

# National Diet Library Newsletter

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No. 166, Apr. 2009

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## Lecture and Discussion "National Library of Sweden – challenges in the digital age"

On January 21, 2009, an open lecture meeting "National Library of Sweden – challenges in the digital age" was held in the Tokyo Main Library, consisting of a lecture by Dr. Gunnar Sahlin, National Librarian, [National Library of Sweden](#), and a discussion between Dr. Sahlin and Dr. Makoto Nagao, Librarian of NDL.

### Program

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[Lecture "National Library of Sweden – challenges in the digital age"](#)

[Dr. Gunnar Sahlin \(National Librarian, National Library of Sweden\)](#)

[Discussion](#)

[Dr. Gunnar Sahlin and Dr. Makoto Nagao, Librarian of the NDL](#)

**National Library of Sweden – challenges in the digital age**  
**Dr. Gunnar Sahlin, National Librarian, National Library of Sweden**

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Dr. Gunnar Sahlin

## **Libraries in the digital age**

Since the end of the 20th century, we have been strongly aware what a big impact digital technology has on our lives. For libraries, it caused two separate realms – the website and the library building – and two types of library materials – print form and digital form – which have to be co-ordinated, yet at the same time treated separately. It seems that the digital material and the Web will dominate in the coming years.

Recently, libraries have accepted dramatic transformation, which coincides with the development of the whole society, such as IT, the Internet, demands for better and faster service. The IT development is important for library activities. Now, catalogs and digitized collections are accessible anytime, anywhere. Digital technology such as digitization and e-publishing must be regarded as a great challenge in the coming years as well as a new renaissance for traditional library activities. The physical library building remains, but its function is transformed. Collections are becoming more visible and can be utilized for research and other purposes.

### **Digitization, e-publications and digital preservation**

All around the world, libraries, archives and museums digitize material. Digitization facilitates use of library materials and will influence the way of research in the future. Digitization enhances the availability of our cultural heritages – books, journals and magazines, newspapers, pictures, manuscripts and other materials; offers opportunities of wider access to rare materials; protects the original material from risk of harm; and provides access to collections which are special due to their format, size or volume.

The influx of newly produced digital materials is linked to issue of long-term preservation. Especially, long-term preservation of digital materials will require significant resources, technical development and other efforts.

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### **Digitization at the National Library of Sweden**

Although the National Library of Sweden is at an early stage of digitization, like other libraries all over the world, we have radically improved our production line, increased volume, and provided easier and more effective access to the produced materials.

From 2006 to 2008, the National Library of Sweden received a nearly 2.5 million Euro grant from the government and recruited new staff. Staff with various technical backgrounds, such as photographers, librarians, web specialists and preservation specialists, perform a variety of tasks. It is necessary to allocate our resources in order to increase the budget for digitization. Cooperation inside the organization is one of the most important factors for success.

In addition, we have found difficult questions such as:

- Which should we put priority on, quality or quantity?

- Should we have different production lines depending on material types?
- Should we decentralize the production process?
- Should we automate all these processes?
- We must recycle metadata when possible!
- It is of utmost necessity to pick one's staff extremely carefully!
- It is important to set realistic goals!

We have digitized some interesting collections, for example most of our 16th century collection, parts of our collections of travel literature, weekly magazines, maps and posters. We have also started digitizing Swedish newspapers. This is a herculean task with difficult issues regarding copyright. We are also involved in digitization projects such as the [Swedish Literature Bank \(Litteraturbanken\)](#), which is a project to digitize Swedish literary classics.

### **Codex Gigas – digitization of a famous manuscript and its special challenges**

I would like to present how we digitized the Codex Gigas, the Devil's Bible, the biggest and one of the most important manuscripts in the National Library of Sweden. Codex Gigas came to Sweden from the historical Czech territories as war booty in 1648.



Codex Gigas (Devil's Bible)

We digitized this famous bible from September 2006 to March 2007, when we prepared for its journey and exhibition in Prague, which was its first home-coming in some 350 years. The digitization was a daunting task due to the material's large size. We built a special studio first of all, and took almost an entire day to digitize each large page. Now, the Codex is [accessible on our website](#), a website which enables the visitor not only to peruse the text and the scholarly commentaries, but also to use the work in a way not possible previously.

## Leadership in libraries in the digital age

Leadership required for libraries changed in the last two decades. Previously library directors were expected to be specialists and to rule library functions such as cataloging and collection development. However, in this age of rapid technical development, the expected image of library leaders is: a generalist; visionary; quick and precise decision maker; able to adapt to the circumstances at hand; has vision and strategies for the future; and has ability to communicate inside and outside the organization.

## The National Library of Sweden – its tasks and its role

The most important task of the National Library of Sweden is to collect, preserve, catalog and provide access to Swedish printed and digital materials. A new legal deposit law, which will include digital materials, is in the process of legislation at present. To prevent loss of cultural heritage until the new law is enacted, since 1997 we have collected all Swedish websites about twice a year and Swedish online newspapers every day.

In addition, we are actively involved in international activities. We cooperate with other national libraries, mostly in the other Nordic countries, as well as participate in international projects including the [European Library](#) (TEL) project (a portal site of European national libraries), [Europeana](#) ( a portal site of digitized materials of libraries, archives and museums).

We are also cooperating closely with Swedish government agencies. The National Archive of Recorded Sound and Moving Images, the National Archives, and the National Library have worked together on common issues, especially long-term preservation of digital materials. We are developing a common catalog, share IT support and we have signed an agreement on the direction of future development. From January 1, 2009 the National Archive of Recorded Sound and Moving Images and the National Library of Sweden have been merged in line with Swedish governmental policy to use resources more effectively and to provide users with better services. It seems to be natural because it is becoming increasingly difficult to separate the materials we handle: What is a newspaper of today? Is it the paper edition you read at the breakfast table? Is it the web version?

## Conclusion

What's going on at the National Library of Sweden is part of an ongoing process in the entire world. Now, there is no national boundary in the library world as a result of digital development. The pace of development in libraries will not drop. The National Library of Sweden – like other libraries – will be facing great challenges in coming years.

## Discussion between Dr. Gunnar Sahlin and Dr. Makoto Nagao, Librarian of the NDL

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Discussion between Dr. Sahlin and Dr. Nagao

In the discussion between Dr. Sahlin and Dr. Makoto Nagao, Librarian of the NDL, broad topics were mentioned, from copyright issues regarding digitization to cataloging work in the digital age. Following is the outline of Dr. Sahlin's remarks.

### **How do users use the digital materials of the National Library of Sweden? Do you have problems regarding the copyright of recently published materials?**

At present, we have very few users of digitized materials. We still have to wait for one or two years until we have many users. We have digitized materials of which the copyright are already expired, such as all materials published in the 16th century and Codex Gigas. They are used by many researchers; however, there are not many users who study 16th century materials.

Although we would like to digitize materials of the 20th century and many users would expect it, there is a problem of copyright. Even if we digitize newspapers, we cannot put their digital version on the web. Even materials published in the 19th century, which we have not digitized so much, are difficult to provide on the web. As for the Swedish Literature Bank, when we digitize books of the 20th century, we have to pay publishers. It costs much money if we pay for many authors, but we do so as there are many users of the Swedish Literature Bank.

We have two problems: 1) digitization takes time; 2) issue of copyright. We think we share these problems with other national libraries.

### **Does the National Library of Sweden collect web information with the**

### **permission of copyright holders?**

In some cases, we have permission so that researchers can use the materials. However, for most of the materials, we have no permission or agreement so far with publishers or with organizations of photographers and authors. At present, we are in negotiation. We hope that we can sign an agreement with one organization in such a way that all the stakeholders could be included. However this is not easy; for example, if we discuss with editors on an agreement about a weekly magazine, they have to discuss with organizations for photographers, for journalists, and for authors. We would like to continue to have meetings with stakeholders to find a solution to copyright issues.

### **How do you provide collected web information to users?**

At present, only a small number of materials are digitized and provided on the web. We are just beginning to consider how we will provide web information to users.

### **What do you think about long-term preservation of digitized materials?**

We know much about long-term preservation of physical materials, as books and microfilms, and less about long-time preservation of digital materials. Our experience of digital materials is in comparison very short. My opinion is all the same that we should phase out microfilm as soon as possible. The problem of long-term preservation of digital material has to be faced and solved. The development and the investments will cost a huge amount of money.

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### **Could you tell us details of the new deposit law?**

We do not know its details at present. The Ministry of Education is in charge of this new law. We have discussed with them and told them what is most important in this law: bringing digital materials to the National Library. As we have no deposit law for digital materials, we are losing many materials. In addition, it is also important what we can put on the web. The current situation is very difficult, as the Ministry of Law is very careful about how materials should be presented on the web. Therefore, I think we need to concentrate on collecting materials in the National Library, rather than considering how we can provide them on the web.

### **What is your opinion of cataloging work in this digital age?**

It is important for library directors to take more responsibility for cataloging and how to run cataloging in the future. Metadata is very important in digitization of materials. It is not only a question for libraries, but also for universities and others involved with digital materials. Metadata is a tough question today.

In Sweden, we decided to replace SAB (Swedish Classification System), which had been used since the early 20th century, with DDC (Dewey Decimal Classification), which is the most common classification system in the world. We had many discussions, and then we reached a conclusion that classification will still be important in the future.

Therefore, we introduced DDC. The cost was high; however, we can reduce costs by importing information from other countries.

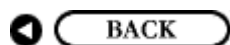
As for other solutions, we are considering recycling of metadata and bibliographic work in a more rational way. If we can obtain good information from editors, it is not necessary for national libraries to spend so much time and money on cataloging. There is also room for improvement in organization, as there are many catalogers in libraries and universities.

We can see that digital development will enable us to do cataloging work in more mechanical and technical ways compared with today. So we really have to work on these issues.

More details of this lecture and discussion will be published in NDL Monthly Bulletin no. 577, April 2009 (in Japanese).

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## Lecture on services developed by the British Library to support entrepreneurs and small business development

On December 17, 2008, a lecture by Mr. Nigel Spencer, Research & Business Development Manager of the British Library, was held in the Tokyo Main Library as a training program of the Reference and Special Collections Department.

Mr. Spencer manages the Business & IP Centre (BIPC), which is one of the reading rooms in the British Library. BIPC provides business and intellectual property information to clients (users). He gave a talk on the present condition of the business support services of the BIPC and United Kingdom.



Mr. Nigel Spencer

The lecture attracted an audience of 108 (including 37 from outside NDL).

For the content of this lecture, please refer the transcript and slides below:

- [Transcript of the lecture](#)
- [Slides: Services developed by the British Library to support entrepreneurs and small business development](#)[PDF Format, 832KB]

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## Electronic Exhibition "100 anos de imigração japonesa no Brasil (100 years of Japanese immigration to Brazil)" now available

In 2008, Japanese collective emigration to Brazil marked the 100th year since it started in 1908. On this occasion, the National Diet Library (NDL) released a new electronic exhibition, [100 anos de imigração japonesa no Brasil \(100 years of Japanese immigration to Brazil\)](#), which introduces the history of Japanese immigrants to Brazil. Descriptions and columns are provided in Japanese and in Portuguese.

The NDL has dispatched its staff to Brazil, Peru, Hawaii, etc. to collect materials on Japanese immigrants several times since 1984. Acquired materials include valuable documents such as diaries, letters, notes, photographs and printed matter, as well as locally-published books, newspapers and magazines in Japanese.

In the exhibition, the history of Japanese immigrants in Brazil is described in seven chapters in chronological order, and about 200 items mainly from [our collection on Japanese emigration](#) are shown. It contains a wide range of materials such as a newspaper advertisement for recruiting emigrants to Brazil, brochures on the colonies, and records of the public and private sectors related to the immigration. In addition to images, it includes many documents and newspaper articles in text format. You can also enjoy reading various columns such as "[Kasato-maru](#) (the first emigrant ship to Brazil)" and "[Japanese immigrants and coffee](#)."

We hope that this exhibition will be of some help in deepening understanding about the history of Japanese immigrants.



URL: <http://www.ndl.go.jp/brasil/index.html> (Japanese version)

(or access from Online Gallery in the NDL website: <http://www.ndl.go.jp/en/index.html> )

\*Descriptions and columns are provided in Japanese and [in Portuguese](#).

Inquiries: [webcont@ndl.go.jp](mailto:webcont@ndl.go.jp)

Reference Service Planning Division, Reference and Special Collections Department,  
National Diet Library

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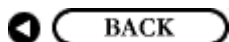
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## Bibliographic Data now downloadable via the NDL-OPAC

In February 2009, a download function was added to the [NDL-OPAC](#) so that users can easily obtain bibliographic data compiled by the NDL. Bibliographic data of all materials in the NDL-OPAC can be downloaded in tab-delimited format (tsv).

For more information on the service, please refer to [the FAQ page on NDL bibliographic services](#).



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## NDL Statistics FY2007

This article is a translation of the article in Japanese of the same title in the NDL Monthly Bulletin No. 573 (December 2008).



The following figures show the main statistics of the NDL activities, services and organization, excerpted from the [Annual Report of the National Diet Library FY2007](#) (Japanese only).

Please have a look at some important figures on the NDL.

## Contents

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- [Personnel, Finance and Facility](#)
- [Acquisition, cataloging and preservation](#)
- [Services available on NDL website](#)
- [Services for the National Diet](#)
- [Services for the executive and judicial branches](#)
- [Services for the public](#)

### Personnel, Finance and Facility

- Cost of acquiring materials: about 2,630 million yen
- of which compensations for publications deposit: about 390 million yen
  
- Total budget and settlement of accounts
- Budget: about 22.873 billion yen

- Settlement of accounts: about 22.305 billion yen
- The amount was used for payroll, running expenses, construction of stacks to accommodate increasing materials and land purchase in addition to acquisition of library materials.
- Number of staff: 904 (male **452**, female **452**)
- of which 126 in Kansai-kan of the NDL, 36 in the International Library of Children's Literature (ILCL)  
Proportion of women in Senior Specialist and managerial posts is 28%.
- Total area of reading rooms: **24,837m<sup>2</sup>**
- Tokyo Main Library: **18,983m<sup>2</sup>**
- Detached Library in the Diet: **562m<sup>2</sup>**
- Kansai-kan of the NDL: **4,265m<sup>2</sup>**
- ILCL: **1,027m<sup>2</sup>**
- The Tokyo Main Library has [nine Special Materials Rooms and six Reading Rooms](#).

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## Acquisition, processing and preservation

- Number of materials newly acquired in FY2007: 1,266,018 items
- Books: **225,345** volumes
- Periodicals and newspapers: **646,809** items
- Non-book materials: **253,864** items
  - Microfilms and microfiches: **151,365**
  - Visual materials: **18,228**
  - Recorded materials: **16,745**
  - Machine-readable materials (CDs, DVDs, etc.): **9,898**
  - Maps: **13,031**
  - Doctoral dissertations: **17,001**
  - Manuscripts: **15,091**
  - Braille resources and large print editions: **939**
  - etc..
- Websites ([WARP](#)): **2,188** titles
  - In addition to books and periodicals, we collect various materials. Since FY2002, we have also been collecting Internet information including websites of public institutions and events.
- [International exchange](#)
- Acquisition Books: **5,901** volumes
  - Periodicals: **2,360** titles

- Non-book materials: **11,102** items
- Delivery Books: **21,836** volumes
  - Periodicals: **12,735** titles
  - Non-book materials: **8,250** items
- In accordance with two conventions of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), we exchange official publications and other materials related to the partner countries with 944 institutions in 157 nations and two regions
- Microfilming
  - Microfilms: **13,726** reels
  - Microfiches: **83,345** sheets
    - We microfilm materials and serve them to users in place of originals so that we can preserve original materials.
- Cataloging: 1,457,596 data
- Books: **170,381**
- Periodicals: **4,439**
- Newspapers: **188**
- Non-book materials: **561,457**
- Japanese Periodicals Index: **721,131**
  - We create bibliographic data such as titles, author names, etc. and location information, publish [Japanese National Bibliography Weekly List](#) (Japanese only) and make them available on our website.
- Collections: 34,730,903 items
- Books: **9,052,998** volumes
- Periodicals and newspapers: **12,474,489** items
- Non-book materials: **13,203,416** items
  - Microfilms: **8,771,828**
  - Visual materials: **233,483**
  - Recorded materials: **615,622**
  - Machine-readable materials (CDs, DVDs, etc.): **75,919**
  - Maps: **509,205**
  - Doctoral dissertations: **489,446**
  - Manuscripts: **291,600**
  - Braille resources and large print editions: **28,247**
  - etc..
  - We collect these materials by various methods such as [legal deposit](#), purchase, donation and exchange.
- The number of items by facility is as follows:

- Tokyo Main Library: **23,634,000** items
- Kansai-kan of the NDL: **9,901,110** items
- ILCL: **430,380** items
- Websites (WARP): **16,877** titles

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## Services available on NDL website

- Bibliographic data searchable on the [NDL-OPAC](#): **9,007,269** records
- Japanese Periodicals Index: **8,582,932** articles
- NDL-OPAC is the National Diet Library Online Public Access Catalog.
- [Digital Library from the Meiji Era](#)
- Number of titles: **96,856** titles (**142,469** volumes)
- Number of titles added in FY2007: **7,412**
  - It provides digitized images of books from the NDL collection which were published in the Meiji (1868–1912) and Taisho (1912–1926) eras.
- Number of accesses to our website: **33,184,200** (**90,667** per day)
  - NDL-OPAC and other various databases are available on the NDL website.
- Union Catalog of Children's Literature
- Number of titles: **738,878** titles
- Number of titles added in FY2007: **14,860**
  - It provides holding data and specialized information (synopsis, bibliographic notes and prize information) by participation of major related institutions in Japan.

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## [Services for the National Diet](#)

- Research on request: **45,144** cases
- Based on requests for research by the Diet members and others, we conduct research on national issues and domestic and foreign affairs, analysis and evaluation of legislative bills.
- Related article: [Services for the National Diet – providing legislative support](#)

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## [Services for the executive and judicial branches](#)

- Loan services: **162,638** items
- Based on the Branch Libraries System, there are branch libraries of the NDL in the

government ministries and agencies and the Supreme Court. Through this branch library network, we provide library services and exchange materials.

Related article: [National Diet Library's network with libraries in the executive and judicial agencies: Branch Library System](#)

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## Services for the public

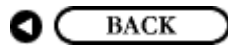
- On-site users: **611,574 people**
- Tokyo Main Library: **432,431**
- Kansai-kan of the NDL: **61,336**
- ILCL: **117,807**
- Tokyo Main Library and the Kansai-kan opened 280 days and the ILCL opened 286 days in FY2007
  
- [Reference services](#): **644,008 cases**
- Tokyo Main Library: **581,745**
- Kansai-kan of the NDL: **55,077**
- ILCL: **7,186**
- We provide services orally or by documents and telephone.
  
- Reading services: **2,379,816 items**
- Tokyo Main Library: **2,235,867**
- Kansai-kan of the NDL: **104,736**
- ILCL: **39,213**
- Reading services requested by on-site users.
  
- Guided tours: **6,588 participants**
- Tokyo Main Library: **1,548**
- Kansai-kan of the NDL: **2,483**
- ILCL: **2,557**
- To apply for guided tours, please see [tours of the Tokyo Main Library](#), [tours of the Kansai-kan](#) and [tours of the ILCL \(in Japanese\)](#).
  
- [Interlibrary loans](#): **30,622 items**
- Tokyo Main Library: **13,364**
- Kansai-kan of the NDL: **3,477**
- ILCL: **13,781**
- Including interlibrary loans to other libraries, Book Sets Lending Service to School Libraries, loan services for exhibitions
  
- [Photoduplication requests from remote users](#): **290,505 cases**
- Tokyo Main Library: **164,149**
- Kansai-kan of the NDL: **120,115**
- ILCL: **6,241**



- Photoduplication service available via the NDL website and others without visiting the NDL.
- On-site photoduplication requests: **863,297 cases**
- Tokyo Main Library: **789,102**
- Kansai-kan of the NDL: **66,683**
- ILCL: **7,512**

\*The statistics from FY2002 to FY2006 are available in [the past newsletter articles](#)

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## Selections from NDL Collection

The Children's Japan by Mrs. W. H. Smith (1892)  
Chirimen-bon: picture books disseminated to overseas

Yukiko MATSUO  
Book Service Division  
Public Services Department

This is a translation of the article of the same title  
in the NDL Monthly Bulletin No. 571 (October 2008).



## Front cover of The Children's Japan

The cover of this book is adorned with a picture in brilliant color. Taking a closer look, you will find fine crinkles all over its surface. The paper is so supple that it fits into your hand with a surprisingly soft texture. This kind of illustrated book in European languages and bound in Japanese style is called chirimen-bon (or chirimen book). The word chirimen originally means crape, silk fabric, and the paper finely wrinkled up, which has a similar appearance to crape, was used for books mainly in the Meiji era (1868–1912).

The process of making a chirimen book is rather complicated. The first thing is to make the Japanese paper. A wood engraver makes a printing block based on pictures drawn by a painter, and a printer puts prints on the paper multiple times with different colors. Texts are laid out to make a good balance with the illustrations on each page, and are added. Supposedly, some printers were treating exclusively pictures and others were specialized in texts.



Surface of chirimen (crape) paper (a part enlarged from p.7)

According to the experiment of reproduction conducted by the Open University of Japan Library, the crinkled paper is an 84 % reduction of the original paper.

The process of crinkling the paper is as follows. Several sheets of Japanese paper printed with illustrations and texts, slightly moistened, are rolled into a cylinder, which is then placed with the long side vertical, and compressed from above. The same process of reopening the sheets, rolling them again, and pressing, is repeated more than ten times, changing each time the direction of the sheets when re-rolling. In this way, the Japanese crape paper finally comes out. The pages are aligned on the edges, cut, and bound with threads, to become a book at last.

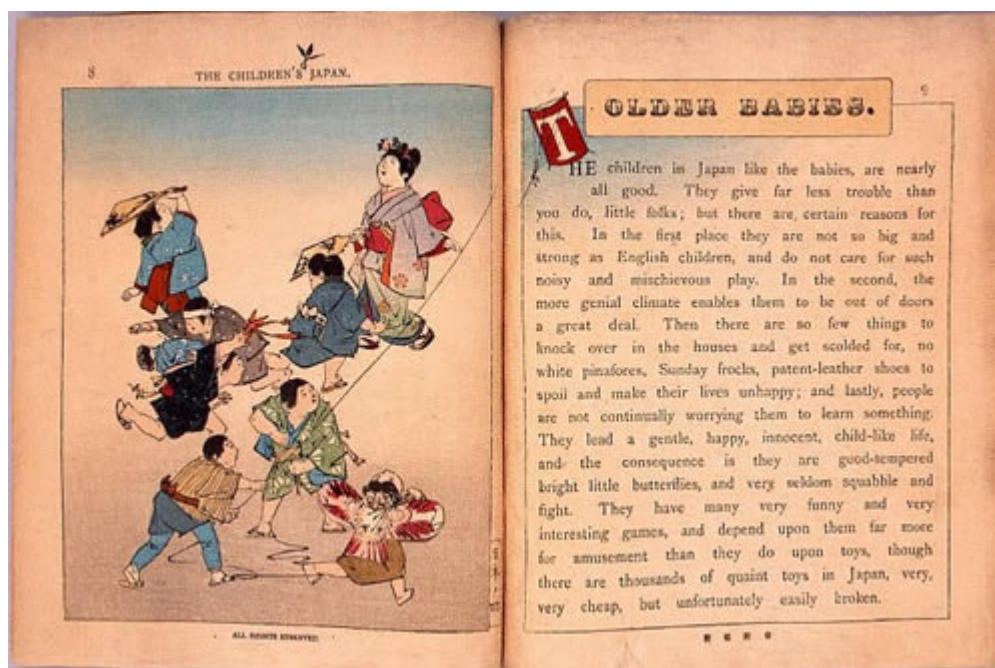
Takejiro Hasegawa is well known as publisher of chirimen books. He was originally engaged in a store management and in commerce, taking advantage of his ability in foreign languages. Then he started to import, sell and publish textbooks for learning foreign languages, establishing a company named "Kobunsha," which launched around 1885 the publication of an illustrated "Japanese Fairy Tale Series" in European languages.

Some of the extant chirimen books have equivalents with the same texts and pictures, but printed on plain paper. These books were probably published for Japanese learners of foreign languages.

The ones printed on chirimen paper, on the other hand, attracted foreigners by their peculiar texture, and became popular as souvenirs of Japan with excellent translations and beautiful Japanese style illustrations. Some renowned people are named on the list of translators for this series, among others, Basil Hall Chamberlain, well known for his English translation of the Ko-Ji-Ki and his book Things Japanese and Patrick Lafcadio Hearn, author of the Kwaidan. This shows the broad network of connections Takejiro had at the time. With many different kinds of translators, versions in many other languages besides English, including German, French and Spanish, were issued. The book contents also went beyond fairy tales, introducing overseas translations of Japanese poems and classic literature, and "Japan seen by foreign people" treating the daily lives of Japanese people, etc.

With the wave of mass publications in the Taisho era (1912–1926) and early Showa era (1926–1989), however, publications using this special paper diminished to only a small amount of calendars and other special products, as the chirimen books did not naturally fit in with mass production. On the other hand, the exact same paper cannot be reproduced even with the current technology, which enables us to make a rough approximation, because we cannot get the raw materials used at the time.

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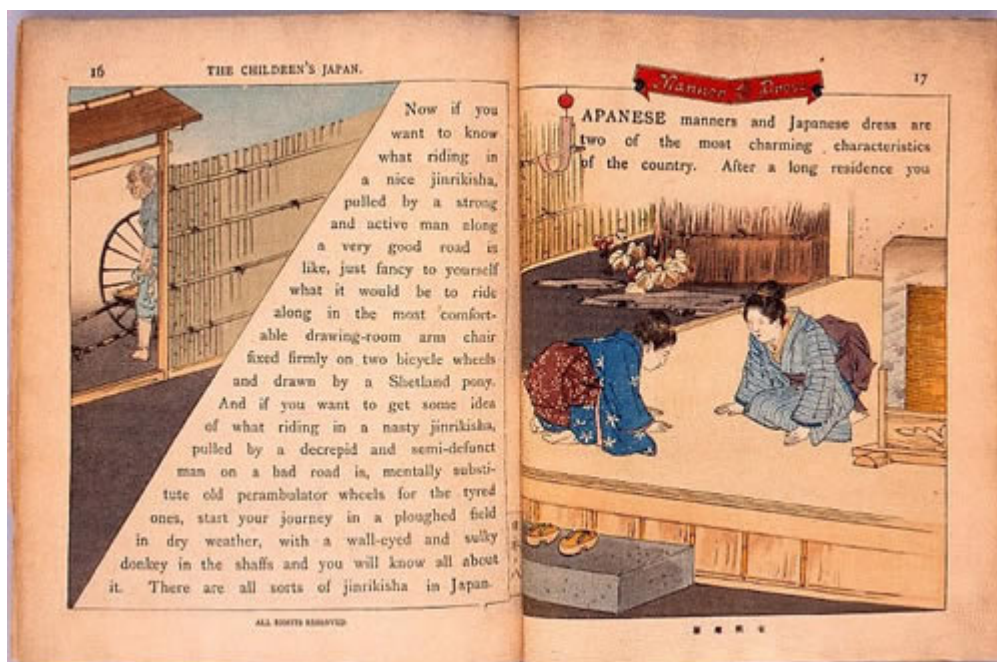


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The character "T" from the first word on this page is drawn as the design of a kite, a part

of the picture on the left page depicting various children's games. The illustration has dynamism and energy with children running around, and featuring a shuttlecock hit so high into the air that it goes beyond the page frame.

The book introduced here is rather large-sized among chirimen books. The author, about whom we do not know much except for the description in the colophon: "Igrisujin Sumisu Fujin (Mrs. Smith, English lady)," describes freely and easily children's daily life in Japan as well as its background of traditional Japanese lifestyle. Illustrations on each page, corresponding well to the texts, depict Japanese culture and customs with a rich sensibility. The witty and artful treatment of texts and pictures by Takejiro, who really enjoyed himself producing a book, can be seen in the arrangement of the title words on the front cover and of the first character of a chapter embedded in the illustrations.



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The character "J" from "JAPANESE" takes the shape of the paper strip of a wind bell. The picture introduces Japanese manners such as taking off shoes before entering a house and bowing in salutation. The fluttering strip makes us feel the breeze blowing through the house.

The Printer of this book, Yasushichi Hirose, was an excellent artisan-printer belonging to Takejiro's wife's family Komiya. His name appears as the printer of a number of chirimen books.

#### **Bibliographic information of this book**

Title: Children's Japan

Author: Mrs. W. H. Smith

Publisher: T. Hasegawa

Published in 1892

20p. ; 21 x 16.5cm

NDL call number (for general reading service): YDM107395 (microfiche in black and white)  
\*call number of the original book: B-65

Related article: [Chirimen-bon: books made of Chirimen Paper \(crepe paper\) \(NDL Newsletter No. 135, February 2004\)](#)

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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. 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. 575, March 2009** [[PDF Format, 3.61MB](#)]

- Talks with the Librarian of NDL (6) Mr. Yoshiharu Fukuhara, Chairman of the Characters Culture Promotion Organization  
Power of reading, power of books
- Lecture meeting on the commemorative exhibition "Rare books of the National Diet Library – The 60th anniversary"  
Transition of Japanese books: from scrolls to booklets
- Electronic exhibition "100 anos de imigração japonesa no Brasil (100 years of Japanese immigration to Brazil)" – from acquisition of materials to provision  
by the online gallery [related article](#)
- Creation and provision of bibliographic data: to the next steps □ report of the conference on bibliographic control FY2007
- Seventeen titles from the NDL publications
- <Announcement>
  - Search results of the NDL-OPAC can be downloaded [related article](#)
  - Lectures related to the Exhibition at the International Library of Children's Literature "Palette of Dream Colours IV: Winning Works of the 16th Noma Concours for Picture Book Illustrations from Asia, Africa, and Latin America"

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