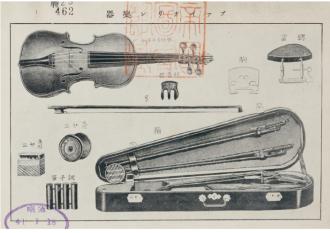
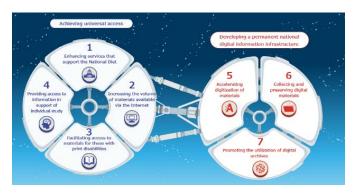
National Diet Library No. 239, June 2021









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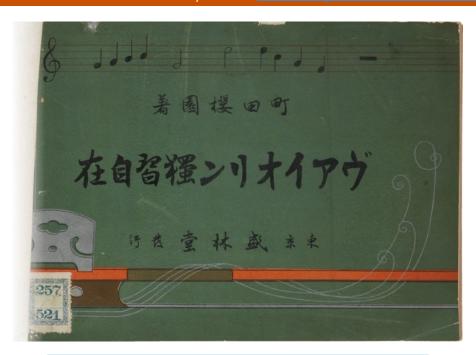
The NDL Monthly Bulletin No. 721/722, May/June 2021



Selections from NDL collections

Vaiorin dokushu jizai: Sokusei kan'i—If only I could play the violin, that fascinating Western instrument

SAITO Fumi, Business, Science and Technology Division, Reader Services and Collections Department *This article is a part of translation of the article in Japanese in NDL Monthly Bulletin No. 710 (June 2020).*



Vaiorin dokushu jizai: Sokusei kan'i Machida Oen. Seirindo, 1908. 126p ; 15 × 22cm

*Available at NDL Digital Collections

(monochrome image)

Front cover. The design includes a violin vow and bridge.

How many violin players do you suppose there are in Japan? While it is difficult to calculate an exact number, as of 2020, there were more than 500 professional and amateur orchestras in Tokyo alone.

If the number of violin players in these orchestras alone is any indication, it is clear that a great many people in Japan love to play the violin.

The violin was introduced in Japan immediately after the opening of the country at the end of the Edo period. The violin was played for the first time in Japan in 1863 at the foreign settlement in Yokohama, even though it is not known whether or not there were any Japanese nationals there. Regardless, 150 years ago, the violin was just another strange foreign instrument to the Japanese.

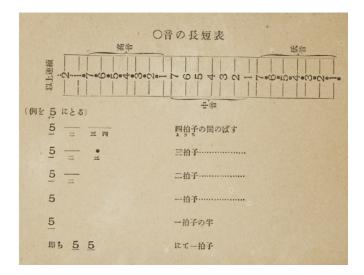
In this article, we will take a look at the content of a book on violin instruction, *Vaiorin dokushu jizai: Sokusei kan'i*, that was published at a time when that instrument was gradually becoming familiar to Japanese. Opening the book, which was published in 1908, we see that many of the melodies are Japanese in origin. These include

Kimigayo, Nagauta Echigo Jishi, Kappore, and Tetsudo Shoka, among others. Naturally, these tunes would have been familiar to ordinary Japanese of the day. And some of the scores include Japanese lyrics, which might have been intended to help people sing along with the violin.

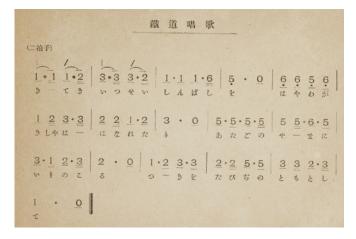


Explanation of fingering in G Major. The diatonic scale is represented by the numbers 1 to 7. The duration of each note is indicated by a unique symbol. And the names of the strings are given using a kind of Japanese solfege, in which the Japanese syllables "i, ro, ha, ni, ho, he, and to" are equivalent to A, B, C, D, E, F, and G. Thus, the names of the violin strings are, from bottom to top, to, ni, i, and ho.

One thing you will notice is that there are no musical staves. The notes of the diatonic scale are represented by the numbers 1 to 7. The duration of each note is indicated by the original symbols. Left-hand fingering is indicated using this numerical notation. This is a clear indication that the readers of this book were not expected to be familiar with Western musical notation.



Explanation of numerical notation and the duration of notes



Notation of *Tetudo Shoka* in G Major. This notation might be difficult for modern players to understand.

There were many musical instruction books published during the late Meiji era (ca. 1892–1912) that used this same kind of notation for Japanese melodies, which suggests that playing the violin became a popular pastime for many ordinary Japanese at that time. In fact, playing Japanese melodies on the violin might be considered a prime example of what was known in those days as wayo secchu—a blending of Japanese and Western styles. It

was not unusual for the violin to be part of an ensemble with Japanese instruments such as the koto and shakuhachi. Often, the violin would substitute for the shamisen in performances by kimono-clad Japanese musicians. According to the preface of this book, the author, Machida Oen, was himself an expert in Japanese traditional music¹.

Although the violin was first introduced into Japan at the end of the Edo period, it became well known to ordinary Japanese during the Meiji enlightenment (*bunmei kaika*) through singing or other musical lessons at school. As inexpensive, domestically produced instruments became increasingly available, the violin quickly gained popularity and by the late Meiji era was known as a readily available, fun-to-play instrument.

Books on violin instruction published at the end of the Meiji era



Edited by Machida Oen (Hisa). Vaiorin gakufu dai 13 hen. Seirindo, 1907–1909. NDL Call No. 特 67-229. Machida Oen published a number of books on violin instruction containing well-known melodies. The front cover features *Momotaro* and the scores use staff notation with Japanese lyrics.

¹ Machida Oen (Real name: Machida Hisa, –1928). The National Diet Library (NDL) also has books on koto instruction and anthologies of *nagauta* by Machida Oen.



Edited by Mita Ongakuin Dosokai. *Harusame to Sanjusangendo: Vaiorin nibu renso*. Hoshino Bunseido, 1909.6.

*Available at NDL Digital Collections (monochrome image)

This book was published around the same time as the aforementioned book by Machida Oen. The cover features two women in kimono playing shamisen, which clearly suggests that violins were considered a substitute for shamisen.



Fukushima Takuro. *Vaiorin dokushu no tomo*. Jujiya Gakkiten, 1910.4.

*<u>Available at NDL Digital Collections</u> (monochrome image)

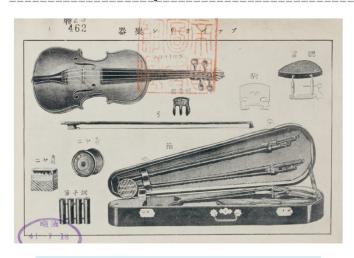
This illustration of proper posture while playing violin was excerpted from an instructional book also published around 1910. It shows a woman dressed in kimono and hakama, who is sitting in *seiza* style, with her legs folded beneath her, while playing a violin. The book includes instructions for playing the

such as koto, shamisen, and shakuhachi.

violin in an ensemble with Japanese instruments

There was, of course, at the same time also a movement to propagate the playing European music. For example, the sisters of writer Koda Rohan—Koda Nobu and Ando Ko—were well known as violinists who played classical music². This movement, however, targeted the upper classes rather than the general public. Thus, the ordinary Japanese who were attracted to Western culture and the beautiful timbre of the violin but not familiar with European music used violins to play the Japanese melodies that were familiar to them. This was a very natural and flexible way of enjoying and becoming familiar with a new, exotic culture.

² They received their musical education, including violin instruction, at the Ongaku Torishirabegakari music school set up in 1879 by the Ministry of Education for the purpose of establishing music education in Japan as well as at its successor, the Tokyo Ongaku Gakko, which is now known as the Tokyo Geijutsu Daigaku Ongaku Gakubu.



Explanation of various parts of the violin

Later, as Western music gained more acceptance from the general public during the Taisho era, wayo secchu became obsolete. Thereafter, violin instruction was gradually dominated by Western styles of playing. It is worth noting, however, that without the hybrid approach of wayo secchu, it is unlikely that the violin would have achieved the popularity it did during the Meiji era.

(Translated by OSHIMA Kaoru)

Reference (in Japanese):

Matumoto Zenzo. *Teikin ujo: Nihon no vaiorin ongakushi.* Ressun No Tomosha, 1995.11. NDL Call No. KD263-G10.

Horiuchi Keizo. *Ongaku Meiji hyakunenshi.* Ongaku no Tomosha, 1968. NDL Call No. 762.1-H67902.

Akutsu Taichi and Takeshi Kenshozan. *Meiji jidai ni okeru hogaku to yogaku no ongaku shido no kakawari: Nakao Tozan ni miru shakuhachi to vaiorin gakufu shuppan no keii to sono haikei. Bulletin of Tokyo Gakugei University.* 65:2013.10. NDL Call No. Z11-284.

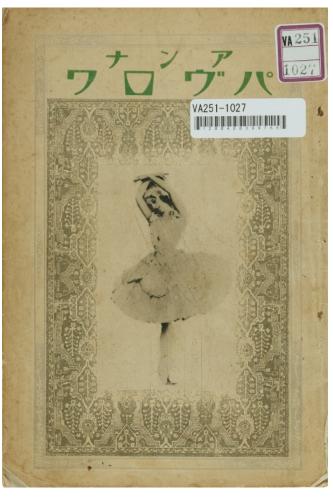
Shiotsu Yoko. *Meijiki kansai vaiorin jijo. Ongaku kenkyu: Osaka Ongaku Daigaku Ongaku Hakubutsukan nenpo.* 20:2004.10. Osaka Ongaku Daigaku. *Available at NDL Digital Collections

Takahashi Miyuki. *Meijiki no vaiorin: Sono imeji to Nihon tokuyu no juyo no shoso. Hitotsubashi Kenkyu.* 25(4). No.130. 2000.1. Hitotsubashi Kenkyu Henshu Iinkai. NDL Call No. Z22-94.

Selections from NDL collections

The Undying Swan—Program notes from Anna Pavlova's performances in Japan

TOMITA Joji Legislative Reference and Information Resources Division, Research and Legislative Reference Bureau *This article is a translation of the article in Japanese in NDL Monthly Bulletin No. 716 (December 2020).*





Left: Cover of *Anna paburowa*. It was a pamphlet common to all the performances with commentary, provided to the audience for a fee. *Anna paburowa*. Published in 1922; 23cm. NDL Call No. VA251-1027.

Right: Portrait of Anna Pavlova. From *Anna Pavlova* written by V. Dandré, published by Cassell in 1932. NDL Call No. VA31-P3-8. This book was written by Victor Dandré, who had been Pavlova's partner both publicly and privately.

Many people in Japan today love ballet. In Japan, approximately 360,000 people take ballet lessons, there are around 4,600 ballet studios in total, and there are over one hundred performances by foreign ballet companies every year across the country. It might be difficult to imagine ballet being this popular a hundred years ago. The history of ballet in Japan starts in August 1912 when Giovanni Vittorio Rosi, a ballet teacher, choreographer and opera producer, was invited to Tokyo as a teacher of the opera section of the Imperial Theater. However, as ticket sales did poorly, the opera section was dissolved in just four years. The reason for this failure might be caused by a lack of performance technique among Japanese performers in those days as well as a

lack of a cultural foundation to appreciate Western music, the basis of ballet and opera in the first place. But this situation drastically changed in a few years.

When the Russian Revolution occurred in 1917, Russian artists such as Sergei Prokofiev, a famous composer in the twentieth century, stopped by Japan and gave performances on the way to the United States to defect from Siberia. As Japanese appreciation increased, major foreign artists, such as the violinist Mischa Elman, were actively invited to Japan.

Among the foreign performers who visited Japan, highly respected ballerina Anna Pavlova had an especially strong impact.



From *Anna paburowa*. Left: Pavlova dancing *The Dying Swan*.

She was born in 1881 in St. Petersburg and joined the Mariinsky Theatre and became a prima ballerina in 1906 after attending the Imperial Ballet School. In the next year, she became famous for The Dying Swan, with choreography by Mikhail Fokine, which later became synonymous with her. But as she was not satisfied with dancing at the Mariinsky Theatre, she joined the Ballets Russes, presided over by Sergei Diaghilev, in 1909. However, she could not go along with Diaghilev's avantgardism and formed her own ballet company in 1911. Her company toured around the world, based out of Great Britain.

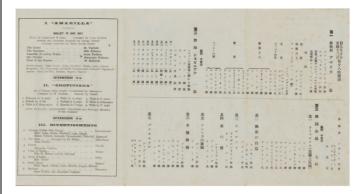


One of the programs, *Chopiniana*, with commentary on the left page. *Chopiniana* was choreographed by Michel Fokineee, with Chopin's music. Later, it was named *Les Sylphides*.

Pavlova's performances in Japan from September 10 to October 29 in 1922 at Tokyo, Yokohama, Nagoya, Osaka, Kobe, Kyoto, Okayama, Hiroshima, Hakata and Moji were a prelude to her Asian tour starting the next year. *Anna paburowa* is a pamphlet common to all the performances and provides commentary on the programs which were

to be performed around Japan. *Paburowa joshi roshia buyogeki bangumi* was distributed to the audience at Imperial Theatre performances held from September 10 to October 29. Although it was a simple threefold pamphlet, it is beautiful, with a floral pattern of a wood block print printed on *washi* (traditional handmade Japanese paper). Comments from YAMAMOTO Kyuzaburo, Managing Director of the Imperial Theatre, were included.





Front and back cover of Paburowa jyoshi roshia buyogeki bangumi marunouchi teikoku gekijyo. The program for the performance on September 10 to 13 in 1922. Paburowa joshi roshia buyogeki bangumi marunouchi teikoku gekijyo. Published in 1922; 18cm. NDL Call No. VA251-1027.

These performances were very influential to many people in Japan and led to greater understanding of what ballet is. Writings of the celebrities show part of the responses as follows.

AKUTAGAWA Ryunosuke ¹ wrote "Amalia was boring," while complimenting *The Dying Swan* and wroting "I saw an extremely beautiful performance." In contrast, TANIZAKI Jun'ichiro² was a little more icy, writing, "Anna Pavlova's dance is very famous worldwide, but we will not be surprised by her in Japan as we also have great Kabuki actors like Kikugoro." However, Onoe Kikugoro VI himself wondered how Pavlova realistically danced the death in *The Dying Swan*.

He disguised himself as a propman and crept backstage, where he watched Pavlova's dancing from stage left. Then he noticed that Pavlova was not breathing at all. After the performance, he asked Pavlova what she would

¹ Novelist. His portrait is available in the <u>Portraits of Modern Japanese Historical Figures</u>.

² Novelist. His portrait and autograph manuscript are available in the <u>Autograph manuscripts and original artwork of well-known people</u>.

do if the curtain did not drop down. Her answer was that it would be a great finish to her life and she also wondered many times if she would die like this. Kikugoro also noted that he had once felt like Pavlova when he performed *Musume dojoji* (a Kabuki play) very well. True artists seem to have similar sensibilities regardless of where they are from.

Those who were most impressed with Pavlova's ballet may have been the young generation at the time. YOGOGAWA Choji, later a movie critic, was thirteen years old when he watched *The Dying Swan* at Kobe. He was so impressed he could not stop crying and wholeheartedly realized the beauty of ballet. He loved ballet for the rest of his life.

Fifteen years old at the time, ASHIHARA Eiryo³, later known as a critic of music and dance, was very impressed when he watched *The Dying Swan* and *Tombo*. He looked back on his life and mentioned that this one night's performance changed his fate dramatically and made him study and research dance. Materials introduced in this article were compiled by Ashihara. An enormous quantity of documents on ballet, chanson, drama, and circus materials, known as the Ashihara Eiryo Collection, was offered for donation in 1980 from Ashihara himself to the National Diet Library and was donated the next year after his death.

Recently, many performances have been cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. To find a new way to reach audiences, many performances are being livestreamed. However, the meaning of watching performance in person will never be lost, because performing arts can only truly be created when actors and audiences share the same space and understand each other at a spiritual level.

I sincerely pray for all the theaters around the world to be able to return to their former liveliness as soon as possible.

<Column>



Machinee: Rokokubuyo narabini gasso taisho 5nen 6gatsu 16-18hi marunouchi teikoku gekijyo. Published in 1916. NDL Call NO. VA251-1684.

Simple threefold pamphlet distributed at Smirnova's performance. Advertisement of *Mitsukoshi* (Japanese department store) on the back cover says "Come to *Teigeki* (the Imperial Theatre) today, tomorrow *Mitsukoshi*."

The first world famous ballerina who came to Japan before Pavlova was Elena Smirnova (1888-1934). She gave ballet performances at the Imperial Theatre from June 16 to 18 in 1916. The same as Pavlova, Smirnova was also a prima ballerina at Mariinsky Theatre and also had joined Ballets Russes, led by Sergei Diaghilev. This performance was conducted as a cultural exchange program in advance of the signing of the fourth Russo Japanese Agreement in July at Petrograd (today St. Petersburg). However, as Japan was not yet ready to accept ballet, her performance did not become a hot topic. Smirnova also danced The Dying Swan, with a different choreographer from Pavlova, for the first time in Japan.

(Translated by NOZAWA Asuka)

Reference (in Japanese):

- "Akasaka rekishi sampo (7)." Tokyojin, 35(12) = 431: 2020.11, published by Toshi Shuppan in 2020. NDL Call No. Z8-2560.
- UMINO Bin, OYAMA Kumi. "Nihon no bare kyoiku no jittai oyobi kadai (Current Status and Issues of Ballet

³ ASHIHARA Eiryo (1907-1981), a known scholar and critic of ballet and music. For more information about his collection, please refer to Research Navi.

- Education in Japan: An Analysis Based on the 2nd 'Nation-wide Survey of Ballet Education')." *Buyogaku: Choreologia,* (40): 2017, published by Buyo gakkai in 2017. NDL Call No. Z11-1500.
- TANIZAKI Junichiro. "Seiyo to nihon no buyo." Tanizaki jun'ichiro zenshu, vol. 11, published by Chuokoronshinsha in 2015. NDL Call No. KH934-L1734.
- Nihon no bare: Sannin no pavurowa. Written by WATANABE Mayumi, published by Shinkokuritsugekijo uneizaidan joho senta in 2013. NDL Call No. KD385-L4.
- Teigeki wandarando: Teikoku gekijo kaijo 100shunen kinen dokuhon. Supervised and published by Toho Engekibu in 2011. NDL Call No. YU17-J637.
- Teikoku gekijo kaimaku: Kyo wa teigeki ashita wa mitsukoshi. Written by MINE Takashi, published by Chuokoronshinsha in 1996. NDL Call No. KD11-G10.
- "Teigeki no roshia buyo." Akutagawa ryunosuke zenshu, vol.9, edited by KONO Toshiro, et al., published by Iwanamishoten in 1996. NDL Call No. KH43-G1.
- "Anna paburowa: fumetsu no hakucho." Watakushi no buyoka techo. Written by YODOGAWA Nagaharu, published by Shinshokan in 1996. NDL Call No. KD363-G3.
- "Fushi no hakucho: anna paburowa." Buyo to shintai.
 Written by ASHIHARA Eiryo, published by Shinjukushobo in 1986. NDL Call No. KD363-7.
- "Hinshi no hakucho," *"Musume dojyoji." Odori.* Written by ONOE Kikugoro VI, published by Shinjukushobo in 1948. NDL Call No. 766.9-067 ウ.
- Database of dance yearbook, created by Public Juridical Foundation Japan Ballet Association https://dancedata.jp/ (only in Japanese. last access: May 11, 2021)

Events

Using Japan Search—Ideas for education, research, and community activities

NAKAGAWA Saori, Digital Information Planning Division, Digital Information Department

An online event to share ideas for using Japan Search for education, research and community activities was held on March 3, 2021, with over 200 attendees such as librarians, curators and researchers from Japan and overseas.



Japan Search, a national platform to aggregate metadata of a wide variety of content and provide an integrated search service as well as an API and a variety of functions for use in order to promote content usage, was officially launched in August 2020.

To promote the use of digital content, Japan Search offers some functionality for use: [1] A My Note function which allows users to curate annotated lists of their favorite content which can be exported in various formats and embedded on external websites as web components, [2] a Work Space function which allows multiple people to edit My Notes together and simultaneously in a collaborative space and [3] a Project function which allows users to set up a mock organization and register a database or create/share galleries and designed searches within a limited project area that is not included in the main body of Japan Search.

At this event, in addition to the introduction of these functions, guest speakers from various fields, such as education, research, and community information, presented examples of the use of these functions.

In the first lecture, Saori Nakagawa of the National Diet Library (NDL) explained these functions and how to use them with demonstrations.



https://youtu.be/cvOHdKqVzNo

Next, as the first example of use, Mr. Masao Oi, a master's student at the University of Tokyo Interfaculty Initiative in Information Studies and Graduate School of Interdisciplinary Information Studies, reported on the curation class using Japan Search that he conducted in elementary and junior high schools in 2020.

In this class, students set up their own questions such as "How was school education conducted in Taisho period (1912-1926)?" as motivations for study and then searched for related materials on Japan Search, curated them on the Work Space with their classmates, and finally presented their research results to each other. This learning had the effect of improving student's media literacy such as how to use digital content with quotations. In addition, the Work Space enabled students to learn collaboratively and remotely even during school closures due to COVID-19, and enabled teachers to grasp students' learning status and receive digital assignments.



https://youtu.be/ti8F8w4tGM0

In the second case, Dr. Yurika Saito, an assistant professor at the Nature and Science Museum of the Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology, reported a case in which she used the Work Space to simulate exhibition

work in practical training for prospective museum workers. The lesson was held for two days in October and November 2020, and nine students from the Faculty of Agriculture and Engineering participated. By using digital content in various fields provided by Japan Search, students were able to set up full-fledged themes and create galleries that can be applied to actual exhibition in museums.



https://youtu.be/rY4fRVIR7Gk

In the third case, Dr. Yasuyuki Kano, an associate professor of the Earthquake Prediction Research Center at the Earthquake Research Institute of the University of Tokyo, shared some ideas on how to use Japan Search for research purposes. He pointed out that Japan Search is useful for researchers as it enables users to search across databases in various fields and find unexpected materials, and users can store and share materials as well as make and publish galleries on a single platform. He showed his plan to use the Work Space for workshops and lectures for the citizen participation reprint (honkoku) production project MINNA DE HONKOKU or to register databases and publish galleries on Japan Search by collecting materials related to historical earthquakes and to make them available as research results and evidence.

Finally, Mr. Kazuto Aoki gave the fourth case report on the Japan Search Town event held from October to December 2020. This event was similar to a Wikipedia Town editathon event and held jointly by the National Diet Library and the Kyoto Prefecture block of the Urban Data Challenge (UDC) as an activity to promote the use of data held by local governments and other organizations, calling for open datasets by holding contests for tools to utilize data and for effective data use methods. In Japan Search Town, participants used digital content and the

API offered by Japan Search to create curated content about local cultures and historical figures, and to develop learning applications. Mr. Aoki expressed his desire for Japan Search Town events to be held in other areas in the future, involving local public librarians, local historians, volunteer history guides and local high school students.



https://youtu.be/SMojjX01yM4

This event was planned to provide an opportunity to widely publicize the functions of Japan Search, which had just released in August 2020, for using digital content and to further expand opportunities for communities to utilize it in the future. In line with this goal, by sharing examples of the use of Japan Search in various fields and for various purposes, participants were able to gain a concrete image of its use.

Many participants positively responded to a questionnaire about the event and over 98% of them showed overall satisfaction, commenting: "It was valuable to learn how to use its functions," and "I was able to clearly envision how to use Japan Search in the future by hearing these useful reports.".

With this event as a stepping stone, Japan Search will continue to work on further functional improvements; expanding cooperation, including with regional organizations; and promoting the utilization of digital archives.

We would like to express our deepest thanks to the speakers and to everyone involved in producing this event. Presentation slides used in the event are available on this event page and videos are available on the Japan Search official YouTube channel.

Events

Web event on the NDL Digital Collections and the Digitized Contents Transmission Service for Libraries

OOMORI Honoka, Digital Library Division, Kansai-kan of the National Diet Library

A Web event on the National Diet Library (NDL) Digital Collections and the Digitized Contents Transmission Service for Libraries was held on March 4, 2021, with nearly 260 people in attendance from within and outside of Japan. Most of them were librarians working at public or university libraries. This event was held for the participants to understand the NDL Digital Collections and the Digitized Contents Transmission Service for Libraries more deeply, and to get ideas to use them effectively.



Poster for the event

In the first lecture, Kae Morimoto, Librarian of the NDL, gave an outline of the NDL Digital Collections and the Digitized Contents Transmission Service for Libraries. She introduced the materials provided via the Digital Collections, effective ways to search materials, and the Digitized Contents Transmission Service for Libraries. The Digitized Contents Transmission Service for Libraries is a means of making digitized versions of out-of-print or otherwise difficult-to-obtain materials available to the general public at public or university libraries that subscribe to the service. She pointed out that partner libraries could provide about 550,000 materials available online and about 1,520,000 materials available only at the NDL and partner libraries in addition to their own materials.



Ms. Morimoto

Next, Miho Aoki, Librarian of the Fukuoka Prefectural Library; Hiroshi Izumi, Librarian of the Ehime Prefectural University of Health Sciences; and Kiyoko Kitamura, representative of the study group Shisyomarohan, a voluntary learning group mainly consisting of librarians of the Kyoto Prefectural Library, introduced usage examples for the NDL Digital Collections.



The NDL Digital Collections

Ms. Aoki introduced an example of using the NDL Digital Collections as a tool to support researching the local community. At the Fukuoka Prefectural Library, they make a list of materials published in Fukuoka prefecture using the bibliographic data of the NDL Digital Collections and she explained how to make a list by playing a video in the lecture.



Ms. Aoki

Next, Mr. Izumi described the example of connecting the Online Public Access Catalog (OPAC) of his library and the bibliographic data of the NDL Digital Collections. He said that users research materials both in the university library and the NDL Digital Collections at the same time, so accessibility improved and the librarians' work decreased.



Mr. Izumi

Finally, Ms. Kitamura introduced the workshop Botsunen Chosathon, researching the age of death of people whose date of death are not known, which is held by Shisyomarohan, which she is the representative of. Actually, some materials by authors whose age of death was determined through this workshop became available via the internet. She explained how this workshop was meaningful to keep the materials people wrote available in the future and how everyone could hold this workshop easily.



Ms. Kitamura

During a question-and-answer session, presenters answered a variety of questions from the participants. For example, how to connect the OPAC and bibliographic data of the NDL Digital Collections more concretely and what reference books they use in researching the age of death of authors.

Through this web event, we could understand various usage examples for the NDL Digital Collections, for example, making the list of materials published in a particular area using metadata of the NDL Digital Collections, connecting the OPAC and bibliographic data of the NDL Digital Collections and researching the age of death of authors. The librarians of the partner libraries got ideas for how to use and promote the service and librarians of non-partner libraries got the opportunity to consider starting to use the Digitized Contents Transmission Service for Libraries. All of the examples introduced in this event are low cost, so participants could likely replicate them easily.



The Digitized Contents Transmission Service for Libraries

From the questionnaire, participants said "It was a valuable opportunity because I can now understand how the NDL Digital Collections are useful to grasp as a whole what local materials our and other libraries have," "I am glad to learn about the usage example at a university which is a partner library of the Digitized Contents Transmission Service for Libraries," "I think researching the age of death of authors can be used as practice for referencing. I will do that in our library."

We would like to express our deepest thanks to the presenters who introduced their interesting examples, and to all of the people involved in producing this event. Presentation slides used in the event are available on https://doi.org/10.1007/journal.org/ (in Japanese).



Presenters and Librarians of the NDL

Articles by NDL staff

Digital contents of the National Diet Library (Part 2)

Branch Libraries and Cooperation Division, Administrative Department

With the COVID-19 pandemic, remote library services are becoming more and more important. In "<u>Digital contents of the National Diet Library (Part 1)</u>", we introduced the Digital Exhibition of the National Diet Library and the Web Archiving Project (WARP). In Part 2, we would like to introduce databases on the minutes of the Diet, Japanese laws and regulations.

Full-text Database System for the Minutes of the Diet (only in Japanese)

1. Outline

One of the most important roles of the NDL is to link the Diet and the public by facilitating access to information provided by the Diet.

This database contains both the full text and digital images of the minutes of all the plenary sessions and committee meetings held since the very first session of the Diet in 1947, courtesy of the House of Representatives and the House of Councilors. For older minutes, you can search and read since the first session from Minutes of the Imperial Diet (only in Japanese).

2. How to use

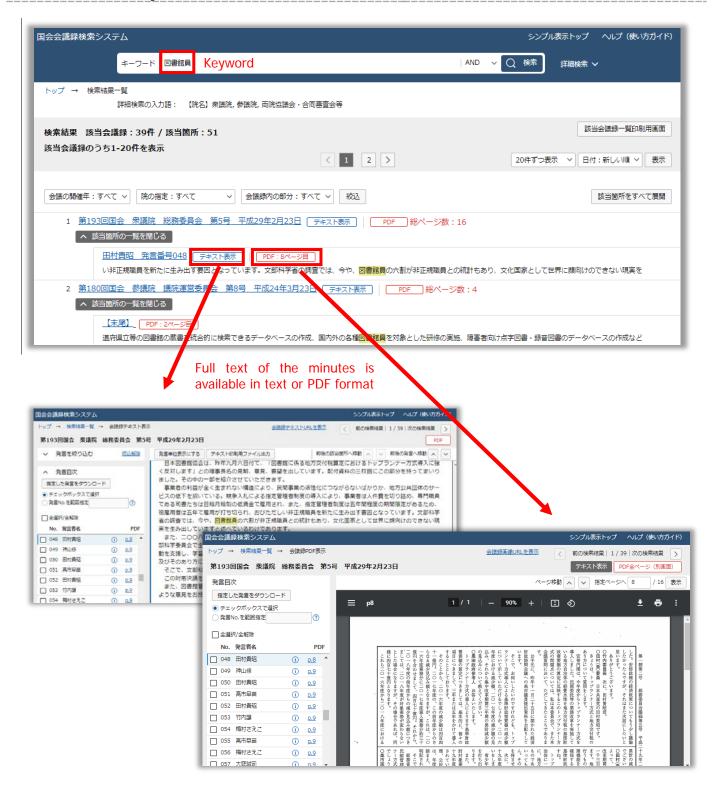
Users can search by keywords. Advanced search is also available. Searches by statements, meeting name or speaker's name can be performed in advanced search. In addition, users can select a specific date and/or session and access the minutes.



3. Case study (1)

How has the Diet deliberated on "librarians"?

Search by the keyword "librarian (図書館員)." The result shows that there were many statements during discussions, including statements at the Internal Affairs and Communications Committee of the House of Representatives. From the result list, the full text of the minutes is available in text or PDF format.



4. Case study (2)

What did former US President Jimmy Carter say when he was summoned as an unsworn witness at the House of Councillors?

Enter "Carter ($\beta - \beta - \beta$ " in the "Speaker's name (発言者名)" box after clicking the advanced search button. The result shows the House of Councillors Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defense of the 142nd session of the Diet.

From the text, we can see that former President Carter exchanged opinions with the members of the Diet on the Japan-U.S. relationship and Asia as part of a structural reform of the House of Councillors.



Index Database to Japanese Laws, Regulations and Bills (only in Japanese)

1. Outline

The NDL creates and maintains an index of Japanese laws, regulations and bills. Users can search and browse the index which includes the formulation or abolition of various laws, regulations and bills issued since February 1886. It also contains index information on the bills and draft treaties introduced in the Imperial Diet (1890 to 1947) and the Diet (1947 to present). For information on older laws, users can search and browse by using the Index Database to Laws and Regulations in Early Meiji Japan (only in Japanese).

2. How to use

Users can search laws and draft laws by keywords. Searches by the submitter of the draft law or by passage date are also available.



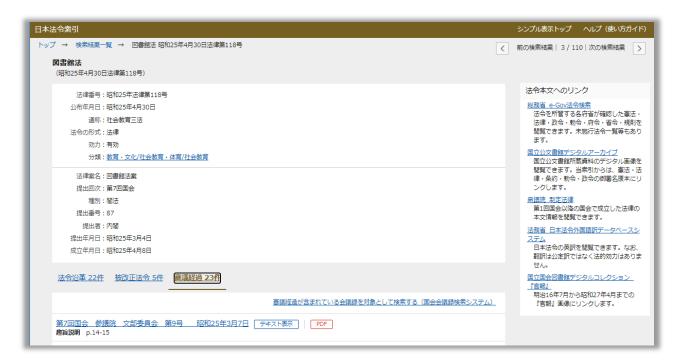


- (1) Name of law or regulation, number of law, ministry or agency that enacted the regulations, or the name of the person who presented the bill can be widely searched.
- (2) Advanced search is available.
- (3) Users can switch search boxes by selecting between laws or bills/draft approval of treaties.
- (4) Users can limit a search by the classification of laws and draft laws such as existing law, revised law or bill.

3. Case study

How can users read the full text of the proceedings of the Diet from when the Library Act was established? Search "Library Act (図書館法)" by keyword search. The result shows that the Library Act was established in 1950 after a review by the Education Committee during the 7th session of the Diet.

The full text of those proceedings, which is open to the public from the House of Representatives, the National Archives of Japan or by the NDL, is available from the link on the right side. Users can access the revision history of laws as well as the revised full text from the link.

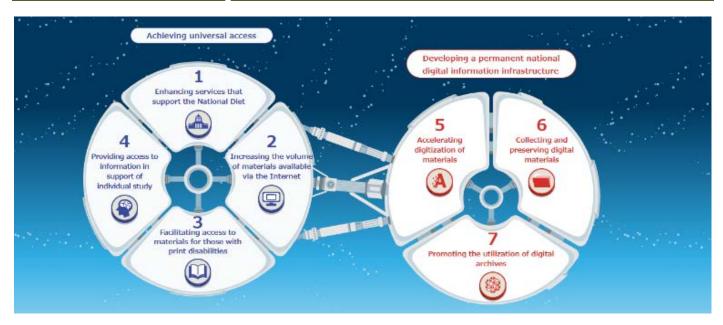


(Translated by NOZAWA Asuka)



News from the NDL

National Diet Library Vision 2021-2025: the Digital Shift at the National Diet Library



Seven initiatives that are intended over the next five years to better connect information resources with intellectual activities

On April 1, the NDL announced its new vision which sets the policy for the next five years, *National Diet Library Vision 2021-2025: the Digital Shift at the National Diet Library.* This is the fifth vision of the NDL and replaced the previous vision, *National Diet Library Midterm Vision: Universal Access 2020*, for the NDL to fulfill its mission and roles in a changing society.

The new vision consists of two parts: seven initiatives and four basic roles. The seven initiatives were planned to meet the greater need for online access to information resources spurred on by the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and are intended to better connect information resources with intellectual activities over the next five years.

The seven initiatives are as follows:

- 1. Enhancing services that support the National Diet
- 2. Increasing the volume of materials available via the Internet
- 3. Facilitating access to materials for those with print disabilities
- 4. Providing access to information in support of individual study.
- 5. Accelerating digitization of materials
- 6. Collecting and preserving digital materials
- 7. Promoting the utilization of digital archives

These initiatives are divided into two categories: four initiatives to achieve universal access to information by

making a wide range of information resources available to all users (1-4), and three to support the development of a permanent national digital information infrastructure (5-7). The first four initiatives will be promoted through the last three initiatives.

By promoting these seven initiatives the NDL hopes to reinforce its four basic roles:

- 1. Supporting the National Diet
- 2. Acquiring, cataloging, and preserving materials and information
- 3. Providing access to information resources
- 4. Cooperation with affiliated institutions

The NDL is launching various projects to realize its vision. National Diet Library Vision 2021-2025

Related articles from the National Diet Library Newsletter:

- The National Diet Library Midterm Vision: Universal Access 2020 and The National Diet Library Milestone Goals 2017-2020 (No. 211, April 2017)
- Mission and Objectives 2012-2016 (No. 186 December 2012)
- New goals for the NDL's 60th anniversary (No.160, April 2008)
- NDL Vision 2004 and the Digital Library Medium Plan (No. 138, August 2004)



News from NDL

Assignment of genre/form terms by the NDL

Domestic Materials Division, Acquisitions and Bibliography Department

This article is a translation of the article in Japanese in NDL Bibliographic Data Newsletter No.55 (April 2020).

Since January 2021, the National Diet Library (NDL) has started to assign genre/form terms to bibliographic data of publications issued in Japan and some Japanese books published outside of Japan.

1. What is genre/form term?

Genre/form terms are a controlled vocabulary used to describe what a resource is 1.

The NDL has assigned subject headings, which describes a material's theme, as controlled vocabulary, and started to assign genre/form terms as well in January 2021.

While subject heading shows the theme which a material concerns, genre/form term explains the type and format of materials, such as fiction or photographic collection.

For example, materials mainly dealing with manga are assigned "Manga" as the subject heading, such as *Manga choshinkaron (Comic evolution)*², a dialogue on manga between ISHINOMORI Shotaro and other well-known manga artists. Materials in manga form are assigned "Manga" as the genre/form term, like *Dauin shu no kigen o manga de yomu (Charles Darwin's on the Origin of Species)*³ which is a manga version of *On the Origin of Species* and is also assigned "進化論" (theory of evolution) as the subject heading.

2. What categories of genre/form terms has the NDL started to assign?

We started to assign four genre/form terms (linking to the authority data of the genre/form terms) which are considered to be effective: Gikai shiryo (議会資料), Jido tosho(児童図書), Manga (漫画) and LL bukku(LL ブック).

- ➤ Gikai shiryo (議会資料)
 - Assigned to Japanese legislative materials and local assembly materials.
 - Variant terms: legislative materials, legislative histories
- ➤ Jido tosho(児童図書):

Assigned to books for readers of 18 years of age or younger, excluding reference books for study. Variant terms: young adult book, children's book

- ➤ Manga(漫画):
 - Assigned to manga works for reading, as well as materials which convey content in manga form. Variant terms: Comics (graphic works)
- ➤ LL bukku (LL ブック):

Assigned to materials which display a logo or phrase stating that the material is a LL book.

*A LL book is a material composed of photographs, illustrations, pictographs and short sentences that can be easily read by people with intellectual disabilities and those whose mother tongue is not Japanese. "LL" is an abbreviation for "lättlästa," which means "easy to read" in Swedish.

Materials which fall under more than one genre/form term, such as "Manga for children" or "LL books for children," will be assigned more than one genre/form term⁴.

3. Searching by genre/form terms

Users can search for other materials which have the same genre/form term through Web NDL Authorities.

The following images show an example of searching for the term "LL $\vec{\mathcal{T}}$ y β ."

Clicking a title in "Search Results" in NDL Online.



Clicking "Details."



 $^{^{\}rm 1}$ The following article briefly summarizes the significance and function of genre/form terms:

<u>Trends of genre/form terms: including the programs and activities of the Library of Congress</u> (in Japanese) by SHIBATA Yoko, Current Awareness No. 327, 2016-03-20. (Accessed 2020-07-26)

² NDL Call No. KC486-E74

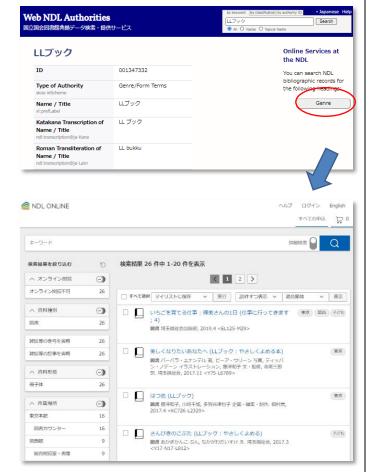
³ NDL Call No. RA121-M18

⁴ National Diet Library Genre/Form Terms Cataloging Manual (January 2021) (PDF: 359KB) (in Japanese)

Clicking the icon on the right side of "LL ブック" to move to the Genre/Form Term page of Web NDL Authorities



Clicking the "Genre" link button on the right side of the page to move to the lists of bibliographic data in NDL Online which are assigned to the genre/form term "LL ブック."



The type and format of materials have been represented by classification number and so on. For example, in the National Diet Library Classification (NDLC), numbers beginning with "BZ" represent Japanese legislative materials and those with numbers "Y1" to "Y18" represent books for children. However, this is difficult to understand for those who are not familiar with this kind of classification.

Using genre/form terms in addition to the NDLC will provide more comprehensive bibliographic data. Although the assignment of genre/form terms has started with only four terms, we plan to expand the number of terms and input them retroactively in the near future. We will continue to make efforts to provide various ways to search using genre/form terms.

(Translated by Moyu YABE)

Selected list of articles from NDL periodicals

The NDL Monthly Bulletin No. 721/722, May/June 2021

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* (in Japanese).

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

No. 721/722, May/June 2021 (PDF: 6.30 MB)

- <Book of the month from NDL collections>
 Perusha shinwa—Young poet of the Araragi school and heroic epic of Iran
- Books not found in the NDL
 Trade catalogs of specially priced books show the reading habits of ordinary people (Part two)
- Seventy Years' History of the National Diet Library is published
- The Personal Libraries of Well-Known People (4)
 The SHIRAI Collection
- More useful features of bibliographic data from the National Diet Library
- <Books not commercially available>
 - Gomenkudasai ashio no koto oshiete kudasai! Sono 2
- <Tidbits of information on NDL>
 Time travel between 1998 and 2018
- <NDL Topics>