

National Diet Library Newsletter

No. 123, February 2002

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Announcement: Contact address of the International Services to be changed

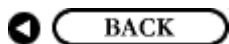
From April 2002, with the National Diet Library's reorganization, the contact address of the International Services will be changed from the International Cooperation Division to the addresses below.

	International Photoduplication and International Loan Service	International Reference Service
Section in charge	ILL Section, National Diet Library	Reference Section, Reference Service Planning Division, Reference and Special Collections Department, National Diet Library
Mailing address	until June 28 (Fri.) 1-10-1 Nagata-cho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, Japan 100-8924 from June 29 (Sat) 8-1-3 Seikadai, Seika-cho, Soraku-gun, Kyoto, Japan 619-0287	1-10-1 Nagata-cho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, Japan 100-8924
Fax number	until June 28 (Fri) +81-3-3581-0989 from June 29 (Sat) +81-774-94-9112	+81-3-3580-3559

revised in June 2002

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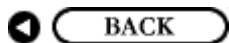
Announcement: "Books on Japan" will discontinue publication

"Books on Japan in Western Languages Recently Acquired by the National Diet Library" (BOJ) has been published in paper form. We have distributed the "BOJ" to 323 foreign institutions in 92 countries. Prototypes of this publication had been published since 1966. For details, please see [here](#).

With the increasing importance of the Internet, we have decided to provide bibliographic data of books on Japan on the web and discontinue publication in paper form.

The final issue of the "BOJ", January–December 2001, will come out in March 2002.

The data will be open to the public on our web site free of charge from 2003.





Mutual staff training program between the National Diet Library and the National Assembly Library of Korea completed

The National Diet Library (NDL) and the National Assembly Library of Korea (NAL) held a two-year mutual staff training program from 2000 to 2001. For previous report, please see [here](#).

The NDL and the National Library of Korea (NLK) have been had a mutual visit program since 1997 (for reports on this program, please see [here](#)).

The NDL had not previously had a close relationship with the NAL, the other of the two national libraries in Korea and its function is to assist Diet Members to perform their duties, the same as the NDL's. In March 2000, the NDL invited two staff of the NAL, Mr. Kim Kwang Jin, Head, Education & Training Section, Planning, Budgeting & Auditing Office, and Dr. Kim Jun, Researcher, Legislative Information Service Division. We had a meeting with them and decided that the NDL and the NAL would have a two-year mutual staff training program. The objective of this program was to develop staff members' ability on a working level basis, and one-month stay program was adopted.



The NDL sent Ms. Kyo Shirai of the Overseas Legislative Information Division to Seoul from September 4 to October 3, 2000, and the NAL sent Dr. Bae Min Sik, Legislative Information Counselor, to Tokyo from November 1 to 31, 2001.

Mr. Bae Min Sik (left) had a friendly talk with Mr. Tobar (Librarian of the NDL)

Both of them enjoyed various training programs provided by the other library and also made a presentation to the library staff on the legislative information supporting systems of their own country.

Ms. Shirai's report on this program appeared in the *National Diet Library Monthly Bulletin* No. 477, December 2000 (Japanese only).

Ms. Shirai made a presentation to the staff of
the NAL



[Related news](#) also appeared on the NAL web site (Korean only).

This program was limited to two years, but the NDL and the NAL will discuss our future relationship.

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“Review of reference books” and “Directory of Japanese Scientific Periodicals Database” now available on the NDL web site

This is an abridged translation of the article of the same title in the NDL Monthly Bulletin No. 488

From October 2001, two databases “Review of reference books” and “Directory of Japanese Scientific Periodicals Database” are available on the NDL web site. These are one of the information systems that the Library has been developing since FY1998.

“Review of reference books” ([Japanese only](#))

This database introduces bibliographic data and review of reference books published in Japan and owned by the Library. There are two menus: “Cumulative data of reference books”, and “List of new accession of reference books”.

“List of new accession of reference books” consists of the newest data, registered within the last three months. The data are compiled weekly. Full-text search of this database is available.

“Cumulative data of reference books” covers about 12,000 data of books owned by the Library after April 1995 and arranged by classification. The data are the same as those of “*Nihon no sanko tosho, shiki-ban*” (Japanese reference books, quarterly) edited by the Library.

“Directory of Japanese Scientific Periodicals Database” ([Japanese / English](#))

* From May 11, 2009, renamed “[Kagakugijuturonbunshi / kaigiroku Database](#)” (Japanese Only).

This database covers bibliographic data of domestic periodicals on science and technology, and data of editorial organizations, as of July 2000. The data are arranged by the UDC.

Full-text search of this database is also available.

It is a revised, Web-based edition of the “Directory of Japanese Scientific Periodicals” that was edited by the Library and published in book form up to the 1997 edition. Data will be updated.

(Science and Technology Materials Division, Special Materials Department)

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International Conference on the Enhancement of Information Availability for Scholarly Resources in Japanese Studies

by Yuri Chiyo

Senior Reference Librarian, Special Materials Department

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 - [Conclusion](#)

Introduction

On December 17 and 18, 2001, the "International Conference on the Enhancement of Information Availability for Scholarly Resources in Japanese Studies," sponsored by the Japan Foundation (JF) and co-sponsored by the International House of Japan and the National Diet Library (NDL), was held at the International House of Japan, Tokyo. More than 110 people from Japan and other countries who are engaged in academic and information affairs participated in this conference.

As Japanese economic development and internationalization progresses, so the fields of Japanese studies abroad have been extending from traditional humanities and Japanology that concentrate on Japanese culture to social science. Recent movements of interdisciplinary study and globalization have meant that scholarly resources have progressed from conventional documents and records to current Japanese information including numerical data and



various information such as audiovisual materials. Information and communications technology such as the Internet is making giant strides because of the demand for direct use of primary sources.

Against this background, aimed at ensuring international access to the resources in Japanese studies and improving information infrastructure, the "Training Program for Japanese Studies Librarians" (the name was "Training for senior librarians in Japanese studies" in the first and the second year) started in 1997. Participants were Japanese studies librarians who were working outside Japan. The Japan Foundation and the NDL sponsored this five-year project and 64 people from 25 countries participated from 1997 to 2001. For reports of this program, please see below.

- [Training Program for Senior Japanese Studies Librarians \(1997\)](#)
- [The Forth JF-NDL Training Program for Japanese Studies Librarians \(2000\)](#)
- [The Fifth JF-NDL Training Program for Japanese Studies Librarians \(2001\)](#)

Three-week training was held in cooperation with the National Institute of Informatics (former NACSIS) and the International House of Japan and trainees studied basic tools for Japanese studies and made contact with present-day Japan. The most significant result of this training is a network of Japanese studies librarians all over the world. In the annual conference of the European Association of Japanese Resource Specialists (EAJRS), October 2000, a special session on this training program was held and an appeal for its continuation was made. A similar request came also from the U.S. Based on the results of the five-year training program, this conference aimed at confirming the future direction of the project and strengthening the cooperation among information-related organizations such as library, archive and museum. In the conference, the trend of Japanese studies in the 21st century and the problems of scholarly resources were discussed.

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Program

Session I: Primary Materials for Academic Research: As Seen by Japan Specialists

Moderator: Izumi Koide (International House of Japan)

Philip Brown	Ohio State University	"Multi-Layered and Globalized Use of Primary Sources for Academic Research"
John Campbell	University of Michigan	"Quantitative Data: Progress But Still Problems"
Paolo Calvetti	Oriental University Institute of Naples	"An Ideal Library-Archive Network in the 21st Century"
Peter Panzer	University of Bonn	"The Situation of Japanese Libraries in Central Europe"
Rikki Kersten	Leiden University	"Research and Primary Sources"

William Coaldrake	University of Melbourne	"Buildings Lie!: Substantial and/or Ephemeral Research Materials in the History of Japanese Architecture"
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Session II: Mediating between Scholars and Information on Primary Materials: As Seen by Japanese Studies Librarians

Moderator: Izumi Koide (International House of Japan)

Eizaburo Okuizumi	University of Chicago	"Access to Large-Scale Primary Sources for Japanese Studies: Experiences in Finding, Mediating, Researching, and Producing Them"
Sachie Noguchi	University of Pittsburgh	"Seeking for Access to Primary Sources: Solved and Unsolved"
Rob Britt	University of Washington	"Access to Japanese Laws and Precedents in the U.S."
Noboru Koyama	University of Cambridge	"Research Materials for Japanese Studies in Great Britain"
Paul Wijsman	Leiden University	"Current Status of Japanese Studies Libraries in Dutch Universities"
Michelle Hall	University of Melbourne	"Researchers and Primary Sources Seen from Australia"

Session III: Issues As Seen by Overseas Users

Moderator: Hisamichi Yamazaki (Chuo University)

Questions/answers and discussion on Sessions I and II

Session IV: Providing Resources for Academic Research in Japan: Archives, Libraries, Museums and Their Networks

Moderator: Mieko Hirano (National Diet Library)

Masahito Ando	National Institute of Japanese Literature	"Research and Education in Archive Studies in Japan: How to Contribute to the International Community in the 21st Century"
Tetsuya Ohama	National Archives of Japan	"Issues in the Housing and Use of Research Materials for Japanese Studies"
Akio Takamizawa	Tokyo National Museum	"Trends and Issues in Providing Information on Museum Collections"
Hiroaki Kaneko	Tokyo National Museum	"On the Use of Digital Information in Museums: The Case of the Digital Archives of Horyuji Treasures"
Akira	National Institute of	"Current and Future Information Services Provided by the

Miyazawa	Informatics	National Institute of Informatics"
Yuri Chiyo	National Diet Library	"New Developments in the User Services of the National Diet Library"

Session V: Linking Users and Providers

Moderator: Hisamichi Yamazaki (Chuo University)
 Questions/answers on Session IV and overall discussion

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Summary

December 17, 2001

Session I

Primary Materials for Academic Research: As Seen by Japan Specialists

Speakers had been requested to report on the environments of scholarly resources seen by end users under the theme of "study and primary sources," paying attention to the kind of resources (era, media and place of holding), area of usage (Japan only? international? limited by era? exhaustive?) and the difficulty level of search or access for a resource's information and location. Moderated by Ms. Izumi Koide, six scholars from abroad reported the trend and problems of Japanese studies in each country or university.

Prof. Philip Brown (Ohio State University) made a presentation on a survey sent via the Internet to 4,000 Japanese studies scholars (responses: 325). Questions were on kind of resources, scholar's experience in the library, archive or museum in Japan, what they wanted to such institutions etc. This interesting survey shows the trend of Japanese studies. Prof. John Campbell (University of Michigan) pointed out problems of providing statistical data on Japan. On cooperation and networking among information-related organizations, Prof. Paolo Calvetti (Oriental University Institute of Naples) suggested a multiple union catalog, and Prof. Rikki Kersten (Leiden University) suggested the "Digi-mura," ideal system of integration/ exchange of scholarly resources.

Session II

Mediating between Scholars and Information on Primary Materials: As Seen by Japanese Studies Librarians

In this session, speakers also had been requested to report focusing on openness and sharing of information as an intermediary between scholars and information, paying attention to the difference of usage of the primary sources in Japan and each speaker's country, the importance of the primary resources in higher education and academic activity, Japanese studies scholars' personal examples of searching primary resources, and navigation of database and electronic materials. Librarians supporting Japanese studies abroad reported from their respective standpoints. These six librarians were trainees of the past "Training for senior librarians in Japanese studies." Ms. Koide also moderated this session.

Session III

Issues As Seen by Overseas Users

Prof. Hisamichi Yamazaki moderated this session. All the speakers of Session I and II answered questions from participants and there was a lively exchange of views.

December 18, 2001

Session IV

Providing Resources for Academic Research in Japan: Archives, Libraries, Museums and Their Networks

Expansion of and interdisciplinary research in the Japanese studies abroad have taken not only traditional resources but everything as objects of study. The purpose of this session was to clarify problems and challenges by comprehending the present status of library, museum, archive and research institutes in Japan. Six speakers representing different institutes reported their organization's present status, challenges and problems in providing resources. Ms. Mieko Hirano, Director of the NDL's Institute of Library and Information Science, moderated this session.

Session V

Linking Users and Providers

The last session featured questions and answers on Session IV and a general discussion by all participants. Prof. Yamazaki also moderated this session. Main questions were on: the newly opened Japan Center for Asian Historical Records, the digital archives of the Horyuji Treasures (Tokyo National Museum), the price of databases, the ideal collection database, the necessity and ways of cooperation among researchers, archivists and librarians, archivist training problems in Japan, and the necessity of training for Japanese Studies Librarians.

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Recommendations

In order to continue discussing problems and actualizing challenges that were referred to in this conference, five recommendations were made.

Recommendations of the International Conference on the Enhancement of Information Availability for Scholarly Resources in Japanese Studies

1. Responding to the expanding use of primary sources for Japanese studies, there is a strong need to consolidate information resources on materials housed in libraries, archives, museums, etc.; the frameworks for organization, preservation, and management of these information resources should be chosen in consideration of borderless use.
2. It is strongly recommended that access service and a navigation function be established for information resources and source materials in Japan, of both integrated and subjective scope.
3. It is strongly felt that digitized materials require appropriate indexes, catalogs, and links in order to make possible full use of the search function.

4. The immediate resolution of institutional and technical issues regarding access to digitized materials in Japan is strongly sought.

5. Education and continuous training are increasingly crucial for information specialists -- who are the intermediary between researchers and information resources, and who organize source materials professionally -- particularly when considering the current expansion and diversification of information resources and media.

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Conclusion

I participated in this conference as a speaker in Session IV and reported on the new services of the NDL from FY2002.

In October 2002, the Kansai-kan of the NDL will open and user services of the NDL will be expanded widely. Users will be able to search more materials via the Internet and access more primary resources such as 30,000 volumes of Japanese books printed in the Meiji era. Requests for photoduplication service and book reservation service will also be available via our web site. Such kind of expansion of services was welcomed with high expectations by the participants of the conference.

The Library will provide convenient, rapid and high quality services for users. For new services of the Library, please see here ([Japanese](#) / [English](#)).





Selections from NDL Collection

Okada Kenshu Collection: A Collection of Shogi (Japanese Chess) Books

"Shogi" is a board game involving two players and 40 pieces; commonly referred to in the West as "Japanese Chess". The object of the game is to checkmate the opponent's king. There are many similarities to chess in the way the pieces move, but what is decidedly different is that a captured piece can be used again as one's own piece. There are said to be about 20 million "Shogi" players in Japan, or one person out of every six. (from *The Kodansha Encyclopedia of Japan*)

The Okada Kenshu Collection is one of the great collections of Shogi books.

Seiyo Shogi shinan (How to play chess) by Kikka
senshi (1869)

Okada Kenshu (1835–1897) served Kaga-han (Kaga Domain, now Ishikawa Prefecture) and his hobby was playing Shogi and collecting books on Shogi. In 1899, his son, Okada Jotaro, donated Kenshu's collection of Shogi books to the Imperial Library (predecessor of the NDL) by his father's will. We do not designate these books as a special collection. But we

customarily call it the "Okada Kenshu Collection" Every books of this collection has a stamp that says "Donated by Okada Jotaro".

In 1988, the NDL held an exhibition "Igo Shogi bunkashi ten" (Exhibition of Igo or Go, a Japanese board game played with small black and white pieces, and Shogi). Many books from the Okada Kenshu Collection were displayed in this exhibition and the existence of this collection came to public attention.



Igo Shogi bunkashi ten (1988)

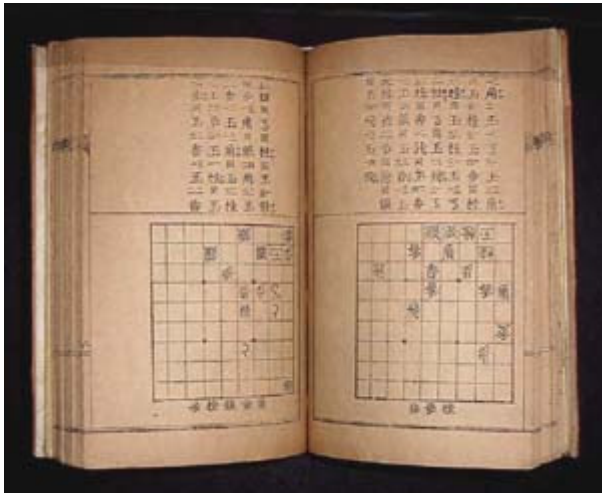


Shogi renzyushu (Records of Shogi games) by Ohashi Socho (1816)

Shogi hayageiko (Quick Shogi exercises) by Ohashi Sokin (1886)



Shogi hayashinan (Quick lessons in Shogi) (1891)



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

National Diet Library Monthly Bulletin

(Kokuritsu Kokkai Toshokan Geppo)

No. 490, January 2002

- Greeting for the New Year *by Masao Tobar*
- International Library of Children's Literature: Services after the full opening *by Mikiko Tomita*
- Current status of Web archiving and legal deposit systems in North European countries *by Nobuki Hirose*
- Report of the 2nd conference on bibliographic control: issues on bibliographic control
 - Notes on foreign parliamentary and governmental documents: looking into the G7 countries at the NDL. Part 5: Germany (1)

No. 489, December 2001

- Participating in the 67th IFLA General Conference and the 28th Meeting of CDNL *by Naotake Ito and Yoshitaka Ikuhara*
- Challenges and present state of national libraries facing the new century: 28th Meeting of CDNL *by Tsuyoshi Ujigo*
- Rising Challenges and common subjects: Bibliotheca Universalis Meeting *by Toshiyasu Oba*
- Aiming at further improvement of services for parliaments: Report on the Section for Library and Research Services for Parliaments *by Michiyo Takeda*
 - Review of some core program activities: Report on the Annual Meeting of PAC Directors and meetings related to the Section on Preservation and Conservation *by Hisanori Tanaka*
 - Tackling electronic materials: Report on meetings related to the Section on Acquisition and Collection Development *by Hisanori Tanaka*
- Services for pre-schoolers attracting great interest: Section of Libraries for Children and Young Adults *by Mikiko Tomita*
 - Annual meeting between NDL Librarian and directors of branch libraries in the executive and judicial agencies in fiscal 2001
- Notes on foreign parliamentary and governmental documents: looking into the G7 countries at the NDL. Part 4: United Kingdom (2)
 - Annual index to National Diet Library Monthly Bulletin, nos.478-489

No. 488, November 2001

- Expansion of participation in the NDL National Union Catalog Network: 443 libraries of city, ward, town, and village, etc. newly joined *by Yoshitomo Masai*
 - FY2001 meeting between NDL Librarian and directors of university libraries
 - Present and future of the Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress
 - ["Review of reference books"](#) and ["Directory of Japanese Scientific Periodicals Database"](#) now available on the NDL web site
 - The NDL statistics –FY2000 (II)
- Notes on foreign parliamentary and governmental documents: looking into the G7 countries at the NDL. Part 3: United Kingdom (1)

