

Digitizing the Asami Collection and Korean Rare Books at the University of California, Berkeley

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The Asami Library of classical Korean literature includes printed books, manuscripts and rubbings. One outstanding feature of this collection are examples of early Korean movable-type printing dating back to the seventeenth century. Aside from its artifactual significance, the collection is a valuable resource for the study of the political and legal institutions of Yi dynasty Korea. In addition to the Asami materials, the C.V. Starr East Asian Library in UC Berkeley possesses other Korean rare books. In recent years, the Starr Library and the Institute of Korean Culture (IKC) at Korea University have worked together to publish a complete catalog of all Korean rare holdings in the Starr. In all, the Starr's rare Korean holdings total some 2,400 titles. The estimated total page count is close to 1.19 million.

To make these valuable materials available to the world-wide academic communities, the Starr Library and IKC will digitize the Asami Collection and Korean rare books in Berkeley. The Starr and IKC will use Internet Archive to digitize the content in full-text and full color. We will introduce this project along with examples of the digitization methods, sample scans, metadata formats, access and preservation platforms