab Library and Information Science Professionals Conference was held in Beijing. This conference was one of the activities of Culture Forum on Silk Road Series, which was another grand meeting since China-Arab National Libraries Directors Forum in 2014 and the First China-Arab Library and Information Science Professionals Conference in 2016. More than ten library directors, officials and experts from the League of Arab States, including Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Tunisia, and so on, more than ten library directors from domestic library community, attended the activity. The conference strengthened the idea of library regional cooperation, established a communication platform for China-Arab library community, and set a solid foundation for promoting cooperative development

and sharing of resources, digital library development, practical cooperation in the information area under the Belt and Road Initiative. The “Silk Road International Library Forum”, focusing on themes of the Reading, City and culture, will be held on May 28 to 29, 2018 in Sichuan, and we would like to invite the delegates of related country libraries to attend the forum.

On 6 July, during the Second Meeting of BRICS Ministers of Culture, Han Yongjin, signed the Outcome Documents of BRICS Alliance of Libraries on the presence of BRICS ministers of the Ministry of Culture with the other four country library leaders, which marked that BRICS Library Consortia was established officially. BRICS reached a consensus on holding forums, co-holding exhibitions, co-developing digital library, ancient books preservation and conservation, cooperative development and sharing of resources, and so on.

We organized and participated in international library events actively. We cooperated with the British Library the Exhibition of Shakespeare to Sherlock: Treasures of the British Library and designed a series of activities related to this exhibition, which got highly praise. We planned and implemented the “Overseas Chinese Ancient Books Investigation and Digital Cooperation” project and also participated in the construction of overseas Chinese cultural center library and continued to promote the projects of overseas cultural center digital library.