

## **Report on research in Taiwan on Taiwan Fellowship July to September 2019**

I was a Taiwan Fellow 2019, within the Taiwan Fellowship programme funded by the Taiwan Minister of Foreign Affairs. I was an invitee of Professor Ann Heylen at the National Taiwan Normal University in Taipei. The main aim of the research project that I undertook was to analyse the knowledge and use of Dutch as a contact language in Taiwan in the seventeenth century, when the Dutch were the principal European colonial power in Taiwan (1624-1662). This is part of a larger project I am undertaking to analyse Dutch as a contact language in East Asia (my book on Dutch in Japan will be published later this year by Brill). I wrote several articles during my time in Taiwan. So far, one has been accepted for publication in the journal *Oceanic Linguistics* and I am currently awaiting the review decision on another article for the *International Journal of the Classical Tradition*. Time permitting, I shall complete the other articles soon and submit them to appropriate journals.

During my time in Taiwan, I often worked in a library in the Academia Sinica. During this time, I identified a seventeenth-century translation of the Gospel of St. Matthew from Dutch into a Formosan language, Siraya, which was thought to be lost. I informed Prof. Paul Li at Academia Sinica of this discovery and he has confirmed that this is one of the most important documents in early Taiwanese history. I am currently awaiting a decision on a research proposal that I made together with Prof. Li to write a monograph on the Gospel of St. Matthew and several other research outputs.

So, my 3 months in Taiwan as a Taiwan Fellow both allowed me to carry out much research and to make contact with leading scholars in Taiwan in my field. I am therefore very grateful to MoFA and the Taiwan Fellow management team for this opportunity.

Thanks and best regards,

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