

Journal of the Chinese Library Association and Modern Chinese Library Cause

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Journal of the Chinese Library Association is an agency publication of the Chinese Library Association. Its purpose is to promote the exchange of library science, the popularization of library science knowledge, and the development of library undertakings. The journal has numerous columns, rich content, long publication time and wide distribution, laying an important foundation for the innovation, transformation and development of modern library cause.

Keywords: *Journal of the Chinese Library Association*, Chinese Library Association, Library Business

On June 30, 1925, *Journal of the Chinese Library Association*, the official publication of the Chinese Library Association, was officially launched. As a professional academic group of modern Chinese libraries, the China Library Association has a large number of library science experts. Correspondingly, *Journal of the Chinese Library Association* not only has numerous columns, rich content, long publication time and wide distribution, which has deeply promoted the development of modern Chinese library industry, but also brought together a large number of library science professionals to publish A large number of papers related to library science research. This has effectively promoted the innovation, transformation and development of modern Chinese libraries.

Introduction to *Journal of the Chinese Library Association*

On April 25, 1925, the China Library Association, a professional academic organization of modern Chinese libraries, held an inaugural meeting in Shanghai. On June 2, the Chinese Library Association held an inauguration ceremony in Beijing. On the 30th, *Journal of the Chinese Library Association*, the official publication of the Chinese Library Association, was officially launched. As a national library professional association, the Chinese Library Association aims to promote academic research in libraries, promote the development of library cause, and strengthen exchanges and cooperation in the library community. Based on this purpose, *Journal of the Chinese Library Association* has been based on the fundamental purpose of spreading the news of the National Library Association or the local library associations and promoting the communication and contact of the national library academia since its establishment.

Journal of the Chinese Library Association started publication on June 30, 1925 and ceased publication in May 1948. During this period, it has been published bimonthly, with 21 volumes and 102 issues in total. During the War of Resistance Against Japan, many libraries across the country were hit by wars, and the library business suffered heavy losses. The daily work of the Chinese Library Association was also seriously affected. In this context, *Journal of the Chinese Library Association* ceased publication from July 1937 to June 1938. The journal was not able to resume publication until the association moved to Kunming, Yunnan Province. Despite the turbulent times in modern China, the editorial department of the *Journal of the Chinese Library Association* faced huge challenges in terms of funding, manpower, and material resources, but it still overcame various difficulties and persisted in editing and publishing, which became a library professional journal with the longest publication time and the widest range in modern China (Ma, 2015, p. 79).

Judging from the columns and content of *Journal of the Chinese Library Association*, the journal exhibits the characteristics of numerous columns and rich content. Among them, the *Journal of the Chinese Library Association* column is divided into library research, library circles, new book introduction, and advertisement. The library research section introduced the research situation of library science, philology and bibliography all over the country. The library section mainly introduced the development of domestic and foreign libraries, including the establishment of new libraries at home and abroad, exchange activities between Chinese and foreign libraries, and the release of new library policies and regulations. The new book introduction column mainly introduced newly published books on library science, history, philology, bibliography, and publishes news, book reviews, correspondence, etc. The advertisement column mainly published publication advertisements, institutional advertisements and other types of advertisements. According to statistics, under the purpose of promoting culture and serving the society, the magazine has 476 advertisements, which has effectively promoted the information between library institutions and publishing institutions in various regions. Transmission, cultural dissemination and data preservation demonstrate the important position and role of *Journal of the Chinese Library Association* in the development history of modern Chinese library science.

The author group of *Journal of the Chinese Library Association* brings together important figures in modern Chinese library science, including Yuan Tongli, curator of the National Peking Library; Shen Zurong, director of the Preparatory Office of the National Central Library; Liu Guojun, editor-in-chief of *Library Science Quarterly*; and Du Dingyou, Li Xiaoyuan, Dai Zhiqian, Hu Yisheng, etc. All of the above-mentioned people hold important positions in the Chinese Library Association and have made important contributions to the development of the Chinese Library Association and even the Chinese library cause. With the help of the strong lineup of the Chinese Library Association, *Journal of the Chinese Library Association* aimed to become an academic and news publication, and published a large number of research papers on library science, which strongly promoted the development of library disciplines.

Journal of Chinese Library Association and the Development of Library Science

Journal of the Chinese Library Association published a large number of research papers on library science, published many documents related to library science research, and conducted a comprehensive report on the development of modern library cause. This has strongly promoted the development of modern library science, which highlights the important influence of *Journal of the Chinese Library Association* on library science.

As early as June 2, 1925, when the China Library Association held its inauguration ceremony in Beijing, Liang Qichao, a famous modern Chinese thinker, stated in a conference speech that the purpose of the establishment of the association was to strengthen exchanges and cooperation between Chinese and foreign libraries and to promote the development of the library industry. It is worth noting that in his speech that day, Liang Qichao declared that another important purpose of the meeting was to welcome the visit of American library science expert Dr. Bostwick to China. Dr. Bostwick's experience in the development, construction, and management of public libraries in the United States aroused widespread interest among the participants. In his speech, Liang Qichao publicly declared that since the principles of library science are universal in the world, we should use the principles of modern library science to organize Chinese books, and extensively organize experts to carry out research to promote the formation of Chinese library science, and then build library science into an independent subject. (Liang, 1999, p. 4321).

After the official publication of *Journal of the Chinese Library Association*, on the one hand, the journal published a large number of academic papers on library science, including Kong Minzhong's *Chinese Library Academic Writing Retrieval*, Jiang Jinghuan's *Library Mission and Its Implementation*, etc. These academic papers not only provides important references for the study of library science, but also in a sense enables the library science community to inherit and carry forward the traditional Chinese bibliography and philology, thereby promoting the construction of library science. On the other hand, the journal published a large number of articles on library science theory and library management experience, such as Kong Minzhong's *Chinese Library Science*, Du Dingyou's *Public Library Problems*, Xu Xu's *Public Library Book Classification*. These academic papers were highly academic and practical, and had important theoretical guiding significance for the classification and management of libraries, as well as the planning and development of library undertakings. At the same time, the broad masses of library scholars use the platform of *Journal of the Chinese Library Association* to conduct in-depth discussions and exchanges on some important issues of library science, forming a large number of research works on library science, which is a powerful promotion the development of modern Chinese library science.

Take Shen Xuezhi, a member of the Chinese Library Association and a famous modern Chinese librarian, as an example. In 1928, he wrote the book *ABC of Library Science* during his tenure as the director of the library of Fudan University. The book is published by the World Book Company. In the book, Shen Xuezhi made a preliminary discussion on the organization and duties of the library, the selection and purchase of books, the classification and cataloging of books, the education of the library, library science and library business, etc. As a result, Shen Xuezhi became a pioneer in promoting the development of modern Chinese library science.

Based on his unique knowledge of library science and library management experience, Shen Xuezhi applied knowledge of library management, library science education, book classification, library theory and other aspects to library construction practice, which had a wider social impact.

In 1931, *Journal of the Chinese Library Association* made a special report on his important contribution to library science, saying that library science professionals represented by Shen Xuezhi played an important role in promoting the development of Chinese library science. Based on the driving effect of important contribution and status in China's library industry, Shen Xuezhi was elected as a supervisor of the Chinese Library Association in 1944. (Shen, 1928, p. 3).

Journal of the Chinese Library Association and the Promotion of the Library Cause

As the three major library science journals in modern China, *Journal of the Chinese Library Association* not only provided an important platform for communication among library professionals across the country, but also preserved a large amount of historical materials with libraries and promoted the construction of library science. This journal extensively reported on the situation of the Chinese library industry, promoted the exchanges and cooperation of library scholars, strongly enhanced the cohesion of the library science community, and made the Chinese Library Association a leading force in the modern Chinese library industry, thereby promoted the innovation and development of the library industry.

First of all, in terms of enhancing the cohesion of the library science community, *Journal of the Chinese Library Association* leveraged the group strength of the Chinese Library Association to strengthen the exchange and cooperation of library personnel. The journal has carried out extensive reports and publicity on library construction, library activities, library seminars, which makes the journal an important platform for conveying the news of the national library community.

The above-mentioned measures have provided library practitioners and researchers in various regions with timely, comprehensive and accurate information, enhanced the industry identity, self-confidence and cohesion of library scholars. At the same time, these measures have stimulated the enthusiasm of people from all walks of life in the library industry and the recognition of library practitioners, which will help promote the overall development of the library industry.

Secondly, in terms of protecting the legitimate rights and interests of library practitioners and promoting the development of library undertakings, *Journal of the Chinese Library Association* relied on the Chinese Library Association to exert its leadership and influence in the national library cause.

On the one hand, through the development of the membership of the Chinese Library Association, *Journal of the Chinese Library Association* has widely attracted library practitioners, researchers, and enthusiasts from all over the country to join the association, so as to expand the strength of the association and expand the author group of the publication.

On the other hand, with the help of the organization function of the Chinese Library Association, *Journal of the Chinese Library Association* strived for the legitimate rights and interests of library practitioners in the industry, including complaints to relevant authorities, opposition to postage increases for printed materials, tax exemption for books and literature, and strengthening of government funding for the library industry. These measures have provided an important guarantee for promoting the development of library undertakings.

Finally, *Journal of the Chinese Library Association* not only strengthened the communication and cooperation among domestic library scholars, but also promoted the exchanges between Chinese and foreign library scholars, and enhanced mutual understanding. It can be said that *Journal of the Chinese Library Association* played an important role in promoting the exchange and cooperation between domestic and foreign library professionals, thus effectively promoting the development of modern Chinese library cause.

Conclusion

Modern China was in a major historical transition period, especially before and after the New Deal. China's knowledge and institutional systems were completely separated. Previously, it was a set of systems that lasted roughly for more than a thousand years (Sang, 2004, p. 29). Since then, it has been a set of systems, which has been continuously adjusted to this day after gradual changes. Undoubtedly, with the fundamental changes in modern Chinese knowledge and systems, people's thinking and actions were often in a period of major changes.

As far as the development of Chinese library industry was concerned, it has also experienced a historical process of generation, development and evolution in the long years of modern times. In this process, *Journal of the Chinese Library Association* has become an important factor to witness and promote this and historical process. *Journal of the Chinese Library Association* was an agency publication of the Chinese Library Association. Its purpose was to promote the exchange of library science, the popularization of library science knowledge, and the development of library undertakings. The journal has numerous columns, rich content, long publication time and wide distribution, laying an important foundation for the innovation, transformation and development of modern library cause.

What needs to be pointed out was that although the development of modern Chinese library undertakings has undergone a historical process of generation, development and evolution, behind this seemingly inherently logical historical evolution context, it contains complex and rich historical connotations.

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