



## New service procedures for on-site users at the Tokyo Main Library after the completion of its remodeling in October 2004

*This is a translation of an article in the  
NDL Monthly Bulletin No. 521 (Aug 2004).*

After about a year of remodeling, the Tokyo Main Library launched several new services on October 1, 2004.

From October, you can request most of the materials directly on the NDL-OPAC (National Diet Library Online Public Access Catalog) terminal in the Library. When you request the materials, you can also check where they are and whether they are in use. The request status and arrival information of the materials can be seen both on the NDL-OPAC terminal and on the arrival information monitor in the Library.

### 1. User Card

At the visitors' entrance, the user card will be issued to you. The user card is required when searching, requesting, receiving, and returning library materials, and having them photocopied. Be careful not to leave your card anywhere until you leave the Library.

### 2. User Registration

If you are a registered user, you can have a user card issued by simply holding your registered-user card over the sensor of the machine and inputting your password, so procedures to enter the Library will be simplified. We recommend you to register before visiting the Library.

- [Guidance of User Registration](#)



User card

### 3. Visiting Procedures



photo 1

The Tokyo Main Library has two entrances: the entrance of the Main Building is for registered users, and the other of the Annex is for non-registered users. At the entrance, you must have a user card issued by the User Card Issuing Machine (photo 1).

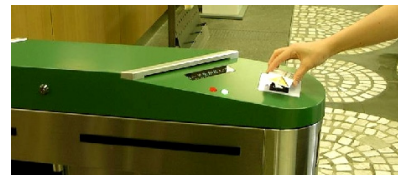


photo 2

You can enter the Library by touching the sensor of the entrance gate with your user card (photo 2). When leaving the Library, your user card will be collected at the exit gate (photo 3).

photo 3



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#### 4. Searching and Requesting materials

NDL-OPAC terminals (photo 4) are installed in the Catalog Halls and the Special Materials Rooms. Set the user card in the holder of the NDL-OPAC terminal (photo 5), and search materials on the NDL-OPAC. Most of materials owned by the NDL are searchable through the NDL-OPAC. If you find the materials you want to use, make request them and check the counter at which you can receive them. For some materials in the Special Materials Rooms, you may have to request at the counter of the correct room.

If you do not understand how to search materials, please don't hesitate to ask the staff of the Catalog Halls.



photo 4

photo 5

#### 5. Receiving materials

You can check the arrival of materials on the Arrival Information Monitors (photo 6) or on the

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“Arrival/Dispatch Information” page (photo 7) of the NDL-OPAC terminals. The Arrival Information Monitors are installed in front of the Book Counter and the Periodicals Counter, and in the Reading Rooms and the Special Material Rooms. After receiving materials at the designated counter, please read them in the Reading Rooms.



photo 6

photo 7



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## 6. Copying Service

To request the copying service, you may make a Copying Request Form on the terminal for copying request (photo 8).

When you set your user card, the materials that you are using will be displayed on the terminal screen, and you can choose the material that you want to have copied. User name and title of the material will be already printed on the Copying Request Form, so write only the necessary information such as the volume and page numbers, etc. After that insert the bookmark to indicate the portions to be copied, and submit the request form and the materials to the Copying Center. You can check the arrival of copies to be received on the monitor in front of the Copying Center.

To request copying of the materials in the Special Materials Rooms, please follow the necessary procedure for taking the materials out of the room.

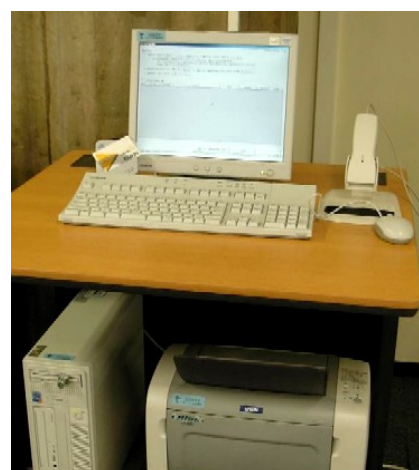


photo 8

up

## 7. Online Copying Service

This is one of our new services. You can request copying of articles found in the Japanese Periodicals Index directly on the NDL-OPAC terminal, without requesting and receiving the journals which carry them. Online Copying Service is available on the "Searching and Requesting for Japanese Periodicals Index" Page (photo 9).



photo 9

## 8. Opening Hours and Library Holidays

The Tokyo Main Library has expanded its opening days and hours since October 1, 2004. New Library holidays and opening hours are the following:

### Library Holidays:

Sundays, National holidays, the yearend and New Year's holidays and the third Wednesday of the month (for refiling)

### Opening Hours:

	Monday-Friday	Saturday
Library hours	9:30-19:00	9:30-17:00
General Information desk	9:30-19:00	9:30-17:00
Request for materials	9:30-18:00	9:30-16:00
Same-day copying service	10:00-18:00	10:00-16:00
Regular copying service	10:00-18:30	10:00-16:30
Online copying requests	10:00-17:30	10:00-15:30

English-version NDL-OPAC has been available on this website since 24 September, 2004.

[NDL-OPAC \(English version\)](#)

(Please note that the English version of NDL-OPAC provides only search functions; remote-service request functions are available only in the Japanese version.)

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## To Protect Irreplaceable Documentary Heritage at the Foot of the Himalayas -- Report of Visit to Nepal

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Kansai-kan of the National Diet Library

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*This is an abridged translation of the article of the same title  
in the NDL Monthly Bulletin No. 522 (September 2004).*

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### Introduction

This article reports on the author's trip to the Kingdom of Nepal in February 1-10, 2004 as a part of the cooperative preservation activities of the IFLA/PAC\* Regional Centre for Asia. The National Diet Library (NDL) of Japan has been designated as the IFLA/PAC Regional Centre for Asia. The main aim of my trip was to visit the Nepal National Library (NNL) and some other libraries, museums and archives located in the Kathmandu Valley; to conduct a preliminary assessment on preservation needs in these institutions; and to give a lecture on preservation to the staff of these institutions. This article is intended to give a brief report



on my visit and the current situation of preservation in Nepal.

\*IFLA/PAC is one of the core activities of IFLA (International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions) in the area of preservation and conservation.



**The façade of the building that houses the NNL.  
Armed forces were on guard, but there was no security check  
when entering the building.**

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### **Background -- What brought me to Nepal?**

NDL formulated a basic policy on preservation titled "Preservation and Conservation in the National Diet Library" in February 2003. This policy replaced "Preservation at the NDL After the Completion of the Annex" which had been NDL's basic preservation policy since 1985. The 2003 policy was established to respond to the changes surrounding preservation work inside and outside NDL: preservation priority shifting to preventive measures; increase of "packaged" digital publications and their inclusion in the legal deposit system (October 2000); and the restructuring of the whole organization and operations of NDL. The 2003 policy has set up the basic framework for NDL's preservation work: its objectives, priorities of items/collections in giving restoration treatment, methods, and the future plan. Based on the 2003 policy, NDL developed an action plan, "National Diet Library Preservation Plan for FY2003-2005." The plan sets up goals in the area of international cooperation: promotion of information sharing among Asian countries; the holding of preservation symposiums; and contribution to the preservation of paper materials in the area. These goals have been made clearer in the plan. The enhancement of international programs has been given a boost by the fact that each IFLA/PAC Regional Centre is now required to contribute to a specific area of preservation in which it has expertise (for example, paper preservation for NDL as the Centre for Asia) in addition to the contribution to each designated area's development, and also the fact that National Library of China has volunteered to act as the national centre of IFLA/PAC for the country.

It was under these circumstances that Ms. Nobue Yamada, a senior overseas volunteer staff member of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), requested NDL to take part in a cooperation program for NNL's preservation work. Ms. Yamada had been sent to NNL for two years from April 2002 as advisor on library management. On her temporary return to

Japan in July 2003, Ms. Yamada discussed with us the possibility of the cooperation program. In September 2003, we also received a letter addressed to Mr. Takao Kurosawa, Librarian of NDL, asking for the support of the IFLA/PAC Regional Center for Asia from Mr. Dasharath Thapa, Chief Librarian of NNL. In addition, in December 2003, the Director of the National Library of Bhutan visited NDL to call for the same kind of cooperation. Both national libraries have left the preservation problem untouched, so there is a high risk of deterioration of their precious documents. Urgent action was needed in both countries. Thus NDL accepted the request from NNL in the expectation that a preliminary assessment of preservation needs and the experience gained in Nepal would be a useful resource to Bhutan as well.

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### **Nepal National Library**

NNL was established in 1957, and belongs to the Ministry for Education and Sports. Its missions are as follows:

1. To provide services as a central library such as compilation of National Bibliographies and National Union Catalogs
2. To collect materials published in Nepal
3. To organize and preserve all the materials related to Nepal
4. To provide access to the library collections, and reference & information service for the people of Nepal
5. To promote the literacy movement through a network of mobile libraries
6. To help develop other libraries within the country and promote publication of Nepali literature.

NNL consists of three sections: Technical Section, Library & Information Service Section, and Administrative Section. There are 22 staff members: 4 qualified librarians including the Director, 7 assistant librarians, and others. There are four branch libraries in developmental areas: Pokhara Public Library, Mahendra Library, Kailali Public Library, and Salvajanik Vidya Bawan Library. The UNESCO project (1995–1999) helped NNL open the children's room and start services for children. The children's room was reopened as an independent facility within the same premises as the Nepal Children's Library in 2003.

According to the NNL annual report for 2002–2003, the library's collections are in Nepalese, Hindi, Sanskrit, Newari and some other languages. There are 77 thousand printed materials including monographs, serials, and other documents; 660 audiovisual materials including CD-ROMs; 156 titles of microforms. Annual addition to the library's collection is 3,138 items. Annual budget for acquisition of library materials is 210 thousand rupees while the budget for the whole library operation is 2.6 million rupees (1 Nepali rupee = about 1.5 yen). The number of visitors to NNL amounts to 12,270 yearly. Most of the materials are on open shelves that are divided according to the language, and the most heavily used materials are newspapers. Single sheet materials written on Nepalese paper in Sanskrit are the most precious, but they say that these materials were badly damaged when microfilmed.



The Library shares the building with other institutions such as the Ministry of General Administration and UNDP/UNHRC\* offices. For this reason the building is guarded by the national army. The corridors are used as reading space for the Library, and all the windows are open. There are many problems in terms of preservation such as sunlight reaching the stacks and naked electronic wirings. I was told that the voltage is fluctuates so much that there are frequent blackouts. However during my visit there was only one blackout.

\*UNDP (United Nations Development Programme)  
UNHRC (United Nations Human Rights Commission)

For more information on the libraries in Nepal, please see Ms. Yamada's articles titled "Bori Bori Tsushin" (carried in Toshokan no Gakko from October 2002 to May 2004, in Japanese).

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## Preservation in Nepal

The schedule of my visit was as follows:

February 1	arrived in Kathmandu
February 2	visited NNL and JICA Nepal Office
February 3	visited Mr. Thapa, Chief Librarian of NNL, Madan Puraskar Library, National Archives, and Tribhuvan University Central Library
February 4	visited Asa Archives and National Museum
February 5	visited Ministry for Education and Sports, Kaiser Library, and D.K. Regmi Memorial Library
February 6	Gave a lecture on preservation at NNL; visited Social Science Baha Library
February 7	visited Garima Library
February 8	visited Sri Ugra Library
February 9	visited NNL to give a briefing of the assessment to and have a discussion with the NNL staff and some other people (Mr. Thapa; Mr. Shrestha, Bibliographic Officer, NNL; Mr. Pradeep Bhattarai, cataloger, NNL; Ms. Yamada; Ms. Indira Dali, Director of Social Science Baha Library)

<b>February 10</b>	visited NNL to discuss with Mr. Thapa NNL's request to send a trainee to NDL and selection of a possible trainee
<b>February 11</b>	returned to Japan

As described above, I visited 11 libraries, museums and related institutions to assess the preservation needs in these institutions and to exchange ideas with them. At NNL I gave a lecture titled "Introduction to Library Preservation," after showing an educational video, "Slow Fires: On the Preservation of the Human Record" (A Terry Sanders Film / American Film Foundation 1987). There were 18 in the audience from 11 institutions, not only from those I had visited up to the previous day but also from other institutions including the Social Science Baha Library.

At the same time, I showed them things that I had brought from Japan: examples of deteriorated microform materials, Japanese paper, preservation boxes, and NDL pamphlets and publications of the Japan Library Association and IFLA on the theme of preservation. These exhibits were well received by the audience. The following is the results of my assessment of preservation needs of the visited institutions compiled according to the kind of medium and the cause of deterioration.



**Lecture on preservation in the NNL**

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### **(1) Paper materials**

The quality of paper is not particularly good. However, books badly damaged by acid in the paper could not be found. Most books do not have hardcover and thus do not stand upright on their own. It is necessary to use bookends to support them or use boxes when shelving them so that the materials do not suffer distortion. Western books (mostly written in English) are not badly damaged by acid, either. Some materials are difficult to open as the gutter was cut too much when they were rebound.

### **(2) Palm leaf materials**

In Southeast Asia and South Asia, palm leaves had been used as a writing and drawing material even before paper became available ([see note 1](#)). At the Asa Archives, the palm leaf materials are well-preserved, with assistance from a private agency of Japan, compared with other institutions. They have digitized quite a few palm leaf materials to preserve the originals. At the Kaiser Library, discoloration was found. At the National Museum, materials were carelessly put in wooden boxes and kept in a warehouse that did not seem to provide good conditions for preservation. In the warehouse the materials were exposed to a risk of high humidity. Palm leaf materials are precious and at risk of

deterioration. It is desirable to conduct a nation-wide inspection on this group of materials.



**Palm leaf materials held by Kaisher Library (center) and the front cover (right). Some letters are fading, and the edges are deteriorated**

#### note 1) **Palm Leaf**

To make palm leaf books, the leaves are boiled, then dried and pressed, and finally cut into rectangles and smoothed. To write, a stylograph pen is used to carve characters, and then black pigment such as charcoal is rubbed over the leaf to highlight the written characters.

To make a book, the pages, which are like thin boards, are pricked to make a couple of holes; they are stacked together and a cover made of wood or bamboo is added; finally they are tied together with a string.

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### **(3) Microfilms**

Microfilms were stored in cabinets in both NNL and the National Archives. We inspected samples, and none of them indicated the release of acetic acid. However, judging from the years that the films were made, they may be cellulose-triacetate based, so they need further inspection and measures to prevent deterioration ([see note 2](#)).

However, before thinking about measures against chemical deterioration of the media, the staff will need training in microfilm creation including its process management. In NNL, they microfilm newspapers after binding, which result in shading or blurring at the gutter. To force a bound material fully open may break it and requires re-binding which will further damage the original paper. It will be better to make microfilms after displaying for reading.

Although they have microfilming equipment provided by Cultural Grant Aid of Japan, as the scope of the Aid is limited to the distribution of equipment, technical assistance has not been provided except for the guidance when the equipment was installed. From this fact, I recognized again that cultural organizations have to cooperate with each other to provide effective assistance, including restocking consumable supplies and mechanical maintenance, for a developing country to achieve cultural self-reliance.

When microfilms were produced by a third-party, it was not clearly stated in a contract that one copy should be donated to the original holder. Therefore some microfilms are not held by NNL, and the library staff do not know which materials have already been microfilmed.

Some kind of project manager is needed to supervise all aspects of the work.

## note 2) **Cellulose triacetate base film**

Film using triacetate cellulose as its base was used widely from the 1950s to the 1980s. (Now most films use chemically more stable polyester as their base.) Cellulose triacetate base film deteriorates drastically once the acetic acid, which is produced while the base is hydrolyzed, accumulated inside the sealed container exceeds a certain amount. If you leave a film on a metal reel stored in a sealed metal can in an environment with the high temperature and humidity level, the film gives off a vinegary smell and the surface gets sticky in 25 – 30 years. Therefore films that have passed 25 years since their production should be checked and be treated properly (to disperse the acetic acid inside the container, for example).

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### **(4) Temperature / Relative Humidity**

All libraries but the National Archives have no air conditioning systems. The climate in this country has, however, a large daily temperature range, which tends to damage library materials. In addition, while I visited Nepal in the dry season, a dense fog rose every morning, and the daily range of relative humidity was large. Appropriate measures should be taken to minimize the effect of temperature and humidity on the materials.

### **(5) Light**

Ultraviolet in sunlight accelerates a chemical reaction and hastens the deterioration of materials. Most libraries in Nepal open the windows, and in some places the sunlight falls directly onto the materials. Although the rooms were cold while I was there, the windows and doors were open every day. They were commonly working on catalogs by the windows, and at the Kaiser Library they were making catalogs on the balcony. Users were reading materials near the windows, too.

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### **(6) Gaseous Pollutants / Particulate Pollutants**

Kathmandu Valley suffers the most serious air pollution in the world. Sootfall from brickyards, automobile emissions and dust float in the air, which is full of gaseous and particulate pollutants. These substances enter through the windows that are always open. In addition to cleaning the rooms regularly, they need measures to prevent such substances harmful to materials, especially to microfilms and digital materials, getting into the library. As initial investment for microfilming and digitization is expensive, a further cost for restoration and recovery of the systems will be too great a burden for libraries. Microfilms and CD-ROMs need to be stored in cabinets after being individually boxed, and technical equipment should have covers.

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### **(7) Damage Caused by Animals / Mold**

Materials in every library have been eaten by mice. They can get in from everywhere, and they nibble at

electronic wiring as well as library materials to cause a short-circuit which may result in a fire.

Mold was found only on the books on the lower part of the shelves in the Kaiser Library. The mold has grown because of bad ventilation and the large amount of water used for washing the floors. At the National Archives, they dry the materials when they are first acquired in order to prevent mold. Many valuable materials like palm-leaf sutras and official documents are wrapped up in red cloth, probably because a pigment in the red color helps prevent insects.



**The spines of books gnawed by mice (NNL)**

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### **(8) Disasters**

According to the report of the Asian Disaster Reduction Centre (<http://www.adrc.or.jp>), Nepal, located in the Himalayan region, has experienced many severe earthquakes: for example, an 8.4 magnitude-earthquake centred on Kathmandu killed more than 160 thousand people and destroyed over 310 thousand buildings in 1934, and a 6.5 magnitude-earthquake centred on Bajhang (1980) and 6.6 magnitude-earthquake centred on Udayapur (1988) also struck this area. There are many brick buildings in Nepal, which collapse easily in earthquakes.

From December to February, the temperature drops after dark and people use heating even in Kathmandu. In addition to the dry season, lack of social infrastructure including fire-fighting measures in crowded city blocks can easily bring about a conflagration once a fire breaks out like the one that occurred in Kathmandu in 1999.

In NNL, fire extinguishers are placed high up on the wall, and they are too heavy to be held by one person. They also need to be checked to see if they can be really used in an emergency, and full disaster prevention measures should be planned out.

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### **(9) Handling of Library Materials**

Many library materials were damaged by disorderly shelving. I also saw materials waiting to be cataloged piled up randomly on the floor. To make things worse, cutting-out of pages and theft by users are reported. Both library staff and users need to be more conscious about how to handle materials properly.

### **(10) Buildings**

Most buildings that accommodate libraries and archives are not exclusively for the library's use. However, they are taking measures to clear up these inconveniences.

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## **Preservation Plans for Nepal**

Although core personnel is indispensable to push ahead with preservation projects, there is



no preservation specialist assigned to NNL, while the National Archives and the National Museum have one called "senior conservator." Also, NNL wishes to acquire the knowledge and skills to preserve a large number of publications brought in by the legal deposit system to collect publications of the private sector and implementation is now under consideration.

As a result of this assessment, although there are many problems to be overcome – budget, facilities and human resources, for example – I am convinced that they can slow the deterioration and prevent future damage to documentary heritage if preventive measures for preservation are taken. However, I have found that the staff are engaged only in specific segmented work in national organizations in spite of the fact that they are relatively small in scale. Also, national organizations had not regarded user services and preservation issues as very important up to that point.

So Mr. Thapa requested the NDL to accept one of the staff of NNL as a trainee in Japan. Mr. Thapa wanted him/her to learn about the legal deposit system, compilation of national bibliography, library management including children's library and user services as well as preservation techniques. The NDL plans to assist NNL to build up a base for its self-reliant preservation projects, in hope that what is done there will spread to other organizations in Nepal.

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### **Acknowledgement**

I would like to thank Ms. Nobue Yamada for her assistance in this survey, which I could not have accomplished without her support. I would like to express my gratitude also to Mr. Thapa, Mr. Shresta, other staff of NNL, Mr. Eitaro Mitoma and other staff of the JICA Nepal Office for their wonderful hospitality, the Japan Library Association for providing data and Mr. Shuji Kamiya for his advice on acid-free paper.



**At the Garama Library. The author is in the center.**

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Selections from NDL Collection

## Animals in children's books II: the Chinese zodiac as keyword

From the exhibition of the International Library of Children's Literature  
(September 18, 2004 – April 10, 2005)

We find many animals in folk tales and children's literature. Those which live close to people are described in familiar terms, while others are seen as alluring or menacing. Depending on how animals are related to human lives, people's attitude towards them varies.

poster of the exhibition



The International Library of Children's Literature (ILCL) hosted an exhibition, [Animals in children's books](#), in 2001, which attracted a wide range of generations. In response to requests for an encore, the library organized another exhibition on the same theme, this time highlighting the 12 animals of the Chinese zodiac: rat, ox, tiger, hare, dragon, snake, horse, sheep, monkey, cock, dog, and boar.

Expressing one's birth year in terms of the Chinese zodiac is a popular custom in Japan and other Asian countries that have been influenced by Chinese culture. Even a small child

knows his/her animalsymbol. The exhibition this year, “Animals in children’s books II: theChinese zodiac as keyword” features the creatures of the Chinese zodiacdescribed in children’s literature around the world. The exhibitionalso sets up two special sections: “the world of animal fables”, whichfeaturessome valuable books of Aesop’s and other animal fables from the NDLcollection,and “the life with animals”, which exhibits books on animals such asextinctspecies and assisting dogs.

The Tokyo Zoological Park Society, theTokyo NationalUniversity of Fine Arts and Music, and the Toyo Bunko helped us inplanningthis exhibition.

### The Comic Adventures of Old Mother Hubbard and Her Dog



[\[big size image\]](#)

<b>Title:</b>	The Comic Adventures of Old Mother Hubbard and Her Dog
<b>Author:</b>	S.C.M.
<b>Publisher:</b>	J. Harris, successor to E. Newbery
<b>Date:</b>	1805
<b>NDL call no.:</b>	Y17-B2677 (International Library of Children’s Literature)

Originally appearing as one of theMother Gooseryhmes, some funny exchanges between the character and her dog wererepublishedunder the title of The Comic Adventures of Old Mother Hubbard and HerDog.It is said that this book was based on the model of The movingadventuresof Old Dame Trot and her comical cat (on exhibit in the cats’ section).

### Juni-rui makimono



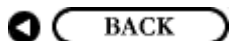
[\[bigsize image\]](#)

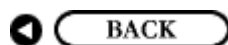
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On exhibit:	Vol. 1 from January 8 to January 23, 2005
	Vol. 2 from January 25 to February 6, 2005

<b>Title:</b>	Juni-ruï makimono
<b>Illustrator:</b>	Sumiyoshi Jokei
<b>Date:</b>	1661
<b>Volume:</b>	2
<b>NDL call no.:</b>	Ⓐ-186 (Rare Books and Old Materials Room)

“Juni-ruï” means 12 animals of Chinese zodiac. For the Juni-ruï emaki (picture scroll of 12 animals), a number of manuscripts exist including alternative versions made in the early modern period. The Juni-ruï makimono, which is on exhibition, is one of them. This is a picture scroll of two volumes painted by Sumiyoshi Jokei in 1661. The story begins with a scene of a poetry party setting a theme of the harvest moon by the twelve animals who are heralds of Yakushi Juni Shinsho (twelve warrior generals belonging to Yakushi, a Buddhist deity). At the party the tanuki (raccoon dog) is publicly humiliated and seeks vengeance on the twelve animals, calling together other animals. As well as the interesting story, its beautiful pictures are highly admired, such as the description of the animals enjoying the elegant poetry party and the scene of a battle of the animals in gorgeous armor.





## Publications from NDL

Here we introduce publications from NDL (except regular publications such as catalogs and bibliographies):

Meisho tenkyo no kontororu: dai 4-kai shoshi chousei renraku kaigi kirokushu (Name Authority Control: The 4th Conference on Bibliographic Control) / edited by National Diet Library. 1st ed.  
Tokyo : Japan Library Association, 2004. 161 p ; 21 cm. ISBN: 4-8204-0407-5  
(text in Japanese)

1,365yen

NDL CD-ROM Line: Tenji tosho, rokuon tosho zenkoku sogo mokuroku, no.1, 2004 (NDL CD-ROM Line: National Union Catalog of Braille and Recorded Books in Japan)  
updated two times a year  
covers before 1980 to March 2004  
yearly contract: 42,000yen  
first year: 63,000yen (search engine included)

[Online version is here](#)

Above publications are 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



# National Diet Library Newsletter

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No. 139, October 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. 523, October 2004](#) [PDF Format, 2.17MB]

- Web pages as a reference room: offering more subject information
- Book Sets Lending Service to School Libraries: two years from the start of the service
  - Announcement from the Modern Japanese Political History Materials Room
    - <Announcements>
  - A tentative version of the NDLSH open to the public and call for comments
  - Many masterpieces now available in the "Digital Library from the Meiji Era"! [related article](#)
  - English version of the NDL-OPAC available on the Internet [related article](#)
- Excerpts from the Annual Report of the NDL, FY2003: statistics(2)
- What's bibliographic control? (10) Information about information: metadata

### [No. 522, September 2004](#) [PDF Format, 2.96MB]

- [To preserve the irreplaceable documentary heritage at the foot of the Himalayas: official trip to Nepal by Takao Murayama](#)
- Training programs for the staff of the National Library of Nepal : a collaborative project of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and the IFLA/PAC Regional Center for Asia *by Masaki Nasu* [related article](#)
- The Collaborative Reference Database Project: second call for participating libraries

<Invitation>

- International seminar “Document delivery service in the age of digital information: vision and strategy”

<Announcement>

- Tokyo Main Library’s New Calendar: opening hours and library holidays
  - A new series “Digital Library” will start soon!
- Excerpts from the Annual Report of the NDL, FY2003: statistics(1)
- Library service for on-site users in the United States and Europe: visiting procedures and use of library materials
- Utopia, the “nowhere” (Enchanting world of books – Guide to regular exhibitions, 9)

[related webpage \(Japanese only\)](#)

