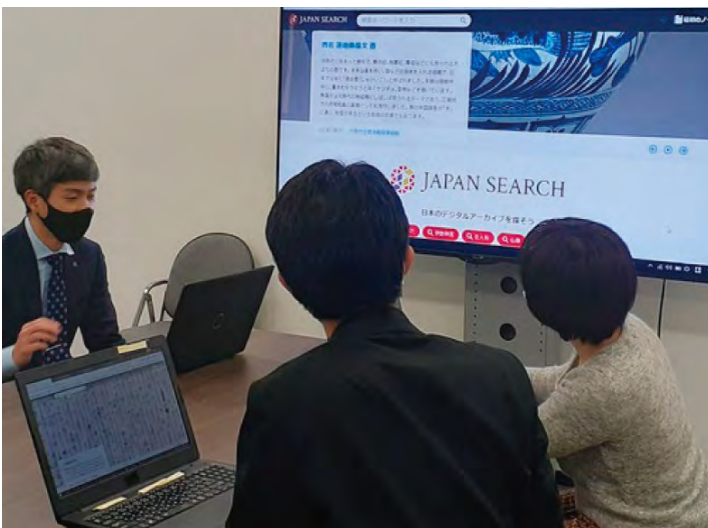


# National Diet Library Newsletter

No. 248, December 2022



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Articles by NDL staff

## 20th anniversary of the Kansai-kan: Reviewing the changes of the Kansai-kan in the last 20 years

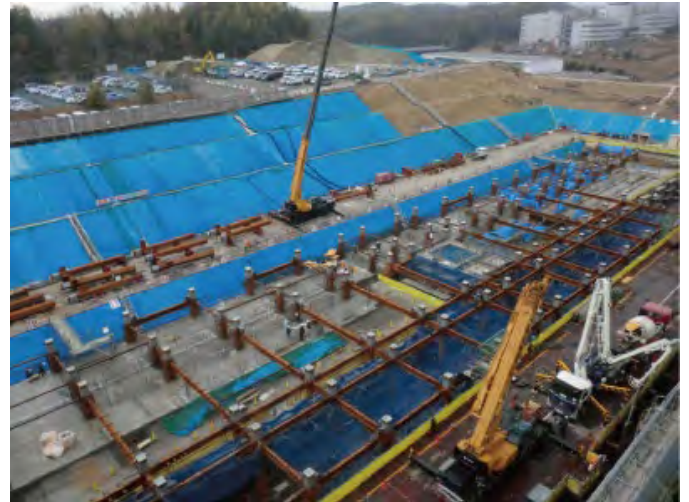
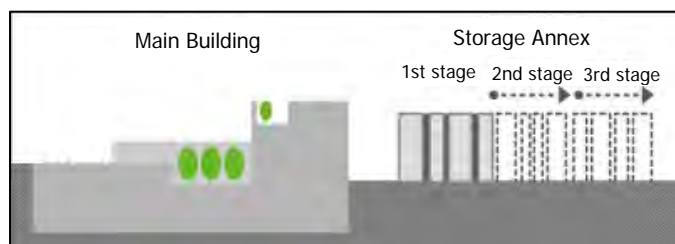
This article is a translation of an article in Japanese from [NDL Monthly Bulletin No. 737/738 \(September/ October 2022\)](#).

The Kansai-kan of the National Diet Library (NDL) has gone through many changes during its first 20 years. This article features some of the most distinctive changes as well as projects that we consider particularly important.

### Construction of the Storage Annex

The NDL is responsible for collecting and permanently preserving all books and serials published in Japan. The Kansai-kan's new Storage Annex, which was completed on February 20, 2020, was designed to meet the need for additional storage space to keep this ever-increasing volume of material. Located on the south side of the Main Building, the Storage Annex is characterized by an exterior design that resembles an array of books. With seven floors above ground and one floor below, it can house approximately 5 million volumes. With this new facility, the storage capacity of the Kansai-kan has grown from 6 million to 11 million volumes, rivaling the 12 million volumes of the Tokyo Main Library. A number of special measures intended to ensure the long-term preservation of materials have been implemented, including the use of LED lighting and measures to prevent books from falling.

The materials contained in the Storage Annex include printed materials that have been digitized and are transferred sequentially from the Tokyo Main Library to the Kansai-kan. Future expansion of the stacks will be possible using the site to the south of the Storage Annex.



Construction of the Storage Annex



Main Building and the Storage Annex

### Cooperation with the Community

Since its opening, the Kansai-kan has been committed to deepening its interaction with the local community and cooperating with other organizations. This includes efforts to hold lectures, exhibitions, and other events for local residents and the general public. The *Kansai-kan Open House* has been held every year since 2004 in conjunction with the local *Seika Festival*. In 2012, an exhibition entitled *100 years of Libraries in the Kansai Region and 10 years of the Kansai-kan* was held with the cooperation of libraries in the Kansai region to

commemorate the 10th anniversary of the Kansai-kan.

The Kansai-kan also collaborates with organizations in the Kansai Science City (Keihanna Science City) and has been an exhibitor at events such as the *Keihanna Business Messe*. Since 2012, the Kansai-kan has annually co-hosted lectures with universities located in the Keihanna Science City. In 2016, a Keihanna Science City Corner was established in the General Collections Room, and research reports as well as other materials related to the construction of the Science City that were donated from people involved in the project have been available there since 2018.

Although some events were canceled during 2020 due to the spread of COVID-19, these have since been resumed either online or in-person.



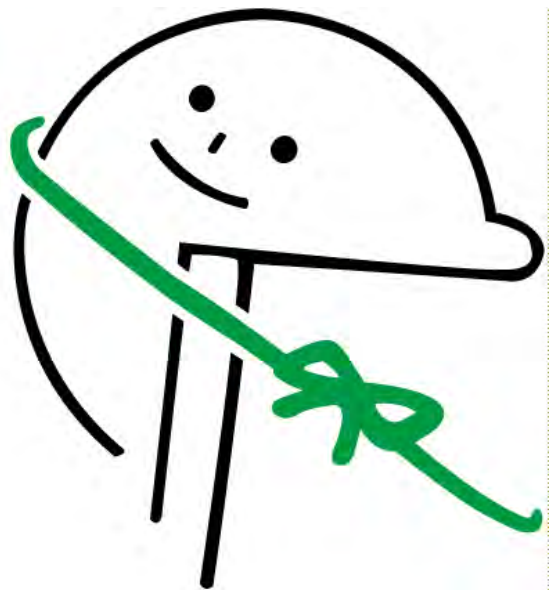
The 2011 *Kansai-kan Open House* included a workshop in making books with Japanese-style bindings.



The Kansai-kan held an exhibition on *100 years of Libraries in the Kansai Region and 10 years of the Kansai-kan*.



The Keihanna Science City Corner in the General Collections Room



The Kansai-kan logo was adopted in 2007. The image of the Earth represents the expansion of the Kansai-kan's diverse activities. And the Earth is holding a book decorated with a ribbon, which is meant to symbolize the connection that the Kansai-kan shares with its patrons.

### Provide Information Using the Internet

The Kansai-kan is also the base of operations for the NDL's digital library projects. Ever since the Kansai-kan was first conceptualized in 1980's, the NDL has envisioned it as a place for developing cutting edge of technology used to processing digital information that is available via the Internet.

Thus, the Kansai-kan has been deeply involved in the creation of online services such as the [NDL Web Archiving Project \(WARP\)](#) and the [Digital Library from the Meiji Era](#),<sup>1</sup> both of which were launched in 2002, as well as the [Collaborative Reference Database](#), a database of responses to reference queries handled at participating libraries all over Japan, which was launched in 2005 and continues to be a popular resource for reference librarians and their patrons.

<sup>1</sup> Later integrated into the *NDL Digital Collections*, it no longer exists as a separate service.



The top page of the *Digital Library from the Meiji Era* as it existed in July of 2004

## Asian Information Service

The collections of the Asian Resources Room, which in 2002 was approximately 110,000 books, has undergone a 4.5 times increase to some 500,000 books over the past 20 years. Since the handling of Asian languages was problematic in early online systems, the NDL created a separate online public access catalog (OPAC) for Asian languages, which has since been integrated into the NDL Online, making it that much easier to search online for these materials.

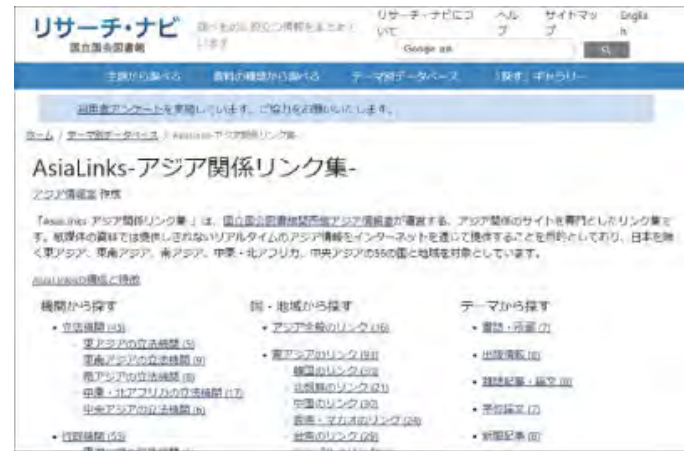


Newspapers and periodicals in Asian Languages

The Asian Resources Room created the [AsiaLinks](#) webpage to supply information about research on Asian subjects, which it promotes by posting video content on YouTube. It also provides guidance on how to find information about Asia by visiting neighboring institutions and other online resources.

Since it opened, the Kansai-kan has worked to maintain strong relationships with related organizations, co-

sponsoring a variety of events, such as workshops on researching Asian subject matter or creating of Asian-language bibliographies.



The *AsiaLinks* webpage

## Pick up!

### 1. Digital Library

The NDL Digital Collections will undergo a renovation in December 2022. The number of the digital materials available for full-text searches will increase and new functionality will become available, such as searching for illustrations, ranking of search results, links to related materials, and resizing of thumbnail images.

Patrons who use the NDL's Digitized Contents Transmission Service for Individuals will not only find a greater number of materials available via the Internet, but many of these materials will be in printable format starting in January 2023. That same month, the NDL will start acquisition of privately published digital books and magazines that are commercially available or protected by Digital Rights Management (DRM). We hope you will take advantage of these new features at the NDL Digital Collections!



Sample of the browsing page in the new NDL Digital Collection

## 2. Services for Persons with Disabilities

In 2009, the Copyright Act was revised to allow the NDL and other libraries to create copies of existing works in formats that are accessible to patrons with print disabilities and make these formats available without the copyright holder's permission. In 2014, the NDL started a Data Transmission Service for Persons with Print Disabilities, which provides patrons with print disabilities access to Digital Accessible Information System (DAISY) data, braille data, text data and other formats created by the NDL, public or university libraries, and other institutions. Much of this data is also available via Sapie, a union catalog and data transmission service of braille libraries in Japan.

Additionally, since 2019, the NDL has participated in the International Exchange of Accessible Contents, through which it orders from libraries outside Japan materials in accessible formats, and provides them as well, under the terms of the Marrakesh Treaty.<sup>2</sup> It has also been creating text data from academic literature since 2021. In the future, the NDL plans to use optical character recognition (OCR) technology to create text data from digitized materials, which it will make available via its Data Transmission Service for Persons with Print Disabilities.

Since the passing of the 2019 *Act on Promoting Improved Reading Environments for the Visually Impaired (Reading Barrier-Free Act)*, libraries have been expected improve their services for persons with print disabilities. The NDL continues to work to serve persons with print disabilities as well as to make libraries more accessible to all.



An NDL employee with visual impairment using a specially equipped PC.



The text on the screen can be read by touching this braille display.



A device for text-to-speech with braille display (front) and a DAISY data player (back).

(Translated by OGAWA Kanako and MACHIDA Sumika)

<sup>2</sup> The *Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons Who Are Blind, Visually Impaired or Otherwise Print Disabled* permits cross-border exchange of works in accessible formats. It has been in effect in Japan since January 2019.



**From *Small Exhibition in the Kansai-kan* (15):  
Modernization of Japanese sake and domestic  
production of Western liquor**



KUME, Kunitake, ed. *Tokumei zenken taishi beio kairan jikki* (Notes of a journey to western countries by the extraordinary and plenipotentiary ambassador), volume 2 (the United Kingdom). Hakubunsha, 1878. NDL Call No. 34-88. \*Available in the [NDL Digital Collections](#).

The Iwakura Mission, dispatched to Western countries from 1871 to 1873, visited a beer brewery in the United Kingdom. The observation report available in the book explained that alcoholic beverages were regarded as important trade goods in Europe and referred to the possibility of exporting Japanese brewage products, saying that Japan had a long tradition of brewing.

**From *Small Exhibition in the Kansai-kan* (19):  
Awe and prayer: the form of incantation**



KAWASAKI, Kyosen, ill., KIDO, Chutarō, ed. *Okiagari-koboshi gashu* (Picture book of roly-poly dolls). 1924-25. NDL Call No. 414-20. \*Available in the [NDL Digital Collections](#).

This is a picture book of *okiagari-koboshi* roly-poly dolls drawn by KAWASAKI Kyosen, a toy painter in Sakai, Osaka Prefecture. The *okiagari-koboshi* always gets back up no matter how many times you knock him down, and as such is considered a symbol of perseverance. In addition to Daruma, this book has numerous humorously pictured examples of traditional Japanese dolls featuring the faces of children, an old Chinese man, and a monkey holding a peach.

**From *Small Exhibition in the Kansai-kan* (24):  
Full bloom! The World of Gardening**



IWASAKI, Tsunemasa. *Honzo zufu* (Illustrated catalog of flora). Honzo Zufu Kankokai, 1916–1921. NDL Call No. 309-66. \*Available in the [NDL Digital Collections](#).

*Honzo zufu* was one of the first high-quality illustrated catalogs of Japanese flora published during the late Edo period and was later reprinted in the early Taisho era. Over 2,000 illustrations of flowers and plants—including wild species, garden species, and foreign species—are compiled in 92 books and classified in botanical categories such as vines, weeds, or grains. Exhibited here is a two-page spread of tiger lilies from volume 48 of the series. Although lilies are generally considered flowers by modern botanists, they are classified here under vegetables, and the description says that “their roots are cultivated for food” and “should be boiled and eaten.”

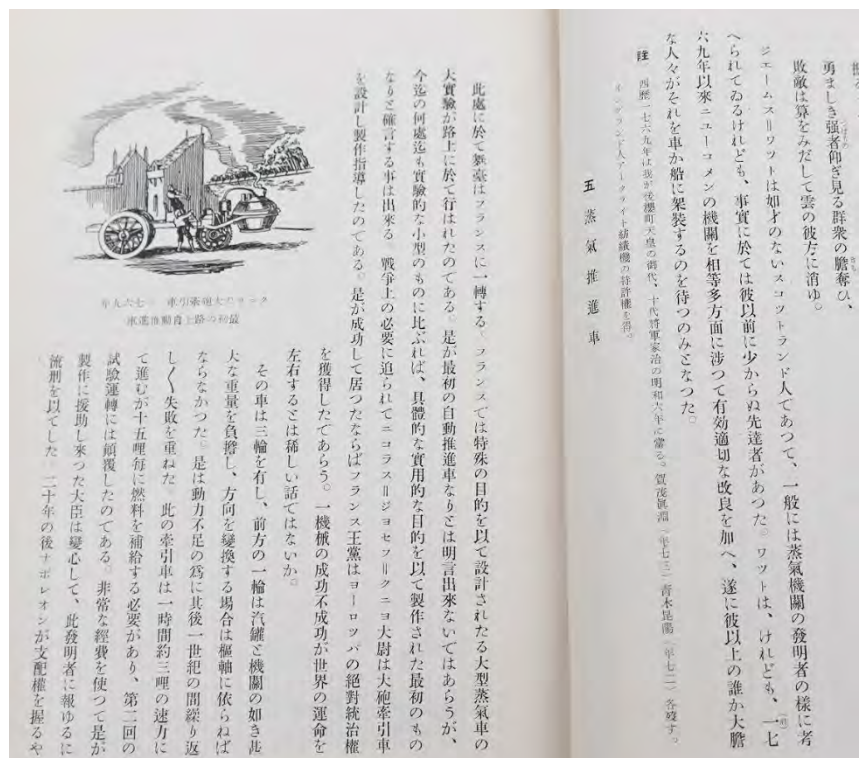
### From *Small Exhibition in the Kansai-kan* (25): Marvels of the Human Body—past and present



Shihan gakko, ed. *Taisozu: Monbusho seitei* (Gymnastics, as promoted by the Ministry of Education). Hamada-ken (present Shimane Prefecture), during the Meiji era. NDL Call No. 特 53-833. \*Available in the [NDL Digital Collections](#).

Gymnastics were incorporated into school curriculums during the Meiji period as beneficial to both physical and mental health. This book, which is marked "As Promoted by the Ministry of Education," was compiled at a normal school, and was probably used as an elementary school textbook. A variety of gymnastic methods are presented in simple diagrams, giving a glimpse into what early gymnastics education might have been like.

### From *Small Exhibition in the Kansai-kan* (27): Running through the Library! The World of Automobiles



Nihon Zeneraru Motasu Kabushiki Gaisha, ed. *Jidosha hatsumeishi* (The history of the invention of the automobile). Nihon Zeneraru Motasu Kabushiki Gaisha, 1939. NDL Call No. 特 233-746. \*Available in the [NDL Digital Collections](#).

This book was written as a text book for training sales personnel and explains the early history of automobiles. Nicolas-Joseph Cugnot was a French military engineer who is credited with building the first self-propelled

vehicle in 1769. It was steam powered and ran at a speed of 3.6 km/h, but lacked brakes and had only a primitive steering wheel. Not surprisingly, it caused history's first traffic accident. Later, in 1885, Daimler and Benz



developed the first practical gasoline-powered vehicle in Germany, which was the prototype of today's passenger cars.

### From *Small Exhibition in the Kansai-kan (28): Nippon-cha cha CHA*



KIMURA, Koyo ed. *Maisao chakizu* (Tea utensils of Maisao). Izumitani Matsusaburo, 1924. NDL Call No. 15-415. \*Available in the [NDL Digital Collections](#).

Maisao, also known as Ko Yugai, was a monk who attempted to awaken a stupefied Zen monastic community during the Edo period by selling steamed green tea and teaching Buddhism as a human way of life. The tea utensils he used are summarized in the *Maisao chakizu*, which is thought to have been compiled in 1823 by Koyo, a successor of Osaka literati KIMURA Kenkado. This is a reprint version from 1924.

(Translated by HIROSE Junya and NOZAWA Asuka)

### Related articles from the NDL Newsletter:

- [Exhibition in the Kansai-kan \(27\): Running through the Library! The World of Automobiles](#) (No. 229, April 2020)
- [Exhibition in the Kansai-kan \(26\) : Oh! Bento—Books about Japanese Lunches](#) (No. 226, October 2019)
- [Small exhibition in the Kansai-kan \(25\) : Marvels of the Human Body—past and present](#) (No. 224, June 2019)
- [Small Exhibition in the Kansai-kan \(24\): Full bloom! The World of Gardening](#) (No. 220, October 2018)
- [Small exhibition in the Kansai-kan \(23\): Every dog has his book—From history to research and stories—](#) (No. 217, April 2018)
- [Small exhibition in the Kansai-kan \(21\): All kinds of Ume—Japanese poetry, paintings, and delicacies](#) (No. 216, February 2018)

- [Small exhibition in the Kansai-kan \(22\) "Making and utilizing light: from illumination to architecture and art"](#) (No. 214, October 2017)
- [Small exhibition in the Kansai-kan \(20\) "Robots are evolving! —from myth, mechanical dolls to the latest robots"](#) (No. 209, December 2016)
- [Small exhibition in the Kansai-kan \(18\) "A collection of living creatures from all times and places: real, virtual and extinct creatures"](#) (No. 202, October 2015)
- [Small exhibition in the Kansai-kan \(17\) "Tomorrow's dinner will be a full-course meal: Find the recipe you want to cook"](#) (No. 199, April 2015)
- [Small exhibition in the Kansai-kan \(16\) "Dreams of Space, from the ancient view of the universe to the Hayabusa Project"](#) (No. 196, October 2014)
- [Small exhibition in the Kansai-kan \(15\) "Modernization of Japanese sake and domestic production of Western liquor"](#) (No. 193, April 2014)

Selections from NDL collections

## Two British men fascinated by Japanese art (part 2)

TAKIZAWA Kazuko, 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. 731 \(March, 2022\)](#).*

Part one of this article is available at [Two British men fascinated by Japanese art \(part 1\)](#) (No. 247, October 2022)

### Arthur George Morrison



Arthur George Morrison (1863–1945)

Arthur Morrison was a British journalist, novelist, and playwright. He made a name for himself with a novel that contained realistic depictions of the life of poor people living in the East End of London.

Riding on the coattails of Sherlock Holmes' great popularity and during a temporary break in Conan Doyle's output, Morrison published serials of short mysteries featuring Detective Martin Hewitt in *The Strand Magazine*, and these were well received. Using his knowledge of Japanese art, he published a short story entitled "The Case of Mr. Loftus Deacon," in which the famous sword Masamune and the god Hachiman were key elements of the story. His stories were translated into Japanese and published in Japan during the Taisho era, with some of them included in mystery anthologies. A complete edition of Martin Hewitt stories was published in 2021.

Morrison had learned martial arts as a means of self-defense in preparation for venturing into the East End, and was considered by some to be a real-life version of Sherlock Holmes. Retiring from his literary career, he spent his later years at ease surrounded by 200 marvelous paintings in the countryside of Buckinghamshire, where he lived until his death at 82.

Unlike William Anderson<sup>1</sup>, Morrison never visited Japan, but instead built a collection of Japanese art in London. Before his success as a novelist, he used to wait for ships entering port near the East End and buy ukiyo-e cheaply from sailors returning from Japan. After he began to collect in earnest not just ukiyo-e but other types of Japanese paintings, he purchased many of them from art dealers such as Yamanaka Shokai, who specialized in oriental art. He apparently also bought many works through Harold George Parlett, a childhood friend and diplomat who had been to Japan.



The exterior of the London branch of Yamanaka Shokai.

*Yamanaka sadajiro den.* edited and published by Ko Yamanaka Sadajiro O Den Hensankai, 1939.

\*Available in [the NDL Digital Collections](#).

<sup>1</sup> For more information about William Anderson, see ["Two British men fascinated by Japanese art \(part 1\)"](#) (No. 247, October 2022).

He was acquainted with SHIMOMURA Kanzan, a Japanese painter studying in London, and learned much by getting Kanzan to demonstrate Japanese painting techniques.

In 1913, 589 Japanese paintings and 33 Chinese paintings were purchased from Morrison by a charitable person and donated to the British Museum. Robert Laurence Binyon, a curator at the museum, reported that the Japanese paintings in this collection were the best in Europe.



SHIMOMURA Kanzan (1873–1930)

Kanzan was a Japanese style painter who lived from the Meiji era to the early part of the Showa era. He visited England in February 1903 as a Ministry of Education exchange student and was a frequent visitor to the British Museum. He became acquainted with Morrison, and the Museum has a record of them entering the Prints and Drawings study room together. Apparently Morrison took care of Kanzan, who could hardly speak English.

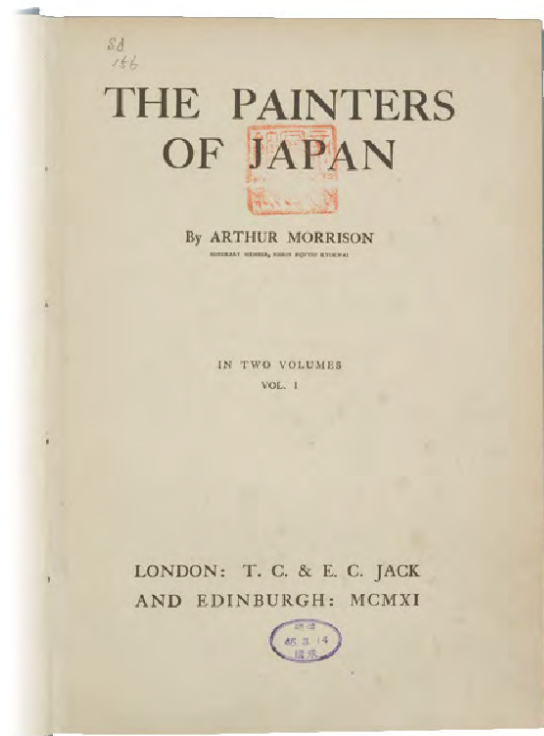
Published in two volumes in 1911, *The Painters of Japan* was the culmination of Morrison's research into Japanese painting. It describes in detail the style of each school of painting and contained accurate biographical information on major painters as well as illustrations of masterpieces, with the Tosa and Kano schools being the focus of the first volume. While Anderson did not show much interest in early ukiyo-e, Morrison did. The second volume is dominated by an introduction to the schools of ukiyo-e and their painters, beginning with IWASA Matabee who is considered a major influence on the development of ukiyo-e. YAMANA Kakuzo wrote his *Nihon no ukiyo-e shi* (The history of ukiyo-e in Japan) by translating and enlarging on parts of Morrison's second volume, which he praised as a rare and invaluable work in the world's books.

In addition to the works in his own collection, Morrison's research into Japanese painting was based on works found in the Japanese art collection at the British Museum and Victoria Albert Museum, Japanese art publications such as *Shinbi taikan* (Appreciating aesthetics) and *Kokka* (National flowers) as well as Japanese books like *Banpo zensho* (The many treasures of Japan), *Honcho gashi* (The history of painting), and *Ukiyo-e ruiko* (Ukiyo-e classics).

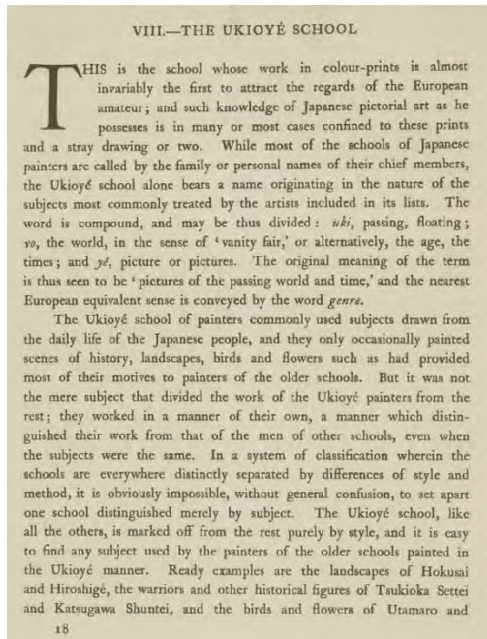
Morrison had obtained admission to the British Museum even before he became a famous novelist. Later, he became acquainted with KOHITSU Ryonin, who was involved in making corrections and supplementary notes to the catalog of the Anderson collection at the British Museum. Morrison paid Kohitsu to help him with his studies of Japanese publications. And Morrison also read Anderson's works. The British Museum was one of the places where those researching Japanese art could make connections with each other.

In 1990, when the exhibition *Edo Art Treasures from the British Museum* was held in Tokyo, many of the works donated by Anderson and Morrison made their way back to Japan for the first time. Both Anderson and Morrison had studied the art of a faraway country and written wonderful books that still delight modern readers as amateurs and pursued their avocation in addition to their professional achievements. For we Japanese, who live at a time when human life expectancy is approaching 100 years, their achievements are surely food for thought. I will conclude this article simply by saying that perhaps the secret to achieving excellence in one's avocation even while pursuing a career is to treasure encounters with professionals, to familiarize yourself with books on your subjects of interest, and to regularly spend time at the library.

**Morrison, Arthur. *The painters of Japan*. T.C. & E.C. Jack, 1911. NDL Call No. Sd-156.**



Title page.



Explanation of the school of ukiyo-e from the second volume.



Some of the illustrations of ukiyo-e included in the second volume are in color.

On the right: *Girl with Samisen* by UTAGAWA Toyohiro (1773–1828). Toyohiro was an ukiyo-e painter during the latter part of Edo period and is known as Hiroshige's teacher. He studied under UTAGAWA Toyoharu, and was often mentioned as an equal of Toyokuni.

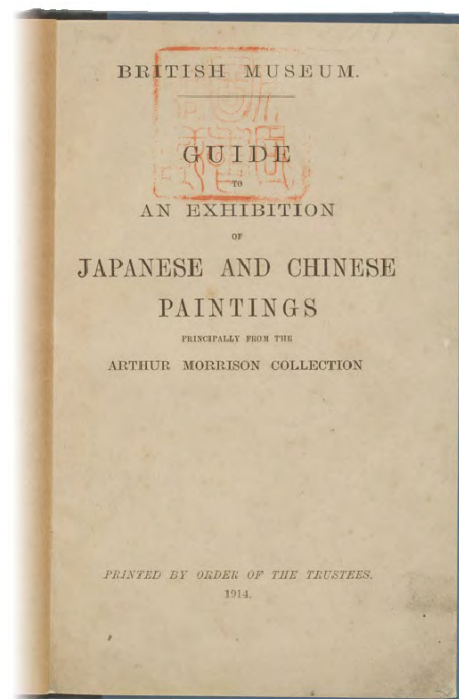
On the left: *Ducks in Flowing Water* by KATSUSHIKA Hokusai (1760–1849). Signed in the lower left "88 years old, manji," this painting is a good example of how Hokusai's skill had not declined in spite of his great age.

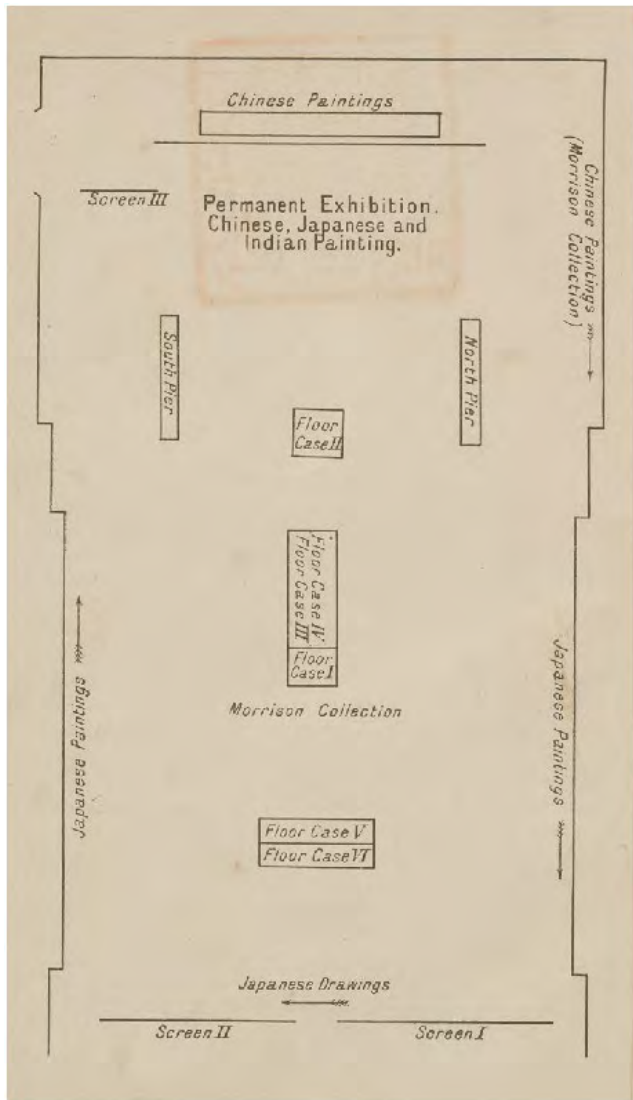
Morrison, Arthur. *Exhibition of Japanese prints: illustrated catalogue, with notes and an introduction*. Fine Art Society, 1909. NDL Call No. Ba-298.



At the end of the 1880s, exhibitions of Japanese art were held multiple times in London. This book is a catalog of works that Morrison lent to exhibitions held at the Fine Art Society gallery in London. The frontispiece is a painting by OKUMURA Masanobu, an ukiyo-e painter from the middle of the Edo period. Okumura used the names Tancho-sai, Bunkaku, and Hogetsudo to sign his work, and signature on this piece is very long: Hogesudo Tancho-sai Okumura Bunkaku Masanobu.

*Guide to an exhibition of Japanese & Chinese paintings principally from the Arthur Morrison collection*. Printed by order of the Trustees, 1914. NDL Call No. 182-317.





This booklet is an introduction to an exhibition of Japanese and Chinese art work from the Morrison collection at the British Museum, with a preface by Binyon, a curator at the museum. The image above shows the layout of room in which Japanese art was exhibited at that time. It also shows that Indian and Chinese art are exhibited in the same room.

(Translated by HATTORI Mao)

#### References:

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- MORRISON, Arthur, translated by HIRAYAMA, Yuichi. *Machin hyuitto: kanzenban*. Sakuhinsha, 2021. NDL Call No.KS179-M1140.
- MORRISON, Arthur, translated by INOUE, Kazuo. *Machin hyuitto no jikenbo*. Tokyosogensha, 1978. NDL Call No.KS164-169.

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- Edited and supervised by HIRAYAMA, Ikuo and KOBAYASHI, Tadashi. *Hizo nihon bijutsu taikan*, vol.1 (Daiei hakubutsukan 1). Kodansha, 1992. NDL Call No.YP11-245.
- Edited and supervised by HIRAYAMA, Ikuo and KOBAYASHI, Tadashi. *Hizo nihon bijutsu taikan*, vol.2 (Daiei hakubutsukan 2). Kodansha, 1992. NDL Call No.YP11-245.
- Edited and supervised by HIRAYAMA, Ikuo and KOBAYASHI, Tadashi. *Hizo nihon bijutsu taikan*, vol.3 (Daiei hakubutsukan 3). Kodansha, 1993. NDL Call No.YP11-245.
- YAMANA, Kakuzo. *Nihon no ukiyoeshi*. Daiichi Shobo, 1930. NDL Call No.721.8-Y33 ウ.
- Tokyo. *Daiei hakubutsukan hizo edo bijutsuten*. Tokyo, 1990. NDL Call No.K16-E270.
- KUME, Kazusa. "Barinton fain atsu kurabu to japonisumu: 19seikimatsu igirisu ni okeru ukiyoe hanga juyo ni tsuite no ichi kosatsu", *Jissen joshi daigaku bigaku bijutsushigaku*. (34) 2020.3. pp.33-52. NDL Call No.Z11-1604.

#### Sources of portraits:

- Arther Morrison: *Eigo seinen*. 26(10)(377) Kenkyusha, 1912.2. NDL Call No.Z12-55.
- SHIMOMURA Kanzan: Digital exhibition "[Portraits of Modern Japanese Historical Figures](#)"

#### Related articles from the NDL Newsletter:

- [Two British men fascinated by Japanese art \(part 1\)](#) (No. 247, October 2022)



Reading room of the British Museum.

*The Queen's London: a pictorial and descriptive record of the streets, buildings, parks, and scenery of the great metropolis in the fifty-ninth year of the reign of her majesty Queen Victoria*. Cassell & Company, 1899. NDL Call No. Sf-9.

Articles by NDL staff

## Linking Digital Content and People

Cooperation Section, Digital Information Planning Division, Digital Information Department

*This article is a translation of the article in Japanese in [NDL Monthly Bulletin No. 731 \(March 2022\)](#).*

Japan Search is a national initiative to develop and operate a platform for promoting the use of Japan's digital archives by enabling users to search, browse, and use content from archives operated by collaborative partners such as libraries, archives, and museums. Japan Search is the primary responsibility of the Cooperation Section of the Digital Information Planning Division at the National Diet Library.

The National Diet Library operates the system and coordinates collaboration for Japan Search, with the Cooperation Section serving as the contact point for the National Diet Library, which in cooperation with the Cabinet Office assists the Japan Search Steering Committee. The Cooperation Section is also responsible for meeting with content providers to coordinate data registration, and we approach archival organizations about collaborating in this project. We communicate with a wide range of partners, including administrative ministries and agencies, museums, archives, and municipalities. Those of us who work in the Cooperation Section sometimes wonder if we really are librarians anymore.

We also organize events related to Japan Search, conduct public relations, and create digital exhibitions on Japan Search, which are known as galleries. We are jacks-of-all-trades, so to speak. Since there are only three of us in the Cooperation Section, we each must perform all these duties concurrently, and it is fair to say that our busy season lasts the entire year.

As it happened, the official launch of Japan Search was in August 2020, which coincided with a spike in COVID-19

infections. In fact, the National Diet Library was temporarily closed to the public in spring 2020, and the silence in our library, which ordinarily is bustling with patrons, was quite shocking to those of us who work here. We heard about similar difficulties faced by our partner organizations, which only intensified our desire to help them overcome these problems as well as to support the general public's access to information by improving ease of access to domestic digital archives.

The COVID-19 pandemic has also accelerated the digital shift of our business activities. The use of online events allows us to easily have meetings with distant partner organizations as well as to allow participation in NDL events by people from overseas. On the other hand, we are often unable to communicate our intention well via online media, which is sometimes frustrating. We are still in the trial-and-error stage of things, but during an online meeting with partner organizations, one of the participants said, "I've never had a chance to discuss ideas with people involved in digital archives for other fields before, so a place for communication like this is just what I wanted!" It was very encouraging for us.

We wish we could not just link all digital archives throughout Japan but also link people, both online and face to face. Working behind the scenes at Japan Search, this is our desire.

(Translated by HATTORI Mao)

### Related articles from the NDL Newsletter:

- [Official version of Japan Search has become available!](#) (No.233, November 2020)

Selected list of articles from NDL periodicals

## The NDL Monthly Bulletin

### No. 739, November 2022/ No.740, December 2022

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