

Annual Report of the National Committee for MOW of Vietnam

1. Name of the National Committee of MOW:

National Committee for MOW of Vietnam

2. Namelist of the Committee:

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4. Structure of the Committee and any subsidiary bodies:

The National Committee for MOW of Vietnam is now in the phrase of restructuring. At this time, the National Commission for UNESCO of Vietnam is taking the role of the National Committee of MOW of Vietnam.

5. Statutes and the Terms of Reference of the Committee:

The National Committee for MOW of Vietnam is now in the phrase of restructuring.

6. Fundamental resources for year 2016-2017:

The resources for the National Committee for MOW of Vietnam is based on the resources of each institute/family holding the document heritages (six intotal) in Vietnam such as The *Centre for Scientific and Cultural Activities of Văn Miếu – Quốc Tử Giám* (in charge of Stone Stele Records of Royal Examinations of the Le and Mac Dynasties); Museum of Bac Giang Province (in charge of Woodblock at Vinh Nghiem Pagoda, Bac Giang Province); The State Records and Archives Department of Vietnam (in charge of Royal woodblocks of the Nguyen Dynasty and Imperial Archives of the Nguyen Dynasty); The family Nguyen Huy (in charge of Phuc Giang School Woodblocks) and Hue Monuments conservation Center (in charge of the Royal Literature on Hue Royal Architecture).

7. Activities and achievements for years 2016-2017:

** Preservation activities for the documentary heritages:*

- Making inventory, science classifications of documentary heritages (all MOW and MOWCAP documentary heritages of Vietnam)
- Printing using the traditional method of documentary heritages (all the woodblocks of MOW and MOWCAP documentary heritages of Vietnam);
- Researching for identifying the causes of the woodblocks' defects, to set the basis on which we could develop the countermeasures and create the ideal environmental condition to preserve Royal woodblocks of the Nguyen Dynasty in the National Archives Center IV of Vietnam;
- Removing ink remains and dusts to enhance the quality of the woodblocks, researching for solutions to to restrain the bendiness, cracks and warp of the woodblocks in the National Archives Center IV of Vietnam
- Translating from Chinese into Vietnamese and partly into English of all the MOW and MOWCAP documentary heritages in Vietnam;
- Publishing books about documentary heritages in Vietnam (2 books about the woodblock of Vinh Nghiem Pagoda; 03 books about the Woodblocks of the Phuc Giang School; 02 books about the Imperial Archives of the Nguyen Dynasty...);

- Restoration of bad damaged parts of the Imperial Archives of the Nguyen Dynasty in cooperation with the Japanese experts;

- Making copies of the documentary heritages (Imperial Archives of the Nguyen Dynasty, Woodblocks of Phuc Giang School...) for exhibition, displaying.

** Promoting and raising awareness activities:*

- Organizing guided tours, study tours for tourists as well as students and researchers to the six documentary heritages;

- Organizing an international Symposium on “Preservation of woodblocks in Asia: Sharing experiences” (Da Lat, 10-12/11/2017);

- Organizing study tours for experts, professors to the six MOW and MOWCAP documentary heritages in Vietnam;

- Organizing many exhibitions about six MOW and MOWCAP documentary heritages in Vietnam; (“Archives of the Emperor on the compilation of the history of the Nguyen Dynasty”; “The system of state administrative documents in the Imperial Archives of Nguyen Dynasty”; “Values from memory of the Nguyen Dynasty's Documentary Heritage”; “Names and capitals of Vietnam through the periods”, “Records of the Nguyen Dynasty in the Imperial Archives – UNESCO Memory of the World in Asia – Pacific”...

- Producing films and video clips introducing special things of the Royal woodblocks of the Nguyen Dynasty both in contents and shapes;

- Creating Fanpage of the National Archives Center IV of Vietnam to promoting the values of Royal woodblocks of the Nguyen Dynasty to public;

- Establishing a website for the Imperial Archives of Nguyen Dynasty.

** Other activities:*

- Construction and putting to use a building for the exhibition of “Imperial Archives of Nguyen Dynasty space” (December 2017);

- Establishing an Exhibition building for preserving of the Woodblocks of the Vinh Nghiem Pagoda;

- Compiling and publishing books such as “Sigillography on Imperial Archives of the Nguyen Dynasty”, “Imperial autograph on the Imperial Archives of the Nguyen Dynasty”; “National management document through Imperial Archives of the Nguyen Dynasty” “National historiographer's office of the Nguyen Dynasty and the compyling history written by the Imperial court through the Imperial Archives of the Nguyen Dynasty”, “Seal system in the Imperial Archives of Nguyen Dynasty”, “Autographs of the Nguyen Dynasty's Emperors”...

- Cooperating with TV stations to produce documentaries on Imperial Archives of Nguyen Dynasty to broadcast on many cultural, science broadcasting programs such as Culture story, Vietnam Discovery VTV1; Social Knowledge VTV2, VTV4, Vietnam News Agency, VOV, HTV7, HTV9...

- Writing promoting and introducing articles about Imperial Archives of Nguyen Dynasty in newspapers, magazines, websites, national and international conferences

- Exhibition on the Woodblocks of Phuc Giang School at Van Mieu-Quoc Tu Giam in May 2017.

- Exhibition on the Nguyen Dynasty' Documentary Heritages, including woodblocks, Imperial records and Royal Literature on Hue Royal Architecture (1802-1945) at Van Mieu – Quoc Tu Giam September 2017.

** Scientific promoting:*

- Organizing an international Symposium on “Preservation of woodblocks in Asia: Sharing experiences” (Da Lat, 10-12/11/2017);

- Research project of Ha Tinh Province about “the Envoyship to the Great China”;

- Organizing study visit of the expert to the documentary heritages of Vietnam

** Contributions to the international and regional MOW program.*

- Organizing an international Symposium on “Preservation of woodblocks in Asia: Sharing experiences” (Da Lat, 10-12/11/2017);

- Providing 3 images with high resolution about six documentary heritages to the UNESCO office in Bangkok for publishing the book about the Documentary Heritages of MOWCAP.

** Preparing and defending nomination to MOW, MOWCAP lists.*

- Successful preparing nomination of Imperial Archives of Nguyen Dynasty to be inscribed into the MOW list (2017)

- Preparing for the MOWCAP nomination of the Envoyship to the great China (2018)

8. Any National Register of MOW:

Vietnam has 6 MOW and MOWCAP registers including:

MOW register:

1. Royal woodblocks of the Nguyen Dynasty (MOW 2009)
2. Stone Stele Records of Royal Examinations of the Le and Mac Dynasties (1442-1779) (MOW 2011)
3. Imperial Archives of Nguyen Dynasty (1802-1945) (MOW 2017)

MOWCAP register:

1. Stone Stele Records of Royal Examinations of the Le and Mac Dynasties 1442-1779 (2010)
2. Woodblocks at Vinh Nghiem Pagoda, Bac Giang Province (2012)
3. Imperial Records of Nguyen Dynasty (1802 – 1945) (2014)
4. Phuc Giang School Woodblocks (18th-20th Centuries) (2016)

5. Royal Literature on Hue Royal Architecture (1802-1945) (2016)

List of National treasures

Upto now, Vietnam does not have any National register of MOW, but, after 6 nomination phrases, Vietnam owns a list of 142 national treasures including 33 documentary heritages.

9. Working plan for year 2018-2019:

- Restructuring the National Committee of MOW of Vietnam;
- Organizing an exhibition area for “Imperial Archives of Nguyen Dynasty space” to an professional exhibition for the public;
- Organizing exhibition “Former Vietnamese education and examinations from Documentary Heritage of the World” at Van Mieu – Quoc Tu Giam from March to April 2018 (*introducing 3 MOW heritages of Vietnam: 82 Stone steles Records of of royal examinations of Le and Mac Dynasties at Van Mieu – Quoc Tu Giam, Royal Woodblocks of the Nguyen Dynasty and Imperial Records of the Nguyen Dynasty*);
- Organizing exhibition “The national names and imperial capitals of Vietnam in the history through Royal Woodblocks of the Nguyen Dynasty” at the Hall of the National Assembly of Vietnam in May, 2018;
- Searching for cooperations in organizing exhibitions abroad for the documentary heritages of Vietnam (China, France, Italia...);
- Making 1:1 copies for the Imperial Archives of Nguyen Dynasty and the Woodblocks of Phuc Giang School for exhibition purpose;
- Identifying all types of woods which were used to carve Royal Woodblocks of Nguyen Dynasty;
- Initializing to digitalize 50 samples of Royal woodblocks of the Nguyen Dynasty in 3D format;

- Translating (summary of the Imperial Archives of Nguyen Dynasty and whole book of the new nomination of the Envoyship to the great China) into English;
- Publishing informations about six documentary heritages on the internet for international readers;
- Publishing books in many languages about the Vietnamese documentary heritages;
- Making further promotion activities of Documentary heritages on national and international level through exhibitions, workshop, conference, seminar, publishing books, making documentary films, using social media, social platform, and social sites for broadcasting informations about documentary heritages...

10. Challenges and issues:

- Lacking of an united guideline of organisation, model and mechanic for concrete activities;
- Limited budget for the activities;
- Limited opportunities for approaching to and learning experiences of the international documentary heritages managing institutions.

11. Any news or suggestions for the next issue of MOWCAP newsletter:

- Strengthening the promotion activities for the MOW and MOWCAP documentary heritages through recalling the documentary heritages owning institution writing English articles with images;
- Attaching special importance in specific characteristic and traditional culture of each country in research activities about preserving and approaching the documentary heritages;
- Providing further Informations to member states owning documentary heritages about the regulations in preserving documentary heritages, especially in digital forms;

12. What actions have been taken to implement the UNESCO Recommendation on Documentay Heritage?

- Translating and publishing the UNESCO Recommendation on Documentary Heritage into Vietnamese;
- Organising training courses in 2018-2019 about the UNESCO Recommendation on Documentary Heritage with the help of MOW and MOWCAP experts.