

search the joint databases of public libraries, online bookstore and publisher information, and get help in tracking down online resources. Academic information makes up the bulk of resources consolidated under the portal.

The resources collected under the portal include materials from Taiwan, Hong Kong, Singapore, mainland China and indeed everywhere else there are Chinese people. In selecting these resources, the aim has been not simply to supply information but to promote knowledge. Thus, although the portal is devoted mainly to catalog resources at present, the site aims to develop as a provider of knowledge in a broader sense.

Distinguishing features of the portal are as follows:

1. Integration: The portal integrates over a hundred domestic databases, including NCL information systems, various library catalog systems, online bookstore and publisher information, and public library joint databases.
2. Personalization: The portal can be personalized by users by saving often used database and setting information. There are also advanced search functions for refining queries.
3. Classification: The portal creates a classified directory of information according to the nature, topic and type of information.
4. Search: The portal provides an integrated search engine for searching data from numerous different sources.
5. Security: The portal can only be used from the NCL and various public libraries and access is restricted by IP control functions.

■ Taiwan Family Register Project

Background

There are over 10,000 family registers in the Taiwan area, accounting for a significant

portion of all such registers in China. In recognition of the historical and research value of these resources, the NCL convened a symposium in March 2002 to discuss the cooperative compilation of a family register catalog. It was resolved at that time that organizations with family register collections would provide the bibliographic data and the NCL would plan the data fields, conduct testing and compile the bibliographies of contributing organizations to create a Union Catalog of Family Registers in the Taiwan Area. To ensure the realize the maximum research value of the catalog, Tamkang University professor Wu Chih-fu was tapped to head the project aided by associate professor Chen Shih-hua.

Objectives

1. Compiling bibliographies of family registers in the Taiwan area and writing summaries thereof: The writing of register summaries is aimed at facilitating access to the large volume of materials involved.
2. Arranging a biographical record of the early families in Taiwan: The family registers contain a wealth of information on family pedigree, honors and achievements, and heritage that properly arranged could serve as an important resource for studies on Taiwan history.
3. Arranging historical materials on Taiwanese society: The household codes and regulations recorded in the family registers offer an instructive view of social attitudes in earlier times. In addition, revisions, family origins and histories of migration are also often noted in the register prefaces and postscripts, providing a useful research reference while also offering a peek at family transitions and society in Taiwan.

Content

1. Catalog of Taiwan family registers: This catalog lists Taiwan family registers in public and private collections in Taiwan and abroad, including microfiche materials in the collection of the Utah Genealogy Resource Center.

2. Taiwan family register summaries: Summaries include information on the various names of the registers, register status (extant or not), number of revisions, the names of the first family members to migrate to Taiwan, history of family immigration to and emigration from Taiwan, preface and postscript material, volume content and other important information.
3. Index to biographical material: This index covers biographical material on families following their migration to Taiwan. There is also an attached index of the alternate names of the persons recorded.
4. Compilation of household codes and regulations: A separate publication has been compiled focusing on household codes and regulations, with information drawn from the prefaces/postscripts and chapters devoted to this topic in the registers.
5. Compilation on the register prefaces and postscripts: Material is drawn from the prefaces and postscripts of the family registers and edited as a separate publication.

Implementation Plan

1. Short-term Objectives:
 - (1) Compilation and cataloging of the more than 6,000 Taiwan family registers in the NCL collection and other such registers in public and private collections in Taiwan and abroad, including microfiche materials at the Utah Genealogy Resource Center.
 - (2) Compilation of a CD-ROM catalog.
 - (3) Writing of about 450 family register summaries.
2. Mid-term Plan: Completion of summaries for over 9,000 registers and publication of an index of biographical material.
3. Long-term Plan: Compilation on the register prefaces and postscripts.