



工作简报

2013 ADCA Work Briefing

The meeting of “Building an Open International Digital Platform of Dongba Manuscripts” was held in Beijing

Beijing Association of Dongba Culture and Arts (ADCA) set up the project “**Building an Open International Digital Platform of Dongba Manuscripts for Inclusion in UNESCO’s ‘Memory of the World Heritage’**” together with Beijing University of Information, Science & Technology and Yunnan Lijiang Dongba Culture Institute and Diqing Naxi Society in the Shangri-La Tibetan area. This project is an official Chinese Government Social and Sciences Key Project (Approval No.: 12&ZD234)

The morning of June 22, 2013, the National Social Science Fund Key Project report of feasibility study meeting was held in Beijing Information Science and Technology University. The anthropology, Ethnology Experts and scholars and project group members of nearly a hundred people attended the meeting.



Meeting site (by. Dou Jiale)

At the meeting, the chief expert Professor Xu Xiaoli according to the subject and the demonstration carried out preliminary work to experts who reported some ideas and topics for future work plans and projects by the sub- division of the research group. Focus research efforts include : proposed information sharing, cooperation with the United Nations and the domestic and foreign museums, libraries, universities and other research institutes to establish collecting and pooling channel and sharing of information abroad Dongba ancient manuscripts; doing research, collection, analysis Dongba ancient manuscripts and arrange information, and field investigation and invited the Dongba shamans to decipher the Naxi ancient pictographic manuscripts, Interpretation refining ways to complete the digital cataloging ; provide digital processing and retrieval methods , provide a variety of information retrieval search engine, search and statistical method based on proposed digital network of modern means of communication and



information dissemination and management methods; study international digital network to share information platform construction program to provide academic research can be carried out off-site and remote technical support interaction ; according to the characteristics and difficulties Dongba hieroglyphs , providing Dongba hieroglyphs for the Interpretation of the database, knowledge base and knowledge mining tools, platform -based digital Dongba hieroglyphs deciphered means to build digital archive. The overall arrangements for the project from January 2013 to December 2017, will be finish in five years.

The project is divided into five sub topics, ADCA will undertake the Sub-topic 1 Research and practice on Digital acquisition of international Naxi Dongba manuscript collections from foreign libraries; audio and video recordings of Dongba shamans in the process of deciphering and explaining the manuscripts. Ms. Zhang Xu reported on the major program of the national project about Sub-topic 1 as a responsible person in the meeting.



Ms. Zhang Xu in charge of the project sub-topic 1 reported work for rescuing Dongba manuscripts in the meeting
(by. Bai Feng, Dou Jiale)

During meeting, the president of Naxi society Bai Gengsheng said, the second half of the nineteenth Century to twentieth Century is the Naxi culture study based on the new science, humanities China established preliminary in this century. Produced a number of renowned domestic and foreign representative scholars; has established Lijiang Dongba Culture Research Institute, Southwest University for Nationalities Institute of Naxi study; also has established International Naxi Association, Beijing Association of Dongba Culture and Art and other academic societies; has developed the a large number of academic achievements such as "Naxi Studies Series" and so on.



National Social Science Fund Key Project funded major publishing achievement the 30 volume series "Naxi Studies Series"
(by Dou Qingfeng)



Project Team had a meeting with UNESCO Office Beijing in January 2013 (by Bai Feng)

UNESCO Mr. Andrea Cairola, Adviser for Communication and Information, UNESCO Office Beijing, the "Memory of the World Heritage" responsible person is specifically helping the national project. Mr. Andrea Cairola believes ADCA study Dongba ancient manuscripts with audio and video records during the Dongba shamans's interpretation, for rescue "Memory of the World Heritage" is an innovative, this model can be extended to worldwide of the world memory heritage project. ADCA and UNESCO Office Beijing reached a preliminary cooperation intention in the rescue "Memory of the World heritage" Dongba ancient culture area.



Mr. Andrea Cairola, and his assistants Ms. Zeng Qingyi in UNESCO Office Beijing had a meeting with ADCA in March 2013 (by Ba Tu)

Project sub-topic 1 members in May to Shangri-La County Naxi villages, and work with two old Dongba shamans and assisted by Naxi scholars together to interpretation and translation the ancient Dongba manuscripts collections, which the digital versions was provide by The National Institute of Oriental Languages in Paris. Dongba shamans will decipher these dongba pictographs from the scriptures, translating into Naxi languages and in Han languages by Naxi scholars. Meanwhile, all the processes were recorded with audio and video. Finally, the finished lists and summaries of Dongba manuscripts will be placed on the project's international sharing platform in digital form. Now ADCA has made initial catalogue and the translation work is still in progress.

Issues facing difficulties: the inheritors of Dongba shamans are over 80 years old and 70 years old, their health directly affect the speed of the rescue, the most critical is that use digital audio and video technology to make recording as soon as possible. Interpretation of shamans recorded the original ecology of the process and complete technical data editing and data preservation.



Chief expert, prof. Xu Xiaoli with Zhang Xu Researcher and other ADCA members learning Dongba shaman Xi Shanghong interpretation Dongbe manuscripts in the Shangri-La Tibetan area. (by.Bai Feng)



ADCA member Dr. Zhao Xueshan was doing medical treatment for 86-year-old Dongba Shaman He Zhiben. (by.Zhang Xu)



Zhang Xu Researcher work with Dongba Shaman He Zhiben, Xi Shnaghong and Naxi scholar Mr. Yang Zhengwen for discussing Dongba manuscripts collections in France. (by. Bai Feng)

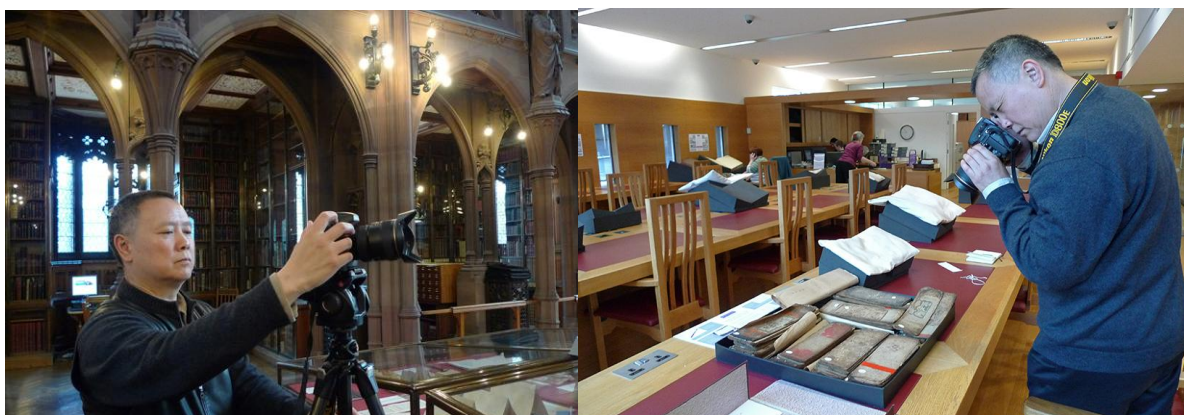


Project Team member Bai Feng made audio and video recording the process of Dongba shamans to deciphering ancient Dongba manuscripts collections of France. (by. Zhang Xu)

Because most of the Dongba ancient manuscripts collections in more than 10 countries by many organizations, academic research institutions, and communicate with each other in a decentralized patterns and inconvenience. In 2013 in May, the sub-topics 1, ADCA members visited to The British Library and also went to the University of Manchester John Rylands Library for collecting Dongba manuscripts in United Kingdom. Researcher Zhang Xu did negotiations with Ms.Elizabeth Gow, Manuscript Curator of The University of Manchester, The John Rylands Library and showed them documentary shot by ADCA for rescue Dongba culture, And after conducted several arduous negotiations with Mr. Graham Hutt, Curator, Chinese section of British Library, finally, success for shooting these two library's collections about 200 Dongba ancient manuscripts. The sub-topics 1's working method of acquisition digital versions that was obtained the experts including UNESCO unanimously affirmed and praise.



Zhang Xu researcher negotiating and work with Ms. Elizabeth Gow, Manuscript Curator of The University of Manchester John Rylands Library for collecting the digital versions of ancient Dongba manuscripts collections. (by.Bai Feng)



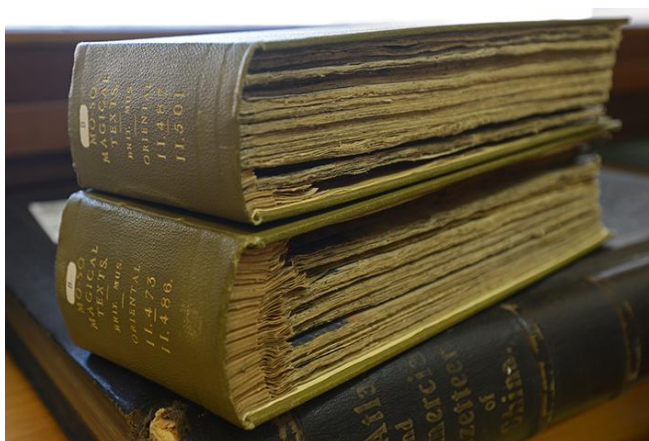
Project Team member Bai Feng shooting for taking Dongba manuscripts digital versions at the University of Manchester John Rylands Library (by.Zhang Xu)



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The one page of the Dongba manuscripts collections in the French National Library (Bibliotèque Nationale de France)
Its library collection of Dongba manuscripts digital versions have been provided free of charge to the China National Social Science Fund Key Project in 2013





One scripture of the Dongba manuscripts collections in the British Library, and Its library collection of Dongba manuscripts digital versions have been provided free of charge to the China National Social Science Fund Key Project in 2013



Zhang Xu researcher negotiating with Mr. Graham Hutt, Curator, Chinese section of British Library for collecting the digital versions of Dongba ancient manuscripts collections. (by.Bai Feng)



Project Team member Bai Feng taking Dongba ancient manuscripts digital versions at the British Library (by.Zhang Xu)



Project Team members work with Dongba Shaman He Zhiben, Xi Shnaghong and Naxi scholar Mr. Yang Zhengwen for deciphering the Dongba manuscripts collections of British. (by. Bai Feng)



Dongba shaman He Zhiben and Xi Shanghong deciphering the ancient Dongba manuscripts collections of British. (by. Bai Feng & Zhang Xu)



Project Team member Bai Feng made audio and video recording the process of Dongba shamans to deciphering ancient Dongba manuscripts collections of British. (by. Zhang Xu)



86 years old Dongba shaman He Zhiben reading the copy of the ancient Dongba manuscripts collections of British.
(by. Bai Feng)



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