

Year	Name of documentary heritage	Page no.
2015	Archives of Confucius' Family of the Ming and Qing Dynasties	



MOWCAP
UNESCO Memory of the World
Regional Committee for Asia/Pacific

Nomination form

Asia/Pacific Memory of the World Register

Office Use Only	
ID code:	Item or collection short title:
Institution / Owner:	Country or countries
Assessed by: (Rujaya Abhakorn).....(date) / / (xxxxxx).....(date) / / (xxxxxx).....(date) / / (xxxxxx).....(date) / /	Decision: (circle as appropriate) 1. Recommended 2. Not recommended 3. Recommended subject to the following (attach additional comments if required):

Year	Name of documentary heritage	Page no.
2015	Archives of Confucius' Family of the Ming and Qing Dynasties	

--	--

Introduction

This form should be used to nominate items to the *Asia/Pacific Memory of the World Register*. It sets out, in logical order, the range of information needed. Nominations should be expressed in clear concise language and lengthy submissions are not required.

Supplementary data may be attached. Please clearly label and number every page in the boxes provided.

It is highly recommended that prospective nominees should carefully read the *Guidelines* for nominating items and collections to the *Asia/Pacific Memory of the World Register* for further information before and during preparing a nomination. Nominees should also look at the current *International Memory of the World Register* http://portal.unesco.org/ci/en/ev.php-URL_ID=1678&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html and the *Australian Memory of the World Register* to see examples of completed nomination forms.

Please submit two complete document sets on paper (one original and one photocopied versions) and one electronically.

Completed nominations should be posted by mail and submitted electronically to reach the following address:

Ms Helen Swinnerton
 Secretary General of MOWCAP,
 1/F Tower 2 & 3, HSBC Centre, 1 Sham Mong Road, Kowloon
 Hong Kong
helen.swinnerton@gmail.com

The nomination form and any accompanying material will not be returned and will become the property of MOWCAP.

MOWCAP maintains a website at <http://www.unesco.mowcap.org>. Questions may be addressed to the MOWCAP Register Subcommittee (rujaya2000@yahoo.com). Please keep a copy of this form for your records and in case we need to contact you.

Please also keep an electronic version of the completed form as we will need this for successful nominations to speed up entries onto the MOWCAP website.

Ray Edmondson

Year	Name of documentary heritage	Page no.
2015	Archives of Confucius' Family of the Ming and Qing Dynasties	

Chair, MOWCAP

Year	Name of documentary heritage	Page no.
2015	Archives of Confucius' Family of the Ming and Qing Dynasties	

Nomination form

Asia/Pacific *Memory of the World* Register nomination form

Part A: Essential information

1 Summary (max 100 words)

Give a brief description of the documentary heritage being nominated, and the reasons for proposing it. Highlight the nature, uniqueness and significance of the nominated documentary heritage.

The Archives of Confucius' Family of the Ming and Qing Dynasties, 9,021 volumes in total, faithfully recorded the vicissitude of the world oldest hereditary aristocrat family--- the Confucius' family over a 400-year period (1534—1948) of feudal China. The files cover all aspects of the social life, including politics, economy, culture, ideology and clan affairs, etc. They are the very embodiment of the family's adherence to Confucius' political and ideological ideas of "self cultivation, filial piety, loyalty, propriety and faithfulness". Because of its uninterrupted history, rich contents, intact system and huge quantities, the private archives of the family are of outstanding and universal value.

2 Nominator

2.1 Name of nominator (person or organisation)

Qufu Committee of Cultural Heritage, Shandong Province, China, PRC

2.2 Relationship to the nominated documentary heritage

Qufu Committee of Cultural Heritage is the sole owner and custodian

2.3 Contact person(s)

Mr.KONG Xiangjun

deputy curator of Kong Family Mansion Archive of QuFu Committee of Cultural Heritage

2.4 Contact details

Name	Address
Mr.KONG Xiangjun	1,Donghuamen Street,QuFu city,Shandong Province,China,PRC Postcode:273100

Telephone

86-0537-4712263

Facsimile

86-0537-4412444

Email

kfwwdag@163.com

3 Details of the Nominated Documentary Heritage

3.1 Title of documentary heritage item or collection

Archives of Confucius' Family of the Ming and Qing Dynasties

Year	Name of documentary heritage	Page no.
2015	Archives of Confucius' Family of the Ming and Qing Dynasties	

3.2 Catalogue or registration details

Catalogue details

Volumes numbers from Vol.0001 to Vol. 9025

Ming Dynasty: from 13th year of Jiajing Reign to 17th year of Chongzhen Reign (1534 -1644)

1. Title Inheritance	Vol.0001 to Vol.0005
2. Clan affairs	Vol.0006 to Vol.0010
3. Staff	Vol.0011 to Vol.0017
4. Corvee and law suits	Vol.0018 to Vol.0043
5. Rents and taxes	Vol.0044 to Vol.0051
6. Royal court	Vol.0052 to Vol.0056
7. Disasters	Vol.0057
8. Data	Vol.0058 to Vol.0059
9. Documents	Vol.0060to Vol.0062

Qing Dynasty:1st year of Shunzhi Reign to 3rd year of Xuantong(1644-1911)

1. Title inheritance	Vol.0063to Vol.0732
2. Clan affairs	Vol.0733to Vol.1638
3. Staff	Vol.1639to Vol.3593
4.Lawsuits	Vol.3594to Vol.4008
5. Rents and taxes	Vol.4009to Vol.4911
6. Management of the temple and the cemetery	Vol.4912to Vol.5076
7. Sacrificial ceremonies	Vol.5077to Vol.5296
8. Royal court	Vol.5297to Vol.5523
9. Political affairs	Vol.5524to Vol.6049
10. Financial affairs	Vol.6050to Vol.6049
11. documents	Vol.6308to Vol.6543
12.general affairs	Vol.6544to Vol.6589

(Note: Vol. 4544 in “rents and taxes” is a vacant number)

The Republic of China to 1948 (1912-1948) Vol.6590to Vol.9025

(Note: Vol. 6943, Vol.6946, Vol.6956 are vacant numbers)

3.3 Photographs or a video of the documentary heritage

See the appendix

3.4 History/Origin/Background/Provenance

The archives were originally housed in the Kong Family Mansion. The mansion, also called the Mansion of Duke Sage Inheritor, is the residence of Confucius lineal grandsons.

Confucius was born in the late of Spring and Autumn Period. He was a great statesman, educator, and founder of Confucianism. His teaching, which was later promoted as the dominant ideology in China for over 2000 years, composed of political ideas of “ruling the country with virtue”, and ethical ideas of “self cultivation”, “loyalty, filial piety, propriety and faith”. Emperors of all dynasties, utilizing Confucianism as a tool to control the ideology of their subjects, praise highly of Confucius and his ideas. In Han Dynasty, Confucius was given his first posthumous name, the "Laudably Declarable Lord Ni" by emperor Pingdi, praised as “the Ultimate Divine King of Education and Preaching” by emperor Wuzong in Yuan dynasty, and declared "Model Teacher for Ten Thousand Ages" in the early of Qing Dynasty. To commemorate Confucius, his temple was order to built in every county of China.

Year	Name of documentary heritage	Page no.
2015	Archives of Confucius' Family of the Ming and Qing Dynasties	

While holding Confucius in high esteem, the rulers of feudal dynasties give preferential treatment to descendents of Confucius, especially those lineal descendents, rendering his family the most enduring noble family in China as well as in the world. The first emperor of Han Dynasty conferred the title "Gentleman Fengsi" on Kong Teng, Confucius' 9th generation grandson. Since then, Confucius' descendants have been granted titles in every dynasty. One of the titles, "Duke Sage Inheritor", had not been changed in the Song, Jin, Yuan, Ming and Qing Dynasties and hence became the one used for the longest time by Confucius' lineal offspring. This best reflects the reverence of Confucius by the emperors in the long history. Because of "Sage Inheritors" high position in Chinese history, in the mansion a large quantity of outstanding heritage have been preserved, private archives are one of them.

After the liberation of Qufu city, all the property of the Kong family were nationalized and were under custody of the Cultural Relics Protection Office of Qufu (nowadays Cultural Relics Management Committee of Qufu)

3.5 Bibliography

1. *Research on Chinese Ancient Society and Ancient Thoughts*, YANG XiangKui, Shanghai city: Shanghai People's Publishing House, 1964, ISBN 11074-346
2. *Royal Power and Aristocratic Families of Qing Dynasty*, LAI Huiming, Peking: Peking University Publishing House, 2010. ISBN 9787301173459
3. *Research on Land Contractual Document of Ming and Qing Dynasties*, YANG Guozhen, Peking: China Renmin University Press, 2009. ISBN 9787300107400
4. *Study on Cuisine in Archives of Family of Sage Inheritors*, ZHAO Rongguan, Jinan: Shandong Pictorial Publishing House, 2007. ISBN 9787807135265
5. *Collected Essays of Economical History of Agriculture---Property right, Demography and Agricultural Industry* ZHAO Gang(U.S.A) , Peking: China Agricultural Press, 2007. ISBN 9787807135265
6. *Research on Clan Law of Qing Dynasty*, ZHU Yong, Changsha: Hunan Education Press, 1987. ISBN 7535504434
7. *Research on Historical Value of Laws in Archives of Confucius' Family*, YUAN Zhaochun, Peking: China Renmin University Press, 2013. ISBN9787300182698

3.6 Names, qualifications and contact details of up to three independent people or organisations with expert knowledge about the values and provenance of the documentary heritage

Name	Qualifications	Address
Mr. YANY Chaoming	Qualifications President of China Research Institute of Confucius; Vice-chairman & secretary general of Shandong Confucius Society; professor, doctoral tutor	9, Dacheng Road, Qufu city, Shandong Province Postcode: 273100
Mr. KONG Xianglin	Secretary General of secretariat, World Confucian Assembly; former vice president of China Research Institute of Confucius; senior research fellow; master tutor of Qufu	9, Dacheng Road, Qufu city, Shandong Province. Postcode: 273100

Year	Name of documentary heritage	Page no.
2015	Archives of Confucius' Family of the Ming and Qing Dynasties	

Normal University

Name	Qualifications	Address
Mr. LIU Peiping	Qualifications Curator of Archives of Shangdong University; president & secretary general of Painting and Calligraphy institute of Shandong University; Professor; master tutor	27, South Shanda Road, Jinan city, Shandong province, China PRC Postcode: 250100

I assert that the above named referees have given their written permission for their names and contact details to be used in connection with this nomination for the Asia/Pacific *Memory of the World Register*, and their names to appear on the website. (Contact details will not appear on the website or be disclosed by the MOWCAP to any third party).

Signature	Full name (Please PRINT)
	Date

4 Legal information

4.1 Owner of the documentary heritage (name and contact details)

Name	Address
Qufu Committee of Cultural Heritage	1, Donghuamen Street, Qufu city, Shandong Province, China PRC Postcode: 273100

Telephone	Facsimile	Email
86-0537-4712263	86-0537-4412444	kfwwdag@163.com

4.2 Custodian of the documentary heritage (name and contact details if different from the owner)

Name	Address

Telephone	Facsimile	Email

4.3 Legal status

Details of legal and administrative powers for the preservation of the documentary heritage

·Type of ownership: state owned

Year	Name of documentary heritage	Page no.
2015	Archives of Confucius' Family of the Ming and Qing Dynasties	

- Range of Application: limited access to the original copy; some selected documents are for Confucian culture exhibitions; to provide original data for renovation of world cultural heritage: the Temple and Cemetery of Confucius and the Kong Family Mansion; to provide original data and reference services for Confucian specialists and academic research
- copyrights: reserved for Qufu Committee of Cultural Heritage
- administrative authority: Qufu Bureau of Cultural Heritage, Shandong Province

4.4 Accessibility

Describe how the item(s) / collection may be accessed

This collection is only for reference services under the guidance of *Cultural Relics Protection Law of the People's Republic of China* and relevant laws and regulations, not for circulation.

All access restrictions should be explicitly stated below:

Restricted access to the original copy. To research records, a recommendation letter with information of requester's identification, purpose and range of the research shall be needed. A reference room and guidance of the staff are available for the research.

4.5 Copyright status

Describe the copyright status of the item(s) / collection

The copyrights of the collection are reserved for Qufu Committee of Cultural Heritage

5 Assessment against the selection criteria

5.1 First criterion: authenticity. Is the documentary heritage what it appears to be? Has its identity and origin been reliably established?

The Kong Family Mansion has a comprehensive management system. The routine files and documents of different offices, account books on sacrifices in the temple and cemetery and records of daily life in the mansion, after hundred years of accumulation, developed into huge amount of archives. During the Ming and Qing Dynasties, the archives as well as other historical files of the family were managed by designated apartment. All files were cataloged and stored in accordance with relevant rules. After liberation, property of the Kong family was nationalized and put under the custody of Qufu Cultural Heritage Preservation Repository (nowadays Qufu Committee of Cultural heritage).The provenance of the documents is clear, and the authenticity of the content is incontrovertible.

Besides, some of the files can be corroborated by other historical materials. For example, records of Emperor Qianlong's visit to the temple and cemetery in the 13th year of his reign in vol. 5109 of the archive can also be found in inscriptions on two steles, "A poem presented to Kong Zhaohuan by His Majesty" and "A poem of Libation in the Cemetery of Confucius" in east section of Kong Family Mansion as well as in books such as *Queli Literature Research*, *County Annals of Qufu*, and *Manuscripts on History of Qing Dynasty*.

5.2 Second criterion: world significance. Is the documentary heritage unique and irreplaceable, something whose disappearance or deterioration would constitute a harmful impoverishment of the heritage of humanity? Has it created a great impact over a span of time and/or within a particular supra-national cultural area of the region? Is it representative of a type, but it has no direct equal? Has it had great influence – whether positive or negative – on the course of history?

The documentary archives are unique and irreplaceable, its disappearance or deterioration would constitute a harmful damage to the traditional oriental culture which centered on Confucianism and would be a great loss to the world memory as well.

Due to the devotion of successive Chinese emperors, the Kong Family Mansion (the Mansion

Year	Name of documentary heritage	Page no.
2015	Archives of Confucius' Family of the Ming and Qing Dynasties	

of Sage Inheritor) can be hailed as the largest, most enduring noble family and classic patriarchal clan in feudal China. Their family files as well are very unique in Chinese historical archives system. They cover a panorama of Chinese feudal society, including rich documents pertaining to clan, social, political, religion, legal and education affairs, characterized by their local, folk colors which are quite different from, but perfectly complemented to the official archives preserved in the First and Second Historical Archives of China. They are exemplar of Chinese archives and of great value for the study of Kong Family Mansion and Chinese society since 16th century.

Descended from Confucius, the Kong family developed into a very large clan in a span of over 2000 years. The trunk lineage, which from Confucius to his 77th generation lineal grandson, Kong Decheng, maintained a clear family tree, So did the branch lineages. Since Kong Renyu, the branch lineages split into five sub-branches, further into 20 segments and finally into 60 major households. Their clan members proliferated and settled all over China, "sharing the peace, wealth and happiness with the nation".

Apart from offering sacrifices to Confucius and managing the temple and cemetery of Confucius, the "Sage Inheritors" also supervise the whole Kong clan. As the primogeniture, the "Sage Inheritor" was given the power by the emperors to run the family affairs, through revising pedigree, establish and exercise family rules. The Kong family has attached great importance to the revision of their genealogy. In doing so, the family members can "learn about their lineage, get in touch with estranged relatives, restore the proper formalities between young and old, and refresh their memories on the pedigree". With constant maintenance and revisions, the genealogy of the Kong family became the most enduring and the most complete pedigree in China. Since its first compiling in Song Dynasty, the pedigree remains uninterrupted and clearly organized in both trunk and branch lineages. Whether in terms of time-span or contents, the pedigree has no direct equal in the world. The Kong lineage had their own temple, cemetery, homestead, pedigree and clan regulations, gradually developed into an enormous clan. The documentary archives of the Kong Family in Ming and Qing Dynasties include a huge amount of information pertaining to the trunk and branch pedigree revision and execution of clan regulations.

There were once many illustrious houses in Chinese history, but none of them can last over 2500 years, not sunk with the fall of dynasties, or shaken by any political storms. In April 1937, as Chinese envoy, Kong Xiangxi attended the coronation ceremony of George VI, where he was given unprecedented reception by the royal family. The Times newspaper ran a cartoon depicted a big tree and a leaning mushroom, implying royal family of England to the Kong lineage is of mushroom to the big tree. It is the identity of "descendent of Confucius" rather than the "Chinese envoy" that give his so much honor and respect. The Documentary Archives of the Kong Family preserved a large quantity of official documents with royal court and officials, as well as records of favors granted by feudal emperors to the offspring of Confucius, such as titles given to Confucius' descendents through inheritance, posts especially designated and reserved for Confucius' grandsons.

These documents keep a detailed record of life of Confucius lineal descendents, witness the vicissitudes of this noble family in a span of over 400 years, are valuable first hand material for studying this oldest noble family in China. They are also manifestation of Kong family's adherence to Confucius' thoughts of "self cultivation and loyalty, filial piety, rituals and faithfulness".

5.3 Third, world significance must be demonstrated in meeting one or more of the following criteria. Because significance is comparative, these criteria are best illustrated by checking them against items of documentary heritage already inscribed (for example) on the International Memory of the World Register:

Time: Is it especially evocative of its time (which may have been one of crisis, or significant social or cultural change; it may represent a new discovery or be the "first of its kind")

The documentary archives of the Kong Family are famous for their long time-span, large quantity, rich contents, are one of the most prominent private files of Chinese historical archives.

Few documents before the middle of Ming Dynasty are extant due to human or natural factors. In Ming and Qing dynasty, the documents increased when the "Sage Inheritor" was promoted to first grade official and consequently the family's contact with the royal family and government

Year	Name of documentary heritage	Page no.
2015	Archives of Confucius' Family of the Ming and Qing Dynasties	

officials became more frequently. The earliest extant files are of Ming Dynasty, which consist of 62 volumes, dating from 13th year of Jiajing Reign (1543) to 17th year of Chongzhen Reign (1644). The majority are the documents in Qing Dynasty, amounting to 6526 pieces from 1st year of Shunzhi Reign (1644) to 3rd year of Xuanton Reign (1911). The files of Republic of China are 2433 volumes in total. The files include records of royal court, sacrificial ceremony, inheritance of titles, clan affairs, temple and cemetery management, clansmen, homestead, rents and taxes, finance, law suits and miscellaneous affairs. The files reflect every aspects of the largest and most ancient family in China, and provide first-hand material for the study of politics, economy, ideology and patriarchal clan since 16th century. They are valuable, comprehensive documents and are of great value for the study of history.

Place: Does it contain crucial information about a locality important in the history of the region and its cultures? Or did the location have an important influence on the events or phenomena represented by the documentary heritage? Or is it descriptive of physical environments, cities or institutions since vanished?

As “to offer sacrifices and to wage wars, are state affairs of fundamental importance”, sacrifice to ancestors are predominant in the political and social life in Chinese history. Since Emperor Wu of Han “expelled all other schools and esteemed Confucianism as the primary”, Confucianism had been looked up as the official ideology in China for over 2000 years .The Temple of Confucius is the exclusive place for people to pay homage and offer sacrifice. The sacrificial ceremony tended to be grand and of extremely large scale. Ever since Kong Teng, Confucius' nine generation descendent, was conferred the title “Fengsijun”(an inheritable government post in charge of sacrificial rituals for Confucius), the scale of the sacrificial rituals run by his descendents had increased continuously. In a period of 1700 years, 12 emperors went in person to Qufu to pay tributes to Confucius, among them Emperor Qianlong came 8 times. Besides, for 196 times, envoys were dispatched by emperors to offer sacrifices to Confucius. All relevant records had been embodied in the archives, such as emperors' visits to Qufu, emperors and envoys offering sacrifices to Confucius, presenting of sacrificial vessels, inscript plaques, and ritual and music books.

The Temple of Confucius in Qufu is the original temple for making sacrifices to Confucius. First built in 478 BC, the temple has over 460 rooms of halls, pavilions, gates and archways, with nine rows of courtyards running from north to south. The temple has served as an example to follow for over 2000 Confucian temples across China, Korea, Japan, Vietnam, Indonesia, Singapore and United States, etc. The temple of Confucius in Qufu has been used for over 2400 years, hailed as the longest used temple, and one of most famous ancient architecture complex in China.

The Kong Family Mansion was the residence of Confucius' lineal descendants, adjacent to the Confucian Temple. The scale was small at the beginning; afterward the mansion was being renovated and extended from time to time. In 16th year of Hongzhi Reign of the Ming Dynasty (1503) imperial commissioner and financial minister Li Dongyang personally designed and supervised the renovation of the mansion. It was by then the layout of the mansion was settled. With offices in the front and residence in the back, now the mansion has more than 460 rooms, being next only to the Imperial Palace in Beijing. A lot of archives are concerned with the work of the offices and domestic life of the family.

It is because their close links to Confucius and his descendents that the Temple and Cemetery of Confucius and the Kong Family Mansion became the most direct embodiment of reverence of Confucius and Confucianism in the long history. The monuments were included by UNESCO in the World Heritage List in 1994.

People: Is it related to people in a social and cultural context that reflects significant aspects of human behaviour, or social, industrial, artistic or political development..It may reflect the important roles and impact of key or certain individuals or groups.

Confucianism is the core of Chinese civilization; its inner coherence is the reason why Chinese civilization lasted for three thousand years with any interruption. Confucianism also exerted influence to East Asia and Southeast Asia, forming a very characteristic “Confucian culture circle” . Confucius is not only one of representatives of Chinese nation, but also a world renowned cultural figure.

The western world still esteem highly of Confucius as a representative of ancient eastern

Year	Name of documentary heritage	Page no.
2015	Archives of Confucius' Family of the Ming and Qing Dynasties	

culture. Confucius ranks fifth in the “top 100 most influential figures in history” in a famous book written by Michael H Hart which was published in the United States. The Confucius statues began to appear in cities such as Washington, Berlin and Tokyo, Confucian Academies were built around the world and more Confucian classics are introduced into the west, this all shows a growing influence of sinology in the west.

Confucius was the founder of Confucianism, and was revered as the “exemplary teacher for all ages”. His offspring paid great attention to the inheritance and passing on of their ancestor’s ideology. They were proud as the descendents of Confucius and held dear to his teachings. Many famous officials or scholars rose from this aristocrat family. Statistically, over 620 books were written by some 240 Confucius’ descendents in the history, making great contribution to the Chinese ideology. The most illustrious descendents are philosopher Kong Ji, litterateur Kong Rong and Kong Shangren, Confucian scholar Kong Anguo, Kong Yingda, mathematician Kong Guansen, and calligrapher Kong Jisu etc.

Subject and theme: The subject matter may represent particular historical or intellectual developments in natural, social and human sciences, politics, ideology, sports and the arts.

The archives are famous for their long time-span, large quantity and rich contents. They are systematic and complete, consisting of official documents such as correspondence between the duke and the royal court and the government officials, newsletters from the capital and books of accounts; sacrificial activities to Confucius by emperors or by their high commissioners; inheritance affairs like the granting or inheriting of aristocratic titles; documents concerning the Kong clan, such as the compiling of pedigree, compiling of branch pedigree in different provinces, family rules and clan management etc. One important part of the archives --Pedigree of the Kong Clan, so to speak, is unparalleled in the world for its long history, large magnitude, rich contents and integral framework.

The files involve a variety of aspects of social life of the family, witness their rises and falls. The files reflect from other perspective the Chinese society from the 16th century, and also give a sense of Confucius’ theory. They are valuable and comprehensive archives for China as well as for the world.

Form and style: The item(s) may have outstanding aesthetic, stylistic or linguistic value, be a typical or key exemplar of a type or presentation, custom or medium, or of a disappeared or disappearing carrier or format.

Carrier of the archives is rice paper, an important embodiment of Chinese paper-making technology.

All files are written with writing brush in various script forms, including regular scripts, semi-cursive scripts, cursive scripts and etc. They are typical exemplar of traditional Chinese calligraphy.

The archives have various types, very typical for Ming and Qing dynasty documents, including official documents, private correspondences, family genealogy and pedigree, ritual system, eulogy to Confucius, documents of construction projects, book accounts of land tax, land licenses and permits, day-to-day accounts and even prescriptions. Take official documents for example, there are memorials to the throne, imperial edicts, consultation, official instructions, receipts, dispatch, notifications, documents submitted to the superiors and to the institutions at equal ranks, letter of assurance, testimonies, subpoenas and posts etc. A family archives with so many types and styles are very rare.

6 Other matters taken into account: rarity, integrity and threat

Rarity Does the content or physical nature of the documentary heritage make it a rare surviving example of its type or time?

All the documentary archives are manuscript. Since the layout of the Kong Family Mansion follows the ancient Chinese style of “front hall and inner bedroom”, apart from residence and three main office buildings, there are ten offices for the employees to handle general affairs of the

Year	Name of documentary heritage	Page no.
2015	Archives of Confucius' Family of the Ming and Qing Dynasties	

mansion, where a lot of documents are generated. As a result, the files in the mansion include not only official correspondences with the royal court and officials, but also private files relating to management and domestic life in the mansion. Combined with official and private files, this kind of documentary archives with such an integral system, rich contents, various styles, large amounts and long time span are very rare in Chinese and world archives history.

Integrity Within the natural physical limitations of carrier survival, is the documentary heritage complete or partial? Has it been altered or damaged?

Almost all archives survived the dynasty changes and social turbulences due to rigid management and government's unremitting support to Confucius and his descendants. Of all the extant files, 9025 volumes of them have been arranged, only 4 volumes concerning homestead and land leases are missing because of some historical reasons.

Threat Is its survival in danger? If it is secure, must vigilance be applied to maintain that security? Detail the nature and scope of threats.

All the archives are paper based. They are several hundred years old now, due to old age and other natural factors, the papers have been acidic and deteriorated, which calls for an urgent intervention.

The arranged files are now stored in the exclusive storage room in the Archives of Kong Family Mansion. All files are placed into camphorwood cabinets in chronological order. The storerooms are equipped with constant humidity and temperature air conditioning system. Relevant regulations have been formulated and professional caretakers and conservators have been employed for preservation.

Nature and scope of threats:

Though the storerooms are equipped with insect prevention, mould proof and fireproof measure, over time, some arranged files are aging, acidizing and embrittling. Some unarranged files are stained or crispy, or damaged by worms or mould in the history; a few of them are fragmentary, stuck together or badly deteriorated. They are in urgent need for preservation.

Attach a separate statement if space is insufficient!

7 Preservation and Access Management Plan

Is there a management plan in existence for this documentary heritage? Are there strategies to preserve and provide access to it?

YES

If yes, describe or attach a summary of the plan. If no, please provide details about current method of storage and custody of the materials.

Summary of management plan

1. to carry out urgent preservation and arrangement of those unarranged files which are decoloring, stuck together, damaged by mould, stain or worms.
2. to deacidify file papers in order to prolong their life expectancy;
3. to photocopy original archives as access copies,
4. to carry out systematic arrangement, establish full-text database

details about current method of storage and custody of the materials

The files that have been properly arranged are now stored in the Kong Family Archives. All files are placed into camphorwood cabinets with pest control in chronological order in the specific storerooms. The antique storerooms are equipped with 1301 gas extinguishers, round-the-clock video surveillance, far-infrared probes, far-infrared alarms, door magnetic alarms, quake alarms and smoke alarms. The temperature and humidity are constant. Emergency plan

Year	Name of documentary heritage	Page no.
2015	Archives of Confucius' Family of the Ming and Qing Dynasties	

and management plan have been prepared, and only trained conservators have access to the files. The safety of the archives is guaranteed.

8 Any other information

The application is guided by Chinese Committee of World Memory Project, and submitted by the custodian-- Qufu committee of cultural heritage, Shandong province, China.

9 Checklist

Nominees may find completing the following checklist useful before sending the nomination form to MOWCAP.

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | MOWCAP website reviewed |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Introduction read |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | summary completed (maximum 100 word) (section 1) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Nomination and contact details completed (section 2) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | If this is a joint nomination, section 2 appropriately modified |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Documentary heritage identified (sections 3.1 – 3.3) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | History/Origin/Background/Provenance completed (section 3.4) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Bibliography completed (section 3.5) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Names, qualifications and contact details of up to three independent people or organizations recorded (section 3.6) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Declaration signed and dated that all referees have given their written permission for their names to appear on the MOWCAP website (section 3.6) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Details of owner completed (section 4.1) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Details of custodian – if different from owner - completed (section 4.2) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Details of legal status completed (section 4.3) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Details of accessibility completed (section 4.4) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Details of copyright status completed (section 4.5) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Evidence presented of authenticity (section 5.1) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Evidence presented of world significance (section 5.2) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Evidence presented against one or more additional criteria (section 5.3) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Information presented on rarity, integrity and threat (section 6) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Summary of Preservation and Access Management Plan completed. If there is no formal Plan provide details about current and/or planned access, storage and custody arrangements (section 7) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Any other information provided - if applicable (section 8) |

Year	Name of documentary heritage	Page no.
2015	Archives of Confucius' Family of the Ming and Qing Dynasties	

-
- Sample photographs or VDO prepared for MOWCAP use (if required)
-
- Printed copy of Nomination Form made for organisation's records
-
- Electronic copy of Nomination Form made for MOWCAP use (if required)