

BEASL Number 9 - 1996

Editors Note

After more than a year and with some delay the new BEASL is ready. The delay is due to the somewhat slow income of contributions. The Chinese contributors we had hoped would contribute gave us no positive reactions. Yet we don't want to lament, but happily thank the contributors of this number of BEASL for their effort. After all we think it has become an informative Bulletin. The section on automation is by far not as extensive as in the last years. Maybe the interest in this field has cooled since most of us have by now decided what system to use and are busy implementing it. Much leaves to be said and desired, so we think that the Bulletin will dedicate more space to this topic again in the future. In this context Hubert Delhaye gives an insight on the CJK OPAC of the Instiut d'Extreme Orient. One main notice in the field of automation seems to be that EASL does now have a www homepage. We think it would be desirable to discuss, maybe on the homepage itself, what the future character of BEASL should be and what it cannot be, i.e. the fields of the homepage will naturally take over.

In our section on sinological collections in Europe we have inserted a short description of several smaller sinological libraries in German-speaking countries. The information on fields of special collections etc. should be interesting to all of us in times of reduced public funds and better international exchange and cooperation possibilities. We think that such information could be exchanged between different European countries. We can imagine that in the next number maybe the British or French colleagues introduce their "smaller" libraries thus institutionalizing this point in the Bulletin.

The report on Chinese Collections in Leuven, Belgium and on the Austrian National Library are separately published because of the importance of these libraries.

Reports by Lars Laaman on the Beitang Collection and by Cordula Gumprecht on her acquisition tour to China may provide some useful insight and connection in period when book selling rules in China, Hongkong and Taiwan are rapidly changing.

A special thanks to Basilia Fang who has given us a long desired tool on Chinese names.

Wishing informative and enjoyable reading,
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**A CJK Open Access Catalogue Available at the Institut d'Extreme Orient,
College de France, Paris**

by Hubert Delahaye

Since summer 1995, as a result of a joint project with the French Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, a first package of the Chinese catalogue of the Instituts d'Extreme Orient has been uploaded on a server in Grenoble, France.

It is accessible through Netscape (PC or Macintosh) and provides bibliographies dealing with classical Chinese studies with their corresponding data in Chinese character code. The Code is Big-5, romanization is Pinyin, search keys are author, title, ISBN/ISSN, collection, publisher, place, and year of publication. A subject search key (in French!) is also available. It corresponds roughly to the classification system of the annual bibliography ("Toyogaku bunken ruimoku") of the Kyoto University Research Institute. A list of these subject headings (only a few hundreds, including geographical and chronological) can be sent on request.

The address of the server is: <http://dodge.grenet.fr:8001/>

The name to click on is "**SIGXOR, Extreme-Orient**".

Simple browsing operations do not need special identification, but when you first try to download fiches, you will be requested to send your own address to the operator. After recognition of your server address, further operations will pose no downloading problems. The downloading process is explained in a short text which will be shown when you activate "Notice CJK". It enables you to read CJK vernacular after your fiches are logged, and not only CJK code as displayed on the Netscape screen. Other hypertext help and explanations are available at every level.

The 20,000 records loaded as yet will be regularly updated and increased in number, not only from the Instituts d'Extreme Orient database but from other catalogs in France dealing with Chinese studies as well. Furthermore, a set of 25,000 records corresponding to Japanese, Indian, and Korean studies with their vernacular script code will be added by the middle of next year. Other French centres specializing in Asian studies are expected to load their data on this server in the near future.

In addition, a Vietnamese catalogue (Vietnamese fonts downloadable) of 5,000 records is already available.

Other catalogues with a total amount of some 280,000 records which are related to humanities in general (prehistory, history, sociology, ethnology, etc.) are also accessible at the same homepage but for Western books only. This facility is maintained by the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, "Catalogue Collectif des Ouvrages", Paris.

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EASL Homepage

by Matthias Kaun

At our last EASL meeting in Zurich we decided EASL should have its own WWW (World Wide Web) Homepage.

After this meeting Thomas Hahn and myself discussed the problems of WWW and their requirements (having had no previous experiences in HTML-format I noticed that this format was very easy and simple to write) and started to create a "first step homepage" located in Heidelberg. Web sites are local collections of hypertext documents from institutions (like EASL), individuals, companies etc. These hypertexts are accessible to all - and the WWW is the name for all hypertext publicly available on different servers worldwide connected

through the Internet. Hypertext is a special concept that enables you to present different texts and information which are connected through links.

All you need to be able to read and use this several information is a special browser which allows you to see everything on your computer screen. What a user can see in detail depends on the browser s/he is using and the settings s/he has chosen in those programs. If your computer can't handle the newest HTML- format you will not see anything. But most WWW-browsers are freeware so it is easy to copy a new version of, for example "Netscape" or "Internet Explorer" from the net.

The mechanism of the projected EASL WWW-Homepage is two-fold:

1. EASL members may on the one hand make their own information available on the WWW. On the other hand they are welcome to inform us about WWW-pages of their own and any other new and important WWW-pages they have found on the net which they feel should be added to our EASL- Homepage.

What will you find on the EASL-Homepage?

The concept contains the following ideas:

1. Introduction to EASL with founding dates and general information
2. Membership Directory with names and addresses arranged by country
3. Various links to local WWW-site of EASL-members
4. A link to CJKLIB mailing list: messages have been stored in log-files on the mailserver in Heidelberg
5. Links to several available internet resources dealing with China, Hong Kong, Japan, Korea and Singapore.

This part of EASL- Homepage connects to libraries with Chinese holdings in Europe, USA, Australia and Asia and to other library organisations like CEAL and the East Asian Library Resource Group in Australia and others.

There are more links to texts, bibliographies, databases etc. online available through the net. Another part of the homepage will give you links to universities in East Asia, newspapers and journals online (for example the Renmin ribao or Huazhai wenzuezhai),

You will find information about online bookdealers (and also a list with antiquarian bookdealers specializing in East Asian materials written by David Helliwell, Marc van der Meer, Hubert Delahaye and Thomas Hahn), online dictionaries, software and CD- ROM-directories. One page will connect you to texts helping you to read Chinese/Japanese and Korean on the internet.

This last part of EASL- Homepage is more difficult to maintain because it is a collection of links to several different servers in the world., So if you know of any changing URL, please send us a short note, since we cannot check all these links every week. The idea behind the implementation of all this diverse information was to create a relay station for our use in Europe so that we do not have to connect to one of the big and great WWW- sites of CEAL or others. EASL- Homepage cannot replace these sites but could become a useful complement in the meaning of a relay station for the use in our libraries.

In order to make this service as effective as possible, we would like to ask all members to actively participate in providing us with information on related material.

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Chinese Collections in Leuven, Belgium

by Benedicte Vaerman

The city of Leuven, site of a university since 1425, hosts three libraries specializing in China. In contrast to the long tradition in most of the other fields of scholarship, the China libraries were not created until the 1980's. Yet Leuven had had some tradition in orientalism since the middle of the 19th century, and the study of Far Eastern languages had become one of the four possible branches of the officially established Oriental Institute of Louvain as early as 1936. However, since most of the staff of the Oriental Institute was French-speaking, the entire section of Far Eastern Studies moved to the new francophone Universite Catholique de Louvain during the seventies, taking its library with it.

The Chinese- Japanese Library

Thus, when Professor Ulrich Libbrecht created a new sinology section in the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven at the end of the seventies, there were no books available. Gradually, he managed to acquire the most essential reference material. As the study of sinology was a subsidiary section in the Oriental Department of the Faculty of Arts, these books were kept in the Faculty Library. Meanwhile, the university had bought the Chinese collection of the late Father Mullie, a C.I.C.M. China scholar. This collection contained some interesting Chinese religious materials, as well as older editions of the 25 dynasties, some local histories and a lot of works on the Chinese language. Since the Faculty Library could not hold this amount of extra material, the Chinese and Japanese books of the Faculty of Arts, as well as its collection in Western languages on China and Japan, were moved to a large room in the Central Library. The room was furnished with bookshelves that had been made in the 1920's to hold a book collection donated by Emperor Hirohito while visiting Leuven. This Chinese- Japanese Library has now more than 15,000 volumes, almost 10,000 of which are on China. Of this amount, more than two-thirds are in Chinese, the rest are works in Western languages dealing with China. New acquisitions for this collection consist mainly of reference works for the study of sinology, and books related to the teaching and research of the faculty members. Therefore, philosophy, classical literature and history are the best represented subjects. There are at present some 100 current periodicals in the Chinese- Japanese Library.

The Documentation Center of the China- Europe Institute

In the 1980's, the China fever spread to Belgium, and in 1986 the Leuven university decided to establish an inter- faculty research institute focusing on modern China. This institute also started to buy books on China, initially mainly Western language material, to serve the growing need for knowledge on China throughout the academic community. Thus, the collection of the China- Europe Institute gradually came to comprise 7,000 volumes, of which more than 4,000 are in Western languages. The Center now subscribes to nearly 100 periodicals. The Documentation Center of the China- Europe Institute is the only library in Belgium that systematically collects materials on modern Chinese society. The library collection focuses mainly on Chinese history since the Ming dynasty, politics, economics and the social sciences. The Documentation Center also has a more practical information- oriented function. Telephone inquiries on all aspects of Chinese society arrive daily from the media and from the spheres of government and commerce. Meanwhile, in the 1980's, the study of sinology was also changing. To comply with the growing needs of the new China market, the Faculty offered its students a choice between modern and classical China studies. As a consequence, the initial distinction between the library collection of the China- Europe Institute and the Faculty of Arts' China collections became irrelevant. In addition, space was

becoming a problem in the beautiful Atrecht College building which houses the China-Europe Institute, and thus the K.U.Leuven decided to make some extra space available in the Central Library and bring the two collections together. As of now, plans are being worked out to make the necessary accommodations for bringing the holdings of the China- Europe Institute together with the Chinese- Japanese Library. The move is scheduled for 1996.

The Chinese Memorial Library

In the monastery of the C.I.C.M. order in Kessel- Lo, near Leuven, the personal libraries of some C.I.C.M. missionaries to China have been brought together. These are mainly the works collected by the Fathers Antoon Mostaert, Henry Serruys, Paul Serruys, and Jozef Spae. Many of these books have come from the United States via Taiwan and only then to Leuven. There are approximately 5,000 Chinese volumes in this collection as well as 7,500 books on China in Western languages. For the convenience of the readers, this library uses the same method of classification as the other two Chinese libraries in Leuven. Further, all the Western language books have been added to the LIBIS on- line cataloguing system used by Leuven university and many other universities and libraries in Belgium. The Chinese Memorial Library's acquisition policy is focusing on religions in China, on intercultural dialogue and history of the East- West relations.

Leuven, 15 November 1995

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Brief Report on the Sinica Collection of the Austrian National Library

by Basilia Fang

The collection consists mostly of historical holdings among which the famous Rosthorn collection.

A complete card catalogue with Chinese characters, Wade- Giles and Pinyin transcriptions exists. It has also been published in 1992.

Automation: A retrospective conversion of the sinological holdings is under way since January 1994. I am following RAK on Allegro C (12.2.1992) under ET. The configuration P. CFGMAB1 for Allegro is being used.

This step into automation has been made possible thanks to Dr. Thomas Hahn, who provided the software and configuration examples through the University of Heidelberg and thanks to the cooperation with the computing technicians in Vienna.

Nine indexes are provided.

Authors and editors are entered under Wade- Giles and Chinese characters.

Titles are entered with Wade- Giles, Pinyin and Chinese characters.

All titles of a series (ts'ung- shu) are being saved separately and can therefore be traced as individual titles. Thus a single title of a series can be ordered without having to take out the whole series, for example: Sin. 1095, (vol. 5): (H.): 32. Obviously all volumes have to be numbered and bound, which is not yet always the case. Over 100 ts'ung- shu have been catalogued in this way.

The catalogue does not contain any subject- headings.

The retrospective conversion of the sinologica, holdings is expected to be concluded by the end of 1997. It will then be accessible to our library users on a PC in the catalogue room or it will be accessible through the network catalogue BIBOS (library organization system). Beginning with the end of this year or early next year the sinological catalogue will be on the internet as well.

Current problems of cataloguing the sinological holdings in the title catalogue and the library network

Chinese titles beginning from 1930 are included in the title catalogue of the Austrian National Library (ÖNB) with Wade- Giles transcripion, but without Chinese characters. In the case of translations from a Chinese original authors name, editors or titles are all in Wade- Giles.

Since the change from PI to RAK cataloguing has taken place in the 80s and since the beginning of online- cataloguing (BIBOS network catalogue) it has been decided to use only Pinyin as transcription. Unfortunately this decision was not respected by many libraries within the network (university libraries). The consequence is that one library enters the main- title or the first author under Pinyin, while others enter it with Wade- Giles.

Futhermore the title catalogue used for the retrospective conversion of the sinological holdings of the Austrian National Library contains only Wade- Giles.

Although it has been decided that cataloguing under RAK should only contain Pinyin transcription it is forseable that under the current situation with the contemporary use of Pinyin and Wade- Giles there will be considerable problems for the online catalogue.

Although the internationally only Pinyin and Wade- Giles have become standard and Europe has mostly opted for Pinyin, which the Ö- norm Institute also accepts as standard, older national transcriptions persist, for example in the Duden, where you will find entries such as "Tschiang Kai- schek".

In the following I give some examples out of BIBOS that result from this confusing practice. You may notice that the entries with Wade- Giles still dominate.

Pa, Chin	ÖNB (local)	1 title
	network	4 titles (retro)
	imported	6 titles (Frankfurt 292)
Ba Jin	ÖNB	1 title (PY), 1 title (WG)
	network	4 titles (retro)
	imported	6 titles (Frankfurt 292)
Lu, Hsün	ÖNB	1 title
	network	4 titles
	imported	20 titles
Lu, Xun	ÖNB	1 title
	network	8 titles
	imported	17 titles
P'u, Sung-ling	ÖNB	7 titles
	network	0 titles
	imported	13 titles
Pu, Song-ling	NO RESULT	NO RESULT

Hung-lou-meng ÖNB	0 titles
network	1 title
imported	8 titles (Frankfurt 292)
Hong-lou-meng network	1 title
imported	3 titles (Frankfurt 292)

Note what different kind of transcriptions can be found for title of the Chinese anthology:

◆μ◆j◆_◆[

Kin Ku Ki Kwan (Ubers.) Franz Kuhn, Manesse Verlag 1952

Djin-gutji-gwan (Ubers.) Gottfried Rösel, Manesse 1984

Chin-ku-ch'i-kwan (title given in the impressum for Rösel 1984)

Chin-ku-ch'i-kuan

Jin-gu-qi-guan

I suggest that since the network has decided to use Pinyin every librarian should use it, no matter what entry is given on the booktitle. It cannot be our goal to have results on an online catalogue as seen in the above examples!

The Current State of the Beitang Collection Report from a Fact- finding Mission to the National Library of China

by Lars Laamann

Bibliophiles and researchers with a specific interest in the history of the Catholic missions to China have doubtlessly held a copy in their hands: the *Catalogue de la Bibliotheque du Pe-Tang* by H. Verhaeren, completed in 1949 - only months before events on the Chinese mainland forced all remaining missionaries to leave.

The origins and development of the Collection illustrate the history of the missionary presence in China. Let us recall that the Catholic mission in Beijing had - with minor and major periods of stagnation and repression - for a period surpassing three hundred years been accommodated in four churches. These missionary centres had been accommodated to the geographical (and geomantic) conditions of the capital and positioned according to the four directions of the compass¹. The Northern Cathedral ◆_◆ó (*Beitang*, in older versions seen as *Pei- t'ang* or *Pe- Tang*) was founded in the year 1693, when the Chinese imperial government still regarded Christianity favourably. It is dedicated to Jesus the Saviour, its library hence bears the official title *Bibliotheca Sancti Salvatoris*. The missionaries stationed at the *Beitang* were directly subject to the changes in official attitude towards Christianity, missionaries and foreigners in general, in particular after the edict of 1724 issued by the Yongzheng emperor, banning all missionary activities outside the capital area. The tragic consequences of the Rites Controversy exacerbated the fate of the Mission, transferred into the hands of the Lazarist order after the Society of Jesus had been disbanded. In order to prevent an irreversible dispersion of Western printed materials in Beijing, it was decided to concentrate the holdings all missionary libraries in the Library of the Sacred Saviour. The newly stocked library included the holdings of the four capital cathedrals, of several private book collections extracted from the possessions of former missionaries in the capital area, of around one dozen libraries belonging to missionary outposts in the provinces, in addition to a considerable number of titles of unclear origin. Western monographs in the *Beitang* collection

comprise titles composed in the following European languages: French, Latin, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese, German, Greek, Dutch, English, Hebrew, Polish and "Slavonic" (organized in this order in Verhaeren's catalogue). Of the once considerable Chinese collection only handlists of the titles have survived, which can be consulted as manuscripts in the collections of the Bibliotheque Nationale in Paris.² The book collection survived all the disturbances of the following two centuries without major damage, though not without some arduous journeys: the latter included a temporary refuge in a Christian cemetery in Beijing, a sojourn to a small Lazarist parish in Inner Mongolia, followed by years of administration by the Russian Orthodox mission. Only after the militarily enforced treaty of 1860 (one of the infamous Unequal Treaties of the nineteenth century) could a transfer back into the original setting to the north of the Forbidden City be attempted. The Beitang Library was to remain in this location until the decades of warfare came to a close, and the Communist forces under Mao Zedong declared the establishment of the People's Republic in 1949. In accordance with the new government's policy of secularisation and renationalisation of foreign property, most of the contents³ of the *Beitang* library were integrated into the holdings of the National Library of China (国家图书馆). After its transfer into the new library building in the western districts of Beijing, the collections became part of the Department of Rare Books. Readers interested in the Beitang collection be warned that the books are not considered "safe" for public viewing, i.e. require a special permission by the library management.⁴

1 Christian churches are known in Chinese as "Halls of Teaching" 教场 *jiào chǎng*, hence the Catholic cathedrals in Beijing all add the character 殿 *diàn* after each character representing the four directions. Apart from the Northern *Beitang* cathedral, which played host to the missionaries from the French province of the Society of Jesus, the following three "Halls" were of significance: the cathedrals of the South and East (南殿 *Nantang* and 东殿 *Dongtang*, founded in 1605 and in 1655, respectively) accommodating the Portuguese Jesuits and the Western cathedral 西殿 *Xitang*, consecrated in 1701), where the missionaries of the Vatican were located.

2 Regretfully, even less can be said for the manuscript collection, which fell victim to a fire in 1864. Rumours concerning the existence of a recently discovered cache of archival materials were ill founded, as I could see with my own eyes. The papers were indubitably not examples of the expected missionary correspondence, diaries, or similar items but simply the hand-written filing cards for a catalogue (probably Verhaeren's, compiled between 1940 and 1943).

3 One of the (rather accidental) results of my journey was the discovery of an unquantifiable portion of the collection in the buildings of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences. Knowing the inclination of Chinese institutions to resist compromise, I consider a return of these books to their original collection as rather unlikely.

4 I would be more than happy to help anybody interested in me collection with attempts to gain access to the 档案 *dǎng àn*. You can contact me either in writing (British Library (OIOC), Chinese Acquisitions,

197 Blackfriars Road, London SE1 8NG, England) or by e- mail lars.jaamann@bl.uk

Report on an information and acquisition tour to Japan, Hong Kong, Macao, Taiwan, and Singapore

by Cordula Gumbrecht

Following the guidelines of the "Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft" (German Research Society, abbr. DFG) concerning the acquisition of literature for a "Sondersammelgebiet" (special subject collection, abbr. "SSG") and in agreement with the colleagues from the East Asia Department of the Bavarian State Library in Munich the State Library in Berlin purchases modern Chinese publications from the People's Republic of China, Hong Kong, Macao, Taiwan and Singapore published after 1911.

Before going to Japan, Hong Kong, Taiwan, and Singapore I went to China to talk to people responsible for the production and distribution of books in order to get at first a general impression of the situation of the Chinese book market.

In Changsha I met Mr. Zhong Shuhe who is a very experienced publisher. (It is noteworthy that Hunan is the only Chinese province which has no Renmin Chubanshe. It had been dissolved in March 1991 for political reasons. Zhong Shuhe has spend 19 years of his life in prison being sentenced as a "youpai". After his release he had been working for a long time in the Yuelu Shushe, editing the "Zouxiang shijie congshu. From East to West". The first part of this congshu was already published shortly after the end of the cultural revolution. It is extraordinarily cosmopolitan.

I asked Mr. Zhong Shuhe about the possibilities of changes on the book market with regard to the return of Hong Kong to China. His response he didn't express the hope for positive developments. As for the so-called "neibu" publications he estimated that there were about 15 in 1994. He expects that neibu- publications will completely disappear in the near future. Zhong Shuhe could imagine an integration of the Hong Kong book market into the southern Chinese provinces, particularly the neighbouring province of Guangdong, as well as possibly the provinces in the southwestern part of China.

In Guangzhou I asked Mr. Yang Quan about his views concerning these problems. The talk with Yang Quan was arranged by a friend of mine who is teaching history of art and aesthetics at the Zhongshan Daxue. Yang Quan, who has published a translation of a work by van Gulik in 1992, is the director of the publishing house of Zhongshan Daxue Chubanshe and has established good professional contacts with publishers in Hong Kong. He told me that the enterprises and organizations from China had already some years ago sent personnel to Hong Kong in order to prepare a smooth "1997- handover".

Yang Quan gave an optimistic view of a liberalization of the book market in China after 1997. He also emphasized the decline of "neibu" publications. In his publishing house he already produces books and periodicals with full characters for the distribution in Hong Kong (and Taiwan) while simplified characters are used for the market in China.

Beside small bookshops I visited a large department store for books in Guangzhou offering also publications from Hong Kong. I was surprised to find out that in Guangzhou the Hong Kong Dollar meanwhile has become an almost equivalent currency. Likewise in Hong Kong in many places you can pay in Renminbi without

any difficulties.

On November the 16th I left Guangzhou on the train to Hong Kong.

My schedule was:

17.11.95 Hong Kong - Tokyo

19.11.95 Tokyo - Kyoto

20.11.95 Kyoto - Tokyo

21.11.95 Tokyo - Hong Kong

27.11.95 Hong Kong - Macao - Hong Kong

29.11.95 Hong Kong - Taipei

05.12.95 Taipei - Xinzhuang - Taipei

09.12.95 Taipei - Taidong

12.12.95 Taidong - Gaoxiong

13.12.95 Gaoxiong - Xinzhu

14.12.95 Xinzhu - Taipei

18.12.95 Taipei - Hong Kong - Singapore

21.12.95 Singapore - Hong Kong - Frankfurt - Berlin

Japan was the first stop of my official trip. I had three days and a half to accomplish all points on my schedule. The day after my arrival I went to Isseido, our book supplier for Japanese books for many years. Isseido is one of the 133 antiquarian bookshops which are situated closely together in Jimbocho. I expected to find Chinese and Manjurian books, but Mr. Ken Ishikura directed me to the Toho Shoten close by, a bookshop specialized on sinological literature in Chinese and Japanese. Later I went to the Uchiyama Shoten. Both, Toho Shoten as well as Uchiyama hold a rich selection of sinological literature in Chinese and Japanese, but there are a lot of antiquarian books which one might find cheaper in Hong Kong. In Tokyo I also visited the National Diet Library and the Institute of Eastern Culture.

Unfortunately I had only time for brief visits at the Toyo Bunko and the NDL where I was shown a video about the library with the title:

NDL - its role and its function". Afterwards I met the colleagues from the "Asian Materials Division" in the "Special Materials Department", Ms. Nishida Motoko and Ms. Miyao Emi. Six sinologists are working in the Asian Materials Division, four of them are in charge of the Chinese monograph section and the supply of information to the readers, the other two are responsible for journals and newspapers. After a short description of the work in our library I asked the colleagues about the acquisition work of the NDL concerning Chinese books and the present state of automation in cataloguing work. I was told that the NDL buys about 2.000 to 2.500 titles annually through booksellers in Japan who select the books themselves.

Because of serious financial strains a direct way of acquisition in China would be preferred. The NDL is presently working out an arrangement with the Beijing Tushuguan (Beitu) designating the Beitu as a go-between in the acquisition. The automation of cataloguing books is in the process of development and organization. The colleagues are speaking about problems concerning the handling

of Chinese characters.

Asked about the present state of automation in our department I told them about Allegro and the Chinese system used in Berlin and the spread Allegro has found in Germany over the last years. The account was received with great interest.

In the Toyo Bunko Ms. Hirose Yoko a charming elderly lady and chief cataloguer for Chinese books, who has worked her whole life at this place, showed me true treasures of East Asian book production, such as a Mongolian Tripitaka, parts of the "Nanxun shengdian" of the "Siku quanshu" from the Wenyuange. I could also see parts of the "Xianghongqi dang" of the "Manwen laodang", which has been kept in the boxes used in 1936 for the transport from China to Japan and until today has not yet been catalogued. Ms. Hirose Yoko told me that in the Toyo Bunko automated cataloguing of Chinese books has not started yet. The library which was founded in 1917 by Hisaya Iwasaki (1865 - 1955) after his purchase of the private library of George Ernest Morrison (1862 - 1920) and which has been established as a foundation, is in financial difficulties. They will be supplied with certain technical devices such as an access to the Internet later than public institutions. Like the Asian Materials Division mentioned above the Toyo Bunko acquires Chinese books not directly in China but through Japanese booksellers such as: Uchiyama, Toho, Ryogen, Ato, Hoyu and Chugoku.

With Ms. Hirose Yoko I also talked about the publications exchange between our two institutions which started in the time of our former head of department, the late Dr. Seuberlich. She expressed the interest of the Toyo Bunko to own the 19 volume catalogue of our department.

In Kyoto where I - much to my regret- did not have more than a half day time I planned to see the Research Institute for Humanistic Sciences of the Kyoto University and the Hoyu Shoten. The sinological library of the Research Institute is impressive. The library today contains about 100.000 titles, among them the congshu- collection of the Chinese banker and bibliophile Tao Xiang from Wujin, including five- colored Ming- prints. Ms. Tanaka Hisako, who is responsible for the cataloging of Chinese books told me that the library as well does not acquire Chinese books directly from China, but through Japanese bookshops. One of them is the Hoyu Shoten, which publishes a monthly catalogue, giving an excellent selection of the latest sinological publications from China, Hong Kong and Taiwan, and thus is a reliable source of information about new trends in sinology in East Asia.

On the afternoon of November 21st I left Tokyo for Hong Kong. I stayed there for six days, and spent an extra day in Macao. First I talked to Dr. Werner Burger, the agent of the State Library Munich in Hong Kong. Mr. Burger had studied sinology in Munich, Cologne and Hamburg some 30 years ago and has been living in Hong Kong ever since. I interviewed Dr. Burger about his experiences as a book agent for the Bavarian State Library and - as I was told in the further conversation - other libraries in Germany and Norway. I hoped to get some useful informations about the local book market, in particular the antiquarian book stores.

Dr. Burger showed strong interest to act as an agent on behalf of the Berlin State Library as well has been discussed with the head of our department when Dr. Burger visited the State Library Berlin earlier this year. Dr. Burger also pointed out

to me that the "Government Gazette", published bimonthly, gives bibliographical information concerning books published in the city in an appendix.

Incomparably remunerative is the rummaging in the stocks of Mr. Huang Zhiqing, who runs the Classic Novel Association and who has been the book supplier of the Berlin State Library for many years. Mr. Huang is a personal acquaintance of my predecessor in office, the late Mr. Wang and he helped me with acquisitions from publishers in Taipei and Hong Kong. (Classic Novel/Chiao Liu in Hong Kong and Hua Chai in Taiwan).

I spoke to Mr. Huang about problems concerning acquisition of books through his Classic Novel Association. Mr. Huang has good connections to the academic world of Hong Kong. The famous scholar Rao Zongyi for example lives in his close neighbourhood. I chose 20 titles for altogether 1.872 HK\$, among them an annotated atlas for the western Sichuan, a catalogue of Chinese music- books, an anthology of translations of writings of French sinologists like Paul Pelliot, Henri Maspero, Henri Cordier, and others concerning the history of Xiyu nanhai, edited, translated and annotated by Feng Chengjun.

One of the volumes discusses the delicate problem of the Spratly Islands. Mr. Huang had never offered this book in his list. In fact, books of which he has only one copy or which he does not really want to sell do not appear in his list. In addition Mr. Huang offered a rarity to me: two Qing- time lists of salary for officials of the imperial court, forms printed in Chinese and Manchurian with notes concerning judgement and payment. Mr. Huang fixed the price at 30.000 HK\$ which regrettably was beyond my budget.

My visit to Chiao Liu, our second book supplier in Hong Kong, was less fruitful. The bookshop offers a disappointing supply of books of very low standard. As the prices of Chiao Liu are exaggerated, I will have to find another supplier.

Visiting the Sanlian Shudian I had the opportunity to talk to Ms. Lily Huang who came from Hangzhou to Hong Kong four years ago. She showed me the latest Sanlian book lists which specified books from the PRC, Hong Kong, Taiwan, and Macao. Because I could not provide an e- mail address of the State Library Ms. Huang agreed to mail the lists.

in the Chinese University of Hong Kong I met Mr. Thomas K. K. Lew, the director of the acquisition department for Chinese books. He gave me a long list of book suppliers. Then he took me on a tour around the library. The acquisition and cataloging are managed centrally in the university library. The OPAC of the library system is accessible through the Internet. I was especially interested in the more than 50 CD- ROM- databases which are accessible to the users. Most databases are fulltext databases of journals and newspapers, a few are bibliographic, two of them are in Chinese.

The book shop of the university, a branch store of the Swindon Book Co. offers publications of the Chinese University Publishing House, and a voluminous catalogue. Mr. Lew gave me the new address of the Government Information Service (abbr. "GIS"). The GIS had changed its domicile just before my arrival. I wanted to get information about the latest publication activities of the government. Mr. Leung Kut- Chun, the director of the GIS, provided me with the latest catalog of publications. I chose 12 titles, first of all technical dictionaries concerning Hong

Kong law and six maps, altogether for 859 HK\$. Because the GIS does not mail books, I had to take the books to the post office.

On November 27th I went to Macao. The acquisition of current governmental publications concerning Macao's return to China was my first concern in Macao. I hoped to find material at the Leal Senado, which is the oldest political institution in Macao. I could get some copies of publications free of charge and the recommendation to go to the Imprensa Oficial de Macao, an institution comparable to the GIS in Hong Kong. At the Imprensa Oficial de Macao I could talk to Mr. Francisco Paula Nunes who showed me books of great interest for our library. Fortunately the Imprensa Oficial offered the service to send the books abroad. Mr. Nunes advised me to go to the Macao Foundation and to the press- department to search for further material. The Macao Foundation exists since 1984. Its tasks are the promotion of culture, education, sciences and the Portuguese- Chinese co-operation. Since 1988 it is an independent institution with an autonomous administration and its own property. Until today the foundation edited several publications concerning Macao. The press- department - "port of call" for non-resident journalists - was established in 1981 and serves as a center for public relations of the government. It is in charge of checking the local press, the registration of all journals of Macao and it provides permanent information exchange with Portugal. Because it is situated in the vicinity of the Imprensa Oficial de Macau, I first went to the press- department. I was received by the chief of the Divisao de Estudos e Publicoes, Ms. He L.C., who advised me to have a look at the Livraria Portuguesa, the best bookshop in town. On the way to the Macao Foundation I stopped at the Livraria Portuguesa. Antonio Lai, the Chinese bookseller in the Livraria Portuguesa offered his help in establishing contact with the Macao Foundation.

On the morning of November 29th I went to Taipei, my next stop on the journey. It was my first stay in Taiwan. I was very impressed by the kindness and helpfulness of the people in Taiwan. Since the important academic institutions and the best bookshops of Taiwan are all located in Taipei, I stayed here 13 of the 18 days reserved for Taiwan on my schedule. My first destination in Taipei was the National Central Library, where I was warmly received by Ms. Theresa Wang Chang, the chief of the Bureau of International Exchange of Publications, and by Ms. Vera Yu- Chen Ma, a colleague from the same bureau. Ms. Ma who has studied for three years in Würzburg is especially pleased about my visit, because guests from Germany rarely come to the NCL. During our tour of the library she stressed several times the good exchange relations of our two libraries. Quite recently she has published an article in the "National Central Library News Bulletin" (Vol. 17, No. 4, 1995/11) concerning the latest developments in the State Library Berlin after the German reunification. Because I was interested in the SinoCat Ms. Ma accompanied me to Ms. Huang Liling, the senior cataloger in the Cataloguing Department who has taken part in the development of SinoCat. Ms. Huang demonstrated the structure and working options of SinoCat. Today it contains some 200.000 records from the NCL since 1981. It offers a range of search options and supports a so- called CopyCataloguing Function which makes SinoCat an interesting tool for cataloguing. Ms. Huang was so kind to introduce

me to the distributor of SinoCat. Shortly before I had to leave Taipei Ms. Huang told me that a demo-disk was being produced and would be sent to Berlin. I was also interested in the "Index to Chinese Periodical Literature on CD-ROM", "the first and only index of general Chinese periodicals on CD-ROM in the world". Ms. Ma introduced me to the colleagues who were in charge of the development of this catalogue. They gave me a demonstration.

The fifth version (dated July 1995) comprises over 428.998 bibliographic records for more than 1.693 periodicals in all disciplines (January 1977 to December 1994). The environment requirements are the same as for SinoCat. The search options include the search for periodicals as well as searching articles by author, title or keyword. Even the information on which shelf in the NCL the journal is to be found may be inquired. The colleagues told me that after publishing and distributing the CD-ROM the demand for certain journals increased remarkably. That's why they decided to put these journals with full text in the WWW. The Berlin State Library ordered both CD-ROM's. During a further visit to the NCL I went to see the department for

microfilming of newspapers where more than 100 Taiwanese newspapers were recorded on microfilm. Also located at the NCL is the Center for Chinese Studies, a sinological research and information center. Established in 1981 by the Ministry of Education for the purpose of the promotion of sinological research and scientific exchange between Taiwan and the international community the center today consists of a Materials Division and a Liaison Division.

The Liaison Division is responsible for the administration of the Research Grant Programme, the sponsorship of Chinese studies projects and related scholarly activities, the publication of scholarly and bibliographic work, the reporting on Chinese studies research activities in progress and the development of databases identifying scholars of Chinese studies and their fields of specialization. This division is not open to the users of the NCL. The Materials Division in a special reading room offers reference material related to Chinese studies for its stipendiaries and for other readers. Beside a great collection of microfilmed Dunhuang material there exists a collection of dissertations related to Chinese studies mainly from the United States and some European countries. I visited both divisions.

In the Materials Division I had the chance to talk to Mr. Liu Xianshu, the head of the division. He was very interested in the acquisition of German dissertations related to Chinese studies and suggested the exchange of publications of the Center for German dissertations between our two institutions. Because published German dissertations are much more expensive than the publications of the center, I discussed with Dr. Krempien the possibilities how to support the center in collecting such material. Because Mr. Liu has personal contacts to several publishing houses he offered his help in procurement of titles which are out of print.

My next visit was dedicated to Hua Chai, our book supplier for many years in Taipei. Since Ms. Lin who is in charge of managing our orders was ill, I had a short talk with Mr. Liu Chongbin instead. I explained my wishes and suggestions for our further co-operation which he transmitted to Ms. Lin. Finally I met Ms. Lin

afterall. Mr. Liu then offered to drive me to the institutions I intended to visit. I willingly accepted that he'd take me to Furen University in Xinzhuang. The Furen University attracted me because it continued the tradition of the old Furen University established in 1925 by missionaries of the S.V.D. order in Beijing. I wanted to find out whether a return to the mainland is envisaged in Xinzhuang. Ms. Ma had arranged for me to meet her former teacher, Mr. Hu Gongze. Hu Gongze had studied for some years German philology in Switzerland and has been to Germany several times. According to his information there is no such plan of returning to the mainland. Mr. Hu instead was curious to hear some information concerning the German reunification and its consequences. Later, two of his students accompanied me on a tour of the University, the library and the publishing house where I got the newest book list. The financial situation of this private university seems to be strained. The spatial and technical equipment is much worse than at other (public) universities which I visited during my stay in Taiwan. Back in Taipei I phoned Ms. Huang Xinxin from the Xuesheng shuju. Ms. Huang Xinxin has been working at the Xuesheng shuju for 29 years and has good relations to the academic world of Taipei. As soon as I mentioned a name of an institution I would like to see, she would reach out to the phone in order to arrange a talk with a representative of the place. Thus got to know the famous researcher in Manjurian studies, Mr. Zhuang Jifa, research fellow at the National Palace Museum. In my Manju- lessons during the summer term at the Freie Universität Berlin I had heard a lot about the scientific work of Mr. Zhuang. I finally had the chance to meet him in the the Palace Museum library. We had a talk about his publications, the situation of Manjurian studies in Taiwan and the PRC, as well as about reliable sources for the aquisition of Manjurian literature. I showed him a list of titles which would help significantly to complete our collection of Manjurian books.

After checking the list he discouraged my hopes that I might find these titles in Taiwan. Mr. Zhuang showed me Manjurian- Chinese dictionaries, printed in 350 copies in Xinjiang which I had not seen when I met his colleague, Mr. Qu Liusheng, who works at the First Historical Archive in Beijing. Mr. Zhuang advised me to correspond directly with the publisher in order to obtain the dictionaries. He himself had been always successful in doing so.

After my tour of the museum and the library I went to the office of Mr. Zhuang. He called up a Manjurian friend of his, Mr. Arbunsain Kunggur, who presently is the co- editor of the journal "Manzu wenhua". Mr. Arbunsain Kunggur and one of his relatives from Xinjiang who just payed a visit to the Taiwan branch of the family showed me the private book collection which includes reprints of translations of classical Chinese novels to Manjurian, published in the seventies in the USA. In the PRC only recently reprinting of some of these translations has been started.

Another meeting which I owed to the efforts of Ms. Huang Xinxin was a meeting with Mr. Lin Qingzhang from the Institute for Literature and Philosophy from the Academia Sinica. Mr. Lin Qingzhang is a researcher on the Chinese classics and he is known to me for the bibliographies on the classics. Mr. Lin accompanied me to the Institute of History and Philology (Shiyusuo) where the scanning of *shanben*

is under way. We also visited the Computing Centre where the database of the Twenty-Five Dynastic Histories had been created and published on CD-ROM in 1992.

I had the occasion for a talk with the director of the Computing Centre, Mr. Simon Cheng Lin, and with Mr. Shih Lin who is in charge of the technical part of the database. The talk turned out to a discussion about the Dynastic Histories and the Internet. Obviously it was not only for copyright problems that it was not possible to give a public access to the databases on the Internet. Mr. Shih Lin pointed out further databases which have been created by the Computing Centre, among them a bibliographic database related to the history of Taiwan and a database for "The Bronze Wares in the Shang Dynasty Research Projekt". Finally Mr. Lin Qingzhang gave me the latest catalogue of publications of researchers of the Academia Sinica. On December 9th I started a trip to Gaoxiong and Xinzhu. In both cities I spent one day in order to visit the the Zhongshan Daxue in Gaoxiong and the Qinghua Daxue in Xinzhu as well as the cultural centres (Wenhua Zhongxin) of either city. Prof. Helmut Martin from the Ruhr- University in Bochum had advised me in September 1995 to ask for publications in the cultural centres of these Taiwanese cities. In Gaoxiong everyone was surprised about my request. In Xinzhu I was offered material which was even shipped directly to Berlin.

On December 14th I went back to Taipei. I wanted to use the remaining time for further visits to bookshops and publishing houses as well as last meetings with Ms. Huang Xinxin from the Xuesheng shuju and Ms. Lin from Hua Chai.

On the morning of December 18th I left Taiwan for Singapore. Here I wanted to find a book supplier for Chinese books from Singapore and other Southeast Asian countries. Chinese sinological material from this region had been acquired by the State Library only moderately in the past years. I went to Select Books but they do not sell Chinese books. At the National University of Singapore I asked for more addresses of book suppliers. Two addresses were given to me. For lack of time I could contact but one of them: Mr. Lim

Chwee Toh from the Chun Yi Trading Company/Cultural Publications. Like the Classical Novel Association of Mr. Huang Zhiqing in Hong Kong this is a one person enterprise. The Chinese book production of Singapore is rather small (ca. 200 titles per year) compared to that of Malaysia (one thousand titles).

On my departure day there was enough time left for a visit of the National Library of Singapore. Because I was specially interested in the National bibliography on CD-ROM and in particular its Chinese titles I was introduced to Ms. Tan Keat Fong, the Chief of the Department for User Support of the "Singapore Integrated Library Automation Service" who told me about the latest developing work of the CD-ROM. The first issue of the bibliography (1977 to 1993) contained no Chinese titles. The latest issue (1995) contains has 800 titles. Ms. Tan told me that the National Library of Singapore is not equipped with appropriate software for the handling of Chinese titles on CDROM. That is the reason why they decided to scan catalogue cards of such titles. The titles are not indicated in any way but one can search for them with the help of the Dewey system.