

## Foreword to the Inaugural Issue of the International Journal of Documentary Heritage

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Dear Colleagues and Friends of Documentary Heritage,

The International Journal of Documentary Heritage (IJODH) is the first and only academic platform in the field of documentary heritage. Published in 2024 under the auspices of the UNESCO International Centre for Documentary Heritage (ICDH), IJODH will serve as a window to promote interdisciplinary research on documentary heritage.

The analysis and interpretation of the world's documentary heritage expands the multifaceted study of culture and provides profound insights. The value of documentary heritage waiting for new discoveries can be illuminated through various perspectives. IJODH will serve as a catalyst to disseminate academic results by fostering a network of scholars, archivists, librarians, and cultural heritage experts from diverse backgrounds.

IJODH will address 1) increasing understanding of the concepts, theories, and methodologies of documentary heritage, 2) preserving and digitizing documentary heritage, 3) promoting international cooperation and knowledge exchange, 4) encouraging ethical and responsible use of documentary heritage, and 5) the social, cultural, and economic value of documentary heritage. This will contribute to the development of the UNESCO's Memory of the World Programme.

I would like to sincerely congratulate you on the launch of this journal. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the authors, reviewers, and editorial board for their valuable contributions. Their dedication, expertise, and passion have made this vision a reality.

I hope that this platform will foster an ongoing dialogue on documentary heritage with scholars, researchers, and practitioners from around the world. Thank you for joining us on this journey.