# UEHIRO PROJECT
# FOR THE ASIAN RESEARCH LIBRARY

U-PARL

## THE UNIVERSITY OF TOKYO LIBRARY SYSTEM

# 2025 - 2026

Message from Yutaka ROKUTANDA (Graduate School of Humanities and Sociology, Professor),U-PARL Project Leader

Starting this school year, I assumed the position of Division Director as a successor to Kenryo MINOWA. I will put every effort into further fostering U-PARL operations, building on its accomplishments. As an ongoing task, I will work to promote its third-phase projects under the theme of "Human Way of Life in Society 5.0" during this school year, which is the second year of their implementation. I am also determined to continue cooperation to expand and enrich the collections and activities of the Asian Research Library.



Concurrent Professors：Yutaka ROKUTANDA（Project Leader）, Miho TAKAHASHI（Deputy Project Leader）, Kyuichi UEHARA（Deputy Project Leader）, Hidenori WATANAVE, Tomoo MARUKAWA, Ikki OHMUKAI
Project Associate Professor：Daigo ISSHIKI（Deputy Project Leader）
Project Assistant Professor：Erina OTA-TSUKADA
Project Research Fellows：Jakshylyk AKMATALIEVA, Tatsuo ARAKI, Aki TANAKA, Yuto NAKAI
Research Administrator：Chiaki SUGASAKI
Project Specialists：Emiko YASUI, Hiroaki SAWA
Assistant Clerk：Hazuki TONOUCHI

## ABOUT U-PARL

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

In the first phase (the 2014-2018 school years), the main mission of U-PARL was to support the establishment of the Asian Research Library. In the second phase (the 2019-2023 school years), we greatly expanded our scope of activities and pursued the following goals: create a hub for cooperative research in Asian Studies, break new ground in the study of research library functions, cultivate human resources, contribute to society, and further support the development of the Asian Research Library.

In the third phase (the 2024-2028 school years), the following four pillars were established to strengthen the Asian Research Library: 1) East-West and Humanities-Science Fusion Forum under the theme of "Human Way of Life in Society 5.0," 2) creation of digital resources, 3) operational development of the Asian Research Library, and 4) social contribution.

Research Fields of Concurrent Professors, Project Professors and Project Research Fellows

Yutaka ROKUTANDA    Korean Medieval and Early Modern History
Miho TAKAHASHI    System Theory and Practice of Clinical Psychology
Kyuichi UEHARA    Classical Chinese Literature, Bibliographies
Satoshi UNNO    Japanese Architectural History, Conservation of Cultural Properties
Hidenori WATANAVE    Information Design, Digital Archives
Tomoo MARUKAWA    Chinese Economy
Ikki OHMUKAI    Digital Humanities, Digital Archives
Daigo ISSHIKI    Buddhist Studies
Erina OTA-TSUKADA    Pre-Modern Islamic History, Mediterranean History
Jakshylyk AKMATALIEVA    Linguistics, Turkic Languages
Tatsuo ARAKI    Chinese Folklore and Popular Literature
Aki TANAKA Multifaceted examination of the Vietnam War (the Resistance War against the U.S. for National Salvation) using literature as a looking glass to add new perspectives
Yuto NAKAI    History of Northeast Asia in the Post-Mongol Period, Jurchen History

# Classification of "Asian Research" by Region

## Central Eurasia

Two core projects, "Central Eurasian Academic Materials Collection" and "Endangered Languages Digital Archive," are in progress. They are made accessible for viewing and are regularly updated, yielding new values.

## East Asia (Koreanology)

The workshop "Maps and Photographs of Modern Colonial Period" was held to re-examine the character and documentary value of the materials purchased by U-PARL.

## West Asia

New methods for Islamic history research that incorporate digital humanities are being explored, including the project on restructuring the Daiber Collection Database of Arabic Manuscripts in the possession of the Institute for Advanced Studies on Asia.
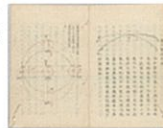
## East Asia (Sinology)

Such activities as additional publications of commentaries to Shuihuzhuan in the Asian Research Library Digital Collections as well as systematization and cataloging work for "Shuihuzhuan" Lexicon Manuscript by late Toshio TAKASHIMA have been implemented.

## South Asia (Indology)

Digitization of research sources on Indological studies (treatises on Buddhist Cosmology and commentaries on Abhidharmakośa) of the Edo Period in the possession of the University of Tokyo is being actively pursued.

*Bonreki-giko*, The University of Tokyo General Library

## Southeast Asia

Mini-lectures focused on Southeast Asia will be held to give intellectual achievements accumulated by the University of Tokyo back to society in a cross-disciplinary manner under the theme of "Interconnections Between People," with the library playing the pivotal role.

U-PARL classifies the extensive Asian continent by the following categories: "1. Asia / World," "2. East Asia," "3. Southeast Asia," "4. South Asia," "5. Central Eurasia," and "6. West Asia," having assigned researchers in charge of each category.

Background: *World Map* from National Diet Library Digital Collection (Kokan SHIBA / 亥二 -53) (Edited)

# Mission of U-PARL

## 1. Creating a Forum to Fuse Humanities and Sciences, East and West

The forum will be formed with the participation of faculty members and students of the University at the core and with U-PARL serving as the secretariat. In the 2024 school year, the First East-West and Humanities-Sciences Fusion Forum titled "How to Live a Full Life Tomorrow? Society 5.0 as Seen from the Perspective of Asia" was held at SHIBUYA QWS Scramble Hall. In the 2025 school year, we will organize workshops, panel discussions, presentations, and other events under the theme of "Interconnections between People in Society 5.0."

## 2. Creating Digital Resources

### Photos and Other Materials From the Former Collection of Takeo TANAKA

We are currently mapping out a path to digital publication of the materials, while dealing with the portrait rights issue, a common bottleneck in such projects.

### Daiber Collection

We are restructuring the Daiber Collection Database of Arabic Manuscripts in the possession of the Institute for Advanced Studies on Asia, the University of Tokyo, in close cooperation with various stakeholders, with the aim to enhance its accessibility and usability.

### Endangered Languages Archive

The project is aimed at the digitization of textual, audio, and video materials on endangered languages. This school year, as the first step in this initiative, we have focused on Shor, a Turkic minority language spoken in southern Siberia, and made available online "Poems and Readings in the Shor Language."

### Asian Research Library Digital Collections

With the purpose to build an Asian studies hub within the University of Tokyo, we are continuing to aggregate and digitize valuable materials in the possession of the University. We are not only expanding the number of items in our possession, but are also working on establishing new subcollections.

## 3. Operational Development of Asian Research Library

The Asian Research Library accommodates Asia-related materials, including those in various local languages, and as a platform connecting projects and researchers in Asian studies in the University is aiming to become a new type of "research library." U-PARL supports the library's collection development and subject librarian-level services. In the 2024 school year, in addition to talking events held in the lecture room, we also set up a materials introduction corner, "A Book to Learn About Asia," in cooperation with RASARL, another research project.

## 4. Social Contribution

We try to share and publish information on Asian studies and libraries to the widest audience. For example, as a rule, in addition to holding symposiums and lectures, we also record them in the form of lecture transcripts and videos to share with the general public.

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