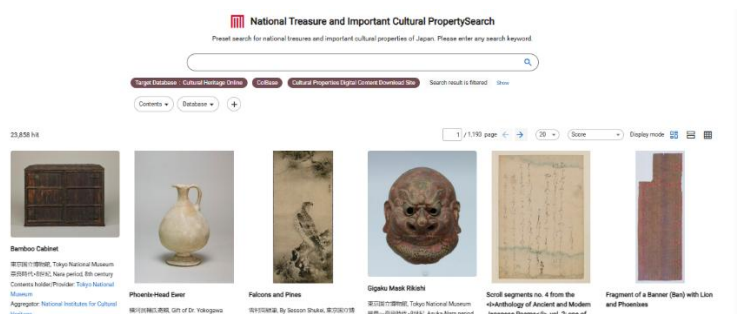


National Diet Library Newsletter

No. 263, June 2025



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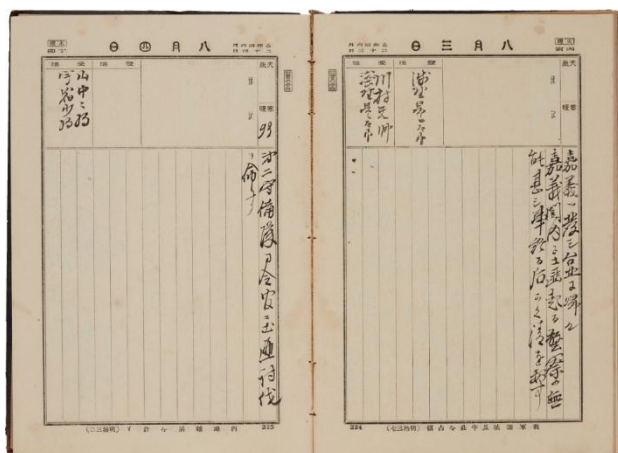
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Selections from NDL collections

Materials in the Modern Japanese Political History Materials Room: The ANDO Teibi Papers

Modern Japanese Political Documents Division, Reader Services and Collections Department

This article is a partial translation of the article in Japanese in NDL Monthly Bulletin No. 751 (November 2023).



Image 1: Labels on the covers of the diaries.

Left: Diary for 1905. (existing collection) <https://dl.ndl.go.jp/pid/12848868>

Right: Diary for 1908. (newly available) NDL Call No. ANDO Teibi Papers 2011.

Introduction

The National Diet Library holds 430,000 documents on modern Japanese political history, including the personal papers of politicians, high-ranking officials, and military officers. This article is one of a series introducing materials available at [the Modern Japanese Political History Materials Room](#) in the Tokyo Main Library.

These materials on modern Japanese political history primarily comprise documents that were donated by the families of prominent figures and are made available to the public after being organized and catalogued by the NDL. We hope that this article will provide readers with a glimpse into the appeal of this invaluable collection, which supports scholarly research in political history and related fields.

The ANDO Teibi Papers (Fourth supplement; 2022)

(21 items, available since October 2022)

The ANDO Teibi Papers include the diaries of ANDO Teibi, a general in the Imperial Japanese Army who held a variety of important positions, including commander of the Korea Expeditionary Army Headquarters and Governor-General of Taiwan. The collection, which is now available at the NDL, comprises 21 items in total, including pocket diaries from 1882 to 1893 and diaries from 1907 to 1919.

The Modern Japanese Political History Materials Room has received donations of ANDO's papers from his family several times since 2013,* but the diaries in those earlier donations were limited to the period from the late 1890s to the late 1900s. These new items fill in the missing years. The labels attached to the covers of the diaries match those of the diaries already in our collection, which suggests that these diaries were originally organized in the same way (Image 1).

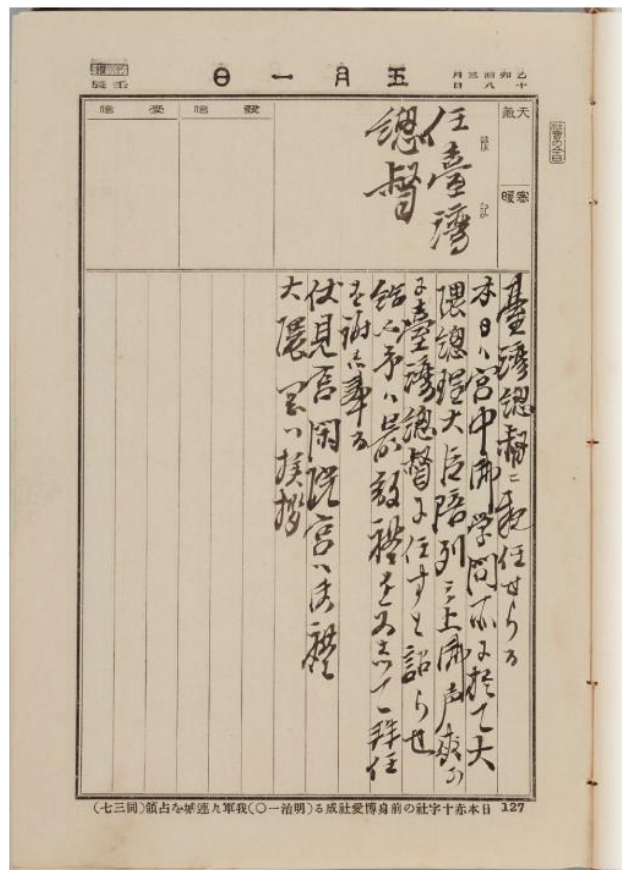


Image 2: A diary entry for May 1, 1915.

NDL Call No. ANDO Teibi Papers 2017.

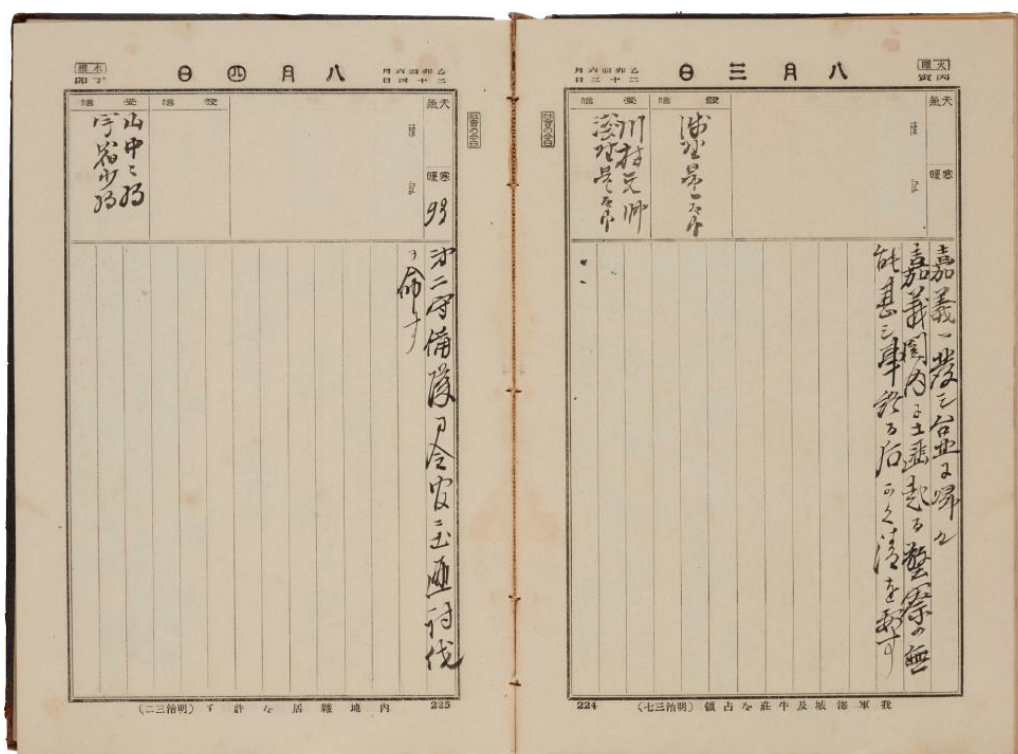


Image 3: Diary entries for August 3 and August 4, 1915.

NDL Call No. ANDO Teibi Papers 2017.

Looking at the contents of the diary for 1915, we see that on May 1, Emperor Taisho appointed ANDO Governor-General of Taiwan. ANDO writes that he "bowed with the utmost reverence and expressed my gratitude for the appointment." (Image 2) After arriving in Taipei on June 15, he made any number of visits to places in Taiwan, which he describes in his diary. Not long after his arrival, in the early morning of August 3, the Xilai Temple Incident (Tapani Incident), which was perhaps the largest anti-Japanese uprising in Taiwan while it was under Japanese rule, occurred in the southern part of the island. He mentions the uprising in his diary entry for August 3 and indicates that he ordered Japanese troops to suppress it on August 4. (Image 3)

* [Materials available in the Modern Japanese Political History Materials Room \(1\)](#) (No. 200, June 2015)



Image 4: A diary entry for February 28, 1909.

NDL Call No. ANDO Teibi Papers 2012.

His daily entries are generally brief and often indicate only official acts or the names of visitors. The entry for February 28, 1909, however, indicates "no news," then boldly proclaims in large, forceful strokes "In commemoration of the day I quit smoking."

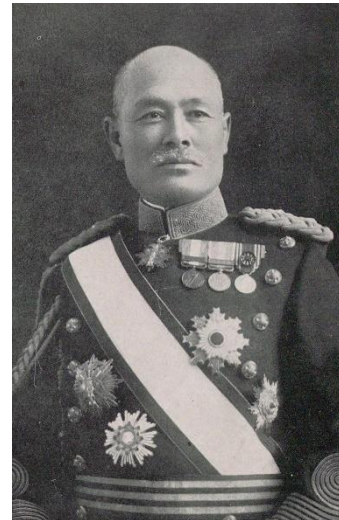


Image 5: ANDO Teibi

ANDO Teibi (1853-1932)

Born in 1853 in Nagano. After graduating from the Osaka Army Academy in 1872, he served in the Seinan War (Satsuma Rebellion) and the Sino-Japanese War, and then in the Russo-Japanese War, during which he was given command of the IJA 10th Division. In 1907, he was elevated to the title *danshaku* (baron), after which he transferred to the command of the IJA 12th Division and then later was named commander of the Korea Expeditionary Army Headquarters. In January 1915, he was promoted to general and in May of the same year was appointed Governor-General of Taiwan, a post he held until 1918. He retired from the army in 1923 and died in 1932.

The portrait is from *Kazoku gaho*, Kazoku gahosha. 1913. Available via the [NDL Digital Collections](#)

(Translated by KUBO Satoshi)

Related articles from the NDL Newsletter:

- [Selections from NDL collections](#): Brief introduction to the various materials in our collections, including those in the Modern Japanese Political History Materials Room

Related content from the National Diet Library Website

- [Research Navi](#): Summary of Modern Japanese political history materials (in Japanese)

Selections from NDL collections

***Tsuzoku isoppu monogatari*: The Fables of Aesop in the Meiji era**

YOKOYAMA Yurie, Library Support Division, Kansai-kan of the National Diet Library

This article is a translation of an article in Japanese from NDL Monthly Bulletin No. 743 (March 2023).



The first part of vol. 1 of *Tsuzoku isoppu monogatari*.
Thomas James, [translated by] WATANABE On (Mujinzo shosai shujin). *Tsuzoku isoppu monogatari*
(6 vols.). Watanabe On, around 1873, 23 cm. NDL Call No. 特 [40-137](#)

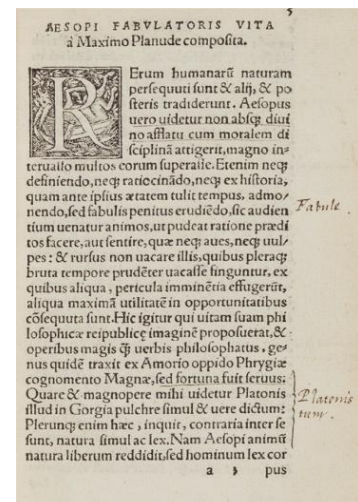
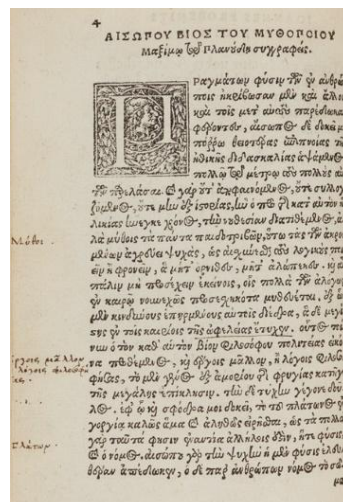
Tsuzoku isoppu monogatari is a translation of Aesop's fables made during the early Meiji era. It contains translations of "The Hare and the Tortoise," "The Ants and the Grasshopper," "The Golden Axe," and many others that are still popular today, translated masterfully in a manner that is accurate and easy to understand, even for children. Aesop's fables themselves had previously been brought to Japan from Europe by Christian missionaries in the late 16th century and circulated under the title *Isoho monogatari*. *Tsuzoku isoppu monogatari*, however, was translated from an English version and, with more than 200 fables, it contributed significantly to the popularization of Aesop's fables in Japan.



Isoho monogatari, vol. 3. Ito Sanemon, 1659. Available via [the NDL Digital Collections](#).

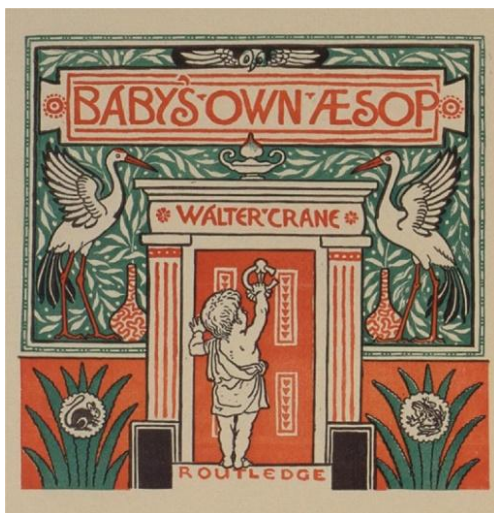
Illustration from *Isoho monogatari* published during the Edo period. The story told is not about ants and a grasshopper but about ants and a cicada. In fact, working to prepare for winter instead of singing all summer seems a lot to ask of a cicada.

Foreign collections of Aesop's fables



An edition of Aesop's fables that was published in 1538 is actually the oldest foreign book at the International Library for Children's Literature. With Greek on the left page and Latin on the right, it is believed to have been used for language learning.

Aesopi Phrygis Fabulae graece et latine, cum alijs opusculis, quorum, index proxima refertur pagella, Basileæ: Officina Heruagiana, 1538. NDL Call No. [Y8-B4820](#)



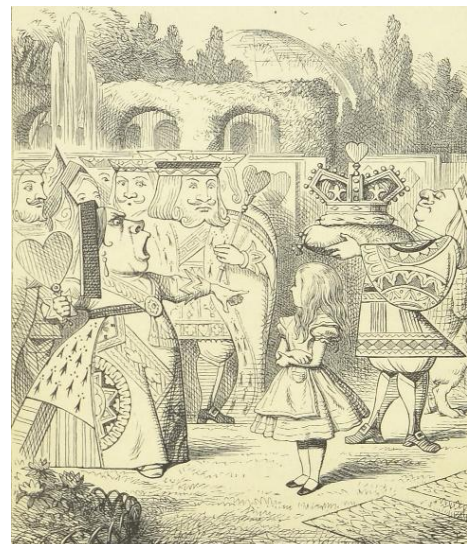
A 19th-century edition of Aesop's fables, translated and published in England

Walter Crane, *The baby's own Aesop: being the fables condensed in rhyme, with portable morals pictorially pointed*, London: George Routledge & Sons, 1887. NDL Call No. [Y17-B4825](#)

The stories known as Aesop's fables are said to have come from a man named Aesop, who lived in ancient Greece. Until the 15th century, these fables were written in either Latin or Greek. But thereafter, in addition to these two classical languages, versions in a variety of European languages have attracted many readers. An English translation by Thomas James was the basis for the first five volumes of *Tsuzoku isoppu monogatari*. James' edition was illustrated by John Tenniel, who is also known for his numerous illustrations for *Alice in*

Wonderland. Tenniel's illustrations are said to be one of the reasons that for James' edition's popularity. Only the final volume of *Tsuzoku isoppu monogatari*, volume 6, was translated from different sources, as it is supplemented with stories from an English translation by Flyer Townsend as well as fables derived from *Isoho Monogatari*.

John Tenniel—illustrator of *Alice in Wonderland* as well as James' translation of Aesop



Illustrations for *Alice in Wonderland* by John Tenniel
Lewis Carroll, *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, London: Macmillan and Co., 1886. Available via [the NDL Digital Collections](#).

The translator, WATANABE On (1837–1898), began his studies with *rangaku* (Dutch language and culture), moved on to *eigaku* (English language and culture), and at the end of the Edo period was teaching English at a Western studies research institute operated by the Shogunate. During the Meiji era, after serving as an instructor at the Numazu Military Academy, he served the Meiji government and in 1875 he was named president of the Tokyo School of Foreign Languages, which later became the Tokyo University of Foreign Studies. In his later years, his diverse career came to include working with SHIBUSAWA Eiichi in the establishment of the Tokyo Gas and Tokyo Rope Manufacturing company.

In the preface to *Tsuzoku isoppu monogatari*, Watanabe describes his reasons for translating the book and calls it “a shortcut to preaching virtue to women and children.” This seems to indicate that he felt this book would be useful in teaching people the morals they would need in this new Meiji era. He also describes his approach to translation, of which he reflects: “The main purpose of this book is to be easy to understand. Following the intent of the original text, I have written it using slang from the common vernacular.” This indicates that the text was translated in everyday language to be easy to understand.



The translator, WATANABE On
YOSHINO Sakuzo ed. *Meiji bunka zenshu*, vol.14. Nihon hyoronsha, 1927. NDL Call No. [081.6-M448-Y](#)



Tsuzoku isoppu monogatari contains a number of illustrations by KAWANABE Kyosai, a painter active from the end of the Edo period to the Meiji era.

From top to bottom: Volume 1 “The Lion in Love,” Volume 4 “The Mischievous Dog,” Volume 6 “The Apes and the Two Travelers.”

For example, in the story of “The Golden Axe,” the titular axe is given to an honest woodcutter by the god Mercury. In Watanabe’s translation into Japanese, it is Suisei Myojin, which literally means the “Shining Deity of the Water Planet,” who presents the woodcutter with the axe. And while most Japanese of the time had no idea who Mercury or any other god from Roman mythology might be, they did know that a “shining deity” was something to be revered and that there was a star in the sky called

the Water Planet, which is what Mercury is called in Japanese. You can see the effort and ingenuity that were needed to translate ancient Greek and Roman concepts into words that were easily understood by Meiji-era Japanese people.

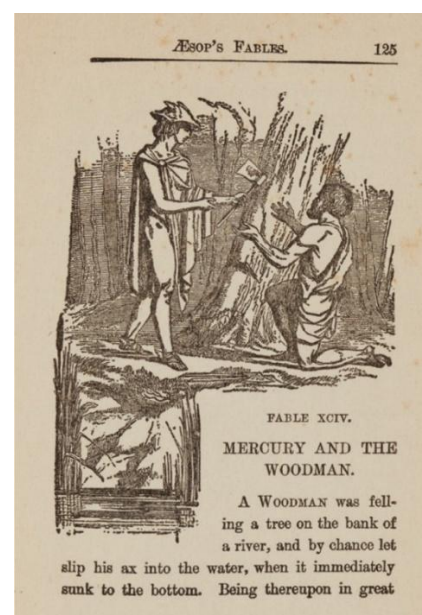
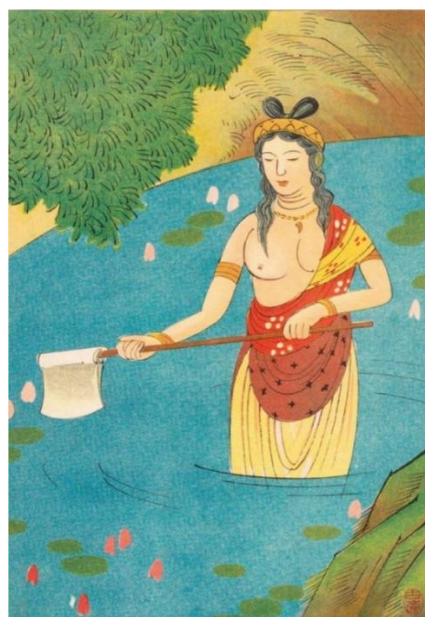
Aesop's fables have since been translated into Japanese numerous times. In *Shinyaku isoppu monogatari* (A new translation of Aesop's fables) by the linguist UEDA Kazutoshi (1867–1937), the character who gives the

woodcutter the golden axe is called "Suijin," or Water God. Mercury is a male deity and is depicted as such in the illustrations of the English version. (see the image in the bottom right) But in Ueda's version, the Suijin is depicted with a feminine appearance, perhaps because the illustrator conceived of a water god as female. From Suisei Myojin to Suijin and then to *megami* (goddess). It would be interesting to read foreign-language works that were translated during the Meiji era and trace the Japanization of the ideas and language.

The various translations and illustrations of "The Golden Axe"



UEDA Kazutoshi, illustrated by KAJITA Hanko. *Shinyaku Isoppu Monogatari*. Shomido, 1907. Available via [the NDL Digital Collections](#). (monochrome image)



(Right) Thomas James (rev.), *Aesop's fables*, New York: Grosset & Dunlap. NDL Call No. [Y8-B2706](#)

(Left) [IWAYA] Sazanami, *Sazanami otogi zensyu*, vol. 14 (*kyokun hen*). Yoshida shoten shuppannbu sazanami otogi zenshu kankokai, 1934.

(Translated by MANO Yukako)

Reference (in Japanese):

- [Aesop], translated by WATANABE On. *Tsuzoku isoppu monogatari* (Toyo bunko). Heibonsha, 2001. NDL Call No. [KP31-H39](#)
- KATAGIRI, Yoshio. "Watanabe on no tsuzoku isoppu monogatari ni tsuite." Kawanabe Kyosai kinen bijutsukan ed. *Kyōsai: Kawanabe kyosai kenkyushi*, 39. October 1989. NDL Call No. [Z11-1044](#)
- KATAGIRI, Yoshio. "Bakumatsu meiji no yogakusha watanabe on (Ichiro) oboegaki 1." Kyoiku kagaku ed., *Aichi kyoiku daigaku kenkyu hokoku*, 32. January 1983. NDL Call No. [Z22-644](#).
- KATAGIRI, Yoshio. "Bakumatsu meiji no yogakusha watanabe on (Ichiro) oboegaki 2." Kyoiku kagaku ed., *Aichi kyoiku daigaku kenkyu hokoku*, 33. January 1984. NDL Call No. [Z22-644](#).
- KATO Yasuko, MIYAKE Okiko, TAKAOKA Atsuko. *Isoppu ehon wa dokokara kita noka: Nichieifutsu bunka no kanryu*. Miyai shoten, 2019. NDL Call No. [KP25-M1](#)
- YOSHIKAWA Hitoshi. *"Isoppu guwa" no keisei to tenkai: Kodai girishia kara kindai nihon e*. Chisen shokan, 2020. NDL Call No. [KP25-M4](#)
- Scott, Johnson, translated by NIKAIDO Hitoshi, revised and supplemented by YAMAGUCHI Seiichi. "Guwa no sashie: Vikutoria cho no Isoppu monogatari to Meiji no Tsuzoku isoppu monogatari." Kawanabe Kyosai kinen bijutsukan ed. *Kyōsai: Kawanabe kyosai kenkyushi*, 15. July 1983. NDL Call No. [Z11-1044](#)

Articles by NDL staff

Using Japan Search to Find and Redistribute Material about Regional Communities

Digital Information Planning Division, Digital Information Department

This article is based on the article in Japanese in [NDL Monthly Bulletin No. 753 \(January, 2024\)](#).

[Japan Search](#) is a national platform for aggregating content from a diverse range of digital archives in Japan and organizing metadata into a searchable, cross-sector portal. As of March 2025, 269 databases with about 31 million metadata records can be searched.

Japan Search enables users to search for material about regional communities in the collections of numerous partner institutions, including museums, art galleries, libraries, and archives. In recent years, Japan Search has collaborated with other regional archives to facilitate access to a vast array of material about regional communities. This article will explain how to search for these materials and provide examples of how they can be redistributed for education, research, and promotion of regional communities.

Material about regional communities that can be found using Japan Search include:

- Materials held by local libraries, including information, maps, and photographs
- Folk materials and cultural assets held by museums
- Materials published by municipal governments, including statistics and other information
- Photographs and video footage collected from the general public by academic institutions and research organizations
- Television and radio programs as well as video recordings of traditional community events, etc.

Finding material about regional communities

Cross Search—searching multiple databases from a single interface

Japan Search enables users to search for all linked materials from a single interface. What's more, by filtering search targets, you can easily find material on historic sites, scenic spots, customs, and festivals. Use the Type and Database tabs to narrow down the search target and easily find exactly the material you are looking for. (Image 1)

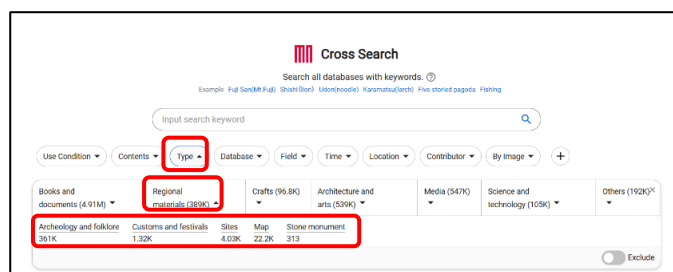


Image 1: Cross Search

<https://jpsearch.go.jp/csearch/jps-cross?csid=jps-cross>

Finding material in galleries

Material on regional communities can also be found in annotated collections on a variety of subject matter, known as galleries. By providing users with annotated collections of materials, these galleries serve as guides on various subject matter. And galleries related to a particular region have materials that are organized into easy-to-understand categories, such as associated figures, famous products and local specialties, or famous places and historic sites. (Image 2 and 3)

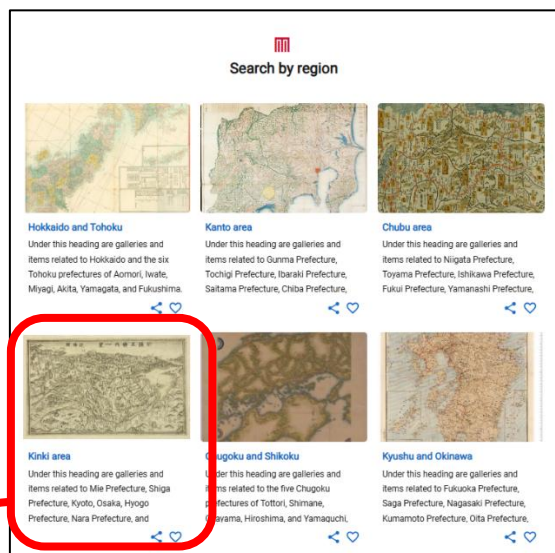
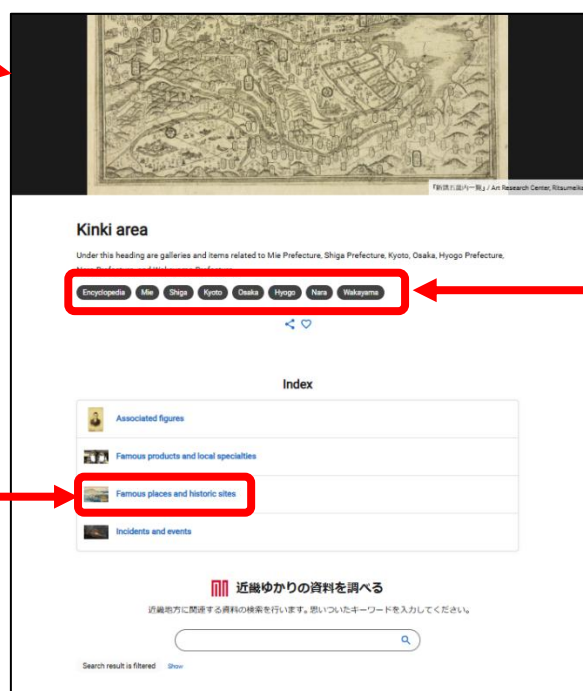


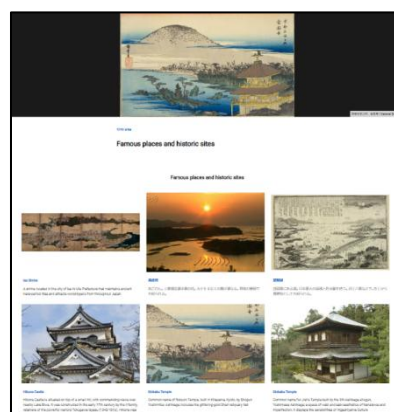
Image 2: Galleries <https://jpsearch.go.jp/gallery>



You can use the prefecture tags to search for related galleries.

Image 3: Kinki area in the galleries
<https://jpsearch.go.jp/gallery/ndl-6kZ7kGQQV6Z>

Use the categories to search for associated figures, famous products and local specialties, famous places and historic sites, incidents and events, and more.



Finding material using Designed Searches

The Designed Search function displays the results of predefined searches on a specific topic. This function is used by Japan Search partner institutions to create search windows that filter search targets based on predefined criteria and then make those results available on Japan Search. For example, by using the Designed Search “National Treasure and Important Cultural Property Search,” a user can easily find material on cultural artifacts in content from multiple databases. (Image 4)



Image 4: Designed Search “National Treasure and Important Cultural Property Search”
<https://jpsearch.go.jp/csearch/ndl-rNAJzKOb8qfR1xp?csid=ndl-rNAJzKOb8qfR1xp>

Designed Search also enables users to filter search targets and create their own collection of material by specifying items from a variety of databases. This function is useful for finding and retrieving information on a particular subject. (Image 5)

The Designed Search function can be accessed from the footer of the Japan Search top page.

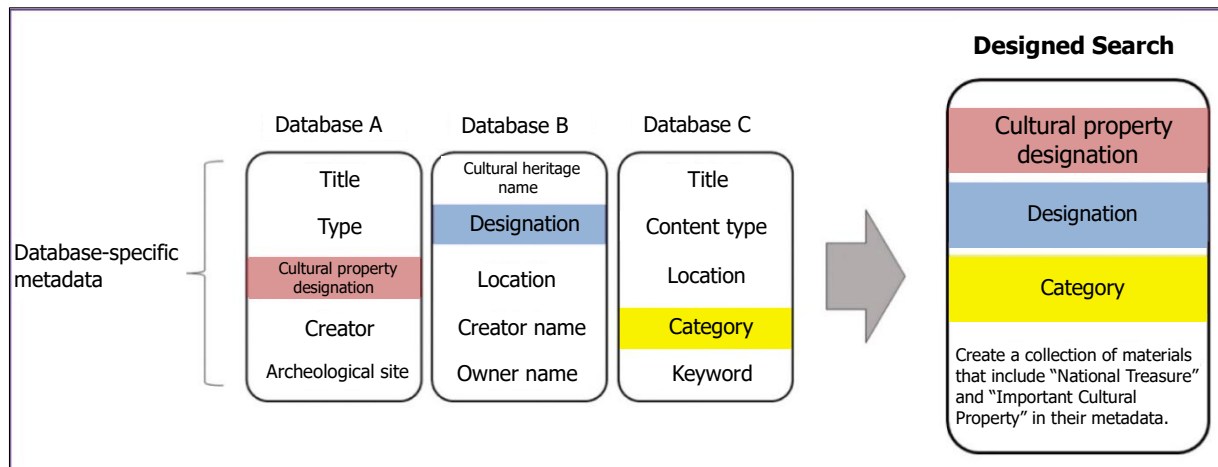


Image 5: Conceptual diagram of “National Treasure and Important Cultural Property Search”

This functionality is partially available to ordinary users via My Search. A My Search window can be created by accessing the icon in the upper right corner of the Japan Search top page. (Image 6)

The search window created in My Search cannot be made public on the Japan Search website, but otherwise its basic functions are the same as the Designed Search function described above. Saved search criteria can be shared with other users through the export/import function. My Search is useful in a variety of ways, such as when you want a search window to repeatedly target a

specific database or to research the history and culture of a specific region.

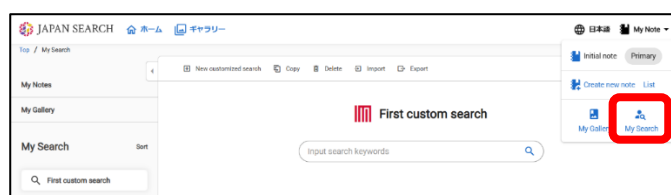


Image 6: My Search edit page

Using the Japan Search Cross Search function! (Ueda City Digital Archive Cross Search)

Through partnership with Japan Search, archive organizations can create search windows that filter specific criteria and then publish them on Japan Search or embed them in other websites.

Shown below is a page created by Ueda City using the Designed Search function to find materials held at multiple institutions in Ueda.



<https://jpsearch.go.jp/organization/UedaUMIC>

Putting material about regional communities to good use

Japan Search includes functionality that enables the reuse of linked materials. The Editor function enables partner institutions to create galleries and publish them as Japan Search content. Partner institutions can make their collections more widely available by creating galleries on subjects like local history and culture or the people associated with a community. (Image 7)

The My Gallery function enables anyone to curate content by creating a digital exhibition using either material linked to Japan Search or content from other websites. (Image 8) And because My Gallery enables online collaboration, it can be used by schools for things like community and disaster management studies.

So far, we have looked at some examples of how Japan Search's curation functions can be used, but now let's look at some other ways that Japan Search is useful. Some of Japan Search's partner institutions use digital archives for promoting local tourism. For example, Nanjo City in Okinawa has placed QR codes with links to old photos in digital archives on information placards and other locations throughout the city, so that visitors can compare old photos and receive explanations while viewing the present cityscape.

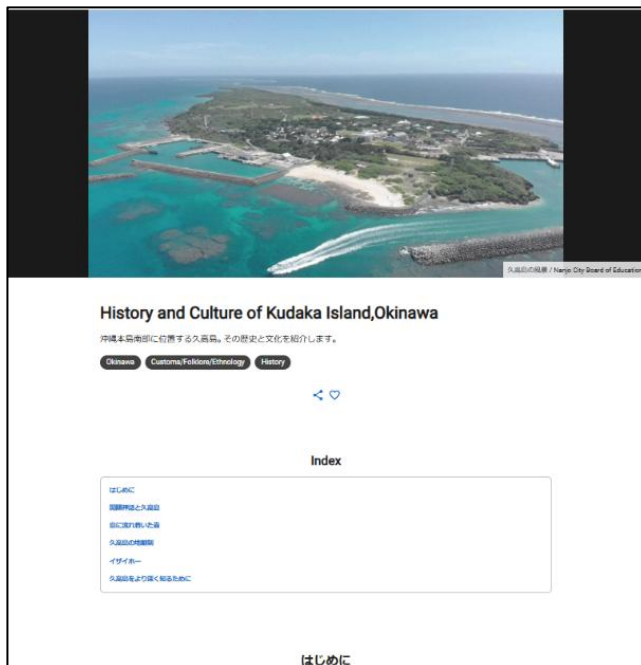


Image 7: Galleries created by Japan Search partner institutions

Left: History and Culture of Kudaka Island, Okinawa, created by the Nanjo City Board of Education, Okinawa

https://jpsearch.go.jp/gallery/okinawa_nanjo-O12QoVzMvrd

Right: KUWABARA Yojiro's Art Tour in Europe and the U.S.A.: Focusing on Anglo-Japanese Expositions, created by Shimane University Library

https://jpsearch.go.jp/gallery/libshimane_u-wkl7RdnDJw

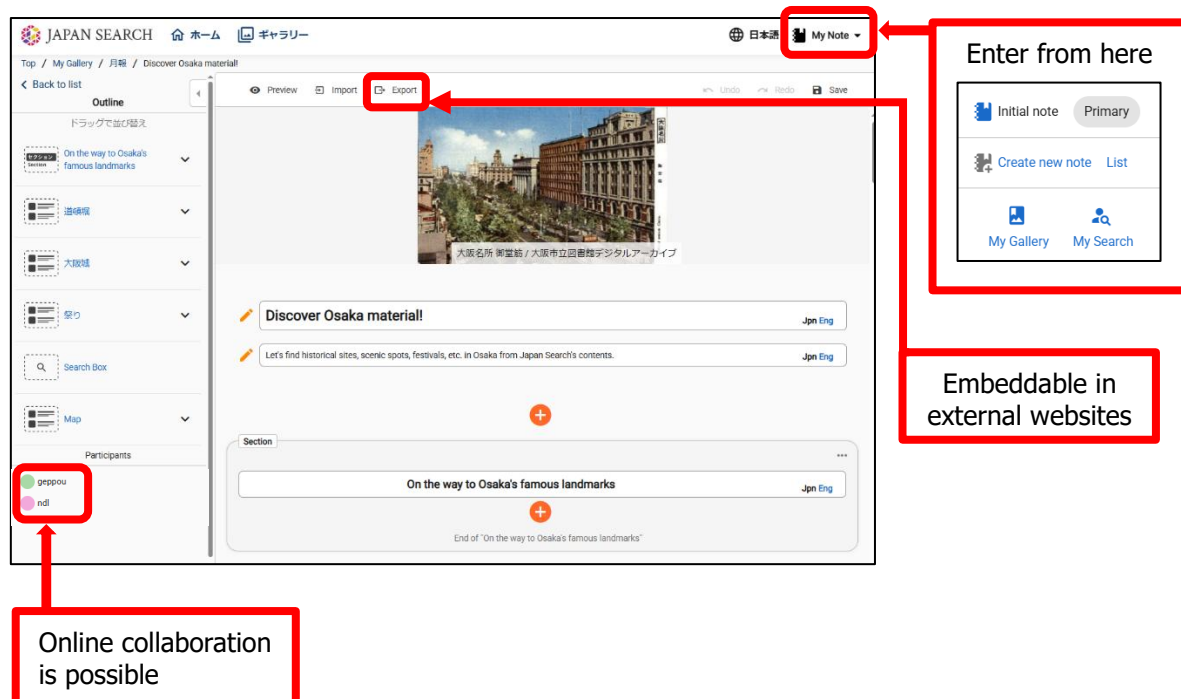


Image 8: My Gallery edit page (<https://jpsearch.go.jp/mygallery>) (example)

Redistributing material about regional communities

The combined use of different Japan Search functionalities is a good way to expand the range of use of material on regional communities. For example, image 9 through 11 were created by combining the My Gallery and My Search functionality. There are many other uses, too, such as mini exhibitions for promoting material on local communities and aiding students in their communities studies. Another use is plotting and displaying content on a map to create a guide to famous places and historical sites. (Image 10) The pages created this way can be exported in html format so that the information can be redistributed on other websites.

Japan Search enables users to find a vast amount of content on regional communities as well as combine different functionalities in making use of that content. Now that you have seen how it works, why don't you try your hand at using Japan Search to find material on regional communities and to redistribute that content in promoting regional history and culture.

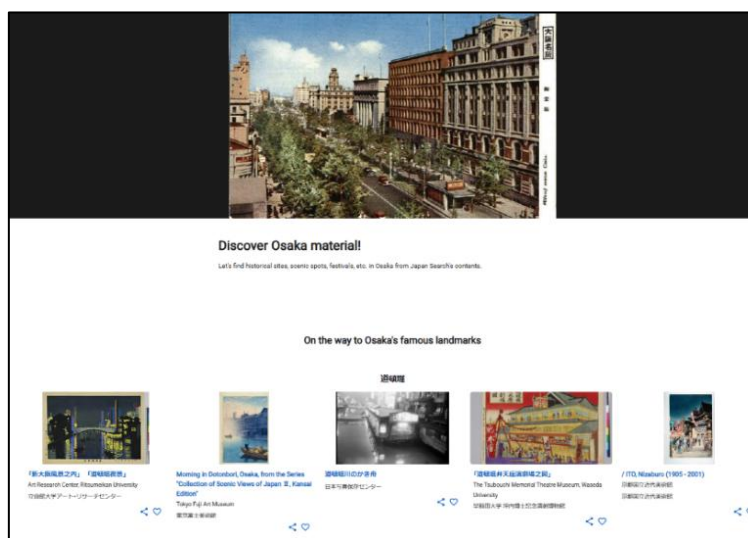


Image 9: Content created using My Gallery to introduce material on regional communities (example)

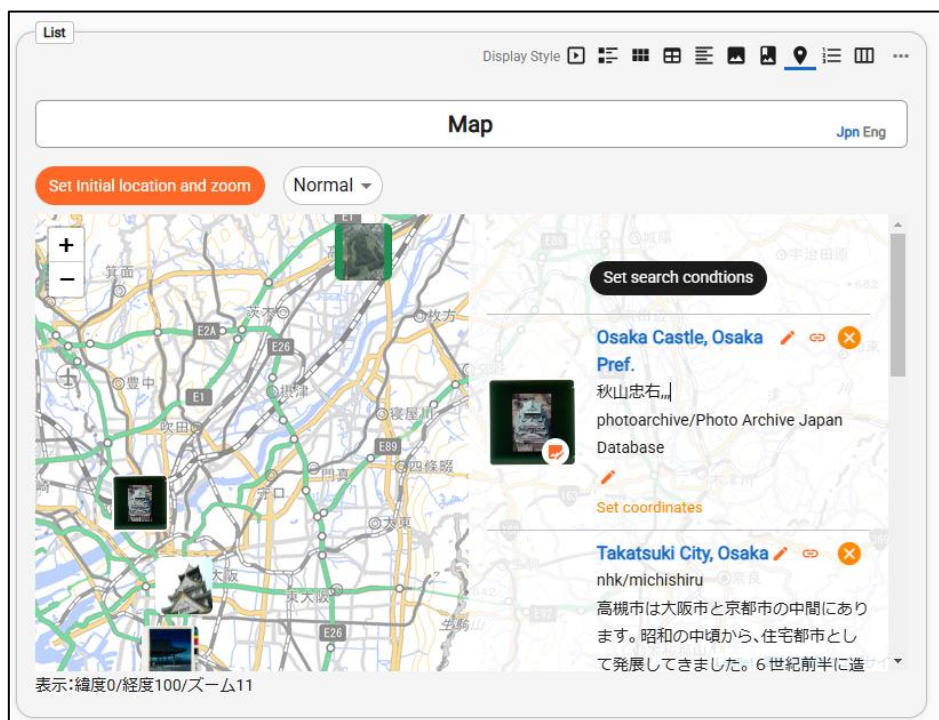


Image 10: Map display using My Gallery (example)

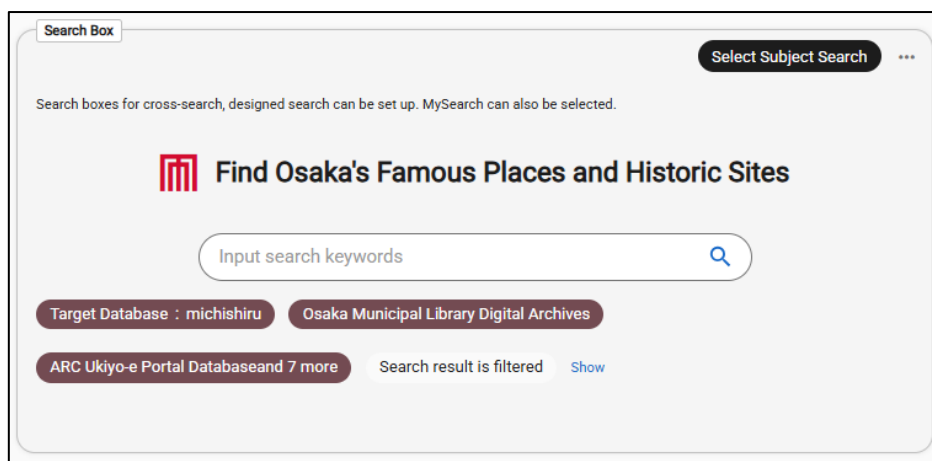


Image 11: My Search window "Find Osaka's Famous Places and Historic Sites" (example)

(Translated by OGAWA Kanako)

Related articles from the NDL Newsletter:

- [Official version of Japan Search has become available!](#) (No. 233, November 2020)
- [Using Japan Search—Ideas for education, research, and community activities](#) (No. 239, June 2021)

Selected list of articles from NDL periodicals

The NDL Monthly Bulletin No. 769, May 2025/ No.770, June 2025

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).

No. 769, May 2025 (PDF: 11.5 MB)

- <Book of the month — from NDL collections>
Rational living: Habits that change and habits that stay the same
- Symposium
Building on the 'Digital Shift': Implications for the future in the Library of Congress' new strategic plan
- Lectures related to the exhibition "The Hans Christian Andersen Awards": Ms. KADONO Eiko and Ms. DOI Yasuko
- New series: "A selection from the seals and stamps of authors and publishers"
Part 1: Animals adorning colophons
- <Tidbits of information on NDL>
Expanding the world through proofreading
- <Books not commercially available>
"Edo meishozu byobu" to toshi no hanayagi = Folding screens of "Famous views of Edo" and the lures of the colorful city
- <NDL Topics>

No. 770, June 2025 (PDF: 5.72 MB)

- <Book of the month — from NDL collections>
Shin manga no egakikata: Manga artist OKAMOTO Ippei and the age of democratization
- Please Buy and Read Our Newly Published Books:
TSUTAYA Juzaburo's publications in the collection of the National Diet Library
- Travel writing on world libraries
The Mohammed Bin Rashid Library in the UAE
- <Tidbits of information on NDL>
What lies ahead for digitization?
- <Books not commercially available>
Horoyoi · hyogo: Sake to hito no bunkashi: Tokubetsuten
- <NDL Topics>