

Cooperation Between Mongolian and Korean Archives

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[국문초록]

몽골과 한국의 기록관리협력

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2002년 한국의 국가기록원과 몽골국가기록원 간에 협력협정이 체결된 후 10년간 수많은 협력활동이 있었다. 다수 몽골국가기록원 직원이 한국에서 직무연수를 받았으며 2006년과 2007년에 한국국가기록원, UNESCO 등과 공동으로 기록유산보존을 위한 기술적 협력활동이 수행되었다. 이 학술회의에서는 한국의 기록물의 물리적 보존 기술이 소개되었다. 또한 몽골국가기록원 소장 한국관련 기록의 번역 사업이 추진되었다. 2008년에는 새로운 국

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가기록보존서고를 건축하는데 필요한 전반적인 자문을 받았다. 2010년 이후에도 한국-몽골 간에 기록전문가 훈련 파견 및 교류 활동이 지속되었다. 몽골정부는 서고 신축에 이어 현대적인 정보 기술에 의한 기록보존을 위해 노력하고 있다.

주제어: 몽골국가기록원, 국가기록원, 기록보존, 국제교류, 보존 서고

Key words: Mongolian archives, General Archives Authority, UNESCO, international cooperation, National Archives of Korea

In 2002, archival sector cooperation bilateral agreement was signed between the National Archives of Korea and the National Archives of Mongolia in Seoul, Korea. Ten years have passed, which is a long time and yet it might not be long at all. During this period, a number of cooperative archival projects have been executed by archival organizations of two countries.

Two specialists of National Archives of Mongolia studied in practical training program at National Archives of Korea for one month in 2003, and three specialists enrolled in Daejeon city short term training program on archival science for one month in 2006. Afterwards they returned to Mongolia and provided sizable training on restoration and renovation to the public archives archivists, renovators, librarians, and related managers of museums in Mongolia.

Afterwards, in 2004 in accordance with the agreement signed between the Mongolian and Korean National Archives, transferring of copied records relating to Korean history, which were stored in the National Archives of Mongolia, to the National Archives of Korea, became a remarkable historic

cooperation.

The General Archival Authority of Mongolia has been entering as a member of the international archive organizations, participating in the activities organized by the organizations actively and taking part in the program “Preservation of documentary heritage” organized by UNESCO. For example: specialists of Korean archives and library participated in the meeting with the theme “Preservation of documentary heritage in Mongolia” organized by Mongolian and Korean National Commission of UNESCO and the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science of Mongolia on March 09, 2006. During this meeting, Dr. Choi Chan Ho, a scientific expert of preservation management division of National Archives of Korea, gave information about an acid paper, Korean traditional paper-making method, document boxing process, paper document storage procedure and deacidification technology of documents. Also He talked about a new archival building of the National Archives of Korea to be built based on the studies of foreign experiences of USA, Canada, Great Britain, and Germany etc.

Ten delegations from Korea representing archive, library, publications museums, and cultural heritage research center participated in the “Preservation of National Documentary Heritage of Mongolia” workshop, which was organized on 2-4 May 2006 in Ulaanbaatar. A guest speaker, Dr. Choi Chan Ho, scientific expert of the National Archives of Korea, presented “Preservation management of paper document heritage”, and a scientific expert Dr. Nam Sung Un spoke about “Preservation of audiovisual record heritage” which were both informative and interesting to the 10 participating staffs of the National Archives of Mongolia. Korean archive’s specialists said that “We talked about many things after introducing with

the Mongolian conditions on March, 2006. I regard what Mongolian documentary heritage preservation and protection is 50% done. It is a beginning step that they making. Mongolia has a rich cultural heritage and history. However, its documentary heritage and cultural valuables were bad, I observed. The people hold the documents, so it will be bad. If its restoration method is wrong, it will influence to the document badly. Ink and script of the documents stored for long time are faded. Mongolian people are sharp sight, but they may not see it. It should be transfer to the digital type. In addition to, it is important to standardize related laws and regulations. I think that this training is important to preserve and protect the documentary heritage. This seminar can be the beginning to develop the real relations of two countries”.

Six years ago, during the EASTICA Seminar which was held for the first time in Ulaanbaatar from 19–24 August 2006, established Mongolian and Korean National Central Archival cooperation agreement in 2002, and was extended.

During this period I personally assisted Hanshin University researcher, Prof. Lee Pyung Rae, requested by the National Archives of Korea in the aim of providing description and copy of documents relating to Korea, on working with the National Central Archive, Mongolian Revolutionary Party Archive, Foreign affairs archive and the Central Library of Mongolia and prepared to transfer 345 page Xerox copy documents on the subject matter was given from Mr. D.Ulziibaatar, Director General of the National Archives of Mongolia, personally to Mr. Kim Yun Dong, director of the National Archives of Korea who participated in the seminar as representative.

In the aim of improving the documentary heritage manager knowledge

and supplying of equipments, in accordance with the “Documentary Heritage Preservation cooperation of the Asian Countries 2007” project by UNESCO was organized on 10–13 September 2007, the Korean National Committee of UNESCO with the National Archives of Korea support equipment for preservation and restoration was donated.

Dr. Yoon Dae Hyun, Mr. Yoon Ju Bom, Dr. Choi Chan Ho, Ms. Lee Sun Kyung participated in the activity from the National Archives of Korea and the Korean National Committee of UNESCO and handed over the equipments required for the preservation and restoration works of archive documents during this activity. These are paper acid measurer, water-purifying machine, paper thickness digital meter, computer, scanner, digital camera, closet, sanitary spray and “Hanji” Korean handmade paper. It was the time, when we first started using majority of such equipments and still had used today within our day-to-day activities.

In addition, since 2007 the National Archives of Mongolia invited experts from Korea in relation to building of the new National Central Archives and conducting of information technological systems, three advisors visited from the National Archives of Korea and provided valuable information and guidance on the project from 8–27 December 2008. Visiting experts have worked effectively such as starting with learning from the current operations, evaluation of the land and location of the new building complex of the National Central Archives, providing presentations coupled with panel discussions on several topics, sharing of Korean archival experiences, meeting with the National Central Archives experts and sharing of opinions, working on new building design. During this period, specialists Park Young Gu and Jun Hyu Jik had cooperated with architectures and engineers of related Mongolian party on the drawing of

the new complex construction and project of the National Central Archives of Mongolia. They gave the advices about new construction fund, office, laboratory room organization, location of shelves in storage fund, electricity, communication, water supply and sewerage installation, fire extinguishing automate system and organization of power resource organization based on the experiences of new archive building of Korea.

Dr. Choi Chan Ho and Mr. Han Sang Hyu who participated in the planning of NARA new archive building had worked from June 07–24, 2009 to cooperate in the next stage, exchange the experience and give advices. During this period, Dr. Choi Chan Ho, senior researcher had introduced about policy and system of equipments of the NARA archives and given advices about equipment planning and archive management system required to new complex building of the National Central Archives of Mongolia and researcher Mr. Han had advised about practice works.

Since the extension of cooperation agreement in 2006, between the National Archives of Mongolia and the National Archives of Korea, in 2010, 2011 and in 2012 total of three staffs from the General Archival Authority of Mongolia were enrolled in a month training on “Documentary Heritage preservation and management”, with help from Korean Organization International Cooperation agency (KOICA). The training covered many fields related to the topic along with practical training and the participants were able to learn from other countries experiences of the similar institutions.

Last year, the General Conference of EASTICA (East Asian Regional Branch of International Council on Archives) was hold on 15–18 November 2011 in Tokyo, Japan. During this conference, the National Archives of Korea and the General Archival Authority of Mongolia bilaterally extended

the cooperation agreement signed by Mr. D. Ulziibaatar, Director of the General Archival Authority of Mongolia and Mr. Song Gwigeun, President of the National Archives of Korea. A special agreement allowed cooperative scientific research work, organizing records exhibition, providing specialized retraining programs to archivists, restorers and information technology managers of current archive in Korea, with exchange of best practices along with other projects became possible.

Furthermore, we would like to thank Mr. Song Gwigeun, President of the National Archives of Korea, for his letter that sent on March 16, 2012 confirming the visit of the third group of advising experts of the National Archives of Korea to Mongolia as well as his effort in trying to find a way to enroll staffs of the General Archival Authority of Mongolia at training and internships at the National Archives of Korea.

In comparing with the current level of archive development of two countries, the equipments and technologies are few and bad, it is lack of professional staffs and there is not building for archive purpose in our country, it is difficult to provide the proper level of the preservation and protection of national archives document heritage.

In the Action Plan of the Government of Mongolia for 2008–2012, it was stated, “Bring utilization, storage, safety and filing of archive documents, inquiry and information services to the standard of developed countries, introduce information technology in archives, and document filing of public service”. Within the fulfillment of this objective, the following measures have been undertaken:

From the Cabinet Meeting of the Government of Mongolia held on October 10 of 2007, the decision had made to enable the General Archival Authority to have a new Complex Building that meets modern

requirements. Following this decision, construction work of the new complex building started in September 6, 2010 and the construction work had financed from the state budget of Mongolia. Design of the construction work had prepared by the “Project X” Co. Ltd, Mongolia, based on the design of the new complex building of the National Archive of Korea.

Because of the above action now, the General Archival Authority of Mongolia will be able to bring together all the documents of the national archive, which are currently in three separate buildings into a single new Complex Building, which had constructed in accordance with modern and international archive standards. Now challenges faced by the General Archival Authority of Mongolia are:

I) to fully equip the new Complex Building with new modern equipment and facilities to store, file, preserve, restore, renovate and utilize archive documents;

II) to introduce latest achievement of information technology in archive services;

III) to strengthen capacity of archive personnel who will be able to operate newly installed modern equipment and technology in order to ensure sustainability of the project upon completion of the project.

The historians claims for dense relationship maintained between Mongolia and Korea during the Ming dynasty came to throne after defeating the Yuan Empire. In conclusion, we must study records, stored in Korean archives, libraries and other organizations, modern Mongolian and ancient historic materials which can be traced back in many centuries and other documents and records relating to both countries historic relationship, have to be transferred into scientific research cycle and publishing of jointly prepared pamphlets on historical document records.