

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Asian Collections

AN ILLUSTRATED GUIDE

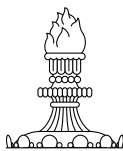


L I B R A R Y O F C O N G R E S S

Asian Collections

A N I L L U S T R A T E D G U I D E

L I B R A R Y O F C O N G R E S S W A S H I N G T O N 2 0 0 0



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COVER: A portion of William Bleau's map of the continent of Asia, which appeared in *Tooneel des Aerdrucx*, published by William and his son John in 1635 in Amsterdam. (*Geography and Map Division*)

Under the editorial direction of Mya Thanda Poe, Chief, Asian Division, who bears sole responsibility for the content, this guide was written by Harold E. Meinheit under contract with the Library of Congress. The illustrations were selected by Mr. Meinheit with the advice and support of the staff of the Asian Division, the Prints and Photographs Division, and the Geography and Map Division.

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Introduction

PRECEDING PAGES. Kanko Playing Goh While Kada Treats His Arrow Wound. This especially fine woodblock print by Kuniyoshi (1797–1861) is a triptych showing a famous scene from the Chinese classic, *The Romance of the Three Kingdoms*. The warrior Kanko (Kuan Kung) was wounded by arrows during a battle. Here the famous doctor Kada (Hua T'o) treats a deep wound caused by a poisoned arrow while Kanko ignores the pain and plays the strategy game of goh. Military heroes were one of Kuniyoshi's favorite themes. (*Crosby Noyes Collection, Prints and Photographs Division*)

OPPOSITE. Asian Division Reading Room. (*Photo by Robert L. Lisbeth*)

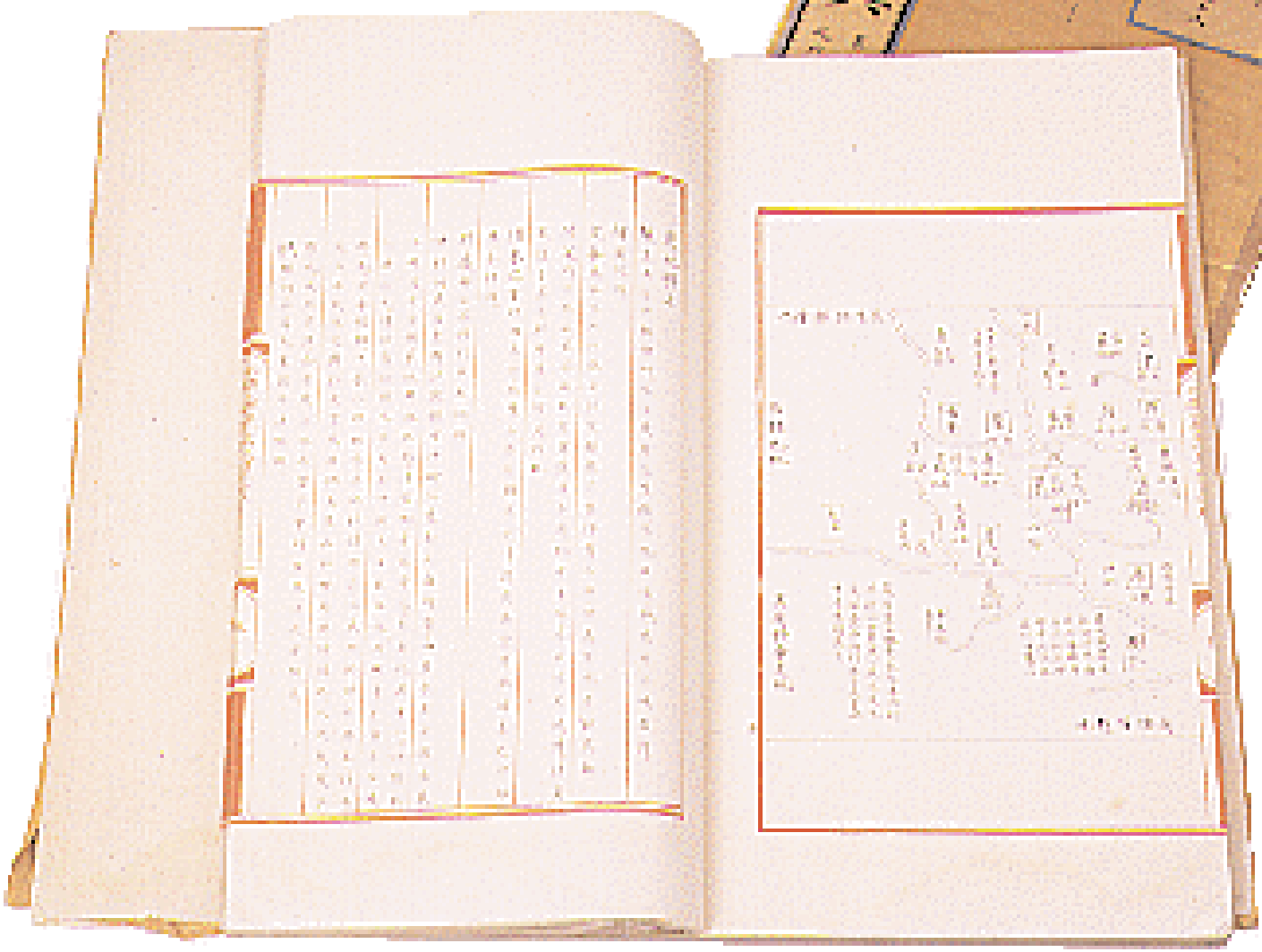
LOCATED IN THE MAGNIFICENT JEFFERSON BUILDING, at the end of a pathway of gilded ceilings, is the elegant reading room of the Asian Division. Treasures are on display, and books, current newspapers, and periodicals line the wooden walls. The Asian collection of approximately two million items is the largest and finest outside of Asia. It covers most subject fields and represents the cultures of China, Inner Asia, Japan, Korea, and South and Southeast Asia. Complementing the Asian-language publications are important materials on Asia in other areas of the Library, particularly in the special collections of legal materials, manuscripts, maps, music, motion pictures, and prints and photographs.

This guide traces the growth of the collection from its earlier emphasis on classics to its current focus on modern Asian publications. During the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, the Library acquired rare books and classical writings on and from East Asia. The purchase of a private collection of classical Indic materials on language, literature, and other subjects formed the nucleus of the South Asian collection. After the Second World War, acquisitions programs for current publications from South and Southeast Asia developed strong collections.

I wish to acknowledge the dedication and hard work of Harold E. Meinheit, who wrote the text for this guide and coordinated the selection of material to be illustrated. We both express our deep appreciation to the many dedicated specialists of the Library of Congress for their advice, guidance, and support in this project. In particular, the following members of the Asian Division played key roles: Yoko Akiba, David Hsu, Hong Ta, Joobong Kim, Susan Meinheit, Ichiko Morita, Thaddeus Ohta, John Reyes, Abdul Kohar Rony, Allen Thrasher, Chi Wang, Mi Chu Wiens, Laura Wong, and Yoshiko Yoshimura. This effort also benefited greatly from the excellent work of Lien Huong Fiedler of the Copyright Office, who on her own time put together a valuable history of Asian acquisitions, which was based on extracts from the annual reports of the Librarian of Congress. In addition, Marcia Battle and Katherine Blood of the Prints and Photographs Division, Ronald Grim of the Geography and Map Division, and Jesse Munn of the Conservation Office were of great help in recommending important items to illustrate in the pages that follow. William P. Tuchrello, field director of the Library's field office in Jakarta, also reviewed sections of the text and provided valuable suggestions. Finally, Dr. Sandy Kita of the University of Maryland generously contributed his expertise on Japanese woodblock prints to this project.

MYA THANDA POE, CHIEF
ASIAN DIVISION





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The World of Asian Books

NEWLY OPENED IN APRIL 1997, the Asian Division Reading Room welcomes the visitor with its high ceilings, bookcases of dark wood, tall windows, and polished wooden stairways climbing the book-lined walls. Seated at the handsome reading tables on any given day might be a mix of scholars, students, and perhaps even a saffron-robed Buddhist monk.

This guide offers a glimpse into the Library of Congress Asian collection. Beyond describing the books, however, the following pages also seek to convey something of the story of how they came to this home so far from their origins. The early stages of the story involve a fascinating cast of scholars, diplomats, missionaries, explorers, adventurers, and soldiers. Among them are a former officer in the French Foreign Legion who became America's senior diplomat in China, a naval officer who served as a model for Herman Melville's haunted Captain Ahab, and an explorer who spent much of his life in remote mountainous regions of China where he struggled to maintain some of the comforts of his native Vienna while entrancing readers of *National Geographic* with his adventures.

Before beginning our exploration of the Asian collection, some introductory comments are in order. The most important concerns the word *book*. Today many Asian books resemble their Western counterparts, which has not always been the case. Asian books traditionally took quite different forms, and many of the Asian Division's treasures reflect these differences.

Long before paper existed, the written word in China was recorded on bones, stone, bamboo strips, wooden boards, and silk. With the invention of paper in China in about 100 AD, written material increased dramatically. Because Chinese characters were written with a brush, the ink usually bled through the paper, making it necessary to use only one side. Manuscripts in China initially took the form of scrolls of silk or paper upon which were mounted the individual written sheets of paper. The scrolls opened from right to left, with a ribbon on the right edge to tighten and fasten the scroll and a roller at the end of the scroll. The color of the ribbon sometimes indicated subject matter, and identification labels were attached to the end of the roller. A work usually consisted of several volumes or scrolls that were put together in a protective wrapper or book cloth, often made of silk or bamboo matting, that held about ten rolls. The Asian Division holds many early scrolls. Later, with the development of woodblock printing, individual sheets of paper were folded over, tied together at the back, and bound together into a volume. Again, an individual work or title might require many bound volumes, stored in boxes and labelled with their contents. Traditional Japanese, Korean, and Vietnamese books took similar forms.

OPPOSITE. The Yung Lo Emperor's Great Encyclopedia. Compiled for the Yung Lo emperor by some two thousand scholars between 1403 and 1407, this manuscript encyclopedia was the earliest and largest in the history of China. The original was completely destroyed during the final days of the Ming Dynasty (1368–1644), but fortunately a manuscript copy, made between 1562 and 1567, survived. In 1900, during the Boxer Rebellion, this copy was largely destroyed by fire with only a few hundred of the original 22,000 volumes surviving. The Library has forty-one volumes, the largest holding outside of China. Shown here is part of a historical map of Hubei province, with a detailed entry describing the history and geography of the province. (*Chinese Rare Book Collection, Asian Division*)



Sir Thomas Stamford Raffles. A Javan in the Court Dress. An official with the British East India Company, Raffles arrived in Penang, now part of Malaysia, in 1805 and went on to become Lieutenant Governor of Java for five years after the British temporarily expelled the Dutch in 1811. Some eight years later, Raffles founded the British colony of Singapore. He was knighted in London in 1817 for his scholarly and comprehensive *History of Java*. This illustration is taken from a French edition of the book and shows an elegantly dressed member of the Javanese royal court. (*Rare Book and Special Collections Division*)

Books in India took another form, with texts inscribed on long, narrow pages of palm leaf or paper and loosely stacked together between covers, often made of wood. This type of book spread to many other areas, including Southeast Asia and Tibet. Both forms are found in the Asian collection, especially in the older, classical works.

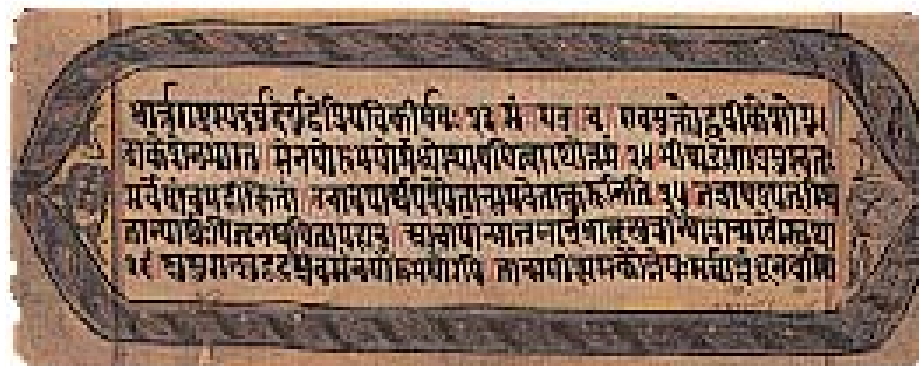
This guide is divided into sections on “classical” Asia and “modern” Asia. The Library initially concentrated on acquiring the great Asian classics of religion, philosophy, history, geography, science, medicine, and literature. Often rare and of great historical value, many of these books are carefully maintained in the Asian Division’s rare book storage areas, but are available to serious users. One of the aims of this guide is to provide a broader audience an opportunity to learn about and see some of these beautiful items. The modern section describes the Asian Division’s holdings on contemporary Asia. At the end of World War II, the Library’s acquisition policy turned from collecting traditional, often rare, Asian material to obtaining current publications from Asia. With the United States playing an increasingly active role in world affairs, the Library moved to meet the growing demand for information on current conditions. However, the division into classical and modern Asia is not neat or precise. Many of the traditional classics still make their way to the Library, mainly in reprint form or from generous donors, which is especially true for regions such as Southeast and Southern Asia that received only limited attention from the Library before 1945.

There are, of course, limits to this brief survey. The Asian Division’s holdings are in the vernacular languages of Asia and no systematic attempt has been made to deal with the huge volume of work on Asia in English or European languages found in the Library’s general collections. Nonetheless, many of the Library’s other divisions have historically important material about Asia, and some examples of these holdings have been selected to give the reader a sense of the Library’s overall holdings on Asia, which include rare Western books, maps, photographs, and manuscripts.

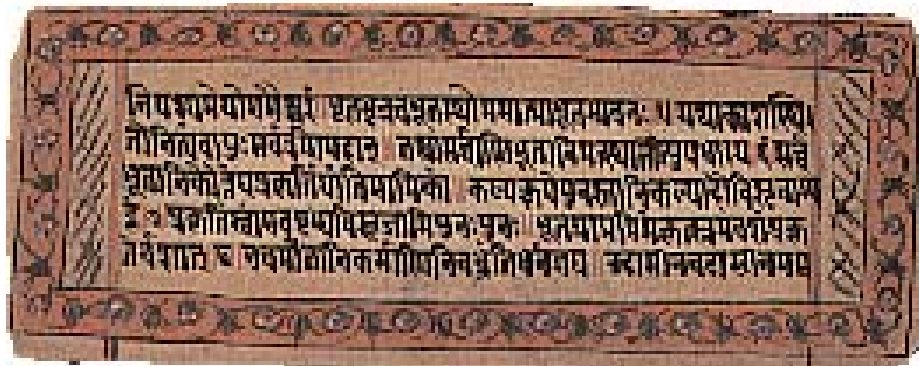
The transliterations used in this guide are primarily those used by the Library itself. Thus, although the Pinyin system is widely used for Chinese today, this guide uses the earlier Wade-Giles system that remains in use in the Library. An effort has also been made to simplify the use of names for a number of countries that have changed over time by using the modern name. For example, “Thailand” is used throughout this guide even though the kingdom was once called “Siam.” The text also consistently refers to the “Asian Division” even though this office went through several name changes over the years before taking on its current designation in 1978.



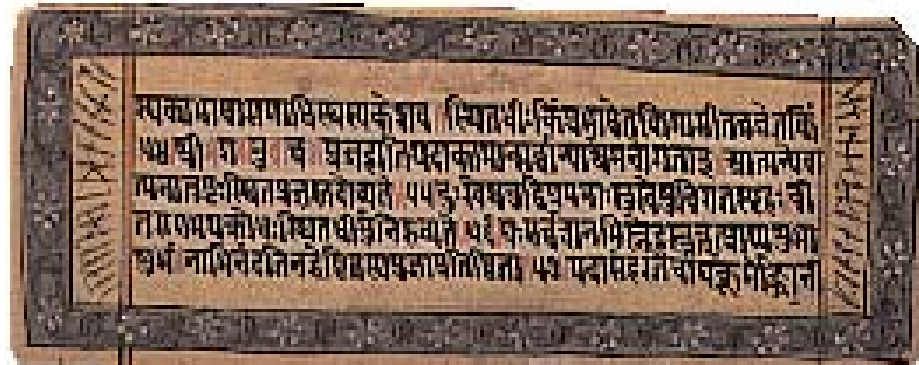
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सर्वमङ्गलकरं कुरुते



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Bhagavadgītā. A cheerful decoration adorns this manuscript of the *Bhagavadgītā*, perhaps the most popular of all Hindu religious works. Stylized and geometrical rosettes reminiscent of pre-Muslim South Asia styles are combined with floral ornament so typical of Islamic decorative art. Nineteenth-century paper manuscript from North India. (Southern Asian Collection, Asian Division)



CHINESE BEGINNINGS

Chinese books played a central role in the development of the Library's Asian-language collection during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. In fact, the Library's first special unit to take care of Asian holdings, established in 1928, was called the "Division of Chinese Literature." How did the Library's Chinese collection begin?

A good starting point is February 23, 1844, when the *USS Brandywine* dropped anchor in Macau's harbor, on China's southern coast. The *Brandywine's* arrival attracted more than usual attention in the Portuguese colony, for aboard was the first U.S. Minister to China, Caleb Cushing. A politician and lawyer, Cushing had been appointed by President Tyler to negotiate the Treaty of Wang hsia, which would give the United States the same trading privileges China had granted Great Britain only two years earlier in the Treaty of Nanking.

Cushing intended to proceed on to Peking but the Chinese insisted he wait in Macau for the arrival of the emperor's representative. During the nearly four months before the Chinese delegation arrived, Cushing set up a legation on Macau's pleasant Praia Grande, overlooking the harbor, and continued his study of China, including both the Chinese and Manchu languages.

Cushing had excellent tutors. One of those was Dr. Peter Parker, an American medical missionary working in Canton. Cushing appointed Parker and another



The Classical Tradition

OPPOSITE. View of Green Island, Macau, 1844. George West was the official artist attached to U.S. Minister Caleb Cushing's delegation during negotiation of the first U.S. treaty with China in 1844. During Cushing's five-month stay in the Portuguese territory of Macau on China's southern coast, West sketched and painted numerous local scenes. In this watercolor, West shows Green Island (Ilha Verde), a prominent feature in Macau's inner harbor and the site of a seventeenth-century Jesuit monastery, abandoned by the time West saw it. Today, as the result of land reclamation, Green Island is part of the Macau peninsula. (*Caleb Cushing Collection, Manuscript Division*)

LEFT. Fan Map Showing China, Japan, and Korea in the 1870s. Apparently designed for gentry-administrators in China, this fan map was probably made in Shanghai in the late nineteenth century. A note on the left side states that, because of the size and shape of the fan, the island of Taiwan was displaced northward. The size of Korea is also exaggerated. The map includes all administrative divisions for mainland China down to the county level and also lists them on the reverse side. It gives less detail for the island of Taiwan, Korea, and Japan. (*Miscellaneous Oriental Collection, Geography and Map Division*)



One of the First Books in the Chinese Collection. The *Nung Ching Ts'uen Shu* (Encyclopædia of Agriculture Among the Chinese) was one of the ten titles the Library received from China in 1869. These books, part of an exchange program authorized by Congress in 1867, launched the Library's Chinese collection. (*Chinese Rare Book Collection, Asian Division*)

missionary, Elijah Coleman Bridgeman, as joint “Chinese Secretaries” to the mission. A third American missionary, S. Wells Williams, became an unofficial adviser and will reappear later in the story of the Library's Chinese collection. Williams and Bridgeman published a missionary newspaper, *The Chinese Repository*, still an important resource for scholars and available in the Library's Rare Book and Special Collections Division.

An avid bibliophile, Cushing also used his long wait to buy Chinese books, relying on the three missionaries, who in turn appear to have been assisted by Chinese Christian convert, Liang Afa, who was a printer with wide contacts among Canton's booksellers. By the time Cushing had completed the treaty and was ready to leave Macau at the end of August 1844, he had developed an excellent library of Chinese classics. It was this collection, acquired in 1879, that formed part of the original core of the Library's Chinese holdings. In addition, Cushing's personal papers, including his original card catalog, can be found in the Manuscript Division of the Library. The 237 titles (2,547 volumes) that make up the Cushing collection include history, medicine, classics, poetry, fiction, ethics, astronomy, essays, and dictionaries.

It took thirty-five years, however, before the Cushing collection found its way to the Library. In the meantime, another group of Chinese books had the honor of being the first on the Library's shelves. In 1869, America's interest in China was growing, in part as the result of the previous year's visit to Washington, D.C., of an official Chinese delegation led by the former U.S. minister to China, Anson Burlingame, whose personal papers are now in the Library's Manuscript Division. It was also in 1869 that the U.S. legation in Peking received ten works, consisting of some 934 volumes, from the Chinese government as the result of an international exchange system authorized by Congress in 1867. The American diplomat who played a central role during the two years it took the legation in Peking to negotiate the exchange was none other than S. Wells Williams, the former missionary publisher who had assisted Caleb Cushing in 1844. Carefully listed and annotated by Williams, the books included the Confucian classics and works on medicine, botany, language, philosophy, and mathematics, each with the notation: “Presented to the Government of the U.S.A. by His Majesty the Emperor of China, June 1869.”

One example illustrates the quality of the 1869 collection. The *Nung Ching Ts'uen Shu* (Encyclopædia of Agriculture Among the Chinese) is the work of a well-known Ming Dynasty scholar-official, Hsü Kuang-ch'i (1562–1633). In 1600, Hsü met the Italian Jesuit missionary Matteo Ricci and three years later was

baptized into the Roman Catholic Church under the name “Paul Hsü.” Working with Ricci, Hsü became the first Chinese to translate European books into the Chinese language. In particular, the Hsü-Ricci translation of Euclid’s *Elements* boosted the reputation of Western science and of the Jesuits among the Chinese literati. Hsü’s important work on agriculture was written between 1625 and 1628 and was presented to the throne by his grandson Matteo Hsü in 1643. Paul Hsü was not, however, simply a channel for Western influence to enter China but was also a cultural bridge between China and Europe. His work on agriculture, dealing with the idealized Chinese view of the farmer as well as the technicalities of farming, became known in Europe and played a role in the development of the French Enlightenment. Through reading Hsü, a group of French intellectual reformers concluded that China was a country where the true worth of agriculture and the farmer was recognized. These intellectuals, the physiocrats, urged European governments to look to the Chinese model in making a number of reforms, including in agriculture. The Library’s copy of Hsü’s encyclopedia is a later edition, printed in Kweichou province in 1837.

The Eight Immortals of Taoism. Purchased by Dr. Walter Swingle for the Library in the 1920s, this scroll painting portrays a popular Chinese theme, the eight immortals of the Taoist religion. The eight immortals, who represent all levels of Chinese society, embody the ideal of perfect but imaginary happiness. Three of the immortals are historical figures; the other five are characters from old fables and romances. (*Chinese Rare Book Collection, Asian Division*)



RIGHT. The Imperial Illustrated Encyclopedia of Ancient and Modern Times. The *Ku chin T'u-shu chi-ch'eng* is the largest encyclopedia still existing in the world. In 1908, the Chinese government presented this copy to the Library of Congress after the United States had returned its unused portion of the Boxer Indemnity Fund. The work, completed in 1725 and printed in movable bronze type in 1728, consists of over five thousand Chinese volumes. The Library's copy is a photolithographic reproduction dating from 1895 to 1898. (*Chinese Rare Book Collection, Asian Division*)



OPPOSITE TOP. *Chin-ling t'u-yung* (Gazetteer of Nanking), 1624. Consisting of forty woodblock scenes of the city of Nanking (under its earlier name of "Chin-ling"), this Ming Dynasty printing includes descriptions and eight-line poems about the city and surrounding region. The book was written by Chu Chih-fan, with drawings by Lu Shou-po. (*Chinese Rare Book Collection, Asian Division*)

OPPOSITE BOTTOM. *Hui-chiang chih* (Gazetteer of the Muslim Regions), 1772. In 1758, the Ch'ien-lung emperor sent an army to put down armed resistance by the Khojas in the far western region of Kashgaria. Several officers who led the successful Chinese army wrote this manuscript in 1772, giving their account of the campaign. Illustrated here is an Islamic religious leader, an "akhund" ("a-hun" in Chinese). (*Chinese Rare Book Collection, Asian Division*)

The 1869 exchange volumes from China and the Caleb Cushing collection were to remain the extent of the Chinese collection until the beginning of the twentieth century when William Woodville Rockhill, an American scholar and diplomat who served as Minister to China from 1905 to 1909, sent to the Library the first of what eventually were to be three donations of Chinese, Manchu, Mongolian, and Tibetan books. Rockhill's gifts, 6,000 volumes in 1901 to 1902 and another 6,000 volumes in 1915, were donated in memory of John Russell Young, Librarian of Congress from 1897 to 1899, who had also served as U.S. Minister to China from 1882 to 1885. Rockhill had served as a junior diplomat in Young's legation in Peking during the final year of Young's tenure and was one of the early China experts whom Young had nurtured. A third donation of smaller size but with several special volumes came from Mrs. Rockhill in 1942.

Not long after Rockhill's first gift, the Chinese government made another important contribution to the Library's holdings when it presented 198 works from its exhibit at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition of 1904. China followed this gift in 1908 with another presentation to the Library in acknowledgment of America's return of its unused portion of the Boxer Indemnity Fund. This

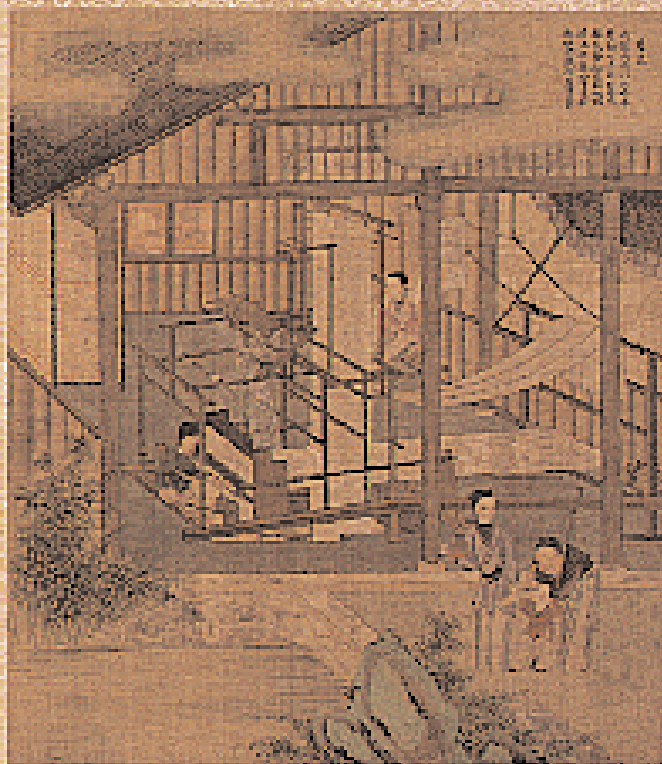
gift was a complete set of the Chinese encyclopedia, the *Ku chin t'u shu chi-ch'eng*, originally printed in 1728. With 5,040 volumes, it was considered to be the world's largest printed encyclopedia.

Building on this solid foundation, three men played key roles in developing the Chinese holdings into a broad, systematic collection during the first half of the twentieth century. Herbert Putnam used his forty years as Librarian of Congress (1899–1939) to expand the Library from a “national” to a “universal” library. Strengthening the Asian collections was one of Putnam's objectives and he initially turned to Walter Tennyson Swingle for help. A botanist with the U.S. Department of Agriculture who dedicated a long career to searching for Asian plants that could be useful in the United States, Swingle also collected tens of thousands of books in Chinese and Japanese for the Library of Congress between 1913 and 1937. After 1928, Swingle's collecting was reinforced and guided by Arthur W. Hummel, the first chief of the Library's Asian Division. Returning after thirteen years as a missionary teacher in China, Hummel had so impressed Putnam that the Librarian offered him the job after their first meeting in late 1927. Hummel, who served until 1954, presided over the growth of the Library's Asian collections to world class status.

What does the Chinese collection look like? With nearly one million books, manuscripts, and publications on religion, history, literature, and science, the Library's Chinese collection is one of the largest outside of China. Although it is impossible to give justice to this massive collection in a short space, several areas of special significance may be singled out. The Library's collection of Chinese gazetteers or local histories (*fang-chih*) is especially strong, in large part due to the importance Walter Swingle put on these works. Containing information on each province's history, geography, economy, folklore, culture, and literary developments, gazetteers serve as good records of change over time because they were frequently revised. A second area of note is the *ts'ung-shu* (collectanea) collection. These are volumes of reprints that brought together manuscripts, monographs, and reprints of rare works that were no longer available.

Finally, Swingle, with the support of Hummel, made a major effort to acquire rare Chinese books on behalf of the Library, especially books from the Ming Dynasty (1368 to 1644 AD). They were still widely available at reasonable prices in the 1920s and 1930s and during the war years. A large number of rare items was added to the collection in 1929 with the acquisition of the library of Wang Shunan, a well-known professor at China's Tsinghua University. Some 1,668 works were purchased from Professor Wang through a \$10,000 donation from Andrew





話二十一圖

巧樣爭奇沒錦裁
堪新樣女裁服勤運幸
雲羅媒人意白著尋宮瑞布袍
織縐密綠長提花
垂觀雙綉苦勞王院掖
冷沾銀缸新樣
勝吳綾綺文香
蜀綿成匹
落羅家諫忍裁
舍枕
蘇蘇堪成錦
縐綠縐花
圖巧裁精勤
編織女
深社
置樣
者新
樣查
布窠

Mellon, then Secretary of the Treasury and a member of the Library's Trust Fund Board. The Wang collection included 94 rare palace editions, 276 titles printed during the Ming Dynasty, and a Sung book printed between 1131 and 1162. The broad scope of the Wang acquisition greatly enhanced the Library's growing Chinese collection, filling gaps, especially in the area of Chinese literature.

Today's scholars are the beneficiaries of the foresight of Hummel and the Director of the National Library of China, Dr. T. L. Yüan, who arranged for the temporary transfer of rare books from Peking to the Library of Congress in order to save them from possible destruction during the war. As part of the arrangement, the Library was able to microfilm the books and make the films available to interested libraries. The Chinese rare book collection would have been of limited



use, however, if it were not for the efforts of Wang Ch'ung-min, a specialist in rare Chinese works, who compiled a catalog for the Library between 1939 and 1942. Wang's catalog, revised and supplemented by T. L. Yüan, was published by the Library in 1957 and listed 1,777 rare books in the Chinese collection.

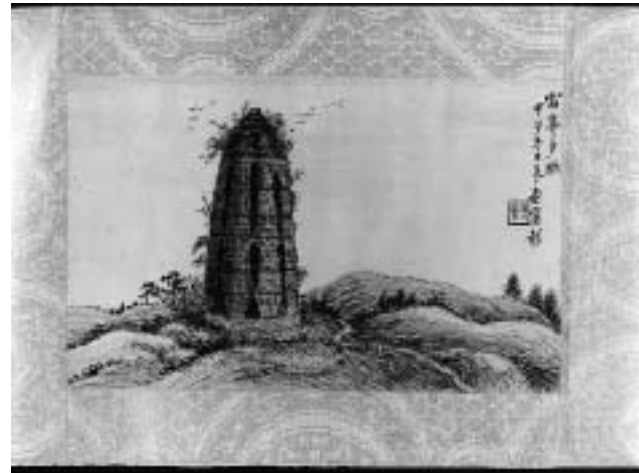
One of the characteristics of China's traditional form of government was the use of a rigorous system of examinations to select the scholar-officials who administered the state. The Library has a unique collection of examination papers consisting of thirty-two printed items and thirty manuscripts, the gift of Kiang K'ang-hu. Born into a family of scholar-officials in 1883, Kiang played an active role in Chinese history during the first half of the twentieth century. A scholar and politician, Kiang founded China's Socialist Party in 1912 but soon ran into trouble when his party was banned. Fleeing China, he taught Chinese at the University of California at Berkeley between 1913 and 1920 and worked several summers cataloging the Chinese collection at the Library of Congress. After he returned to China, Kiang's political misfortunes continued, culminating with his service as a senior official in the Japanese-sponsored government of Wang Ching-wei and his resulting imprisonment after the Japanese surrender in 1945. Nonetheless, three generations of his family's examination papers can still be found in the Library of Congress.

In recent years, Western scholars have become more interested in traditional Chinese cartography. Before China adopted a more mathematical system of mapping in the wake of the 1894–1895 Sino-Japanese War, Chinese maps had been distinctly different from their Western cousins, more concerned with aesthetics and an idealized world than with scientific measurement. Chinese maps also reflected administrative priorities, frequently depicting internal waterways or coastal regions and walled cities. World maps tended to represent a Sinocentric view with “barbarians” pushed to the edges of the “Middle Kingdom.” Many splendid examples of traditional Chinese cartography can be found in the Geography and Map Division. The Arthur W. Hummel collection consists of some eighty-five scrolls, wall maps, and atlases dating from the Ming Dynasty (1368–1644) through the nineteenth century. The Langdon Warner collection has thirty items, including manuscript maps, atlases, and fan maps of China and Korea.

In addition to the confrontation with the West in the nineteenth century, the Ch'ing Dynasty faced several internal rebellions. The most serious of these was the T'ai-ping Rebellion of 1851 to 1864. At the peak of their power, the T'ai-pings controlled a large area of China and had established a capital at the city of Nanking.

OPPOSITE TOP. *Keng chi t'u* (Pictures of Tilling and Weaving, 1696). For many centuries, this famous work on agriculture and sericulture was widely known in China. This is the K'ang-hsi edition, ordered printed by the emperor after he was shown copies of the ancient work during a trip to southern China in 1696. It has forty-eight colored woodblock prints, based on the paintings of Chiao Ping-chen (circa 1650–1726), with a poem for each illustration to be sung by the men and women during work in the fields or at home. (*Chinese Rare Book Collection, Asian Division*)

OPPOSITE BOTTOM. Early Buddhist Manuscript from Tun-huang. An important oasis on the eastern edge of the Silk Road, Tun-huang was also a vital center of Buddhism. It was renowned for its Caves of the Thousand Buddhas. In the early years of this century, a walled-up library was opened at Tun-huang and found to contain ancient Buddhist manuscripts, including the oldest known printed book, dated 868 AD. The Library of Congress has eight scrolls of the Tun-huang type: six from the Tun-huang caves; one from Turfan, to the northwest of Tun-huang; and one that appears to have been preserved in Japan.



Among the Asian Division's unique holdings are ten books that were published by the T'ai-ping Kingdom that offer some insight into the early years of the movement. These works, published between 1851 and 1853, included volumes of T'ai-ping edicts, an almanac, a book on T'ai-ping rituals, religious hymns, a primer for children, a book of children's rhymes, and a bibliography of T'ai-ping publications.

Another unique collection of nineteenth-century Chinese material came to the Library from the family of William Gamble (1830–1886), an American who went to China in 1858 as a missionary printer. The Gamble collection consists of some 277 Chinese publications and 120 items in English and other languages, dating mainly from the first half of the nineteenth century. The collection includes Christian missionary publications in Chinese and translations of Western works on subjects such as geography, astronomy, and mathematics.

Buddhist Sutras from the Thunder Peak Pagoda (975 AD). The earliest example of Chinese printing in the Library of Congress, this Buddhist invocation sutra was recovered from the foundations of the Thunder Peak Pagoda (Lei-feng t'a) after it collapsed during a storm in 1924. Ch'ien Shu (929–988 AD), prince of the Kingdom of Wu-yüeh, ordered the printing of some eighty-four thousand rolls of the sutra and then had them placed in holes bored in the bricks used to build the seven-story pagoda. The Library's sutra is fragmented and mounted on a more modern scroll. (*Chinese Rare Book Collection, Asian Division*)

Two important dynasties stand somewhat apart in China's history. The Yüan Dynasty (1280–1368) was Mongolian, and the Ch'ing Dynasty (1644–1912) was Manchu. Both Mongols and Manchus have their own written languages, taken from the Syrian Estrangelo alphabet introduced by Nestorian Christian missionaries in the seventh or eighth century. The Asian Division holds classics in both languages. Many of the approximately eighty Mongolian manuscripts and xylographs are Buddhist religious texts. Of the nonreligious texts, the *Ta Yüan i t'ung chih* (Great Yüan Gazetteer) is especially important. Kublai Khan ordered the first draft of this book in 1285 and his grandson Timur (Ch'eng-tsung), who ruled from 1284 to 1307, had the work revised. The Library's fourteenth-century manuscript consists of six books bound in ten volumes, each volume with a large seal showing it had been seen by the Yüan emperor in 1303. A preface dated 1303 discusses Kublai Khan's reasons for moving his capital to Peking. Another valu-



able Mongol work is *The Epic Poem of King Geser*, printed in 1716, which is one of the classics of Mongolian literature.

The Manchu collection consists of about four hundred titles covering philosophy, religion, language, literature, politics, and Chinese classics. *A Catalogue of Manchu Materials in the Library of Congress: Xylographs, Manuscripts, Archives*, compiled by Jun Matsumura, was published by the Toyo Bunko in Tokyo in 1999. The Edward Barrett collection of 114 titles, some wholly in Manchu and others in Manchu and Chinese, provides valuable insight into the economic affairs of the Ch'ing Dynasty. It contains reports to the throne on the condition of the treasury, on the types and quality of valuables received and stored in the palace, on rental income from imperial lands, and on the distribution of payments to Manchu and Mongol bannermen (soldiers).

Eighteenth-Century Chinese Scroll Map. This manuscript map of China's coastal defenses covers the entire coastline, from Manchuria in the north to Hainan Island in the south. About nine meters when fully unrolled, the map is oriented with north to the right. It uses pictorial symbols, with military installations shown as drawings of forts. Shown here on the island is the walled city of Macau, under Portuguese administration. (*Hummel Collection, Geography and Map Division*)



TALES FROM THE YUNNAN WOODS

A Selection of Nashi Manuscripts. Only priests, or “tombas,” wrote and used the Nashi’s unique pictographic manuscripts, a selection of which is shown here. The oblong books, usually about 9 by 28 centimeters and bound on the left margin, were used by priests to guide them through ceremonies. The other books are Nashi funeral books, with drawings on one side and pictographic writing on the other. (*Nashi Manuscript Collection, Asian Division*)

Among those who contributed to the Library’s Asian collections, perhaps the most colorful was Joseph Rock. Explorer, adventurer, and scientist, Rock was an Austrian who became a U.S. citizen and spent much of his life in remote areas of western China, sponsored at different times by *National Geographic*, Harvard’s Arnold Arboretum, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the University of Hawaii. Despite the harsh local conditions, Rock insisted on living in style. He trained a native cook to prepare Western food and usually dined at an elegantly set table, covered with a linen tablecloth. In photographs taken in some of the most rugged territory of western China, Rock is seldom seen without a coat and tie. The exception was when he posed in elaborate local costumes, apparently for readers back home who followed his adventures in the ten articles he wrote for *National Geographic* between 1922 and 1935.

For many of the twenty-seven years he was active in China, Rock made his headquarters near the town of Li Kiang in northwestern Yunnan province, a remote territory of rugged mountains bordering the Tibetan highlands to the west and north. It was there that the explorer developed his lifelong interest in the people of the area, the Nashi, called “Moso” by the Chinese.

Speaking a language belonging to the Tibeto-Burman family, the Nashi were affected by both Tibetan and Chinese cultural influences. They practiced a religion

that drew heavily on Bon, the pre-Buddhist religion of Tibet. Rock found that the Nashi used three different forms of writing. The contemporary form was essentially a mix of Chinese and Nashi. An older system, found in manuscripts dating as far back as the fourteenth century, was a syllabic or phonetic script called “Ggo-Baw” that was used only for transcribing mantras and dharani (magic formulas). Ggo-Baw consisted of simple characters, resembling those used by the nearby Lolo and Nosu tribes, as well as Chinese characters. But Rock was most fascinated by the third system, a unique form of pictographs dating back to at least the thirteenth century and recorded in manuscripts used in religious ceremonies. Rock devoted much of his time to studying this system of pictographs and the religious ceremonies of the Nashi. He also purchased as many of the manuscripts as possible.

The Library holds a unique collection of over three thousand Nashi pictographic manuscripts, about two-thirds of which came from Rock. The remainder came to the Library in 1945 from Quentin Roosevelt, a grandson of Pres. Theodore Roosevelt. Quentin’s father, Theodore, Jr., and his uncle, Kermit, met Rock when they passed through Nashi territory on a hunting expedition in 1929. Their stories apparently left a mark on the young Quentin who traveled to Yunnan in 1939 to collect Nashi books that he used for his undergraduate dissertation at Harvard. During World War II, Quentin was back in China to serve as the Office of Strategic Service’s liaison with Chiang Kai-shek. After the war, he worked in China for Pan American Airways and the China National Aviation Corporation but died in an air crash on one of Hong Kong’s islands in 1948.

Besides the Nashi manuscripts, the Library holds two rare Nashi funeral scrolls, one painted on cloth and the other on paper. The scrolls, both about forty feet long, contain a series of individual paintings depicting devils, humans, and gods that represent the three worlds through which the spirit must travel after death. In a Nashi funeral ceremony, the coffin is placed at the end of the scroll representing the levels of hell where the soul must begin the journey to the realm of the Nashi gods. The scroll is extended from the coffin toward the northeast, with the farthest end containing the images of the gods, the goal of the soul’s journey. A Nashi priest, or “tomba,” guides the soul along the route. The visions of the underworld and the various tortures the soul must endure are especially vivid in the Library’s scrolls.

A complete research guide to the Library’s Nashi collection is currently being prepared by Prof. Zhu Bao-Tian of the Yunnan Provincial Museum.



Nashi Priest (Tomba) Performing Naga Cult Ceremony. During the Naga cult ceremony, the tomba propitiates the serpent spirits, or Nagas, with various offerings, including medicine. On the table are symbols representing the nine houses of the Naga, while the tomba holds a pictographic book used to aid his memory during the ceremony. (*Joseph Rock Collection, Prints and Photographs Division*)

THE DIPLOMAT AND THE DALAI LAMA

OPPOSITE. Vajrāpaṇi Thaṅ-ka. A unique form of Tibetan art, the thaṅ-ka is a painted cloth scroll featuring objects of worship framed in brocade for use as a support for meditation. This thaṅ-ka depicts Phyang-na Rdo-rje (Vajrāpaṇi), a Bodhisattva who represents the power of all the Buddhas and who conquers all negativity. Above the main figure are past lamas who practiced the teaching tradition related to Vajrāpaṇi. (*Alo Chhonzed Tibetan Collection, Asian Division*)

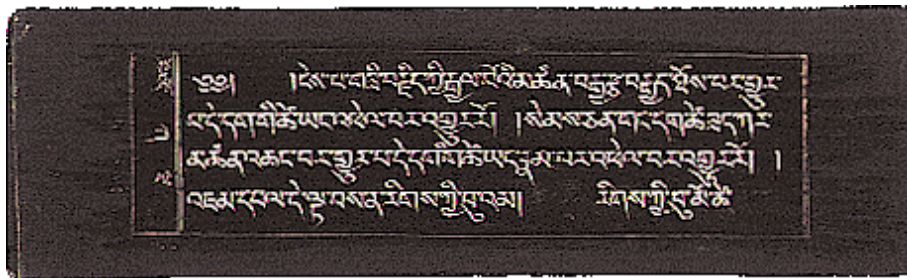
RIGHT. Tibetan Amitāyus Sutra. Shown here is “The Noble Mahayana Sutra Named Boundless Life and Knowledge,” the Tibetan version of a Sanskrit sutra in praise of Amitāyus, the Buddha of Infinite Life. Amitāyus is an important deity in Mahayana Buddhism, and many longevity rituals are based on this sutra. Amitāyus is one form of the Buddha of Boundless Light, Amitābha, who is also the protector of Tibet, according to local tradition. Tibetan Buddhism holds that the Panchen Lama is the reincarnation of Amitābha. This unusual manuscript is written in silver ink on dark blue paper. Copying the text in silver or gold ink gains the copier extra merit. (*Rockhill Tibetan Collection, Asian Division*)

Wu T'ai Shan, one of China's four sacred Buddhist mountains, lies to the west of Peking, in Shansi province. The large temple complex on top of the mountain has attracted pilgrims for centuries. One of the monastery's more recent guests was Tibet's thirteenth Dalai Lama, who had fled Lhasa during the 1904 British invasion of his homeland. He sought refuge first in Mongolia, then at the lamasery of Kumbum near Koko Nor. In early 1908, he arrived at Wu T'ai Shan with some three hundred attendants.

On June 17, 1908, another distinguished “pilgrim” arrived at the head of a mule pack train, having walked much of the distance from Peking to call on the Dalai Lama. Standing six feet, four inches, William Woodville Rockhill, the U.S. Minister to China, still had the stiff bearing of the French military officer he had once been and was not given to strong expressions of emotion. But after two meetings with the Dalai Lama, Rockhill could barely conceal his excitement in a twelve-page letter describing the meetings to Pres. Theodore Roosevelt. The letter is among Roosevelt's papers in the Library's Manuscript Division.

The Dalai Lama presented Rockhill with a number of gifts, one of which was a beautiful Buddhist text called the *Sutra of the Perfection of Wisdom*, now in the Asian Division's rare book collection, a gift from Mrs. Rockhill in 1942.

As noted earlier, Rockhill played an important role in the development of the Library's Asian collections and especially in making the Library one of the world's leading centers for Tibetan books. During his youth in France, Rockhill developed a strong interest in Tibet that remained with him during his years as an officer in the French Foreign Legion, a stint as a rancher in New Mexico, and a long career as a diplomat and China specialist. He is best known as the framer of America's “Open Door” policy toward China at the turn of the century. But







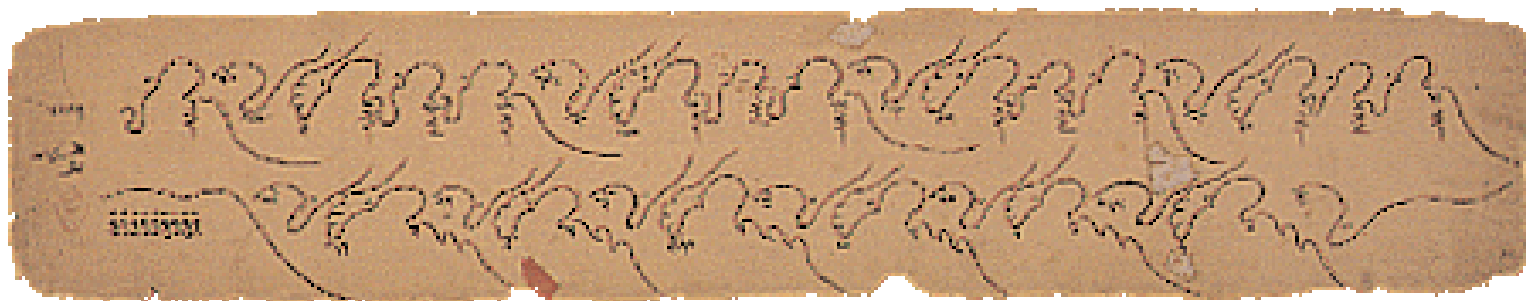
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པམ་པོ་ཉི་མ་བརྒྱ་བརྒྱ་ལྟར།



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“The Tibetan Sutra of the Perfection of Wisdom (Prajñāpāramitā Sutra) in 100,000 Verses.” This illuminated manuscript in Tibetan is one of twelve volumes of a major Mahayana Buddhist scripture known as the Prajñāpāramitā Sutra in 100,000 verses. Introduced into Tibet from India around 750 AD, the Prajñāpāramitā literature forms a central part of the Tibetan philosophical tradition. It explains the ideal state of mind, resulting from perfect compassion and wisdom, that penetrates beyond appearance to reality. On this particularly ornate volume, probably dating to the eighteenth century, the exterior sides are painted with religious symbols. On the right side are the Triple Gems representing the founding principles of Buddhism: the Buddha, Dharma, and the Sangha. The frontal piece is covered with five layers of different colored brocade, representing the Five Buddha families. Painted illustrations on the first folios depict two of the thirty-five Buddhas of confession and two of the sixteen Arhats. *(Tibetan Collection, Asian Division)*



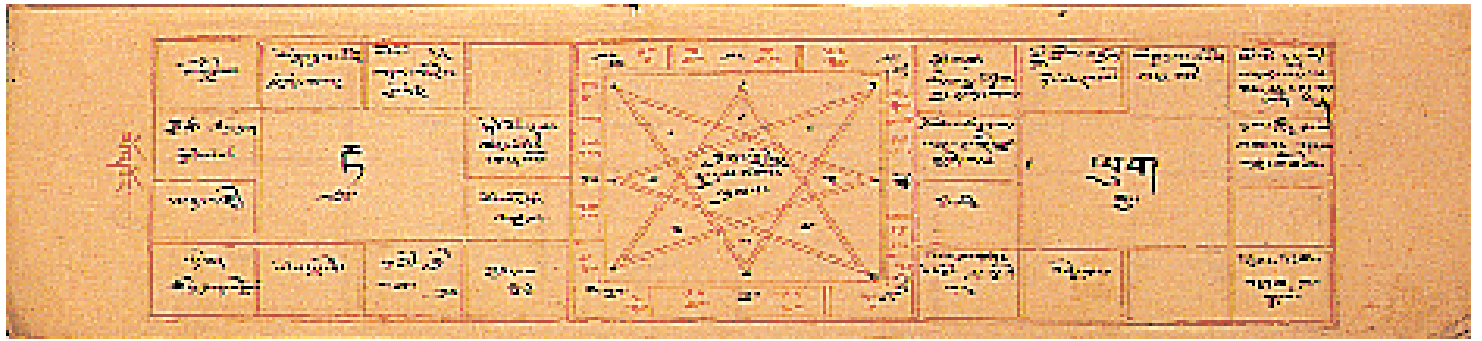
Tibetan Musical Score. Music is a major form of expression in Tibetan Buddhist rites and rituals. This Tibetan manuscript is a small musical score used for chanting rituals in Buddhist ceremonies. Curves, rather than scales, are used to record the correct recitation melodies, all orchestrated to the accompaniment of bells, cymbals, and other musical instruments. Scholars speculate that the Tibetan curved notation is one of the oldest forms of musical scoring in the world. (Rockhill *Tibetan Collection, Asian Division*)

Rockhill remained first and foremost a scholar. A book Rockhill published in 1891, *The Land of the Lamas*, grew out of his 1888–1889 journey into eastern Tibet and Mongolia. The Smithsonian Institution sponsored Rockhill's second trip to Tibet and Mongolia in 1891–1892 and published his detailed travel diary. Throughout his long career, Rockhill published a number of other scholarly works on Tibet and China, and his personal library became the heart of the Library of Congress's extensive holdings on Tibet.

Religion played a central role in traditional Tibetan society, and the Library's holdings of Tibetan Buddhist scriptures are especially strong. The Tibetan Buddhist canon is contained in the *Kanjur*, usually consisting of about a hundred volumes of sutras, and the *Tanjur*, most editions totaling some 225 volumes of commentaries. Of special value to scholars, the Tibetan canonical texts are accurate translations of the original Buddhist texts, written in Sanskrit between 500 BC and 900 AD. Although many of the originals were lost, they can be reconstructed using the Tibetan translations. The Library of Congress has several rare woodblock printings of the *Kanjur* and *Tanjur* and in addition holds one of the first modern printings of the Bon-po *Kanjur*, the scriptures of Tibet's pre-Buddhist religious tradition.

Rockhill's donation included an edition of the *Kanjur* he acquired from the monastery of Derge in eastern Tibet. The Library of Congress also has a *Tanjur* printed at the Narthang monastery in central Tibet. This rare work was originally obtained by another leading Tibetologist, Dr. Berthold Laufer, who collected Tibetan texts for two libraries in Chicago: the Newberry and the John Crerar. In 1928, the Crerar Library transferred an important group of Laufer's Tibetan books, including the Narthang *Tanjur*, to the Library of Congress.

During one of his expeditions in western China, the redoubtable Joseph Rock obtained another valuable addition to the Library's holdings of Tibetan sacred texts. On behalf of the Library of Congress, Rock purchased a complete set of the *Kanjur* and *Tanjur* in 1926 from the famous Tibetan monastery of Choni in China's Kansu province. The fine quality of Choni's wooden blocks and its excellent



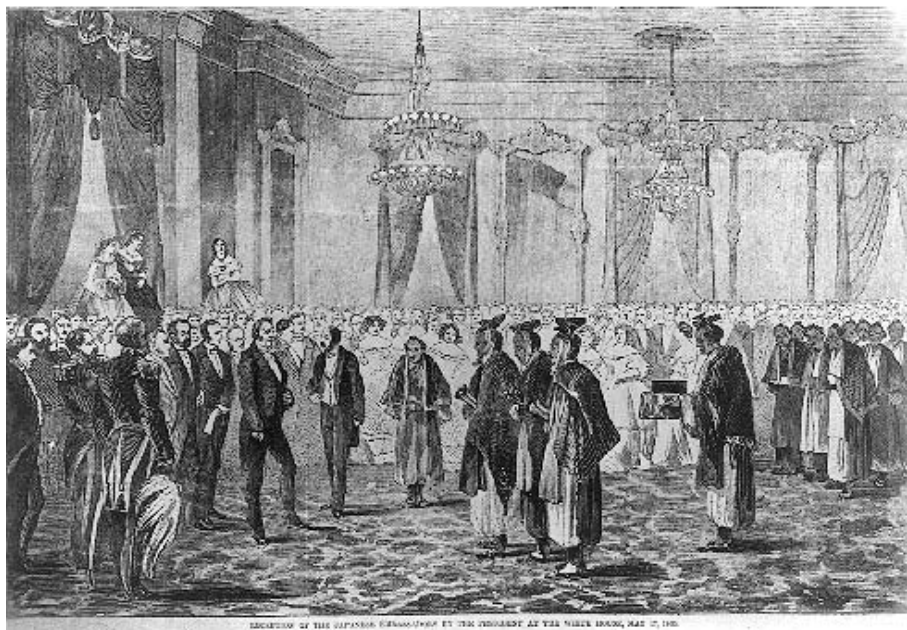
Tibetan paper, strengthened by the lamination of eight sheets together to make an individual page, make the *Kanjur* and *Tanjur* purchased by Rock of the highest caliber. They are also very rare, since the monastery at Choni, including the printing blocks for the *Kanjur* and *Tanjur*, was completely destroyed by fire in 1929 during a period of armed conflict between Buddhists and Muslims in Kansu. The only other complete copy of the Choni *Kanjur* and *Tanjur* is in China, although a partial set is in Japan.

The contributions of Rockhill, Rock, Laufer, and others have made the Library's Tibetan-language collection one of the largest in the West. Besides the Buddhist and Bon-po scriptures, the collection contains a wide range of history, biography, traditional medicine, astrology, iconography, musical notations, grammars, social science, and secular literature. The poems and legends of Milarepa, Tibet's twelfth-century poet-saint, are especially popular, and both old and modern editions can be found in the collection. Another work of historical importance in the Asian Division's collection is the *Mañi Bka' 'bum*, the collected works of Tibet's famous seventh-century king, Songsten Gampo. Aside from covering their own history, Tibetan historical materials are of special interest to scholars because they are sometimes able to fill in blank spaces in the history of India and Inner Asia.

Tibet has long fascinated Westerners, and early accounts of travellers found eager readers over the centuries. The first European to travel from India over the Himalayan mountain range to enter Tibet was the Portuguese Jesuit Antonio de Andrade. Driven by stories of a Christian community supposedly living in Tibet, Andrade disguised himself as a Hindu and left Agra in March 1624 with a group of Indian pilgrims. After numerous adventures, he reached Tsaparang in western Tibet five months later. A copy of Andrade's account of the journey, *Nvevo descubrimiento del gran Cathayo, o reynos de Tibet*, published in Lisbon in 1626, may be found in the Rare Book and Special Collections Division. Another rare, early work on Tibet found in that division is a language text, *Alphabetum Tibetanum Missionum Apostolicarum Commodo Editum*, by Antonio Agostino Giorgi, published in Rome in 1762.

A Tibetan Almanac. Astrology played an important role in traditional Tibetan culture, for both the laity and the monastic community. Almanacs such as this one in cursive Tibetan script were meticulously compiled each year by lamas trained in astrological and calendrical arts and divination. Unlike most Tibetan books, almanacs were bound along one side. This almanac is for the Water Horse Year in the thirteenth "rab byun" (Buddhist cycle), or 1762. (*Rockhill Tibetan Collection, Asian Division*)

RIGHT. The First Japanese Delegation to America. This is a Japanese account of the first Japanese delegation to visit the United States in 1860, with illustrations taken from prints and photos that appeared in local media in the United States. Shown here is a print of the delegation being received at the White House by President Buchanan. (*Japanese Rare Book Collection, Asian Division*)



OPPOSITE. Hokusai, *Hyaku Monogatari* (Ghost Stories). One of Hokusai's five prints in his Ghost Stories, this is *Laughing Hannya*, a demon that usually symbolizes the envy of woman. In this unusual portrayal, Hannya has just claimed a victim. Hokusai apparently intended to produce a larger set of prints, since the title of his work is literally "100 Stories." The prints were engraved by Kakuki and published circa 1830. (*Japanese Rare Book Collection, Asian Division*)

THE JAPANESE WORLD

One of the Library's earliest visitors from East Asia predates our Civil War. In May 1860, a Japanese diplomatic delegation came to Washington to exchange instruments of ratification for the 1858 Treaty of Commerce between the two countries. During a call on the House of Representatives, two members of the delegation were escorted to the Library of Congress, then located inside the Capitol. According to newspaper reports of the time, the delegation was especially surprised to find a Japanese grammar text, translated from a Portuguese Jesuit book printed in Nagasaki in 1604.

Despite this early visit and a limited exchange of government publications, the Library's first important effort at building its Japanese collection came much later, in 1907 and 1908, with the purchase of some nine thousand volumes (over three thousand titles) of important works on Japanese history, literature, Buddhism, Shinto, geography, music, and the arts. This fine collection came to the Library through the efforts of Asakawa Kan'ichi, a Japanese scholar who received a B.A. from Dartmouth and then a Ph.D. in history with a specialty in Japanese feudalism from Yale in 1902. Asakawa was commissioned by Yale and the Library of Congress to acquire books during an eighteen-month stay in Japan in 1906 and 1907. Upon his return to the United States, Asakawa began a long teaching career at Yale that stretched until 1942, when he retired as Professor Emeritus.

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Elements de la Grammaire Japonaise. In 1860 members of the first official Japanese delegation to visit Washington stopped by the Library of Congress. Among the books they saw, this one especially attracted their attention. The book is an 1825 French translation from Portuguese of a Japanese grammar text, written by Father Rodriguez in Nagasaki in 1604. (*Japanese Rare Book Collection, Asian Division*)

Asakawa's collection came on top of an important gift of Japanese art work that the Library received in 1905 from Crosby Stuart Noyes, journalist and editor of the *Washington Evening Star*. Initially drawn to Japanese art by its impact on nineteenth-century European artists, Noyes made frequent trips to Europe and Japan, where he acquired a large collection of Japanese art and books. His gift to the Library included watercolors, drawings, woodblock engravings, lithographs, and illustrated books, all of which were produced between the mid-eighteenth and the late nineteenth centuries. While the Asian Division holds most of the Noyes collection, his single prints are in the Prints and Photographs Division. Among the latter is a fascinating series of over a hundred colored woodblock prints, essentially political cartoons, on the Sino-Japanese War of 1894–1895 and the Russo-Japanese War of 1904–1905.

With the acquisitions from Asakawa and Noyes, the Library might have been expected to make rapid progress in strengthening its Japanese collections. This was not to be. Over the next two decades, only a limited number of volumes was added, mainly through the efforts of Dr. Walter Swingle. Why? The answer apparently lies in the general lack of interest in Japanese studies among American academics, with the exception of a handful at universities such as Yale, where Asakawa was teaching. In 1930, however, the Library hired its first Japanese specialist, Dr. Sakinishi Shiho, who pioneered the development of the Library into a first-rate resource for scholars of Japan.

Today's Pre-Meiji Printed Books and Manuscripts collection consists of some 4,200 titles, with most dating from the early seventeenth century to 1867. Among its items is a rare edition of the Japanese literary masterpiece *Genji Monogatari* (The Tale of the Genji), published in Kyoto in 1654. The “monogatari” is a type of literature developed in Japan that combines elements of the short novel, the historical novel, the fairy tale, and even the morality play. There is no exact counterpart in Western literature. Written in the first decade of the eleventh century by Lady Murasaki Shikibu, *Genji Monogatari* is considered to be the world's earliest novel. It consists of some fifty-four long chapters that tell of the life and loves of Prince Genji and vividly bring to life the personalities and elegance of Japanese court society. The collection also holds a rare volume of *Heike Monogatari*, written during the Kamakura period (1185–1333), which represent a new type of monogatari—the war tale. *Heike Monogatari* tells the story of the Taira Clan's rise and fall and was carried around the country by minstrels who recited the work accompanied by a “biwa,” or lute. The Library's volume is especially valuable because it indicates how the text should be chanted during a performance.

Yet another rare book in the Pre-Meiji collection is the *Yoshitsune Azuma Kudari Monogatari*, printed with movable type between 1624 and 1643. Bronze movable type was brought to Japan from Korea at the end of the sixteenth century. In Japan, it was often combined with wooden movable type to print books for a short period between 1600 and 1650. This form of printing gave way to woodblock printing until the end of the Edo period when wooden movable type came into use again.

The *Yoshitsune Azuma Kudari Monogatari* tells part of the story of Japan's foremost tragic hero, Minamoto no Yoshitsune. After defeating the Taira Clan in a series of battles known as the Genpei Wars (1180–1185), Yoshitsune rebelled against his powerful brother Yoritomo, founder of the Minamoto Shogunate. Facing military defeat, Yoshitsune killed his wife, his daughter, and himself in 1189. This volume tells the story of Yoshitsune's flight from Kyoto three years before his death and his retreat to northern Honshu. The poignant tale of Yoshitsune has given rise to many literary works, mixing history with legend so thoroughly that the two are now inseparable. The *Yoshitsune Azuma Kudari Monogatari* closely follows volume seven of the *Gikeiki* that tells the full story of Yoshitsune. It uses fewer kanji (Chinese characters), however, and differs somewhat in text. The Library's copy is one of only two known to exist. The other is in Japan.

In the West, perhaps the best-known Japanese poetic form is the "haiku," an extremely short poetic expression consisting of only seventeen syllables, often preceded and followed by descriptions and observations designed to make the haiku more accessible to the reader. The haiku reached its peak during the Tokugawa period (1615–1868) with the poetry of Matsuo Basho. But it was not necessary to have the literary talent of a Basho to compose haiku, because a unique feature of this art form was that fine poems could be created by ordinary Japanese. The Japanese Pre-Meiji collection holds many haiku anthologies by common people such as merchants, shopkeepers, women, and artisans.

Another unique Japanese art form is the "kabuki" theater, one of Japan's three major classical theaters together with "noh" and "bunraku." Starting in the early seventeenth century, kabuki became a very popular form of entertainment in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries and, of course, is still performed today. The Library's Pre-Meiji collection includes a rare manuscript, "Kabuki Sugatami," written by kabuki actor Nakamura Nakazo in 1776. The actor's manuscript is a valuable source for the study of kabuki and its history.

Washington Evening Star editor Crosby Noyes was far from alone in his fascination with Japanese art. American and European collectors have had an especially



Cherry Blossoms. This watercolor is from a set of drawings of the leading varieties of Japanese cherry blossoms that grow along the embankment at Arakawa, near Tokyo. The City of Tokyo collected buds from these trees to send to Washington, D.C., where they were planted around the Tidal Basin and are a major attraction each spring. The watercolors were done by a Japanese artist in 1921 for Dr. Walter T. Swingle, who presented them to the Library of Congress. (*Japanese Rare Book Collection, Asian Division*)

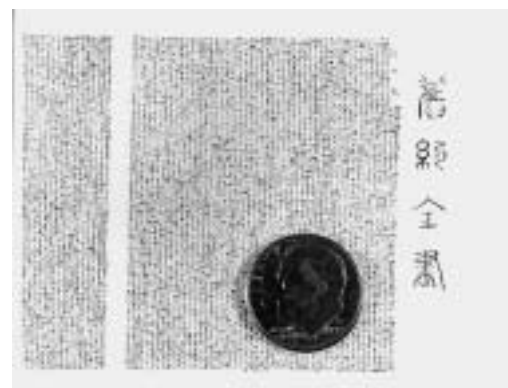
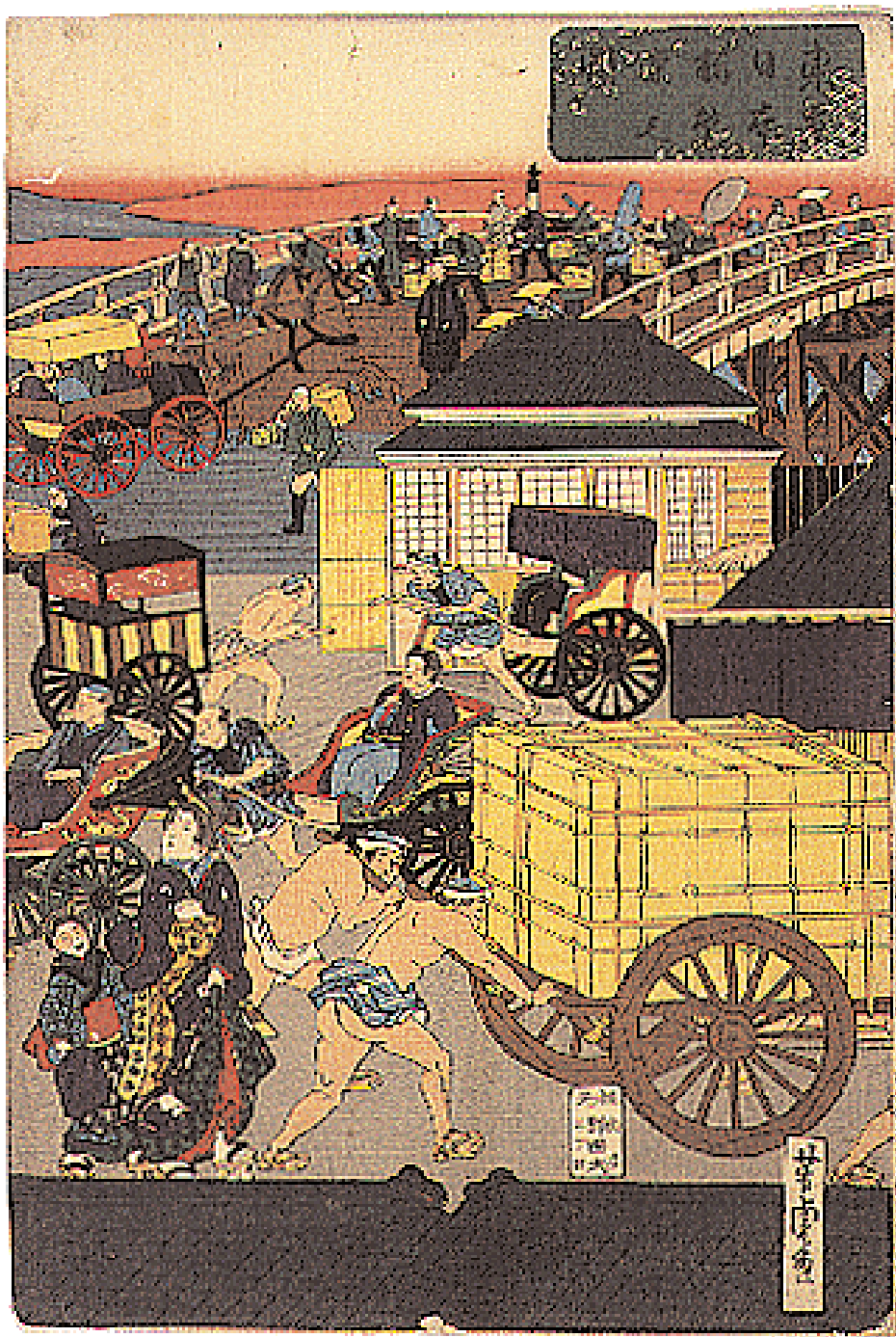


Japanese Views of Commodore Perry. Commo. Matthew C. Perry's expeditions in 1853 and 1854 stirred tremendous excitement in a Japan that had been largely closed to Westerners for over two hundred years. Japanese artists made sketches of the Americans, their ships, and their strange possessions. To meet strong popular demand, the original drawings were quickly copied and circulated. These illustrations are from the Library's collection of Japanese scrolls and sketchbooks of the first Americans in Japan. It also includes drawings of the first American commercial ship to visit in 1855 and the newly appointed American Consul, Townsend Harris, who arrived in 1856. (*Prints and Photographs Division*)

strong affinity for Japanese woodblock prints, an art form that began in the 1660s during the Tokugawa period, and many fine collections can be found in the West. The prints, called "ukiyo-e," or "floating world pictures," began as depictions of kabuki actors and courtesans and were primarily produced for Japan's growing merchant class. The subject matter later expanded to include scenes of daily life and landscapes. With Japan's increasing exposure to the West following Commodore Perry's missions in the 1850s, printmakers began to portray the strange foreigners coming to their shores and the exotic nations they represented. This fascination with foreigners is well illustrated by the Chadbourne collection of Japanese prints in the Prints and Photographs Division. A gift to the Library from Mrs. E. Crane Chadbourne in 1930, the collection consists of 187 late eighteenth- and nineteenth-century prints, the majority showing American and European visitors in Japan and imagined scenes of foreign cities.

The Geography and Map Division holds many early Japanese maps. These include the Shannon McCune collection of scrolls, atlases, woodblocks, and fan maps of Japan and Korea from the fifteenth to the nineteenth centuries.

The Library's Japanese collection also contains the world's second oldest example of printing that is still in existence and that has a date of printing recorded in contemporary historical documents. It consists of three printed strips of Buddhist sutras used as prayer charms, printed between 764 and 770 AD. The prayers were placed in one million wooden pagodas that were distributed equally to ten temples throughout Japan to mark the end of the eight-year civil war. The project involved the work of 157 people over a six-year period, making it one of the earliest examples of mass production.



ABOVE. The Bible as Calligraphic Art. Unaided by any magnification, Yoshikawa Mototake spent eight years copying the Old and New Testaments in miniature calligraphy on these two scrolls, one in Japanese and one in English. The scrolls, which can be read only with a magnifying glass, were presented to the citizens of the United States in 1948 through Gen. Douglas MacArthur. The copying of the Bible may be compared to the ancient Japanese custom of copying Buddhist sutras as a means of mental and physical discipline and as a pious act for salvation. (*Japanese Rare Book Collection, Asian Division*)

LEFT. Flourishing Nihonbashi Section of Tokyo. This print is one panel of an 1861 triptych by Utagawa Yoshitora. (*Chadbourne Collection, Prints and Photographs Division*)



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LEFT. Dharani Prayer Charms. The Buddhist hierarchy exercised strong influence over affairs of state in eighth-century Japan, especially during the reign of Empress Shōtoku. Between 764 and 770 AD, the empress had a million copies of Buddhist prayers printed, placed in wooden pagodas, and distributed to ten Japanese temples. These printed prayers, consisting of four passages from Buddhist sutras (dharani), are considered to be the world's second oldest examples of printing. (*Japanese Rare Book Collection, Asian Division*)

OPPOSITE. Traditional Map of Japan on Blue and White Porcelain. Produced about 1830 during the late Tokugawa Period, this porcelain plate is decorated with an early “gyōji” type of map of Japan. It was made at the Mikawachi kiln under the patronage of the Matsura family, the feudal lords of Hirado. At the center are Japan's three main islands, Kyushu, Honshu, and Shikoku. Of the four other “countries” depicted at the edges of the plate, two are real places (Korea and the Ryukyus) and two are mythological (the Country of Dwarfs and the Women Protected Country). Already long eclipsed by more accurate maps, this old map was probably reproduced by the potter because of its antiquarian interest to early nineteenth-century Japanese. (*Shannon McCune Collection, Geography and Map Division*)

KOREAN CLASSICS

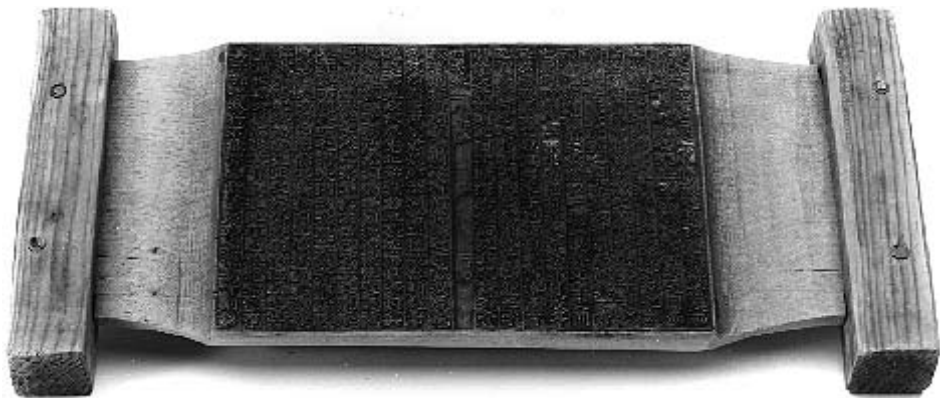
OPPOSITE. *Yi Munsun Chip* (1241). The collected works of Yi Munsun (the literary name of Yi Kyu-bo), the great poet, scholar, and statesman of Korea's Koryo Dynasty (918–1392), were edited and printed with metal movable type by his son Yi Ham in about 1241. This was some 215 years before Gutenberg used a similar process to print his famous Bibles in Germany. Printed on handmade mulberry paper, the eight-volume work contains Yi Munsun's essays, poetry, descriptions of early printing, warnings against shamanism, and his autobiography. (*Korean Collection, Asian Division*)

RIGHT. Woodblock of the *Tripitaka Koreana*. The carving of the woodblocks for the Korean *Tripitaka* (Buddhist canon) began in the early eleventh century and was completed in 1087. The original woodblocks were destroyed during the thirteenth-century Mongol invasions. The *Tripitaka Koreana* that remains today is a later edition, begun on Kanghwa Island, where the court had taken refuge from the Mongols. It was completed in 1251. Requiring about 81,200 woodblocks, this edition combines accuracy with beauty. This woodblock was presented to then-Librarian of Congress Daniel J. Boorstin by Dr. Hong Joo Moon, President of the Academy of Korean Studies, in 1986. (*Korean Collection, Asian Division*)

The Library's Korean collection has made up for a relatively late start and now stands as the largest and most comprehensive outside Korea. Although the collection is largely contemporary (this aspect is discussed later), it does contain a number of valuable pre-nineteenth-century publications in traditional format. Korea, like Japan and Vietnam, absorbed early cultural influences from China, including language, and many of its early classics were written in Chinese. Old Korean books, however, are quite different from their counterparts in China and Japan. They tend to be larger and are often printed on tough, durable paper, which is noted for its beauty and uniform whiteness. Because of the paper's quality, Korean versions of Chinese classics sometimes survived the original printings in China. For example, the only existing version of an important fourteenth-century Chinese map, *Sheng-chiao Kuang-pei t'u* (Map of the Vast Reach of China's Moral Teaching), is a fifteenth-century Korean work containing a copy of the original.

The Library has some 422 titles (2,900 volumes) of rare Korean books, printed on mulberry paper in Chinese characters, many of which were obtained in the 1920s. While the majority of the Korean rare books are in the Asian Division, thirteen titles are in the Law Library. There are also rare Korean maps in the Geography and Map Division, including those provided to the Library by the American geographer Shannon McCune. Unique Korean photographs may be found in the Prints and Photographs Division.

The most important contributor to the Library's classical Korean book collection was Dr. James S. Gale, a Canadian missionary who arrived in Korea in

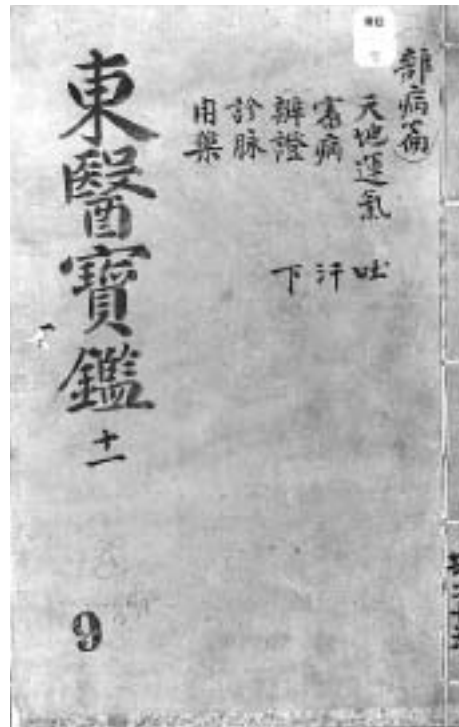


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LEFT. *Tongju Pogam* (A Valuable Treatise on Oriental Medicine). The *Tongju Pogam* was written by the physician Hō Chun at the order of King Sonjo (1567–1608). Completed in 1611, it combines Chinese and Korean medical writings on disease and treatment, and covers topics such as pediatrics, gynecology, acupuncture, surgery, and general medicine. The most important medical compendium of Korea's Yi Dynasty, the work was widely read in China and Japan. This 1754 edition, consisting of twenty-two volumes, was printed with wood blocks. (*Korean Collection, Asian Division*)

1888 and spent the next forty years there. A prodigious scholar, Gale translated many of Korea's literary classics into English and wrote numerous books on Korean history, literature, and culture. Gale helped the Library procure a number of Korean classics, including rare books from the estate of the Korean scholar Kim To-hui. In 1927, the Library received the major portion of Gale's own library, more than doubling its Korean holdings.

Korea made a special contribution to the technology of printing by developing movable cast metal type, beginning in 1241. Although China first used movable type made of clay, it was in Korea that printing with movable metal type reached a high point in the fifteenth century. Korean printing technology spread to China and Japan, but movable type was not a commercial success and by the nineteenth century had been almost completely displaced by the older woodblock printing. This technology in turn soon gave way to European typography. The Asian Division holds some fine examples of Korean printing from metal movable type. These include the collected writings, printed in 1744, of the renowned sixteenth-century Confucian scholar and statesman Yi I and the 1834 reprint of the works of the "father of Korean literature," Ch'oe Ch'i-wŏn (857–915 AD). Examples of rare woodblock-printed books include a history of the Koryŏ Dynasty (*Koryŏ Sa*), printed in 1590, and the law code of the Yi Dynasty (*Kyŏngguk Taijŏn*), printed in 1630.

OPPOSITE. Map of Korean Peninsula. This map of Korea is one of twelve hand-colored maps in the manuscript atlas, *Tae Chosŏn Chido* (Great Korean Map). The atlas, dating to circa 1800, has individual maps of the provinces of Korea and maps of the world, China, and Japan. (*Geography and Map Division*)

Lt. Col. James Skinner, “Manuscript Book on History of Castes in India.” Son of a Scottish military adventurer and a woman of the Indian martial nobility, James Skinner (1778–1841) became a famous soldier with his private regiment Skinner’s Horse, which still continues in the Indian Army. He was a fluent writer in Persian, the prestige language of India in his day, and composed his “Kitāb-i tasrīh al-aqvām” (History of the Origin and Distinguishing Marks of the Different Castes of India), given by James S. Collins of Pennsylvania to the Rosenwald Collection. The castes presented here are Khattris, nobles who converted from Hinduism to Islam and who function as lawyers and judges. This particular Khattri seems comfortable and benevolent, and is blessed with a son or student fiercely attentive to his dictation. The style is of the Company School, paintings made by local artists combining Mogul traditions with a minute realism to record people and natural history for staff members of the British East India Company which was taking over India. (Rosenwald Collection, Rare Book and Special Collections Division)



HOMER ON THE GANGES

The title of a slim, nineteenth century volume in the Library's collection of Indian books almost shouts out to be noticed—*Was the Rāmāyana Copied from Homer?* by Kashinath Trimbak Telang, Senior Fellow at Elphinstone College and Advocate at H.M.'s High Court in Bombay. The yellowing pages contain Telang's indignant but scholarly rebuttal to the German Indologist, Dr. Albrecht Weber, whom he accused of suggesting that the Indian epic, the Rāmāyana, "is nothing more than a Buddhist saga dovetailed to the Homeric story of the Trojan War." The book, inscribed "To Professor Weber, with the author's compliments," is part of Weber's Indological library, the first major purchase of books about the Indian subcontinent by the Library of Congress in 1904. Weber's terse, hand-written comments in the margins, not always complimentary, are perhaps as interesting as the text itself.

The possibility of classical Greek influences on Indian culture was one of the great issues that captivated nineteenth-century European scholars of India. Western interest in India's past started with the work of the Jesuits and was carried forward by Europeans working for the East India Company in the eighteenth century. The founding of the Asiatic Society of Bengal in 1784 marked the beginning of a sustained scholarly effort to understand India's complex civilization and languages. The first President of the Asiatic Society of Bengal, Sir William Jones, or "Oriental Jones" as he was sometimes called, spurred European interest in India when he found that Sanskrit was related to Latin and Greek. Today, the chief languages of Europe, including English, and the languages of the Indian subcontinent are all classified as part of the Indo-European family of languages. Translations of classical Indian works by French and German scholars in the nineteenth century influenced the founding of the German Romantic movement in the nineteenth century as well as the Transcendentalist movement in the United States.

The purchase of the Weber collection of over four thousand books and pamphlets in 1904 laid the foundation for the Library's extensive holdings on southern Asia. The Weber collection includes texts in Sanskrit of India's sacred Hindu works—the Vedas, Brāhmaṇas, and Upaniṣads—as well as the stories of the Purāṇas and the great epics in the *Mahābhārata* and the *Rāmāyana*. The Weber collection also contains material in other Indian languages; Indian works on music, science, history, geography, and grammar; and most of the writings on India by nineteenth-century European scholars. In addition, there are a number of Weber's



A Gurkha Piper. This illustration, taken from Maj. Donovan Jackson's *India's Army*, a 1942 handbook with the histories of the British colonial regiments in India, shows a pipe major from the 8th Gurkha Rifles. Soon after the British began recruiting Gurkhas in 1814, these hill people from Nepal earned a reputation, which remains with them today, as being tough professional soldiers. Headquartered in Assam, the 8th Regiment saw service in many campaigns, including Burma during the nineteenth century, Tibet during the British invasion of 1905, and France and the Middle East during World War I. After independence, the 8th Gurkhas became part of India's new army. (*Southern Asian Collection, Asian Division*)

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 ऋष्यनूरुर्षतसबपरवार ॥ ग्वालबालसबहृषियाय
 नेचचीसोसार ॥

Krishna Subdues Kāliya. One of Krishna's many heroic deeds, as recorded in the *Bhāgavata-purāṇa*, was the taming of the many-headed cobra Kāliya, who was poisoning the Yamuna River. This late Mogul miniature is from a Hindi version of the text, probably eighteenth century, given by the art collector and dealer Kirkor Minassian. Krishna is shown first arriving on the scene in a chariot and being greeted by a local man. In a second view, having tamed the cobra, Krishna appears to the man's wonder in his real essence as the god Vishnu, with four arms, seated peacefully on the beast. (Minassian Collection, Asian Division)



RIGHT. Seventeenth-Century Portuguese Manuscript Map of Ceylon (Sri Lanka). This manuscript map is found in a volume of drawings of cities, ports, and other sites made during the brief Portuguese occupation of Ceylon from 1597 to 1658. The work is thought to have been done around 1650. (*Geography and Map Division*)



OPPOSITE BOTTOM. *Viṣṇustavarājastotra*. This tiny illustration, 1½ inches square, to the “*Viṣṇustavarāja*,” a hymn to Vishnu found in the great Indian epic the *Mahābhārata*, shows the archer Arjuna, his great-uncle and foster father Bhishma, and his comrade Krishna, who is manifested as the god Vishnu of whom he was an incarnation. Arjuna was obliged by the warrior code to kill his foster father in battle. Mortally wounded, Bhishma delayed his death for several months by supernatural powers, while lying pierced by arrows. Refreshed by a stream of water that Arjuna drew from the earth with an arrow, he spent the interim teaching Arjuna the duties of kingship and religion. Finally, after reciting this hymn, he merged into Vishnu. Nineteenth-century paper manuscript, from North India, possibly Kangra. (*Southern Asian Collection, Asian Division*)

notebooks with his handwritten transcriptions of rare Indian texts for his pioneering critical editions.

It was not until 1938, however, that the Library began to develop the southern Asian collection systematically, thanks to a grant from the Carnegie Corporation. A Sanskritist with a Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania, Dr. Horace Poleman, was brought into the Library to head “Project F—Development of Indic Studies,” which in 1942 became a permanent section of what is today’s Asian Division. During a field trip to India and Southeast Asia in 1938, Poleman reinforced and expanded the Library’s relationships with universities, museums, and government publishers. He obtained microfilms of rare manuscripts, as well as pamphlets, recordings of Indian music, and movies of traditional ceremonies of the Malabar coast. The music and movies can be found in the Library’s Music Division and the Motion Picture, Broadcasting, and Recorded Sound Division.

Besides being the home of Hinduism, South Asia is also the birthplace of Buddhism. (The Buddha was born in what is today part of southern Nepal.) The Theravada Buddhist tradition spread to Ceylon and from there to mainland Southeast Asia, where it largely replaced earlier Hindu and Mahayana Buddhist sects. The Mahayana tradition moved northward into Tibet and along the Silk Road to China, Japan, Korea, and Vietnam.

नगमतीसुवपु.क



सोरी रूपपडुगावतीकेरा ॥
 जेहीतरवरमहदंसनआवा ॥
 देयकीदीयासीरपशृण ॥
 सोनीवीलोनीकोकेदीकहे ॥
 मनमदगप्रकुनक्रयैकाहु ॥
 काएकहुसिचलकीनरी ॥
 सुदपसुगेधसोतीरुकीकापा ॥

दसासुयसनीसघहेराया ॥
 तेहीसरवगुलीहेसकहावा ॥
 एकएकतेशभीकसहपा ॥
 लोनीसोईजाहीपीउवहे ॥
 वेदघारीजेहीलामेआहु ॥
 दीनहीकीएछीहीनीसीप्रधि ॥
 साधकाउरीवावरकोपाया ॥

गहीसोलेनेसोषेभरीसोहपसोहाग ॥ १ ॥
 सुमतसुषीगेरनीदीएलोनअसलागए ॥ १ ॥



LEFT. Nepalese Manuscript. This manuscript from Nepal, in Newari and Sanskrit, dating from around 1900, contains a number of miscellaneous prayers and spells with illustrations on a long strip of stiff paper folded into a compact book. In addition to being a basis for the writing and painting, the yellow background may also be an insect repellent containing arsenic. Represented here are deities of the planets, who are propitiated to prevent the bad things their position in a horoscope may threaten. In the Indian system, there are nine planets, the seven visible ones plus the two “nodes” of the moon. Lunar and solar eclipses occur at the points of the moon’s orbit. (Southern Asia Collection, Asian Division)

The southern Asian collection holds some unique remnants of Buddhism’s journey along remote settlements on the southern fringe of Sinkiang’s Taklamakan Desert. The “Crosby Khotan fragments” contain parts of Buddhist texts as well as illustrations of the Buddha and bodhisattvas. During a 1903 journey to Central Asia, Oscar Terry Crosby, an American who later became Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, purchased this bundle of manuscripts in the oasis town of Khotan, famous for its jade and carpets. Following in the footsteps of the explorers Sven Hedin and Sir Aurel Stein, Crosby found local Khotan businessmen well aware of the demand for Silk Road antiquities in the West and not above manufacturing them to satisfy the demand. One of the Library’s Khotan fragments is, in fact, a fake done in a script invented by a local entrepreneur.

A number of magnificent early books reflecting the West’s fascination with India can be found in the Library’s Rare Book and Special Collections Division. These include such beautiful works as the Daniell brothers’ massive volumes of aquatints of Indian views and the earliest work on Indian flora, Hendrik van Reede tot Drakestein’s *Hortus Indicus Malabaricus* of 1686. The William M. Carpenter collection in the Prints and Photographs Division also holds valuable early twentieth-century photos of India.

OPPOSITE. *Padmāvata*. Queen Nāgamatī rashly asks her new parrot who is more beautiful, she or his former owner Princess Padmāvātī of Sri Lanka. Naturally she gets a displeasing answer. In his poetic romance *Padmāvata*, the sixteenth-century Muslim mystic poet, Malik Muhammad Jayasi, employed the two-centuries-old historical story of Padmāvātī, the consort of the Rana of Chitor, a Hindu king defeated by the Muslim Sultan of Delhi, as an allegory of the truths of Sufism (Muslim mysticism). This manuscript of the poem dates from 1750 and was created in North India. (Southern Asia Collection, Asian Division)



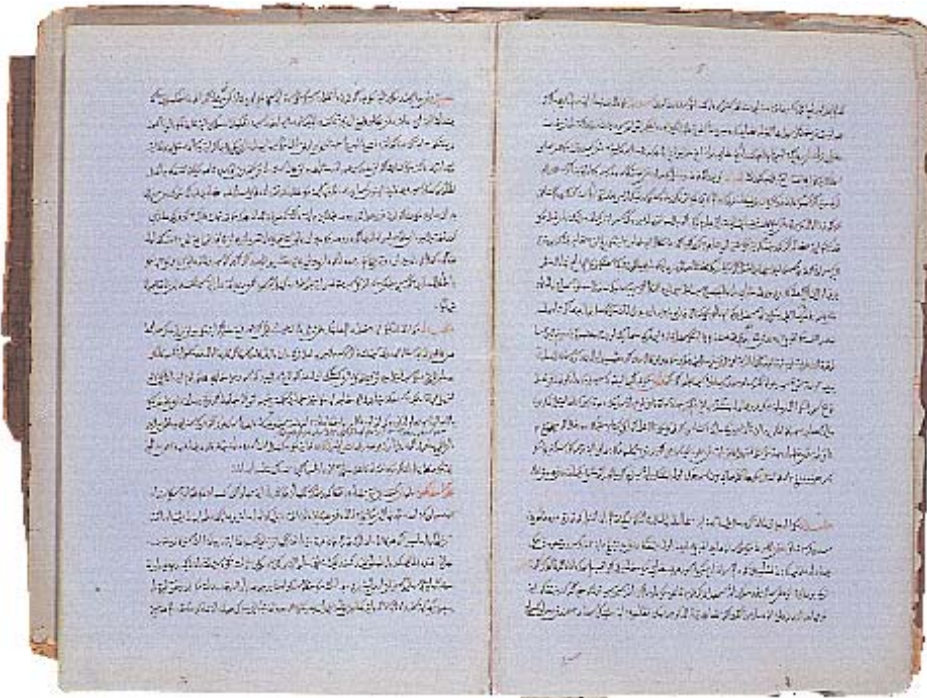
“Story of a War Between Two Young Bugis Rajas over a Princess.” Coming from South Sulawesi (Celebes), the Bugis began to migrate to the Malay peninsula in the late seventeenth century, fleeing civil war and the loss of their spice trading network to the Dutch East India Company. On the Malay peninsula, the Bugis became a major political force, even founding their own political dynasty in what is now the state of Selangor. This Bugis manuscript was one of ten purchased in Singapore by the Wilkes Expedition in 1842. Written in the Bugis language in an Indic-derived script, these rare manuscripts are important examples of nineteenth-century literature of the Bugis diaspora. (*Bugis Manuscript Collection, Asian Division*)

The Malay world that captured the modern Western imagination through the writing of authors such as Joseph Conrad and Somerset Maugham has a long history as a crossroad of commerce. The prosperity of the early kingdoms in what is now Indonesia and Malaysia was largely based on trade. Spices from Southeast Asia lured European traders, who came for commerce and stayed as colonizers.

Indian religions played an important role in the early history of both insular and mainland Southeast Asia. Kingdoms such as Srivijaya (seventh to fourteenth centuries) and Majapahit (thirteenth to sixteenth centuries) grew up shaped by Hindu and Buddhist beliefs blended with indigenous religious traditions. The conversion of the ruler of Malacca, another of these kingdoms, to Islam in the fifteenth century gave tremendous impetus to the spread of Islam throughout the region. One of the most important early documents recording this history is the *Sejarah Melayu* (Malay Annals), drafted in the Malay state of Johor in 1612 and recopied early in the nineteenth century. The *Sejarah Melayu* apparently existed only in manuscript form until about 1840, when it was printed in Singapore by an American missionary, Alfred North. Two editions of this Mission Press version can be found in the Asian Division’s rare book collection. Written in Jawi (Malay in Arabic script), they are part of the Asian Division’s unique collection of Malay manuscripts and early printed books.

How did the Library become the home of this valuable collection? It was brought to the United States in 1842 on a sailing vessel commanded by Lt. Charles Wilkes, a superb sailor-scientist. Wilkes commanded the U.S. Naval Exploring Expedition that circumnavigated the globe from 1838 to 1842, concentrating much of its efforts in the Pacific. The expedition also carried a group of scientists who charted unknown waters and gathered specimens of everything from animals to plants to sea shells, most of which later formed the basis for the Smithsonian’s collections. It is difficult for us, living at the end of the twentieth century, to understand the excitement the Wilkes Expedition stirred among Americans of the 1840s, but Wilkes was seen as a discoverer of new worlds, almost another Columbus. His stern, aloof personality and strong efforts to promote the image of the U.S. Navy during the voyage, however, also stirred controversy. One of those fascinated by the Wilkes drama was Herman Melville, who used the official history of the expedition as a resource for *Moby Dick* and modeled Captain Ahab, the whaling captain obsessed by the white whale, on Lieutenant Wilkes.

The Wilkes Expedition also collected books. When he reached Singapore in



Munshi Abdullah bin Abdul Kadir. *Hikayat Abdullah* (1843). The *Hikayat Abdullah* (The Story of Abdullah) is a valuable source for historians, both for Abdullah's first-hand descriptions of important nineteenth-century figures, such as Stamford Raffles, the founder of Singapore, and for its detailed description of everyday life in the nineteenth-century Malay world. As a work of personal observation and description unembellished with legend and folktales, it was the first attempt by a local writer at a more Western style of literature. When the American Exploring Expedition led by Charles Wilkes was in Singapore in 1842, Wilkes requested that the missionary Alfred North send a copy of Abdullah's autobiography to him in the United States. The work was completed the following year and North forwarded this manuscript copy, which is in Malay using the Jawi script. In 1865, the Smithsonian Institution transferred the manuscript to the Library, making it one of the first Asian books to enter the collections. (*Jawi Manuscript Collection, Asian Division*)

early 1842, Wilkes and the expedition's philologist, Horatio Hale, collected Malay manuscripts and early printed books. They were assisted by Alfred North, the American missionary based in Singapore. Among those books were unique manuscripts written in the Bugis script. The Buginese, from South Sulawesi, ran an extensive seaborne trading network, of which Singapore became a central part. These Malay and Bugis manuscripts first went to the Smithsonian but in 1865 the Smithsonian transferred its books, including this material, to the Library of Congress.

The Manuscript Division holds the papers and journals of a number of participants in the Wilkes Expedition, including Wilkes himself; his second in command, William Leverett Hudson; and one of the Expedition's sailors, Joseph G. Clark.

Of particular interest to scholars of Indonesia are some of the early manuscript maps of the Indonesian archipelago in the Geography and Map Division. One set of fourteen maps was previously owned by Gilbert Elliot, the First Earl of Minto, who served as Governor General of India from 1807 to 1814 and who led Britain's 1811 expedition to expel the Dutch from the island of Java. Another set consists of eighteenth-century Spanish manuscript maps showing coastal areas, primarily of Sumatra.

BARANGAYS, FRIARS, AND “THE MILD SWAY OF JUSTICE”

The Philippine Islands fell under Spanish colonial control within fifty years of Magellan’s fateful landing in 1521. One of the earliest words the Spanish learned from local residents was “barangay,” a group of people living under the authority of a chief, or “datu.” The Spanish quickly saw the value of the system and used their relationships with the barangay leaders to administer the islands. From the beginning of Spanish rule, Roman Catholic missionaries exerted strong influence. With the exception of the southernmost island of Mindanao, where Islam had started to take root in the late fifteenth century, missionaries found fertile ground. The Philippines is now the only country in Asia with a Catholic majority. Under the Spanish colonial system, the friars of the Augustinian, Dominican, and Franciscan orders, and the Jesuits played a role well beyond the purely religious, often serving as powerful local administrators.

Spanish rule ended when American forces defeated the Spanish in 1898. Pres. William McKinley declared that the United States would replace Spain’s “arbitrary rule” with “the mild sway of justice and right” and, despite local resistance, the Philippines came under U.S. administration. Following World War II and the Japanese occupation, the Philippines achieved full independence in 1946. Over the years, the Library has developed a fine collection on the history of the Philippines during this period.

Of the many languages and dialects spoken in the Philippines, about 90 percent of the population speaks eight: Tagalog, Cebuano, Ilocano, Hiligaynon, Bicolano, Waray-Waray, Pampangan, and Pangasinan. All are part of the Malayo-Polynesian-language family. When the Spaniards arrived in the sixteenth century, they found that a system of writing based on Indic script was in use. The script was used only for letters and messages, however, and no written literature or official records existed. Thus, early accounts of the Philippines are virtually all in Spanish, as are historical records of the Spanish colonial period. After 1898, English became the language of government and education. The Library’s holdings on the pre-independence Philippines are, therefore, largely in these two languages and are found outside the Asian Division.

Early Spanish accounts such as Diego de Aduarte’s 1640 *Historia de la Provincia del Sancto Rosario* and the first book printed in Manila, *Doctrina Christiana*, can be found in the Rare Book and Special Collections Division. The Manuscript Division has material from the Spanish period, such as records of the Catholic Church in the Philippines from 1707 to 1799; a 1654 history of the Jesuits in Mexico,

OPPOSITE: Inscribed Bamboo from the Philippines. These specimens of Filipino writing in old Indic script, which are similar to ancient scripts used in neighboring Indonesia and to modern script incised on bamboo, were gathered on the island of Mindoro around 1938. The Library’s collection of fifty-five bamboos in prose and twenty-two in verse provides a glimpse into Mangyan (Hampangan) and Tagbanua society. Many of the manuscripts reflect indigenous traditions that remained with the Mangyan because of their relative isolation. The Tagbanua manuscripts are cylindrical, while the Mangyan are often semicylindrical or tablets made from one-fourth to one-third of the circumference of the bamboo. (*Fletcher Gardner Collection, Asian Division*)

Handwritten text on a palm leaf fragment, likely in an ancient script. The text is arranged in several lines across the length of the leaf.

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RIGHT. *Doctrina Christiana* (1593). The first book printed in the Philippines, the *Doctrina Christiana* presents basic Roman Catholic doctrine not only in Spanish but also in Tagalog, which later became the national language of the Philippines. Tagalog is printed both in its Indic-derived writing system and in Roman script. Written by the Franciscan Friar Juan de Plasencia and printed with wood blocks by the Dominican Order in Manila, the *Doctrina Christiana* held by the Library is the only known surviving copy. (Rosenwald Collection, Rare Book and Special Collections Division)

OPPOSITE TOP. *The Voice of the Philippine Revolution* (1899). In the wake of Commodore George Dewey's destruction of Spain's Pacific Fleet in Manila Bay, Emilio Aguinaldo declared the independence of the Philippines on June 12, 1898. *El Heraldo de la Revolución* began semiweekly publication in September, continuing until fighting broke out between the Americans and Aguinaldo's forces on February 4, 1899. (Southeast Asian Collection, Asian Division)

OPPOSITE BOTTOM. *A Trio of Filipino Patriots*. Published by the Philippines Free Press in 1929, this poster-sized photograph shows the three leading figures of the Filipino nationalist movement in Europe in the late nineteenth century: Jose Rizal, Marcelo H. del Pilar, and Mariano Ponce. The trio was the moving force behind a movement called "La Solidaridad." (Southeast Asian Collection, Asian Division)



Doctrina Christiana, en
lengua española y tagala, co-
regida por los Religiosos de las
ordenes Impresa con licencia, en
S. Gabriel de la orden de S. Domingo
En Manila. 1593.

Guatemala, and the Philippines; and a microfilm copy of the Urbanite collection from the Vatican Library. The last covers English, French, and Spanish exploration from 1501 to 1626, including some material on the Philippines.

The Manuscript Division also holds valuable material on the Philippine campaign of the Spanish-American War, notably the papers of Gen. John J. Pershing. Of special interest to students of the beginning of American involvement in the Philippines is the Wildman brothers' unique collection of documents and photographs from the turn of the century. Rounseville Wildman was American Consul in Hong Kong during the Spanish-American War and the following armed struggle between the Philippine independence movement and the United States from 1899 to 1901. He maintained close contact with pro-independence Filipinos in Hong Kong. His brother, Edwin, covered the Philippine war as a correspondent, and his journals and photos are also part of the Wildman collection. Other material on the Philippine war against the United States includes papers from the Philippine military commander Emilio Aguinaldo and the U.S.-Philippine war collection of some three hundred documents.

The American colonial period and World War II are well covered by the Library's holdings. As the result of a microfiche project by the Jakarta Field Office, the Asian Division has hundreds of volumes from the American Historical collection documenting the American era in the Philippines. The General Collections and, to a certain extent, the Manuscript Division also have important material on the period. Of special value to scholars are the papers of William Howard Taft, who, before becoming President of the United States, chaired the Second Philippine Commission (1900–1901) and served as Governor-General of the Philippines from 1901 to 1904. A large collection of documents from Gen. Leonard Wood, an army officer who served as Governor General of the Philippines from 1921 to 1927, covers an especially difficult period in American-Filipino relations. The papers of Andres Soriano, who served on Gen. Douglas MacArthur's staff during World War II, are in the Manuscript Division. A number of rare photographs from the late 1890s to World War II, including photographs of the region, are held in the Prints and Photographs Division's Detroit Publishing Company collection.



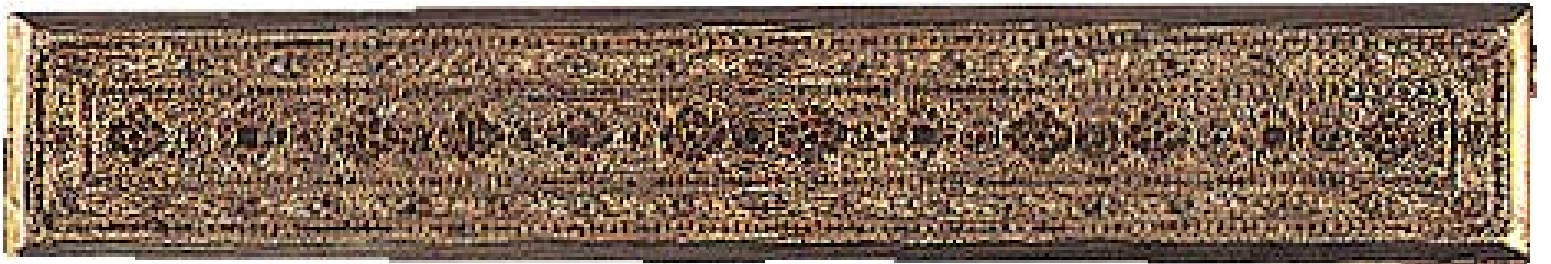
THE THERAVADA TRADITION

Burmese “Kammavācā” (Confession for Buddhist Monks). At every new and full moon, Buddhist monks confess their sins to each other. In Burma, it is a work of piety and “merit making” for the laity to commission and present to the Sangha (monastic order) manuscripts of the texts for this ritual. For greater merit, these manuscripts are often in rich materials with beautiful calligraphy and elaborate ornamentation. This example has wooden covers; is lacquered, gilded, and embossed; and is studded with cut glass to imitate rubies, emeralds, and diamonds. The text is on thin sheets of ivory and is lacquered with the text in the ornamental “tamarind seed” script and with figures of deities in red lacquer. The long, narrow form of the book is a carryover from palm leaves, the usual material for books. (*Burmese Pali Manuscript Collection, Asian Division*)

Although Burma, Thailand, Laos, and Cambodia are each unique states with their own histories, they share important classical traditions. Their writing systems use alphabets derived from the early Indian script known as Brahmi, and their predominant religion has been Theravada Buddhism since the gradual decline of other Indian-derived religions by the thirteenth century. Theravada Buddhism’s basic text is called the *Tipitaka* (Three Baskets), which is composed of discourses (“Sutta”), rules for monastic life (“Vinaya”), and elaborations on the Buddha’s teachings (“Abhidhamma”). This canon was carried orally until written down in the Pali language in Ceylon in the first century AD and is considered by its followers to be the most authentic record and teaching of the Buddha. (Theravada means “the way of the elders.”)

The Asian Division’s collection contains many palm leaf manuscript texts of the *Tipitaka* and of the extensive commentaries written about it. In 1905, King Chulalongkorn (Rama V), the well-known Thai reformer, presented the Library with the first printed Thai version of the *Tipitaka*. A Burmese *Tipitaka*, written in Pali using Burmese script, was presented to the Library in 1949 as part of a large Burmese donation. The Library holds an especially fine collection of Burmese Theravada palm leaf manuscripts in Pali.

Theravada Buddhism shaped the early historiography of Burma, Laos, Cambodia, and Thailand. The earlier Thai historical tradition that began well before the fifteenth century is called “tamnan” history and places Thai history in the broader context of the history of Buddhism. Scholars are still debating the value of tamnan writings as historical sources, but a good selection of tamnan texts can be found on microfiche in the Asian Division’s holdings. Historical writings in the Chinese style of dynastic histories are a later development in Thailand,





Thailand's King Chulalongkorn (Rama V) 1868–1910. Instituting major reforms in Thailand's government and society during his long reign, King Chulalongkorn brought his nation into the twentieth century while preserving Thai independence in the face of Western colonial pressure. Chulalongkorn's interest in modernization did not, however, prevent him from playing the traditional role of Thai monarchs as "protector of the Buddhist faith." In 1905, he presented the Library of Congress with a handsome set of the Buddhist Theravada canon, the *Tipitika*, in modern Thai script. This photo of Chulalongkorn is found at the beginning of each volume. (*Southeast Asian Collection, Asian Division*)

dating from the seventeenth century. This chronicle tradition, or “phong-sāwadān” history, is also represented in the Asian Division’s collection in the form of modern microfiche copies of the original documents in Thailand. An important Burmese history, the *Hmannan* “*maba’ ya’zawin taw kyī*” (The Glass Palace Chronicle), written by a group of scholars appointed by King Bagyidaw in 1829, was part of a 1949 Burmese donation that included a number of other important works of Burmese language and literature.

The Library holds some unique American material that provides a glimpse of nineteenth-century Thailand. The first treaty between the United States and an Asian state was negotiated by Edmund Roberts with the Thai government in 1833. Roberts’s journal and personal papers are in the Manuscript Division, as are the papers, dating from 1894 to 1898, of U.S. Minister to Thailand John Barrett. Barrett’s large collection of photos of Thailand from the 1890s is held separately in the Prints and Photographs Division. The Library’s holdings of the English-language newspaper *Bangkok Recorder*, started by the American Dan Beach (“Mo”) Bradley in 1865, are of special interest to historians of nineteenth-century Thailand. The Asian Division holds a small but rare collection of early Southeast Asian works printed by American missionaries in Thailand. The Library also has a major Buddhist periodical, *Thammaḥbaksu* (The Eye of the Law), on film from 1898 onward and in print from 1935 to 1965.

European relations with Thailand, of course, predate American contacts, and the Library holds several rare European accounts. Among the earliest is the French diplomat Marquis Alexandre de Chaumont’s account of his 1685 mission to Ayutthaya, then the capital of Thailand. Accompanied by a large delegation of Jesuits, Chaumont aimed to convert King Narai to Christianity, a mission doomed to failure. The Rare Book and Special Collections Division has a copy of Chaumont’s book, *Relation de l’ambassade de Mr le chevalier de Chaumont à la Cour du Roy de Siam*, published in Paris in 1686. It also has several editions of Guy Tachard’s book, *Voyage de Siam, des pères jésuites, envoyés par le roy aux Indes & à la Chine*, also first published in 1686. Father Tachard, one of the Jesuits in Chaumont’s mission, later returned to continue French intrigues at the court of Ayutthaya.

Thailand has maintained a vibrant classical music tradition, actively supported by the current monarch, King Bhumibol Adulyadej (Rama IX). The Music Division holds a beautiful collection of Thai court musical instruments that were presented to the Library in 1960 by King Bhumibol.



Three Karen Christian Tracts. The Karen are a minority people in the hilly parts of southeast Burma. They were largely converted to Christianity by American Baptist missionaries in the last century. The Baptists were very influential in many parts of Burma, and their American mission presses were important in the development of typography in the local languages. Unlike some of the minority peoples, the Karen had no writing system before their evangelization, and the missionaries devised a system that was based on Burmese and is still in use. The Karen took to publishing with zeal, starting a newspaper as early as 1841. The Library’s large collection of Karen materials from the nineteenth century up to the present was acquired at various times and through various routes. These three pamphlets illustrate typical themes: the development of indigenous church institutions, struggles with the earlier religion, and issues of social reform. (*Southeast Asian Collection, Asian Division*)



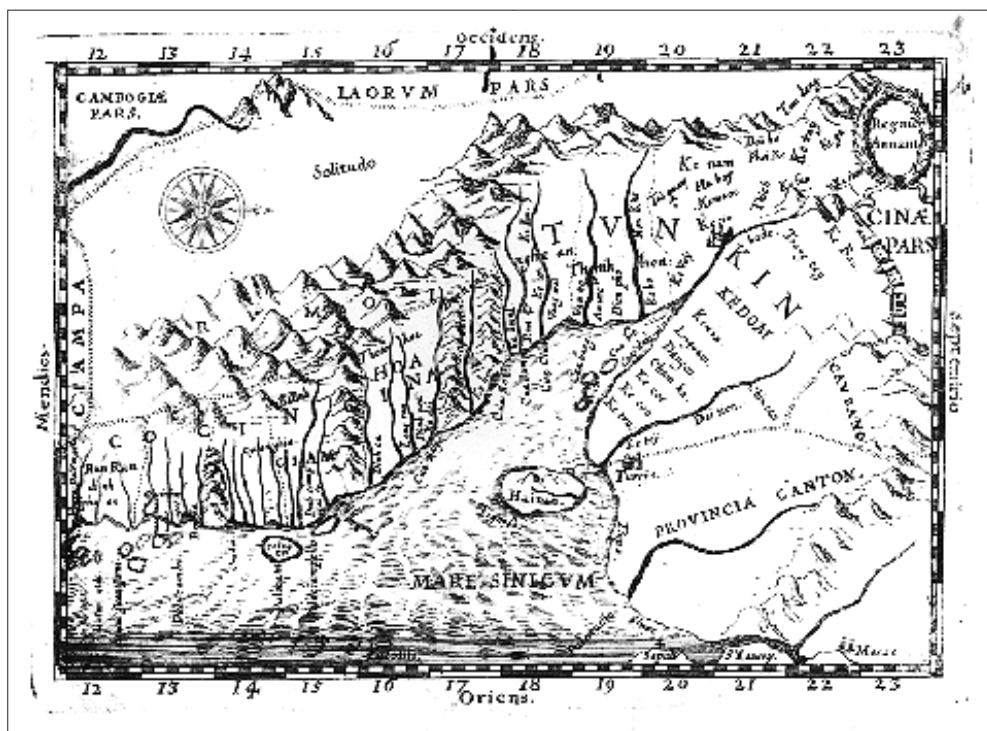
The Birth of the Vietnamese Alphabet. Jesuit missionaries serving in Vietnam during the seventeenth century devised a Roman-script alphabet for writing Vietnamese. The system, called “Quốc Ngữ,” replaced the Chinese characters that had traditionally been used. Father Alexander de Rhodes, a French Jesuit, played an important part in spreading its use. His catechism, printed in Rome in 1651, is among the earliest published works using Quốc Ngữ. (*Rare Book and Special Collections Division*)

THE SOUTHERN MANDARINS

Vietnam has traditionally stood apart from the rest of Southeast Asia, separated by its close historical and cultural ties to China. Vietnamese often speak of their thousand years under Chinese rule, emphasizing that they fought and won independence in 939 AD. Although fiercely independent, Vietnam continued to follow the Chinese model of society and government. Until it fell under French colonial rule in the nineteenth century, Vietnam was ruled by an emperor and administered by a Confucian bureaucracy chosen through an examination system, while Chinese remained the official language of the court and the educated elite. In the seventeenth century, Alexandre de Rhodes, a French Jesuit missionary, helped devise a romanized alphabet for written Vietnamese that is still in use.

Vietnam has a strong tradition of written dynastic history, and the Asian Division has a good selection of the major works. Although many of the early Vietnamese books are reprints in modern Vietnamese, the Asian Division does have a small collection of important Vietnamese books in traditional format. In 1918 the Director of l'École Française d'Extrême-Orient in Hanoi gave the Library several valuable works published in Chinese. Two of these books were printed for the Library from the original wooden blocks at the imperial palace in Hue. One of these, *Khâm-Định Việt-Sur Thông-Giám Cương-Mục* is a nineteenth-century history of Vietnam. The other, *Đại-Nam Nhất-Thống-Chí*, is an early Vietnamese gazetteer. Besides these two large works, the French gift included two copies of the best-known work in Vietnamese literature, *Kim-Vân-Kiều*, a poem or rather a versified novel, written by Nguyễn Du in 1813. One copy is in Chinese characters used phonetically, a form of writing called “Chữ Nôm”; the other is in standard romanization, “Quốc Ngữ.”

In 1920, the Library received another important Vietnamese history printed on the palace library blocks in Hue, the *Đại Việt Sử Ký Toàn Thư* (Complete Annals of the Great Viet), in twenty-four books bound in fourteen volumes. Incorporating an early history of the Ly Dynasty (1009–1225) completed in 1272 by historian Lê Văn Hưu, the annals were revised extensively by Ngô Sĩ Liên in 1479 at the order of the emperor. The annals were again edited and expanded by Lê Hữ in 1698. The Library's copy was printed from the original but somewhat



Early Western Map of Tonkin (1651). One of the earliest Western maps showing details of northern and central Vietnam appeared in Father Alexander de Rhodes's *Histoire du royaume de Tynquin*, published in Rome in 1650. This map is from the French edition, published a year later in Lyon. Oriented with the north to the right, "Regnu Annam" shows the extent of seventeenth-century Vietnam, then divided between two rival dynasties, one in the north and the other in central Vietnam. Remnants of the Cham kingdom, eventually destroyed by the Vietnamese, still exist in the south. To the west, are the highlands occupied by "Rumoi" (upland minority groups, later called "montagnards" by the French). The limited Western knowledge of the interior is illustrated by the large region labeled "Solitudo." (Rare Book and Special Collections Division)

worn blocks on good Vietnamese paper. Incorporated in this work immediately after the contents page is the treatise *Việt Giám Thông Khảo Tổng Luận* by Lê Tung. It is a summary of Ngô Sĩ Liên's original draft of the annals. Rounding out the Library's collection of Vietnamese is an 1884 Shanghai reprint of the *An-Nam Chí lược*, written in China toward the end of the thirteenth century by the expatriate Lê Tắc. It is probably the oldest Vietnamese historical work that has been preserved. In addition, the Library holds a wide range of reprints of early works that have been translated from Vietnam's old writing system, which used Chinese characters, into modern Vietnamese.

Modern Asia

WITH THE END OF WORLD WAR II IN 1945, the Library's focus on Asia shifted, reflecting America's emergence as a world power. The Asian Division sharply reduced its emphasis on collecting the classics, often in rare, old editions, and turned its attention to becoming a leading resource on contemporary developments in Asia. Luther B. Evans, Librarian of Congress from 1945 to 1953, defined this new acquisition policy in 1945:

Our Chinese library, large as it is, distinguished as it is, has been too largely formed on classic rather than on contemporary principles with the result that conflict in modern Asia has sometimes found us inept or actually impotent. Hereafter we must discriminate between an impulse to rescue the literature of the past and the imperative to control the literature of the present.

EAST ASIA

The Japan Documentation Center: Nothing better illustrates the Library's emphasis on obtaining current publications from Asia than the work of the Japan Documentation Center (JDC) in the Asian Division. Established in 1992 to ensure that Congress would receive timely information on Japan, JDC obtains unpublished and other material that is often difficult to find, such as draft legislation, government policy studies, public opinion polling data, reports from think tanks, and conference proceedings. Topics of interest include Japanese politics, national defense, the environment, economics, business, and social conditions.

Obtaining this material and forwarding it to the Library once a week is the job of the JDC's Tokyo Acquisitions Facility. When documents are received by the Library, the JDC staff records bibliographic data in Japanese and English for each item and produces an English summary. The records are then added to the JDC database, which is available on the Internet at <http://lcweb.loc.gov/rr/jdc>. The documents are digitally scanned so that copies can be made quickly when requested by members of Congress, academics, the business community, or the general public. JDC also receives several Japanese journals covering current developments. To ensure that readers have timely access, vendors in Tokyo air mail the journals directly to JDC.

In addition to acquiring a wide range of documents and providing reference assistance, JDC sponsors conferences and workshops. Its third annual symposium, "CyberJapan: Technology, Policy, and Society" was held at the Library of Congress in 1996. And in 1997, JDC and the U.S. Department of Commerce cosponsored the "Fifth International Conference on Japanese Information in



Examples of Contemporary Japanese Publications. (*Japan Documentation Center, Asian Division*)

Science, Technology, and Commerce,” featuring some thirty speakers from Europe, Japan, and the United States. The very model of a modern electronic library, JDC is a joint project sponsored by the Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnership (CGP) and the Library of Congress. Clearly, JDC has been such a great success that the initial contract between the Library and CGP was renewed in 1997, ensuring financial support for another three years. While separate and distinct from the Asian Division’s Japanese Section, JDC’s work is in the broadest sense part of the Asian Division’s coverage of modern Japan.

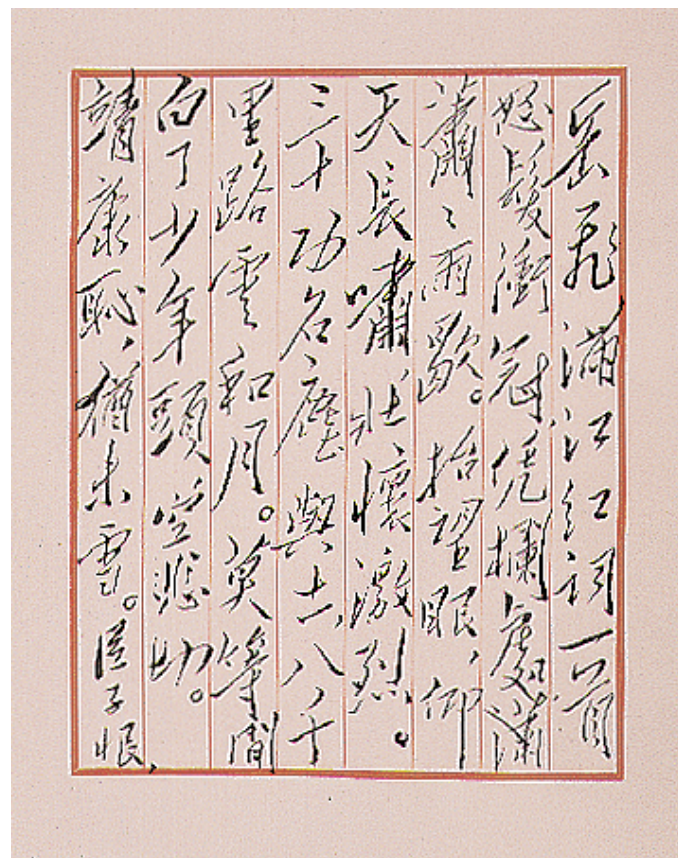
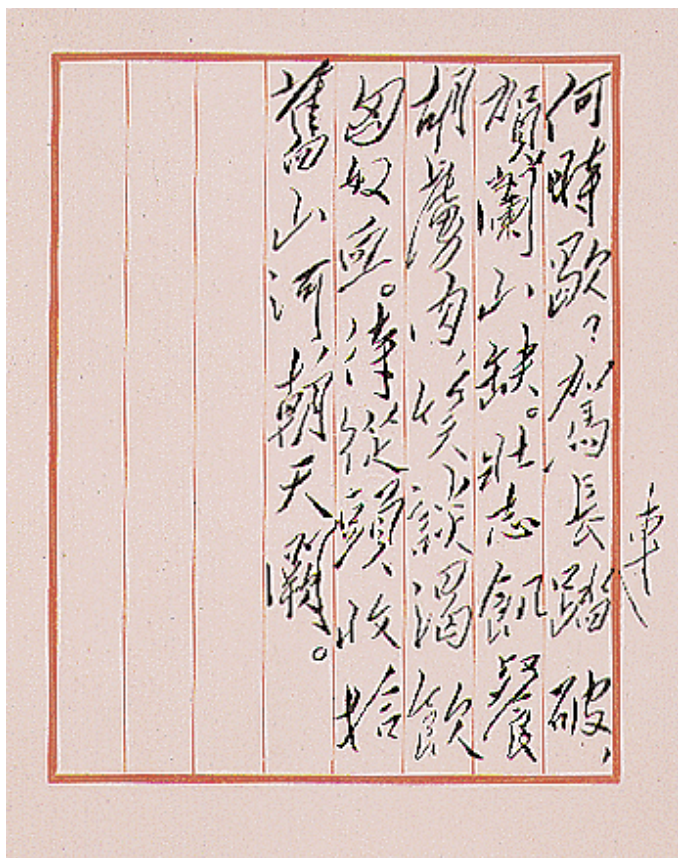
Japanese: The traditional Japanese world entered a period of rapid modernization beginning with the Meiji Restoration in 1868. Although Japan’s role in East Asia continued to become more important, it was not until the 1930s that serious academic study of Japan began in the United States. This decade marked the growing tensions in relations between the United States and Japan. Dr. Sakanishi Shiho at the Library of Congress played an active role not only in building the

Library's Japanese collections but also in promoting Japanese studies in the United States. Born in Tokyo, Sakanishi held a Ph.D. from the University of Michigan and had been an assistant professor at Hollins College in Virginia before starting at the Library in 1930. Her personal story is intertwined with the tragic story of World War II in the Pacific. Dr. Sakanishi's tireless efforts to encourage Japanese studies and her close relations with the Japanese Embassy in Washington apparently put her high on the FBI's list of "enemy aliens." Federal officers arrested Sakanishi on December 7, 1941, holding her in a detention camp until June 1942 when she was sent to Japan as part of an exchange of prisoners.

With the end of World War II, the Library's holdings of Japanese material increased rapidly and are today the most extensive collection outside Japan. Valuable Japanese government records that throw light on Japanese decision making before the war were transferred to the Library from the Washington Documents Center. Among them are records from the former Japanese Imperial Army and Navy, the South Manchuria Railway Company, and the East Asian Research Institute (Tōa Kenkyūjo). The Library has a microfilm copy of the archives of the Japanese Foreign Ministry from 1868 to 1945 that was used, for example, in John Toland's history of the fall of the Japanese Empire, *The Rising Sun*. Japanese scholars have also used the Library's pre-1945 records of the Police Bureau of Japan's Ministry of Home Affairs. Complementing this rich resource are maps in the Geography and Map Division that provide insight into the early period of Japanese expansion in northeast Asia. These include a collection of Japanese Army manuscript route maps of Korea and China prepared from 1878 to the 1880s and manuscript maps concerning the Russo-Japanese War (1904–1905) from Theodore Roosevelt's papers.

At present, the Japanese collection has nearly one million books and serials. Its holdings include major Japanese newspapers such as *Asabi shinbun*, *Yomiuri shinbun*, and *Nikkei Weekly*. Japanese material in other divisions of the Library includes pre-1946 newsreels and movies in the Motion Picture, Broadcasting, and Recorded Sound Division; posters, ukiyo-e, other prints, and photographs in the Prints and Photographs Division; technical reports in the Science and Technology Division; and recorded music and scores in the Music Division.

Chinese: War and revolution in China during much of the first half of the twentieth century provided both unique collection opportunities and serious problems for the Library's Chinese collections. On the positive side, the Library was able to obtain the only copies of some four thousand unique and valuable publications



issued by both the Nationalist and the Communist sides during the war years from 1939 to 1945. These publications cover subjects ranging from the social sciences and government to military strategy and wartime propaganda. The material includes valuable Chinese Communist Party publications concerning party policies in the areas of northwest China under its control during World War II. Literary works are another particularly rich part of this collection, especially a number of modern Chinese plays written in the wartime capital of Chungking. Included are works by the well-known writers Lao She (author of *Rickshaw Boy*) and Ts'ao Yü (*Sunrise and Thunderstorm*).

After the Communist victory in 1949 and the resulting rupture of contacts between the United States and the People's Republic of China (PRC), acquiring current Chinese mainland publications became very difficult. Chinese publications from Taiwan continued to flow, but from 1950 to 1975 the Library had to purchase all its mainland Chinese publications through either Hong Kong or Japan. Despite these difficulties, the Library acquired probably the best holdings

Calligraphy of Mao Tse-tung. The People's Republic of China printed only 500 copies of this large book of Mao Tse-tung's poetry and calligraphy, using them as presentation books during official visits. This copy was donated to the Library by Dr. Chi Wang, who received it in 1989 from Prof. Hu Qiao Mu, Mao's personal secretary for over nineteen years. Here Mao has copied a poem by a famous Sung Dynasty general, Yüeh Fei. (*Chinese Rare Book Collection, Asian Division*)

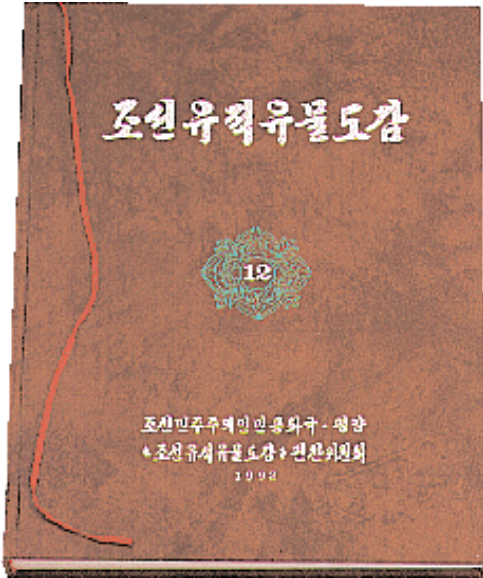
on the PRC available in the West during the 1950s and 1960s. Through the Department of State's publications procurement program, the Consulate General in Hong Kong was able to buy large amounts of material published in China that it shared with the Library. Of special interest from that period is the Library's holdings of some six hundred to seven hundred provincial newspapers. Because of its excellent collection of PRC publications, the Library became a center for China-watchers during the 1950s and 1960s, with many American graduate students using the material for M.A. theses or Ph.D. dissertations.

Following the 1972 visit to China of Richard Nixon, who was president then, the Library reopened its contact with the National Library of Peking through a visit by Dr. Chi Wang, who is currently head of the Chinese Section of the Asian Division. The first formal exchange agreement was signed in 1979. Since then, the Chinese collection has continued to grow through purchases by dealers in Peking, Hong Kong, and Taipei, as well as from exchanges and gifts. From 1980 until 1987, the Library received a massive influx of Chinese publications, averaging some twenty-four thousand titles each year, through its exchange agreement with the National Library in Peking. Since 1988, the Library has tightened and narrowed its focus on China but continues to strengthen its collection of modern Chinese publications and will remain an important center for scholarship.

Of the collection's nearly one million books, manuscripts, and other publications, some 40 percent are in the humanities; 40 percent are in the social sciences; and 20 percent are general works, science, technology, and bibliographies. Besides books, the Library has more than twelve thousand Chinese periodical titles and regularly receives about forty-five Chinese-language newspapers. The large Chinese microfilm collection of more than fifteen thousand reels is very impressive. The Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation for International Scholarly Exchange has given the Library a grant to prepare a research guide for the collection that will be put on the Internet.

Additionally, there are significant holdings of photographs of China in the Prints and Photographs Division and unique material in the Motion Picture, Broadcasting, and Recorded Sound Division.

Korean: The Library began systematic acquisition of Korean-language publications in 1950 and now has the largest and most comprehensive collection outside Korea, including books, periodicals, and some two hundred fifty newspapers that go back to the 1920s. Through a 1966 exchange agreement between the United States

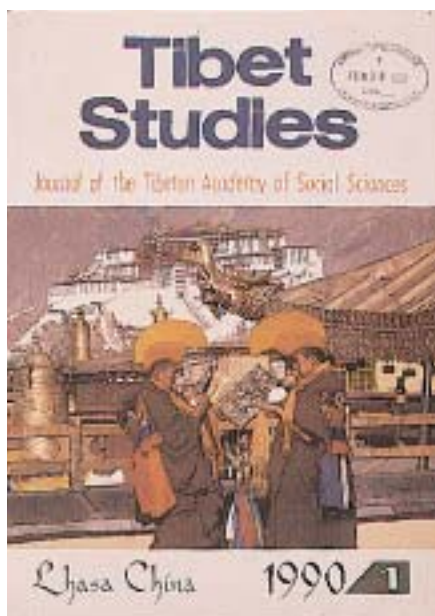


Chosŏn Yujŏk Yumul Togam (Illustrated Book of Ruins and Relics of Korea). Because of the closed nature of North Korean society, the outside world has little information on Korean artifacts held in the north. This seventeen-volume set, published in Pyongyang in 1994, was, therefore, welcomed by art collectors and other specialists. Ceramics are among the most important of Korea's artistic achievements, and volume 12 is devoted to the unique ceramics of the Koryŏ period (918–1392), widely admired for their beautiful colors and design. (*Korean Collection, Asian Division*)

and the Republic of Korea, the Library has built up an especially strong collection of Korean government publications. Another strength of the contemporary collection is Korean trade publications, systematically built up through the use of a Korean dealer since 1955.

North Korea, or the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, is probably the most secretive society in the modern world. The Asian Division's 10,000 items from North Korea are therefore vital to scholars and government officials trying to understand developments in the north. The Library receives the two major North Korean newspapers—one a government paper and the other the party paper—as well as several dozen periodicals.

The rapid development of the Korean collections during this decade is in large part due to the generous support of the International Cultural Society of Korea, which presented the Library with a gift of one million dollars in December 1989, on the 200th anniversary of the U.S. Congress. Besides buying Korean books, the Library used these funds to establish a Korean Section in the Asian Division in 1990, to sponsor a Korean Studies Conference in 1992, and to set up a program for Korean interns to spend a month working in the Library. In 1996, the Library began a Korean Studies Fellowship Program that will support researchers working on Korean-related subjects for six months. These and other projects using the Korean Gift Fund are managed by an Advisory Committee consisting of six members from the Library and three members from the academic community.



ABOVE LEFT. A Current Tibetan Periodical.



ABOVE RIGHT. Tibetan Books Starting the Journey to the Library of Congress, 1926. At the request of the Library of Congress, Joseph Rock bought complete sets of the *Kanjur* and *Tanjur*, the Tibetan Buddhist canon, at the monastery of Choni in western Kansu province (China). Rock had the books packed in ninety-two boxes and loaded on mules, seen here as they began the seven-day journey from Choni to the provincial capital of Langchow. Later trapped in the town of Sian during a lengthy siege, the books eventually reached Shanghai after more than a year. They arrived in Washington in 1928 and are now part of the Asian Division's Tibetan collection. (*Rock Collection, Prints and Photographs Division*)

INNER ASIA

The turbulent history of the Tibet Autonomous Region of the People's Republic of China since 1950 has complicated the Library's efforts to build its holdings of modern Tibetan publications. Fortunately, the Library's New Delhi Field Office was well positioned to take advantage of the upsurge in Tibetan publishing in India, Nepal, and Bhutan following the flight of the Dalai Lama to India in 1959 and the subsequent refugee influx. As a result, the majority of the Library's books in the Tibetan language are reprint editions purchased by the New Delhi Field Office since 1962. Of the Library's approximately 7,700 Tibetan volumes, about 5,500 were purchased by the New Delhi Field Office.

With normalization of relations between the United States and China that began in 1972 and with the end of China's Cultural Revolution in 1976, Tibetan-language publications from the People's Republic of China became increasingly available to the Library. Exchange agreements with scholarly institutions in China and three procurement missions to Tibet by Library staff in the 1990s have helped the Library obtain current Tibetan publications, including new printings of old woodblock texts as well as modern Tibetan literature. About a thousand of the Library's Tibetan volumes are modern publications from the People's Republic of China. In 1990, the Library acquired 340 volumes of woodblock texts, recently printed in monasteries in Tibet. A donation from Alo Chhonzed, a former Tibetan government official and politician now living in Australia, is of special

value for the study of modern Tibetan history. In addition, the Library has about 40 serial titles, 200 reels of microfilm, and 1,300 microfiche of Tibetan material.

The Library's Archive of Folk Culture has an interesting set of wire recordings made in 1950 in Kalimpong, northeastern India's "gateway" to Tibet, by the anthropologist Prince Peter of Greece and Denmark. The recordings include recitations of traditional Tibetan stories, such as "The Story of the Rabbit" and part of the epic "History of King Gesar," as well as esoteric Lamaist ceremonies. When Prince Peter was making his recordings, Kalimpong was a major center for Tibetan political activity, intensified by the People's Liberation Army's ongoing occupation of Tibet. Prince Peter made an especially timely recording of a November 15, 1950, luncheon conversation among senior Tibetan officials, Chinese scholars, Indian and Chinese diplomats, and the sister of the Dalai Lama.

Besides the 2,000 photographs taken by Joseph Rock in western China, many of which are of Tibetan lamas and monasteries, the Prints and Photographs Division has a collection of "Scenes of Tibet" from the 1930–1933 German expedition led by Ernst Schaefer. The Motion Picture, Broadcasting, and Recorded Sound Division holds a large collection of recorded Tibetan music and many films and videos of Tibet. Among the latter is the exhaustive film record of the German-Tibetan expedition of 1938–1939 that began in Darjeeling, India, and continued on to Lhasa. The film footage contains some interesting scenes of a Tibetan New Year's festival in Lhasa and shots of various Tibetan officials.

Mongolian: With the opening up of the Mongolian political system in the early 1990s, the Library's New Delhi Field Office began acquiring a small but increasing number of modern Mongolian publications.

SOUTH ASIA

Before World War II, there was virtually no interest in the United States in the modern languages of South Asia. Scholars were then fixated on the classical languages of Sanskrit, Pali, Prakrit, Arabic, and Persian. In 1945, however, this attitude began to change. The Library's acquisition program, which had been disrupted by the war, was resumed and orders were placed with five Indian dealers for a broad array of publications. Dr. Poleman, the Asian Division's Indologist, made another trip to India in 1947, to buy publications in modern languages, recordings of Indian music and legal texts, and classical reprints published during the war. During the 1950s, the collection grew rapidly. By 1953,

A Selection of Pamphlets on Bangladesh's Independence Movement. In the fast-breaking events of 1971–1972, in which a movement for independence exploded in what was then West Pakistan, the Pakistan authorities attempted to suppress the movement by military force. When India moved in to settle the issue, the Library's New Delhi Field Office was able to get pamphlets from all parties putting forward their positions. As is true for collections of pamphlets on many other subjects that would not each merit individual cataloging, these items have been preserved and cataloged as a collection so that future scholars may study the events and propaganda battle. (*Southern Asian Pamphlet Collection, Asian Division*)



for example, the Library was receiving eighty-six contemporary newspapers and periodicals in the languages of India, Pakistan, and Ceylon.

The collection's growth was spurred even more in 1962 when the Public Law (PL) 480 program began, which enabled the Library to use rupees from Indian purchases of U.S. agricultural products to buy Indian books. The Library's New Delhi Field Office was opened the same year to implement the program, thereby marking the beginning of the thorough and systematic acquisition of publications in the modern languages of South Asia. A field office was opened in Karachi in 1965 to oversee the acquisition of Pakistani publications. The New Delhi Field Office also carries out an extensive program to microfilm newspapers and fragile periodicals and to microfiche both periodicals and books.

Today, the South Asian collection holds material in over fifty modern languages used in India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, and Nepal. The majority of the publications are in Hindi (20 percent), Bengali (15 percent), Urdu (13 percent), and Tamil (11 percent). Other languages represented in large numbers include Marathi, Telugu, Malayalam, Gujarati, and Kannada. The majority of these publications are in the fields of literature, religion, philosophy, history, and politics, but all subjects are included.

Among the Library's unique holdings are World War II records in English and Hindi from the Indian National Army that operated against British forces from Burma with Japanese support. In addition, the Motion Picture, Broadcasting, and Recorded Sound Division has an excellent collection of audiovisual material from India, including a large collection of 78 rpm recordings of Indian music made by British and American companies working in India in the first half of the century. More music from India, Sri Lanka, Nepal, and Pakistan can be found in the Library's Archive of Folk Culture. The Archive also holds recordings of Nestorian Christian services held at several churches in the Indian state of Kerala that were made by Prince Peter of Greece and Denmark in 1949.

SOUTHEAST ASIA AND THE PACIFIC ISLANDS

Direct American involvement in Southeast Asia, with the exception of the Philippines, was limited until the end of World War II. Nonetheless, the Library holds some fascinating collections of Southeast Asian and South Pacific material that predate the war. In 1934, the Fahnstock brothers, Bruce and Sheridan, set sail from New York for China and the South Pacific on their ship, *Director*. The three-year voyage, during which they studied the cultures of the Pacific and uncovered a set of important Fijian petroglyphs, the Ndakunimba Stones, was documented in their book, *Stars to Windward* (1938). During a second sailing expedition in 1940, the Fahnstocks made extensive recordings of music from American Samoa, Fiji, French Polynesia, New Caledonia, and Australia before their ship hit a reef near Australia and sank.

A third voyage in 1941, as war loomed in the Pacific, resulted in rare recordings of music on the islands of Indonesia, including Bali, Madura, and the Kangean islands. This third expedition also had a covert side. At the request of Pres. Franklin D. Roosevelt, the Fahnstocks evaluated Dutch military preparations on Java and carried out several other missions. With the outbreak of war, the Fahnstocks joined the U.S. Army's Small Ships Section in New Guinea, the unit that inspired the 1960s television series entitled *The Wackiest Ship in the Army*. In 1986, Margaret Fahnstock Lewis, the widow of Sheridan Fahnstock, gave the Library much of the material the brothers had collected on their three expeditions. The Library's Archive of Folk Culture is the home for the Fahnstock South Seas collection, including recorded music of the South Pacific and Indonesia, recordings of Fijian legends, manuscripts, logs, correspondence, and photographs.

Another important collection of material on the cultures of the South Pacific



Seni and Kukrit Pramroj, *The King of Siam Speaks*. Most Thai were shocked by the portrayal of their revered nineteenth-century king, Mongkut, in the musical *The King and I*. The stage and screen versions were based on Margaret Landon's 1944 book entitled *Anna and the King of Siam*. To correct the record, well-known Thai intellectuals Seni and Kukrit Pramroj wrote this account in 1948. The Pramroj brothers sent their manuscript to the American politician and diplomat Abbot Low Moffat, who drew on it for his biography entitled *Mongkut the King of Siam* (1961). Moffat donated the Pramroj manuscript to the Library in 1961. (*Southeast Asian Collection, Asian Division*)

and Indonesia may be found in the Manuscript Division where the papers of the renowned American anthropologist Margaret Mead are kept. Mead's academic career began with the field trip to the South Pacific in 1925 that resulted in the publication of *Coming of Age in Samoa*, a book that attracted a readership well beyond the academic community. During a career that spanned some fifty years, Mead's field work took her from Fiji to the Admiralty Islands, New Guinea, and Bali. Her fame and her sometimes controversial views on subjects, such as the rearing of children, stimulated public interest in the field of anthropology. Mead's papers in the Library are a valuable source for research on her work and life.

The Archive of Folk Culture holds other rare Asian material, including the Benjamin Ives Gilman collection of wax cylinder recordings made at the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago and including Japanese and South Pacific music. The Hornbostel Demonstration collection of 120 pressed cylinder copies from wax field recordings includes Chinese, Japanese, Southeast Asian, and Indian music recorded in the early years of the twentieth century. In addition, the Archive of Folk Culture holds many more recent recordings of music from Asia and the Pacific.

During World War II, the United States supported the anti-Japanese resistance movement in Thailand, the Free Thai Movement. The American largely responsible for bringing about this relationship was Dr. Kenneth Landon, a former Presbyterian minister who had spent ten years in Thailand as a missionary. After his return to the United States in 1937, Landon worked on a Ph.D. and wrote a book on Thai politics. With the outbreak of war, he became Washington's leading expert on Thailand, first with America's wartime intelligence organization, the Office of Strategic Services, and then with the Department of State. Dr. Landon later donated hundreds of pages of transcripts of Free Thai radio broadcasts to the Library, along with a small but important collection of post-World War II Thai books on politics as well as Thai political fiction.

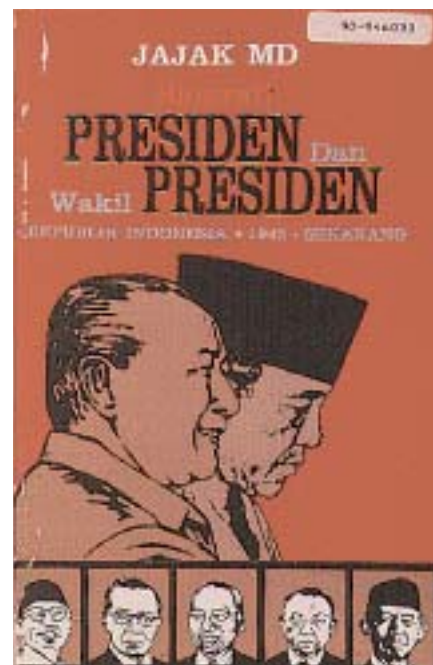
Landon's connection with the Library of Congress, however, began before his donation of the Free Thai material, going back to research by his wife, Margaret, for her book entitled *Anna and the King of Siam*. Published in 1944, the book was an account of the English governess Anna Leonowens's experiences in the court of King Mongkut (Rama IV) and became the inspiration for the Broadway musical *The King and I*. In her note at the end of the book, Margaret Landon thanks Dr. Horace Poleman of the Library of Congress for making available material for reconstructing some of the historical background in the book. Specifically, she cites her use of a Thai-language book in the Library containing King Mongkut's correspondence.

With the beginning of the Cold War, the Library's collection efforts increased to meet the need for more knowledge about Southeast Asia. Growing concern about Asian Communism can be seen in the increasing number of titles the Library received from Southeast Asia during the late 1940s and 1950s, such as a 1952 report on the Philippine Communist Party published by the Philippine House of Representatives and publications from the Saigon-based Asian People's Anti-Communist League and the Bangkok headquarters of the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization (SEATO).

Today the Library's Jakarta Field Office is responsible for the acquisition of publications from the region. Through dealers in most Southeast Asian capitals and periodic buying trips, the Jakarta Field Office ensures a continual flow of current publications to the Library. Contemporary holdings in the languages of Southeast Asia reflect the full range of publications available in the region. Through its acquisitions office in Manila, the Library has continued to expand its Philippine collection. Current holdings of Philippine-government publications may be the largest outside the Philippines. With the opening of an office in the U.S. Embassy in Bangkok, the Library's Thai collection has become second only to the collections in the major libraries in Thailand itself. The collection is strong in the areas of politics, economics, and regional Thai publications. The Jakarta Field Office also implements a project to microfilm and microfiche material from the region.

Publications from the countries of Indochina are part of the responsibility of the Jakarta office and deserve special mention here because of America's intense military and political involvement in the area from the 1950s to 1975 and because of the large number of Vietnamese, Cambodians, and Lao who have entered the fabric of American society since the end of the war.

The Library stepped up its acquisition of French-language publications from Indochina in the late 1940s. By the early 1950s, the Library was receiving four Vietnamese-language newspapers: two from Hanoi and two from Saigon. Signs of growing interest in Vietnamese internal politics were in evidence, such as the Library's acquisition of an intriguing book on Vietnam's Cao Đài religion, published in 1950 under the auspices of the Commander-in-Chief of the Cao Đài Army and Saigon's then-Minister of Armed Forces, Maj. Gen. Trần Quang Vinh. The Library holds copies of reports on government and administrative reform in South Vietnam from Michigan State University's "Vietnam Advisory Group." Despite this increasing attention, Vietnamese-language material



Jajak MD, Biografi Presiden dan Wakil, Presiden Republik Indonesia: 1945–Sekarang. Containing the biographies of the presidents and vice-presidents of Indonesia since independence, this book is an example of a recent publication in modern Indonesian. During the colonial period, the Dutch helped popularize the use of the Malay language throughout Indonesia's over three thousand islands. This language later evolved into "Bahasa Indonesia," and the roman script became the official writing system. Indonesia's first two presidents, Sukarno and Suharto, appear on the cover. (Southeast Asian Collection, Asian Division)

continued to grow more slowly than other Southeast Asian-language publications in the 1950s, ranking well behind material published in Indonesia, Thailand, and Burma. Even in the mid-1960s, with American involvement escalating, the Library complained of the irregular flow of published material from South Vietnam and the difficulty of getting publications from North Vietnam. Nonetheless, in spite of the hostilities between North Vietnam and the United States, the Library had by the late 1960s begun to develop a close working relationship with selected institutions in Hanoi. As a result of these exchanges, the Library's collection of works from the northern provinces of Vietnam is stronger than that from the former Saigon government.

America's war in Vietnam is often said to be the first televised war. An extensive record of this coverage can be found in the Library's Motion Picture, Broadcasting, and Recorded Sound Division. Included are special reports that appeared on ABC, CBS, and NBC; historic footage from Nippon News covering the Japanese occupation during World War II; travelogues on French Indochina produced in the late 1940s; and a French film collection on the colonial period with perspectives from the Viet Minh and Ho Chi Minh, and some scenes from 1901.

Another interesting source of material on the war is found in the Documents Division, which holds the notes and records of Neil Sheehan, author of *A Bright Shining Lie: John Paul Vann and America in Vietnam*.

Following the end of the war in 1975 and the arrival of hundreds of thousands of refugees from Indochina, the Library began to see a large increase in demand for publications in the languages of the region. With all of Vietnam now under Hanoi's control, however, it took some effort for the Library to rebuild sources of supply for Vietnamese publications. Today the Asian Division's holdings in Vietnamese include some seventy-five newspapers, about half published in Vietnam and the rest published by the overseas Vietnamese community. The Asian Division receives 247 Vietnamese periodicals, over half published in Vietnam, and a broad selection of fiction and nonfiction published in Vietnam. While the Library maintains an excellent exchange relationship with the National Library of Vietnam, it has a special project with the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS) in Hanoi, collecting unique law and other publications that could not be obtained in the past. As a result, the Library's post-1975 Vietnamese collection is the premier collection outside Vietnam.

The other languages of Indochina are represented by small but growing collections in Khmer and Lao. Beginning in the 1970s, the Library began to develop its Lao and Khmer collections, including a unique set of publications in

Cambodian from refugee camps on the Thai-Cambodian border. The Library holds a small but growing retrospective collection of publications from the Lao Patriotic Front (Neo Lao Hak Sat), which provided the leadership for the post-1975 Lao government. The collections are most heavily used by former residents of Indochina, primarily scholars and Buddhist monks. Much of the published material in the lesser-known languages of mainland Southeast Asia is being put on microfilm or microfiche. Other divisions in the Library hold material. The Motion Picture, Broadcasting, and Recorded Sound Division has materials on several Lao minority groups, such as the Khammu and Hmong, as part of the Indochina Archives Project of the Social Science Research Council. The diaries of Souvanna Phouma, former Prime Minister of Laos, can be found in the Manuscript Division.

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The history and holdings of the Library's Asian collections mirror the growth of American diplomatic involvement, academic interest, and public attention on Asia from the midnineteenth century to today. The need for more knowledge of Asia can only increase in the future, and the Library of Congress will remain a central repository for all types of Asian publications that are not broadly available at other locations in the United States.

To meet the needs of the times, the Library is already taking advantage of the new technologies. The days of the lone adventurer or scholar seeking out rare books in remote corners of the world have yielded to more systematic procurement of publications through field offices and purchasing agents, thus taking full advantage of modern electronic communications. New technology is opening the Asian collections to a wider audience. With the Library's World Wide Web site open to Internet users, it is easy to browse through the holdings on line. And, as the Library's digital library develops, more and more rare texts will be accessible to the growing number of people with Internet connections. The Japan Documentation Center is a harbinger of future innovative programs to meet the need for rapid information on Asian developments.

Yet the new technologies do not diminish the accomplishments of a Caleb Cushing acquiring Chinese classics in 1844 or a Joseph Rock overseeing the loading of a mule caravan of Tibetan books in 1926. Their contributions and the efforts of so many others have made the Library of Congress's Asian collections a unique and invaluable resource that belongs to the American people.

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