

# National Diet Library Newsletter

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No. 158, December 2007

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## NDL Digital Archive Portal "PORTA" started full scale operation



The [NDL Digital Archive Portal "PORTA"](#) is a comprehensive portal site which navigates users to a vast repository of Japanese digital information resources and services providing such resources. Since October 15, 2007, PORTA has started a fully-fledged service after examining its prototype system.

### Searchable archives

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PORTA guides you in an integrated fashion to 20 types of digital archives with 8 million data (as of October 2007) of other cooperating institutions as well as the National Diet Library (NDL) digital archives.

#### NDL digital archives

- [Rare Books Image Database](#) ●
- [Digital Library from the Meiji Era](#) ●
- Digital Library of Children's Literature ●
- Samples from the Rare Books Image ●
- NDL Catalog (Japanese Books & Magazines) ○
- NDL Japanese Periodicals Index (from 2003) ○
- NDL Catalog of the Gordon W. Prange Collection (Magazines & Newspapers) ○
- Union Catalog Database of Children's Literature ○
- [Database Navigation Service \(Dnavi\)](#) □
- [Web Archiving Project \(WARP\)](#) □
- [Current Awareness](#) ☆
- [Collaborative Reference Database](#) ☆

#### Digital archives of cooperating institutions

- [Aozora Bunko \[Aozora Bunko\]](#) ●
- Selections from the digital archive of the Akita Prefectural Library [[Akita Prefectural Library](#)] ●
- Index from collections of the Akita Prefectural Library [[Akita Prefectural Library](#)] ○

- [Asian Historical Records Database \[Japan Center for Asian Historical Records\]](#) ●
- [National Archives of Japan Digital Archive \[National Archives of Japan\]](#) ●○
- [Shinsho Map \[Association Press\]](#) ☆
- [Digital Okayama Encyclopedia \[Okayama Prefectural Library\]](#) ●☆
- Digital archives of governments [Cabinet Secretariat] □

●…texts, digital images, etc.

○…catalogs, indexes, etc.

□…websites

☆…tools for research and reference information

## Functions

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### [Search function]

**Simple Search:** Search without identifying search item

**Advanced Search:** Keyword search by identifying titles, creators, classifications, etc.

**Associative Search:** Search method using keywords having a high association with phrases and natural language

**Classification Search:** Search by following NDC (Nippon Decimal Classification) and NDLC (National Diet Library Classification)

### [Accessory function]

**Dictionary Search:** Search with dictionary data (NDL authority files) whose search results are graphically displayed

**Search Support by Dictionaries:** Display search results of dictionary data and links to the Wikipedia when searching by keywords

**Links to Related Information:** Search related websites etc. from search results

For more details, go to [PORTA](#) or read its [booklet \(PDF 1.91MB\)](#).



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## NDL Statistics FY2006 (part 1/2)

This is an abridged translation of the series of articles  
“Excerpts from the Annual Report of the NDL, FY 2006: statistics (1)”  
in the NDL Monthly Bulletin No. 558 (September 2007).

The NDL compiles and publishes an Annual Report each year giving the major achievements and statistics of the previous fiscal year. This Annual Report is submitted to the Diet and also distributed to major libraries and related institutions in Japan. It has been available also on the [NDL website](#) since FY2002 (Japanese only).

The following are statistics abstracted from the Annual Report FY 2006.

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## I. Collection development and provision of bibliographic information

### 1. Collections

The NDL collects various materials published inside and outside Japan.

<Table 1> Materials held by the NDL

a. Books (volumes)

<b>Books in Japanese, Chinese and Korean</b>	6,386,825
<b>Books in other languages</b>	2,446,582
<b>Total</b>	8,833,407

b. Serials (items)

<b>Periodicals</b>	<b>Japanese</b>	5,161,651
	<b>Foreign</b>	2,935,863
	<b>Subtotal</b>	8,097,514
<b>Newspapers</b>	<b>Japanese</b>	2,576,844
	<b>Foreign</b>	1,174,404
	<b>Subtotal</b>	3,571,248
<b>Total</b>		11,848,762

c. Non-book materials

<b>Microfilms (reels)</b>	525,457
<b>Microfiches (sheets)</b>	7,795,103
<b>Microprints (sheets)</b>	300,108
<b>Video discs (items)</b>	56,615
<b>Video cassettes (items)</b>	13,701
<b>Slides (sheets)</b>	144,950
<b>Phonographic records (sheets)</b>	550,738
<b>Cassette tapes (items)</b>	24,958
<b>Open tapes (reels)</b>	23,204
<b>Magnetic tapes (reels)</b>	81
<b>Magnetic discs (items)</b>	1,712
<b>Optical discs (items)</b>	63,921
<b>IC cards (items)</b>	627

<b>Maps (sheets)</b>	455,248
<b>Maps (volumes)</b>	47,590
<b>Musical scores (sheets)</b>	10,629
<b>Musical scores (volumes)</b>	2,214
<b>Card-form materials (items)</b>	31,264
<b>Still images (items)</b>	121,365
<b>Doctoral dissertations (titles)*</b>	472,447
<b>Manuscripts (items)</b>	276,509
<b>Newspaper clippings (articles)</b>	2,009,226
<b>Braille resources and large print editions (volumes)</b>	27,322
<b>Others (items)</b>	2,827

\*Foreign doctoral dissertations are not included in the number.

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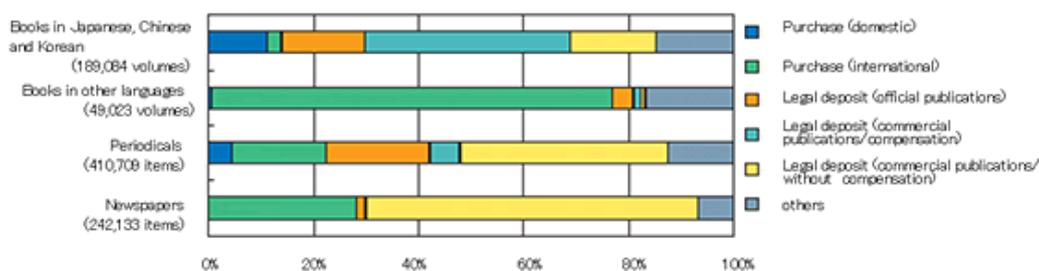
## 2. Acquisition

The National Diet Library collects materials by purchase, legal deposit (from the national or local government and private publishers), donation (from individuals and groups inside and outside the country) and exchange (with foreign governments and international organizations). In FY2006, we conducted a collection analysis of the foreign periodicals and Japanese-related materials possessed by the NDL. In addition, we have discussed the restructuring of international exchange of materials.

<Table 2> Number of materials newly accessioned in FY2006

<b>Books in Japanese, Chinese and Korean (volumes)</b>	189,084
<b>Books in other languages (volumes)</b>	49,023
<b>Periodicals (items)</b>	410,709
<b>Newspapers (items)</b>	242,133
<b>Microfilms (reels)</b>	51,332
<b>Microfiches (sheets)</b>	142,872
<b>Video discs (DVD-V, LD, etc.) (items)</b>	7,954
<b>Video cassettes (items)</b>	1,275
<b>Phonographic records (sheets)</b>	16,949
<b>Optical discs (CD-ROM, DVD-ROM, etc.) (items)</b>	7,253

<Chart 1> Ratio of each acquisition method



### 3. Collection of digital library

The NDL has been developing the digital library in which digital materials are available directly from the NDL website. [Rare Books Image Database](#), [Digital Library from the Meiji Era](#), [Web Archiving Project \(WARP\)](#), and [Digital Library of Children's Literature](#) are available.

### 4. Provision of bibliographic information

The NDL compiles the Japanese National Bibliography and provides it on its [website](#) (Japanese only). [NDL-OPAC](#), the online catalog system, is also available on the Internet. This year, we finished the revision of the National Diet Library List of Subject Headings (NDLSH). In addition, we also have been undertaking the revision of the NDL Metadata Element Set, and digitization of the creation and provision of bibliographic information and tools has been brought forward.

<Table 3> Number of bibliographic data added in FY2006

<b>Books</b>	194,419
<b>Periodicals</b>	4,012
<b>Newspapers</b>	203
<b>Non-book materials</b>	174,364
<b>Articles from Japanese periodicals</b>	832,573

<Table 4> NDL-OPAC and Asian Language materials OPAC coverage

	<b>Bibliographic data</b>	<b>Records</b>
<b>NDL-OPAC</b>	<b>Japanese books</b>	3,465,403
	<b>Books in Western languages</b>	1,103,902
	<b>Japanese Serials</b>	130,860
	<b>Serials in Western languages</b>	56,506
	<b>Electronic resources</b>	25,036
	<b>Japanese and Chinese old materials</b>	65,542
	<b>Doctoral dissertations</b>	421,192
	<b>Maps</b>	150,237
	<b>Audiovisual materials</b>	81,748

	<b>Ashihara Collection</b>	67,719
	<b>Standards / technical reports</b>	1,987,192
	<b>National union catalog of Braille and recorded books in Japan</b>	352,741
	<b>Materials related to the Occupation of Japan*</b>	283,150
	<b>Prange Collection*</b>	32,227
	<b>Subtotal</b>	8,223,455
	<b>Articles from Japanese periodicals</b>	7,864,835
	<b>Total</b>	16,088,290
<b>Asian Language Materials OPAC</b>	<b>Books</b>	207,895
	<b>Periodicals</b>	6,749
	<b>Newspapers</b>	488
	<b>Total</b>	215,132

\*Data available only inside the library (i.e. not available on the Internet)

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## II. Services for the National Diet

The NDL provides legislative research services and library services for the National Diet members and others connected with the Diet.

### 1. Legislative research service

The Research and Legislative Reference Bureau of the NDL conducts research on politics, economy, and social affairs inside and outside Japan using the NDL collections and databases. The total number of researches conducted by the Research and Legislative Reference Bureau in FY2006 was 44,199. Among them, researches conducted for Diet members and Diet-related people are shown in <Table 5>. Total number of research cases based on requests increased by 2.2 times in the last decade (see <Chart 2>). In FY2006, we enhanced and strengthened the system in the Research and Legislative Reference Bureau to divide the tasks appropriately, based on the Guidelines for Services for the National Diet which we formulated in FY2005. For information provision, we released [Index Database to Japanese Laws, Regulations and Bills \(early Meiji period\)](#) (Japanese only).

<Table 5> Legislative research conducted for the Diet members and other Diet-related people

Client		Members of the House of Representatives	Members of the House of Councilors	Ex-Diet Members	Secretariats and legislative bureaus of the both Houses	Political parties	Total
<b>Number of cases</b>		25,919	15,412	1,298	419	1,151	44,199
<b>Category</b>	<b>Analysis</b>	3	2	0	0	3	8
	<b>Research</b>	21,475	12,746	872	407	1,069	36,569



	Visitors	Circulation		Copying	Reference
		(persons)	(volumes)		
Diet members	1,042	3,268	6,246	8,276	5,050
Diet-related people	53,324	10,740	21,848	2,865	1,450
<b>Total</b>	<b>54,366</b>	<b>14,008</b>	<b>28,094</b>	<b>11,141</b>	<b>6,500</b>

<Table7> Library services for the National Diet by the NDL (except by the DLID and the Research and Legislative Reference Bureau)

	Tokyo Main Library			Kansai-kan			ILCL			Total
	Copying	Circulation	Reference	Copying	Circulation	Reference	Copying	Circulation	Reference	
Diet members	208	10	4	17	11	8	5	0	0	263
Diet-related people	301	5,071	30	0	0	9	39	0	34	5,484
<b>Total</b>	<b>509</b>	<b>5,081</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>5,747</b>

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**Kansai-kan's step forward  
- a leap from the first stage to a period of growth -  
(part 2/2)**



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Kansai-kan of the National Diet Library



This is a translation of the article of the same title in the NDL Monthly Bulletin No. 556 (July 2007).

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### 3. Kansai-kan as the core of online projects

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Kansai-kan runs services for remote users and three projects as well as services for visitors. The three projects are (1) Digital Archiving Project, (2) Library Cooperation Project, and (3) Sending out information on Asia.

These projects are carried out through the Internet. Therefore we can say the Kansai-kan is the core of online projects.

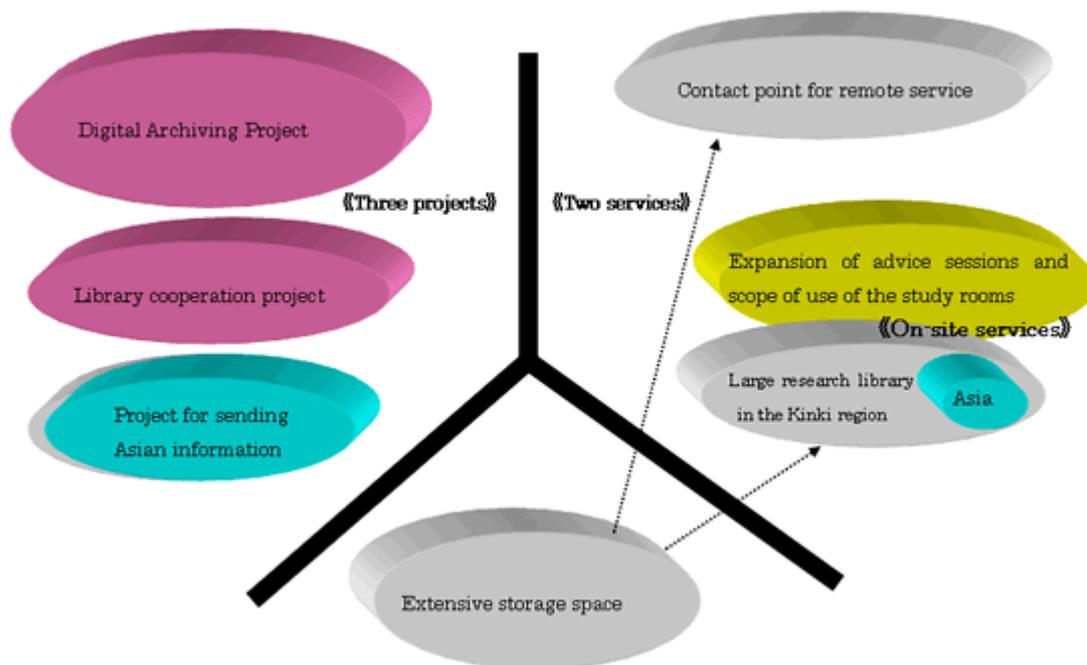


Fig. 2 Projects and services of the Kansai-kan

## Development as the base of the Digital Archiving Project

Digital archiving means here to collect, accumulate, provide accumulated web information and create contents by digitizing the collection of the National Diet Library (NDL). Corresponding to the changes in the information environment and society itself, the NDL works on it in light of its role of collection, accumulation and preservation of domestic paper publications and other forms.

### 1) Acquisition, accumulation, and provision of web information

It is said that the average life of web information is 75 days and the number of URLs for citing academic papers decreases by half in four years. While intellectual assets are being generated on the Internet, a lot of information disappears everyday. Web information is so convenient as a part of the information infrastructure that is already close to peoples' communities and life style. However, from the aspect of preservation, it still has systemic and technical challenges. Therefore national libraries, as preservation libraries are expected to take on the role of preserving such information as well as paper materials.

The NDL Digital Archiving System is now under development with the main objectives of wide collection of digital information, provision and long-term preservation for future use. The system is planned to start full-fledged operation in FY2009.

Specifically, digital information includes digitized library materials in image or text file format and packaged materials such as DVDs and CDs, in addition to websites.

We will employ systems that can register and acquire digital journals and digital books on per-work basis and academic papers on per-paper basis. For collecting each website, we use a web crawler under license.

We assign metadata to contents and store them in a large amount of digital storage as an information package.

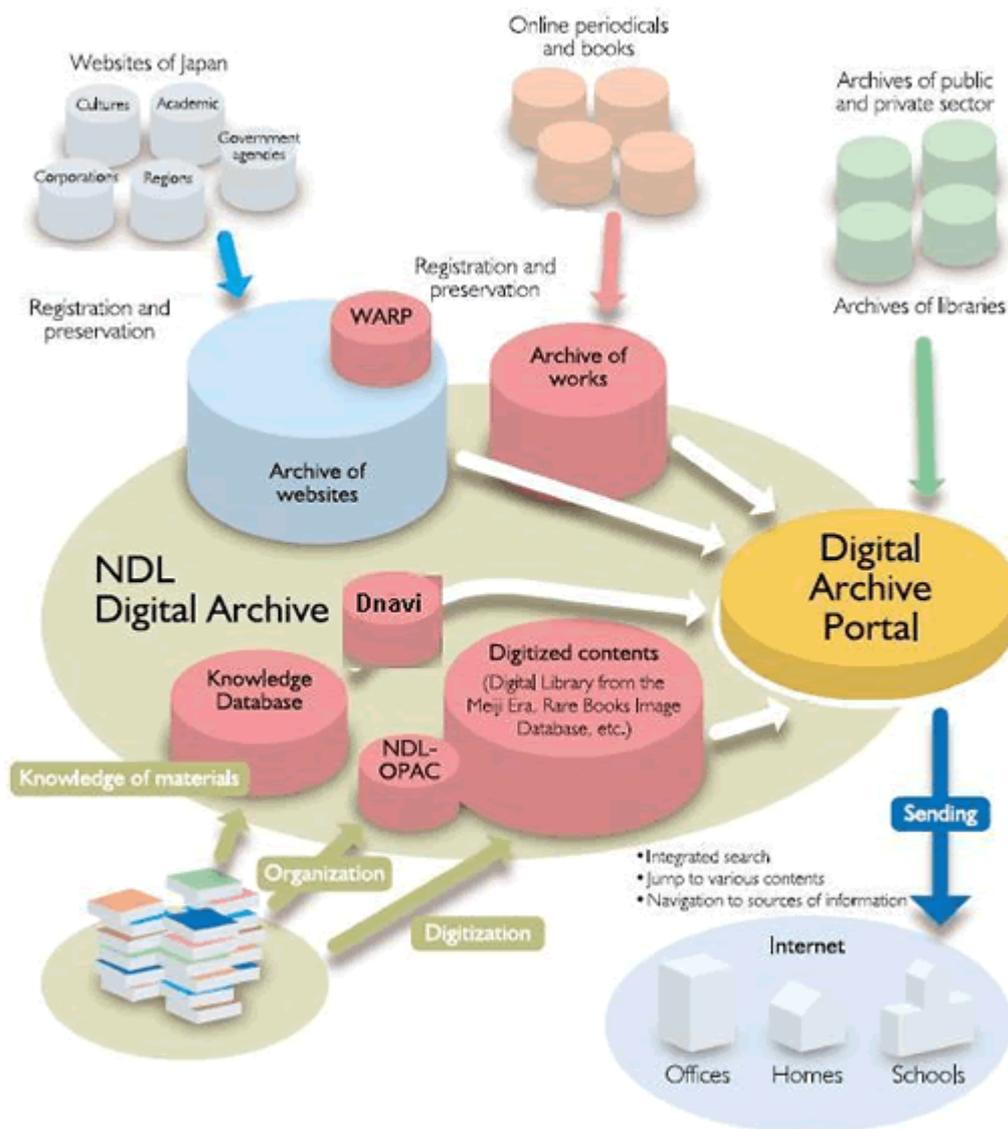


Fig.3 Image of the NDL Digital Archiving System

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## 2) Digitization of the NDL collection

About 130,000 books published in the Meiji era are already available in the [Digital Library from the Meiji Era](#) in the NDL website. Currently the daily average number of accesses is 17,000. It reveals how high the potential demand for those materials is.

At present, we are making steady progress with digitizing the rest of the books published in the Meiji era and books published in the Taisho era. [We added about 16,000 books published in the Taisho era on July 3, 2007.](#)

## 3) Need for internal and external cooperation in digital archiving projects

Public and university libraries, various kinds of archives, private companies and others are also promoting digitization of materials. On the other hand, in old libraries and archives, a lot of materials published in the Meiji era are likely to be still left to be

digitized.

We cannot say that the [Digital Library from the Meiji Era](#) covers all the books published in the era because it includes only the NDL holdings.

To build a national digital collection, we need to develop cooperative activities in respect of the collections of other institutions in addition to ours. At present, we are surveying the current condition of materials published in the Meiji era in major institutions in the Kinki region.

We also need both domestic and overseas coordination and cooperation on system designing. System designing, which enables us to collect digital information widely, preserve it for a long time and ensure future access to it, is demanded not only by the NDL but also by the institutions related to the development of digital archives inside and outside Japan.

Coordination and cooperation are also necessary for the standardization and versatility of systems.

### **Library cooperation projects**

Library cooperation projects in the Kansai-kan are divided into five: the training projects, the research and study projects on libraries and library information science, the National Union Catalog Network project, the Collaborative Reference Database project and the library cooperation projects for physically-challenged people. The consistent direction which underlies these projects is digitization, in other words, promotion of cooperation projects via the Internet.

One of the advantages of digitization is that we can provide a vast amount of information and services to a great number of libraries and users.

#### **■ Training projects**

In the training projects, we provide online training programs via the Internet as well as on-the-spot training programs. In FY2006, we provided online training programs titled “Basic idea of preservation of materials.” In FY2007, “ABC of digitizing materials” and “Diversity of Japanese books” are added. We plan to hold five or six training programs every year by adding lectures gradually.

#### **■ Research and study projects on libraries and library information science**

We set up the [“Current Awareness Portal”](#) in FY2006 which is a high quality medium for information distribution. It allows us to read articles and results of researches at one time. We plan to promote the secondary use of it by processing and editing, for example, producing accumulated edition by theme.

#### **■ [National Union Catalog Network project](#)**

In addition to the current centralized database, we will add the functions of distributed databases whereby catalogs operated in prefectural or local areas can be searched. We will reorganize a system based on member libraries which manage union catalogs in those areas. We will then call for participation in the distributed databases.

### ■ [Collaborative Reference Database Project](#)

We will promote further increase of participants and data in the Collaborative Reference Database Project with the aim of obtaining participants from more than half of all domestic libraries in five years.

### ■ Library cooperation projects for the physically challenged people

Reflecting libraries' increasing awareness of extending their services to a wider range of physically-challenged people, the NDL will focus on expanding its services of recorded academic literature.

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## **Sending out information on Asia**

In recent years, the Internet environment has advanced so dramatically in Asia that the rushing tide of digitization has never slowed down. On the other hand, international circumstances surrounding the Middle East and North East Asia increasingly stimulate the demand for information on Asia. Under this circumstance, we acquire books, serials and newspapers in Asia and provide services of transmitting Asian information by processing and editing web information.

We also recognize reference services and remote services as services of transmitting information and are making efforts for the further enrichment of those services. Including information on Japan, the Kansai-kan will be the base for transmission of information on Asia. In other words, we will improve the contents of [Asian Resources Room website](#) including the English version. In particular, we focus on the following three points:

### 1) [NDL Asian Language Materials OPAC](#)

We provide bibliographic information in major languages covered via the OPAC. In the mid- and long-term, we intend to integrate it with the [NDL-OPAC](#).

### 2) [Asia Links-Link pages on Asia-](#)

We enrich and facilitate search for the "Asia Links-Link pages on Asia-," a link page to websites on Asia by country and region.

### 3) [Directory of Institutions for Asian Studies in Japan](#)

We promote participation from institutions and try to make it comprehensive enough to grasp all the domestic collections on Asia. We also use it as the base for strengthening coordination and cooperation between member institutions.

To visitors, we provide specialized services on Asia taking advantage of the 30,000 items on open shelves, 280,000 books in the stacks, 7,000 titles of serials, digital information, and the expertise and talent of staff members.

To utilize the Kansai-kan as a place for communication among staff members of libraries on Asia, we hold training seminars and discussion sessions. Keeping in mind coordination and cooperation with related institutions and researchers on Asian regions, we make

efforts to strengthen ties with Western libraries which have Asian collections as well as to create a network of Asian people through communication with domestic institutes and libraries in Asian countries.

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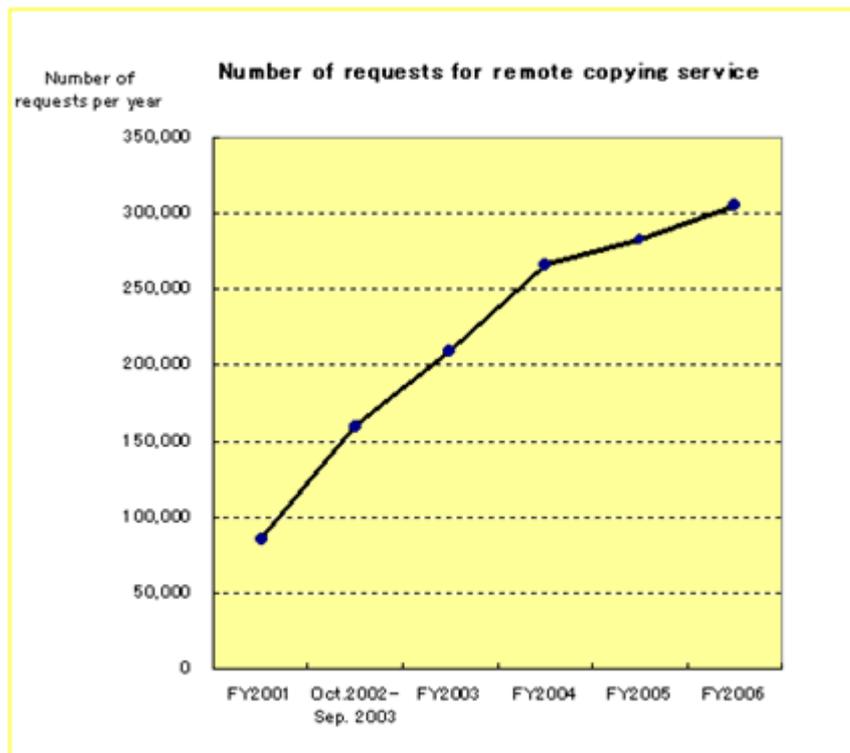
## Remote services

The Kansai-kan has been functioning as a contact point for remote services and providing services in tandem with the Tokyo Main Library.

On the basis of past achievements, we will continue to improve the convenience of remote services.

### 1) Copying service by mail

The number of requests for copying is increasing dramatically because it became possible to request copying service from a search result page of the NDL-OPAC on the web. In FY2006, 300,000 items were processed for copying. The Kansai-kan has also succeeded in speeding up processing by achieving delivery of copied products of indexed periodicals in the Japanese Periodicals Index in three days. (See graph: Number of requests for copying)



Graph: Number of requests for remote copying service

Copying from the Kansai-kan materials can speed up the process. Copying from spare copies of the Kansai-kan holdings can also contribute indirectly to the preservation of materials. In order to promote copying from spare copies of the Kansai-kan holdings, we need to collect intensively heavily-used Japanese serials including indexed periodicals in the Japanese Periodicals Index.

## 2) Interlibrary loan

The total number of materials lent has been increasing steadily from 13,298 to 16,502 for the past four years from FY2002. It gives us a new recognition of the significance of interlibrary loan because it increased under the circumstance that interlibrary loan is actively carried on among local libraries thanks to the National Union Catalog Network project.

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## 4. The collection of the Kansai-kan with nearly 10 million volumes

The purposes of the establishment of the Kansai-kan are: to secure large storage space in order to cope with increase of library materials, and to provide library services which adapt to the development of high information communication technology. Now, the stack capacity is 6 million volumes, and after the 2nd phase of the construction, a large expansion of its capacity is expected. As a result, the Kansai-kan will play a role as the facility with a large capacity for the entire library. In the coming five years with a leap to growth, we are to have a forecast for the 2nd phase of the stack construction.

The following materials were moved from the Tokyo Main Library to the Kansai-kan in 2002, to match the Kansai-kan's functions: science and technology materials, materials in Asian languages other than Japanese, Western magazines, Japanese doctoral dissertations, and spare copies of some Japanese books. The Kansai-kan has continued to acquire the materials above since its opening. It now holds about 1.96 million volumes of books and 3.48 items of periodicals (as of the end of FY2006). The details are given in the following table. It is possible that the total number of holdings will exceed 10 million within FY2007.

(As of March 2007)

<b>Category A (items)</b> <b>*library materials intended</b> <b>for long-term preservation</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>9,628,524</b>	
	<b>Books</b>	1,959,355	
	<b>Japanese and Chinese books</b>	1,050,260	
	<b>Books in Western languages</b>	909,095	
	<b>Periodicals</b>	3,479,703	
	<b>Magazines</b>	2,999,178	
	<b>issued in Japan</b>	995,504	
	<b>issued in foreign countries</b>	2,003,674	
	<b>Newspapers</b>	480,525	
	<b>issued in Japan</b>	14,437	

	issued in foreign countries	466,088
	Non-book materials	4,189,466
Category B (items) *library materials not intended for long-term preservation	Total	61,176
	Materials purchased for providing on the open shelves	55,500
	Books	2,015
	Periodicals	53,484
	Non-book materials	1
	Materials purchased for interlibrary loan service	3,597
	Reference Materials for Work	2,079

Table: Details of the Kansai-kan collection: 9,689,700 items in total

According to the second basic plan for the Kansai-kan”[\*4], 100 million items of holdings (including 20 million volumes of books) are expected to be held in the Kansai-kan within 21st century. After the second phase of its construction, the number of holdings in the Kansai-kan will exceed that in the Tokyo Main Library (12 million volumes). It is not too early for us to start considering the whole image of the Kansai-kan with the larger collection than that in Tokyo, given that it took nearly 20 years from planning to construction the Kansai-kan.

We need to prepare for expansion of the stacks in the Kansai-kan, which are the place to gather our cultural treasure of library materials, with kind understanding and cooperation from all concerned.

[\*4] The full title is the “Second Basic Plan for the Construction of the Kansai-kan of the NDL (provisional name).” It was formulated in 1991. Its [outline](#) and [full-text \(Japanese only\)](#) are available on the NDL website.

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# National Diet Library Newsletter

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No. 158, December 2007



## Restructuring the international exchange of publications (part 2/2)

This is based on the article of the same title in  
the NDL Monthly Bulletin No. 557 (August 2007)

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### **3. Issues and approach for improvement of the international exchange of publications**

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On the other hand, in Western countries with improving infrastructure for information and communications technology (ICT), more and more government publications and other materials have come to be issued in digital format and provided on the Internet, with increased speed. This shift has made some national libraries change their acquisition policies of foreign materials to selective acquisition focusing on countries and regions with which the country traditionally has close relationships. For example, the Bibliothèque nationale de France (National Library of France) asked us to stop sending our materials in 2005, and this year the National Library of Australia has requested a reduction and revision of the materials sent from us.

The National Diet Library used to have 20 partner institutions for blanket exchange. However, only six institutions remain on the list, as many institutions preferred to shift to selective exchange. It seems that the demand for selective exchange will continue to increase with more government publications becoming available on the Internet.

In consideration of this situation, we have started to review the extent of the materials

for the international exchange between the NDL and other foreign institutions. The aims of the review are: 1. to determine the needs of our exchange partners precisely and make it possible to send them appropriate materials; 2. to seek effective acquisition of statutes, parliamentary documents, official publications, materials relating to Japan and publications issued in Asian countries, which cannot be purchased but depend on international exchange. The concrete plans for the restructuring are as follows:

(1) Making sure that materials to be sent are appropriate

We conducted a survey of exchange partners to determine their needs regarding the materials we had been sending. Based on the results, we decided which materials to continue sending and which to stop sending to make suit of the needs of the recipients. At the same time, since FY2005, we have made some changes including reducing the deposit numbers for central government publications, which are to be used for the international exchange, from 30 to 20.

(2) Seeking effective acquisition of materials which are difficult to purchase

We have discussed an effective way of acquisition of statutes, parliamentary documents, official publications, materials relating to Japan and publications issued in Asian countries.

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▶ Statutes, parliamentary documents and official publications

We conducted research about the foreign statutes and parliamentary documents we had been receiving through the international exchange. The aim of the research was to examine the publications on the following points: what the status of acquisition was, if the same document was reliably available on the Internet, and to what extent the paid-for database for the document had been developed. Based on the results, we worked out a policy that the collection development should be done by combining printed form and digital form chosen according to the significance of the target region after preparing to ensure the availability of digitized documents at the NDL. This policy will be included in the revised Policy for Acquisition of Materials to be completed this fiscal year.

▶ Materials relating to Japan

The NDL's material acquisition policy decides that materials relating to Japan should be an indispensable part of the "national literature" to be acquired as broadly as possible. However, although publications issued by Japanese studies institutions in the United States have been acquired to a respectable degree, most of those in Europe and Asia are left uncollected. As sending Japanese government publications to foreign Japanese studies institutions is also regarded as part of the international cooperation, we asked, in FY2005 and 2006, 67 Japanese studies institutions in Europe, China and Korea for exchange of materials, of which 16 institutions became new exchange partners of the NDL. It is truly significant for the NDL to have established a relationship for exchange with recognized foreign institutions including the French School of Asian Studies (École française d'Extrême-Orient, or EFEO) (France), the College of Japanese Language & Culture, Zhejiang Gongshang University (China) and the Asian Section, Department of Cross-Cultural and Regional Studies, University of Copenhagen (Denmark).

► Publications issued in Asian countries

Since 2005, we have requested 17 national libraries in Asia to send us the national bibliography of each country and acquired cumulative versions of the national bibliographies from the National Library of Iran, the King Fahad National Library (Saudi Arabia) and the National Library of Turkey.

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#### 4. International exchange of publications in the future

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How will the international exchange become in the future with the increasing digitization of materials? The British Library (BL)'s undertaking is an example. The BL published "The British Library's Content Strategy – Meeting the Knowledge Needs of the Nation" on April 25, 2006, calling for the opinions of concerned parties and compiling the BL's strategy for future acquisition and provision of materials for use. In Chapter 3 of this document a revision of the strategy so far focused on the "collection building" of materials is mentioned with the global improvement of ICT as a background. The chapter continues, declaring that in consideration of the dramatically expanding possibility of access to remotely-situated digital materials, ensuring access to those kinds of resources (including free documents available on the Internet, e-journals requiring a paid-for license agreement and e-books) is also one of library's responsibilities. And the Strategy states that "content provision" including access to remotely-situated materials is now required.

To consider an ideal future for the international exchange, it is necessary to maintain a certain quality level of means to construct "library holdings," that is, international exchange, donation and purchase, and quality of materials to be provided to users. It can be said that, in addition, we now need to have a perspective of "connecting" materials and users, making an appropriate use in combination of "library holdings" and assured access to remotely-situated digital materials such as links to free documents available on the Internet and provision of e-journals requiring a paid-for license agreement.

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## Selections from NDL Collections

### Kabuki juhachiban no uchi Kanjincho

(The Subscription List from the Eighteen Great Plays of Kabuki )



Set of three large-size (35.7 × 25.5cm) color woodblock prints (nishiki-e)

Artist: Toyohara Kunichika

Publisher: Fukuda Kumajiro

Published in 1890

Owned by the National Diet Library

Kanjincho is a Kabuki play written in the late 19th century. This nishiki-e was prepared and sold based on the performance given in May 1890.

The story is set in the late 12th century. Minamoto no Yoshitsune (left: played by Onoe Kikugoro V (1844–1903)), the ninth son of Minamoto no Yoshitomo (former head of the Minamoto clan (Genji)), and his followers are being hunted by Yoshitsune's brother, the Shogun Minamoto no Yoritomo (present head of the clan). While they are fleeing in the disguise of yamabushi (Buddhist mountain priests), they come to a checkpoint at Ataka in Kaga province. There, they are harshly interrogated by Togashi Saemon no jo (right: played by Ichikawa Sadanji I (1842–1904)), who has been ordered by Yoritomo to arrest them. Then one of Yoshitsune's followers, the quick-witted Benkei (center: played by Ichikawa Danjuro IX (1838–1903)), asserts that they are not Yoshitsune's party, but real yamabushi, journeying around the provinces seeking donations for the rebuilding of the Todaiji temple in Nara, which has been burned down in a battle. Challenged to prove that he is what he claims to be, he takes out a blank scroll and saying that it is a kanjincho (a

subscription list describing in formal language the benefits of making donations for rebuilding temples), pretends to read from it.

Sparks fly from the eyes of one man to another. Benkei, poised ready in case his trick is discovered, is staring hard at his opponent. Togashi, sniffing out Benkei's deceit, is unsheathing his sword. Yoshitsune, dressed as a porter but believing that the ruse has been detected, prepares to fight. The prints depict the whole situation with each man's complex feelings, the players' expressions and gestures.

The big old pine tree and young bamboos painted behind the actors are based on the backdrop of the Noh stage.

The artist, Kunichika (1835–1900), was active from the late Edo period to the Meiji period and has been called the last of the ukiyo-e artists. He excelled at depicting Kabuki actors and created many masterpieces.

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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. 561, December 2007 [[PDF Format, 26.2 MB](#)]

- Libraries for the future: World Library and Information Congress – Participating in the 73rd IFLA General Conference
  - 34th Conference of Directors of National Libraries: Cooperation among national libraries for digital library – Makoto Nagao
  - Library and Research Services for Parliaments Section: Innovation and originality in parliament libraries and research services – Hirofumi Yamaguchi
  - Meetings related to the Preservation and Conservation Section: Use intelligence to solve common challenges and inherent problems – Naoko Kobayashi
  - Toward national bibliography in the digital age – Bibliography Section and Digital Archiving and Preservation Update Session – Machiko Nakai
  - Toward services encompassing diversity: Libraries for Children and Young Adults Section – Naoko Sato
  - UNESCO Session: Cooperation between UNESCO and IFLA in the knowledge-based society – Masato Fujimaki
  - Sketch of Durban
  - Present situation and future issues of digital archiving – 48th meeting of the Council on Organization of Materials on Science and Technology
- Results of the questionnaire on the “National Diet Library Monthly Bulletin”
- Reports of the National Conference of State Legislatures 2007 Annual Meeting – Michiyo Takeda
- <Announcement>
  - Announcement of regular exhibition
  - Library closure at the year-end and New Year
  - Birth of the Kansai-kan’s logo

- International Library of Children's Literature's Book Set Lending Service to School Libraries: launch of the "Europe" set (suitable for junior and senior children at elementary schools)
- Exhibition at the International Library of Children's Literature: Door to the Czech Republic: The world of children's books

**No. 560, November 2007** [[PDF Format, 15.2 MB](#)]

- Gordon W. Prange Collection
  - Current status of the Gordon W. Prange Collection acquisition project – focusing on the media conversion at the University of Maryland
  - On-the-spot report of the color microfilming project of the Gordon W. Prange Collection – process of color microfilming
  - In the sky of College Park – on-the-spot report of expatriate staff / Yuhei Kato
  - Current status of University of Maryland Libraries – lectures of Dr. Charles Lawry, Dean of Libraries, and Ms. Eiko Sakaguchi, Curator of the Gordon W. Prange Collection in the McKeldin Library [related article](#)
  - Use of the children's books in the Gordon W. Prange Collection
- "Up to now" and "from now on" of the regular exhibition – commemorating the 150th regular exhibition
- Materials available in the Modern Japanese Political History Materials Room
- Report of the 18th forum on preservation: For the long storage of microfilms process of deterioration and measures against it
- <Announcement>
  - Announcement of regular exhibition
  - Training program on reference FY2007
  - NDL Digital Archive Portal "PORTA" released [related article](#)
  - NDL-OPAC linked with the Digital Library from the Meiji Era [related article](#)
  - Library closure at the year-end and New Year

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