

New Stage of the Digital Library of the National Diet Library of Japan: Digitization of Japanese Books and Digital Archive Portal

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The National Diet Library, the NDL in short, launched several digital library projects in 2002. Since then the digital library of the NDL has made remarkable progress and come to a new stage. Here I focus on two of its services and make a brief report: digitization of Japanese books and the digital archive portal.

Expansion of the Digital Library from the Meiji Era

The Digital Library from the Meiji Era was opened to the public in October 2002 featuring about 33,000 volumes. Now digitization and copyright clearance of almost all the NDL's books published in the Meiji Era (1868-1912), excluding children's books and books in Western languages, has been finished. Copyright clearance includes research of the expiration date of the copyright, receiving permission from the copyright holders, and in other cases obtaining compulsory copyright release from the Commissioner for Cultural Affairs. As of April 2006, the content covers 89,000 titles, 127,000 volumes and 12,910,000 images.

At the time of the addition, we changed the image format to JPEG and JPEG2000 to enable print and download in PDF format. We also made system improvements such as introduction of OAI-PMH (Open Archives Initiative Protocol for Metadata Harvesting) to distribute metadata, which enables the data of the Library to be included in the NDL Digital Archive Portal.

近代デジタルライブラリー
国立国会図書館

国立国会図書館が所蔵する図書デジタル画像を閲覧できます。

検索

分類で検索 詳しく検索 ヘルプ

お知らせ

[平成18年]

NEW!! 3月1日 新システムの館内公開を実施しています。性能検証等を行うため、一時的にご利用できない場合があります。お使いになる場合は、IE6.0以上をお使い下さい。

お知らせ一覧へ

JuGeMu PLAYER JPEG2000の画像を見るためにはプラグインをインストールしてください。

Get Adobe Reader Adobe Readerのダウンロードは左のアイコンからできます。

初めての方へ よくある質問 リンク集 利用上の注意 問い合わせ All Rights Reserved(c)National Diet Library 2002-2006

In addition, from FY2005 we started to digitize books published in the Taisho era (1912-1926) on a five-year plan that covers 90,000 volumes. We use the gray scale in digitization to reproduce the texture of original pages.

Digital images are created from 16mm microfilms of the original materials. Microfilming of books of the Taisho era is already finished. Now microfilming of 230,000 books published in early Showa era (1926-1945) is under way. We make microfiches at the same time as filming. Though the original books of the Meiji era, Taisho era and early Showa era cannot be lent out via inter library loan, microfiches are available. This availability can be confirmed via the NDL-OPAC.

For more information, please see or contact:

URL: <http://kindai.ndl.go.jp/>

E-mail: An e-mail form is available on the website of the Library.

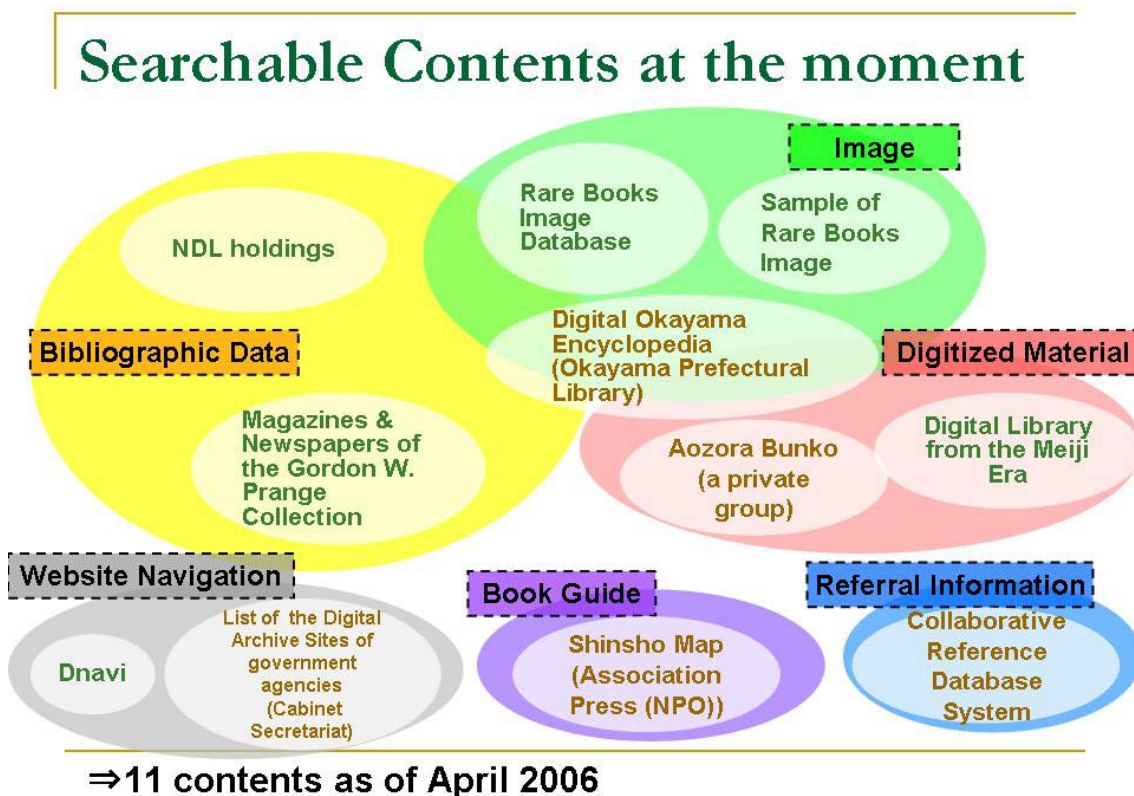
Prototype System of the NDL Digital Archive Portal

The NDL Digital Archive Portal is a comprehensive portal site navigating people to Japanese digital resources. It navigates them to the digital resources of the NDL and also to the digital resources outside the NDL, in coordination with other institutions owning a variety of digital content.

With the NDL Digital Archive Portal, we aim to

- 1) Navigate users accurately to the information they want, at one stop
- 2) Satisfy a wide variety of user needs
 - by providing specific services to cover a variety of subjects, types of information, user groups
 - through cooperation with service providers and portal sites in specific fields of knowledge
- 3) Navigate users to information resources including those published in paper form

To achieve these goals, we have been developing the prototype system since FY2004. Through this system, we are examining the adequacy of the techniques we adopted and the usefulness of our services. The system features integrated search. It was opened to the public in July 2005. Below is a description.



These are the searchable digital resources in the prototype system at the moment.

Labeled “Image” in the green circle,

- Rare Books Image Database: Image data of the national important cultural properties and colored materials held by the NDL
- Sample of Rare Books Image

Labeled “Digitized Material” in the pink circle,

- Digital Library from the Meiji Era: Digital images of the NDL’s books whose copyright clearance has already been finished
- Aozora Bunko: An electronic library managed by a private group making literary works whose copyright has expired into text or HTML and opening them online for free. Over 5,000 works have been digitized up to now.

Labeled “Bibliographic Data” in the orange circle,

- NDL holdings: A part of the bibliographic data held by the NDL
- Magazines & Newspapers of the Gordon W. Prange Collection: A part of the bibliographic data of the Gordon W. Prange Collection of the University of Maryland libraries. The Collection includes virtually everything published in Japan from 1945 to 1949.
- Digital Okayama Encyclopedia: A collection of digital content relating to Okayama prefecture. Okayama Prefectural Library, a public library, mainly manages this system and many institutes in Okayama prefecture provide resources. They are constructing a system which allows cross-reference and accumulation of the local multimedia resources including text of reports, pictures, sound data, animation data, websites, etc.

Labeled “Website Navigation” in the gray circle,

- Dnavi: NDL Database Navigation Service
- List of the Digital Archive Sites of government agencies: A list of online digitized materials owned by local governments, ministries, the Supreme Court etc.

Labeled “Book Guide” in the purple circle,

- Shinsho Map: A new style book guide service that navigates users to books categorized under a thousand themes with information such as summary and table of contents.

Labeled “Referral Information” in the blue circle,

- Collaborative Reference Database System: A knowledge-based database for reference services, providing various cases of questions and answers and manuals for research. The contents of the database are registered and utilized by participating libraries in this project.

As of April 2006, you can search 11 contents of the prototype system, from inside / outside of the NDL.

The prototype system has the following search menu:

- 1) Keyword Search
Search Support by thesauri
- 2) Associative Search
- 3) Classification Search (Nippon Decimal Classification: NDC)
- 4) New arrival Contents / Updated Contents
- 5) Access Ranking

6) Keyword Ranking

An integrated search for various kinds of digital archives is available by several methods.

Keyword Search

The image illustrates the keyword search procedure through four numbered steps:

- 1) Search page:** A screenshot of a search interface with a text input field. A blue arrow points to the input field with the text "enter keyword" and "search!".
- 2) Search results:** A screenshot of a search results page listing various digital archives. A blue arrow points to one of the results with the text "choose!".
- 3) Detailed information:** A screenshot of a detailed metadata page for a selected item. A blue arrow points to the URL field with the text "click! jump to the relevant page" and "URL".
- 4) Relevant page:** A screenshot of the actual digital content, which is a thumbnail of a book page. A blue arrow points to the thumbnail with the text "click! jump to the relevant page" and "thumbnail".

This slide shows screenshots of the keyword search procedure.

- 1) Search page: At the search page, you can search databases by entering keywords.
- 2) Search results: After entering keywords, the search results page appears. The results from several digital archives appear at one time. You can choose the results you want to see.
- 3) Detailed information: For example, on this slide, detailed information from the Rare Books Image Database is chosen. The linked page displays the metadata including title, creator, description, URL etc.
- 4) Relevant page: When you click the URL, you jump to the relevant page within the Rare Books Image Database. You also can do it directly from 2), skipping 3). Then you can see the images there.

Search Support by thesauri

Search page

enter keyword "ukiyo-e"

search!

select the checkbox and search again!

検索

ukiyo-e

- 統制語 (Controlled vocabulary)
- 浮世絵 (Ukiyoe)
- 読み等 (Katakana, Romaji)
- ウキヨエ
- Ukiyoe (hit!)
- 類義語 (synonym)
- 江戸絵
- エドエ
- Edoe
- 錦絵
- ニシキエ
- Nisikie
- 横浜絵
- ヨコハマエ
- Yokohamae
- 下位語 (hyponym)
- なまず絵

Search results

This slide shows the Search Support by thesauri.

The authority files of the NDL are implemented to support keyword search. When you enter keywords to search metadata of the digital content, the results of the matches from the NDL authority files appear on the right part of the page, which show a controlled vocabulary, broader terms, related terms etc. If you select these terms by ticking the checkbox, then you can make a new search.

We are planning to add more thesauri and dictionaries here in the future.

Other Integrated Search Functions



These are screenshots of other functions.

1) Associative Search

When you enter a set of keywords or sentences in the textbox, the results are retrieved by considering the proximity between keywords or sentences and metadata. It can be said that the way of associative search is closer to human thinking processes than general keyword search.

2) Classification Search

You can get results by browsing categories of the Nippon Decimal Classification, NDC.

3) Access Ranking

Best accessed digital resources are shown here.

4) Keyword Ranking

Best keywords used in searches are shown here.

For more information, please see or contact:

URL: <http://www.dap.ndl.go.jp/home/>

E-mail: An e-mail form is available on the prototype system website.