

## Contact details

Asian Studies Research Collection (ASRC)  
Sir Louis Matheson Library  
Building 4  
Clayton campus  
Monash University, Victoria 3800  
Australia

Telephone: +61 3 9905 2658  
Fax: +61 3 9905 9142

[www.lib.monash.edu.au/matheson/asrc](http://www.lib.monash.edu.au/matheson/asrc)

## Opening hours

### ASRC Information Desk

Monday – Friday 9 am – 5 pm

### Access to reading and study areas, computers and collection

Monday – Thursday 8.30 am – 9 pm

Friday 8.30 am – 5.45 pm

Saturday – Sunday 1 pm–5 pm

Library opening hours change during  
summer semester and in non-teaching  
weeks. For the most up-to-date  
information check the web:

[www.lib.monash.edu.au/hours](http://www.lib.monash.edu.au/hours)

## Subject specialists

### Southeast Asia:

Dr Aline Scott-Maxwell  
[aline.scott.maxwell@lib.monash.edu.au](mailto:aline.scott.maxwell@lib.monash.edu.au)

### China

Mr Dennis Kishere  
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### Korea

Ms Jung-Sim Kim  
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### Japan

Ms Ayako Hatta  
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Cover illustration depicts traditional  
Japanese fabric design taken from  
*Fukushokushi zue* [History and  
illustrations of clothing and textiles]:  
*resshu*, edited by Fukushokushi  
*Zue Henshu linkai* (Osaka:  
Shinshindo Shuppan, 1969).



Asian Studies Research Collection

# The collection

The Monash University Library Asian Studies Research Collection (ASRC) is one of the leading research facilities for Asian studies research in Australia.

It is a member of Asian Libraries in Melbourne (ALIM) and is home to the Melbourne Centre for Japanese Language Education (MCJLE) Collection.

The collection consists of Asian language materials and focuses on Southeast Asia and East Asia. These materials are supplemented by large microform and multimedia holdings in all languages and an extensive range of English language resources relating to Asia, including substantial resources on South Asia.

## Southeast Asia

The oldest and largest of the Asian language collections at Monash is the Indonesian collection. It is also one of the most comprehensive in Australia and is the only research level Indonesian collection in Victoria. Some 25,000 books and over 1500 journal and newspaper titles are held.

There are several important special collections such as rare Indonesian political pamphlets from the 1960s, the Balai Pustaka collection of early Indonesian vernacular literature, and archival material from the Dutch colonial period.

Areas of current collecting include history, politics, economics, society and culture, and language and literature.

Other collections (in Asian languages and English) are available for the study of Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, Burma, Cambodia, Vietnam and East Timor.

## Korea

The establishment of a Korean collection began in 1992. Since then, the collection has grown rapidly and is the largest academic Korean collection in Australia. The focus is on social sciences, particularly economics and politics, and on the history, language, architecture and music of Korea.

## Japan

The Japanese collection, also one of the oldest at Monash, has grown to some 25,000 volumes. Of significance is an archive of Japanese traditional music, which includes scores and sound recordings. The focus of the current collection is on the history of modern Japan, and on contemporary Japanese society, economics, literature and language.

The Japanese collection also contains resource material of the Melbourne Centre for Japanese Language Education (MCJLE). This material is made available to teachers of Japanese language from across Victoria, South Australia and Tasmania and includes items such as kits, flash cards, electronic resources, readers and workbooks.

## China

The main strengths of the Chinese collection are in contemporary Chinese and Taiwanese society, economics, politics and literature. The growth in these fields has been accelerated by several major donations.

Many rare items on China have been acquired over the years, including a number of 18th and 19th century books and a collection of Chinese political posters from the 1970s.

## Services and facilities

### Asian Studies specialists

The area is staffed by a team of Asian studies specialists. These librarians, all of whom have many years' experience in their particular disciplines, are responsible for developing the collections. They offer advice to researchers, both local and across Australia, assisting them to make the best use of the resources. They also present workshops and lectures for professional groups. Each staff member is fluent in one or more Asian languages.

### Study facilities

The quiet study area, which overlooks a bamboo grove, accommodates researchers in individual study carrels. There is also a reading area where library users can select from a wide range of Asian newspapers, journals and magazines. Access to many online newspapers and other electronic sources is provided through the ASRC's computer facilities.

### Computer facilities

All computers in the area allow viewing and input of Chinese, Japanese and Korean scripts (as well as viewing in other scripts), enabling users to access the full range of internet resources available in these and other languages. Word processing and printing in Chinese, Japanese and Korean scripts are also available.

### ASRC website

The Asian Studies Research Collection has an extensive website which complements and extends in-house services. The website includes detailed information about Monash University Library's Asian collections and provides links to Asian studies courses and research at Monash. ASRC librarians regularly monitor and evaluate developments in web-based resources. Through the ASRC web pages, users are led to quality sites relating to Asian studies.

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