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Announcements

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

New Collection of Sino-Japanese War Materials Available

Nearly 4,000 titles of Chinese-language books published between 1932 and 1945, most of which do not exist in U.S. collections, are now available on microfilm through the Center for Research Libraries. The collection represents titles in the social sciences and humanities published in the years just before and during the Sino-Japanese War.

The filmed titles represent a range of topics relevant to almost any area of inquiry, among them wartime drama, political philosophies, regional economic statistics, and minority folk songs. The collection is especially strong in regional and local materials.

The largest single category in the collection is that of literature and the arts. More than one thousand titles are in these categories, including novels, short stories, poems, travel notes, works on literary and artistic theory, literary criticism, and scripts of modern and traditional operas. Among them are first and variant editions of the works of major writers as well as the works of less famous, but important authors such as Qin Yi, Zhang Tianyi, and Yao Xueyin. By including publications of more than 400 authors, the collection provides a broad base for research in the Chinese literary scene of the 1930s and 1940s.

The films are the result of a project initiated by the Committee on Scholarly Communication with China (CSCC) and Fudan University in Shanghai, China. When the CSCC closed in 1996, the Council on Library and Information Resources assumed administrative responsibility for the project. Diane Perushek, of Northwestern University, was the project director. Fudan University did the filming over three years in a state-of-the-art microfilming lab established on campus. The project was supported by the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Henry Luce Foundation.

The collection may be searched online in the RLIN and CRL databases by project title “Pre-Kangzhan and Kangzhan Period Preservation Project,” as well as by monograph title, author, or subject. The titles will also soon appear in the OCLC database. CRL’s catalog is available on its Web site <wwwcrl.uchicago.edu>.

CRL offers the films for loan and sale. Contact the Center for Research Libraries, 6050 South Kenwood Ave., Chicago, IL 60637. Phone: 773-955-4545; Fax: 773-955-4339. Inquiries about borrowing should be addressed to Director, User Services. Inquiries for purchases should be addressed to Microform Projects and Preservation Coordinator.

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Set of Ssu-k’u ch’üan shu for sale:

A complete set of Ssu-k’u ch’üan shu [Complete library in four branches of literature]. Taiwan: Commercial Press, 1983-1989. 1500 v. 26 cm.

The set is leather bound, about 800 pages per volume. The Ssu-k’u ch’üan shu was compiled between 1773 and 1782 under the patronage of the Ch’ien-lung Emperor. Made up of 3461 works, it represented an attempt to bring together all previous Chinese works deemed worthy of preservation. This edition was limited to about one hundred sets.

This set, privately owned and in excellent condition, is offered at $40,000 U.S. Any institution or individual interested in the set may contact:

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