

## The NDL's New Services

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### 1. Mission

The National Diet Library (NDL) is the only national library in Japan. It was established in 1948, under the National Diet Library Law, modeled on the U.S. Library of Congress.

The National Diet Library Law declares the ideal of its establishment in its preamble:

The National Diet Library is hereby established as a result of the firm conviction that truth makes us free and with the object of contribution to international peace and the democratization of Japan as promised in our Constitution.

### 2. Functions

- Legislative support services for the Diet members
- Library services for the executive and judicial agencies and the public
- Acquisition and preservation of all publications in Japan under the legal deposit system, and also a large amount of selected foreign publications

### 3. Challenges

- The volume of publications and the variety of media of publications are increasing dynamically.
- The development of information processing and communication technologies has enabled the library to provide new services.
- The demands of library users have become diverse and complex.

To meet the challenges:

The NDL will open the Kansai-kan to enhance its functions in tandem with the Tokyo Main Library.

### 4. Organization

- Apr. 2002: NDL reorganized, Kansai-kan established
- May 2002: International Library of Children's Literature fully opened
- Oct. 2002: Kansai-kan will open (Public services start on October 7th)

The NDL consists of the following libraries:

- Central library
    - The Main Library in Tokyo
    - The Kansai-kan
  - Branch libraries
    - The International Library of Children's Literature
  - Toyo Bunko (Oriental Library)
    - 27 branch libraries in executive and judicial agencies of the government
- The NDL has a staff of 920.

## **5. Functions of each facility**

The Tokyo Main Library will be mainly in charge of:

- Administration of the whole NDL
- Legislative services
- Executive and judicial services
- Acquisition policy and implementation
- National bibliography
- Direct user services
- Special information services

The Kansai-kan will be mainly in charge of:

- Remote services
- Direct user services
- Asian information services
- Library cooperation activities
  - compilation of union catalogues, support of the libraries for the disabled,
  - library information study, librarian training programs
- Development of digital library contents
  - Extensive preservation

## **6. Collections**

### **6.1. Items collected by legal deposit system**

- Books
- Pamphlets
- Serials (magazines, newspapers, etc.)
- Maps
- Music materials
- Phonographic records
- Microfilms, microfiches
- Offline electrical publications etc. (from Oct. 2000)

Offline electrical publications etc.:

- Cassette tapes
- Video disks (LD, DVD)
- Video cassettes (VHS,  $\beta$ )
- Video tapes
- Magnetic disks
- Optical disks (Music CD, CD-ROM)
- IC cards

Networked /online publications:

The Legal Deposit System Council is now investigating further the collection of networked /online publications.

Archival materials:

Archival materials are outside the legal deposit system.

The NDL acquires:

- Modern Japanese political history documents
- Materials on the allied occupation of Japan in the post- WW II period

## **6.2. Locations of NDL collections**

### **6.2.1. The Collections of the Tokyo Main Library**

- Japanese books: 5,250,000 items
- Japanese electrical publications: 17,300 items
- Foreign books: 2,600,000 items
- Japanese serials: 113,000 titles (5,600,000 items)
- Japanese newspapers: 6,600 titles (2,000,000 items)
- Foreign serials (including electrical publication): 1,000 titles (34,000 items)
- Foreign newspapers: 1,000 titles (600,000 items)
- Materials related to science and technology  
( index, abstract, reference materials, materials on atomic energy, etc.)
- Asian reference materials, Chinese old books
- Doctoral dissertations abstracts
- Rare and old materials, maps, modern Japanese political documents, etc.

### **6.2.2. The Collections of the Kansai-kan**

- Japanese books: 330,000 item
- Japanese electrical publications: 1,000 items
- Foreign books (reference books): 7,000 items
- Japanese serials: 13,000 titles (400,000 items)
- Japanese newspapers: 87 titles (30,000 items)
- Foreign serials on science and technology: 43,000 titles (1,700,000 items)
- Foreign Asian newspapers: 105 titles (40,000 items) (Asian newspapers: 95 titles)
- Materials related to science and technology  
(technical reports: 2,400,000 items, foreign doctoral dissertation: 430,000 items)
- Asian vernacular materials (book: 240,000 items, serials: 6,000 titles)
- Doctoral dissertations: 420,000 items,
- Scientific research reports produced under grants from the Ministry of Education, etc.

## **7. Buildings and Facilities**

### **7.1. The Tokyo Main Library**

- The Main Building, completed in 1968, stands at one end of the Diet Buildings in Tokyo.
- The stack area has a capacity of 4.5 million volumes.
- The Annex, constructed in 1986.
- It has stacks with a capacity of 7.5 million volumes.

## **7.2. The Kansai-kan**

- The Kansai-kan is situated in Seika-Nishikizu District, in the center of Kansai Science City, located in the Keihanna Hills Area extending over Kyoto, Osaka and Nara prefectures.
- The building has four stories above ground and the same underground. The floor area adds up to some 59,500m<sup>2</sup>. It has a capacity of 6 million volumes.
- The Kansai-kan is being planned to be expanded in the future to occupy 82,500m<sup>2</sup> of land and to have 165,000m<sup>2</sup> of floor area with a capacity of 20 million volumes.
- The architect, Mr.Fumio Toki, who won first prize in the International Design Competition for the Kansai-kan, says, “The main reading room has a canopy of contained natural light. The side windows reflect the changing features of the courtyard trees, which will provide the otherwise static room with slight movement. It is a serene and relaxing space woven with natural light and greenery, equipped with advanced information technology.”

## **8. User services**

### **8.1. Direct user services**

#### **8.1.1. The Tokyo Main Library**

- Persons 18 years old or over are admitted.
- It is open from 9:30 a.m. to 5 :00 p.m.
- General Study Room is open from 9:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. (Permission is required)
- Closing days ( see the NDL’s web site)
- The Tokyo Main Library has a central stack and the special materials rooms.
- The special materials rooms below have been rearranged by subject, to simplify reference services:
  - Law, Political and Official Publication Room
  - Business, Science and Technology Room
  - Humanities Room
  - Electronic Resources Room
  - Map Room
  - Modern Japanese Political History Materials Room
  - Rare Books and Old Materials Room
- Newspaper Reading Room

#### **8.1.2. The Kansai-kan**

- Persons 18 years old or over will be admitted
- It will be open Monday through Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- Closings days ( see the NDL’s web site)
- Visitor registration system will be used.
- Visitor will order materials from the stacks via computer terminals.
- 100,000 reference books (50,000 at the opening) and 50,000 Asian books (30,000 at the opening) will be on open shelves in the main reading room where 350 seats are available.
- Book reservation service (via the web site) will be available.

## **8.2. Reference services**

- Reference services are coordinated and primarily conducted by the Tokyo Main Library.
- Written inquiries, whether by mail, fax or newly introduced e-mail (from Oct. 2002), are received by the Reference Service Planning Division of the Reference and Special Collections Department in the Tokyo Main Library.
- Telephone reference will be available in each facility.
- For reference services, the NDL encourages people to go to a nearby library first and, if necessary, send enquiries through that library.

For both libraries and individuals overseas:

- Reference enquiries about Japan will be accepted by mail, fax, and e-mail.
- The bibliographic database “ Books on Japan (acquired in 2002)” will be available on the NDL web site from Jan. 2003.

## **8.3. Remote user services**

### **8.3.1. Photoduplication and Interlibrary Loan**

The Kansai-kan will organize and play an essential role in remote services (photoduplication, interlibrary loan):

For individual users:

- Photoduplication services, e.g., for articles indexed in Zassaku, requested via the Internet
- Mail order photoduplication services

For libraries:

- Inter-library loan and photoduplication services via the Internet, post, fax and NDL-ILL system

### **8.3.2. Digital library contents of the NDL and the new OPAC**

Major digital contents of the NDL web site:

#### Full text

- Minutes of the Diet since the first session in May 1947 (Joint project of both Houses)
- Rare books image data base (29,000 items)
- Books published in the Meiji era (30,000 volumes)

#### Edited contents

- Digital exhibition (e.g. Rare Books) → Gallery (from Oct. 2002)
- Nippon in the World
- Picture Book as Stage (International Library of Children’s Literature)

#### Catalogs

- Japanese books (2,500,000 items) and western books (230,000 items)
- Directory of Japanese Scientific Periodicals (14,000 items)
- National Union Catalog of Braille and Recorded Books in Japan (250,000 items)
- Union Catalog of Juvenile Books (International Library of Children’s Literature, 200,000 items)

### **8.3.3. New OPAC services on the Internet:**

The NDL will revise its web site in October 2002 and make its new OPAC (NDL-OPAC) available outside of the library.

The NDL's holdings whose bibliographic data will be searchable on the Internet will be:

From Oct.2002

- Japanese books (Meiji era – present, including pamphlet, electrical materials: 2,500,000 items)
- Western books (1986 – present, including children's books: 230,000 items)
- Japanese periodicals (110,000 items)
- Western periodicals (50,000 items)
- Japanese old books (5,000 items)
- Conference proceedings in Western languages (70,000 items)
- Standards (90,000 items)
- Doctoral dissertations (270,000 items)
- Japanese periodicals index (Zassaku, current 100,000 items from Oct.2002, 1948 - present, 5,400,000 items from Nov. 2002).
- Asian languages materials (book 50,000 items, serials 6,000 items)

From Jan. 2003

- Maps, music and audiovisuals
- National Union Catalog of Braille and Recorded Books in Japan (250,000 items)

### **8.3.4 Japanese periodicals index database (Zassaku)**

- Since 1948- (5.4 million items)
- Search keys: article title, author name, magazine title, publisher/editor, publication date, volume number, call number, ISBN/ISSN etc. Titles and names etc. are searchable in kanji and kana
- Search results: listing (article title, featured title, author name, magazine title, volume number, publication date) and individual item description (ditto plus pages, call number, publisher/editor, ISBN/ISSN etc.)

Other versions of Japanese periodicals index database:

- Print (1948-1995)
- Magnetic tape (1948- 2001, current)
- CD-ROM (since 1975)
- DVD (1948-2001) "Japanese Periodicals Index on DVD 1948-2001"
- Sold by the Kinokuniya - Shoten

### **8.3.5. Web Archiving Project(WARP) and Database Navigation Services (Dnavi)**

WARP:

- Project to test the newly developed system of collecting selectively, archiving, preserving online resources by harvesting robot or other methods
- Available from Nov. 2002

Dnavi:

- Subject gateway services on the NDL web site available from Nov. 2002

### **8.3.6. Procedure for using remote services**

#### **Registration**

For individuals:

- Registration will be possible both at the Tokyo Main Library and the Kansai-kan from Oct.2002, but not possible at the International Library of Children's Literature.
- Registration by mail will be possible, but not by e-mail.
- Registration by mail will be possible, at the Kansai-kan, but not at the Tokyo Main Library.

For libraries:

- Registration will be possible at the Kansai-kan from Oct.2002, but not at the Tokyo Main Library.
- Registration by mail will be possible, but not by e-mail.

#### **Photoduplication services**

For both libraries and individuals:

- Application for photoduplication services is accepted both at the Tokyo Main Library and the Kansai-kan.
- Payment by credit card for photoduplication services has been under consideration.

#### **ILL**

For libraries:

- Application for ILL is accepted at the Kansai-kan.

#### **Schedule:**

1<sup>st</sup> Oct. 2002:

- NDL-OPAC (search only) available

7<sup>th</sup> Oct. 2002:

- Application for photoduplication services via the Internet available for libraries
- Registration for individuals will start

7<sup>th</sup> Jan. 2003:

- Application for photoduplication services via the Internet available for individuals

### **Answers to questions**

#### **1. The scope of the NDL collection**

See 6.1.

#### **2. NDL services available for overseas researchers, including NDL's international reference service**

The NDL offers overseas researchers:

- NDL's materials by ILL
- Photoduplication services:

Application by mail, OPAC will be available. (see 8.3.)

- Digital library contents of the NDL web site: Full text, edited contents, NDL-OPAC
- Reference services about Japan by mail, fax, and e-mail.

### 3. Using NDL publication

The NDL offers information about the publications on its web site.

[http://www.ndl.go.jp/ndl\\_frm\\_8.html](http://www.ndl.go.jp/ndl_frm_8.html)

### 4. When the overseas researchers visit NDL, how can they maximize their limited time?

How can local institutions help prepare researchers before going to NDL?

Overseas researchers can maximize their limited time by:

Before visiting the NDL:

- Apply for user registration by mail
- Access the NDL-OPAC
- Photoduplication services:  
Application by mail, fax (through libraries), and OPAC will be available.
- Make a book reservation, before visiting the Kansai-kan
- Get information about the opening hours, closing days, request hours, photoduplication hours of each facility of the NDL

Local institutions such as public libraries and academic libraries (overseas) will offer researchers the following:

- Reference services
- NDL's materials by ILL
- Photoduplication services through libraries

For users who do not have a computer

- Digital library contents of the NDL web site:  
Full text, edited contents, NDL- OPAC (see 8.3.) by using computer of local institutions.

Local institutions such as public libraries and academic libraries (in Japan) will offer researchers the following:

- NDL's catalogs and bibliographies
- Reference services
- NDL's materials by ILL
- Photoduplication services through libraries

For users who do not have a computer

- Digital library contents of the NDL web site:  
Full text, edited contents, NDL- OPAC (see 8.3.) by using computer of local institutions.