

## Asian Library Supporters



Throughout its history, the Asian Library has received many private donations, government grants and generous gifts from our friends.

With leadership from Dr. Walter Koerner, the Friends of the Library made possible the acquisition of the prestigious P'u-pan Collection in 1959. In 1965, Dr. H. R. MacMillan donated \$3 million to the University for library collections. This allowed the Library to acquire several important Japanese and Chinese collections belonging to eminent scholars such as George Sansom, Herbert Norman and Sung Hsueh-peng. The MacMillan gift also funded the purchase of the George H. Beans Collection of Japanese Maps, 320 sets of rare maps of Japan produced between 1600 and 1867.

Other major donors to the Asian Library include Mr. Harry Chin, the Daehan Kyoyuk Insurance Company, Professor William Holland, the Government of India, the Japan Foundation, the Korea Research Foundation, Dr. Tong Louie, the Mellon Foundation, Mrs. Harue Mimoto, Mr. Naomichi Nishimura and the Social Sciences and Humanities Council of Canada.

The Government of British Columbia has also contributed significantly to the building of the Asian collection through the Pacific Rim Excellence Fund, a continuing grant of \$150,000 per year designated for library acquisitions on the Asia Pacific.



We welcome your support in working to achieve the Asian Library's goals.

# ASIAN LIBRARY



## UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA



The Asian Library was established in 1960 to support UBC research and teaching programmes on the Asia Pacific region. As part of the leading research institution in British Columbia, the Asian Library also supports the University's commitment to share its resources with all members of the community.

The Asian Library has the largest collection of East Asian materials in Canada and the 12th largest in North America. The collection includes books in Chinese, Japanese, Hindi, Punjabi, Sanskrit, Korean and several other Asian languages. All disciplines in the humanities and social sciences are represented.



## Expanding Collections

UBC Library's acquisition of Chinese and Japanese books began in the early fifties, and by the time the Asian Library opened its doors in 1960, it had some very rare and unique materials.

In 1959, the P'u-pan Collection was presented to the University by Dr. Walter C. Koerner and a group of Friends of the Library. This collection of more than 45,000 volumes covers Chinese books and unpublished manuscripts dating from the tenth to the early twentieth century. Its many treasures include the oldest book in the UBC Library system, published in 986 A.D.

In the same year, the governments of Japan and Canada began the official exchange of government publications. UBC was designated the depository centre for government publications from Japan and was charged with the responsibility of safekeeping and organizing these documents.

Acquisition of material in South Asian languages began in 1969 through the Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute Library Programme. The Institute was established jointly by the governments of India and Canada to promote mutual understanding between the two countries.

The scope of the Asian Library collection has recently been expanded to include Korean and Indonesian material.



## Sharing Resources

To foster resource sharing, the Asian Library has established links with many academic institutions and libraries nationally and internationally.

The Asian Library's exchange partners include the national libraries of most Asian countries. Through its interlibrary loan networks, the Asian Library has access to the collections of Princeton, Berkeley, Hoover, Chicago, Harvard-Yenching, Washington, Yale, Toronto and over 2000 other libraries.

In 1989, UBC, the University of Washington and the University of Oregon co-founded the Northwest Regional Consortium for Southeast Asian Studies. A major goal of the consortium is to develop library resources co-operatively.

## Looking Ahead

The Asian Studies programme at UBC is now entering a new phase of expansion. The Asian Library must be prepared for many new challenges and opportunities.

We need to continue to improve the quality of our collection and services, seek new space for our expanding holdings and implement a preservation programme for our special collections.

Improving access to our collection using the latest computer technology is a priority and a challenge. Because our materials are in Asian languages, we require special software to display Asian scripts on our local computer systems. Other priorities include the introduction of compact disk (CD-ROM) technology and direct access to the online catalogues of other libraries in North America.



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