

National Diet Library Newsletter

No. 136, April 2004

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Digital Preservation Specialists from the Koninklijke Bibliotheek's visit to the NDL

The National Diet Library is now making efforts to establish a system for collecting online information resources, preserving digital information and making it accessible to the public. Focusing on this objective, the NDL held a lecture meeting and a discussion session on March 3 and 5, 2004, having as lecturers three specialists from the Koninklijke Bibliotheek (National Library of the Netherlands; KB), which has already put such a project (called "e-Depot") into practice. The lecturers from the KB were Dr. Johan F. Steenbakkers, Director of Information Technology and Facility Management, Mr. Hans Jansen, Head of the Research & Development Division, and Dr. Hilde van Wijngaarden, Digital Preservation Officer. The lecture meeting attracted 69 NDL staff and 15 people from other institutions. The program was as follows:

Date	Program
March 3	Lecture meeting "Digital Preservation at the Koninklijke Bibliotheek"
13:30 -17:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• "Introduction to digital preservation issues at the Koninklijke Bibliotheek" by Mr. Hans Jansen (PDF: 27KB)• "Permanent Archiving of Electronic Publications // EStrategy & Requirements" by Dr. Johan F. Steenbakkers (PDF: 243KB)• "Digital Preservation at the National Library of the Netherlands" by Dr. Hilde van Wijngaarden (PDF: 28KB)
March 5	Discussion session
10:00 -12:00	Presentation: "OAIS and the e-Depot" by Dr. Hilde van Wijngaarden (PDF: 38KB)

In the lecture meeting and session, the lecturers reported that the KB, which gives first priority to long-term storage of electronic journals rather than web archiving, acquired 55,000 articles per day from Elsevier and other publishers that had agreements with the KB to deposit their electronic publications. They developed and used DIAS (Digital Information Archiving System), a system for digital preservation which conformed to the OAIS reference model which had been approved as the ISO Standard for digital archiving.

They pointed out that we were no longer in an environment where we could define the scope of acquisition by national borders in collecting digital information, and stated that the KB was a "change-driven" organization. We realized that it was such attitudes that had

driven them to put the “e-Depot” system into practice, supported by their existing acquisition system that was based not on legal obligation but on voluntary agreements between the KB and publishers.



From right: Mr. Jansen, Dr. van Wijngaarden, interpreter, Dr. Steenbakkers



Discussion session

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“Bibliography of Persons in Modern Japanese Politics” is now available on the NDL website!

*This is an abridged translation of an article in
the NDL Monthly Bulletin No. 514 (January 2004).*

The “Bibliography of Persons in Modern Japanese Politics” has been available on the NDL website since December 19, 2003.

This is a bibliography of selected Japanese books that have been published since the Meiji period about Japanese involved with modern Japanese politics. You can search materials by the person’s name in this database. It is particularly useful for searching information on leading figures in politics (only katakana and kanji can be used for search). This database covers a wider spectrum of persons than just politicians. Types of materials range from autobiographies and biographies to memoirs, diaries, essays, criticisms and lectures. In some cases, you can search materials that cannot be searched by subject retrieval of the person’s name in the NDL-OPAC.



“Bibliography of Persons in Modern Japanese Politics” on the web (Japanese only)

How to access

Go to “Bibliography of Persons in Modern Japanese Politics” from our website

* From May 11, 2009, moved to <http://rnavi.ndl.go.jp/seiji/>. Above screen image is previous one.

Persons listed in this bibliography

Emperors, cabinet ministers, members of the Diet, members of the Chamber of Elders, councillors of the Privy Council, leaders of political parties, diplomats, administrators (director of a Ministry and above), army-navy military officers (general and above), members

of prefectural assemblies, governors and mayors. Political philosophers and military lower than general are also included, if they had a historic influence on politics.

Range of selected materials

The major part of the materials is autobiographies, biographies, memoirs, diaries, mourning books and prosopographies. Besides them, the materials in which the thought and berief of the person is mentioned and which contains biographical elements are selected from anecdotes, essays, criticisms, travel notes, posthumous manuscripts, lectures and reports to the Diet. In principle, they describe the person in more than three pages.

The number of data

6,789 persons, 42,077 entries (as of January 7, 2004)

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Use of the NDL services and user satisfaction & needs: report of user questionnaire survey of FY2003

Planning and Cooperation Division
Administrative Department

*This is an abridged translation of the article of the same title
in the NDL Monthly Bulletin No. 516 (March 2004).*

Introduction

The National Diet Library (NDL) conducted a user questionnaire survey in the autumn of 2003, with the purpose of using the results for the improvement of its services and operations. It was the first large-scale user survey since 1989, using a variety of questions on all NDL's services. In addition to the questions intended to get a picture of NDL use, such as purpose and frequency of using the NDL, and use of each service, we put questions to grasp the level of user satisfaction and requests from users.

Table 1: Outline of the user questionnaire survey FY2003

Respondents	Method	Period	Number of Collected Answers (Response Rates)
On-site users of the Tokyo Main Library	<i>Handed out at the user entrance or picked up from boxes put at several places in the library. Collected in boxes put in the library.</i>	Sep. 18 - 25 (5 days)	1,366 (45.2%)*
On-site users of the Kansai-kan	<i>Handed out at the user entrance or picked up from boxes put at several places in the library. Collected in boxes put in the library.</i>	Sep. 26 - Oct. 11 (14 days)	1,282 (60.3%)*
On-site users of the ILCL	<i>Handed out at the user entrance. Collected with boxes put in the library</i>	Oct. 17 - 26 (9 days)	Adults: 1,938 (69.5%)* Children: 352 (64.6%)*

Users of the NDL Website	Distributed on the NDL website (PDF and Word format) Answers sent by e-mail, fax, or post	Sep. 24 - Oct. 24 (31 days)	78 (1.5%)**
Libraries and related institutions in Japan	Sent to the institutions receiving Library Cooperation Newsletter*** (4634 institutions) Answers sent by fax or post	Sep. 22 - Oct. 24 (33 days)	3,055 (65.9%)

* Calculated from the number of all users visiting the libraries.

** Calculated from the number of accesses to the questionnaire page on the website (4,987).

*** Ceased publication in 2003. Currently distributed monthly as an e-mail magazine "Library Cooperation News."

In this article, we report the gist of the survey results and try to define the expectation that individual users and user institutions have of the NDL services and activities, with the hope that it will result in improvements.

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1. Survey results from on-site users of the Tokyo Main Library, the Kansai-kan, and the International Library of Children's Literature (ILCL)

1.1 Characteristics of users

1.1.1 What is your purpose in visiting the NDL? How often do you come?

From the answers to these two questions, we can find the characteristics of users of the three facilities. (Figures 1 and 2)

Figure 1: Purpose of visiting the NDL (Please click on the image for a clearer one)

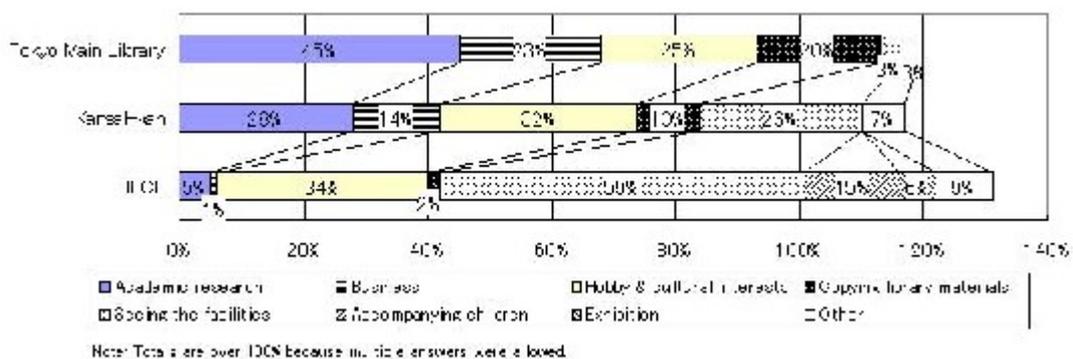
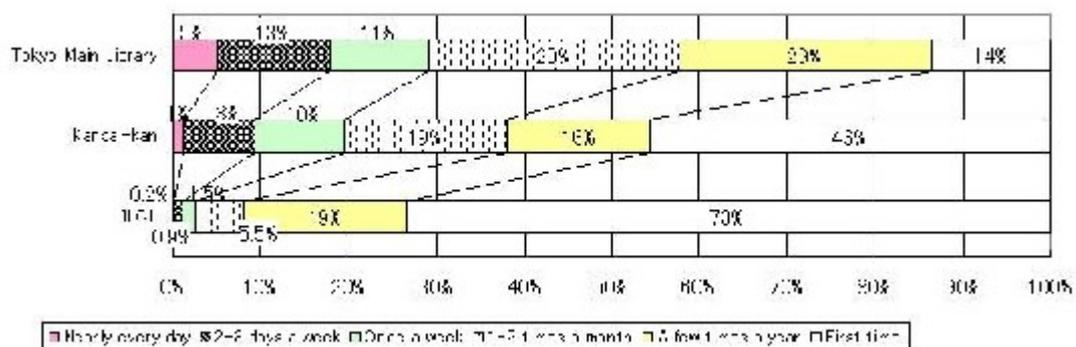


Figure 2: Frequency of visits to the NDL



A large part of the users of the Tokyo Main Library visit the Library for “academic research” or “business.” On Saturdays, users for business purposes are 10% fewer than weekdays, and users coming for hobbies and cultural interests are 10% more. About 60% use the library more than once a month. On the other hand, many users of the Kansai-kan and the ILCL (about 60%) visit the libraries “to see the facilities.” Since both libraries were recently opened, many respondents, 50% in the Kansai-kan and 70% in the ILCL, answered that they were visiting the library for the first time. However, in the Kansai-kan, 20% are repeat visitors who use the library more than once a week, which is close to the rate of repeat visitors in the Tokyo Main Library (30%).

In the Tokyo Main Library, more than half the users stay three hours or longer, which is longer than users of the Kansai-kan and the ILCL. Half of the ILCL users stay less than one hour.

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1.1.2 Did you know if the NDL held the materials you were looking for before visiting the library?

80% of Tokyo Main Library users, 40% of Kansai-kan users, and 20% of ILCL users answered “Yes” to the above question. Although the rate of knowledge of the holdings was low among the total of ILCL users, nearly 50% of those coming for “academic research” and “copying library materials” knew the information beforehand. Naturally, the recognition rate among visitors coming to “see the facilities” was low at all the three facilities.

As for the means of finding out information on the holdings, half of the Tokyo Main Library and the Kansai-kan users who knew the information beforehand answered that they searched the NDL-OPAC on the NDL website. That indicates the NDL website is getting familiar to users. On the contrary, among ILCL users, only 20% out of the users who knew the information searched the Union Catalog of Children’s Literature on the ILCL website, while 30% got the information from their acquaintances.

1.1.3 Did you use the OPAC in the NDL?

The NDL-OPAC is also available via the computer terminals placed in the three facilities. The rate of its use is more than 60% at the Tokyo Main Library and the Kansai-kan. At the ILCL, the rate is as low as that of users of the NDL-OPAC on the Internet, 10% among all visitors. The ILCL also provides on-site users with the Union Catalog of Children’s Literature, which is used by a little over 10% of all visitors. However, when limited to the users who came for “academic research” or “copying of library materials,” 20 to 30% use the NDL-OPAC and 40 to 50% use the Union Catalog of Children’s Literature in the library.

That means at the ILCL, the rate of OPAC use depends on the purpose of the user's visit to the Library.

Out of the users of the NDL-OPAC and the Union Catalog of Children's Literature, 90% at the Tokyo Main Library and 80% at the Kansai-kan and the ILCL successfully found the materials they were looking for on the OPACs.

On the NDL-OPAC, not only the search for the publications held, but also the database of journal articles (Japanese Periodicals Index) is available for search. However, out of NDL-OPAC users, only 50% at the Tokyo Main Library and 30% at both the Kansai-kan and the ILCL use the Japanese Periodicals Index. 20% of the Tokyo Main Library users and 30% of users of the Kansai-kan and the ILCL did not know that the Index exists.

1.1.4 Are you a registered user?

The NDL introduced a user registration system in FY2002 when the Kansai-kan opened. Registered users may request via the Internet the copying service for materials held at the Tokyo Main Library and the Kansai-kan. In the Kansai-kan, 40% of visitors have already registered, because of some merits such as that it is simpler for registered users to enter the library. Although registered users will be able to receive the same advantages in the Tokyo Main Library from October 2004 when the renovation is completed, only 10% of the users of the Tokyo Main Library have registered and 40% replied that they did not know about the system.

1.1.5 Have you ever used the copying service by mail?

"Copying service by mail" is one of the remote services, by which users can receive by mail the copies they requested through one of the following ways: requesting at the nearest library, sending a request form to the NDL by mail, and requesting via the Internet. At all three facilities, only 10% of users have used the service through a nearest library or post. Only 3% of the users of the Tokyo Main Library and the Kansai-kan have used the service via the Internet. Even among the registered users, the rates are less than 20% at the Tokyo Main Library and less than 10% at the Kansai-kan. It seems that people who can visit one of the NDL facilities find it more convenient to come in person than use the remote services.

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1.2 Satisfaction and needs for improvements in our services

1.2.1 How do you rate your degree of satisfaction in general? Have you achieved your purpose in visiting the NDL?

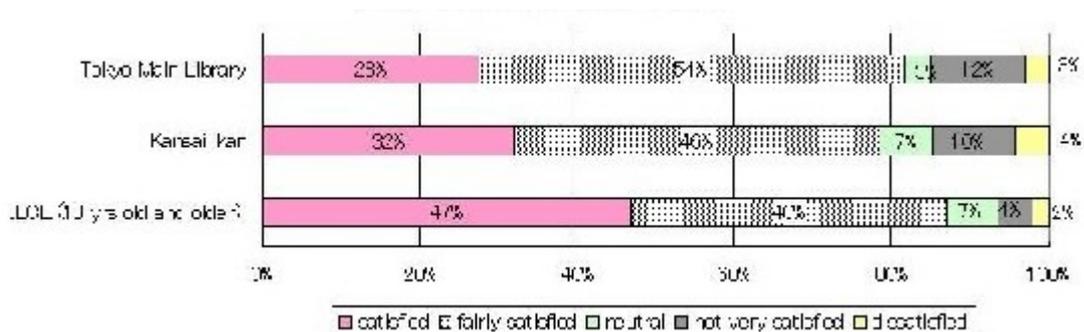
80% of visitors to the Tokyo Main Library and the Kansai-kan, and 90% of those to the ILCL answered "satisfied" or "fairly satisfied" about the services provided on-site (Figure 3). These rates correspond with the percentage of those who answered "achieved" to the question about the achievement of the purpose. 30-40% of visitors who failed to achieve their purpose rated their degree of satisfaction low ("not very satisfied" or "dissatisfied"). Comparing this dissatisfaction rate with that of the whole sample (10%), we can say that there is a connection to some extent between negative rates in satisfaction degree and failure to get what they came for.

As a reason for failing in their purpose, 50% of respondents at the Tokyo Main Library and

the Kansai-kan, and 40 % of those at the ILCL ticked "could not find the materials wanted." The reasons ranked second vary according to facility: at the Tokyo Main Library, it is that they "could not request materials within the service hours"(30%); in the Kansai-kan, "the material wanted is stored in the Tokyo Main Library or the ILCL, and not held in the Kansai-kan"(30%); at the ILCL, "the material is not available (being at the binder's / being used by someone else)" (10%).

At the ILCL, questionnaire sheets for children were also prepared. 90% of the children answered positively to the question "Do you want to come again?" We may say that their satisfaction degree is as high as that of adults.

Figure 3: User Satisfaction degree in general (Please click on the image for a clearer one)



1.2.2 How do you rate your degree of satisfaction with each of the services specified below? What improvements to the NDL services would you like to see most?//

Figures 4–6 show the results to the question about visitors' satisfaction with each aspect of on-site services in each of the three facilities of the NDL. In these figures, blue bar represents the percentage of "Satisfied users" (respondents who answered "satisfied" or "fairly satisfied"), and the purple bar, "Dissatisfied users" (those who answered "not very satisfied" or "dissatisfied").

Figure 4: User Satisfaction degree with each service at the Tokyo Main Library

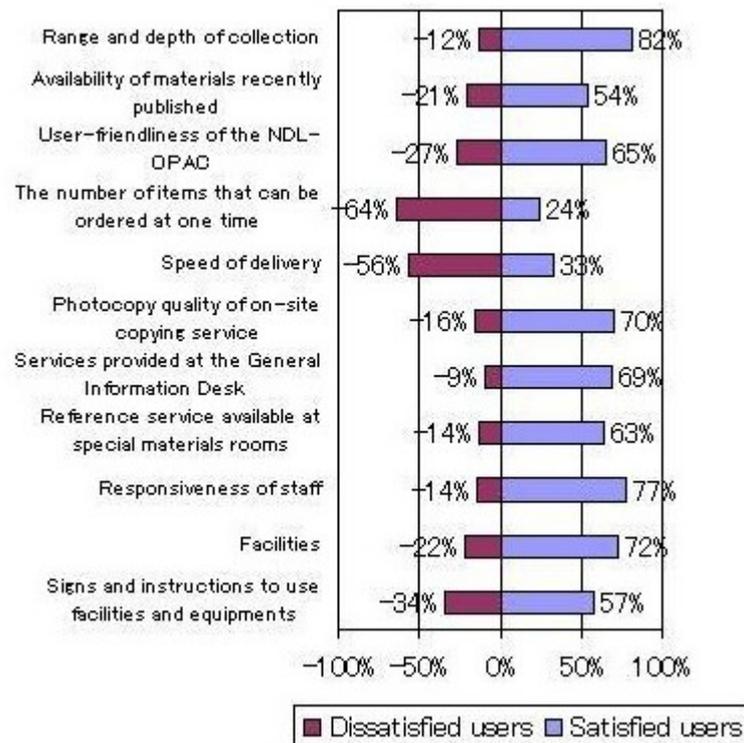


Figure 5: User Satisfaction degree with each service at the Kansai-kan

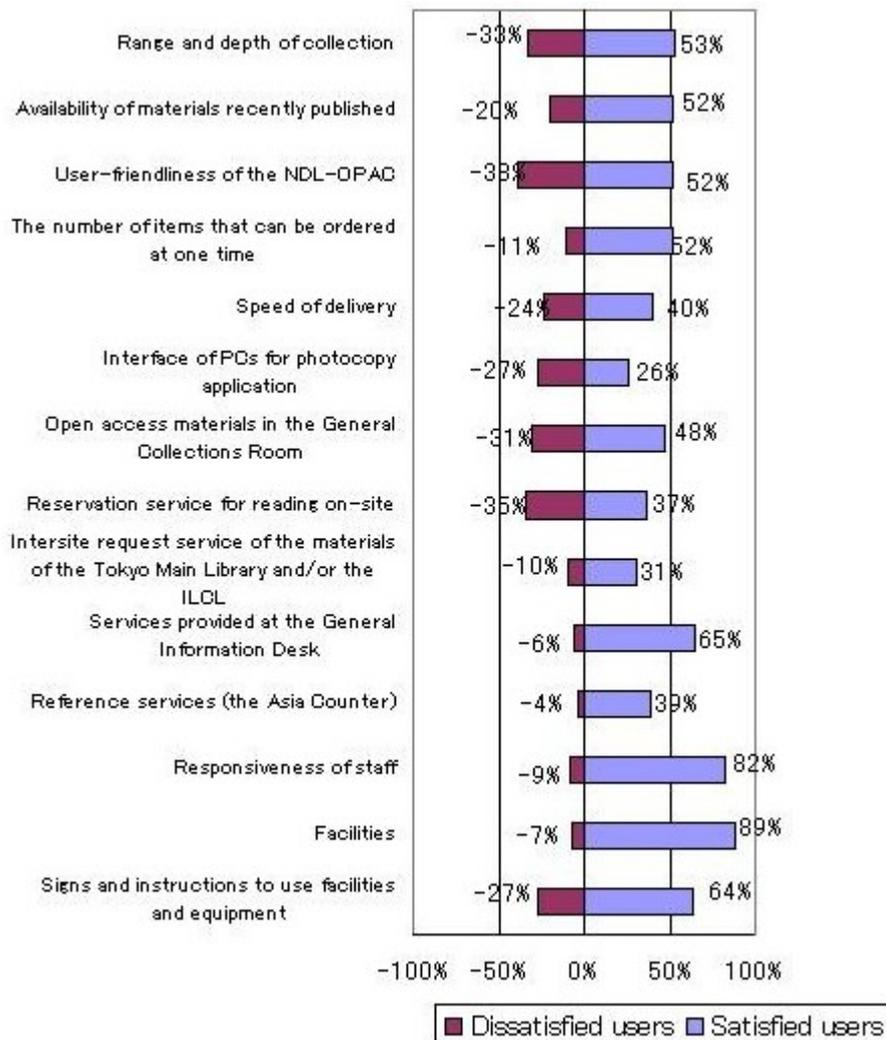
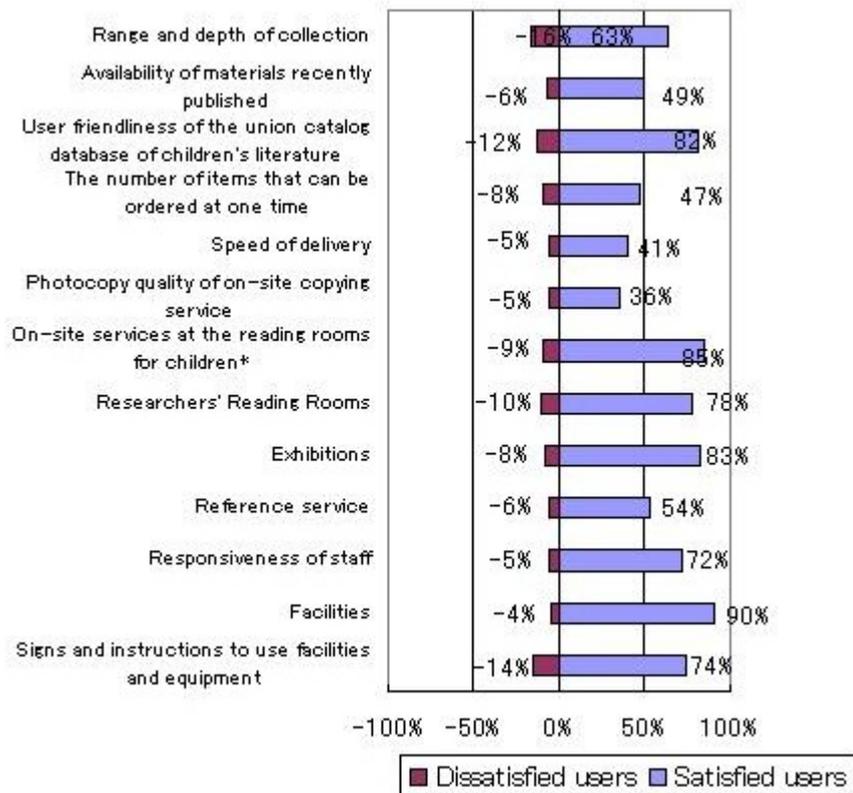


Figure 6: User Satisfaction degree with each service at the ILCL



*The ILCL has two reading rooms for children: Children's Library and Meet the World.

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Figures 7–9 show the ten aspects of NDL service in which users most wanted to see improvement. The bar represents percentage of on-site users who chose each item as a service to be improved.

Figure 7: Top-10 requests for improvement in NDL Services at the Tokyo Main Library
(Please click on the image for a clearer one)

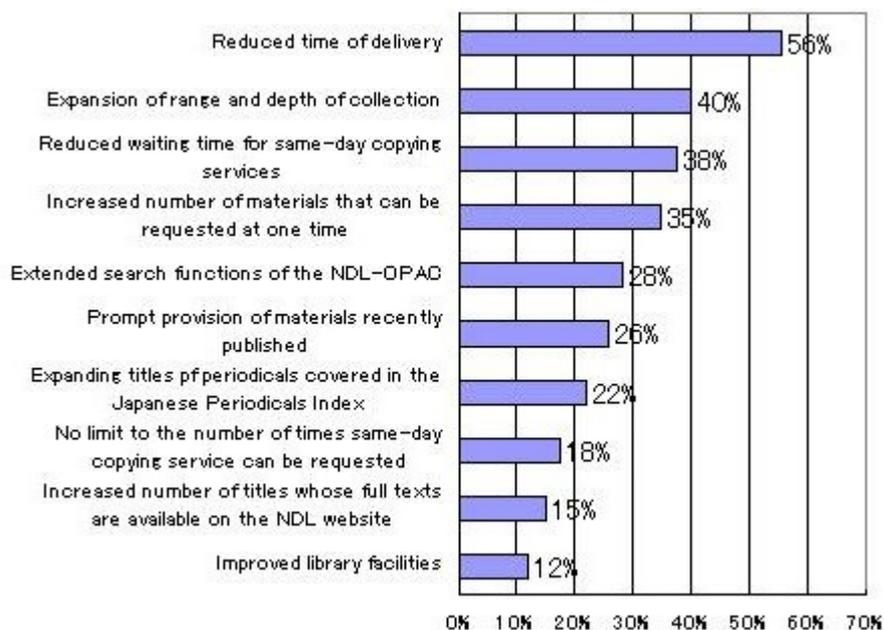


Figure 8: Top-10 requests for improvement in NDL Services at the Kansai-kan

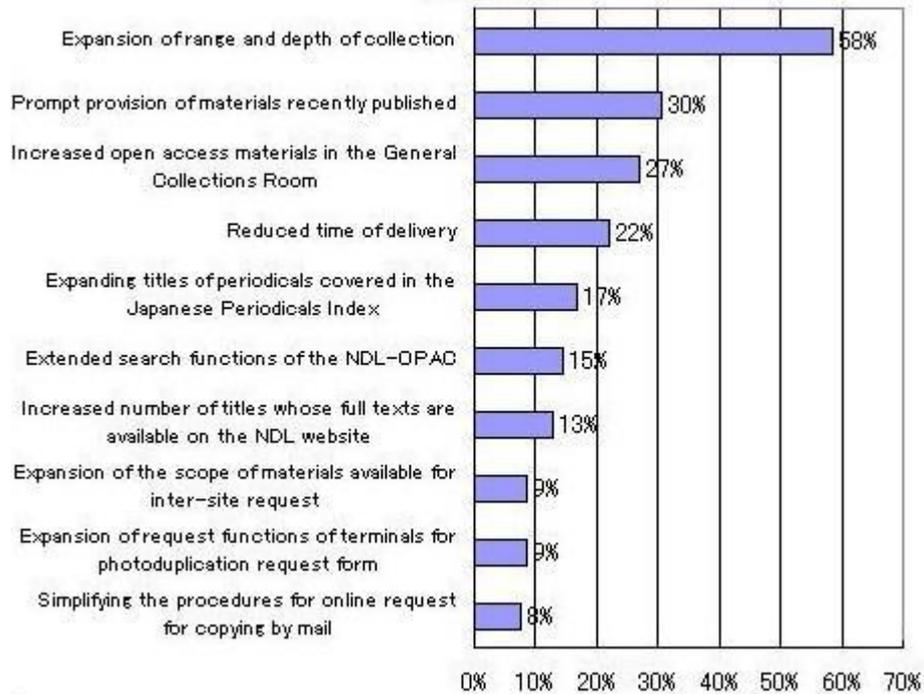
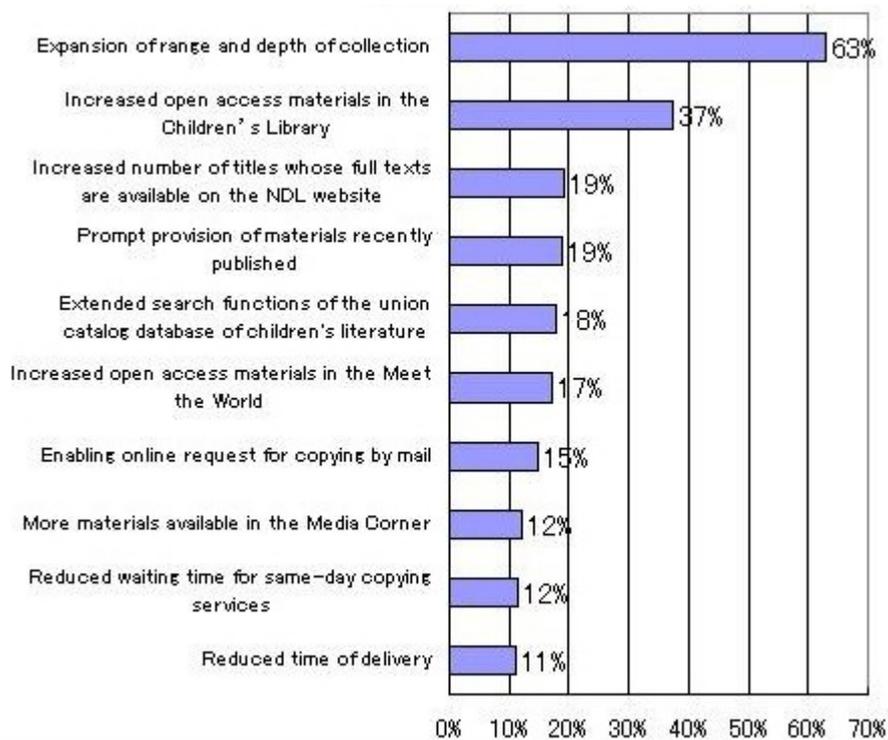


Figure 9: Top-10 requests for improvement of NDL Services at the ILCL



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Comparing two different charts for each facility, we can see how much we are expected to improve each aspect of our services. Higher request for improvements means that users think the service is important. If more than one service rates equally low in satisfaction level, higher rates in Figure 7-9 indicate the services whose improvement users want most.

At the Tokyo Main Library, users expressed low satisfaction with "The number of items that can be ordered at one time" and "Speed of delivery" and strongly requested improvement. Reduced waiting time for same-day copying service is also wanted by many users: an acceptable waiting time would be "10 minutes or less" (20 %) or "20 minutes or less" (50%), according to the answers to the questionnaire. We now operate the service based on a rough standard "30 minutes or less," but this satisfies only slightly over 20% of users. We are strongly expected to take steps to shorten the waiting time.

At the Kansai-kan, not a few users presented dissatisfaction with "Interface of terminals for copying request form" and "Reservation service for reading on-site." However, requests for improvements in these services are also low. 58% of Kansai-kan users requested "Expansion of range and depth of collection" and it ranked as the No.1 request. However, "satisfied" users exceed "dissatisfied" by 20%. The same pattern can be observed in "Prompt provision of materials recently published" and "Increased open access materials in the General Collections Room." Seeing this, we may say that there is no area requiring immediate action, but nonetheless we are expected to aim at further user-friendliness of library equipment & systems, expansion of open-access materials and greater availability of current materials. The high rate of requests for "Expansion of range and depth of collection" among Kansai-kan users reflects their dissatisfaction caused by unfulfillment of the purpose for their visit because "the material wanted is stored in the Tokyo Main Library or the ILCL, and not held in the Kansai-kan." At the same time, 60% of Kansai-kan users visit the Library without any information about its holdings: we should stress promotion activities to enhance use of the NDL-OPAC via our website and other ways to obtain information on what the Kansai-kan holds (see 1.1.2).

Most aspects of the ILCL services gained rather high satisfaction ratings, compared with the other two facilities. We may say that most users are satisfied with NDL's service at the ILCL. On the other hand, we also received a number of requests for "Expansion of range and depth of collection" and "Increased open access materials in the Children' Library." Considering that the ILCL holds 200,000 books (children's literature and related materials) and 1,600 titles of periodicals, and about 7,000 books and periodicals are available on open shelves on the Children's Library, we can deduce that requests for improvements may stem from their failure to find the materials they want. Less than 10% of ILCL visitors use online catalogs (Union Catalog Database of Children's Literature and NDL-OPAC) in the Library.

In the survey on requests for improvements, we also asked about our services for remote users. All the three facilities received most requests for "Increased number of titles whose full texts are available on the NDL website." It indicates that there are many users who wish to enjoy library services such as reading and copying NDL collections without visiting the Library. Currently, the NDL provides the "Digital Library from the Meiji Era" on our website, a virtual library consisting of images of all the pages of the NDL collection of books published in the Meiji era. Through the ILCL website, the "Digital Library of Children's Literature" is available, which provides image data of children's books published before 1950. We will continue to increase the digital library services to assist remote use.

2. Survey results of domestic libraries and related institutes

Approximately 4,600 domestic libraries and related institutes were surveyed, and prefectural, city, ward, town and village libraries including their branches (60%), university libraries (27%), special libraries (7%), parliamentary libraries (2%) and other libraries (5%) replied.

2.1 Usage of each service

2.1.1. Do you use the NDL website?

Over 50% of libraries use the NDL website once a week or more and 97% of them answered that they had used the NDL-OPAC. As the result shows, the major part of the libraries visit the NDL website to use the NDL-OPAC. Second to fifth frequently used menus are user guidance such as the Guidance of User Registration. The sixth is a reference tool, the Guide for Search by Theme, but only 20% of libraries have ever used it.

We asked libraries to rate accessibility, appearance, and amount of information provided on the website on a scale of five, and found that over 70% of them were satisfied. The item "accessibility to the necessary information" got the most "dissatisfied" replies. We have to improve the structure of our website to make it easier to be accessed. In addition, 2% of libraries replied that they do not have the environment to use the NDL website.

2.1.2 Do you use the NDL-OPAC?

30% of libraries answered that they use the NDL-OPAC on the web "frequently," and if we add the answer "occasionally," 80% of them use the NDL-OPAC. "Search of the Japanese Periodicals Index" that is less recognized by on-site users is used by 50% of libraries. It is used by libraries and institutes to some degree, but less used compared with "Search of general materials" that is used by almost 90% of them. The reasons for using the NDL-OPAC are "confirmation of availability of materials" (90%), "reference work" (50%), and "making bibliographic data" (over 20%).

2.1.3 Do you use the Japanese National Bibliography, JAPAN/MARC and J-BISC?

The Japanese National Bibliography is a publication that provides standard bibliographic data of publications acquired by the NDL through the legal deposit system. Since April 2002, we have been providing the latest four issues on the web. Asked about usage of the Japanese National Bibliography, 8% answered "use on the web," 5% answered "use paper edition," 70% had not used it, and almost 20% did not even know of its existence. The data of the Japanese National Bibliography are provided as the JAPAN/MARC (magnetic tape) and the J-BISC (optical disc) and they are used by almost 40% of libraries. The reasons for using the Japanese National Bibliography are "book selection" (50%), "reference work" (40%), and "making bibliographic data" (30%), while those for using JAPAN/MARC and J-BISC are "confirmation of availability of materials" "making bibliographic data (60%) and "reference work" (40%). These characteristics of usage are also different from that of the NDL-OPAC. Almost 90% of the libraries that have used the Japanese National Bibliography answered that it is "useful" or "useful to some degree," but, as it is used only by small percentage of libraries so far, we have to expand its usage first.

2.1.4 Do you use ILL, copying service by mail, and reference service?

Libraries that have ever used those services account for 60% (ILL), 50% (copying service by

mail), and 40% (reference service). See Figures 10 to 12 that show frequency of usage by kind of library. Prefectural libraries and major municipal libraries use ILL and reference service often, while university libraries use copying service by mail often. However, libraries that answered “use once a week or more” account for 10% for ILL and copying service by mail, and only 1% for reference service. Most libraries use each service only “several times a year.”

Figure 10: Frequency of usage of ILL service by kind of library (Please click on the image for a clearer one)

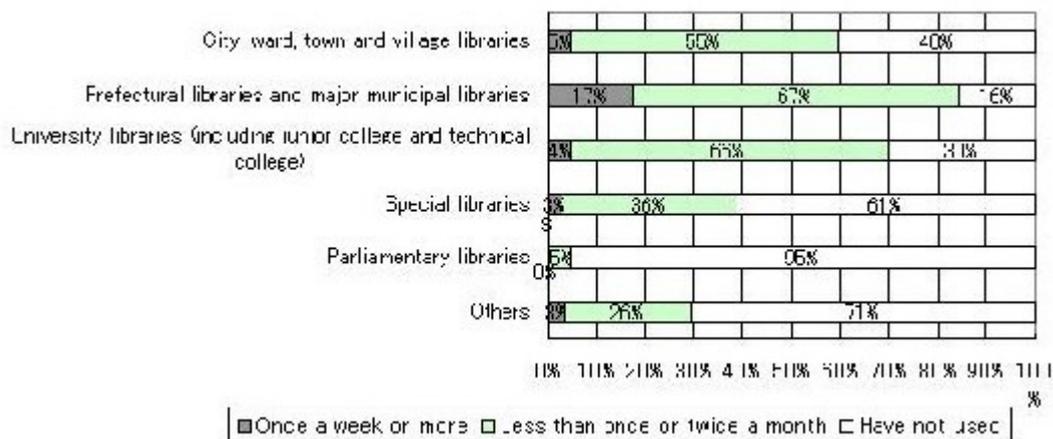


Figure 11: Frequency of usage of copying service by mail by kind of library

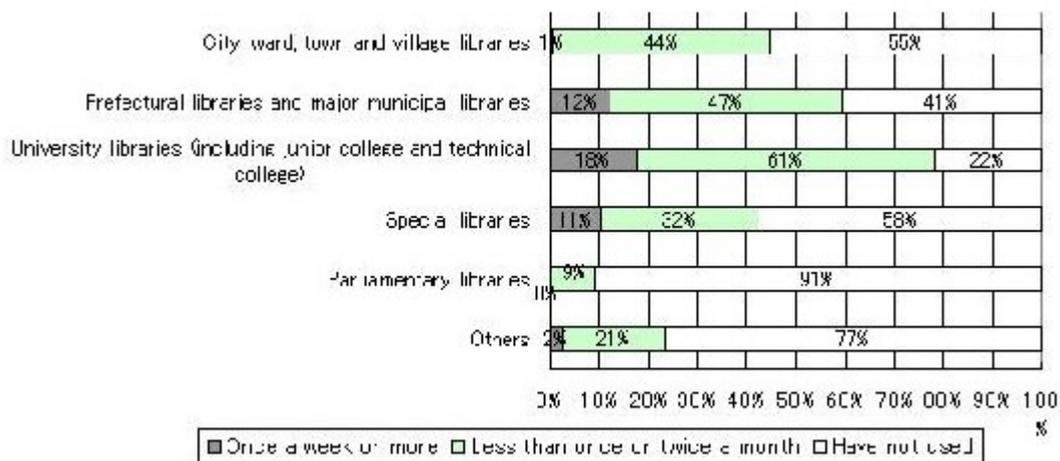
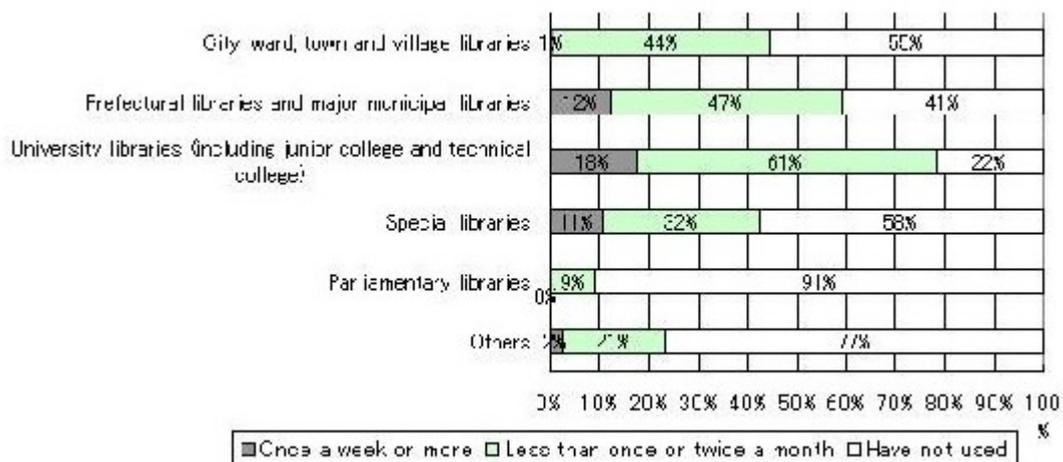


Figure 12: Frequency of usage of reference service by kind of library



Note:

"Nearly every day," "Two or three times a week" and "Once a week" are compiled as "Once a week or more." "Once or twice a month" and "Several times a year" are compiled as "Less than once or twice a month."

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2.2 Satisfaction and need for improvement in our services

70% are "satisfied" or "fairly satisfied" with our services overall, while 10% are "not very satisfied" or "dissatisfied." Satisfaction levels with interlibrary loan (ILL) service, copying service by mail and reference service, all of which are used frequently, rate nearly the same as that with our services on the whole. (Fig. 13)

Figure 13: Satisfaction of Japanese libraries & relevant institutions with NDL services

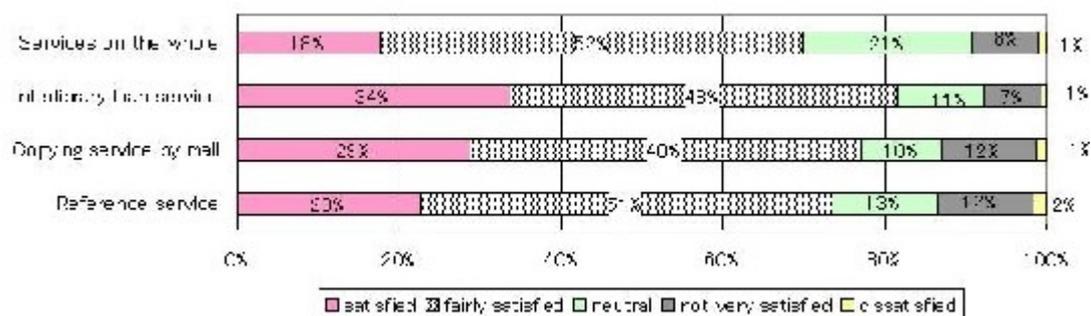


Figure 14 shows the level of satisfaction with each service. Institutions that answered "satisfied" or "fairly satisfied" are included in "Satisfied institutions," and those that answered "not very satisfied" or "dissatisfied" are included in "Dissatisfied institutions."

Figure 15 shows the top-10 services that respondents think need improvements, with the percentage of the respondents that answered so.

Many institutions are not satisfied with "number of days until receiving an answer to a reference question," "number of days until receiving photocopies by mail" and "training programs for library staff," while almost the same percentage of institutions answered they were satisfied with these services. Especially, more than 20% of respondents suggested that they wanted "speedy response to a reference question" and "extensive training programs for library staff."

Figure 14: Japanese libraries' & institutions' satisfaction level with each NDL service

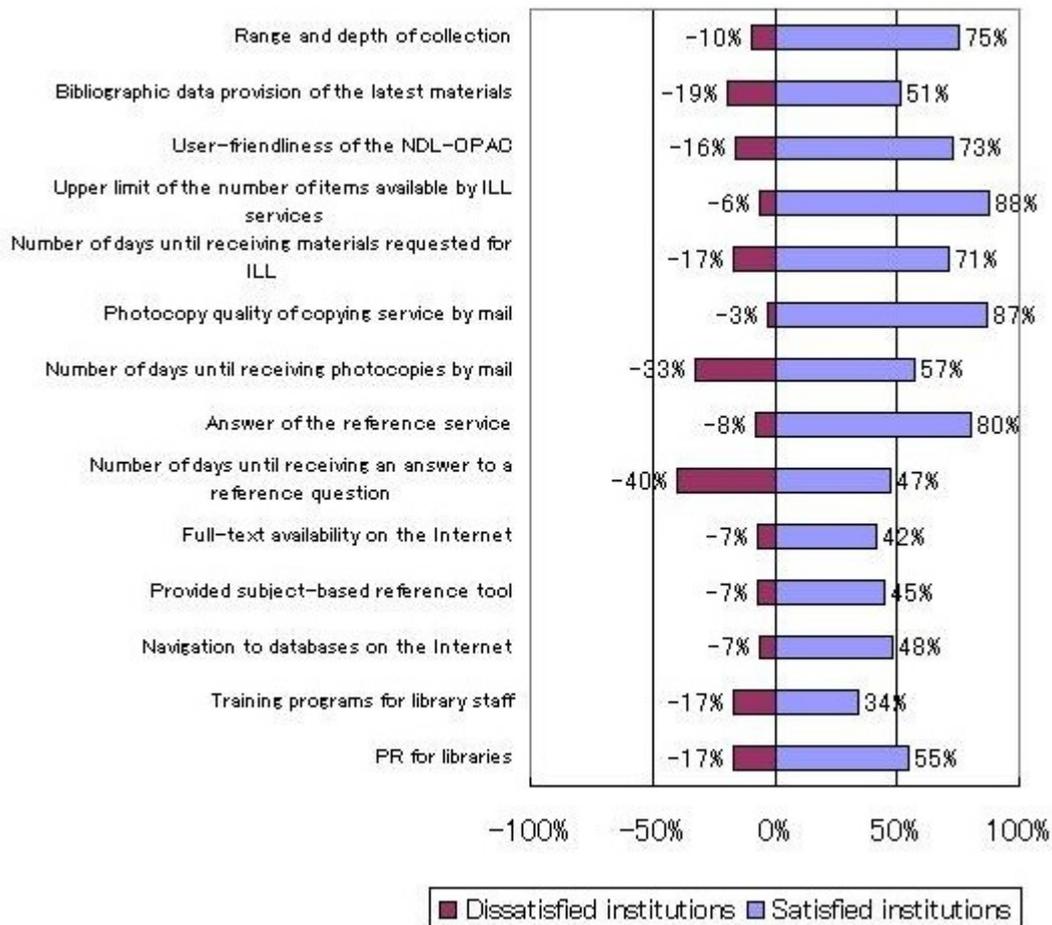
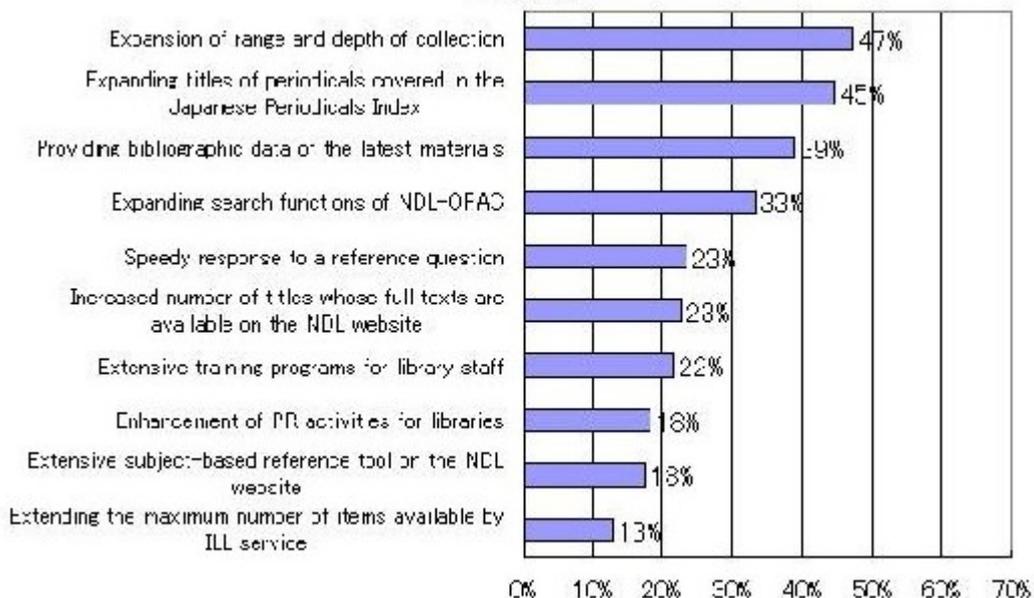


Figure 15: Top-10 requests for NDL services from Japanese libraries and institutions



While 47% of respondents indicated that the range and depth of the collections needed to be improved, the satisfaction level is quite high. It implies that even the institutions which answered they were "satisfied" with our holdings want them to be improved in some ways. Since "providing bibliographic data of the latest materials" and "expanding search functions of the NDL-OPAC" were the third and fourth highest requests respectively, it is possible to

think that they answered that library holdings needed to be improved because they were dissatisfied with the availability of newly published materials and with the scope of searchable materials. We also assume it results from their high expectation of our library as the sole national library in Japan.

“Expanding titles of periodicals covered in the Japanese Periodicals Index,” which was the commonest request for improvement in our services, was also demanded by many users of both the Tokyo Main Library and the Kansai-kan. However, it is not used very often on-site (see 1.1.3), and only 50% of libraries and relevant institutions use this index (see 2.1.2). This is probably because of some problems in the coverage of the Index, as well as insufficient PR activities.

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Conclusion

Looking at the survey results on the whole, we found out how users’ demands for up-to-date materials and prompt services have grown in this Internet society where people can get information any time. We also realized that we needed to publicize our services more effectively.

We are planning to conduct this sort of survey regularly, inquiring in detail about problems that were not specified this time. Especially, as we could not collect enough responses from remote users through our website to be statistically significant, we will conduct a survey for remote users again by another method in the near future.

From FY 2004, we are going to introduce an assessment system, and the services that turned out to have problems will be improved in the framework of this system. In this assessment system, aiming at effective management based on firm organizational objectives and improvement in user satisfaction, first we will publicize the service time and quality standards, and then we will evaluate our performance. We would like to verify the effectiveness of assessment system through cyclic surveys and to make use of it to improve our services.





Selections from NDL Collection

Special Exhibition: Southeast Asia, the people and their lives

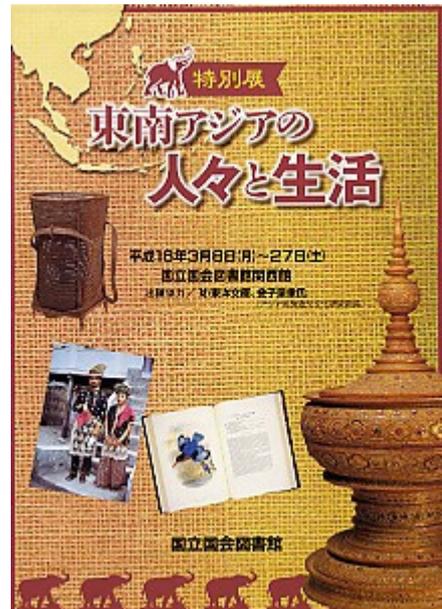
From the exhibition held in the Kansai-kan of the National Diet Library

Over one year has passed since the opening of the Kansai-kan, its Asian collection including books, periodicals and newspapers has been enriched even more. The year 2003 was designated as the ASEAN-Japan Exchange Year and relationships between Japan and Southeast Asian countries

have recently been getting closer in various fields.

Accordingly, the NDL planned an exhibition that would deepen people's knowledge of Southeast Asia. The Exhibition was held in the Kansai-kan of the National Diet Library, March 8-27, 2004. With the cooperation of the Toyo

Bunko (Oriental Library) and Mr. Kazushige Kaneko (President, Institute of Asian Ethno-forms and Culture), we exhibited 74 books including nine rare books, and five from the Toyo Bunko Collection, and 60 related materials such as clothes and tableware all borrowed from Mr. Kaneko.



Booklet of the exhibition

Southeast Asia is the region located between India and China, and is partly continental and partly islands. Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Thailand are located on the Asian continent, while the Philippines, Timor-Leste, Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Singapore and much of Malaysia are located in the islands. The continental part is in the tropical monsoon climate zone and the islands are in the wet tropical climate zone. In this region, various ethnic groups with different values have very different ways of life. That is why the characteristics of Southeast Asian culture are said to be "diversity" and "multilayered."

Historically, this region had been influenced by India and China because of its location. After the 16th century, the major part of the region excluding Thailand came to be ruled by European powers. The modern histories of the Southeast Asian countries equally feature freedom from colonial rule, independence and the establishment of a new country.

This exhibition presented books together with ethnographic materials to let visitors fully understand the lives of Southeast Asian peoples.

I. Nature of Southeast Asia

II. Clothing

III. Food

IV. Housing

V. Religion

VI. Education and Leisure

VII. Performing Arts

VIII. Books of Travel and Expedition in Southeast Asia

Appendix: To gain deeper knowledge about Southeast Asia

Many books on Southeast Asia in various fields and levels such as academic research, general introductions and travel guides have been published. In order to introduce today's various lifestyles in Southeast Asia, we selected a wide range of books published recently in Japanese, Western languages, and Asian languages such as Vietnamese and Indonesian. We also selected historical materials. After the "Age of Geographical Discovery" when Western people colonized Southeast Asia, missionaries, colonial administrators, and natural historians wrote about the nature, manners and customs of Southeast Asia at the time. These documents are very important in studying Southeast Asian history. Among such historical documents, rare books of the NDL and the Toyo Bunko were included in the exhibits.

Kaempfer, Engelbert.

The History of Japan.

London : Thomas Woodward, 1728. 2v. : ill.;

36cm

<Call no. WB31-18>

(semi-rare book)



Temples near Ayutthaya

Engelbert Kaempfer (1651–1716), born in Westphalia (Germany), was dispatched to Japan via Batavia, Java and Siam (modern Thailand) as a medical doctor of a Dutch trading post. This book is famous for its description of Japanese natural history and his journey to Edo with the Dutch trade mission. There are also some descriptions and

Nguyen Bich.

Su tich cay neu ngay Tet (The Legend of the Bamboo Pole of the Lunar New Year) .

Hanoi : Kim Dong, 2000. 31p.: 29cm

<Call no. Y17-vm-Az2931>

(from the collection of the International Library of Children's Literature)



Thanks to the bamboo poles, people can spend the Lunar New Year in peace

A picture book written in Vietnamese and English. At the Lunar New Year in Vietnam, people have the custom of setting up bamboo poles to frighten away devils. This book tells the legend

illustrations of Siam such as the capital Ayutthaya and the royal palace.

Shiho-ken.

Nanpyo-ki.

Kyoto : Shiho-ken, 1798. 78p.: 23cm

<Call no. 862-1>



Sailors have an audience with the royal family of Annam (Vietnam)

Written by the publisher Zeniya Chobei (penname: Shiho-ken) who heard the personal accounts of sailors who drifted from Japan to Vietnam. The life and manners of Annam (Vietnam) at the time are described with illustrations.

associated with the custom.

Aduarte, Diego.

Historia de la provincia del Sancto Rosario de la Orden de Predicadores en Philippinas, Iapon, y China.

Manila : Beltran, 1640. 4p., 437, 427, [32]p.; 30cm

<Call no. WA41-64>

(rare book)



First page of the part on the Philippines

In 1607–08 in Spain, the Dominican Diego Aduarte wrote a history of missions in the Philippines, Japan and China. After Aduarte's death in 1638, another Dominican, Domingo Gonzalez, revised it and the book was published in 1640 in Manila.

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National Diet Library Newsletter

No. 136, April 2004



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

National Diet Library Monthly Bulletin (Kokuritsu Kokkai Toshokan Geppo)

If you click the volume number of each issue, you can read the full-text of NDL Monthly Bulletin (no.517-). The text is provided in PDF format* (Japanese only).

*To see the full-text (PDF), you will need Adobe Acrobat Reader (free download). Click [here](#) to download. ([Adobe Website](#))

[No. 517, April 2004](#) [PDF Format, 2.35MB]

- Report of the International Symposium on the History of the Hans Christian Andersen Award
 - 33rd meeting of the Council on the Index to the History of Japanese Law
- First mutual visit program with the National Assembly Library of Korea: Ideal services for parliaments
[related article](#)
- Report of the 11th forum for libraries participating in the National Union Catalog Network
 - Online publication deposit system in North European countries

<Announcements>

- Announcement from the Modern Japanese Political History Materials Room
- [Full contents of digital exhibition "Birth of the Constitution of Japan" now available](#)
- Opening of the Collection Exhibit Area (tentative name) in the Humanities Room
[related article](#)
- Addition of data to the NDL-OPAC and temporary suspension of services
[related article](#)
 - [NDL budget for fiscal 2004](#)
- What's bibliographic control? (7) New target "non-book materials"

No. 516, March 2004

- Symposium "The new horizon of library services – toward the better understanding of Asia"
 - [Use of the NDL services and user satisfaction & needs: report of user questionnaire survey of FY 2003](#)

- Learning from the Florence flood in 1966: invitation of preservation specialists from Europe
 - English book binding technique: report of the preservation workshop [related article](#)
- Report of the Legal Deposit System Council: “Deposit obligation on independent administrative institutions”

<Announcement>

- Over 10,000 titles of online journals now available
- Addition of data to the NDL-OPAC and temporary suspension of services [related article](#)
- Kabuki actors who succeeded to the name of Ichikawa Danjuro (Enchanting world of books
 - Guide to regular exhibitions, 6) [related webpage \(Japanese only\)](#)



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Humanities Room

Humanities Room

Topics	Contents
Features and collections	In the Humanities Room, general and humanities reference books and core journals of library and information science are on the open access shelves. The Ashihara Collection of performing arts, the Kato Makoto Collection of exhibition catalogs, the Clapp Collection of library science materials and the Nunokawa Collection on the history of Japanese publishing are also available here. Some materials out of these collections are exhibited in the Collections Corner in this room.
Electronic Resources	Please see Electronic Resources Service at the Tokyo Main Library . "Siku Quanshu (Wenyuange Edition)" is also available at terminal C in the Humanities Room.
On open shelves or in closed stacks?	On open shelves: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reference books (dictionaries, encyclopedias, bibliographies, etc.) Core journals of library and information science. In closed stacks:(A callslip is required) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ashihara Collection Kato Makoto Collection of art exhibition catalogs Clapp Collection Nunokawa Collection
Opening hours	Mon.-Fri. 9:30-19:00 Sat. 9:30-17:00
Call-slip acceptance hours	Mon.-Fri. 9:30-18:00 Sat. 9:30-16:00
Announcement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No special registration is required to use the room (except for certain special materials). Reference service is available at the counter. Materials are to be used only in the room except when brought out to be photoduplicated.
Photoduplication	Same-day photoduplication service only (except for some materials that cannot be photoduplicated or photoduplicated only by regular service. For details, please ask at the counter) ▶ Photoduplication Service

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