MOWCAP

UNESCO Memory of the World
Regional Committee for Asia/Pacific

Nomination form
Asia/Pacific *Memory of the World* Register (revised 9 June 2015)

Office Use Only	
ID code:	Item or collection short title:
Institution / Owner:	Country or countries

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.

Completed nominations should be sent by email to MOWCAPinfo@gmail.com. The secretary-general will confirm receipt of nominations by email.

If you need to mail large files such as those for moving images then send to the following address:

MOWCAP Secretary General,
G.P.O Box 8374
Hong Kong

No material will 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 your submission for your records and in case we need to contact you.

Mr Li Minghua
Chair, MOWCAP

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.

'Merged Garahiin Oron or **Towards Attaining Wisdom** (in English)-Tibetan – Mongolian Dictionary of Terms and Definitions'. **Towards Attaining Wisdom** is the short title by which it is widely known for centuries since its creation in wooden print blocks in 1742 by group of best Mongolian Buddhist scholars and translators.Complete set of printing woodblocks of the Tibetan-Mongolian Dictionary of terms and definitions nominated herein were re-created in 1924with the purpose to recover original wooden print blocks completed in 1742but lostirrevocably in the course of history. It has been the most valuable medium that had contributed towards completion of the finest yet full translation of the Buddhist Canons Kangyur and Tengyur into Mongolian and compiled 16 principles of translation theory. Additionally, it is an invaluable source of continued in-depth study of classical Mongolian language and its evolutionary changes over time.

Moreover, **The Space for Attaining Wisdom** is the only extant copy of well preserved and yet completes set of wooden print blocks to illustrate best traditions of publishing by Mongolians, the country with rich history and traditions of writing and printing being a nomadic civilization since ancient times. The Government recognized it officially among the most precious historical heritages of the country for its invaluable cultural, religious, scholastic and linguistic importance written in the 18th century to reach our days.

2 Nominator

2.1 Name of nominator (person or organisation)
Ariyabal NANSALMAA
Gundegmaa JARGALSAIKHAN

2.2 Relationship to the nominated documentary heritage

Director of the the National Library of Mongolia
Chairperson of the Mongolian National Committee for Memory of the World Program

Secretary-General of the Mongolian National Commission for UNESCO

2.3 Contact person(s)
Gundegmaa JARGALSAIKHAN
Secretary-General of the Mongolian National Commission for UNESCO

Ariyabal NANSALMAA
Director of the National Library of Mongolia
Chairperson of the Mongolian National Committee for Memory of the World Program

2.4 Contact details

Name	Address
Gundegmaa JARGALSAIKHAN	UN house United Nation's street-14 Sukhbaatar district Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia
Abitmed NANSALMAA	*Address* Ulaanbaatar-210648, Chinggis Avenue-4 Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

Telephone	Facsimile	
JARGALSAIKHAN G: (976)-11-315652 (976)-99115749	(976)-11-315652	
NANSALMAA. A (976)-11-323100 (976)-98999397	(976)-11-323100	director@nationallibrary.mn

3.1 Title of documentary heritage item or collection

Printing woodblocks of the Mongolian – Tibetan Dictionary of Definitions and Terms entitled as The Space for Attaining Wisdom. (complete set of wooden printing blocks)

3.2 Catalogue or registration details

The Heritage was registered in the Most Precious Historical and Culture Memorables List by the Ordinance No.105, dated 2012, of the Government of Mongolia. It holds Certificate No.737 and registered under No.28 in the List of National Documentary Heritage. Included in the Volume II, The Best Collections of the Mongolian Museums, and catalogueing information with images were published in the catalogue "Golden Fund of Sutra Heritage".

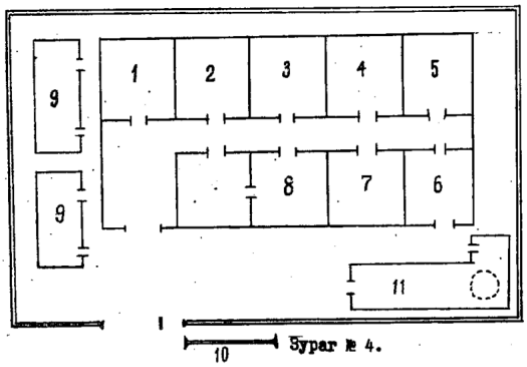
The original consists of 385 pieces of wooden blocks with dimensions of 54.7x7.4, comprising of 11 chapters in 766 folio sides. Print blocks with personal No. from 24/96-1 till 24/96-7 are displayed for the public in the Hall of Rare Books whereas majority of wooden blocks are kept in Collections of the Mongolian National Library /No. TF 732-1109/.

3.3 Photographs or a video of the documentary heritage At least three digital photographs of the documentary heritage should be provided to be used by MOWCAP for the purposes of promoting Memory of the World e.g. newsletters, website etc.

Printing woodblocks of the Mongolian – Tibetan Dictionary of Definitions and Terms entitled as The Space for Attaining Wisdom

Rare Photo of Ag's Temple at the early 20th century. Mr. TserenjavJamts presented it to the temple. During 1918-1922 a disciple at the temple with a surname of BodonguudBuryatJamtsTserendorj who escaped to Mongolia during oppression carried this photograph with himself. He instructed his son to return this photograph to the temple after his death. Recently during Buryat's "Altargana 2012" festival his son carried out his wish.

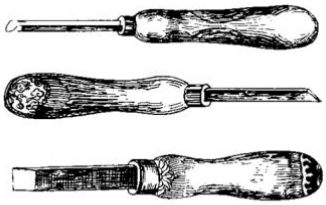
Figure No.3: Monasteries, temples and religious schools in Mongolia, where wooden print blocks were created for printing.



Зураг № 4.

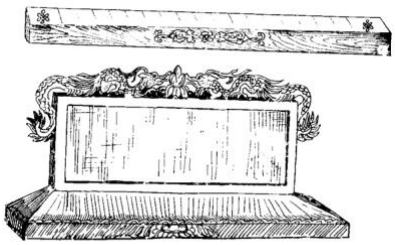
I. Барбон суудаг ерее
2. Номын барын ерее
3. Зургийн барын ерее
4. Сахиусны барын ерее
5. Багах хэрэгслийн ерее
6. Номын барын товъёг /зургийн барын товъёг сахиусны барын товъёг/
7. Барладаг ерее
8. Давтэрлэдэг ерее /баринта лаад ердег дашинга энд байжээ/
9. Холын барын агуулах
IO. Зар самбар
II. Пин /бэх хийх хее, авдаг, бар хийх мод энд чанадаг байжээ.

Figure: floor plan - LamiinGegeenten Temple in the early 20th century, figure showing a Floorplan of a typical wood block printing workshop.



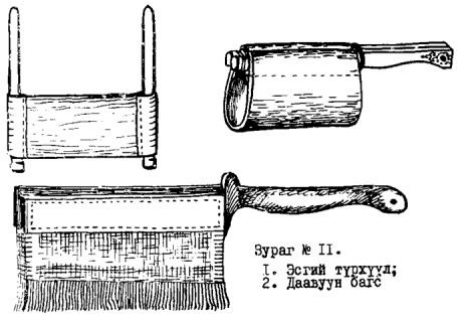
Зураг № 7, 8, 9.
I. Ухам; 2. Хишүү; 3. Цүүц;

Carving knife



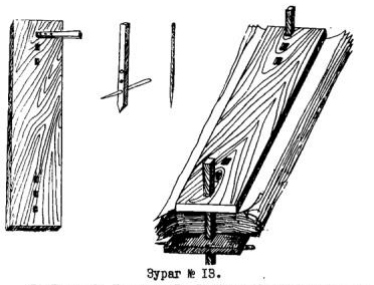
Зураг № IO. I. Мөрийн шугам; 2. Толь;

mirror



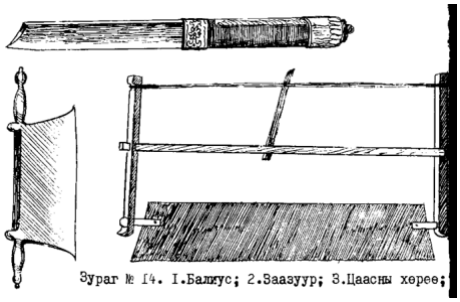
Зураг № II.
I. Эсгий түрхүүл;
2. Даавуун багс

Felt brush,cloth brush



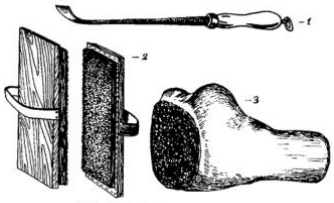
Зураг № I8.
I. Гуяа; 2. Шаантаг; 3. Сумба; 4.Сударсавсмагдсан нь;

Sutra cutting equipment

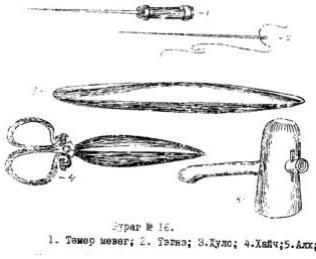


Зураг № I4. I.Балжус; 2.Заазуур; 3.Цаасны хөрөө;

Knife, cutter, paper saw

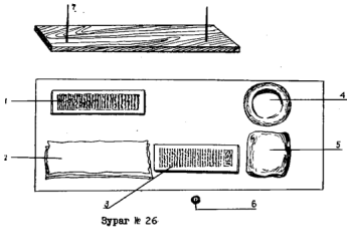


Зураг № I5. I. Хайруул; 2.Үрэвтэй; 3.Бүүр.



Зураг № I6.
I. Төмөр мөнгөг; 2. Тэвэг; 3.Дүлс; 4.Хайч;5.Алх;

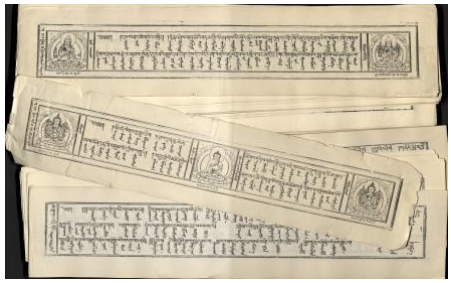
burning edge tool, grinding tool, edging bone tool large needle, bamboo, scissor,



Зураг № 26

I. Бар хавтас; 2. Цаас; 3. Хавтсаа хэвлэхээр
4. Бэх; 5. Жийз чүжүү; тавиад байгаа нь
6. Хэвлэгч; 7. Хэвтүүл;

Wooden board; 2. Paper; 3. Printing of book cover;
4. Ink; 5. Stone press: 6. Printer; 7. Needle



Printed sutra

3.4 History/Origin/Background/Provenance

These woodblocks were carved by initiation of the “Institute of Sutra Book and Chronicles” in 1924. This fact has proved by archive documents in the The National Archive Center of Mongolia. Currently, these woodblocks are preserved in the National Library of Mongolia in their full versions. In addition, Mongolians have been utilized European publishing methods for 100 years, and Mongolian traditional publishing methods refer to history of 1000 years. The woodblocks are representations of the last treasure which was done by the traditional method.

3.5 Bibliography

Resourcesavailable on the heritage nominated:

1. “Traditionally established thoughts of the Mongolian Philosophy – by Canonic resource known as Towards Attaining Wisdom” D.Dagvadorj 1994 UB
2. “Mongolian woodblock printing” Ts.Shuger 1991 UB
3. “Methods applied by Mongolians in printing books” Ts.Shuger 1976 UB
4. “Brief history of Mongolian printing industry” G.Havchuur 2007 UB

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

1 Ariyabal NANSALMAA	Director of the the National Library of Mongolia Chairperson of the Mongolian National Committee for Memory of the World Program	Ulaanbaatar-210648, Chinggis Avenue-4 Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia tbayarlakh@yahoo.com tell: 976-11323100
2 Terbish BAYARLAKH	Specialist of the National Library of Mongolia	Ulaanbaatar-210648, Chinggis Avenue-4 Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia tell: 976-11323100
3 Demid BYAMBASUREN	Officer of the Ministry of Education and Culture	Ulaanbaatar city, Sukhbaatar district Baga toiruu-44, Government building №3 Tell: 97699129353

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)

Tumur-ochir Tsogzolmaa

Date 30.10.2015

4 Legal information

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

Name	Address
National library of Mongolia	Ulaanbaatar-210648, Chinggis Avenue-4

Telephone	Facsimile	Email
976-11-323100	976-11-323100	Director@nationallibrary.mn

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

Name	Address
National library of Mongolia	Ulaanbaatar-210648, Chinggis Avenue-4

Telephone	Facsimile	Email
976-11-323100	976-11-323100	Director@nationallibrary.mn

4.3 Legal status

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

In accordance with Law of Mongolia on “Cultural Heritage”, the heritage herein is owned by Mongolian Government, and possessor is the Mongolian National Library. Detailed information and photos images of this heritage are registered in the Centralized Registration Database of National Registry.

4.4 Accessibility

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

This heritage was created with the purpose of public goodwill use and therefore is accessible for anyone given the need for ensuring basic human rights, however, due to constraints related with the preservation of the authentic single copy coupled with the status of the Most Valuable National Heritage, the conventional use and access is restricted. But paper copies and digital editions are available for free access.

Mongolians had adopted the most suitable to their living styles method of making printed texts and books through carving wooden print blocks. For centuries it had been clearly the most available form for spreading and disseminating knowledge. Printed texts and books had been usually wrapped in expensive silk cloth indicating strong symbol of respect among mongolians for knowledge. Certainly, this heritage carries with itself the sense of great pride for the level of workmanship skills and tecniques applied in carving unique pieces of text, calligraphy along with the art.

"Towards Attaining Wisdom" wooden print blocks of the Tibetan-Mongolian Dictionary is the last piece of work to reach modern Mongolians that had been created in accordance with traditions of creating wooden print blocks maintained throught centuries by mongolians as well as human kind at large and illustrates clearly the knowledge, skills and experiences related with it but lost, in Mongolia, because of dramatic historical and societal transformations at the onset fo XXth century. The printed out sutras from this wooden block have been popular in use by readers of many generations inspiring for their scholarly search and inquiries.

All access restrictions should be explicitly stated below:

4.5 Copyright status

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

In accordance with the "Law on Protection of Cultural Heritage", dated 8 June, 2001, this documentary heritage is owned by Mongolia and possessor is the National Library of Mongolia

5 Assessment against the selection criteria

Most importantly, finalization and common language streamlining of the terms and definitions from the Great Buddhist Canons in Tibetan as Kangyur and Tengyur into Mongolian by this dictionary in 1742 had provided great impetus towards completion

of revised and finest translation of Tibetan Canons later in 1749. Until modern days this dictionary has been highly acclaimed among Mongolians for provision of solid, yet proven-over-time and practical translation theories and in-depth guidelines. Surely, it will continue to serve also as a great source of innovative studies of religious thinking among Mongolians and their contribution in enriching of Buddhist religion and philosophy by Mongolians, in general.

Hence it has been a great source of reference for generation of Mongolian scholars, intellectuals in interacting with Tibetan Buddhism and vise versa, and also for general people as well in translating various sources from Tibetan across centuries. In fact, the translation of the Tibetan Canons began since 14th century, but the first complete translation of entire Kangyur and Tengyur was undertaken during ruling of the LigdenKhaan (1603-1634) under the lead of the famous Gungaa-Odser headed translators. However, the finest editions until these days still remain a translation completed in 1749, which wasstreamlined in terms of translation and Buddhist concepts by The Space for Attaining Wisdom, which print blocks were created in 1742. It is also has been a great source for scholars to study the classical and old Mongolian language over its long history of evolution and transformation.

Well preserved printing woodblocks of the Space for Attaining Wisdom are stored at the Central Public Library of Mongolia and comprises of 384 wooden print blocks in 766 folio sides with dimensions of 54.7x7.4sm each. The work was commissioned by the Institute of Sutra and Records (then time Academy of Sciences) of Mongolia in March, 1923 and completed in the middle of 1924 at the Agiin Temple Monastery in Buryatia.

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

This wooden blocks were created at the beginning of the XXth century by expenditure of substantial finances acknowledging significance of it with the clear intention to document and maintain traditional mongolian style and method of creating books and contribute towards enlightening of wider public that is now being stored at the Collection of the Mongolian National Library.

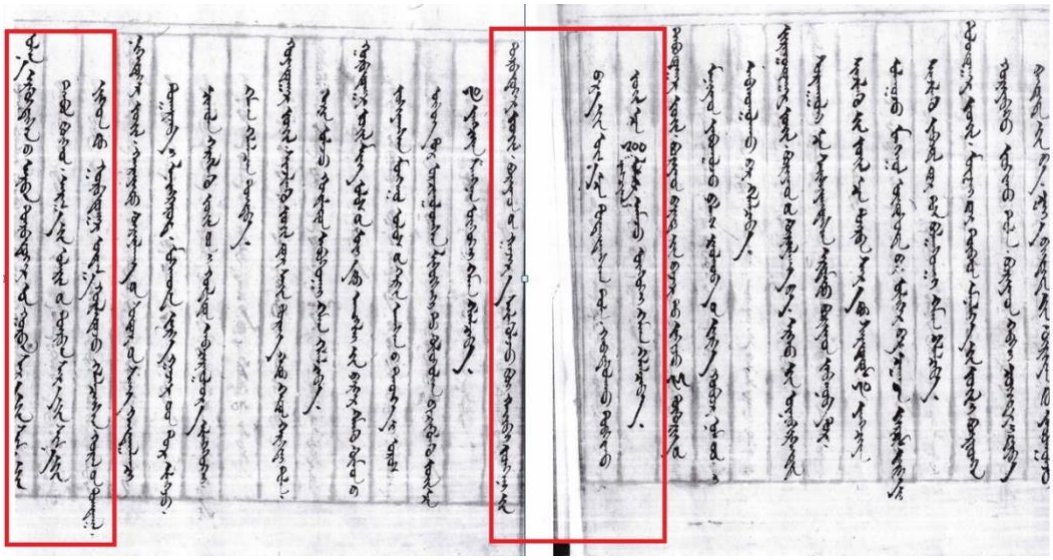
DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE No.1

13 March, 1923; National Central Archive of Mongolia - Х-23.Д-1.Хн-15.Х-4./

Item number three: Mr.Tseveen, officer in charge, had met buriads during his travel to the town of Chita who were skilled at carving wooden print blocks and discussed with them about avaibility of carving various texts. In their discussion he clarified about possibility of print block creators either to come to an area where a book is commissioned or send a book after its completion.

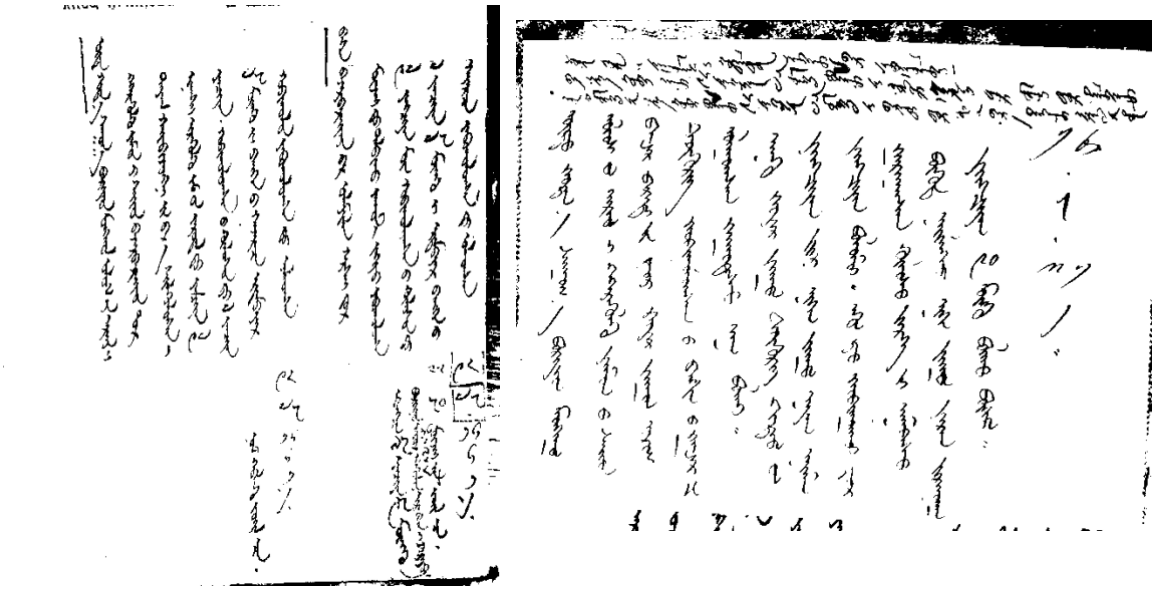
DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE No. 2

Ordinance from the Third meeting of the Institute of Sutra Documentation (Academy of Sciences) of Mongolia on 9th, April, 1924 /Archival No,:X-23-1-49/. Under item 4 on the agenda of the meeting that dealt with search, copying and translation of rare and important books domestically and internationally, it was decided to transfer 200 yanchaan (currency of that time period) due to the shortage of funds for the completion of the wooden blocks for “Towards Attaining Wisdom: Tibetan-Mongolian Dictionary of Terms and Definitions”.



DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE No. 3

Documentary evidence showing transfer of funds to transport completed wooden print blocks created for the “Towards Attaining Wisdom – Dictionary of Tibetan-Mongolian terms and definitions” in Ulaanbaatar in 1924.



5.2 Second criterion: <u>world significance.</u> 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?

Wooden print blocks exempilfy the progress achieved in producing of books and textual material, and on the other hand, this particular set of wooden blocks show how tools and instuments in carving blocks and printing texts were improving that make this heritage as the irreplacable documentary heritage of its kind. Wooden print blocks are one important integral part of the intellectual property created by human kind, including mongolians. This irreplaceable heritage is still the greatest source of oriental traditional thinking and knowledge practices and has had invaluable influence in enriching of mongolian intellectual thinking, science and culture.

"Towards Attaining Wisdom" is the first mongolian dictionary to provide concise content of the Greatest Buddhist Canons Kangyur and Tengyur, invaluable World and National heritage, thus becoming the first major scholarly and culture interaction media between oriental nations. It had laid solid foundation for in-depth and systemic study of Buddhist Canons, its five major domains and many prominent thinkers, scholars and monks have evolved producing important scholarly works in philosophy, medicine, astronomy, creative art etc. making it one of the important cultural heritages of our rich history.

The heritage had given important impetus towards in-depth study and consistent translation of Tangyur by establishing 16 principles to follow in its translation thus laying basics of mongolian translation theory for which it has been recognized and valued among mongolians and mongoliosts around the world.

Wooden print blocks are important documentary heritage that could last during long time of preservation and durable, and in case of avaibility of ink, a book can be easily reprinted.

In case if this heritage is destroyed, the information pertaining to making wooden blocks, its technology and techniques together with the possibility to study them will be lost.

The contribution of mongolians towards the broader culture, traditions and legacy pertaining to wooden print blocks, its developement over the course of history will be lost as well.

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")**

"Towards Attaining Wisdom" was commissioned by Institute of Sutra and Script and completed in 1924. These times were period when it marked very dramatic period of time juncture that led to complete overhaul of history in some countries. The King of KhalkhaBogdGegeen led group of patriotic noblemen and displaced Manchu led Qing dynasty or Manchurian ruling. Mongolia declared its independence on 29th of December 1911. Russia and China recognized Mongolia as autonomy under Chinese suzerainty. In 1919 Chinese military authority conquered Outer Mongolia ceasing its autonomy. Under this critical condition Mongolian revolutionaries freed their country from foreign invaders with the help of Russian Bolsheviks and established Mongolia's independence in 1921.

Many mongolian and foreign scholars agree that this is the invaluable documentary heritage that is extant until today illustrating culture, traditions and technology of publication existent prior to the adoption of the european print. It is also an important piece of history that was created at the critical juncture of old and new history of not only Mongolia but new modern era. Since its creation, the traditional technology and school of publication was overtaken by european printing technology.

This period overlaps with the period when in 20th century Mongolia achieved its highest literacy rate after when Mongolia declared its independence in Asiaon 29th of December 1911 and Mongolia's first publishing house printed its first leaflets. And after 13 years Mongolian Academy of Sutra and Script first initiated and commissioned creation of wooden print blocks of the "Towards Attaining Wisdom" Tibetan-Mongolian Dictionary of Terms and Definitions at Agiin Temple, Buryatia. Not only domestic but also international scholars have recognized this heritage as an invaluable source of scholarship and research. The treasure of national documentary legacy bears also great legacies of societal and cultural changes and development.

Though this documentary legacy nominated herein is not a discovery, looking back at the facts and figures of the past time it's been known that in 10th century Mongol aimags and in 13th century Mongolians started to print sutras using wooden print blocks. Scientists agree that this masterpiece herein is the proof of continual practicing of this cultural heritage until 20th century. Unfortunately these print blocks were the last extant heritage to be replaced by technologically advanced European printing technology.

Mongolian Government's Decree No.737, 2012, registered it as unparalleled cultural

and historical heritage of the country.

It consists of 11 chapters and 378 pieces, with dimensions of 54.7x7.4cm, Identity Codes from 24/96-1 till 24/96-7

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?**

"Towards Attaining Wisdom" is the only extant wooden print blocks of the first mongolian dictionary that was created in mid 18th century and compiled major content of the knowledge and scholarly disciplines evolved in oriental thinking.

It has been identified so far total of 762 places where wooden print blocks were created in Mongolia. Many major mongolian monasteries and temples were creating wooden print blocks during 13th-19th centuries.

Buddhist Canons Kangyur and Tengyur were among only three complete works of of Buddhist Canons and scholarship disciplines culminating heights of oriental thinking and therefore, it was an important sign for countries intellectual and cultural development. Selected mongolian buddhist scholars and monks were commissioned by the King of Mongolia to produce first Tibetan-Mongolian dictionary in 1742 in wooden print plates. Unfortunately, the first wooden print blocks were destroyed irrecoverably. Therefore, then time Institute of Sutra and Records of Mongolia had commissioned this work to be completed at the Agiin Temple in Buryatia that is now an invalauble historical, cultural and scholarly heritage only extant in Mongolia.

The reason it was re-created in 1924 was the important fact on how mongolian intellectuals, people and authorities had been prioritizing protection and preservation of cultural and historical heritage. This particular heritage is invalauble since it is serving today as the important medium to provide us with the enormous amount of information in linguistics, translation theory, traditional philosophy and medicine etc.

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.**

The times when printing plates for "Towards Attaining of Wisdom" were created was really critical period for the further social and political development of the country and the entire world. For instance:

At the beginning of the 20th century, Mongolian Khalkha khans and noblemen led by Bodgo Khan overthrew Manchu Qing Dynasty ruling and declared Bogd Khan led Mongolian State on 29th December, 1911. However, under the pressure from Tsarist

Russia and China by Khiagt Treaty Mongolia became an autonomy under China in 1915. And Chinese Gomindan Military led Government occupied Mongolia abolishing autonomy. Under these difficult and dramatic conditions Mongolian revolutionaires freed their country from foreign invaders and declared its independence. And later, on 26th of November, 1924 the country had adopted its First Constitution by announcing its intention to undertake socialist path of development. These were the critical times of revolutionary changes and ideological confrontations.

This is an important documentary heritage that was created at the junction of the old and new historical periods of the Mongolian society. Since the times of creation of these wooden print blocks the traditions of creating wooden print plates and printing based on it had been fully lost due to the establishment of the modern european technology based printhouses.

However, these wooden print blocks remain as the only extant yet great example of traditional culture and publication to reach us in full set reminding us about times of complete overhaul of the old system by the new socialist system, that had neglected totally traditions and heritage through its socialist propaganda with distorted, abnormal values.

Mongolians have been printing books using wooden print blocks until 30's of the last century and this heritage is the only extant yet full copy of the book created by wooden block printing that has historical records of existence already by 10th century.

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.**

Many mongolian monasteries and temples had their own wooden block print schools. The wooden print blocks clearly indicate that those schools used to train their own print block carvers and writers.

Carvers were trained in selection of proper wood material, prepartion of wooden blocks, making tools and utensils for carving letters and art etc. Wooden print schools used to hire persons with good knowledge of language grammar, style and expression.

Wooden print blocks tell us a lot in regards to these schools where their students were taught well principles and traditions of making sutras and books along with preparation of all necessary materials (wood, paper, ink, paints, glue and tools) and making of creative and personally tailored tools and utensils and creative art. Not many print blocks have reached us today which carry in them great deal of information about thinking and language, traditions and technigue in traditional publishing, culture and creative art.

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.**

The wooden blocks for this dictionary were created by leading scholars of that time when classical mongolian writing language was well established since it had followed proper grammar rules and writing styles. The translation followed clearly principles of complete reflection and mirrowing of the meaning and content along with the very precise and literary linguistic forms and style setting high standards for future translators and writers.

Extensive discussions, disputes and exchange of views had taken place to match the meaning in tranlsation and simple language to deliver complex ideas and thoughts were used precisely

Hence, brilliant findings and scholarly wisdom of orient that has reached Mongolians had resulted greatly in the progress of national philosophical thinking and development of scholarly disciplines and culture.

It is clearly shown by the works of mongolian scholars and prominent monks who have consistently and systematically used terminologies and definitions from it and praised and promoted its use in translation and scholarly work.

Therefore, “Towards Attaining Wisdom” should not be treated as the only work of tranlsation of terms and definitions, since it had served as the reliable bridge in reaching the hidden jewels of oriental philosophy and wisdom encouraging greater interest in study of Kangyur and Tengyur and becoming a fertile soil for more in-depth ideas and concepts to evolve to enrich our national wisdom and creativity.

These wooden blocks have been attracting great interest among domestic and foreigh scholars since it had facilitated and led towards finest and very systemic translation of the Kangyur and Tengyur.

Mongolian value and cherish “Towards Attaining Wisdom” as being the most scholarly comprehensive yet professionally written dictionary of buddhist science terms and definitions written in 18th century.

It had resulted in very logic and systemic structuring of the study and research of Kangyur and Tengyur and promoted more in-depth and comprehensive study of buddhist knowledge and scholarly system.

This heritage had been serving as the most trusted and reliable source to bridge mongolian readers with the oriental culture, traditions and thinking, in overall enlightening and enriching of its people.

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?**

Wooden print blocks of the dictionary of terms and definitions nominated herein is preserved in complete set and in itself is the re-creation of the wooden print plates created back in 1742, and is the best example of publishing and printing technology and traditions of that period.

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

This heritage is the only complete set of wooden print blocks still extant since its creation in 1924. Comprises of 385 blocks 766 folio sides in 11 chapters with dimensions of 54.7x7.4.

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.**

- Potential risks associated with the interior and exterior environments (electrical, air pollution etc.) of the facility where the heritage is being stored;
- Physical conditions for preservation and storage of the heritage, including method and form of storage, quality of packaging material etc. and non-dedicated storage facility;
- Insufficient budget allocations for preservation and storage.

Attach a separate statement if space is insufficient!

Personal identification numbers: Library of rare and special collection includes 7 pieces /24/96-1 24/96-2 24/96-3 24/96-4 24/96-5 24/96-6 24/96-7/, Library of rare Tibetan collection includes pieces from 732 till1109, overall 378 pieces.

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 NO

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.

There is no management plan for preservation of this documentary heritage. Current environment and conditions for the heritage under lack of required service practices, equipment, tools and funds required:

Wooden print blocks of "Towards Attaining Wisdom" being kept at the National Library of Mongolia, have no specially-dedicated and secure shelves, but stored in order of their block numbers on metal shelves under exceeding dust level conditions. The poor ambient conditions could cause for the wooden blocks to crack, and there is a risk related with edges to crack, blocks to suffer fragmentation during the handling and moving. The ambient conditions in collection storage room should be studied further to identify physical, chemical and other characteristics that could be potentially affected during the long period. At the moment, ambient temperature, humiditiy levels are constantly contolled along with regular cleaning and humidification measures. Camera surveilance is also being installed.

8 Any other information

Please provide any other information that supports the inclusion of this item(s) / collection on the Asia/Pacific *Memory of the World* Register.

Attach a separate statement if space insufficient.

The National Commission for UNESCO, Mongolian National Committee on World Heritage Register and the National Library of Mongolia had convened in a joint meeting in May, 2014 with the purpose of promoting research and preservation of National Heritages had decided to include this work in the Nomination List of National Documentary Heritage. It holds the status as the Most Valuable Documentary Heritage of Mongolia. Givent its status of an only extant authentic copy of the first mongolian dictionary, its irreplacability and uniqueness in origin, it has been decided to nominate this heritage in the Asia-Pacific World Regional Record Registry.

The selection of the heritage nominated herein for the Asia-Pasific Regional Register shall undoubtedly result in in its broader research and study leading to more publications and works that will promote both the heritage and World Register Program not only in Mongolia but around the world as well.

9 Checklist

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

☐	MOWCAP website reviewed
☐	Introduction read
☐	summary completed (maximum100 word) (section 1)
☐	Nomination and contact details completed (section 2)
☐	If this is a joint nomination, section 2 appropriately modified
☐	Documentary heritage identified (sections 3.1 –3.3)
☐	History/Origin/Background/Provenance completed (section 3.4)
☐	Bibliography completed (section 3.5)
☐	Names, qualifications and contact details of up to three independent people or organizations recorded (section 3.6)
☐	Declaration signed and dated that all referees have given their written permission for their names to appear on the MOWCAP website (section 3.6)
☐	Details of owner completed (section 4.1)
☐	Details of custodian –if different from owner - completed (section 4.2)
☐	Details of legal status completed (section 4.3)
☐	Details of accessibility completed (section 4.4)
☐	Details of copyright status completed (section 4.5)
☐	Evidence presented of authenticity (section 5.1)
☐	Evidence presented of world significance (section 5.2)
☐	Evidence presented against one or more additional criteria (section 5.3)

☐	Information presented on rarity, integrity and threat (section 6)
☐	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)
☐	Any other information provided - if applicable (section 8)
☐	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)