

## **COUNTRY REPORT - JAPAN**

(For CDNLAO Meeting on 26 March 2006)

### **The Year 2005: General Overview**

#### **The National Diet Library in FY2005**

The NDL has been continuing its efforts to providing better service through its three facilities, that is, the Tokyo Main Library, the Kansai-kan and the International Library of Children's Literature. The NDL has continued working to make progress in the following four priority areas defined in "NDL Vision 2004" which is the mid-and-long-term basic policies of the NDL: 1) Enhancement of legislative support function; 2) Creation of digital archives; 3) Improvement of access to information resources; and 4) Promotion of cooperation.

In 2004 the NDL also introduced an evaluation system to inform the people of its performance. In the framework of this evaluation system, the NDL sets up specific objectives and standards every fiscal year to fulfill the NDL Vision 2004 and publishes the results of the evaluation in the following fiscal year. Year 2005 was the first year that the NDL published the evaluation reports. (see [http://www.ndl.go.jp/en/aboutus/ndl\\_vision.html](http://www.ndl.go.jp/en/aboutus/ndl_vision.html))

The NDL continues to make efforts to implement the plan depicted in the report submitted to the Librarian of the NDL by the Legal Deposit System Council in December 2004, which recommends that the NDL should collect and preserve Internet information outside of the framework of the Legal Deposit System. The NDL set up an internal committee to discuss issues related to the matter and promote the necessary legislation. The committee summed up the "Basic policy for institutionalization of acquisition and provision of content on the Internet" in April and asked for public comments on the policy. Taking into account the result of the public comments, the NDL revised the basic policy to limit the domain of the contents to be acquired.

The NDL has also continued to work on its digitization project. The Digital Library from the Meiji Era was opened to the public in October 2002 featuring about 33,000 volumes. Now digitization and copyright clearance of almost all the NDL's books published in the Meiji Era (1868-1912), excluding children's books and books in Western languages, has been finished. Copyright clearance includes research of the expiration date of the copyright, receiving permission from the copyright holders, and in other cases obtaining compulsory copyright release from the Commissioner for Cultural Affairs. As a result of the addition in April 2006, the content will cover 90,000 titles, 130,000 volumes and 14,890,000 images. At the time of the addition, we

will change image the format to JPEG and JPEG2000 to enable print and download in PDF format. We will make system improvements such as introduction of OAI-PMH (Open Archives Initiative Protocol for Metadata Harvesting) to distribute metadata, which enables the data of the Library to be included in the NDL Digital Archive Portal.

Important progress was also made during FY2005 to add a significant collection to the NDL holding: the NDL signed a memorandum of understanding with the University of Maryland (UM) of the United States on the project of reformatting the books of the Prange Collection. The Prange Collection is held by the UM Library and covers the publications issued in Japan during the immediate post-World War II years (1945-1949) under the Allied Powers' occupation. When completed, this project will fill a big gap of the NDL collection as a historical addition.

As the IFLA/PAC Regional Centre for Asia, the NDL continues to work together with the other two Centres in the Asia and Oceania region, National Library of Australia and National Library of China, to promote awareness of the importance of cooperative activities in preservation. To provide catalysis for further advance in cooperative activities, the NDL held on December 6, 2005, an Open seminar on the documentary heritage damaged by the Indian Ocean Tsunami, to which the NDL invited directors of the National Library of Indonesia, Mr. Dady P. Rachmananta, and the National Library of Sri Lanka, Mr. Upali Amarasiri, as guest speakers. Mr. Rachmananta and Mr. Amarasiri delivered reports on the actual situation of the affected countries. The seminar attracted a wide audience and successfully raised the awareness of the Japanese public and librarians on disaster prevention. On the day after the seminar, the NDL hosted a meeting of the Directors of the IFLA/PAC Regional Centres in Asia and others, attended by the IFLA/PAC Programme Director, Ms. Marie-Thérèse Varlamoff, and other IFLA/PAC Regional Centre officers from the National Library of Australia and the National Library of China, and a preservation officer from the National Library of Korea.

### Library Administration/ Organization

In Japan the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology is responsible for library administration. Though the NDL belongs to the legislative branch and has no power to administrate libraries in Japan, it has a responsibility to assist them by every appropriate means.

#### (1) Library Organizational Structure (National Map) (as of 2005)

(i.e.) Number of

- Library Councils/Associations/Foundations

Associations	16
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Councils	16
Learned societies	14
Study groups, etc.	19

- Public Libraries 2,953
- Academic Libraries 1,664
- Special/Private Libraries 975 (as of 2003)
- Government Libraries 159 (as of 2003)

*References: Statistics on Libraries in Japan 2005*

*Directory of Special Libraries, Japan 2003*

(2) New Libraries that are being built (av. Annually, how many last FY)

New libraries built in 2004:

Public Libraries	128
Academic Libraries	21

*Reference: Statistics on Libraries in Japan 2005*

**Collection Profile**

- Total volume of collection at the national level (as of 2005)

Public Libraries	344,856,000
Academic Libraries	292,818,000
Special/Private Libraries	Approximately 26,101,000 (as of 2003)
Government Libraries	Approximately 11,306,000 (as of 2003)
National Diet Library	8,369,233 (as of March 2004, books only)

*References: Statistics on Libraries in Japan 2005*

*Directory of Special Libraries, Japan, 2003*

*Annual Report of the National Diet Library (FY2004)*

- Unique Collections/Rare Collections (describe)

Major collections of the National Diet Library:

**Modern Japanese Political History Documents**

Collections of private papers which trace Japanese modern political history in and after the latter half of the 19th century. The 300,000 items comprise mainly diaries, letters, drafts and memorandums once owned by eminent statesmen, diplomats,

military men, government officials and businessmen who were involved in modern Japanese politics.

### **Materials on the Allied Occupation of Japan**

A microform collection of documents concerning the Allied Occupation of Japan in the post WWⅡ period. The main part of the collection comprises documents of GHQ/SCAP (General Headquarters, Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers) currently owned by the U.S. National Archives & Records Administration.

### **Laws and Parliamentary Records**

The greatest collection of laws and parliamentary materials in Japan, comprising 180,000 Japanese and 200,000 foreign books, 380,000 volumes in total, and 620,000 items in microform. They include minutes and other parliamentary documents of about 70 countries and areas, and official gazettes, statutes, court reports and treaties of about 150 countries.

### **Map Collection**

Approximately 490,000 domestic and foreign maps. A collection of official maps of Japan since the Meiji Era, such as topographic maps, geological maps and hydrographic charts, and topographic and other kinds of maps of foreign countries.

### **Musical Materials**

Approximately 520,000 copies of phonographic records and CDs issued in Japan are held by the Library.

### **Foreign Books on Japan**

Since the era of the Imperial Library, the predecessor of the NDL, books on Japan written in foreign languages have been given high priority in the acquisition policy.

### **Science and Technology Materials**

The collection includes technical reports, doctoral dissertations of foreign countries, papers of academic associations, proceedings in western languages, national and international standards, and patents of foreign countries.

### **Rare Books and Old Materials**

The NDL holds about 300,000 volumes of rare books, semi-rare books, Japanese old books up to the Edo Period, Chinese old books up to the Ch'ing Dynasty, Dutch books,

etc. They include special collections such as *The Tokugawa Shogunate Government Succession Documents*, *Ito Bunko*, *Shirai Bunko*, and *Shinjo Bunko*.

### **"Ito Bunko, Shirai Bunko"**

These two collections comprise a combined total of about 8,000 handwritten and block-printed books produced from the Edo to the Meiji Period on the subject of "honzo" or medicinal herbs.

### **"Shinjo Bunko"**

This is a collection of 11,000 items of old writings on astronomy and calendars.

### **Asian Materials**

The collection contains materials in Chinese, Korean and other Asian languages as well as Japanese and Western languages concerning East Asia, Southeast Asia, South Asia, Central Asia, the Middle East and North Africa.

*Reference: National Diet Library booklet  
(August 2005)*

- **Bibliographies and Indexes Published**

Bibliographies and indexes published by the National Diet Library in FY 2004:

- a) **Catalog of Books**

- Book Catalog**

- Japanese National Bibliography Weekly List (Weekly)

- CD-R**

- JAPAN□MARC(M) [Japanese National Bibliography (Books)] (1977-) (Weekly)

- CD-ROM**

- J-BISC [Japanese National Bibliography (Books)] Current Edition (1992-) (6/Y)

- b) **Catalog of Serials**

- CD-R**

- JAPAN□MARC(S) [Japanese National Bibliography (Serials)] (2/Y)

- c) **Japanese Periodicals Index**

- CD-R**

- National Diet Library Japanese Periodicals Index CD-R (25/Y)

- HD or DAT**

## National Diet Library Japanese Periodicals Index (1948-2003)

### d) Special Bibliographies

NDL CD-ROM Line: National Union Catalog of Braille and Recorded Books (2/Y)

*Reference: Guide to available NDL publication (Supplement), National Diet Library Monthly Bulletin, February 2006*

- National Databases

a) **Web-accessible NDL databases and information services:** for details, see “Digital Library Services”

National Diet Library Online Public Access Catalog (NDL-OPAC)

NDL Asian Language Materials OPAC

Japanese National Bibliography Weekly List

Books on Japan

Bibliography of Persons in Modern Japanese Politics

Statistical Materials for Learning about Japan

Database Navigation Service (Dnavi)

Directory of Japanese Scientific Periodicals

*Reference: National Diet Library website*

*<http://www.ndl.go.jp/en/data/opac.html>*

b) **Union Catalogs managed by the NDL**

National Union Catalog Network

Union Catalog of Newspapers in Japan Database

National Union Catalog of Braille and Recorded Books (included in NDL-OPAC)

ILCL Union Catalog Database of Children's Literature

*Reference: National Diet Library website*

*[http://www.ndl.go.jp/jp/library/backlist\\_network.html](http://www.ndl.go.jp/jp/library/backlist_network.html)*

## Services

- **National Bibliographic (Agency) Services**

Provision of the national bibliography

“Japanese National Bibliography” is available on the NDL website

<[http://www.ndl.go.jp/jp/publication/jnbwl/jnb\\_top.html](http://www.ndl.go.jp/jp/publication/jnbwl/jnb_top.html)>. It is published weekly on the Internet and covers books, serials and electronic publications. Maps, audio-visual materials and Asian materials published in Japan have been covered since FY2003.

- **Reference Services**

a) NDL launched the Collaborative Reference Database System in April 2005 after a three-year trial period. It collects and makes available reference inquiries and answers to them provided by the NDL and other libraries in Japan.

b) NDL is also developing the Reference Information System that consists of several databases useful for reference services.

- **Lending Services**

Volumes lent out: (as of FY 2004)

Public Libraries	631,961,000
Academic Libraries	30,113,988
Government Libraries *	178,257
National Diet Library	51,269

\*Statistics of national government libraries only

References: *Statistics on Libraries in Japan 2005*

- **Digital Library Services (Digital Library services and projects of the NDL)**

(1) The following online catalogs, bibliography and databases are available on the NDL website.

< <http://www.ndl.go.jp/en/index.html> >

a) **NDL-OPAC (National Diet Library Online Public Access Catalog)** < <http://opac.ndl.go.jp/> > covers books, serials and newspapers in Japanese and Western languages, Japanese Periodicals Index, Japanese doctoral dissertations, digital resources, standards, technical reports, etc. Registered users can request online copying service.

b) **NDL Asian Language Materials OPAC** <[http://asiaopac.ndl.go.jp/index\\_e.html](http://asiaopac.ndl.go.jp/index_e.html) > covers Asian books and periodicals.

c) **Japanese National Bibliography Weekly List** (see “National Bibliographic (Agency) Services”)

d) **Books on Japan**

<[http://www.ndl.go.jp/en/publication/books\\_on\\_japan/boj\\_top\\_E.html](http://www.ndl.go.jp/en/publication/books_on_japan/boj_top_E.html) > provides bibliographic information of books on Japan in Western languages processed by the National Diet Library (NDL) in and after 2002 on a quarterly basis.

**e) Directory of Japanese Scientific Periodicals Database** covers serials on science and technology edited and published by organizations operating in Japan.

**f) Full-Text Database System for the Minutes of the Diet** <<http://kokkai.ndl.go.jp/>> offers search and full-text display of debates in the plenary sessions and committee meetings of both Houses since the 1st session (May, 1947).

**g) Database System for the Minutes of the Imperial Diet** <<http://teikokugikai-i.ndl.go.jp/>> provides access to the proceedings from the 91st session to the 92nd session □November 1946 to March 1947□as of February 2006. By the end of FY2009 it will provide access to image data of 300,000 pages of minutes including supplements, tables of contents and indexes, covering all the sessions of the Imperial Diet and text data of the stenographic records and supplements of the 88th-92nd sessions.

**h) Rare Books Image Database** provides colorful images from the collections of the NDL published mostly in the Edo Period. Image data can be searched and viewed for enjoyment.

**i) Digital Library from the Meiji Era** is an image database of the books published in the Meiji Period held by the NDL. (See “The Year 2005: General Overview”)

**j) Electronic Exhibition** includes “Rare Books of the National Diet Library,” “Nippon in the World,” “Birth of the Constitution of Japan,” “The Japanese Calendar,” “Japanese Ex-libris Stamps,” “Portraits of Modern Japanese Historical Figures,” “Incunabula □ Dawn of Western Printing,” “Fauna and Flora in Illustrations – Natural History of the Edo era □,” etc.

**k) Bibliography of Persons in Modern Japanese Politics** is a bibliography of selected Japanese books that have been published since the Meiji period about Japanese involved with modern Japanese politics.

(2) The NDL is conducting the following test projects:

**a) Dnavi (Database Navigation Service)** helps users to find databases on the Internet.

**b) WARP (Web Archiving Project)** collects and preserves websites and online periodicals on the Internet as cultural heritage.

**c) Digital Archive Portal** provides an integrated search function over various digital



contents in Japan. The prototype system has been test-run since FY2004.

- **Literacy/ Reading Promotion Programs**

The International Library of Children's Literature (ILCL), a branch of the NDL, offers services to children, in cooperation with local libraries, aiming at awakening them to the pleasure of reading and providing opportunities for familiarity with books and libraries. In addition to the regular reader services, storytelling and guided tours, the ILCL conducted the following activities in FY2004:

- a) Workshops: "making a mini picture book from a sheet of paper" and "spring pleasure meeting"
- b) Exhibitions: "Wisdom of Lotus – Children's Literature in India" and "Animals in Children's Books II □ the Chinese Zodiac as Keyword"
- c) Book Sets Lending Service for school libraries\*: started lending out the "Canada and USA set" in addition to the "Korean set," the "Scandinavian set" and the "World set."  
\* This service provides boxes of books on a specific subject to elementary schools, junior high schools and high schools with the purpose of expanding children's understanding of foreign countries. One box contains about 40 books, which are lent out for a month.

- **Inter-library loan and Exchange services**

- (1) Inter-library loan

In FY2004, the NDL lent out 14,670 items to 3,289 institutions and libraries including libraries overseas. Requests are made via NDL-OPAC, postal mail, fax and through the NDL-ILL system. The number of requests via NDL-OPAC was 8,564 (56 % of all the requests). For copying service, the NDL received 180,486 requests (for 268,214 articles) from remote users.

The guideline on how to apply for the international loan service is on the NDL website.  
<http://www.ndl.go.jp/en/service/oversea/index.html>

- (2) Exchange

In FY2004, the NDL received 4,803 official publications and 941 commercial publications through international exchange, and provided 28,974 official publications and 363 commercial publications.

International Exchange of Publications

[http://www.ndl.go.jp/en/aboutus/cooperation\\_exchange.html](http://www.ndl.go.jp/en/aboutus/cooperation_exchange.html)

- **Special Services – (eg. Disadvantaged, etc.)**

Since April 2002 the NDL has been producing recorded academic literature in DAISY

(Digital Accessible Information System) format CD-ROMs.

### Copyright/ Intellectual Property Rights

- Number of Copyright Clearance Centres 37

*Reference: Agency for Cultural Affairs website*

*<http://www.bunka.go.jp/ejigyouscript/ipzenframe.asp>*

### Professionalization / Training / Continuing Professional Education

- Number of Professional Librarians (as of 2005)

Public Libraries	full-time librarian	7,084
	full-time staff	7,218
	concurrent librarian	116
	concurrent staff	1,223
	part-time librarian	4,075.1**
	part-time staff	2,547.8**
	temporary librarian	2,545.2**
	temporary staff	4,111.4**
Academic Libraries	full-time staff (including librarians)	6,846
	concurrent staff (including librarians)	1,487
	part-time staff (including librarians)	2,312
	temporary staff (including librarians)	2,394
Government Libraries*	full-time staff (including librarians)	128
	concurrent staff (including librarians)	86
National Diet Library	full-time staff (including librarians)	940

\*Statistics of national government libraries only

\*\*Calculated based on one person = 1,500 working hours / year

*References: Statistics on Libraries in Japan 2005*

*Directory of Special Libraries, Japan 2004*

- Number of Library training schools

Number of schools that have courses for librarians and for teacher librarians: (as of FY2005)

For librarians	246
For teacher librarians	56

Reference: Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology website

[http://www.mext.go.jp/a\\_menu/shougai/gakugei/shisyo/04040502.htm](http://www.mext.go.jp/a_menu/shougai/gakugei/shisyo/04040502.htm)

[http://www.mext.go.jp/b\\_menu/houdou/17/06/05060101/001.htm](http://www.mext.go.jp/b_menu/houdou/17/06/05060101/001.htm)

## Infrastructure

The NDL finished the renovation of the Tokyo Main Library in 2004. We are now considering the expansion of the facilities for the International Library of Children's Literature (ILCL) in accordance with the recommendation of the Board of Inquiry on Expansion of Library Services of the ILCL.

## **Connectivity at National/ Regional/ International Levels**

In February 2005 it was estimated that about 70 million of the Japanese population had Internet access, an increase of about 4 million over the previous year. The rate of increase seems to be slowing down. It was also estimated that 55.4% of Japanese households had Internet access at home. (Source: <http://www.iajapan.org/iwp/>)

## Conclusion

As the IFLA 2006 Seoul Conference is drawing near, the NDL is now preparing to host two IFLA-related events to take up this opportunity to be a neighbor country: 1) Preservation and Conservation in Asia Pre-conference (August 16-17) and 2) a professional tour of the ILCL and other children's libraries. (For more information on the Pre-conference, see <http://ifla.org/IV/ifla72/satellite-e.htm>).

The NDL will continue to work to realize the objectives envisaged in the NDL Vision 2004 and will strive to contribute more to the Asia and Oceania region especially in the areas of its strength.