

No. 126, August 2002

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Purposes of the reorganization of the special materials rooms in the Tokyo Main Library

by Naoko Suzuki

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This is an abridged translation of the article of the same title in the NDL Monthly Bulletin No. 496

Introduction

Today, a huge amount of information is produced under the Internet environment and the meaning of libraries as information providing agencies is reconsidered. In these circumstances, the National Diet Library intends to fulfill its role by providing its collection actively and being useful for research and study.

Here we would like to introduce the reorganization of the special materials rooms in the Tokyo Main Library from fiscal year 2002 to 2004, in conjunction with the opening of the Kansai-kan of the National Diet Library.

1. Reorganizing policy

2. Clarification of subject areas and the new way of grouping them

3. Reorganization from the point of view of collection groups

4. Materials related to Asia in the Tokyo Main Library

5. From "Special materials room" to "Special resources room"

1. Reorganizing policy

We applied the following policies in reorganizing the special materials rooms:

- Clarify subject areas, enhance specialization in subjects and respond to the users' diversified and advanced demands.
 - Combine related areas and make the layout of the rooms easy to understand.
- Consolidate digital environment in special materials rooms and provide not only the Library's collection but also external information resources.
- The special materials rooms which have unique collections will manage the whole process of acquisition, custody and provision. They will improve their collections and enhance reference services.

2. Clarification of subject areas and the new way of grouping them

We decided how to categorize subject areas considering the trends of users, new distribution of holdings following the opening of the Kansai-kan, and building conditions.

The Reference Books Room used to contain all reference books except science, technology and Asian related materials, and more than half of the visitors to the NDL used to visit it. However, storage space for open-access materials was becoming scarce.

Since most of our collections are in the closed stacks, there is a strong demand for us to develop open-access collections to meet the need for research. By clarifying subject areas and the concepts of each special materials room, we aimed to upgrade specialization in subjects and improve our services.

As a result, we grouped subjects into three areas, namely, law and politics, business, science and technology, and humanities, thus organizing three rooms, that is, the [Law, Politics and Official Publications Room](#), the [Business, Science and Technology Room](#) and the [Humanities Room](#).

[The Law, Politics and Official Publications Room](#) opened in April 2002. Reference books on law and politics, publication catalogues, directories, annual reports, statistics, microfilms of Japanese and foreign government offices and publications of international organizations are available here. As well as providing research services for the Diet, it will enhance reference and other services for the general public. After the remodeling of the Main Library is completed, this room will merge with the Statutes and Parliamentary Documents Room to form the Parliamentary Documents and Official Publications Room.

[The Business, Science and Technology Room](#) will improve its collection of abstracts, indexes and databases to facilitate access to science and technology materials that are located in the Kansai-kan. The open-access materials on economy and society, which were previously held in the Reference Books Room, were handed over to this room. It will strive to improve information supply in the fields of economy, society and interdisciplinary fields such as health, food and environment.

[The Humanities Room](#) holds reference books on humanities, library and information science, interdisciplinary and general fields (classified as "generalities" in the library catalog). Encyclopedias and other basic reference books that are much in demand continue to be provided in this room. To make it useful to users, it aims at flexible management. For example, it continues to have a corner for biographical information.

3. Reorganization from the point of view of collection groups

While reorganizing special materials rooms according to subject areas, we did not change much in the structure of special materials rooms that hold unique collections in the NDL.

It is because we thought that considering the nature of the materials, it would be more useful for users if selection, processing, custody, provision and reference were done in one room.

The table below shows the structure of such special materials rooms.

Until fiscal year 2003	After fiscal year 2004
Statutes and Parliamentary Documents Room (Main Bldg. 5F)	Merge with the Law, Politics and Official Publications Room to form the Parliamentary Documents and Official Publications Room. (Annex 3F)
Modern Japanese Political History Materials Room (Kensei-shiryôshitsu) (Main Bldg. 4F)	Made to fit the digital environment. (Main Bldg. 4F)
Map Room (Main Bldg. 4F)	Made to fit the digital environment. (Main Bldg. 4F)
Rare Books and Old Materials Room (Main Bldg. 4F)	(Main Bldg. 3F)
Newspaper Reading Room (Annex 4F)	Made to fit the digital environment. (Annex 4F)
Electronic Resources Room (Main Bldg. 4F)	Expanded. (Annex 1F)
Audio-Visual Materials Room (Main Bldg. 2F)	(Annex 1F)

While improving their collections, special materials rooms will put more effort to provide information on their use and collection. It is necessary to disclose our databases and reveal the whole picture of our collection. One very important issue now is consolidating the data to improve access to the collection. We are also digitizing rare books and other materials to enhance our electronic library services.

4. Materials related to Asia in the Tokyo Main Library

The Asian Resources Room will be established in the Kansai-kan that will open in October 2002, which aims to contribute to the circulation of information on Asia.

In the Tokyo Main Library, following the closing of the Asian Materials Room, each special materials room took on responsibilities for reference services on Asia. Frequently used Japanese and Western reference books formerly held in the Asian Materials Room are shelved in related special materials rooms.

Books (acquired in and after 1986), magazines and newspapers in Asian languages will be located in the Kansai-kan, but the Tokyo Main Library will have duplicate copies of Asian language materials that are much in demand. Continuing effort will be made to develop Asian language materials in high demand.

Copying service and inter-site request of materials held by the Kansai-kan will be available.

5. From "Special materials room" to "Special resources room"

The opening of the OPAC to the public made access to our collection easier. It is expected that the special materials rooms will enhance their information service not by only our own collection but also by useful external information resources.

As the renaming of some special materials rooms from "Materials room" to "Resources room" shows, special materials rooms in the reorganized structure will try to strengthen their information providing function.





Commemorative Symposium of the International Library of Children's Literature has been held

On July 8, 2002, the International Library of Children's Literature (ILCL), which fully opened on Children's Day, May 5, 2002, held a commemorative symposium "From folktales to stories" in the auditorium of the Heiseikan, Tokyo National Museum. It was a fine day even though it was in the middle of the rainy season and 257 people attended the symposium.



It was held in conjunction with the exhibition "[Friends in wonderland-- from folktale to story](#)", being held from May 5 to September 14 in the Museum of the ILCL.

As speakers, we invited Dr. Sybille A. Jagusch (Chief of the Children's Literature Center, Library of Congress, U.S.A.), Dr. Choe Inhak (professor emeritus of Inha University, Republic of Korea), Prof. Teruo Jingu (professor emeritus of Aoyama Gakuin University), Dr. Jun'ichi Nomura (professor of Kokugakuin University) and Ms. Sho Tatsumiya (author of children's literature). Prof. Jingu and Dr. Nomura supervised the exhibition. They all reported under the theme "things to be handed down to our children", who are living in the information-flooded computer age.



Dr. Jun'ichi Nomura

Dr. Nomura analyzed folktales and illustrations and pointed out that the scenes in the illustrations are the core of the story in a folktale. When you see the illustrations, you can rebuild the story even though you do not know exact words of the story.

Dr. Choe Inhak

Dr. Choe's report, "From folktale to children's literature in Korea", compared Korean and Japanese folktales, and introduced the current situation of folktale education in Korea.



Prof. Teruo Jingu

Prof. Jingu titled his report as “From folktale to fiction writing E₇ † focusing on the latter half of the 20th century in Japan” and introduced the best works of Japanese fantasy.



Ms. Sho Tatsumiya

Ms. Tatsumiya pointed out through her report “Discovering mother culture in my blood”, that we have an even greater need to absorb our own history, culture and tradition as our foundation in this age of internationalization.



Dr. Sybille A. Jagusch

Finally, Dr. Jagusch spoke on “Folktale and fairytale for today’s children” and introduced American fairytales after the 1960s.

(International Library of Children’s Literature)

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The Regional Training Workshop on the Preservation of and Access to Documentary Heritage in Asia and the Pacific

by Takao Murayama
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Souvenir picture taken after Opening Ceremony

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The Background

From June 5 to 8, 2002, I was invited to participate in the "Regional Training Workshop on the Preservation of and Access to Documentary Heritage in Asia and the Pacific" held in Cheongju and Seoul, Republic of Korea. The workshop was hosted by the Korean National Commission for UNESCO and Cheongju Municipal Government.

This workshop was designed as a follow-up of the 5th "International Advisory Committee on Memory of the World", held a year ago in Cheongju, attended by Ms. Varlamoff, Director of IFLA/PAC International Centre. The background is the Memory of the World (MOW) Program launched by the UNESCO in 1992 with the recognition that a great deal of documentary heritage around the world is now in danger of disappearing and some countermeasures urgently need to be taken. The MOW Program is conceived to promote the protection and preservation of documentary heritage and the meetings in Cheongju were organized to boost the UNESCO member countries' motivation towards the MOW Program and to encourage the establishment of national committees to promote the program. Forty-five nations in the world have now established their own national committees for the MOW Program, but only seven countries, namely Australia, China, India, Malaysia, Nepal, Pakistan and Thailand have them in the Asia-Pacific region.

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The purposes of the Workshop

The purposes of the Workshop were as follows and emphasis was put on paper documents.

- (1) To increase the public awareness of the MOW Program and its goals in the countries which have not yet established national committees of the MOW
- (2) To deepen the understanding of the nature of paper materials, the necessity of preserving them, and appropriate management method for paper documents
- (3) To provide practical knowledge of preservation, restoration and digitization of paper documents

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Participants of the Workshop

The invited countries were Cambodia, Indonesia, Japan, Kyrgyz Republic, Laos, Mongolia, Myanmar, New Zealand, the Philippines and Vietnam. Representatives of libraries were from five national libraries (six if the National Library of Korea is included) and one university library. From UNESCO Mr. Abdelaziz Abid of the Information Society Division attended. Dr. Guy Petherbridge from Australia's Network for Cultural Heritage Services chaired the Workshop. Dr. Suh Kyung-ho from Seoul University and other specialists in conservation and preservation from Korean institutions participated in the Workshop.

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Outline of the Workshop

The workshop consisted of the Opening Ceremony and Session1 on June 5, Session2 on 6, Study Tours of related institutions on 7 and the Closing Ceremony on 8.

(1) Opening Ceremony

The Opening Ceremony started at 10:00 a.m. on June 5. Following the addresses of Mr.

Kim Yersu, Secretary-General of the Korean National Commission for UNESCO, Mr. Kim Dong-kee, Vice Mayor of the City of Cheongju and Mr. Abid from UNESCO, the contributors to the MOW registration of the second volume of "Jikji", the oldest metal type printed book, were given honorable recognition.

(2) Sessions

The Session started with a general description of the MOW Program by Mr. Abid from UNESCO. He also explained about the MOW Register and its selection criteria. The second speaker was Dr. Petherbridge, who gave us a commentary on the status of preservation of the paper-based documentary heritage in the Asia-Pacific region. Afterwards, the invited countries presented their country reports. The country reports contained descriptions of the legal systems concerning preservation of documentary heritage, overviews of the roles and activities of the related institutions, introductions of techniques for preserving and utilizing paper-based documents, specific examples of preservation conditions and activities, and advice and recommendations to promote the MOW Program in Asia-Pacific region (for country report of Japan, please see [here](#)(PDF file 66kb).



Mr. Murayama presenting the country report of Japan

I reported on the general situation of preservation of documentary heritages in Japan, referring to the laws and the statistics of the related organizations and also to the results of the MOW survey conducted in 1995. I also mentioned the preservation efforts at the NDL and our activities as the IFLA/PAC Asia Regional Centre.

(3) Lectures

The following three lectures were given.

<p><i>The Management of Historical Archives in Korea</i> by Dr. Kim Jung-ha, Hankuk University of Foreign Studies</p>	<p>An overview of the functions and management of archives in Korea, with the example of "rearrangement and organization of documents in Won Buddhism" in IkSan, JunLaBuk-Do.</p>

<p><i>Conservation of Records</i> by Prof. Park Chi-sun, Yongin University</p>	<p>Following a speech on the history of paper and the characteristics of oriental paper, conservation of transmission articles and excavated articles were explained separately, with examples from the Korean documentary heritage.</p>
<p><i>A Study on Digitization of Historical Books</i> by Prof. Hong Suk-il, Hanyang University</p>	<p>A lecture that emphasized the technological aspect of preservation activities, explaining the significance of cameras in making digital images. The HUMI project of Keio University was introduced as a typical example of the digitization of historical archives.</p>

(4) Study Tours

We had the following study tours:

<p>June 7</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cheongju Early Printing Museum, Cheongju • Government Archives & Records Services, Daejeon: Established in Daejeon, Seoul and Busan according to its functions. In succession to the traditional archive, Chunchukwan of the Chosun Dynasty, which stored annals of the Dynasty in four places, each facility stores each documents. • Jangseo-gak Archives, Academy of Korean Studies, Bundang: Originating from the royal library of the Chosun Dynasty, it has now become the centre for Korean studies materials, especially in humanities and social science.
<p>June 8</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Museum of Korea, Seoul

(5) Closing Ceremony

In the last session, the UNESCO suggested the draft recommendation including promotion of establishment of MOW national committees in the Asia-Pacific Region and we discussed this matter. On national committees, the difficulty of establishment because of domestic affairs or the geographic situation of island countries was expressed. To solve the difficulty, establishment of expert committees or regional committees was suggested. I said that I, as the director of IFLA/PAC Regional Centre, agreed with the recommendation, but needed to hear opinions of related institutions in Japan. As for the recommendation, we agreed that opinions could be arrived at after returning to each country. The recommendation also included the proposition that a second Workshop will be held in Cheongju in 2004.

In addition, a questionnaire survey on the Workshop was conducted. I wrote that it was more important to enhance the MOW Program itself than to establish national committees.

Impressions of the Workshop

I am glad to have been able to attend the workshop, though I had to go through a rush caused by the short preparation period and my lack of knowledge in the background that led to the workshop.



Exhibition of deteriorated materials brought by participants. A palm leaf book can be seen at the extreme left.

The Workshop was well organized. Impressive tours and indispensable information were given, which will greatly help the preservation activities of our library and the IFLA/PAC Regional Centre for Asia (National Diet Library). Needless to say, I recognized anew what a vast area Asia-Pacific covers. Preservation should be carried out by the method that fits the local climate. The region, which includes China, birthplace of paper, has handed down documentary heritage on various traditional "papers." Most of them are facing crises now. One of the participants told me that she expected much of the Microfilming Training Project, which is planned by the IFLA/PAC Regional Centre for Asia and the Pacific (National Library of Australia). The IFLA/PAC Asia Regional Centre would also like to help the project to get on the right track.

I am thankful for the opportunity to communicate with young staff members of Korean institutions related to preservation, such as libraries, archives and museums. They were really full of fresh confidence and pride, expressing opinions actively in the workshop.

They stimulated and inspired me a lot.

Lastly, let me add one more personal comment about the workshop venue, the Chongju Early Printing Museum. The museum was built in the site of the Heungdeoksa Temple, where the second volume of Jikji, which is the oldest document printed by movable metal type in the world, was printed. The second volume of Jikji was printed in 1377, which precedes Gutenberg's invention of a printing method by about 70 years. I had been wanting to visit there. Strolling through the restored main hall of the Heungdeoksa Temple, I pondered where the print culture came from and where it is going.

Acknowledgement

I am most grateful to the Korean National Commission for UNESCO and Cheongju Municipal Government for their efforts to organize the workshop. Special thanks and respect are extended to Mr. HUH Kwon (Korean National Commission for UNESCO) and Mr. KIM Jong Byuk (Director, Chongju Early Printing Museum), who always acted with the participants and showed their leadership for the success of the workshop, and all the staff who supported them.

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Selections from NDL Collection
“Friends in wonderland”
– from folktale to story–
From the exhibition of
the International Library of Children’s Literature

The International Library of Children’s Literature ([ILCL](#)) was fully opened in May 2002 as a branch of the National Diet Library. The exhibition is being held from May 5, 2002 to September 14, 2002 to commemorate the full opening of the ILCL.

In the exhibition, the two main groups of “Folktale” and “Story (children’s literature)” are exhibited according to basic plot developments of folktales (hero/heroine’s unusual birth, adventures or challenges, amazing friends or fairy godmothers and happy ending) and help you understand relations and contrasts between folktales and children’s literature.

Jack and the Bean-stalk



Title:	Jack and the Bean-stalk from “The bluebeard picture book”
Illustrations:	Walter Crane
Imprint:	G. Routledge, 1875?
NDL Call No.:	VZ1-284

“Jack and the Bean-stalk” is an English folktale very familiar to Japanese. Jack is a poor boy who lives with his mother. One day he climbs up a beanstalk that has grown up to Heaven. He goes to a giant’s house and steals a hen that lays golden eggs and other treasures from the giant.

Walter Crane is one of the most popular English illustrators of the second half of the 19th century. With Kate Greenaway and Randolph Caldecott, he established the genre of

picture books for children. The characteristics of his illustrations are decorative frames, use of black and exquisite depiction of, for example, dresses and furniture. His work was influenced by the Pre-Raphaelites and by Japanese woodblock prints.

[Hachikazuki]



Title:	[Hachikazuki]
Designer:	Unknown
Date:	mid-Edo period (ca. 17th century)
Volume:	1
Size:	16 cm in height
NDL Call No.:	亥(I) 218

This manuscript has no title, but it is known as “Hachikazuki” from its contents.

“Hachikazuki” is a famous Japanese folktale of a princess called Hachikazuki (literally means: “bowl wearer”). At the moment of her death, the mother of the princess puts a bowl on her head. The bowl sticks to her head and she is unable to take off. Hachikazuki is ill-treated by her stepmother and has a hard time because of the bowl.

A prince is fascinated by Hachikazuki, but his family strongly opposes the match. Finally one day the bowl comes off and she is seen as a beautiful and cultured woman. She marries the prince and lives happily ever after.

This illustrated manuscript is one of those commonly called “*Naraehon*”, designed sometime in the 17th century. Traditional Japanese colors, gold and silver decorations are used in the beautiful pictures. Though this manuscript is in the form of a scroll at present, the original was a so-called *Yokohon*, which is a bound book (*Sasshibon*) wider than it is tall.

Cinderella

Title:	Cinderella
Retold:	Alan Blyth
Illustrations:	Emanuele Luzzati
Imprint:	Julia MacRae Books, 1981
NDL Call	

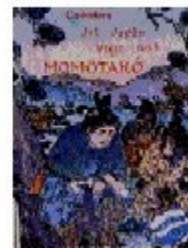
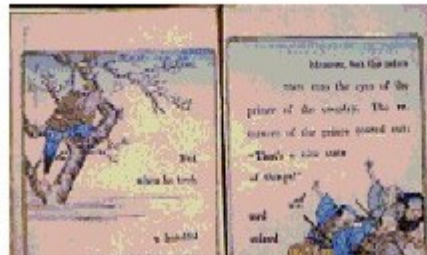


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“Cinderella” is a very popular fairy tale by Charles Perrault. A beautiful and good-natured girl is treated badly by her stepmother and stepsisters. However, with a help of a fairy godmother, she marries a prince and lives happily ever after.

This “Cinderella” is based on the Rossini opera “La Cenerentola”, which was first staged in 1817 and was a great success. The popular Italian illustrator Emanuele Luzzati is also famous as a theater designer. He was nominated for Academy Award for his animated films.

Chirimen books



“Hachikazuki”

“Hanasakajijii”

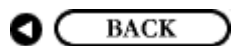
“Momotaro”

“Chirimen books” (Crepe-paper Edition) are woodblock prints on processed *washi*, or Japanese paper crinkled like *chirimen*, silk crape textile. They were published from the Meiji period to the early Showa period (that is, late 19th century to early 20th century). Many of them were produced as souvenirs for western visitors to buy and some were exported as Japanese art and craft products.

Chirimen paper was born in the latter part of the Edo period (early 19th century). Books of the “Japanese Fairy Tale Series” (23 vols.) were published from 1885 by Takejiro Hasegawa (Kobunsha) and are regarded as the first “Chirimen books”. The series includes English versions of “Momotaro”, “Sarukani kassen” and other popular stories. French and German versions of the books were also published in the same period. Some people say that Hasegawa’s foreign friends translated his stories. This series is highly evaluated for organizing Japanese folktales in the initial stage and introducing them overseas.

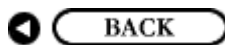
Eitaku Kobayashi who is one of the *Kano-ha* school of painters draws most of the illustrations in "Japanese Fairy Tale Series". *Kano-ha*, the biggest and most influential school in Japanese art history, flourished from the mid 15th century to the 19th century.

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(Kokuritsu Kokkai Toshokan Geppo)

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