

Exchanges with Research Libraries Inside and Outside Japan



Exchange with the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Library



Exchange with the East Asia Library, University of Washington



[Left top and bottom] Visiting the SOAS Library  
[Right] Visiting the Bodleian Libraries, University of Oxford

Transferring Resources



Supporting development toward opening of the Asian Research Library planned for October 2020.

UEHIRO PROJECT FOR THE ASIAN RESEARCH LIBRARY

2020/2021

“Asian Library Café”



“India, me, and *Hundred Years Mud*”  
Yuka Ishii, a graduate of the University of Tokyo, whose book *Hundred Years Mud* won the 158th Akutagawa Prize, was invited as a guest lecturer.

“Library Fair & Forum”  
Poster Presentation



Publicity activities to broaden recognition of U-PARL and its work are also undertaken.

“Asian Materials Cataloging Workshop”



“Persian and Arabic Books”  
Providing a forum for researchers and librarians to engage in wide-scale collaboration, share understanding of various issues, and learn together.



U-PARL website offering Asian studies-related information:  
<http://u-parl.lib.u-tokyo.ac.jp/>



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OUR AIM

Uehiro Project for the Asian Research Library (U-PARL) is a research project division that was established through an endowment by the Uehiro Foundation on Ethics and Education in April 2014.

The University of Tokyo has been advancing large-scale renovation and expansion of the General Library under the “New Library Project” started in 2010. One of the pillars of this project is the opening of the Asian Research Library (on the fourth floor of the General Library) planned for October 2020.

During the first phase, from the 2014 to 2018 school years, U-PARL, with the main mission to support the formation and development of the Asian Research Library, was engaged in configuring collection development, establishing the call number system and assessing floor plans, as well as actively conducting such activities as holding seminars and workshops.

In the second phase that began with the 2019 school year, with the outlook toward new development of Asian studies through full utilization of the Asian Research Library, the division is focused on carrying out activities aimed at forming a cooperative hub for Asian studies, breaking new ground in the study of research library functions, cultivating human resources and contributing to society, as well as supporting development of the Asian Research Library.



Kenryo MINOWA (Project Leader)

The activities of U-PARL can be broadly defined as follows: creating a cooperative hub for Asian research; breaking new ground in the study of research library functions; cultivating human resources and contributing to society; and supporting development of the Asian Research Library.

MISSION 1

Creating a Cooperative Hub for Asian Research

- Promoting Asian Research that Leverages the Advantages Offered by a Library
- Creating Academic Networks

MISSION 2

Breaking New Ground in the Study of Research Library Functions

- Research on Digital Resources
- Research on Management and Sharing of Information Resources
- Survey Research and Mutual Exchange Related to Research Libraries

MISSION 3

Cultivating Human Resources and Contributing to Society

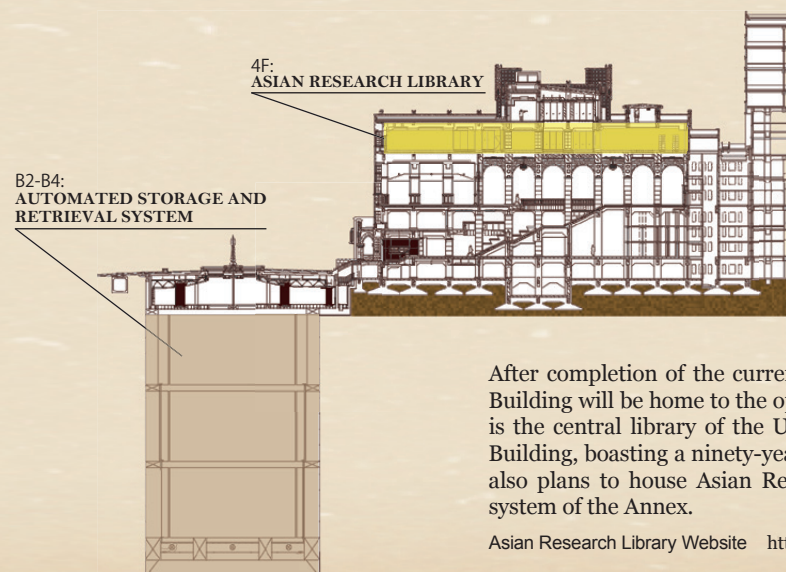
- Organizing Seminars and Workshops
- Publishing
- Providing Databases
- Web-based Sharing of Academic Information

MISSION 4

Supporting the Development of the Asian Research Library

- Designing a Floor Plan and System
- Collection Development

ASIAN RESEARCH LIBRARY



General Library (Front View)



Library Plaza, General Library (Annex, B1F)

After completion of the current renovation work, the fourth floor of the General Library Main Building will be home to the open-stack floor of the Asian Research Library. The General Library is the central library of the University of Tokyo Hongo Campus and is composed of the Main Building, boasting a ninety-year history, and the Annex, which was completed in 2017. There are also plans to house Asian Research Library resources in the automated storage and retrieval system of the Annex.

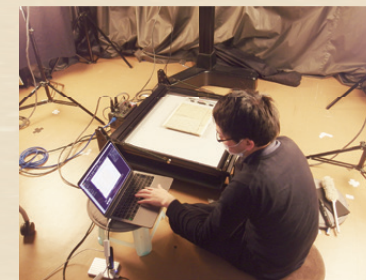
Asian Research Library Website <https://www.lib.u-tokyo.ac.jp/ja/library/asia/>

MISSION 1

Creating a Cooperative Hub for Asian Research

- Promoting Asian Research that Leverages the Advantages Offered by a Library
- Creating Academic Networks

U-PARL staff specialty fields are many and diverse, including Buddhism, anthropology, history, literature, bibliography, linguistics, philology, philosophy, and art history. Geographical regions studied are also wide, covering East Asia, Southeast Asia, South Asia, Central Eurasia, and West Asia.



Five works have been photographed and digitalized: *Ngũ kinh đại toàn tiết yếu diễn nghĩa* (五經大全節要演義), *Ūiryē Chuso Chōryo* (儀禮註疏節要), *Chwajōn Chōryo* (左伝節要), *Zhongyi Shuihu Quanshu* (忠義水滸全書), and *Vedische und Sanskrit-Syntax*.

MISSION 2

Breaking New Ground in the Study of Research Library Functions

- Research on Digital Resources
- Research on Management and Sharing of Information Resources
- Survey Research and Mutual Exchange Related to Research Libraries

Today, libraries are expected to take on the new role of archiving digital materials alongside those that are paper-based. Resources related to Asia are being made available to the public in the International Image Interoperability Framework (IIIF) format, which standardizes access to images and ensures interoperability.



“The University of Tokyo Library System Asian Research Library Digital Collections”

Providing high-definition digital images of scientific resources related to Asia from the collections of the University of Tokyo Asian Research Library and General Library. <https://iiif.dl.itc.u-tokyo.ac.jp/repo/s/asia/page/home>



“Shuihuzhuan (水滸伝) Collection”

*Shuihuzhuan* editions carefully chosen by U-PARL from those in the possession of the University of Tokyo are digitalized and made available to the public. Currently, digitalization of three editions has been completed with more coming up in the future.

Exploring Research Library Functions

In world-class research libraries, subject librarians equipped with specialist knowledge in each field of research are responsible for developing the library collection and supporting leading-edge research activities. Through communication with domestic and foreign research libraries, U-PARL is exploring the roles that should be fulfilled by Asian studies specialists in research libraries.



Event at Library Plaza

MISSION 3

Cultivating Human Resources and Contributing to Society

- Organizing Seminars and Workshops
- Publishing
- Providing Databases
- Web-based Sharing of Academic Information

U-PARL is proactively sharing information on Asian research.



*The Library as the Hub of Knowledge in Asia: Classification for Supporting and Advancing Research in Asian Studies* (Edited by U-PARL, University of Tokyo Press, 2020, ISBN 978-4-13-003602-3)

MISSION 4

Supporting the Development of the Asian Research Library

- Designing a Floor Plan and System
- Collection Development

The way how the library operates is constantly changing, but its core is always the materials it houses. U-PARL is developing the collection of the Asian Research Library through the three approaches of purchasing new materials, accepting donated materials, and integrating materials from the university’s libraries and reading rooms.



Asian Research Library resources are available on the third floor of the Main Building in advance of the opening on the fourth floor.

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