

National Diet Library Newsletter

No. 181, February 2012

NEXT



Future war novels in the past: which war did the humankind choose?

Naoki FUJIMOTO

Digital Information Services Division

Digital Information Department

*This is a translation of the article of the same title in the NDL monthly Bulletin No. 604/605
(July/August 2011).*

Today, the class of entertainment fiction called *Kaso Senki* or *Kaku Senki* (lit. speculative war chronicle), depicting military actions which did not take place in reality, has firmly entrenched itself as a popular, if often dismissively treated, genre in Japanese publishing. Most of them deal with past historical events with several twists of fate thrown in (plausibility ranging from, say, a fully-armed, state-of-the-art military unit conveniently time-leaped to a centuries-past warzone to a war leader making a different and critical decision at a historically pivotal moment): the fun lies in speculatively experimenting with a divergence from the known course of history. However, the alternate history aspect of the genre is a relatively new phenomenon. Before the past 30 years, the majority of the speculative war chronicles were “future war novels”, which predicted the modus operandi of future conflicts and warned readers of such eventualities. Since Japan was thrown into turbulent international politics after renouncing its national isolation policy, such a class of novels, first imported from the West, were not simply entertainment but a blueprint of possible wars which merited serious reading and examination.

One such novel is *The Russia's hope* (1888), an English translation of a Russian anonymous publication *К р е й с е р “Р у с с к а я Н а д е ж д а”* depicting the successful raiding missions of a Russian cruiser with the conflict of Britain and Russia as a background. It was first translated into Japanese and published as an article in the popular magazine *Kokumin-no-Tomo* (lit. *The Nation's Friend*) under the title of *Junyo-kan Hoyoku-go* (lit. *Cruiser Peng's Wing*) and later reprinted in the *Suiko-sha Kiji* (magazine of a naval officers' association) as *Sekai Shorai no Kai-o* (lit. *Future Naval Hegemon of the World*) and also by the Shun-yo-do Publishing Company.

The *Kokumin-no-Tomo* also carried the future war novel *Blake of the Rattlesnake* (1895) under the title of *Suirai-tei no Sento* (lit. *Torpedo Boat in Action*), penned by F. T. Jane, the founder of *Jane's Fighting Ships* annual reference book. It was later reprinted in the general magazine *Taiyo* (lit. *Sun*) under the title of *Ei-Ro-Futsu no Shototsu* (lit. *Clash of Britain, Russia and France*.)

Homer Lea's *The Valour of Ignorance* (1909) stands out as the most influential of the books predicting the Japanese-U.S. War. It was printed by Suiko-sha and subsequently translated

by Eibun-tsushin-sha under the title of *Nichibei-Hissen-ron* (lit. *The Inevitable War between Japan and the U.S.*). Since the latter came out with a note “handle with care” undersigned by the Army Minister’s Office, it is clear that publication was in keeping with the intention of the military. Naturally, the Navy Library and General Staff Office catalogued several of such future war novels.

Likewise, the fact that the Imperial Library, the predecessor of the NDL, did have a large collection of such class of novels, despite its apparent lack of effort to purchase foreign novels aside from classics, tells us that they were regarded as important, albeit novelized, issues which needed immediate attention. Though gradually the works with “naked intention to incite hatred against supposed enemies, appealing simplistic heroism and depicting clichéd war actions”¹ became all too common.

As of now, there is a trend to re-examine such dated works as the other side of cross-cultural exchange instigating the fear of otherness; it intends to find out the deeply-embedded perceived identity of “us and them.” In the U.K., the end-of-19th-century future war novels are reprinted under the title of *Sources of Science Fiction: Future War Novels of the 1890s* and also in Japan, there are reprints intended for researchers such as *Eikoku Koka-ron Shosetsu Shusei* (*Yellow Peril, Collection of British Novels 1895–1913*) and *Amerika Kin-mirai Senso Shosetsu-shu* (*American Future War Fiction : China and Japan, 1880–1930*).

Those innocuous-looking, out of date novels are peepholes through which we can glimpse the zeitgeist of a distinctly turbulent and uncertain age rocked by war and strife.

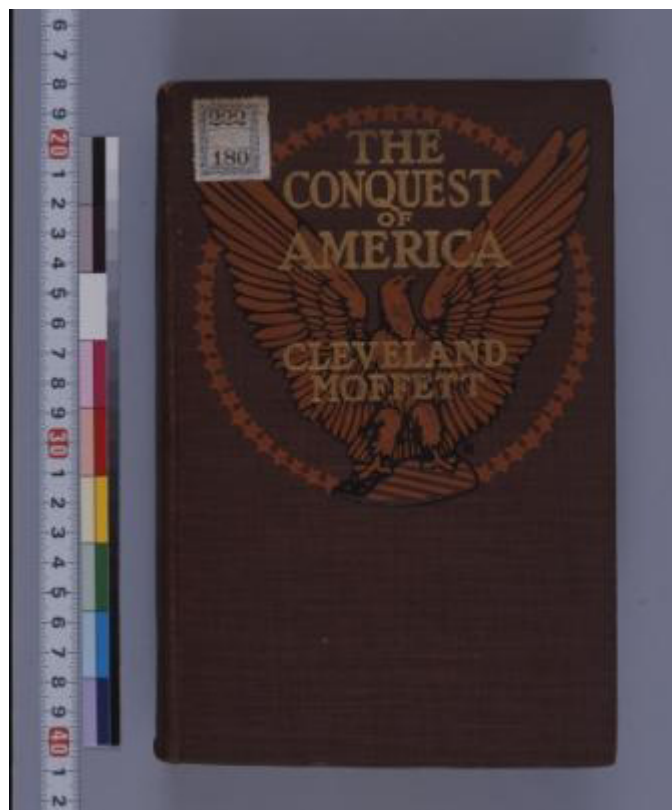


Some of the future war novels collected between 1880 and 1947.



Prior to writing the *Koka Monogatari* (lit. *Yellow Peril Story*), a treatise on the yellow peril, Bunzo

Hashikawa had read this novel at the NDL. He commented that the novel was epic in scale and “looks really fun”. This is the story of a Sino-Japanese Alliance invading Europe. Shiel, M. P. *The yellow danger, or, What might happen if the division of the Chinese empire should estrange all European countries*. New York : R. F. Fenno & Co., 1899. 388 p. NDL call no.: 113-283



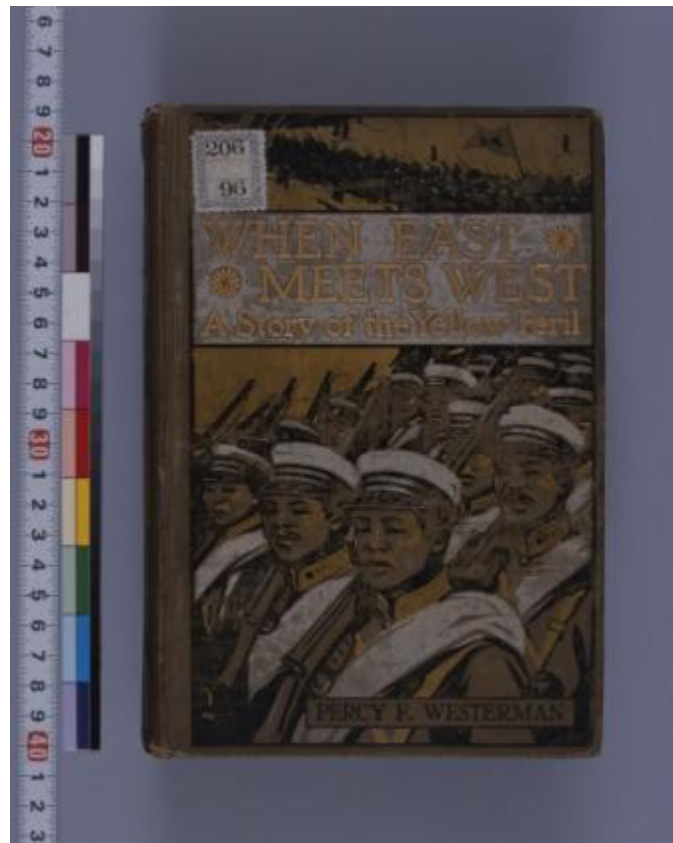
The work was translated by Kocho Baba and printed in the March to May 1917 issues of the Journal *Shin Nihon* (lit. *New Japan*) under the title of the *Bei-Doku Senso: Amerika Seifuku* (lit. *U.S.- German War: the Conquest of America*).

Moffett, Cleveland. *The conquest of America: a romance of disaster and victory : U.S.A., 1921 A.D.* New York : George H. Doran Co., c1916. 310 p. NDL call no.: 222-180



It was an English translation of *Bansai!* [sic] (the 2nd edition, NDL call no.: KS397-A29), written by a German F. H. Grautoff under the pseudonym of Parabellum. The Japanese translation was titled *Banzai!* and published by Asakaya Shoten in 1924. The work is said to be a propaganda novel written to stir up anti-Japanese sentiment.

Parabellum. *Banzai!* London : Stanley Paul & co., 1909. xi, 320 p. NDL call no.: Ba-281



Tenpu Abe, who was a chief editor of the Youth Magazine *Boken Sekai* (lit. *Adventure World*) between 1911–1917, adapted the novel under the title *Jinshu Senso* (lit. *Racial War*) and printed it in the April to September 1915 issues of the *Boken Sekai*. The theme of the novel was an Asian invasion of war-torn Europe.

Westerman, Percy F. *When East meets West: a story of the yellow peril*. London : Blackie & Son, [1913]. xi, 292 p. NDL call no.: 206–96

[up](#)

¹Akikazu Saeki, *Soto Kara Mita Kindai Nihon-shi* (*Early Modern Japan Seen from Outside*), Kodansha Gakujutsu-bunko, 1984, pp.93–94.

NEXT



National Diet Library Newsletter

No. 181, February 2012



Ina, a unique institution for preservation, access, research, production and training in the audiovisual domain

This article is written by Mr. Daniel Teruggi, Head of Research, INA, based on his lecture held on October 18, 2011. (related article: [NDL Newsletter No.180](#))

The <<Institut National de l'Audiovisuel>> started functioning in 1975. Its existence results from the dissolution of the former National Office for Radio and Television (ORTF) and the creation of independent national societies in charge of different sectors of the broadcast domain. [The Institut National de l'Audiovisuel](#) or Ina as it is now called was entrusted with various transversal missions as: audiovisual archives conservation, training in broadcast and audiovisual, research, musical research and experimental broadcast production.

Since 1975, these initial missions have strongly evolved and today Ina has become a leading actor of the digital audiovisual domain and one of the largest on-line digital repositories in the world. The main historic mission of Ina is to archive France's National Broadcast production since the beginning of Radio and Television; 1.5 million hours of contents are conserved, with 800,000 hours of Television and 700,000 hours of Radio. A particular aspect of the collection, is that the production rights of these contents have been transferred to Ina; Ina is a National institution, however since its mission is to make these contents accessible to professionals and the public, Ina has the possibility to develop a commercial activity at a National and International level.

Since 1992 a new mission has been given to Ina consisting in the responsibility of capturing and conserving all Radio and Television production in France (public and private) as a Legal Deposit Mission. Contents thus conserved are made accessible for research purposes only, within the premises of the National Library, where a centre named Inathèque permits researchers and professionals to study Radio and Television. Today 103 Television channels and 17 Radio channels are captured continuously, recorded, indexed and made available. The total amount conserved is of 1,000,000 hours of Television and 1,400,000 hours of Radio (2 Million 400,000 hours in total), with an annual increase since 2009 of 500,000 hours per year. This mission is now expanding to the Internet, where Ina is capturing more than 6,000 French websites related to communication and media.



Bâtiment Europe - Siège de l'INA à Bry-sur-Marne
© INA 2000 - Nicole Bouron-Flacinet

The French law gives three other missions to Ina: Training and Education, Research and Production. Professional training is a historical mission for Ina, the quick evolution of technology and production needs a continuous update for all professionals managing or producing contents not only for broadcast but equally for multimedia, games or journalism. More than 280 courses directed towards more than 5,500 professionals are done annually and have place Ina as the major institution in the audiovisual domain for training. In the last 13 years a new activity has been developed through higher education, where students can obtain degrees up to a Master level in different technical, production, history or preservation domains. 13 degrees and 380 students constitute the essential of Ina Sup, the school for media and production.

Research is another historical mission for Ina; it is oriented towards the problems related to preservation, indexation and exploitation of audiovisual works, in close relationship with the needs and evolutions of the institution. In parallel to this highly technological research, this Department has a specialized group called [GRM](#) (*Groupe de Recherches Musicales* or Musical Research Group), which, since 1958, works in the innovative domain of music and technology, with a large historical tradition of production, tools and theoretic research. Research, Professional training and Higher Education are united within Ina in a specific department called Ina Expert.

Archives constitute a unique source for production and permit to analyse and understand the past. More than 50 television programs are produced or coproduced every year permitting young or confirmed producers to study the past of the country and to propose original productions that bring to the broadcast audience an understanding of history and society.

[up](#)

Ina's Preservation and Digitization Plan

Ina, within its preservation mission, has to deal with a large array of formats and programs reflecting the history of broadcast since its beginnings. As all audiovisual archives, Ina faces carrier degradation as well as obsolescence of players and a global

decay of quality and accessibility to its contents. In order to palliate to this slow destruction process, measures were taken since the end of the nineties in order to assure the conservation of the collections. A large scale Preservation and Digitization Plan was thus launched in 1999, with the ambition to digitize all endangered collections before 2015. This plan has since preserved more than 850,000 hours of radio and television, and will have digitized all Ina's analogue collections before 2017.

This represented a huge effort in terms of organization, funding and technology. Collections had to be analysed in order to understand their preservation state and processes put into place to be capable of dealing, internally and through external Service Providers, with the management, transport, transfer and documentation of more than 6 million items.

Preserving the analogue assets through digitization had a double objective: to create a new digital original for each analogue program, preserved at the highest possible quality and becoming the reference for future uses (DIGITAL Betacam). To transcode the original thus obtained to a production format (MPEG2), ready for exploitation and also accessible at low-definition for browsing (MPEG4), selection and indexation.

The result of this process permitted to create one of the world's largest on-line collections of audiovisual material: the professional service [Inamediapro](#), open to registered persons, where all the digitized collections (850,000 hours) can be searched and visualized, and users can select documents or excerpts for their professional use. More than 35,000 documents are thus used every year within radio and television. A second website, [ina.fr](#) permits general public to freely access more than 260,000 documents reflecting France's past and history.

In parallel the legal analysis of all the digitized contents was done, in order to be able to exploit as easily as possible the contents on a commercial perspective, in order to satisfy the increasing demand for archival material for television news and production.

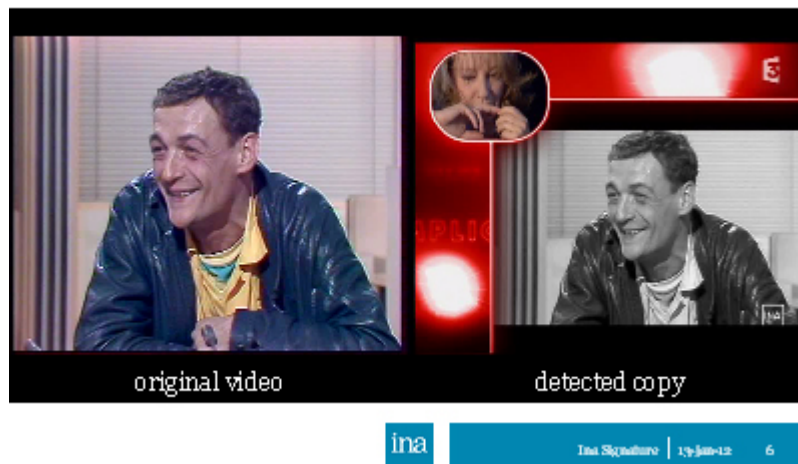
Ina Signature

In a world where images increasingly circulate through media and Internet, it is important to keep track of their circulation and use; mainly when the interests of more than a 100,000 right-holders are involved. This is why Ina has developed, through the work of its Research teams, a technical system to track and monitor the use of Television content. This system, called Signature, is based on the extraction of fingerprintsⁱ from images in order to analyse how the images are used within different contexts.

Professional users obtain images from Ina and use them for broadcast productions; these images circulate and are reused in different conditions and are sometimes even found on the web (unauthorized). The Signature software and environment permits to extract fingerprints from images that leave Ina and then, through a monitoring process done on broadcasters and on certain websites, check if the images are used with or without authorization. This software has brought wonderful results and has helped

establish a confidence relation with right-holders and their representative institutions. It is a robust solution, permitting to identify identical images even if they have been modified (enlargement, colour changes, added logos) as often done in post-production.

Robustness demonstration



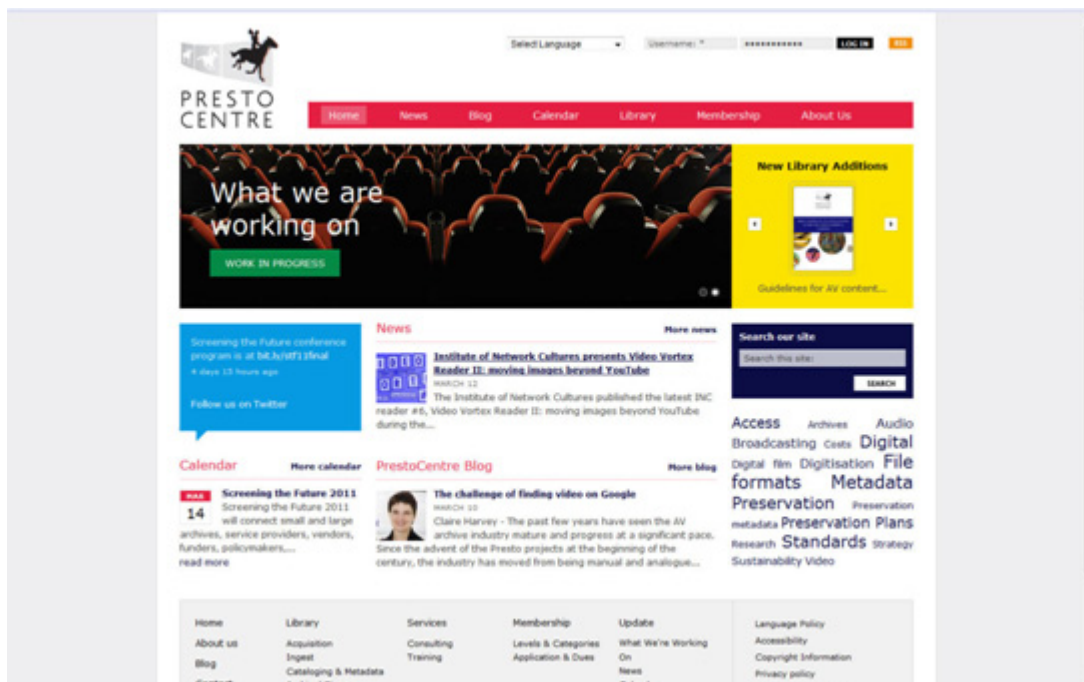
[up](#)

The Presto projects

The Research department in Ina has closely followed the evolution of Ina within the Digital world and digital preservation. Important European research projects have been developed since 1999 in collaboration with Europe's most important broadcast institutions as the BBC in the UK, Rai in Italy, ORF in Austria and B&G in the Netherlands as well as with many companies and universities working in the audiovisual domain. This collaboration based on digitization and digital preservation, has permitted to develop original tools and approaches to this domain, through three major projects called Presto – [PrestoSpace](#) – and [PrestoPRIME](#).

The ambition of these projects was to develop the necessary technology that would permit to accelerate and optimize the preservation of audiovisual material:

- Presto (1999 – 2002) permitted the conception and development of dedicated machines to accelerate and optimize preservation of analogue material to a digital format
- PrestoSpace (2004 – 2008) worked on all the Preservation chain, from digitization to access, including storage, metadata extraction, documentation and publication
- PrestoPRIME (2009 – 2012) is dedicated to digital material: how to survive when contents are digital? The project develops Tools and environments for long-term digital preservation. It also has launched a competence centre called [PrestoCentre](#), available to all archives wishing to advance in the digitization and exploitation of their audiovisual contents.



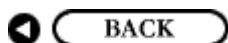
The PrestoCentre, one of the strong achievements of the PrestoPRIME project

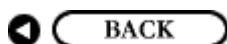
This quick overview gives a vision of Ina, its trajectory and evolutions. Probably one of the outstanding facts is the efficient combination of a strong archival activity linked with exploitation, research, training and production. All of them gravitate around the main mission and concern, which is keeping France's Audiovisual heritage and assets alive.

Daniel Teruggi
Head of Research
Ina

Fingerprints are very small digital representations of images, capable of being easily identified and searched

[up](#)





22nd forum on preservation “Disaster preparedness in China, Korea, Australia and Japan: reports from National Libraries”

On December 1, 2011, the NDL held the 22nd forum on preservation under the theme of “Disaster preparedness in China, Korea, Australia and Japan: reports from National Libraries.” This year’s forum was held against the background of frequent occurrences of disaster inside and outside Japan these years. Libraries from four countries, China, Korea, Australia and Japan, which acts as IFLA/PAC (Preservation and Conservation) Regional Centre in Asia and Oceania, and also a library from the area affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake, participated in the forum and reported their experience of disaster and prevention.

The participants and outlines of their reports are as follows:

Report 1: “Documents conservation, disaster prevention and rescue in China”

Ms. Li Cuiwei (Deputy Director, Office of China National Center for Preservation & Conservation of Ancient Books, National Library of China)



The report started by outlining the Ancient Books Preservation Project (started in 2007), which conducts a general survey all over the country, stack construction, preservation environment management and training for professionals to enhance the protection of ancient books. Second, the Emergency Plan of the National Library of China was mentioned. This plan defines prevention and countermeasures against earthquakes, fire disasters, and water leaks and others. Lastly, Ms. Li reported on rescue work conducted by the cooperative network forward by the National Library of China, related institutions and restoration specialists when the Sichun earthquake occurred in 2008.

Report 2: “Disaster prevention measures and cooperative activities of the National Library of Korea”

Mr. Lee Kwi-Bok (Conservator, Korea Research Institute for Library and Information, National Library of Korea)



Mr. Lee reported on the stack environment and fire extinguishing systems, implementation status of disaster prevention measures, and affected cases and cooperation activities inside and outside Korea of the three facilities of the National Library of Korea: the Main building (constructed in 1988), Deposit Building (2000) and the National Digital Library Building (2009). Next, it was reported that a manual for on-site emergency response measures was made in 2010 and a team for rare book protection was set up. For emergency situations, a system to carry the National Library of Korea's rare books to the National Museum has also been prepared. And as part of its cooperative preservation activities, the Library provides outsourced storage service by using vacant space in the stacks of the National Digital Library.

[up](#)

Report3: “Disaster preparedness at the National Library of Australia”

Ms. Jennifer Lloyd (Manager, Preservation Services, National Library of Australia)



It was reported that the National Library of Australia created a Collection Disaster Plan in 1986. This plan clarifies the role and responsibilities of staff in charge, and contains information on disaster training strategies, emergency supply inventories and maintenance lists. In Canberra, there is a cooperation network called Disasters ACT (DisACT). DisACT is a network consisting of institutions and individuals who want to learn about protecting their collections from disaster and have meetings and training

sessions. As an IFLA/PAC centre, the Library tries to share information on disaster preparedness inside and outside Australia.

Special report: “Aiming to recover from the Earthquake: afflicted libraries in Iwate and assistance for rehabilitation and reconstruction”
Ms. Kumiko Sakai (Director, Iwate Prefectural Library)



Ms. Sakai reported that the disaster situations of libraries differ even within Iwate Prefecture, so the support measures also differ and the kind of help needed changes as time goes by. As a prefectural library, the Iwate Prefectural Library is aiming to rescue affected local materials and to regenerate affected libraries which are to be the basis of information. For this target, continuing cooperation between affected libraries, the prefectural library, governmental institutions and the National Diet Library is necessary.

Report 4: “National Diet Library disaster preparedness and support to the areas stricken by the Great East Japan Earthquake”
Ms. Noriko Nakamura (Library Counsellor, Acquisitions and Bibliography Department, National Diet Library)



Development of “The NDL Principles to Protect Materials from Disaster,” and preparation of various manuals were reported. For supporting the affected areas, the NDL provided assistance through library cooperation networks, participated in the “Cultural Property Rescue Programme” of the Agency for Cultural Affairs, held an open lecture inviting staff of the Library of Congress, and also held several events for information sharing.

The question and answer session after these reports dealt with China’s disaster preparedness standards in the stacks and media conversion in China’s Ancient Books Preservation Project, work contents of designated managers of libraries at the time of

disaster, the situation of affected school libraries in Iwate Prefecture, and measures for treating soaked acid paper and so on.

[up](#)



BACK

NEXT

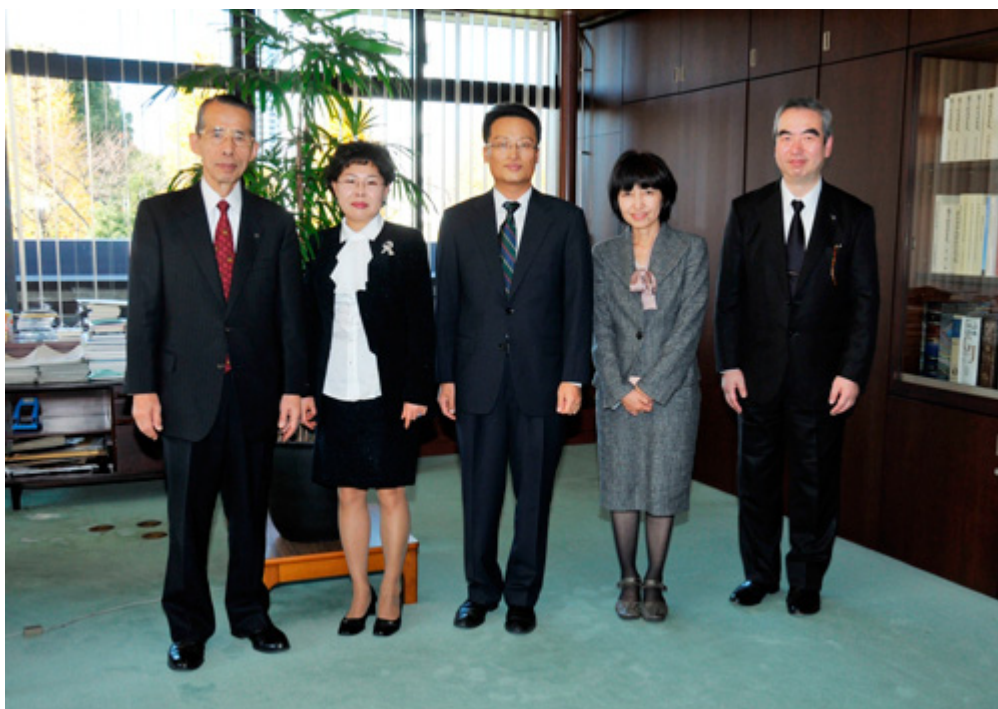


National Diet Library Newsletter

No. 181, February 2012



The 3rd Mutual Visit Program between the National Diet Library, the National Assembly Library of Korea and the National Assembly Research Service



NAL and NARS delegation and NDL executive members (from left: Dr. Nagao (Librarian), Ms. Ko, Mr. Choi, Ms. Sakata (Deputy Director General, Research and Legislative Reference Bureau), Mr. Tsukamoto (Director General, Research and Legislative Reference Bureau))

The third visit program with the National Assembly Library (NAL) and the National Assembly Research Service (NARS) of Korea was held from December 12 to 18, 2011 at the Tokyo Main Library of the National Diet Library (NDL). A staff member from each organization, Ms. Young Sook Ko, Deputy Director, Foreign Law Information Division, Law Library of NAL, and Mr. Yong Hoon Choi, Head of Land, Transport and Maritime Affairs Team of NARS, visited Tokyo for the program.

Started in 2000 as a staff-training program, the mutual visit program between the NDL and the NAL had been conducted every year since 2003. With the organization reform of the National Assembly of the Republic of Korea, NARS was established in 2007 to strengthen the legislative service for the assembly. In response to this, NDL, NAL and NARS agreed to have a three-way mutual visit program. A new agreement between these three organizations was concluded in autumn 2009 for the next four years.

In 2011 program, staff from each organization visited the NDL and the following main sessions were successfully completed.

Tuesday, December 13, 2011

Paper session I: Current situation of the provision and dissemination of parliament-related information to parliamentary members and the people

- NAL report from Ms. Young Sook Ko
- NDL report from Mr. Shin-Ichiro Nakayama, Assistant Director, Parliamentary Documents and Official Publications Division, Research and Legislative Reference Bureau

Thursday, December 15, 2011

Paper session II: Food safety

- NARS report from Mr. Yong Hoon Choi
- NDL report from Mr. Shoichi Kotera, Director, Agriculture, Forestry and Environment Division, Research and Legislative Reference Bureau

In Session I, Ms. Ko introduced the work situation of the Law Library, target institutions of the law information service, basic materials and the current situation of the law information service. Mr. Nakayama introduced databases on parliament-related information such as Full-text Database System for the Minutes of the Diet and Index Database to Japanese Laws, Regulations and Bills. These reports were followed by a question-and-answer session with questions from the Korean side such as the standard of providing publications of the Research and Legislative Reference Bureau on the Internet, and the reasons for creatively using TIFF format or PDF format when creating parliament-related information databases. From the NDL side, the following questions were raised: composition of the parliament information advisory panel and basis for selecting of policy agenda on the legislative knowledge database, number of staff who create the Foreign Law Information Database System and the latest law newsletter (foreign law), the criteria for dividing the roles of NAL staff and outsourced staff. Questions about the affiliation of staff who write fact books and how they select themes were also asked.

In Session II, Mr. Choi presented the significance of food safety, food-related current situation and comprehensive measures on food safety in Korea. Mr. Kotera introduced incidents and accidents on food safety, institutions and challenges on food safety in Japan, radiation contamination problems caused by the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear disaster and “safety” from the science aspect and “safety” from the consumer side. In the question-and-answer session following these reports, questions on the appointment and independence of Food Safety Commission members in Japan and countermeasures taken by the government against food fraud were asked from the Korean side. Divisions of roles between the Food & Drug Administration and The Ministry for Food, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries in Korea, the influence of the U.S.-Korea Free Trade Agreement on the food safety control system and the presence or absence of effort against bioterrorism using HACCP method were asked from the NDL.

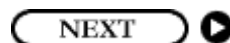
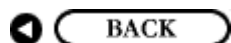
In addition to these sessions, the delegation had meetings with the staff of the Parliamentary Documents and Official Publications Division (Ms. Ko) and the Agriculture, Forestry and Environment Division and the Land Development and Communications Division

(Mr. Choi). At the end of the program, the delegation and the NDL staff talked about future programs.

The next program is scheduled to be held in Seoul with two delegates dispatched from the NDL.

▶ [Reports of past programs in the NDL Newsletter](#)

[up](#)



National Diet Library Newsletter

No. 181, February 2012



New on-site user services from January 2012

Service Planning Division
Reader Services and Collections Department

This article is based on the article in Japanese titled “On-site user services will be renewed” in NDL Monthly Bulletin No. 606 (September 2011).

Contents

1. [Introduction](#)
2. [To all services with one card: New registered user card \(IC card\)](#)
3. [To all library materials from one computer terminal: New terminals in the library](#)
 - 3.1 [Increasing digital contents](#)
 - 3.2 [More convenient computer terminals](#)
4. [To all information by a single search: “NDL Search,” new portal for on-site services](#)
 - 4.1 [New search tool “NDL Search”](#)
 - 4.2 [Reorganized user guide](#)
5. [For better user environment](#)
 - 5.1 [Expanding printout counter](#)
 - 5.2 [Introducing Wi-Fi network](#)
 - 5.3 [For comfortable user environment](#)

1 Introduction

The National Diet Library (NDL) stores most of its collections in the closed stacks, and to use materials, a user retrieves catalogs and requests reader service. We started on-site user service using computer systems in 2002 in the Kansai-kan and in 2004 in the Tokyo Main Library, and until 2011, a user first needed to obtain a one-day user card from an issuing machine at the entrance and then retrieve collection catalogs with the card.

With the recent rapid digitization of information, there are a wide range of digital contents available in the NDL facilities such as digitized collections, electronic journals and various databases.

In January 2012, procedures for using on-site services of the Tokyo Main Library, the

Kansai-kan and the International Library of Children's Literature changed with the introduction of new systems. This article shows the advantages and cautions in the new procedures.

2 To all services with one card: New registered user card (IC card)

A registered user receives a registered user card (IC card) from January 2012. The user can enter the library with the card and can bring the card back to home after exiting. From January 2012, the registered user card is required to use materials stored in the stacks. The card is also necessary for checking the arrival information of requested books and other materials, receiving copies, etc.

To enter the library without registration, an unregistered user card is issued by a simpler process than before. A user cannot use materials stored in the stacks with the unregistered user card, but can use most other services.

How to register?

For a previously registered user, a new registered user card is issued in exchange for the old one when visiting the library. The registration procedure is explained at the library and also shown on the NDL website.

“User Registration” (<http://www.ndl.go.jp/en/information/guide>)

[up](#)

3 To all library materials from one computer terminal: New terminals in the library

Until 2011, a user needed to access different computer terminals according to need: searching materials, requesting for reading, viewing digital information and ordering copying. From January 2012, a user can apply for these services basically from any terminal in the library.

3.1 Increasing digital contents

The main reason for integrating user terminal functions was the increase of digital contents provided inside the library. Integrating the functions of terminals, we installed more terminals with viewing function in January 2012.

The NDL has been actively digitizing its collections to avoid deterioration of originals caused by use. Though a great deal of digitization has been completed as shown in the table below as of August 2011, many digitized materials are available only inside the library facilities to protect copyright. In principle, the originals of digitized books and periodicals are not available.

Table: Number of digitized collections (as of January 2012)

Type of materials	Available on the Internet	Available only inside the library

Books	235,000 volumes	547,000 volumes
Periodicals	3,000 volumes	769,000 volumes
Rare and old materials	51,000 items	17,000 items
Historical recordings	600 items	25,000 items

In addition to digitized collections, electronic journals, external databases, historical recordings (digitized records (78-rpm records, etc.) produced in Japan in the first half of the 20th century) and Internet resources (past websites collected and preserved by the NDL) are provided inside the library. These materials are now accessible through one terminal. Internet access is also available within the range necessary for research.

3.2 More convenient computer terminals

With the expansion of services using computer terminals, more terminals were required. We have introduced displays in appropriate size for viewing digitized collections. In July 2011, 40 additional terminals were set up with displays one size larger than before. All the previous terminals were replaced with new ones in January 2012, and the number exceeded 500 in total.

Changing the catalog hall of the Main Building

There used to be card catalog shelves before (left) and OPAC terminals introduced in October 2004 (right). New terminals were introduced here in January 2012.



[up](#)

4 One search for all information: “NDL Search,” new portal for on-site services

A user needs to search catalogs to use most of the NDL collection. From January 2012, in-house terminals allow searching broader information containing catalogs and digital contents provided by external institutions alongside the NDL.

4.1 New search tool “NDL Search”

The “NDL Search” aims to enable integrated search of database catalogs and digital contents of libraries including the NDL, archives, museums and academic research

institutions.ⁱ This “NDL Search” functions as a search portal in the new on-site services started in January 2012. It has interfaces to navigate users accurately through a variety of on-site services, such as general information search function, and searching and reading services for materials stored in the stacks, digitized materials and electronic journals available inside the library facilities.

4.2 Reorganized user guide

It might be difficult to find out the proper way to use the “NDL Search,” which covers enormous amount of information beyond the NDL and carries diverse functions. Accordingly, we designed the new in-house terminal to provide a smooth guide with user-friendly navigation and interfaces on the screen, and reorganized information offered at the General Information Desk, and tours or instruction sessions on how to use the library.ⁱⁱ

For another improvement, large information panel boards, besides the new in-house terminals, were placed around the library to display user information with selectable menu items explaining our services.



Screen from the in-house terminal

5 For better user environment

On top of the improvements mentioned above, the following were introduced for better user environment in January 2012.

5.1 Expanding printout counter

As more digitized collections come to be used, more copying requests for them are expected. In the Tokyo Main Library, a new printout counter was built in the Main Building in addition to the one in the Annex.

5.2 Introducing Wi-Fi network

Wi-Fi network will be gradually installed to let users use the Internet with their own personal computers.

5.3 For comfortable user environment

Using more in-house terminals or carried-in laptops increases keyboard noise. To ensure a quiet environment, the computer areas and non-computer areas kept separate as far as possible.

6 Conclusion

The transition to these new services is just a stepping stone at a time when library services are changing rapidly. Looking forward to the future, the NDL revamped its organization in October 2011, by unifying and rationalizing user services divisions and expanding digital information divisions. Under this new system, the NDL's on-site services will continue to develop in future.

[up](#)

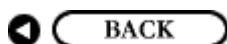
ⁱ[The next article of this newsletter](#) carries more detailed information on the NDL Search.

ⁱⁱIn the Tokyo Main Library and the Kansai-kan, instruction sessions to explain how to use the on-site services and how to research are held on a regular basis. Further information is available on the [NDL website](#). (Japanese only)



National Diet Library Newsletter

No. 181, February 2012

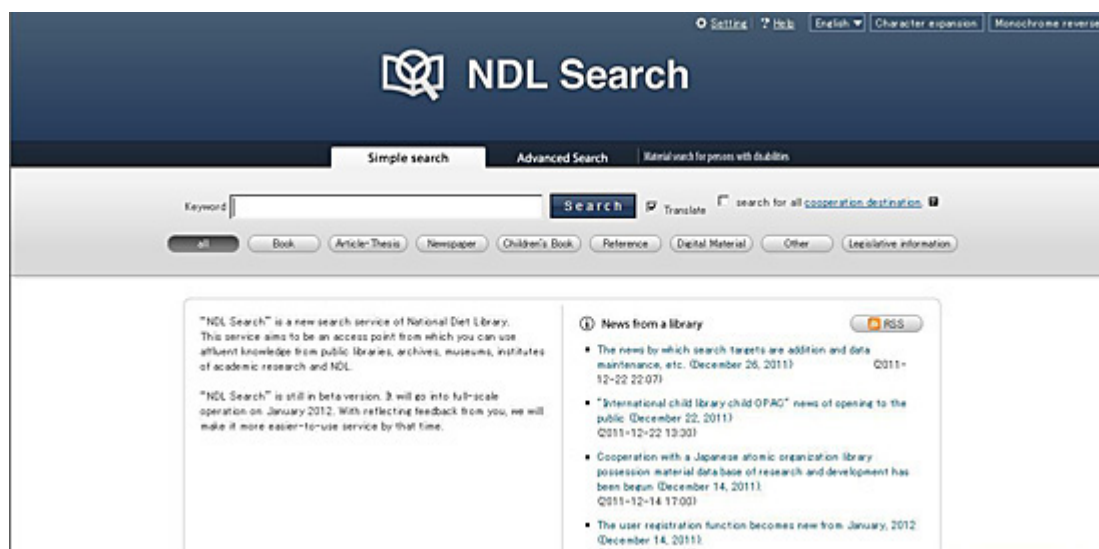


NDL Search: NDL's new integrated search service

Digital Information Services Division,
Digital Information Department

*This article is based on the article in Japanese of the same title
in NDL Monthly Bulletin No. 604/605 (July/August. 2011).*

The National Diet Library (NDL) launched a new integrated retrieval system, NDL Search, into full-scale operation in January 2012. This service enables integrated search of catalogs and digital archives of libraries including the NDL, archives, museums, and academic institutes.



Interface of the NDL Search (English version)

1. What you can search in the NDL Search

The NDL broadly acquires Japanese publications including books, magazines, newspapers, CDs and DVDs based on the legal deposit system. The NDL has been making accurate bibliographic record of them and providing the data on the Internet since 1996 so that the acquired publications can be accessed as need arises. The NDL also makes the Japanese Periodicals Index to enable articles in magazines to be searched from title, author, keywords, etc. As the sole national library, the NDL also provides the National Union Catalog Network (Unicanet) which enables integrated search of Japanese books owned by prefectural and major municipal libraries in Japan since 1998, the Union catalog database of children's literature which enables users to search children's books and magazines owned by seven organizations in Japan since 2000, and the National Union Catalog of Newspapers in Japan

since 2003. The number of digital contents provided is also on the increase. The NDL actively promotes the digitization of its collections to spare the originals from deterioration caused by use and strives to develop better digital library services. The NDL started the full-swing collection of Internet resources offered by public institutions including national government agencies in 2010. It also started to provide the Historical Recordings Collection in 2011.

Meanwhile, catalog databases and digital contents on the Internet are being gradually enhanced not only in libraries but also in archives, museums and academic research institutes. The NDL has been offering the National Diet Library Digital Archive Portal (PORTA), which enables integrated search of Japanese digital contents, since 2007.

Using the NDL Search, a new integrated retrieval service, you can search at once a huge variety of contents in various media including the information mentioned above, regardless of the type of information and holding organization. The search targets are databases of university libraries, special libraries, the National Institute of Informatics, the National Archives of Japan, the National Museum and e-book databases in the private sector, and the databases operated by the NDL such as the NDL Catalog, union catalogs, digital contents, useful reference resources (information on the table of contents, special subject databases, reference examples, etc.), and about 69 million items of bibliographic information gathered from 82 databases as of December 2011. Cross-search of 126 databases is also available. The Unicanet, the Union catalog database of children's literature, the National Union Catalog of Newspapers in Japan and PORTA were integrated into the NDL Search in January 2012.

2. Various search help

The NDL Search offers ingenious services to help find what you need rapidly from the large amounts of information and materials. You can also use the NDL Search through mobile-phones and smart-phones.

Retrieval support function

Natural language search, fuzzy search, search for synonyms and words with similar meanings, prefix and suffix search, etc. are possible. You can also search targeting the table of contents and materials' text if it contains the text data.

Multilingual translation function

The NDL is building a digital library linked up with China and South Korea in collaboration with the National Library of China and the National Library of Korea. The NDL Search provides translated search function between Japanese, English, Chinese and Korean and shows translated search results, as well as providing interface in each language.

User-friendly display of search results

The NDL Search displays search results grouping similar contents in different media such as

books and digital contents. You can choose the one suiting your needs such as books, text data, digital images, etc. from the groups.

Search refinement

The NDL Search shows hints for refining the result (type of material, name of holding library, year of publication, etc) as well as the search result list. You can also refine the search using the related keyword, authority keyword, etc. provided from the search results.

Means of obtaining information

The NDL Search shows you how to access the information and materials if at all possible. Not merely linking to the digital contents, the name of the organization which holds the information and materials is shown on the “View and Loan.” If you register a frequently-accessed library on the setting page, the search results also show whether the library has the title (This function is available on the Japanese page only). You can also jump to the online bookstore’s website. Application for the interlibrary loan (ILL) which has been provided through Unicanet is also available (exclusively for the participants of the National Union Catalog Network Project).

Functions to utilize the search results

The NDL Search provides various functions to utilize the search results; for example, posting them to external services such as Twitter and Hatena Bookmark, and delivering new information and search results with a specific keyword by RSS.

Providing Newly Acquired Books Information

Using the NDL Search, you can search the basic bibliographic information of books published in Japan acquired by the NDL under the legal deposit system, within a few days after deposit. The NDL also offers the basic bibliographic information through the RSS and OAI-PMH* form.

3. Future Development

The NDL Search was formally launched in January 2012. As the login function of the NDL Search and the National Diet Library Online Public Access Catalog (NDL-OPAC) is now unified, you can request remote copying service, etc. from the search results through the NDL-OPAC. The NDL will continually enhance the function in the future based on users’ needs, such as assimilating the new retrieval technology and the fruits of both internal and external proving tests.

NDL Search aspires to be the entrance of abundant knowledge held by academic research institutes across the nation and to make maximal use of the NDL’s information accumulated in the past. We hope you will make use of it.

*Open Archives Initiative Protocol for Metadata Harvesting

National Diet Library Newsletter

No. 181, February 2012



NDL Statistics FY2010

– NDL in figures – excerpts from the Annual Report of the NDL

This article is a translation of the article in Japanese of the same title in the NDL Monthly Bulletin No. 607 (October 2011).

The following figures show the main statistics of the NDL activities, services and organization, excerpted from the [Annual Report of the National Diet Library FY2010](#) (Japanese only).

These are some important figures on the NDL (as of March 31, 2011).



Contents

- [Personnel, Finances and Facilities](#)
- [Acquisition, cataloging and preservation](#)
- [Services available on the NDL website](#)
- [Services for the National Diet](#)
- [Services for the executive and judicial branches](#)
- [Services for the public](#)

Personnel, Finances and Facilities

- Total budget and settlement of accounts
- Budget: about 35.416 billion yen
- Settlement of accounts: about 31.723 billion yen
- Amount brought forward: about 13.2944 billion yen
- Amount carried forward: about 3.3847 billion yen

- Cost of acquiring materials: about 2.5 billion yen
- of which compensation for publications deposit: about 390 million yen

- Number of staff: **890** (male **49%**, female **51%**)

- Proportion of women in Senior Specialist and managerial posts is **32%**.
- Total area of reading rooms: **24,837m²**
- Tokyo Main Library: **18,983m²**
- Detached Library in the Diet: **562m²**
- Kansai-kan of the NDL: **4,265m²**
- ILCL (International Library of Children's Literature): **1,027m²**
- The Tokyo Main Library has [nine Special Materials Rooms and six Reading Rooms](#).

[up](#)

Acquisition, cataloging and preservation

- Number of materials newly acquired in FY2010: 936,808 items
- Books: **224,400** volumes
- Periodicals and newspapers: **597,487** items
- Non-book materials: **114,921** items
- Microforms: **41,094**
- Visual materials: **12,330**
- Recorded materials: **13,175**
- Machine-readable materials (CDs, DVDs, etc.): **9,884**
- Maps: **5,220**
- Doctoral dissertations: **15,676**
- Manuscripts: **10,021**
- Braille resources and large print editions: **1,110**
- etc...
- Websites ([Web Archiving Project](#)): **29,869** titles
- In addition to books and periodicals, we collect materials of other kinds. Since FY2002, we have also been collecting Internet information including websites of public institutions and events.
- Media conversion
- Digitization: **1,564,119** items
- Microfilming: **162** items
- We convert media by digitization and other methods and serve them to users in place of originals so that we can prevent original materials from deteriorating.
- [International exchange](#)
- Acquisition
- Books and non-book materials: **5,895** items
- Periodicals and newspapers: **2,075** titles
- Delivery

- Books and non-book materials: **20,936** items
- Periodicals and newspapers: **9,556** titles
- In accordance with two conventions of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), we exchange publications with 968 institutions in 157 nations and two regions, and 34 international organizations.

- Cataloging: 690,912 data
- Books: **203,280**
- Periodicals and newspapers: **3,052**
- Non-book materials: **89,747**
- Japanese Periodicals Index: **394,643**
- We create bibliographic data such as titles, author names, location information, etc. and provide them to the public.
- Data updating of periodicals and newspapers (title change etc.): **12,005**

- Collections: 37,497,260 items
- Books: **9,698,593** volumes
- Periodicals and newspapers: **14,272,111** items
- Non-book materials: **13,526,556** items
- Microforms: **8,841,588**
- Visual materials: **271,928**
- Recorded materials: **660,304**
- Machine-readable materials (CDs, DVDs, etc.): **103,331**
- Maps: **539,488**
- Doctoral dissertations: **540,459**
- Manuscripts: **324,786**
- Braille resources and large print editions: **31,433**
- etc... ..
- We collect these materials by various methods such as [legal deposit](#), purchase, donation and exchange.

- The number of items by facility is as follows:
- Tokyo Main Library: **25,003,304** items
- Kansai-kan of the NDL: **11,296,898** items
- ILCL: **490,301** items

- Websites ([Web Archiving Project](#)): **51,830** titles

[up](#)

Services available on NDL website

- Number of accesses to our website: 28,196,993 (77,252 per day)
- Online catalogs, various databases such as Full-text Database System for the Minutes of the Diet, and search guides which help you find information are available via the NDL website.
- Bibliographic data searchable on the [NDL-OPAC](#) and NDL Asian Language Materials OPAC: 11,034,582 records
- Japanese Periodicals Index: 10,134,061 articles
- NDL-OPAC is the National Diet Library Online Public Access Catalog.
- Bibliographic data searchable on the National Union Catalog Network System: 43,104,437 records
- Number of member libraries: **1,108**
- Provides data of Japanese books held by NDL, prefectural libraries and major municipal libraries in Japan.
- Bibliographic data searchable on the Union Catalog of Children's Literature: 870,574 records
- Number of newly added titles: **85,023**
- Provides holding data and specialized information (synopsis, bibliographic notes and prize information) by participation of major related institutions in Japan.
- Titles available on the [Digital Library from the Meiji Era](#)
- On the Internet: 121,091 titles (171,612 volumes)
- Only within the Library: 171,212 titles (218,875 volumes)
- Provides digitized images of books from the NDL collection which were published in the Meiji (1868–1912) and Taisho (1912–1926) eras.

[up](#)

Services for the National Diet

- Research on request: 37,951 cases
- Based on requests for research by the Diet members and others, we conduct research on national issues and domestic and foreign affairs, analysis and evaluation of legislative bills.
- Related article: [Services for the National Diet – providing legislative support](#)

[up](#)

Services for the executive and judicial branches

- Loan services: 11,161 items
- Based on the Branch Libraries System, there are branch libraries of the NDL in the government ministries and agencies and the Supreme Court, forming a library network through which we provide library services and exchange materials.
- Related article: [National Diet Library's network with libraries in the executive and judicial agencies: Branch Library System](#)

[up](#)

Services for the public

- On-site users: 647,177 people
- Tokyo Main Library: **470,833**
- Kansai-kan of the NDL: **59,445**
- ILCL: **116,899**
- Open days in each facility in FY2010 were as follows:
Tokyo Main Library: 279 days
Kansai-kan of the NDL: 280 days
ILCL: 286 days
- [Reference services](#): 542,288 cases
- Tokyo Main Library: **478,544**
- Kansai-kan of the NDL: **49,269**
- ILCL: **14,475**
- We provide services orally or by documents and telephone.
- Reading services: 2,396,181 items
- Tokyo Main Library: **2,246,856**
- Kansai-kan of the NDL: **123,585**
- ILCL: **25,740**
- Reading services requested on-site.
- Guided tours: 7,598 participants
- Tokyo Main Library: **3,195**
- Kansai-kan of the NDL: **2,005**
- ILCL: **2,398**
- To apply for guided tours, please see [tours of the Tokyo Main Library](#), [tours of the Kansai-kan](#) and [tours of the ILCL \(in Japanese\)](#).
- [Interlibrary loans](#): 22,657 items
- Tokyo Main Library: **9,053**

- Kansai-kan of the NDL: **5,255**
- ILCL: **8,349**
- Including interlibrary loans to other libraries, Book Sets Lending Service to School Libraries and loan services for exhibitions.

- [Photoduplication requests from remote users](#): 240,140 cases
- Tokyo Main Library: **120,486**
- Kansai-kan of the NDL: **119,103**
- ILCL: **551**
- Photoduplication service available via the website and others without visiting the NDL.

- On-site photoduplication requests: 820,847 cases
- Tokyo Main Library: **743,488**
- Kansai-kan of the NDL: **72,703**
- ILCL: **4,656**

*The statistics from FY2002 to FY2009 are available in [the past newsletter articles](#).

[up](#)



BACK

NEXT



National Diet Library Newsletter

No. 181, February 2012



National Bibliography is now available through the NDL-OPAC

From January 2012, the National Bibliography is provided on the Bibliographic Records Service screen of the renewed NDL-OPAC. [1](#)

Covered materials

Just like the past Japanese National Bibliography, bibliographic records of all publications published in Japan, and publications written in Japanese and published abroad, are included.

Bibliographic Records Service screen

How to view

On the Bibliographic Records Service screen, select a material type from the pull-down menu (Book, Non Book Material, Serial, All) and designate a date. The list of the bibliographic data which the National Diet Library (NDL) catalogued on the day will be displayed. It is possible to sort the data by title, author, publisher and year of publication.

No.	Material type	Title	Author	Publisher/Year of Publication	Series	Call No.
1	Book	介護福祉士をめぐる人々の声：福祉と仕事がよくわかる！ [2011年]	コンデックス情報研究所 編著；寺島剛 監修	成美堂出版, 2011.1.		Y55-J2336
2	Book	基本情報技術者試験勉強会 平成23年度 (春期) (秋期)	定平誠, 須藤智 共著	技術評論社, 2011.1.		YU37-J1515
3	Book	まへまのデジタルワークス		マックス, 2011.1.	Maxiック・Plus hi/select ed	Y85-J2094

Bibliographic data list screen

Downloading

The data, either one by one or several at once, can be downloaded in a wide variety of formats including JAPAN/MARC MARC21 format, character-separated values, citation, etc.
²

Save the record locally on your PC

1. Select Encoding: ☒ Unicode / UTF-8 ☐ Shift-JIS
 * Select only Unicode / UTF-8 file for MARC format.

2. Select Predefined Format:

Download screen

[up](#)

¹Japanese National Bibliography Weekly List, which had been released on the NDL website, ceased to be published with the 43rd issue of 2011 being the last. JAPAN/MARC, a machine-readable version of the National Bibliography, continues to be distributed through the Japan Library Association.

²Please note that it is sometimes necessary to make an application to the NDL for data use.

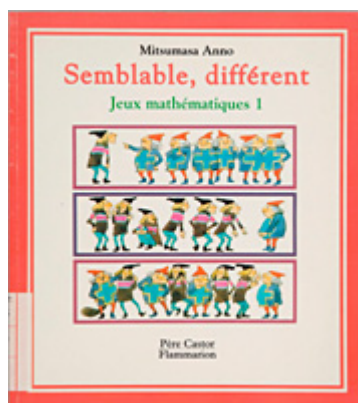


Digital exhibition “Children’s Books Going Overseas from Japan” (English version) now available

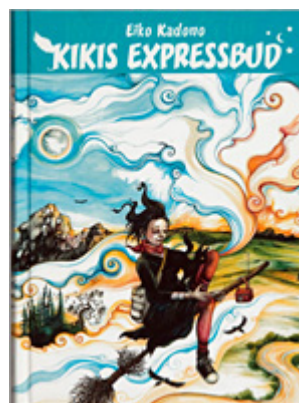
The [International Library of Children’s Literature](#) (ILCL) held an exhibition [“Children’s Books Going Overseas from Japan.”](#) commemorating the 10th anniversary of the ILCL and the National Year of Reading in 2010. Based on the exhibition catalogue, a digital exhibition (in Japanese) was created and released to the public via the Internet. Dealing with the subject of how translated Japanese children’s books are published and spread in foreign countries, it attracted a high level of interest from overseas, which led to the production of this English version.

This exhibition introduces the countries and regions in which Japanese children’s books have been translated, what kind of changes have been made to illustrations and texts, etc., to fit local custom and culture, by displaying about 300 items, including translated Japanese children’s books in over thirty countries and regions, and also their Japanese originals. (Please note that there are many books without cover image because of the copyright law.)

One of the missions of the ILCL is to focus on collecting Japanese children’s books translated into foreign languages. We hope this exhibition, introducing translated collections from various angles, will offer a good opportunity to inform you about the international diffusion of Japanese children’s books.

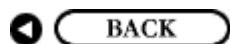


Anno’s math games



Kiki’s delivery service

[up](#)



National Diet Library Newsletter

No. 181, February 2012



BACK

Selected list of articles from NDL periodicals (Text in Japanese)

National Diet Library Monthly Bulletin (Kokuritsu Kokkai Toshokan Geppo)

If you click the volume number of each issue, you can read the full-text of NDL Monthly Bulletin. The text is provided in PDF format* (Japanese only).

*To see the full-text (PDF), you will need Adobe Acrobat Reader (free download). Click [here](#) to download. ([Adobe Website](#))

No. 610, January 2012 [[PDF Format, 4.27MB](#)]

- New Years Greetings from Makoto Nagao, the Librarian of the National Diet Library
- Book of the month — from NDL collections
Yamaji no shizuku: studies of early arms and armour in the Owari domain
- From Exhibition “Graphic Magazines in Meiji, Taisho and Showa Eras”
Modern printing technology (3) Three-color half-tone and four-color half-tone; photogravure; offset and HB process
- Essay on languages (final) Dreaming of a universal language
- Fun with science, events for children by the International Library of Children’s Literature
- Aiming to build “knowledge infrastructure”
Third Basic Plan for the Development of Science and Technology Information
- <Announcements>
 - 265 thousand volumes of digitized materials released inside the library facilities
 - Full-scale Web NDL Authorities started
 - Scripts Archives Symposium “In Search of Lost Scenarios and Scripts: the Significance of the Recycling of Culture”

[up](#)

No. 609, December 2011 [[PDF Format, 3.74MB](#)]

- Book of the month — from NDL collections
Takeaki Enomoto and photographs: excellent observation skills
- Digital Exhibition “Japanese Mathematics in the Edo Period”
- From Exhibition “Graphic magazines in Meiji, Taisho and Showa Eras”
Modern printing technology (2) Lithographs, chromolithographs, collotypes and relief halftones
- Libraries beyond libraries: integration, innovation and information for all

World Library and Information Congress: 77th IFLA General Conference and Assembly

- Essay on languages (11) Definite or indefinite
- <Announcements>
 - [New National Bibliography](#)
 - International Policy Seminar “Global Economy and Growth Strategy of Japan: Policy Implications after the Earthquake”

[up](#)

