

Digitisation and Building a
Collection of Historical
Documents on Chinese in
Southeast Asia:
NUS Libraries' experience

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NUS Libraries



Outline

- Introduction
- NUS Chinese Library and Its Southeast Asian Chinese Collection
- HDCSEA Project
- HDCSEA Website & its Benefits
- Conclusion

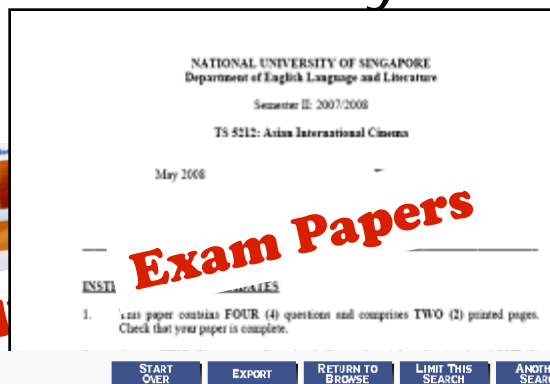


Introduction

- NUSL has initiated several digitisation projects over the years



Digital Media Gal



Exam Papers



Selected Printed Materials from NUSL

Title page	
Contents	
Illustration & Maps	
Brief notice of Contents in these and the other Voyages	Page 1
Introduction. Inter	Page 61
Journal of a resident	
Chapter I	Page 74
Chapter II	Page 102
Chapter III	Page 142
Journal of a second voyage along the coast of China, &c.	
Chapter I	Page 159
Chapter II	Page 172
Chapter III	Page 190
Chapter IV	Page 214
Chapter V	Page 238
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Video On Demand

LOCATION	CALL #	STATUS
CL Multimedia (Loans Desk 2)	DS732 Ove pt.1	CCM275-1 VIEW IN LIBRARY
CL Multimedia (Loans Desk 2)	DS732 Ove pt.2	CCM275-2 VIEW IN LIBRARY
CL Multimedia (Loans Desk 2)	DS732 Ove pt.3	CCM275-3 VIEW IN LIBRARY
CL Multimedia (Loans Desk 2)	DS732 Ove pt.4	CCM275-4 VIEW IN LIBRARY

NUS Chinese Library

- Established in 1953, at *University of Malaya*
- Absolving collections from the former *Nanyang University, Institute of East Asian Philosophies Library* and *Japanese Resources Department* from NUS Central Library
- Over 490,000 volumes of Chinese materials (as at June 08)
- Ranked after Library of Congress and Harvard Yenching Library



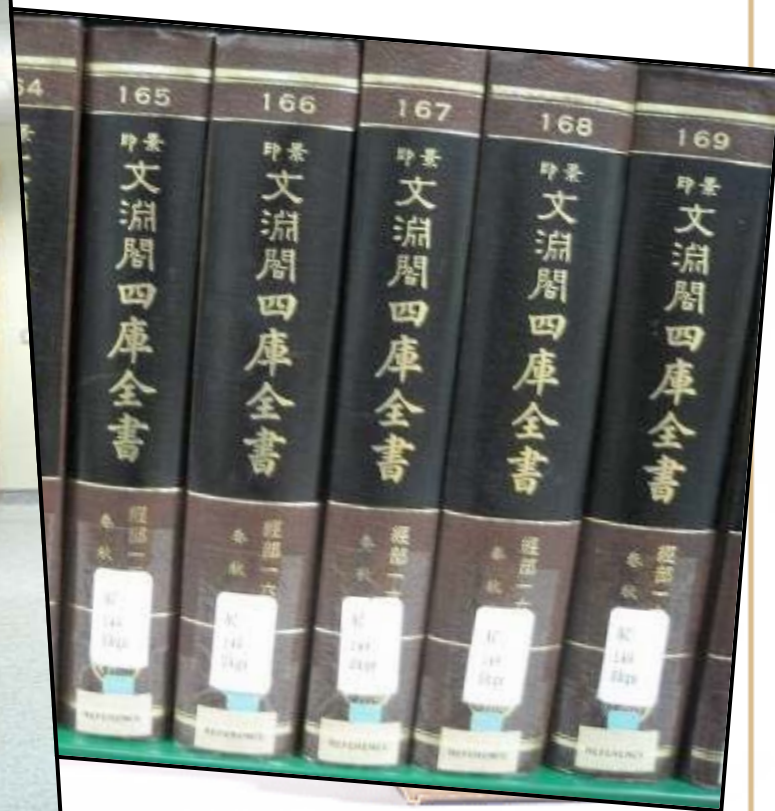
Collection Strengths

Rare Handwritten Editions / Printed Editions



Collection Strengths (Cont.)

Siku Quanshu (四库全书) Collection



Collection Strengths (Cont.)

Scholarly Journals published in the early
Republican period 民初期刊(after 1911)



Digitisation of Lat Pau



Digitisation of Lat Pau (Cont.)

- Singapore 1st Chinese Daily Newspaper
- Published 1881-1932
- NUS Chinese Library covers 1887-1932
- Available Online in Jan 2000



Digitisation of Lat Pau (Cont.)

叻報

Lat Pau (1887)



Issue No	Date	Link
1724	19 Aug, 1887	View Document
1725	20 Aug, 1887	View Document
1726	22 Aug, 1887	View Document
1727	23 Aug, 1887	View Document
1728	24 Aug, 1887	View Document
1729	25 Aug, 1887	View Document
1730	26 Aug, 1887	View Document
1731	27 Aug, 1887	View Document
1732	29 Aug, 1887	View Document
1733	30 Aug, 1887	View Document
1734	31 Aug, 1887	View Document
1735	1 Sep, 1887	View Document
1736	2 Sep, 1887	View Document
1737	3 Sep, 1887	View Document
1738	5 Sep, 1887	View Document
1739	6 Sep, 1887	View Document
1740	7 Sep, 1887	View Document
1741	8 Sep, 1887	View Document
1742	9 Sep, 1887	View Document
1743	10 Sep, 1887	View Document
1744	12 Sep, 1887	View Document



HDCSEA Project

(Historical Documents on Chinese in Southeast Asia Project)

- Proposed in 2004
- To digitise available documents of research values and relevant to the historical studies on Chinese in Southeast Asia
- *Purposes* :
 1. Preservation of fragile primary source materials
 2. Provide convenient access to researchers and students



HDCSEA Project (Cont.)

- Includes :
 - a) Historical Documents from NUS Libraries
 - b) Other institutions
 - c) Individuals
- *Priority* : Primary Resources
Newspapers, Magazines, Commemorative Publications, School Magazines, Textbooks, Manuscripts, Travel and Descriptions, Autobiographies and Private Correspondences



HDCSEA Project (Cont.)

- *Also Include* :

Secondary Materials

Important historical writings by Chinese in SEA on their own community, which are out of print and had not been widely circulated before

- *Important* :

Only non-copyrighted materials are included



HDCSEA Project (Cont.)

A Five Year Plan

A five year schedule has been drawn up for the Project.

◇ 2004

Digitization of NUS Library Collection with imprint of 1933 and before. So far, we have completed the digitization of two local Chinese newspapers, the Lat Pao (1887-1932) and The Sin Kuo Min (1919-1933) and made them available online.

◇ 2005

Lunch e-SEA : a digital Library of Historical Documents of Chinese in Southeast Asia, which, during this phase, cover documents about Chinese in Singapore, Malacca and Penang.

◇ 2006

Cover East and West Malaysia and Brunei

◇ 2007

Cover Thailand, Vietnam, Myanmar, Laos and Cambodia.

◇ 2008

Cover Philippines and Indonesia.

Financial Support

The number of documents involved in this 5 year project is estimated as about 30,000 titles. The total estimated cost for the 5 year project is estimated as S\$ 550,000. This is not a small sum that NUS Libraries could afford to absorb without financial support from external sources.

As such, we would be most grateful if you could consider funding the project by accreditation.

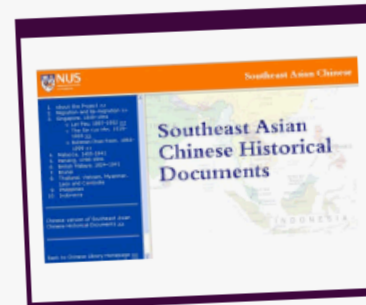
**Brochure on
HDCSEA Project**

For Donation, please contact:

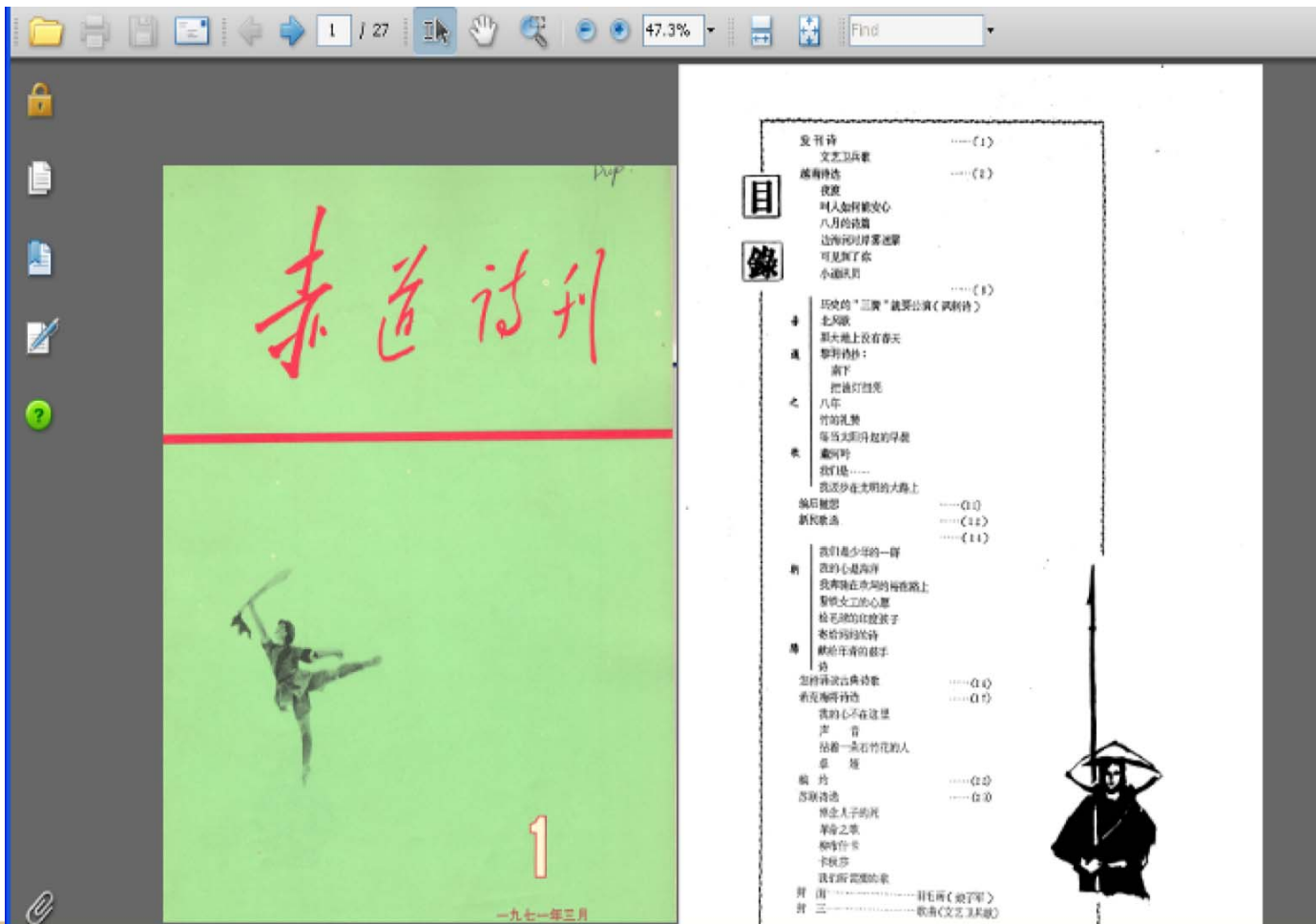
NUS Libraries

12 Kent Ridges Crescent
Singapore 119275
(Attn : Mr. Lee Ching Seng,
Senior Manager, Chinese Library)
Phone: (65) 6874 2872
Fax: (65) 6777 -3571
Email : clbleak@nus.edu.sg

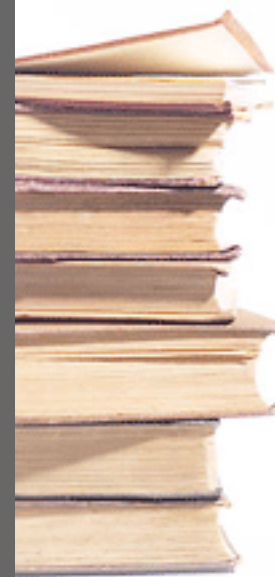
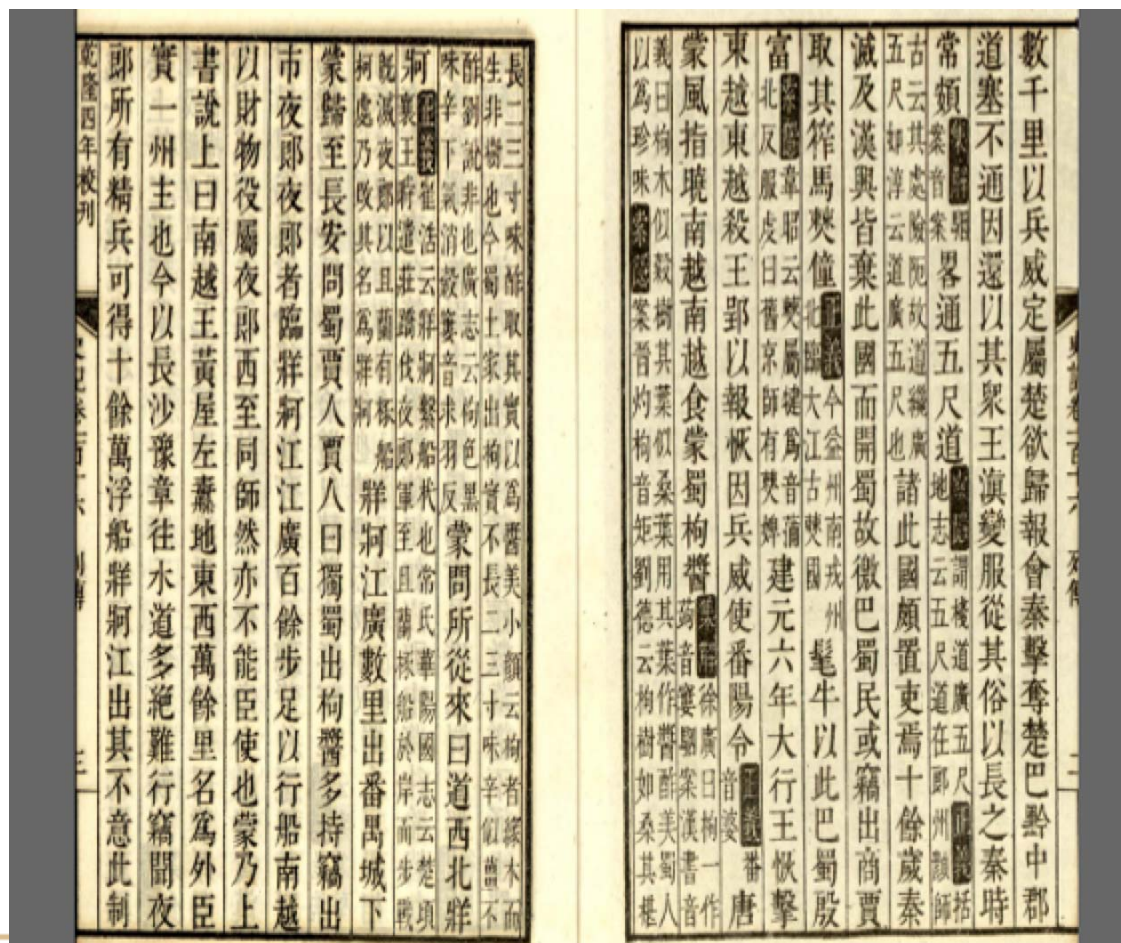
Southeast Asian Chinese Historical Documents Project



- Materials in good physical conditions – In-house Digitisation



- Newspapers in microfilm formats, fragile materials, thread-bound Chinese books – **Outsource to External Vendors**



HDCSEA Website

- Soft launched in March 2007



NUS
National University
of Singapore

东南亚华人历史文献

主页 麒麟系统 数据表格 数据图书馆 答客问 联络我们

新加坡国立大学图书馆 > 中文图书馆 > 东南亚华人历史文献

东南亚华人历史文献数据化计划

主要内容

文献类别

短期计划

征求赞助

缘起

东南亚（旧称南洋）是中国移民海外历史较久，人数最多的地区。远在宋朝时期，中国的商贾与工匠（包括矿工及技术人员）就开始飘洋过海，把中国国内的商业、手工业及矿业实践引申到菲律宾、爪哇、西婆罗洲与泰国等地，成为东南亚最早的一批移民；其后，中国移民以华商、华工、华侨、华裔或再移民等形态移居东南亚，从落叶归根到落地生根，逐渐形成海外华人的最大社群。

几百年来，移居东南亚的华人在各个居留国组织社团、创办学校、开办报馆、出版刊物，留下了数以万计的历史文献。这些珍贵的文献，是研究东南亚华人移民史、社会史、经济史、政治活动与宗教传播等各方面的第一手资料，但可惜却因没有获得社会的重视，任由之随时日流逝而湮灭，不复留存者为数难以估计。



http://www.lib.nus.edu.sg/chz/sea_chinese/

HDCSEA Website (Cont.)

大清光緒三十三年
本館新開除
紙外埠均
也除日報
工本從廉
紙各機器
刊印書籍
活字及
西人活字
印字大小

第 一 千 七 百 二 十 四 號

叻報

Lat Pau

一千八百八十七年八月

丁亥七月初一日

非非攝影用品社

FEE FEE PHOTOGRAPHIC STORE,
No. 109, Cross Street, Singapore.

專營 影相用品 精工 沖晒放大

星嘉坡 吉寧街 一百六十號

民國新報 日 報

Monday, January 16th, 1933. Issue No. 3,900

凡印告白第一日每一字收銀二仙第二日以下每字減半

於如鑰匙辨認殘碑而
六天時節逢清井東風寒
而白蝶灰飛共焚冥鏢幾
中客莫不如斯此出於天
亦字下之鬼故每年掃墓
有驚葬者則分給於人彼
專司而愚民無知已慨漫
苦之民有殫其幾不能完
乃人子盡其忠心如事存
乃西人謂其建於道傍殊
者斯說也當為園葬之家
必非貧窶當其營葬之際
於週遺用灰香實則雖有
中倘其水可外派則氣味
事理勢所在可推測而知
瞻有失不知東陵泰山亭
其路遠難料今昔迥異附
英京電報 (廿
議有條款數端須王照此
情茲續接廿七日英京來
戲劇耳譚畢不禁為之噫
施制府行踪近錄
西本月四號已回高浪霧

氏士禮巴士
五淋白濁丸



英京倫敦立雪洋

通便丸使君之肝汁自然

Savaresses Capsules.

(Incorporated in England)

新日民日報

THE "SIN KUO MIN"

(Malaya's Leading Chinese Daily)

Printed and Published by
See Eok Poo, Managing Director,
at the Office of

HDCSEA Website (Cont.)



东南亚华人历史文献

主页 | 麒麟系统 | 数据表格 | 数据图书馆 | 答客问 | 联络我们

新加坡国立大学图书馆 > 中文图书馆 > 东南亚华人历史文献 > 主要内容

东南亚华人历史文献数据化计划

主要内容

文献类别

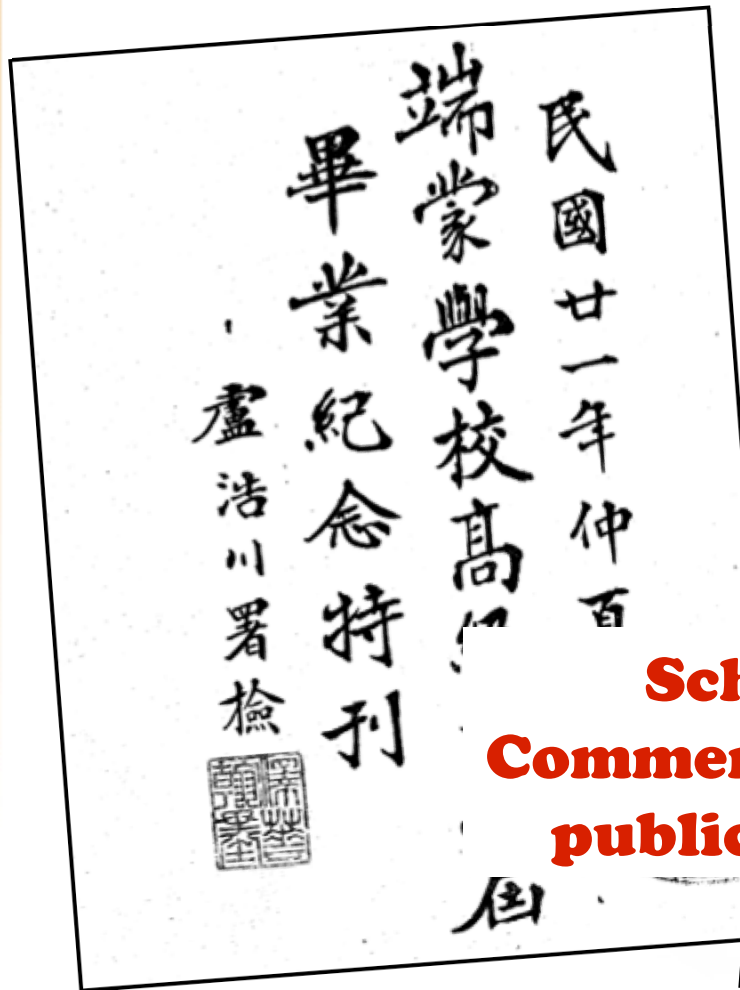
短期计划

征求赞助

1. [背景篇：历史文献中的南洋古国](#)
2. [文通篇：中外文通史籍中的南洋](#)
3. [南洋印象：早期的南洋文献](#)
4. 下南洋：东南亚华人移民史料
[中国殖民伟人列传](#)(又名南洋华侨殖民伟人传, 1928)
[中华民族拓殖南洋史](#)(1934)
5. 英属海峡殖民地
海峡殖民地, 1786-1942
马六甲华人史料, 1511-1942
[槟榔屿华人史料, 1786-1942](#)
[新加坡华人史料, 1819-1942](#)
6. 英属马来亚, 1874-1957
7. 英属婆罗洲, 1821-1963
8. 英属缅甸, 1886-1948
9. 英属汶莱, 1888-1984
10. 法属中南半岛, 1893-1954



HDCSEA Website (Cont.)



School Commemorative publications



HDCSEA Website (Cont.)

南史卷七十八
唐 李 延
列傳第六十八
夷貊上
海南諸國 西南
海南諸國大抵在交州南及
五千里遠者二三萬里其西
遣伏波將軍路博德開百越
武帝以來皆朝貢後漢桓帝
使貢獻及吳孫權時遣宣化

Documents on Ancient Kingdoms in SEA Countries

撰
上相去或四
接漢元鼎中
徼外諸國自
皆由此道遣
郎康泰通焉

海國圖志卷七
東南洋三 海岸
之國
暹羅
安南暹羅緬甸三國幅員
西交界少西與印度交界
外東西距約三千里南北
脈于印度之希馬臘歷山

Works on Overseas Travel (交通史籍)

歐羅巴人
官林則徐譯
印陽魏源重輯
中國西藏雲南廣
為界除麻六甲以
十萬方里山皆發
次則以阿山為最

南洋各島圖論
中西關係全在南洋今欲盛中國門戶之前務外
天竺等與安南大秦在海中交易不閉設也
也是時嶺南海關珍寶山嶺中國其賦稅以充
則據奪瓜哇三椰峇蘇門答臘浮呢文家馬利吉理
院羅逾時揭曉西班牙西來葡國牙牙諸國
故何哉地不與中國毗連密邇而口岸斜對西國船用亦
亦皆割地輸金大受挾制加以南洋中竟島如澳大利亞
關貿易日漸富庶慮心稅慮可為塞心腹諸島其來有自
於廢外者實與英大商會河套密同同一失策元代好尚
耳至今日而盤踞有年欲如鄭氏之驅逐紅毛固萬不可得
非其大其橫隔南洋將來大有變遷實可預料即如亞墨利
與諸大國抗衡我未見南洋諸島中國民人立業者僅萬必無
故今中國商於南洋亦多長苦設其地與之立約不准結克
卜于聖書及聖書

Works on Travel Account

經理南洋始南洋之東西諸島環繞
其畏惡莫之威不敢加兵不閉據土
地之澳門西班牙與取島宋荷蘭
歐羅巴之始又以南洋為據其
越南暹羅緬甸素隸與屬者
龐加大小無慮數十彼皆錫
以澳門及置呂宋瓜哇諸國
味亦不為無見惜功未立
頗有大國橫橫氣近則
夷中最高小西班牙亦
華盛頓起而立國至今
美之開而以英人殘虐
彼不奉約借各國公使
五百四 一南洋國王為

Access via Library Catalogue

START OVER EXPORT RETURN TO BROWSE LIMIT THIS SEARCH ANOTHER SEARCH

(检索历史)

书名 nan yang ming ren 全部馆藏 检索

Record: [Prev](#) [Next](#)

题名 南洋名人集传 / 南洋民史纂修馆编辑部编.
Nan yang ming ren ji zhuan / Nan yang min shi zuan xiu guan bian ji bu bian.

出版项 槟城 : [出版社不详], 1922-1941

CLICK ON THE FOLLOWING TO

[View the electronic version \(full-text\) 第一集](#)

[View the electronic version \(full-text\) 第二集 \(上\)](#)

[View the electronic version \(full-text\) 第二集 \(下\)](#)

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[View the electronic version \(full-text\) 第五集](#)

馆藏地	索书号	STACK#	状况
中文馆东南亚特藏	DS509.51 Nymr v1		USE IN LIBRARY
中文馆参考室	DS509.51 Nymr v2 n1		RESTRICTED USE
中文馆参考室	DS509.51 Nymr v2 n2		RESTRICTED USE
中文馆东南亚特藏	DS509.51 Nymr v4		USE IN LIBRARY
中文馆参考室	DS509.51 Nymr v5		RESTRICTED USE

Benefits

- Institutions and individuals to offer their publications to NUSL
 - Received a total of 557 titles on Chinese Overseas Studies and Southeast Asian Studies from March 08 to February 2008



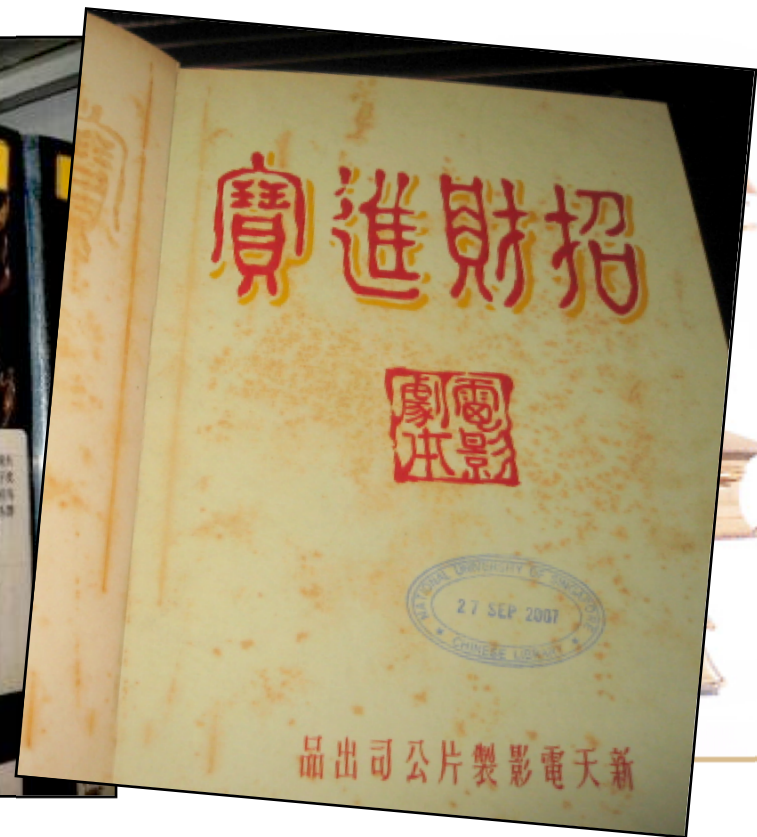
Benefits (Cont.)

- Persuading others to donate or loan their collections for digitisation

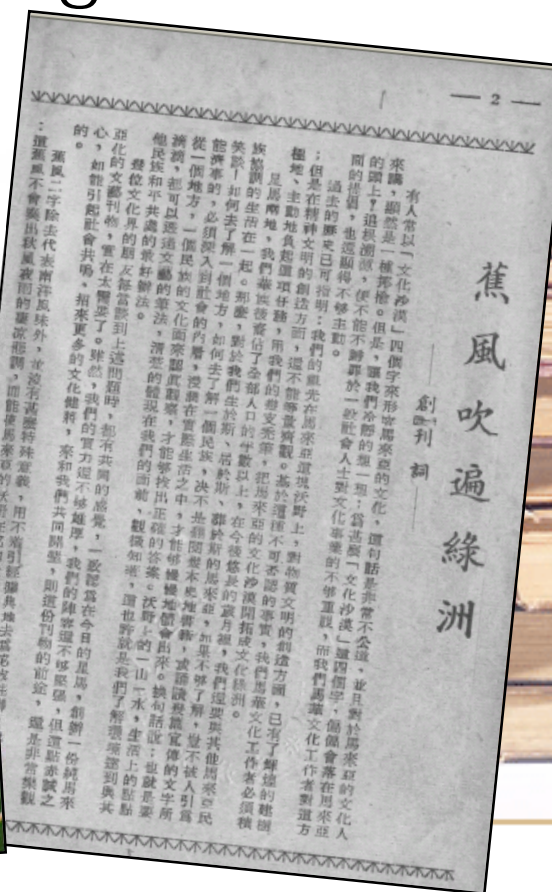


Some Examples...

- The children of Mr Chua Boon Hean (蔡文玄 1905-1995) donated screenplays and literary works collected by Mr Chua



- Mahua Literature Resource Centre (马华文学馆) assisted in obtaining copyright clearance and loaned lacking issues for digitisation



Benefits (Cont.)

- Attracting donors to financially fund our acquisition and digitisation efforts



Conclusion

- Demonstrating a Developing Product is a More Effective Tool Than Just a Descriptive Brochure
- Digitising Unique Materials in the Library Collection Can Be an Important Component of an Institution's Collection Development Strategy

