

A large, multi-story building with traditional Bhutanese architectural style, featuring intricate woodwork, stone walls, and a prominent entrance with ornate columns. The building is set against a backdrop of mountains and a clear sky. The text "NATIONAL LIBRARY & ARCHIVES BHUTAN" is overlaid in large, bold, blue letters.

NATIONAL LIBRARY & ARCHIVES BHUTAN

Harka B. Gurung
Director

Introduction

- The National Library and Archives of Bhutan is a government organization under the Department of Culture, Ministry of Home and Cultural Affairs.
- It was established in the year 1967.
- Maintains a collection of ancient Bhutanese literature on religion, cultural, history and social traditions.
- Provides facilities for research, academic pursuits and promotes publishing of literary works.

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Dharma section

- The Dharma /Classical section has a collection of more than 13,000 volumes on history, religion and culture.



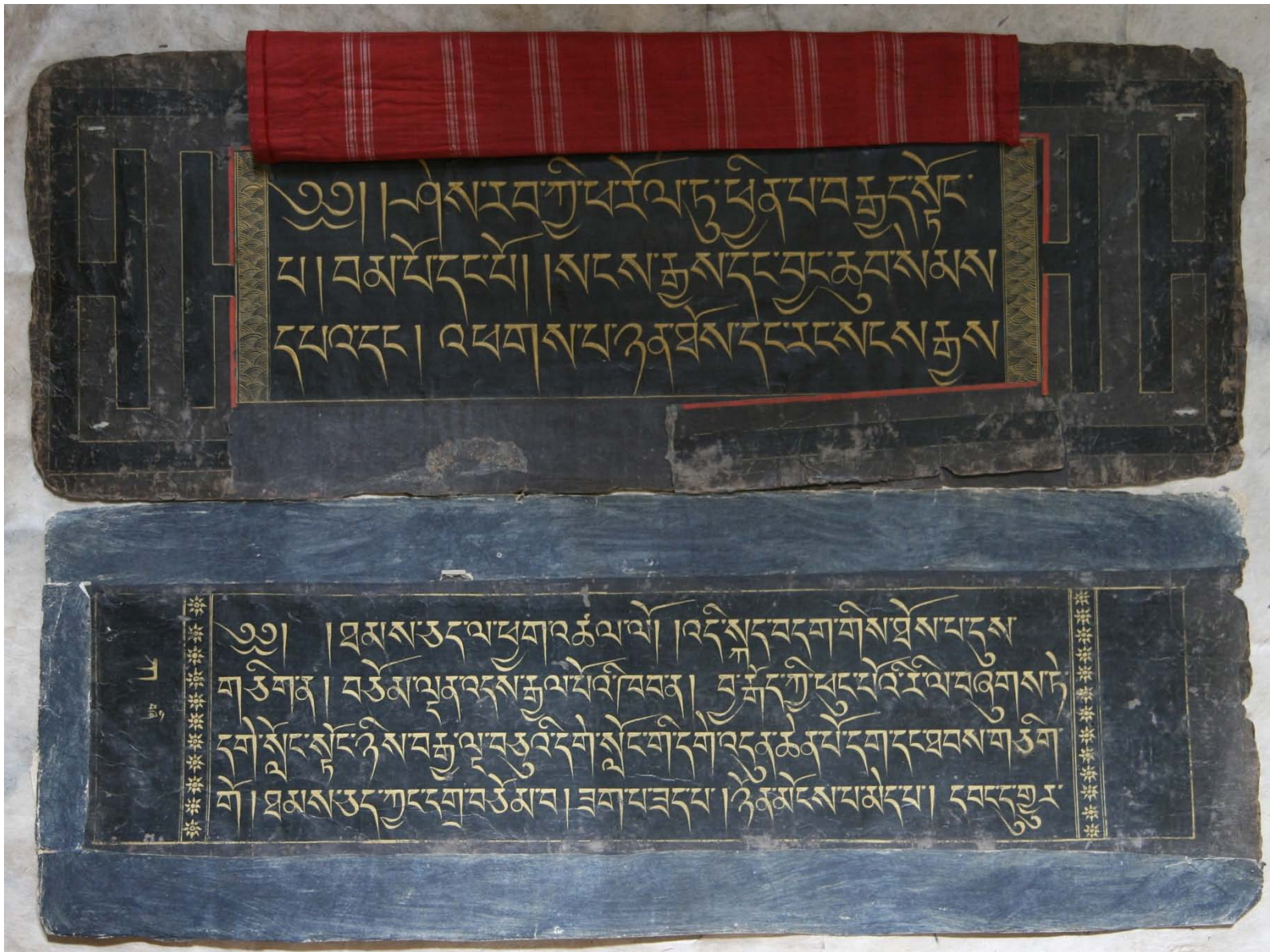
Dharma collection

Foreign Language Section

- The Library also has a “Foreign Language Books Section” holding 8800 titles mainly on Buddhism, history and culture of Bhutan and neighbouring countries.

Archives

- The Archives, as a national memory bank, have collection of documents including old records, letters, manuscripts, edicts and photographs of historical importance.
- Microfilming Services are provided for important rare texts and documents to encourage long-term preservation.



A Rare manuscript from the Archives

Legal Deposit

- The Library has been implementing the Legal Deposit Act since 1999, whereby authors, publishers and producers of audio-visual materials are required to submit five copies of their work to the Library thereby fulfilling the mandate; to collect, preserve and manage Bhutan's documentary heritage.

Research

The Research Division of the Library carries out the following tasks:

- Research on history and culture of Bhutan.
- Survey and registration of rare texts and documents whereby their contents are digitized on location.
- Inventorying and documentation of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Bhutan to fulfil the UNESCO 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage



THANK YOU!