

National Diet Library Newsletter

No. 116, October 2000

NEXT



APLAP Conference held in Tokyo

The Conference of the Association of Parliamentary Librarians of Asia and the Pacific (APLAP) was held in Tokyo on October 2–5, 2000. The Tokyo Conference, which the National Diet Library hosted, was the sixth biennial meeting of the Association, previous venues being Seoul, Islamabad, Bangkok, Canberra and Manila.

The objective of the APLAP is to enrich parliamentary services through cooperation among member libraries. The theme of the Tokyo Conference was “The Parliamentary Library: Research and Information services in the New Era.” Thirty-four participants from twenty-two parliaments* exchanged experiences and had intensive discussions on how they could enhance services for their respective legislatures in the years to come.



The substantial part of the Conference started with the presentations by guest speakers. Dr. TAKAMI Katsutoshi, Professor, School of Law, Hokkaido University, delivered a keynote speech entitled “The Role of Parliament and the Parliamentary Library in the New Century,” ([Summary of the speech](#) is carried in this issue) and Mr. Patricio ARANDA TORRES, Director, Library of Congress, Republic of Peru, made his speech titled “[Democracy Links: Parliamentary Information Services](#)”.

Working sessions and business meetings were held on the subsequent days. Sixteen country papers were read in working sessions which were devoted to sub-themes: “Services for Members and information technology,” “Development and enhancement of services in the New Era,” and “Staff in the future.” In the general business meeting, new executive



committee members of APLAP were elected: President – Mr. Ramesh Chander AHUJA (India), Vice President Asia – Ms. Maria Fe S. ABELEDA-ROBLES (Philippines), Vice President Pacific – Ms. Roslynn MEMBREY (Australia), Secretary – Takenori HORIMOTO (Japan), and Treasurer – Ms. Sait Poh “Ruby” CHEAH-Khoo (Singapore/re-elected). There were also social programs, including a reception hosted jointly by the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President of the House of Councillors.

The next conference of APLAP will be held in Ankara, Turkey, in September 2002. The theme of the Ankara Conference is “The role of the parliamentary library in enhancing democracy in the digital age.” The key to democracy is an effective legislature and the key to an effective legislature is information. Parliamentary libraries must do their best to provide information and research services to the legislature, and to disseminate information

of the legislature to the public, utilizing the latest technology.

* Australia, Australia (NSW), Bangladesh, Cambodia, Cook Islands, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kiribati, Korea, Micronesia, Mongolia, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey, Vietnam

NEXT 

National Diet Library Newsletter

No. 116, October 2000



Summary of the keynote speech for the APLAP Conference

The Role of Parliament and the Parliamentary Library in the New Century

by Takami Katsutoshi

Professor, School of Law, Hokkaido University

It was in the late 1960s and early 1970s that the term "Information Society" came to use in Japan. The term was replaced by "Advanced Information Society" and "Networked Society" in the '80s and '90s. Now in the year 2000, with the new millennium closing in, we have the "Information Technology (IT) Revolution" making headlines in the media, foreboding a great change to come. These terms are spoken about in every corner of the world, pointing to the direction of a rapidly transforming society. Since parliament stands on the basis of society, it is directly affected by this social upheaval.

Here I will discuss the role to be played by parliament, and subsequently, the mission to be carried out by the parliamentary library from the viewpoint of "information" and the "flow of information".

Firstly, let us look at government and parliament from the viewpoint of "quantity of information." One cannot help being astonished at the imbalance that exists between the executive and the legislature. The government daily gathers and accumulates immense quantities of information through their nationwide network of administrative and bureaucratic system, whereas the information the parliament possesses is very limited. And traditionally, the executive has regarded its information monopoly and secrecy as a useful tool for effective control over the people. The development of democracy, however, made sure that the executive could not pursue this "the less they know, the better" attitude. The 1960s saw the movement for disclosure of government information rise in developed countries, and the subsequent enactment of "free information" legislation punched holes in executive secrecy.

Parliament, on the other hand, is by nature open to the public, being a discussion forum, whose members are elected directly by the people and represent the people as a whole. This contrasts with the hierarchical, and therefore, closed structure of the bureaucracy or the executive. Thus, the expected function of parliament at its creation was to penetrate executive secrecy and open up the information monopolized by the government.

This can be likened to a drill that makes a wind hole into the secret box of information or a pipe through which the information flows.

Now, taking a look at parliament from the viewpoint of "flow of information," we may observe that it stands between the people and government at the junction of the

government-to-parliament flow and parliament-to-people flow.

First, the government-parliament relationship. Here, the parliamentary task is to watch and control the executive bureaucracy by drawing out the information they tend to hide, that is, the information against the executive. The parliamentary library will play a very important role in providing crucial information for members of parliament.

Second, the parliament-people relationship. Thanks to its structural openness, parliament enjoys a relatively free exchange of information. The flow of information used to be one-way from the parliament, but the rapid advance of information technology enabled people to send information directly to the members of parliament and their parties, not only during election campaigns but rather as daily practice. Parliament, in turn, will selectively utilize the people's information in the legislation. The establishment of a forum will be the next step, where people and parliament share information. The parliamentary library is expected to be the cornerstone of the forum, providing the latest parliamentary information and developing a system to offer its vast accumulation of materials to the people who are interested in legislative activities. The "electronic library project" will contribute to building such a system.

From the viewpoint of "information flow," parliament is a public space in which entirely different information from both government and people mix and swirl. The task of parliament is to shape the chaos into something tangible, to make fundamental decisions for government, and to show the direction in which the nation should be heading. In other words, the parliament has an "articulation function," a "strategy function" and a "teaching function." Parliamentary functions can also be characterized as two contrasting models: "transforming" type versus "arena" type, or "working" type versus "address" type. A "transforming" parliament filters and processes the information that flows in and transforms it into a law as output. A "working" parliament examines governmental proposals from various aspects, and tailors them to be acceptable for the people.

The parliamentary library, being a support agency of the parliament, has little role to play in the "arena" or "address" model which is more or less a political show for the public. But in the "transforming" or "working" model, the characteristic of which is the steady and specialized deliberation in the committee, it may fairly be said that the quality of information provided by the parliamentary library and other support agencies is vital in the transforming and working function of the parliament.

Lastly, in this context, I would like to raise three points concerning the role of the parliamentary library, especially its legislative support section, or the information which the section should provide.

First, the the parliamentary library needs to consciously provide factual data on the legislation that will facilitate review of the law by the judiciary, or objective data on the policy that supports the legislation as a foundation. Also, the preparation of "constitution-conscious" information is needed; such as, whether or not rationality is recognized both in the aim of the law and the means to realize it, and whether or not there is a less restrictive measure available when the law will impose some restriction on human rights.

Second, the parliamentary library should actively inform the legislature of its own objective appraisal and evaluation of the policies behind bills. Of course, the policy evaluation it offers as information must be accurate and objective, based on data, and non-partisan and balanced. It would contribute to the enhancement of parliamentary activities, if it functions as a think tank for the legislature, examines the issues from a medium/ long-term perspective, and, above all, provides policy evaluating information of high quality from parliamentary librarians or legislative experts.

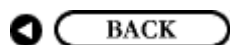
Third, the parliamentary library should become an "information base" that plays the role of "go-between" between parliament and civil society, and serve as a core system for the continuous communication between them. It is not an overstatement to say that whether parliament can duly function in the information society depends on the ability of the parliamentary library to accumulate and supply useful information for them.

In the catalog hall of the main building of the National Diet Library is inscribed: "Truth Makes Us Free." This motto was inscribed to recall the painful event, namely, that with the truth hidden from the people, Japan blindly dashed into a devastating war. Thus, since the war Japan has been determined to contribute to democracy and world peace by making all information available to the people. I am convinced that this motto will be given further life in the 21st century, when the parliamentary librarians gathered here closely cooperate with each other and establish a solid information network.



National Diet Library Newsletter

No. 116, October 2000



Presentation by the guest speaker of the APLAP Conference

Democracy Links: Parliamentary Information Services

Patricio Aranda Torres

Director, Library of Congress of the Republic of Peru

[Abstract](#)

[Introduction](#)

[Networks and the Media](#)

[The Peruvian Experience](#)

[The Library of Congress](#)

[Conclusions](#)

[BIBLIOGRAPHY](#)

Abstract

One of the aspects strengthening legitimacy of the Legislature is the citizens' right to exercise a passive control over the activities conducted by their representatives. This control is achieved through information technology developed in each Parliament and made available to as many citizens as possible. Legitimacy of Legislatures should not only be through elections, but also through a constant assessment of its work by the citizens. Electoral propaganda through the media spreads views and comments which may even determine political results. These should not be the only information channels. Explosion of communication networks has given rise to a new form of interactive citizens participation.

This work suggests the ways through which citizens may attain a better participation through parliamentary information systems, and illustrates the success of such a proposal by referring to the experience of the Congress of the Republic of Peru.

Introduction

Not all countries that were left behind during the boom of the Industrial Revolution - currently called "developing countries", or more recently called "emerging markets" - should necessarily be adversely affected by the current "digital revolution". We should recall that not all current prevailing societies, were so in the past, and not all emerging societies have always been in such situation. We are all acquainted with the results of the worldwide globalization process including, but not limiting to, the integration of financial markets, the increased significance of the Asia Pacific region, the European unification, the transformation of the former Soviet block, the North American Free Trade Agreement, and the association of third world economies into an interdependent system. Within this context, information units attached to Legislatures can play an important role in social integration since they are able to mount interactive computer networks disseminating important information to a broad cross-section of society as

well as offering a direct line of communication with political representatives. The development of these technologies has in fact created a new means of communication and has generated some important social changes in such varied areas as gender relations, environmental awareness and even political systems, introducing the cyberculture of late 20th century, increasing distance and conditions in which time and space were organized. Information technology has the capacity, where it can be made widely accessible, to impact most spheres of human activity, that is, data banks, discussion forums, financial operations, educational consultations, leisure resources, new interpersonal relations, possibilities to find a couple, work options, videoconferences, among such other applications that may effectively contribute to shape the society of which it is part.

Networks and the Media

During the period of the industrial society, the only possible information came from radio and television, and these were managed unidirectionally without the possibility of acting between transmitters and receivers. Currently, the multiplication of institutions, people, organizations, governmental agencies and other social representatives have allowed the multiplication of information generators, transmitters, and receivers on the web. In this sense, Internet has become a rather social institution that allows the states not only to implement an accelerated process of technological modernization, but also apply this and other means to interact with citizens and allow for real (virtual) citizens participation.

In order to achieve this objective, it is necessary to use systems leading to improving the use of electronic communication at world level. The major difference between audiovisual information and the electronic medium is the opportunity for interaction provided by the latter. Thus, many authors already refer to the existence of the informational society as a new way of development where technology is the source of productivity generating knowledge, information processing and symbol communication. The main activity is the accumulation of knowledge, an increased complexity in information processing, which allows data to be organized and readily communicated.

Parliamentary libraries and information services can take this opportunity to contribute to the strengthening of democracy by providing citizens with direct information on the political process, thus meeting the society's need for transparency regarding policy making. The legitimization of the parliamentary institution is fundamental to the democratic law-making process. This legitimacy relies upon the citizens' knowledge and acceptance of legislative activities, and it is vital that the parliament should develop mechanisms that allow the use of technology to transmit such information to the citizens.

Effective policy making is dependent upon communication. Political manifestos tend to be compared with the current realities facing a community, resulting in a judgment by the constituencies on the likely success of the measures outlined and their repercussion. To develop a relationship between authorities and citizens, there must be representation and communication. All of the political groups and parties should convey their strategies through similar technological means if they want them to reach their constituencies. This would enable the interaction with a considerable number of citizens who, through the use of the same medium, may have access to lawmakers.

Those political parties that are still based on political and organizational strategies of the industrial era observe the diminution of their autonomy due to the strong dependency on these information flows. In other words, the atomization of interests in societies allows the media to gain influence since their simple messages provide a sense of identity for a huge conglomerate lacking a common referential basis.

Those who are qualified users of the media have more possibilities than those who lack that communicative talent. The outcome of this situation is evident in Latin America, where this represents an average of 13 hours of television watching, and where politicians and parties turn into consumer goods instead of philosophers, educators or managers.

This proves the communication needs of those in charge of the decision-making process. If they do not do it, there may be a crisis in the democratic process in this information era, thus showing the necessity to generate information within the parliamentary organization. Generators of information within parliaments, who are used to providing impartial and accurate information, are able to create the appropriate environment to introduce these new forms of direct communication with citizens, without the filter commonly used by audiovisual media.

This undermining has frequently caused some sectors of society to cease taking an informed interest in their government and the consequential fragmentation of the political system. The recovery or legitimization of democracy may be achieved through the opportunity offered by electronic communication to increase political participation at large, and, in particular, horizontal communication among citizens, reversing the fragmentation produced by manipulative interests of the media.

The Peruvian Experience

Information systems of the Congress of the Republic of Peru have been designed to achieve two objectives. On the one hand, the purpose is to encourage citizens communication towards parliamentarians in order to express their social needs, and, on the other, it is being sought to generate direct communication lines with the citizens, circumventing any bias or misinterpretation from the traditional audiovisual media. The Peruvian Virtual Parliament, setting out the commencement of the said purpose, created by Doctor Carlos Torres y Torres Lara and implemented by Doctor José Cevalco Piedra, is a system through which the Congress of the Republic is made interactively available to citizens and institutions - both within Peru and abroad - with a view to encouraging their participation in the different activities conducted by the Congress. This form of participation enables citizens to interact directly with the legislative institution from any computer connected to the World Wide Web, and to propose by this means legislative initiatives, demands, views or suggestions. In brief, this is a mechanism striving to consolidate the bases of the democratic system in Peru, since it is fundamentally based on the participation of each citizen and institution, making possible a fluid political communication and an efficient decision making process within the legislative sphere. Citizens are able to gain information, and make their views known on particular bills; submit direct petitions to their congressmen or the respective committees; participate in discussion forums, or propose to conduct them. Each citizen is previously registered and receives an access code in order to ensure his or her participation. Finally, it offers a friendship club where students have the opportunity to take part in civil culture and political knowledge contests from their school booths, witness congressional sessions and visit the Congress, even if they come from the interior of the country. Within the audiovisual information systems developed by the Peruvian Congress (radio and television press), two are to be mentioned: one is the Radio Program "Gathering Center with the Congress" which weekly broadcasts the congressional activities and discusses specific issues one hour every week. It should be emphasized that this program has a regular audience, competing with other programs exclusively musical broadcast at the same time, which suggests that there exists an unsatisfied demand among the society with respect to congressional information. This program can be obtained from the Internet in MP3 format which is a digital audio and

video format widely used to distribute audio (music) and video through the Internet and by any other resources. The other information system is the television program "Seat 122", the number of which represents the seat of the citizen in the floor, and that represents the spirit of this program. Every week and in an open signal television channel, not only are displayed the news on the Congress work, but also we prepare audiovisual reports of journalistic nature on debate issues in the Congress, or issues proposed by the citizens. Each television program can be retrieved also in Real Player through the Internet.

Results from the parliament's electronic voting system are also reported over the Internet allowing citizens to have access to accurate information about their representatives' performance and attendance. Digital press systems have enabled the development of direct communication not only with citizens, but also with information chiefs of the mass media, so that exactness in the information disseminated is achieved. In this sense, the electronic newspaper, El Heraldo provides real time information about congressmen's varied activities, agreements, discussions and statements. Likewise, La Gaceta del Congreso makes public the agenda of the committees sessions and of the Plenary of Congress and is distributed electronically to those citizens interested in receiving a copy. It is also distributed free of charge every Sunday together with a major national circulation newspaper. Sessions of the Plenary and the Permanent Commission are transcribed and published on the web in almost real time, through our Debate Journal. This text system is linked to another image system called Virtual Television through which a session, in a video segment, can be retrieved via a certain type of search that can be made by main subject, date of the session or name of the parliamentarian.

The Digital Archive System for Peruvian Legislation is available on the web and allows access to all laws, legislative resolutions, supreme decrees and other legal regulations through two blocks: laws numbered from year 1904 up to date; and non - numbered laws from 1821 to 1904 as well as international treaties signed since 1824. The archive employs PDF format and prints of the documents can be directly obtained.

Since 1997, our Bills System enables inquirers to refer to a status report of all those bills submitted which have been enacted, or been filed. The system, developed in Lotus Notes format, permits the search and retrieval of information by date of presentation, number of bill, congressman submitting the bill, political party or parliamentary bench, and even by committee in charge of passing judgement. It is important to point out that each of the 27 committees has available an individual web page, which is different in each legislative period, where not only approved bills or information on members composing the said committee can be referred to, but also the work presented by specialists invited to the sessions or to the extra-parliamentary hearings carried out in the interior of the country.

The Web Page also provides detailed information on Congressmen's travels abroad and we also have a word search system through which one may enter a word on the constitution web page and the system will retrieve all results concerning that word.

Finally, specific distribution lists relating to different areas of interest allow citizens interested in particular topics to receive specialized information on relevant subjects. In this respect, we have a list of laws including a complete text of every law that is passed; a list of bills, including a complete text of every bill that is submitted; a list of Press News including all press notes released by the Congress; a list of photographs of congressional activities including JPEG images, distributed by e-mail to the information editors of the mass media being those most frequently used by the media. Another list informs about

web news, and another, prepared by the Juridical Counsel, sends a daily legal summary.

Then, we have information compiled by the Library, (including information announcements providing citizens with the possibility of requesting free copies), links of interest on the World Wide Web, invitations to conferences of distinguished specialists in all subjects of national interest, and announcements of the latest books published by the Editorial Fund of the Congress, or working documents of the committees. This information is sent through a list with 10,000 users, and considering that the number of those connected to the Congress via Internet is currently about 20,000.

The Library of Congress

The Library of the Peruvian Congress, was restructured in July 1997 and forms part of the collection of the former Public Library and Legislative Library, the latter being the collection, in its turn, of the earlier House of Deputies and the Senate of the Republic. Although there is not an exact date of the two first libraries foundation, we know that the first Congress legislators of 1822 already had a basic collection of doctrine books and law digests dating back to 'colonial laws' or the so-called 'Indian laws', the first compilation of which dating back from the late 17th century and still preserved in the Library research room.

The fundamental objective of the Library is to gather, classify and disseminate materials and services to assist the decision-making process in Congress. A major task currently underway is the expansion of electronic services, involving the development of internal resources, such as an automated search system for reference material, laws, bills, decisions, debate journals, as well as other types of information provided on an Intranet and on the Web Site for the Congress. In addition to the Reference and Consultation Room, the Newspapers and Periodicals Library and the various special collections of the Library, there is also an Electronic Information Center within the Library. This Center is equipped with 18 PCs from which users of the Library have free access to the Congressional Intranet databases and the Internet. The Library currently has over 140,000 volumes including complete collections of newspapers such as "El Comercio", since 1839, and "El Peruano" since 1836, as well as our Debates Journal, which is a faithful transcription of every word uttered in the Floor by all Deputies and Senators since 1866 to date. The loan system is electronically controlled and internal users of the Library can reserve books from their office.

The total number of the Library staff is 22, including 9 research and subject analyst staff, 7 professional librarians, 3 translators, 2 lawyers and 1 sociologist. The Library's electronic services are constantly updated by our staff, and these and other staff provide the specialized computer search services.

The role of the Library in relation to the Congress web site is to be the physical threshold to all these services for the citizens and serves as the guiding system for the internal services developed in the Congress of the Republic.

Conclusions

Currently, the exclusion of certain sectors of the society from networked information is unavoidable at present, since not all of them have the facilities required for access. The question is: "How do we generate this sort of participation in social sectors which are not connected to the network?". Currently, in Peru the system of public booths has spread as a business idea, and attract 60% of the Peruvian population connecting to internet to under USD 1.00 per hour. Similarly, the Peruvian Congress has

installed free public booths and has a special program entitled "Itinerant Parliament" which involves the establishment of a special public service environment providing information about the organization and functions of the Congress, and a variety of participation access points which the legislature has put at the citizens' disposal, including publicly available Internet booths, so that citizens may have access to this service openly and free of charge. Within this context, parliamentary libraries and congressional information services can encourage more participation and understanding from the general public concerning the activities of their congressional representatives, who finally represent people's feelings.

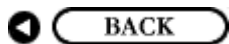
The way in which we must introduce ourselves into this digital revolution, which has given way to the society of information, is by doing it ourselves, without waiting for the approval of resources for that purpose. The more information we can obtain through electronic means the greater the importance they will take on. The essential thing is to collect new ideas and implement them with the available resources, and afterwards, look for financial support, thus making it possible for our politicians understand the essence of the digital revolution, and built the relevant links to democracy.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

1. Castells, Manuel; Martinez Gimeno, Carmen. "La era de La información: economía, sociedad y cultura"(The era of information: economy, society and culture). Madrid, Alianza, 1997. 3t.
2. Cevalco Piedra, José
"The Mechanisms for the Direct Participation of Citizens in the Parliamentary System of Peru".
In: Constitutional and Parliamentary Information No. 74/2nd , 1997, p. 160-163
3. Davis, Richard
Politics and the Media. New Jersey, 1998. Prentice Hall
4. Del Rey Morató, Javier ¿De qué hablamos cuando hablamos de comunicación política? (What do we mean by political communication?). In: Revista de Estudios de Comunicación, December 1996, p.8
5. Fernandez Hermana, Luis Angel. "Papá ¿de dónde vienen las noticias?: La abundancia mata la gana" (Daddy: Where does the news come from? plentiness exhaust the wish). Enredando Editorial N° 184, 12 of October 1999.
6. Navarro i Barba, Gustau. Hegemonía y subalternidad en la Red Internet. (Hegemony and subalternate in the Internet Network) In: Noticias de la Arqueología y la Antropología. June 3, 1998, [<http://www.naya.org>]
7. Perelli, Carina. La personalización de la política, nuevos caudillos, outsiders, política mediática y política informal. (Personalization of politics, new caudillos, outsiders, mediatic policy, and informal policy). In: Partidos y clase política en América Latina en los 90's. Costa Rica, IIDH, CAPEL, 1995.
8. Planas Pedro. Comunicación política y equidad electoral. (Political communication and electoral equity). Universidad de Lima 1998.
9. Web site for the Congress of the Republic of Peru [<http://www.congreso.gob.pe>]
10. Yukio, Nogochi. "Una revolución de la tecnología de la información para el resurgimiento de Japón"(A revolution of the technology of information for the rebirth of Japan) . In: Cuadernos del Japon, Vol. XIII, No.2, 2000.

National Diet Library Newsletter

No. 116, October 2000



International services

How to view and input Japanese characters on the web,
keeping your non-Japanese OS
(part.1: for Windows users, as of October 2000)

As a part of the electronic library project, the NDL started to provide Web-OPAC, Full-text Database System for the Minutes of the Diet, Rare Books Image Database, and others on its web site. However, some contents are available only in Japanese, and the texts may be displayed in garbled characters. To view Japanese text on non-Japanese OS, you must have the appropriate Japanese language support and font installed on your system. This page presents some information about displaying and inputting Japanese characters on the web pages on your English operating system.

[Windows 2000](#)

[Windows95/98, Windows NT 4.0 + Microsoft Internet Explorer](#)

[Windows95/98, Windows NT 4.0 + Netscape Communicator](#)

[Windows 3.1, word-processors and others](#)

[About the NDL Web site](#)

Since **Windows 2000** supports East Asian languages (Chinese, Japanese and Korean), you can **view and input** Japanese characters without any add-on software. Set your Windows 2000 CD-ROM, and in 'Regional Options' in 'Control Panel', select 'Japanese' as 'Language Settings' in 'General' tab. Once installed, select the 'Input Locales' tab, then add your keyboard/IME to the active list and restart your computer. For further details, see:

<http://www.microsoft.com/Windows/ie/Features/w2kime.asp>

Windows 95/98, Windows NT 4.0 + Microsoft Internet Explorer

For users of Microsoft Internet Explorer, Microsoft provides a free multi-language pack for East Asian languages to **view and input** Japanese characters.

1. Obtain Japanese language support

*** If you do not have Microsoft Internet Explorer (IE)**

Download Microsoft IE 4.0 or later version from

<http://www.microsoft.com/windows/ie/download/> together with the Microsoft Global IME for Japanese with Language Pack from

<http://www.microsoft.com/Windows/ie/Features/ime.asp>.

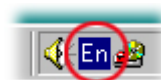
If you just want to read Japanese, to install Microsoft IE5.x is enough for the purpose. When you visit a site written in Japanese, IE5.x displays download instruction for Japanese text display support.

*** Users of Microsoft IE 4.x**

You can download the Microsoft Global IME for Japanese with Language Pack as add-on from <http://www.microsoft.com/Windows/ie/Features/ime.asp>.

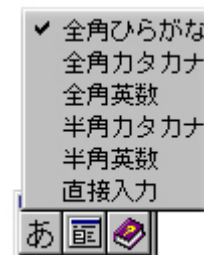
*** If you already have Microsoft Office 2000, you do not need other Japanese language support.**

2. After you install Japanese IME, Windows 95/98 or Windows NT 4.0 displays the little blue Global IME icon on the task bar whenever Internet Explorer 4/5 or Word 2000 is active.



3. To view Japanese characters, from 'View' menu select 'Encoding', then 'Auto Select' or 'Japanese (Auto Select)'.

If you are using Microsoft IE 4.x, in addition to them, from 'View' menu choose 'Internet Options', then click on 'fonts' at the bottom of the 'General' tab. For the 'Character Set', choose 'Japanese (Auto Select)', then click 'Set as Default'.



4. To input Japanese characters, just click the IME icon, select 'Japanese', choose input mode from the list (example at right), and start typing. You can also select a desired IME keyboard.

For further details, click on the little book with a question mark for help.

Windows 95/98, Windows NT 4.0 + Netscape Communicator

If you prefer Netscape Communicator as a browser

You can **view** Japanese characters using Netscape Communicator. Besides, beginning with Communicator 4.72, Netscape offers **limited input** support for Japanese with the use of Microsoft Global IME modules. Download Netscape Communicator 4.72 or later version from <http://home.netscape.com/download/>, Microsoft IE 4.0 or later version from <http://www.microsoft.com/windows/ie/download/>, and Microsoft Global IME from <http://www.microsoft.com/Windows/ie/Features/ime.asp>. For further details, see: [Global IME Support in Communicator 4.72](#).

When you input Japanese characters using Communicator 4.72 through 4.75, garbled characters will appear on the display. Don't worry, your computer will recognize them as proper Japanese text.

Users of Netscape Communicator versions earlier than 4.72 can only **view** Japanese characters by using the following procedure:

1. Install Japanese font(s)
 - * Easiest way is to download above mentioned Microsoft Global IME for Japanese with Language Pack. Once installed, MS-Gothic font will be available on your computer.
 - * MS-Mincho font is included in Microsoft Office97/98/2000 CD-ROM.
 - * Windows NT 4.0 CD-ROM includes Japanese font. For further details, see [HOWTO: Add and Enable Additional Languages in Windows NT](#) on the Microsoft site.
2. From the Netscape Communicator 'Edit' menu, choose 'Preferences'.
3. In the 'Appearances' window, choose 'Fonts'. Choose 'Japanese' for the Encoding, choose 'MS-Gothic' or other Japanese font for both 'Variable Width Font' and 'Fixed

Width Font', and click on OK.

4. From the Netscape Communicator 'View' menu, choose 'Character Set' ('Encoding' in NC4.0x) and select 'Japanese (Auto-Detect)'.
5. Now, you can view Japanese characters.

Others

For **Windows 3.1**, other browsers and commercial softwares, please look up

[Information on Japanese-Language Software](#) on the Japanese Studies Network Forum site.

[Japanese Characters, Word-processors and the Web](#) on the Monash University site includes useful information about Japanese word-processing and reading Japanese on the web.

About the NDL Web site

Web-OPAC: <http://webopac2.ndl.go.jp/>

You can search the database with both Roman and Japanese characters. For further details, read 'searching help'

Full-text Database System for the Minutes of the Diet: <http://kokkai.ndl.go.jp/>

You can search only with Japanese characters. If an unintelligible sequence of characters appears on the screen, right-click on each frame and choose 'Japanese' from the language list.

Rare Books Image Database: <http://www3.ndl.go.jp/rm/index.html>

You can search only with Japanese characters.

While the information contained in the article was correct at the date of publication, the NDL is not responsible for the contents of any off-site information referenced. Please try on your own responsibility. Address any suggestions or amendments to: news1@ndl.go.jp

As of October 2000, by SM





Selections from the NDL Collection

Ashihara Collection – on performing arts



Eiryō Ashihara (1907–1981) is widely remembered in Japan as one who has played a leading role in the introduction of ballet and chanson in particular, and Western culture in general, to the people of Japan through his activities as a critic and commentator. Likewise, his 'Ashihara Collection' won him fame as a collector specializing in the performing arts of the West.



His collection contains 5,400 Western-language books, 9,300 phonographic records, 5,200 sheets of chanson scores, 200 reels of recorded tape, 200 posters, 220 volumes of his personal notes, in addition to quite a number of photographs, theater programs, and paper clippings – mostly on such subjects as ballet, chanson, drama and circus. Indeed, the collection impresses with its overwhelming excellence as a record tracing the

modern development of the arts in question.

Mr. Ashihara was captivated by the performing arts when as a boy he saw Anna Pavlova dance. Among the pictorial materials from his collection are limited editions in luxury binding about the Ballet Russe including *La Belle au bois Dormant* by Leon Bakst (1922), *Esquisses pour de ballet Chout (Le Bouffon)* by Mikhail Larionov (1913), *Vaslav Nijinsky* by Robert Montenegro (1913), *Ballet Russe* by Ludwig Kainer (1913), and others.




While strongest in twentieth-century publications, the collection includes beautiful older works such as Giovanni Andrea Gallini's *A Treatise on the art of dancing* (London: 1762), Maurice Sand's *Masquess et bouffons comedie italienne* (Paris: 1860) and many books on theater and circus such as *Les jeux de cirque et la vie foraine* (Paris: 1889).

He majored in French literature at university and his main interest was always in French popular culture. His collection includes a great number of [chanson scores](#), and records.

The Ashihara Collection is available at the Special Materials Room of the NDL.

Catalog of the Ashihara Collection in the National Diet Library

Vol. I: Books in European Languages	Part 1 Dancing	1982
	Part 2 Chansons, Theater, Circuses	1983
Vol. II: Music (musical scores)		1985
Vol. III: Records	Part 1-3 Chansons (A-F), (G-O), (P-Z)	1990
	Part 4 Index list of titles translated into Japanese	1990
Vol. IV: Records	Instrumental music and others (Except Chansons)	1995

 [BACK](#)

[NEXT](#) 

National Diet Library Newsletter

No. 116, October 2000



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

National Diet Library Monthly Bulletin

(Kokuritsu Kokkai Toshokan Geppo)

No. 473, August 2000

- International Symposium commemorating the opening of the International Library of Children's Literature "Children's books and reading: What should we do for the children of the 21st century?"
- Conference with directors of prefectural and major municipal libraries in fiscal 2000
- Participating in the International Meeting on Microform Preservation and Conservation Practices in Southeast Asia, *by Ryuji Yonemura*
- Electronic exhibition "Nippon in the World" now available on the NDL Web site

No. 474, September 2000

- Three years at the library of the Maison de la culture du Japon a Paris, *by Toru Toyoda*
- Announcement: Exhibition on parliamentary government commemorating the 110th anniversary of the establishment of the Diet
- Visiting Southeast Asian countries (Indonesia, Malaysia and Vietnam): New challenges to preservation in the 21st century, *by Masakazu Kuba*
- Invitation: 1st conference on bibliographic control: National bibliographic services in the electronic information age
- Invitation: 4th Preservation and Conservation Training Program

