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[\[Academic Activity\] "Let's Dedicate This University to the Spirit of the Universe!" NTU Held Special Exhibition Commemorating the Sixtieth Anniversary of the Death of Former President Sinian Fu](#)

[Academic Activity] "Let's Dedicate This University to the Spirit of the Universe!" NTU Held Special Exhibition Commemorating the Sixtieth Anniversary of the Death of Former President Sinian Fu ([Chinese Version](#))

NTU Newsletter (Issue 1032) Former President of National Taiwan University Sir Sinian FU, courtesy name Mengzhen, was born in 1896 (Guangshu 22nd year in Ching Dynasty) and passed away in 1950 when he was fifty-five. Sir Mengzhen FU was the pioneer of the New Culture Movement in the Republic of China, having offered great contribution to Chinese philosophy and scholarship. He once chaired the Institute of History and Philology of Academia Sinica and deserved the highest credit for the studies of Chinese history and language. He was also once the acting president of Peking University and served the post of the fourth NTU President between January, 1949, and December, 1950.

Sir Mengzhen FU took the responsibility chairing the university in the nation's critical and precarious period. With his open and bright character, his viewpoint at an extraordinary height and his disinterested administrative ethos, he had molded a solid foundation for the school's spiritual development. Sir Mengzhen FU persisted in academic independence and dignity and believed that teaching and research ought to be well balanced in a university. He clearly exclaimed to the teachers and students that the purpose of a university is only for the academics, for the youth, and for the culture of China and the culture of the world, pointing out the school mottoes "to develop moral character, to study hard, to love the nation, and to love people". He said, "we dedicate this university to the spirit of the universe" (trans. temp.). With his effort, the Western culture and Chinese culture, as well as the liberalism and humanism, were well tuned and rooted in the university.

On December 20, 1950, when Sir Mengzhen FU gave his report in the fifth gathering of the Taiwan Provincial Assembly, a cerebral hemorrhage struck him and he passed away at 23:22 that night. His last urging address at the meeting was still remembered, "we should not stop the scholarship system! I give my full compassion for those students who can and want to study but are hindered simply because they do not have money. We should not reject them and bar them from the campus!" (trans. temp.) Sir Mengzhen FU's ashes were buried in the botanical garden in the campus, which is called "Fu Garden", and the school also made a "Fu Bell" to commemorate Sir FU.

To commemorate the sixty anniversary of Sir Sinian FU's death, National Taiwan University held a special exhibition on December 24.

Reference:

[NTU Newsletter Issue 1032](#) (Chinese)

[National Science Council International Cooperation Sci-Tech Newsbrief](#)

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