



Training Program for Information Specialists for Japanese Studies in FY 2006



Since FY2002, the National Diet Library (NDL) has jointly hosted the Training Program for Information Specialists for Japanese Studies with [the Japan Foundation](#) (JF), in cooperation with [the National Institute of Informatics](#) (NII).

For reports of the past programs, please see [here](#).

Since the last fiscal year, the target region was reviewed and selected each year. This year's program targeted Japanese information specialists from Europe, Middle East and Africa. The program was held from November 27 to December 15, 2006, mainly in the Tokyo Main Library of the NDL, the Kansai-kan of the NDL and the NII. Twelve trainees joined from eleven countries: Azarbaijan, France, Germany, Italy, Kyrgyzstan, Norway, Poland, Russia, Slovenia, Sweden and the U.K. We arranged the contents of the program, such as lectures, observation tours and interchange, according to the participants' work experience, circumstances and the level of fluency in Japanese.

The contents of the program were as follows:

Tokyo

Date	Subject
November 27	Orientation Courtesy call on the Librarian of the NDL Introduction of the curriculum

	Guided tour of the Tokyo Main Library
November 28	Bibliographic Database of the NDL: use of the NDL-OPAC Periodical indexes in Japan: focusing on the NDL Japanese Periodicals Index Japanese newspapers
November 29	Rare books and old materials Lecture on summary of services and databases provided by NII (at the NII)
November 30	Japanese reference books 1 Japanese reference books 2
December 1	Observation tour (Japan Science and Technology Agency Library) Observation tour (National Institute of Japanese Literature)
December 4	Statistics on Japan: statistics in English Observation tour (Keio University Mita Media Center)
December 5	Preservation and conservation Observation tour (International Library of Children's Literature)
December 6	Distribution of government information Japanese laws and regulations Japanese government publications
December 7	Database forum (optional)
December 8	Independent Research Presentations by trainees Reception (hosted by JF)

Kansai

Date	Subject
December 11	Courtesy call on the Director General of the Kansai-kan Orientation Observation tour of the Kansai-kan Digital library projects in Japan: focusing on NDL projects Documentation Delivery Service by the NDL
December 12	Observation tour (Kyoto International Manga Museum) Observation tour (Kyoto University Library)
December 13	Observation tour (Nara National Museum) Observation tour (Tenri Central Library)
December 14	Publishing industries in Japan Observation tour (JF Japanese-Language Institute, Kansai) and interchange with the trainees of Japanese-Language Program for Librarians

**December
15**

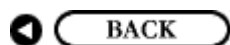
Helpful information sources on Japan
Trainees' evaluation meeting
Farewell party

[up](#)

NEXT 

National Diet Library Newsletter

No. 153, February 2007



Provision of bibliographic data in the NDL – With development of the electronic library plan –

Ryuko EBISU
Assistant Director
Serials Cataloging Division
Bibliography Department
National Diet Library

*This is a short summary of the paper presented at the 17th Annual Conference
of the [European Association of Japan Resource Specialists \(EAJRS\)](#) in September 2006.*

Contents

- [1. Introduction](#)
- [2. Provision of bibliographic information](#)
- [3. Electronic library projects and the digital archive portal](#)
 - 3.1. Promotion of electronic library projects
 - 3.2. Digital archive portal and bibliographic information

1. Introduction

In step with the development of Internet technology, the National Diet Library (NDL) has improved and extended its provision of bibliographic information on [the NDL Online Public Access Catalog \(NDL-OPAC\)](#) and the corresponding services. It is also becoming important as a digital library to provide services which ensure access to materials themselves (primary information).

In this paper, I will describe the current state of provision of bibliographic information on the NDL-OPAC and, as one of the new trends, the relation between bibliographic information and a digital archive portal that has been developed under the "[National Diet Library Digital Library Medium Term Plan for 2004.](#)"

2. Provision of bibliographic information

The NDL's former online catalog, Web-OPAC, was first offered through the Internet in 2000 with some two million bibliographic data of Japanese books published since the Meiji

era (1868–1912) and 200,000 data of Western language books acquired since 1986. In October 2002, timed with the opening of the Kansai-kan of the NDL, we started to offer the present NDL-OPAC to the public and have significantly extended its coverage of bibliographic information, including 6.5 million bibliographic data in the Japanese Periodicals Index.

(Please refer to [attached document 1](#) (PDF, 83KB) for bibliographic data available on the NDL-OPAC.)

Through the NDL-OPAC, users are to view bibliographic information and holding information of materials as well as to request remote copying services. These functions enable users to order photocopies of, for example, articles listed on the Japanese Periodicals Index without visiting the NDL in person.

In addition, we formulated the “Plan for Retrospective Conversion 2002□Ein 2002 and have promoted a retrospective conversion project with the purpose of encouraging the wider use of the library’s collections. As of March 2006, the total bibliographic data searchable in the NDL-OPAC is 14.9 million.

(Please refer to [attached document 2](#) (PDF, 65KB) for changes in the total data of the NDL-OPAC.)

[up](#)

3. Electronic library projects and the digital archive portal

3.1. Promotion of electronic library projects

The expanding provision of bibliographic information was kept in step with the “[National Diet Library Electronic Library Concept](#)” (formulated in 1998) which aimed to make both primary information and secondary information accessible and available broadly via the Internet.

As for the digitization project to provide primary information, the “[Rare Books Image Database](#)” (Japanese only) was launched in 2000, followed by the “[Digital Library from the Meiji Era](#)” (Japanese only) in 2002, on which users are able to search bibliographic data and table of contents of the books published in the Meiji era and view full-text digital images of them.

(Please refer to [attached document 3](#) (PDF, 45KB) for the contents provided on our website as the electronic library collection)

We announced the “National Diet Library Digital Library Medium Term Plan for 2004” in 2004 as the next action plan. On the basis of the plan, the NDL has been working for creation of a digital archive portal as a navigation tool that gives integral access to digital archives inside and outside the NDL, in addition to promoting construction of digital archives.

3.2. Digital archive portal and bibliographic information

[The digital archive portal](#) aims to enable users to search and access primary information they want, to the utmost extent, out of search results by entering keywords in one search box without being aware of the presence of other digital archives.

Each NDL electronic library content has been sequentially included in the digital archive portal since 2005. All bibliographic data of the Japanese books and periodicals recorded in the NDL-OPAC and one-year data from the Japanese Periodicals Index were added to the portal, and it has become possible to display search results of the NDL-OPAC on the portal.

In July this year we enhanced the capability of the digital archive portal to give access to primary information by adding the function of linking each search result of bibliographic information of Japanese books to the corresponding material in the "Digital Library from the Meiji Era."

Furthermore, users can search archives other than the NDL's by various techniques including cross-resource search and harvesting of metadata.

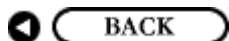
(Please refer to [attached document 4](#) (PDF, 136KB) for the contents of the digital archive portal)

In an age when people are relying more on digital information than on paper-form materials as a way of obtaining information, it can be said that the digital archive portal is an attempt to explore information resources in Japan. In this regard, however, the present portal is no more than a prototype whose main goal is to examine necessary techniques such as cross-resource search. The issue is how to extend cooperative relationships with other institutions for a full-fledged operation system in future.

With regard to bibliographic information, we are facing issues including how to create bibliographic data (metadata) of networked information resources. The digital library division and the bibliographic division of the NDL have cooperatively carried out examinations on metadata standards.

[up](#)

[Presentation file](#) (PDF, 28KB)





National Diet Library's network with libraries in the executive and judicial agencies: Branch Library System (part 1/2)

*This article is based on the article in Japanese of the same title in the NDL Monthly
Bulletin No. 545 (August 2006)*

Contents

(This issue)

1. [What is the Branch Library System of the NDL?](#)
2. History of the Branch Library System of the NDL
 - 2.1. [Foundation of the System](#)
 - 2.2. [Development of the System](#)
3. Outline of the Branch Library System of the NDL
 - 3.1. [Appointment of the directors of the branch libraries and the regular number of branch libraries staff](#)
 - 3.2. [Budget](#)
 - 3.3. [Conferences](#)
 - 3.4. [Training](#)
 - 3.5. [Publication](#)

(Next issue)

4. [Services for the executive and judicial agencies](#)
 5. [Acquisition of government publications](#)
 6. [Toward further improvement of the Branch Library System](#)
-

1. What is the Branch Library System of the NDL?

The NDL assists the members of the National Diet in performing their duties as its primary mission and also provides [library services for the executive and judicial agencies](#) and for the people of Japan ([National Diet Library Law](#), Article 2). The Branch Library System, through which the services for the executive and judicial agencies are provided, is a library

network formed by the NDL as the central library* and its branch libraries in government ministries, agencies and the Supreme Court. Library services and the management of the branch libraries under this system are stipulated in Articles 17 to 29 of the National Diet Library Law.

*Hereafter called " (NDL) central library" in this article in order to distinguish the NDL which functions as the principal body in the Branch Library System from the NDL as organization which includes all the branch libraries. For further details on the NDL's organization, please visit [our website](#).

In addition to providing library services to the branch libraries, the NDL central library supports them by, for example, providing staff training programs and carries out various activities to keep the entire network operating effectively. This network enables the NDL to conduct a wide range of library activities including legal deposit of official publications, exchanges of publications among ministries and agencies, and interlibrary loans. Executive and judicial agencies have been responding to the new knowledge-based society and the central library has been promoting improvement of information infrastructure for the branch libraries.

The primary mission of the branch libraries is supporting staff members of the individual ministries, agencies and the Supreme Court to which they belong by providing library services such as copying, lending and reference. While this may be the mission of every government library in the world, the branch libraries also provide library services to other branch libraries and to the NDL central library, through the network.

Government publications of ministries and agencies that are indispensable for the legislative activities of the Diet are provided to the legislature based on the legal deposit system. These government publications are also used extensively by the public. The NDL central library, acquires government publications of other countries mainly through the international exchange of publications, and Japanese official publications deposited through branch libraries are sent to other countries in return.

This Branch Library System is said to be unique and it is regarded as a pioneering library network in Japan. The Branch Libraries and Cooperation Division of the NDL central library is in charge of the Branch Library System while the services to the branch libraries are offered by the entire library with the Division as a liaison and coordination office.

[up](#)

2. History of the Branch Library System of the NDL

2.1. Foundation of the System

The administrative bodies and the judicial branch before World War II had their own libraries. Their collections often had distinctive features dating from the first year of the Meiji era. The Branch Library System was established on the basis of these libraries.

After the war, in December 1947, a U.S. Library Mission came to Japan at the request of the presiding officers of both Houses who asked the GHQ to send U.S. library specialists. The Mission consisted of [Verner Warren Clapp](#), the then Chief Associate Librarian at the

Library of Congress, and Charles Harvey Brown, the then Honorary Librarian of Iowa State University and the former President of the American Library Association. With their counsel, a basic concept was formed as the basis of the National Diet Library Law. The establishment of the Branch Library System also came from their counsel and recommendation. They thought that one of the most important functions of the NDL should be "bibliographical research and reference services for all departments of the National Government."** Accordingly they recommended "the formation of a great coordinated system of government libraries, with the National Diet Library as the nucleus or keystone."** More specifically they mentioned the need for branch libraries in the Supreme Court building and in the various ministries.

***"Report of the United States Library Mission To Advise on the Establishment of the National Diet Library of Japan (1948)" Thirty Years' History of the National Diet Library: Documents and Records, National Diet Library, Tokyo, March 1980, p.426-465

Based on their recommendation, the National Diet Library Law included the Branch Library System, which came into existence on August 25, 1948, as a network of libraries of the executive and judicial agencies. Starting with 18 libraries, the network has experienced various changes of participants in accordance with several reforms of the administrative structure and for other reasons. There are 26 branch libraries and 6 sub-branches as of 2006 (see [the list](#)).

[up](#)

2.2. Development of the System

The Branch Library System of the NDL, established in this way, required some adjustments because it was the first of its kind and especially because it covers the three powers of legislative, administrative and judicial branches of the government. Because of this, adjustments were continually being made during the period from its establishment to the mid-sixties.

Coordinating Committee

In the Branch Library System, the NDL, which belongs to the legislature, has its affiliated organizations in each administrative and judicial body. With respect to the separation of the three powers, the Coordinating Committee is dedicated to the smooth operation of the system. The Committee consists of the chairs of the Committees on Rules and Administration of both Houses, one of the Supreme Court Chiefs appointed by the Chief Justice and one of the ministers appointed by the Prime Minister (by convention, the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology) (National Diet Library Law, Article 12 and 13).

This Committee makes recommendations on improvement of the NDL's services for the executive and judicial agencies to the Committees on Rules and Administration of both Houses. The Committee issued recommendations eight times between 1945 and 1964, which led to the strengthening and development of the system.

Council on the Branch Library System

As mentioned above, the fact that the NDL, belonging to the legislature, has its branch libraries in the executive and judicial agencies, caused legal and practical problems after the establishment of the system. Especially for the branch libraries of executive agencies, their status in each organization, budget and personnel affairs, which had not been defined in detail, required clarification.

Therefore the Council on the Branch Library System was established in July 1962 with the objective: "clarify the legal status and structure of the branch libraries to enhance their functions." With the Deputy Librarian of the NDL as the chair, council members from both central and branch libraries conducted studious deliberations and submitted an "opinion brief" to the Librarian on March 2, 1970. Since then, the operation of the Branch Library System has been carried out based on this opinion brief.

[up](#)

3. Outline of the Branch Library System of the NDL

3.1. Appointment of the directors of the branch libraries and the regular number of branch libraries staff

The number of the branch libraries staff is in total 203 as of the end of March 2006. Seven branch libraries out of 26 have more than 10 staff members.

The director of each branch library is appointed by the Librarian of the NDL upon the recommendation of the members of the Coordinating Committee as prescribed by Article 17 of the National Diet Library Law.

In many cases, the branch libraries are organizationally placed in the administrative, public relations, information or research-related department/division of each agency. Thus some directors of the branch libraries are also designated as chief of such sections or higher, while some are the full-time director.

Although the staff of the branch libraries belong to their own executive and judicial agencies of the government, the directors of executive agencies have to confer with the Librarian of the NDL on the regular number of the full-time staff allocated to their branch libraries, in accordance with the law on the branch libraries. This process is of great significance in assuring the numbers of the branch library staff in executive authorities.

A representative from each branch library is appointed concurrently as a librarian of the NDL central library for closer coordination and cooperation between the central and its branch libraries.

3.2. Budget

Article 18 of the National Diet Library stipulates that the budget for the library of each executive or judicial agency of the government shall be included as a distinct item under the title "library" in the budget of the agency concerned, and appropriations made thereunder shall not be transferable to any other item in the budget of the agency nor be reduced without the approval of the member of the Coordinating Committee who

represents an executive or judicial body of the government and the Librarian of the NDL. The budget for the item “library” is allocated only to purchase library materials for each branch library, even though other various expenses are necessary for operating the library. In addition to traditional paper-form materials, an increasing number of digital-form materials have been published in recent years. It is necessary for each branch library to develop its collections in order to respond to such changes. This is the reason why it has become more and more important to secure the budget.

3.3. Conferences

The NDL central library and the branch libraries take diverse opportunities to exchange opinions and share information. In particular, one of the conferences held regularly by the central library, the “Annual Meeting between the NDL Librarian and the Directors of the Branch Libraries of Executive and Judicial Agencies,” provides an important opportunity to discuss coordination and cooperation annually. The “Conference of the Central and Branch Libraries” is hosted by the Director General, Administrative Department of the NDL central library, and invites the directors of all the branch libraries for the sake of the smooth operation of the Branch Library System. In recent years, this conference has been held three times a year to discuss planning for the fiscal year, the budget issues, etc. In addition, an executive board under the Conference of the Central and Branch Libraries, and meetings of the branch library librarians who are concurrently appointed as central library librarians are arranged by the central library.

[up](#)

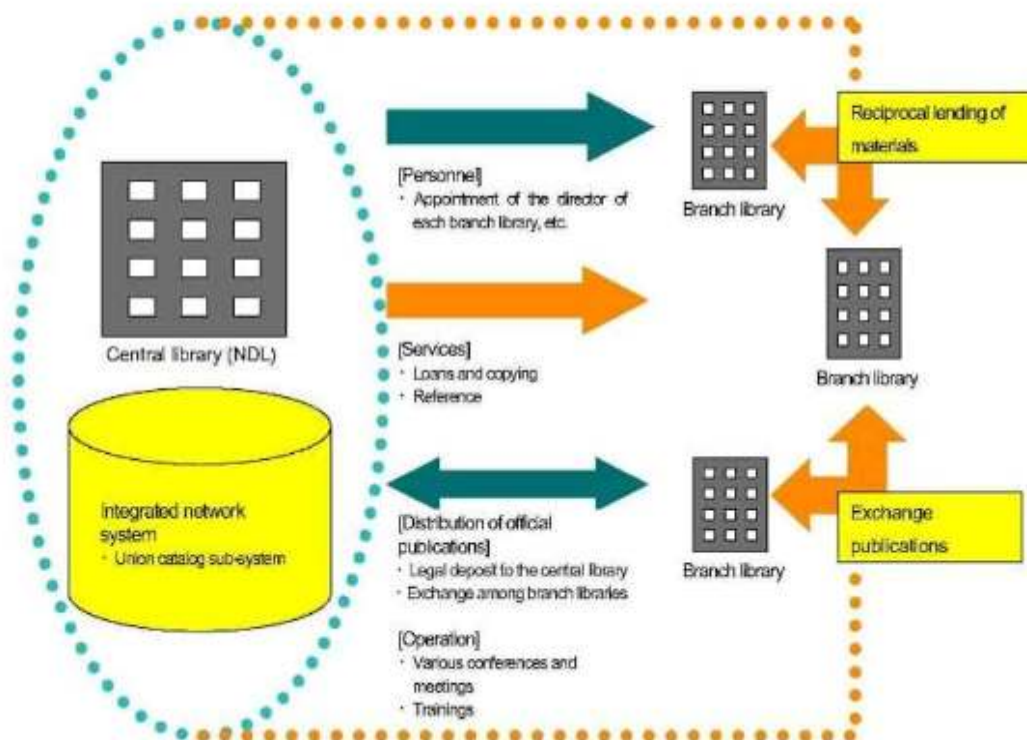
3.4. Training

The Branch Libraries and Cooperation Division, Administrative Department of the NDL central library, offers training programs for the staff of the branch libraries. Because most of the branch libraries staff start out as newcomers, various training programs by the central library are precious opportunities for them. The central library provides a wide variety of training. In particular, the “training program for librarians of branch libraries in the executive and judicial agencies” offers systematic programs customized mainly for new staff to digest the basic knowledge and skills of general library services. The central library also holds information retrieval workshops for databases, tours of other libraries and related institutions, lectures on various aspects of library services and so on.

3.5. Publication

For the purpose of better cooperation among the branch libraries and other special libraries, the NDL central library has been publishing a community magazine titled “[Biblos](#)” (Japanese only) since April 1950. The paper version was changed into electronic version in October 1998, which is available on the NDL website.

Cooperative relationship between the NDL central library and branch libraries in the executive and judicial agencies



*Click on the graph for clearer image (PDF file, 122KB)

[up](#)

◀ BACK

NEXT ▶



Selections from NDL Collection

Documents relating to Inoue Kaoru (Inoue Kaoru Kankei Monjo)

Inoue Kaoru (1835–1915) was a statesman, who became a genro (elder statesman). He was born in Yamaguchi as the son of a goshi (lower-ranked samurai) of the Hagi Clan. Together with comrades such as [Takasugi Shinsaku](#), he played an active part in the sonno joi undo (movement to revere the emperor and expel the Western barbarians). After the Meiji Restoration, he held such important posts as san'yo (senior counselor), taifu (senior vice minister) of Finance, sangi (councillor), industry minister, and foreign minister. In 1876, he was involved in the conclusion of the Japan–Korea Treaty of Amity as vice-ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary. Closely linked to business circles, including Mitsui, he was also involved in the railway business. In 1885, he became foreign minister in the first [Ito](#) cabinet. He held important positions including agriculture and commerce minister in the [Kuroda](#) cabinet, home minister in the second [Ito](#) cabinet and finance minister in the third [Ito](#) cabinet, and he continued to be highly esteemed as a genro

after retiring. **1. Portraite of Inoue Kaoru**

From "Kinsei Meishi Shashin" Vol.1, Kinsei Meishi Shashin Hanpukai, 1934.



The Inoue Family devolved to the National Diet Library in 1952 a collection of the documents related to Inoue Kaoru. There are about 4,800 items in the collection, and they are regarded as highly valuable resources by researchers. The Library published a catalog of the collection (*Inoue Kaoru Kankei Monjo Mokuroku*, 1975), dividing it into two groups, letters and documents. In the catalog, letters are arranged in alphabetical order of senders and documents are listed by incidents related.

A few representative items listed in the catalog are as follows:

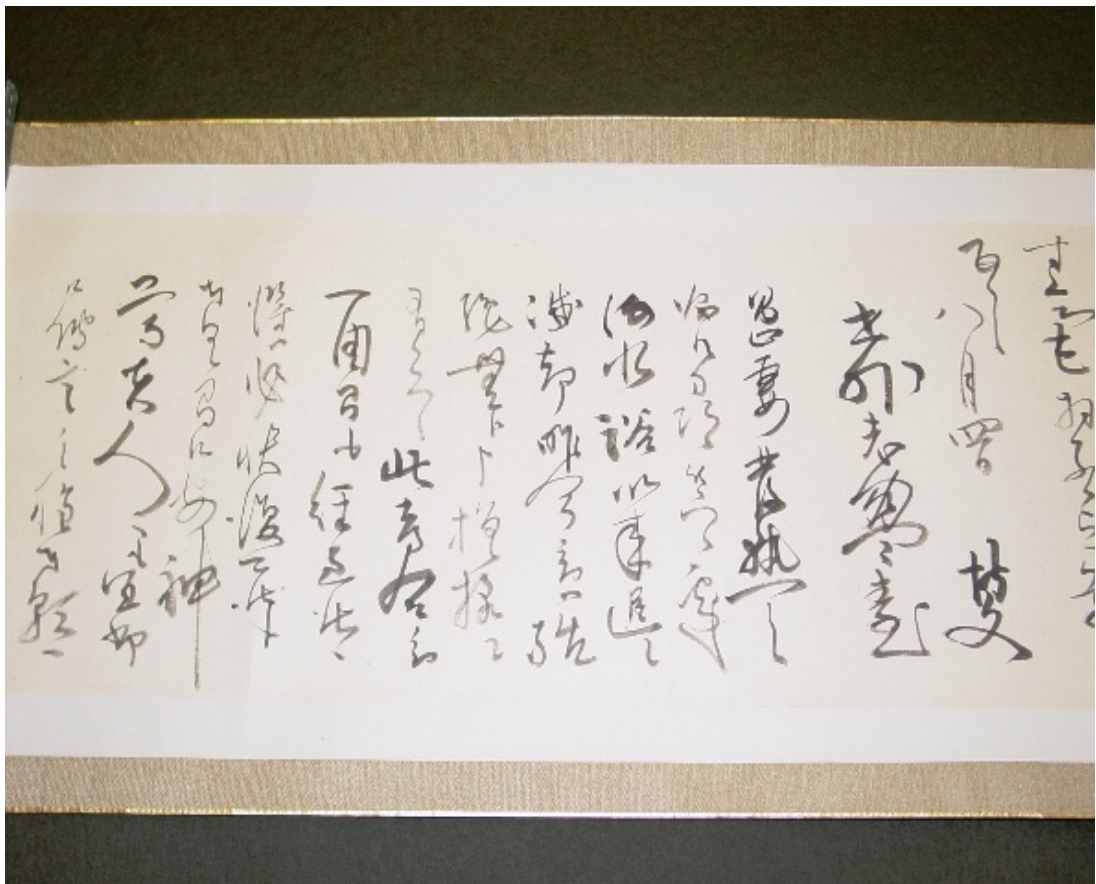
1) Letters: Letter from Ito Hirobumi, August 4, 1889

The relationship between Inoue and Ito was very close from their youth, and their friendship lasted throughout their lives. They both belonged to the Choshu-batsu (a political faction affiliated with the former Choshu clique). The catalog lists about 240 letters from Ito to Inoue. As stated above, Inoue served as foreign minister (1885–1887) in the first [Ito](#) cabinet. As Japan's first foreign minister, Inoue worked hard for the abolishment of the unequal clauses of the treaties signed by the Tokugawa government, such as extraterritorial rights of foreign residents and the abandonment of the custom of autonomy. For this purpose Inoue promoted the Westernizing policy symbolized by the Rokumeikan (a dance pavilion) to impress foreign diplomats with Western-style hospitality and dance parties and win them over to Japan's side. This later became known as Rokumeikan gaiko (Rokumeikan diplomacy) but it ended up in a failure.

At the time when this letter was written, Inoue was agriculture and commerce minister in the [Kuroda](#) Cabinet, in which [Okuma Shigenobu](#) was foreign minister. Okuma also was engaged in treaty revision negotiations. Okuma had been a political rival to Ito at that time, and Ito and Inoue were opposed to Okuma's policy on treaty revision. This letter was written during the intense antagonism between Okuma's group and Ito's group including Inoue.

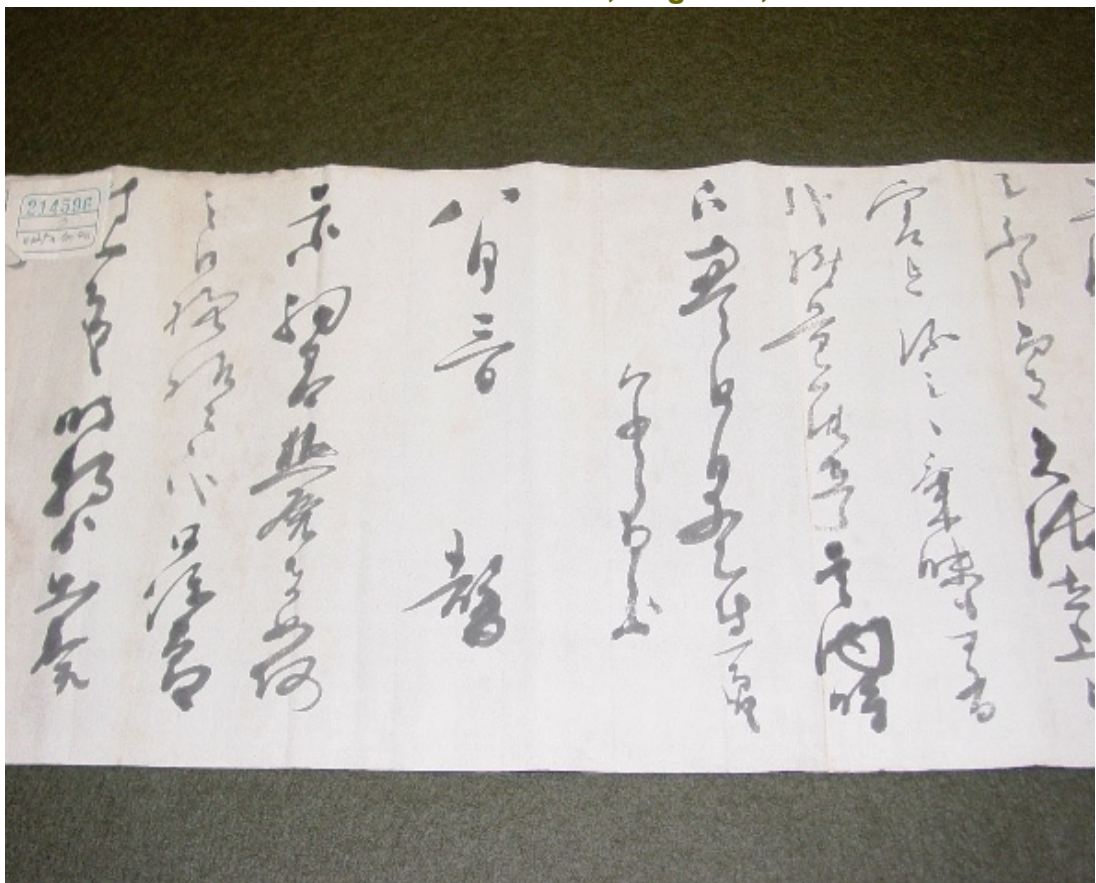
This letter is a response to the letter Inoue sent to Ito on the previous day (August 3), asking Ito's advice on his decision to resign on the ground of illness. Inoue said that he would like to retire and become a mountain hermit. He also showed concern for the illness of Ito's wife. In his reply Ito lamented the difficult situation of Japan's internal politics as well as the treaty revision negotiations that Okuma had been working on. However, Ito advised Inoue not to resign in a huff from his position.

Letter from Ito Hirobumi, August 4, 1889

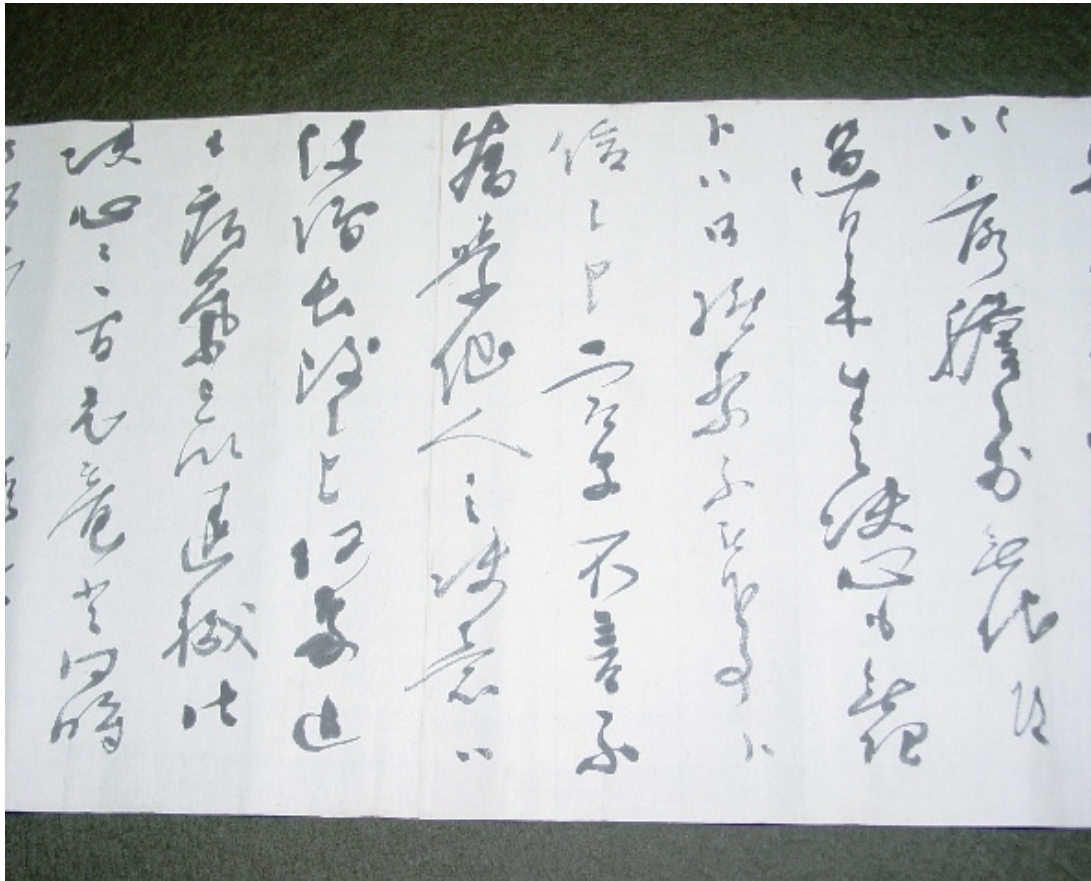


This part of the letter shows the date the letter was written, August 4, and Ito's signature. Also Ito mentioned that his wife's health had greatly improved.

Letter from Inoue to Ito, August 3, 1889



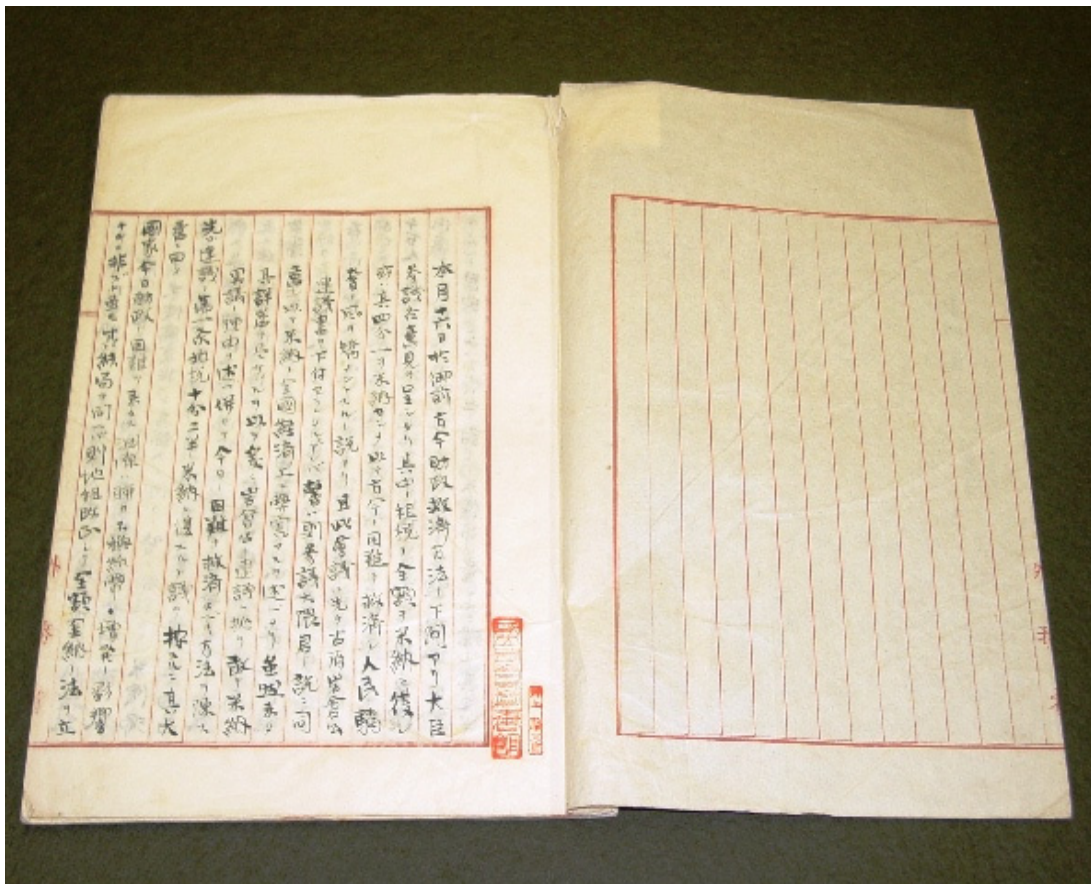
This letter shows the signature of Inoue Kaoru on August 3, 1889.



Here Inoue wrote: My resolution to say nothing and do nothing and to become a mountain hermit has become even stronger. Inoue was known to have often said, as in this letter, that he would like to withdraw from the world and retire to private life.

[up](#)

2) Documents: Draft of report on finance, August 1880



Having had studied in England at the end of Tokugawa period, Inoue came to believe that fostering commerce and industries based on individual freedom should be the foundation of developing a modern country. This idea was presented well in this document.

As the government finances fell into a difficult situation due to inflation after the Satsuma Rebellion (Seinan Senso, 1877) and a trade and budget deficit, [Iwakura Tomomi](#), then minister of the right, planned that 25% of the land tax should be paid in rice so that the revenue from tax would increase about 4 million yen. Iwakura attributed the budget deficit to money payment of land tax and claimed that the farmers had gained an unfair profit from the rising price of rice and fallen into luxurious habits of eating rice instead of coarse cereal, while the warrior class had become impoverished.

In this draft Inoue openly criticized Iwakura's plan, saying that it would destroy the nation's economy for the government's convenience. He then refuted Iwakura's claim that farmers eating rice had caused the rise of rice prices, calling it a false accusation. He reasoned that the price of rice had risen as a natural result of the market function of price adjustment, which as a result had given an incentive for farmers to produce more rice and accelerate their production. Inoue argued that the deficit of trade and budget was a result of the government's inability to implement a proper finance policy. He proposed a counter plan: the government should increase its revenue by controlling costs, increasing indirect tax, and promoting trade, etc.

The collection listed in "[Inoue Kaoru Kankei Monjo Mokuroku](#)," including the above two documents, has been microfilmed. Users can read documents both in microfilm and printed copies in the [Modern Japanese Political History Materials Room](#).

Ref:

Sasaki, Takashi. Ito Hirobumi no joho senryaku. Tokyo, Chuo Koron Shinsha, 1999. 322p.

(NDL call no.: GB415-G32)

Osawa, Hiroaki. "Meiji-ki Inoue Kaoru no seiji koso." From Meiji kokka no seisaku to shiso / edited by Takaaki Inuzuka. Tokyo, Yoshikawakobunkan, 2005. p. 58-84.

(NDL call no.: GB415-H48)

[up](#)



National Diet Library Newsletter

No. 153, February 2007



Selected list of articles from NDL periodicals (Text in Japanese)

National Diet Library Monthly Bulletin

(Kokuritsu Kokkai Toshokan Geppo)

If you click the volume number of each issue, you can read the full-text of NDL Monthly Bulletin (no.517-). The text is provided in PDF format* (Japanese only).

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

No. 551, February 2007 [[PDF Format, 1.9 MB](#)]

- New library services in the digital resources environment – the renewal of digital resources providing services at the Tokyo Main Library –
 - NDL's Vision of its new services – Library Fair & Forum 2006
 - Report of the 26th mutual visit program with the National Library of China – Library services through websites [related article](#)
- Training program for information specialists for Japanese studies in FY 2006 [related article](#)
- Annual meeting between NDL Librarian and directors of branch libraries in the executive and judicial agencies in FY2006 [related article](#)
 - <Announcement>
 - Announcement of regular exhibition
 - New services of the Kansai-kan
 - Renewal of the General Collections Room of the Kansai-kan
 - New services of the Asian Resources Room – Copying services by mail of Chinese electronic journals start
 - Bibliographic information of books in Arabic now searchable on the NDL Asian Language Materials OPAC
 - Improvement in digital resources providing services at the Kansai-kan
 - Special events for children during the spring vacation
- Discontinuance of copying and interlibrary loan services via the NACSIS-ILL and the National Union Catalog Network
 - How to obtain the publications from NDL (supplement)

No. 550, January 2007 [[PDF Format, 1.9 MB](#)]

- New Year greeting
- NDL viewed by remote users
- Report of the 10th mutual visit program with the National Library of Korea – NDL delegation to Korea [related article](#)
- International Policy Seminar: Problems of the Immigrant Policy and the Foreign Workers Policy in a Depopulation Society (Prof. Barbara John)
 - Training program for staff of prefectural assembly libraries FY 2006
 - <Announcement>
 - Announcement of regular exhibition
 - Closing of the JiBOOKS service
 - Discontinuance of copying and interlibrary loan services via the NACSIS-ILL and the National Union Catalog Network
 - Index of Japanese Laws and Regulations Database (early Meiji period) now available on the NDL website
 - Events related to the exhibition at the International Library of Children's Literature: Look up at the Sky: Children's Books on the Sun, Moon, and Stars

