

No. 128, December 2002

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Opening Ceremony of the Kansai-kan of the National Diet Library Speeches by the Librarian of the National Diet Library and the Director General of the National Library of Korea

This is an abridged translation of the article "Outline of the opening ceremony"
in the NDL Monthly Bulletin No. 500



On October 5, 2002, the opening ceremony of the Kansai-kan of the National Diet Library was held in the Kansai-kan building in Seika-cho, Soraku-gun, Kyoto. After the ribbon-cutting at the Hall, the opening ceremony was held in the Auditorium, followed by a preview of reading rooms, a reception and a preview of the stacks.

178 guests from the National Diet, government agencies, cultural and academic bodies, local governments etc. attended the ceremony and Mr. Takao Kurosawa, the Librarian of the National Diet Library, Mr. Tamisuke Watanuki, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Mr. Hiroyuki Kurata, President of the House of Councillors, gave addresses.

Then we received congratulatory speeches from Ms. Atsuko Toyama, Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (read by Mr. Akio Yuki, Minister's Secretariat), Mr. Teiichi Aramaki, Chairman of the Association of Kansai Science City, Mr. Makoto Nagao, President of the Japan Library Association, and Dr. Hyun-Taek Shin, Director General of the National Library of Korea.

Here, we carry the address of Mr. Kurosawa and the speech of Dr. Shin.

(For detailed information about the Kansai-kan, please refer to the "[Overview of the facilities of the Kansai-kan of the National Diet Library](#)" in NDL newsletter no.124, and the "[Kansai-kan of the National Diet Library opened on October 7](#)" in no.127. You can also enjoy a tour of the Kansai-kan on the web by clicking on "[Opening of the Kansai-kan](#)" in

the NDL website.)

The Address of Mr. Kurosawa

I would like to address a few words on the occasion of the opening ceremony of the Kansai-kan on the National Diet Library.

It is the greatest honor for the National Diet Library to hold this ceremony, in the presence of so many guests, including the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President of the House of Councillors.



It was more than 20 years ago that the idea of building the Kansai-kan was formed. Since then, we formulated the plan, chose this site in Kansai Science City which extends over Kyoto, Osaka and Nara (situated in the Keihanna Hills), held the design competition, and then started the construction. After four years of construction work, we are finally here to celebrate the opening.

Throughout that long period, many people of various quarters gave us their support and great efforts. Especially, we received enormous support and encouragement from the members of the Diet. I would like to express my deep appreciation to you.

The Kansai-kan is a large general library. The reading room has 350 seats equipped with computer terminals. About 80,000 volumes of reference books and Asian materials are available on the open shelves. In the stacks, 3 million volumes are stored and ready to be used.

At the same time, the Kansai-kan is a part of the National Diet Library and shares its functions. From now, three facilities of the National Diet Library, that is, the Tokyo Main Library, the Kansai-kan, and the International Library for Children's Literature will be linked organically, working in tandem to serve the Diet and the people in Japan.

With the completion of the Kansai-kan, the National Diet Library is now able to function as a library suited to the highly-advanced information society. Taking advantage of the establishment of the Kansai-kan, we developed a new information system, aiming at offering our catalog and Japanese periodicals index via the Internet so that users across the country would be able to use the NDL services. We also plan to enhance our digital library services and carry out new plans and experimental projects.

The all staff of the National Diet Library will make efforts to enable users to take full advantage of the ideal environment such as information technologies, and to fulfill the mission entrusted to us.

I conclude my address by asking your further support and encouragement.

Speech by Dr. Shin, Director General of the National Library of Korea



I am most honored to have an opportunity to offer my congratulations on this occasion, attended by Mr. Watanuki, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Mr. Kurata, President of the House of Councillors, Mr. Kurosawa, Librarian of the National Diet Library and many important people of library-related fields including Mr. Nagao, President of the Japan Library Association.

On behalf of libraries all over the world, I heartily congratulate the opening of such a great facility as the Kansai-kan of the National Diet Library after twenty years of thoroughgoing preparations and steady construction in a bid to establish a cutting edge library of the most advanced model in response to the sharp increase of publications, media diversification and development of information and communications technology.

Also I would like to pay a heartfelt compliment to Mr. Kurosawa and the staff of the National Diet Library who worked hard to establish the Kansai-kan.

This year, the FIFA World Cup was successfully co-hosted by Korea and Japan and we received admiration from many countries. It is also acclaimed as a contributor to building goodwill between the two countries.

I am very glad that I have an opportunity to visit Japan this memorable year named "Year of Friendship between Korea and Japan", when various cultural events, expositions and performances are co-hosted. Taking this opportunity, I would like to convey congratulations from Korean people.

This century is called the "century of knowledge and information". With the revolutionary development of information and communications technology, libraries are now required to adapt to a new information environment which makes use of advanced information processing technology and new communications media. Electronic books might be the simplest example. At the same time, people's needs for knowledge become more and more diversified.

In this new era, traditional library service is not enough to meet the diversified needs for knowledge and information of the people. If we stay with conventional services, the raison d'être of libraries might be questioned and ignored.

It is needed for libraries all over the world to respond creatively and actively to the changes and develop into libraries of a new era, so that we may continue to enjoy the steadfast support of the people.

Based on the above understanding, I say that it is a well-timed decision for the National Diet Library to establish the Kansai-kan after long-term examination and consideration. It set an example for libraries of the world.

I hope that the Kansai-kan of the National Diet Library will be a model future-oriented library and contribute to the development of libraries all over the world.

The National Library of Korea is also making efforts to adapt to the changing environment and drew up the "Construction Plan of the National Digital Library" in 2001, aiming to provide a wide variety of services for the people of the information age. Looking toward the opening in 2008, we are now working on some of the primary projects. I would most appreciate it if you kindly extend your support and cooperation to our new projects.

Lastly, I would like to congratulate again the opening of the Kansai-kan and thank you for giving me the honor to attend this memorable opening ceremony. Also, I would like to deliver my respect again to Mr. Kurosawa and others who worked earnestly for the establishment of the Kansai-kan.

I would like to conclude my congratulatory speech by hoping that the Kansai-kan will develop into a model library of the world in future.

Thank you for your kind attention.





New bibliographic services: Japanese National Bibliography, OPAC and bibliographic control (part one of two)

by Kimiko Harada
Director General, Bibliography Department

This is a translation of the article of the same title in the NDL Monthly Bulletin No. 499

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Introduction

Catalogs and bibliographies provide readers with a guide into library materials. Over the past twenty years, bibliographic services have experienced developments in communication technologies such as computerization followed by the Internet. Including the national bibliography and the OPAC (Online Public Access Catalog), the National Diet Library (NDL) is offering new services one after another in FY 2002*. In order to enhance our services by providing bibliographic information widely and appropriately, keeping up with the continuing progress of the IT environment is an important task for us.

* J-BISC (DVD version) was newly released!. Please see [here](#).

In the major reorganization of the NDL in April 2002, the Bibliography Department was established, integrating the cataloging sections which had previously been in four separate departments. New functions of the Bibliography Department are: (1) Bibliographic data creation (2) Compiling and providing catalogs and (3) Bibliographic control. We aim at strengthening all three functions by concentrating the relevant divisions into one department.

Now that the Kansai-kan of the NDL has started its services, I take the opportunity to report here on the current state and new services in FY 2002 of the national bibliography,

the OPAC and the bibliographic control for which the Bibliography Department is responsible.

** In this report, "Bibliographic data" and "Bibliographic information" mean information on each individual item, "Catalog" and "Bibliography" mean collected and arranged bibliographic data. In terms of library services, compiling and providing catalogs and bibliographic control are collectively called "Bibliographic services"*

1. National Bibliography

The acquisition of domestic publications under the legal deposit system and compiling catalogs are the principal missions of the NDL. As is generally known, our services are based on acquisition, recording, storage and provision of domestic publications.

The national bibliography is an exhaustive record of domestic publications acquired under the legal deposit system. At present, the NDL publishes the Japanese National Bibliography Weekly List and JAPAN/MARC (magnetic tape) forms of the national bibliography. We have to reconsider how they should be compiled and provided in the network age.

[up](#)

The legal deposit system, National bibliography, National library

The framework for national libraries' task of acquiring domestic publications under the legal deposit system and publishing national bibliographies was formed after many years and has been supported mainly by national libraries.

Developments in electrotechnology have led to various types of publications being brought out in recent years. The publishing environment has changed significantly from printed materials to diversification and coexistence of media, then to diversification of publication formats. Coping with these changes is an issue common to national libraries. The subject is animatedly discussed and reported in the annual conference of International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA). We reaffirm the role of national libraries and are trying to find a new way in cooperation with publishers and related institutions.

Varied media increase the types of publications included in the national bibliographies. National bibliographies themselves started to be published and distributed in some different formats. In 1998, the Second International Conference on National Bibliographic Services was held after an interval of twenty years to consider the form to be taken by national bibliographies in the network age. Delegates from eighty countries including Japan took part in the conference and issued recommendations on the coverage, provision, swift compiling, and standardization of the national bibliographies.

Improvements in the Japanese National Bibliography

The number of entries in the Japanese National Bibliography was at the 70,000 level in the

early 1990s and hit 100,000 in 1999. Digital publications, publications for the visually handicapped, and audiovisual materials have been newly added to monographs, serials and newspapers.

On the NDL website, distribution of [the Japanese National Bibliography \(web version, Japanese only\)](#) has started in April 2002. The printed version of the Japanese National Bibliography will continue publication in FY 2002, and then a decision will be made on when to cease.

We make every effort to reduce the interval between the receipt of deposited materials and their appearance in the Japanese National Bibliography. The process, which has been adapted to the web version, has already shortened it by three weeks. Proceeding with accurate data creation as the national bibliography at the same time, we are aiming at reducing the interval to an average of five weeks from the two or three months it takes at present. We aim to reach this target within FY 2003.

JAPAN/MARC

As the magnetic tape version of the national bibliography, JAPAN/MARC has been provided for over twenty years since 1981. The institutions that use the JAPAN/MARC can process or devise the data to fit the purposes of their information systems. The following are being improved in FY 2002.

- Unify the formats of JAPAN/MARC (M) (monographs) and JAPAN/MARC (S)(serials) and distribute them in the same formats
- Provide JAPAN/MARC (M) in new formats from April 2002 and JAPAN/MARC (S) from FY 2003.
 - They are distributed in both JAPAN/MARC and UNIMARC formats.
 - The character code system is renewed to JIS90 (JIS X 0208:1990)

To enable the broader use of the data, the Japanese National Bibliography provides bibliographic data directly to users while JAPAN/MARC provides them indirectly to final users via other institutions.

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Online digital publications and metadata

The vast amount of information on the net is unfixed and vanishes quickly. The collection, accumulation and bibliographic data creation of such online digital publications are totally new challenges for us. Discussions and experiments on them are going on inside and outside Japan. The Legal Deposit System Council, which is the advisory council for the Librarian of the NDL, is discussing "Covering online digital publications by the legal deposit system and in case they are not covered by the system, what and how to collect them." As for accumulating, [the NDL Web Archiving Project \(WARP\)\(Japanese only\)](#) started working as one of the digital library experimental projects.

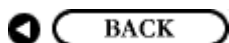
Metadata (data about data) for online digital publications corresponds to the bibliographic data for monograph and other publications. Metadata is a concept that can be applied not only to online digital publications but also to general catalogs. Online digital publications, on the other hand, differ so much from publications in paper or other fixed media in respect of publishing to accumulating that we need to take further steps to deal with them.

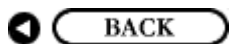
In conformity with the Dublin Core Metadata Element Set, "The NDL Metadata Element Set" was issued as the NDL standard for metadata creation in March 2001. Prior to the developments in the legal deposit system, the WARP experimentally adopts the standard and assigns metadata to collected websites and online periodicals. The metadata can be used for retrieval.

In Japan and abroad, the rapid increase of online digital publications activates discussions about the application and standardization of metadata. "The conference on bibliographic control" which will be reported in the next issue, takes metadata for the theme in FY 2002 to assess the current state in Japan and investigate the future action.

[\(To be continued\)](#)

[up](#)





Selections from NDL Collection
Analog phonographic records

*This is a translation of the article of the same title in the NDL Monthly Bulletin No. 498
(Overview of selected NDL collections, 17)*

Gramophone records started to be produced in Japan in 1909. In 1949, they were included in the legal deposit system of the National Diet Library, and with the cooperation of the Nihon Chikuonki Rekodo Kyokai (now Nihon Rekodo Kyokai, or Recording Industry Association of Japan), record companies began to deposit sound discs produced in Japan. After a preparation period, they were opened to the public in 1963 for research and study only.

The NDL has about 290,000 analog records in cabinets in the stacks. The collection includes 15,000 SPs, 175,000 LPs and 100,000 EPs. The NDL has seen the end of the age of the SP, the LP and the EP. After the CD came in, acquisition of analog records decreased gradually, but they still continue to be acquired a few at a time. To prevent wear and tear, SPs are copied onto cassette tapes and provided for use.

They cover a wide range of genres, including purely traditional Japanese music, popular songs, classical and "pops." Among others, there is a rich collection of popular songs. Not only music but other sounds are included, such as speeches and sound effects.



From left to right:

	1	2	3	4	5
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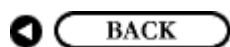
Title		Sankyoku: Chidori, Midare and Rokudan	Koutaishi sama omedetou / Yasashii princess	Kaze-san no ohanashi / Aoi oumu no poppo chan	Reality / Gotta get a move on
		(Three traditional Japanese pieces)	(Congratulations to His Imperial Highness The Crown Prince / Kind princess)	(Story of the wind / Poppo the blue parrot)	
Publisher		Nippon Filmon	Teichiku Entertainment	Teichiku Entertainment	Toshiba EMI
Description	A Filmon box	Filmon	Record with vivid chrysanthemums printed on the surface	Small record, 13 cm in diameter	Heart-shaped, translucent red record
NDL call no.		YMA286-50-4, Cas1017	YMA4-30-9	YMB2-54-39	YMA267-19-2

These items are available in the [Audio-Visual Materials Room](#).

Let us introduce some unique items. We have small records which are 13 cm in diameter, heart-shaped or transparent ones, and some with a surface like an etching. Some jacket designs are also quite interesting. Moreover, we have about 30 special records called Filmon. They are long-play records produced by Nippon Filmon Co., Ltd. around 1937 before LPs were invented. A Filmon is a celluloid circular band 3.5 cm in width and 13 m in length. It has about 100 grooves and one groove will play for 20 seconds, giving 36 minutes of play in total. Unfortunately there is no Filmon player in the NDL, but most of them have been converted to cassette tapes and LPs and are available for use.

To search analog records, card catalogs in the order of record number are available, but when you do not know the number, indexes published by recording companies are useful. There are also a composer card catalog for classical music and a subject card catalog for purely traditional Japanese music. The NDL has an almost complete set of indexes published by recording companies after 1960. Some are from the prewar period, including monthly bulletins and announcements of newly released records. They are also a precious collection about records, which have a limited bibliography.





New Publications from NDL

▶ J-BISC DVD version

▶ Hito to zosho to zoshoin (*People, collections and ex-libris ownership stamps*)

J-BISC (JAPAN/MARC on disc) DVD version / edited by National Diet Library. Tokyo : Japan Library Association, 2002.

This DVD version of the J-BISC contains in one DVD 2.5 million bibliographic data of Japanese books published from 1868 to 2000. All data of Japanese books that were published in eight CD-ROMs including the current edition and 40,000 bibliographic data of children's literature that were not included in the CD-ROM version are now available.

In producing the DVD version, we have enhanced some functions. For example, title key word search and variant character search are now available. Cross searching between the DVD version and the J-BISC current edition (CD-ROM) is also available.

Price list (yen)

	Stand alone	Network *
J-BISC current edition subscriber	200,000	300,000
New subscriber	480,000	580,000

* This "network" use is limited to one facility. To use the DVD on a network between facilities, 60,000 yen per facility is added.

Available from:

Nihon Toshokan Kyokai (Japan Library Association)
1-11-14 Shinkawa, Chuo-ku,
Tokyo 104-0033 JAPAN
Tel: +81-3-3523-0812
Fax: +81-3-3523-0841

Hito to zosho to zoshoin: Kokuritsu Kokkai Toshokan shozobon kara (People, collections and ex-libris ownership stamps: from the National Diet Library collection) / edited by National Diet Library.
Tokyo : Yushodo Shuppan, 2002. 331 p : ill. ; 22cm. ISBN 4-8419-0307-0

This book is a compilation of 304 articles of *Ex-libris ownership stamps in the National*

Diet Library Collections”, which appeared serially from No. 166 to No. 477 of the *National Diet Library Monthly Bulletin*. It is a modified and enlarged edition of “*Kokuritsu Kokkai Toshokanzo zosho inpu (Ownership stamps in the National Diet Library collections)*” published in 1985 by Rinsen Shoten (Rinsen Book Co.) and “*Kokuritsu Kokkai Toshokan zosho inpu (Ownership stamps in the National Diet Library collections)*” published in 1995 by Seishodo Shoten (Seishodo Book Co.).

Its contents include prints of stamps, owners (individuals or institutions) of stamps, and their collection and the collection’s history. Prints of stamps are in the original color and size in principle. Many stamps were introduced for the first time in the original articles, which attracted favorable responses from stamp lovers and researchers.

Available for 6,300 yen (tax excluded) from:
Yushodo Shuppan
29 San-ei-cho, Shinjuku-ku,
Tokyo 160-0008 JAPAN
Tel: +81-3-3357-1411
Fax: +81-3-3351-5855
[e-mail: sales@yushodo.co.jp](mailto:sales@yushodo.co.jp)

Ownership stamp of Ito Hirobumi (1841-1909)

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National Diet Library Newsletter

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

National Diet Library Monthly Bulletin

(Kokuritsu Kokkai Toshokan Geppo)

No. 501, December 2002

- Libraries of the digital age built up on the legacy of the past: Participating in the 68th IFLA General Conference and the 29th Meeting of CDNL
 - 29th Meeting of CDNL *by Tsuyoshi Ujigo*
 - Bibliotheca Universalis meeting *by Yoriko Sato*
 - Library and Research Services for Parliaments Section *by Nobuko Katayama*
 - Committee on Copyright and other Legal Matters (CLM) session *by Chiyo Kitayama*
 - Acquisition and Collection Development Section meeting *by Masaki Nasu*
 - Meeting of PAC Directors and meetings related to the Preservation and Conservation Section *by Chiyo Kitayama*
 - Meetings related to the Bibliography and Cataloging sections *by Masaki Nasu*
 - Libraries for Children and Young Adults Section *by Hiroshi Sakamoto*
 - Sketch of IFLA
- Meeting between NDL Librarian and secretaries general of prefectural assemblies in fiscal 2002
- [Japanese and Korean national library services in the new century: From the 6th mutual visit program with the National Library of Korea](#) *by Hidehiko Sairaiji*
- Training program at the National Library of Japan *by Bae Min Sik (National Assembly Library, Korea)* [related article](#)
- Messages given by the guests at the banquet (Opening of the Kansai-kan)

No. 500, November 2002

- Opening of the Kansai-kan of the National Diet Library [Kansai-kan web site](#)
 - Outline of the opening ceremony [related article](#)
 - The Kansai-kan has taken off *by Akio Yaseu*
 - Messages from outside NDL
- New developments in digital library service [related page](#)
- The history of the National Diet Library Monthly Bulletin through series articles
- Message to the National Diet Library Monthly Bulletin No. 500 *by Noritada Otaki*

