Kansai-kan of the National Diet Library
The Role of the National Diet Library and the Purpose of the Kansai-kan

The National Diet Library (NDL) was established by the National Diet Library Law in 1948 as a library belonging to the legislature. It collects and preserves all publications issued in Japan under the legal deposit system, and draws up and provides the Japanese National Bibliography. It also undertakes to create a large, selective collection of foreign publications. The NDL provides extensive library services to the National Diet, all of the executive and judicial branches, and to the general public as well, drawing from these collected materials. The Kansai-kan of the NDL was established in April 2002 and opened in October of the same year to secure storage space for the long term, to meet the demands of the advanced information society in the 21st century and to serve as a large-scale information service facility in the Kansai region. It is located in Kansai Science City, a research complex straddling the borders of Kyoto, Osaka, and Nara Prefectures.

The Kansai-kan’s position in the NDL

The NDL consists of the Central Library and a series of Branch Libraries. The Central Library is composed of both the Tokyo Main Library and the Kansai-kan. The Kansai-kan comprises the Administrative Division, Public Services Division, Asian Resources Division, Acquisitions and Cataloging Division, Library Support Division and Digital Library Division.

Main Functions of the Tokyo Main Library

- **General Administration**
  - NDL Administration
  - Planning for cooperation with libraries in Japan and other countries

- **Services**
  - Legislative services to the Diet
  - Library services to government and judicial branches
  - On-site services
  - Reference services

- **Infrastructure Maintenance**
  - Drawing up and implementing acquisition and preservation policies
  - Compiling the Japanese National Bibliography

Main Collections in the Tokyo Main Library

- Books, periodicals and digital publications published in Japan collected under the legal deposit system
- Foreign books and periodicals to support legislative research
- Special collections:
  - Laws and parliamentary documents, Japanese government and international agency documents, old books, modern Japanese political history materials, Materials on the Allied Occupation of Japan, maps, audiovisual materials
- Other reference books and standard works from Japan and abroad, bibliographies and catalogs

Main Functions of the Kansai-kan

- **Services**
  - Contact for remote services
  - On-site services
  - Reference services
  - Asian information services

- **Library cooperation programs**
  - Operation of the National Union Catalog Network
  - Development and operation of the Collaborative Reference Database System
  - Research in library and information science and training programs for librarians
  - Cooperation to libraries for people with disabilities

- **Digital library programs**
  - Creation and provision of digital library content
  - Development, operation and research of digital library systems

Main Collections in the Kansai-kan

- For remote services:
  - Frequently used Japanese periodicals, foreign periodicals, science and technology materials, Japanese doctoral dissertations, scientific research reports under grants from the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology and recorded academic literature
  - For research:
    - Reference works and standard books from Japan and abroad, bibliographies and catalogs, and government publications
- Asian-language and Asia-related materials
The Kansai-kan comprises the Administrative Division, Public Services Division, Library Division, and Digital Library Division. The National Diet Library (NDL) consists of the Central Library and a series of Branch Libraries. The Central Library is located in the Kansai region and is part of Kansai Science City, a research complex straddling the borders of Kyoto, Osaka, and Nara Prefectures. The Kansai-kan of the NDL was established in April 2002 and opened in October of the same year to secure storage space for the long term preservation of materials collected under the legal deposit system and to meet the demands of the advanced information society in the 21st century and to serve as a large-scale information service facility in the Kansai region. It is located in Kansai Science City, a research complex straddling the borders of Kyoto, Osaka, and Nara Prefectures.

The Kansai-kan has planned a total future storage capacity of up to 20 million volumes.

### Statistics

#### NDL in figures (as of FY2012)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Collections</th>
<th>Number of materials newly acquired in FY2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1,042,082 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Books</td>
<td>215,406 volumes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Periodicals and newspapers</td>
<td>574,509 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Microforms</td>
<td>185,986 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recorded materials</td>
<td>12,311 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Machine-readable materials (CDs, etc.)</td>
<td>8,100 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maps</td>
<td>4,977 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manuscripts</td>
<td>12,394 items</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Storage capacity

- Tokyo Main Library: 12,000,000 volumes (Main building: 4,500,000 volumes, Annex: 7,500,000 volumes)
- Kansai-kan of the NDL: 6,000,000 volumes
- International Library of Children’s Literature: 400,000 volumes

#### Services for the public

- Reference services: 977,500 cases
- Reading services: 2,164,412 items
- Photoduplication requests: 1,356,194 cases
- On-site users: 683,788 people
  - Tokyo Main Library: 507,102 (1,811 per day on average)
  - Kansai-kan of the NDL: 64,767 (231 per day on average)
  - International Library of Children’s Literature: 111,919 (390 per day on average)

#### Collection in the Kansai-kan

**Books**
- In Japanese: 1,520,000 volumes
- In Western languages: 75,700 volumes

**Serials**
- Periodicals and newspapers in Japanese: 60,700 titles
- Periodicals and newspapers in Western languages: 44,600 titles

**Scientific research reports under grants from the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology**
- 168,000 items

**Domestic doctoral dissertations**
- 578,000 items

**Science and Technology materials**
- Foreign technical reports: 2,648,000 items
- Foreign doctoral dissertations: 475,000 items
- Foreign academic society papers: 182,000 items
- Conference proceedings in Western languages: 83,000 items

**Materials in Asian languages other than Japanese**
- Books: 361,000 volumes
- Periodicals and newspapers: 8,700 titles

**Digitalized materials**
- Rare books and Old Materials: 90,000 items
- Japanese Books: 900,000 volumes
- Japanese Periodicals: 1,060,000 volumes
- Historical Recordings: 50,000 items
- Official Gazettes: 20,000 items
- Digitized doctoral Dissertations: 140,000 items
- Modern Japanese political history materials: 140 items
- Materials on the Allied Occupation of Japan: 18,000 items
- Prange Collection: 3,500 items

**Publications collected from the Internet**
- 192,000 records

**Web Archiving Project (WARP)-websites**
- 7,600 titles

**Collaborative Reference Database Project**
- 119,000 cases
On-site Services

The General Collections Room and the Asian Resources Room are side by side in a large hall, about 100 by 45 meters in size. The General Collections Room contains about 90,000 reference books and major periodicals and newspapers, and the Asian Resources Room has about 30,000 works on Asia, and major periodicals and newspapers. There are 350 reading desks, most with computer terminals for retrieving materials and for reading digital publications. Most other materials are stored in the stacks, and they are available on request.

Services available at the Kansai-kan include:

- Access to printed materials from open shelves and digital materials
- Reading and reservation for materials from the stacks (registered users only)
- Obtaining materials from the Tokyo Main Library and the International Library of Children’s Literature (registered users only)
- Guidance on research methodology and the use of bibliographies and catalogs, and links to other research facilities
- Copying of library materials

Open Shelves in the General Collections Room
Reference works in all fields (except those in the Asian Resources Room), abstracts and indexes, official Japanese publications including laws and parliamentary documents, library and information science materials, major periodicals and newspapers, and Japanese telephone directories.

Open Shelves in the Asian Resources Room
Reference works, general works and major periodicals and newspapers in Japanese, Western and Asian languages concerning East, Southeast, South and Central Asia, the Middle East and North Africa.

Use of Materials
In principle, all materials in the Kansai-kan are available to people aged 18 or over *(proof of address, name, and birth date required for registration). Materials may be viewed in the library or copied. Visitors with physical limitations should consult the Public Services Division. *

Copying Services
No loans to private individuals are available. However, materials in the Kansai-kan can be copied within the limits of the Copyright Law. The following types of services are available: same-day photoduplication (collecting on-site at the counter); later date photoduplication service (sent by mail at a later date); self-service photoduplication (application at the counter is required.)

Digital Resources
Digitized materials of the NDL, online journals, databases of newspapers etc. and digital resources such as CD/DVD. Materials can be printed out (with some exceptions) but they cannot be downloaded and taken out of the library.
Remote Services

Part of the mission of the Kansai-kan is to provide the public across Japan with access to materials held in the National Diet Library. Interlibrary loan service for NDL materials is available through a nearby library and requested items can be read inside the library. Copies of NDL materials can be requested and obtained through a nearby library. Registered users can directly request copies of library materials via the NDL website. Reference services are available by telephone at the Tokyo Main Library and the Kansai-kan. Reference requests by letter or fax are accepted at the Tokyo Main Library.

Stacks

The Kansai-kan has fixed-shelf stacks, compact-shelf stacks and microfilm storage facilities. A section of the third and fourth sub-basement floors is cut away to make a well-hole that contains automatic stacks capable of holding about 1.4 million volumes. Bar-coded materials in the automatic stacks are picked up automatically by the container. The stacks are kept at 22˚C with 55% humidity for resource preservation, and equipped with nitrogen gas fire extinguishers. A conveyor system delivers requested materials to service counters.
Digital Services

The policy of the National Diet Library is to deliver primary information (books and other materials) and secondary information (catalogs and bibliographies) electronically over communications networks. Electronic access to requested materials will be possible at any time, for anyone, from anywhere, via the NDL website.

**NDL Digital Collections**
Digitized images of NDL's books, periodicals, rare and old materials, official gazettes, doctoral dissertations, modern Japanese political documents, and the historical recordings collection (music, speeches, etc. from old 78-rpm records) are provided.

**WARP (Web Archiving Project)**
The NDL has been harvesting and preserving publications (white papers, yearbooks, etc.) on websites or the Internet. Websites and updated information which have already disappeared can be accessed retrospectively.

**Minutes of the Diet**
The NDL supplies Full-text Database System for the Minutes of the Diet since the first session in 1947. The database is searchable by session name, speaker name and keywords of speeches.

**Digital information created by the NDL**
- Primary information
- Secondary information

**Data furnished by other institutions**
- NDL Search
  The NDL Search provides integrated search service for materials and digital contents owned by Japanese public libraries, archives, museums and academic institutions in addition to the NDL.
- NDL-OPAC
  The NDL Online Public Access Catalog (OPAC) allows search for or request for reading or copying of books in Japanese and Western languages, articles in the Japanese Periodicals Index, serials, doctoral dissertations, Asian language materials, etc.
- National Diet Library website
  http://www.ndl.go.jp
- User guide, etc

**Internet Resources**

**Library Cooperation Programs**
- Digital Library Programs
  - Periodicals
  - Online publications (online books and periodicals) of the private sector are available free of charge.
  - Digital Library Contents
    - Digital Library Projects available via the Internet, etc.
    - Personnel exchanges with libraries in Japan and other countries are also promoted in cooperation with
    - Collaborative Reference Database System available via the Internet
    - Digital Library Contents for the digital library services.
    - Developed, operated, reviewed by the NDL
    - Developed and delivered by the NDL

**Study on Library and Information Science**

**Library Cooperation Activities**
- Collaborative Network Activities
  - Digital Library Programs
  - Internet Resources
  - Library Cooperation Programs
  - Library Cooperation Activities

**Library Cooperation**

**Digital Library**

**Digital Information**

**Digital Library Programs**

**Internet Resources**

**Library Cooperation**

**Digital Library**

**Digital Information**

**Digital Library Programs**

**Internet Resources**

**Library Cooperation**
Planning for digital information services is carried out at the Tokyo Main Library. The Digital Library Division of the Kansai-kan is responsible for the development, operation and review of digital library systems, and the development and delivery of digital library contents for the digital library services. The NDL has used information technology effectively for a variety of innovative programs in recent years. We intend to supply an even broader scope of digital information (primary and secondary information, and electronic exhibitions) and will continue to expand this form of content.

Digital Library Programs

- **Digital Library Contents**
  Digitized books and periodicals held in the NDL are provided via the Internet after copyright clearance while those without copyright clearance are provided only within the library buildings. The NDL plans to expand the digital library even further in the future.

- **Collection and Preservation of Internet Resources**
  The NDL operates the Web Archiving Project (WARP), which uses automated acquisition software to collect Internet resources including websites and online journals. In addition to the website and the online documents of national and local governments, corporations and organizations, the NDL also collects event sites and online journals that are available free of charge. The contents can be accessed via the NDL website. Online publications (online books and periodicals) of the private sector are also collected and provided only in the NDL facilities.

- **Research and Development**
  Compared with the centuries-long lifespan of data on paper, the life of digital data is extremely short. Research is under way to develop a feasible method of preserving inherently impermanent digital information for posterity. In order to contribute to this important goal, the NDL administers the NDL digital Archiving System. It is intended to enable the long-term preservation and use of a variety of digital data, such as digital library contents and Internet resources.

Library Cooperation Programs

The Tokyo Main Library, the Kansai-kan and the International Library of Children’s Literature share the library cooperation activities of the NDL. The Tokyo Main Library is responsible for setting policy in this area, and for administering collaboration with foreign libraries (other than the delivery of resources). The Kansai-kan carries out support operations for other libraries (with respect to the National Union Catalog Network, the Collaborative Reference Database Project, study on library and information science, training and exchanges, and services for handicapped readers) and serves as the access point for the sharing of NDL resources. The International Library of Children’s Literature offers support services to school libraries and other institutions involved in juvenile services. The NDL as a whole is committed to further improvement of activities in support of library cooperation.

- **Cooperative Network Activities**
  The Kansai-kan handles the planning and administration of the projects for the NDL National Union Catalog Network and the Collaborative Reference Database System available via the Internet to promote library cooperation. The databases are also made available to the public.

- **Study on Library and Information Science**
  The Kansai-kan stays abreast of trends in library operation and library and information science, and keeps other libraries informed through publications. In addition to the digital versions of our publications, e-mail newsletters and blogs are provided on our website through the “Current Awareness Portal.”

- **Training and Exchanges**
  The Kansai-kan carries out training sessions for librarians from Japan and other countries on various topics, including by-theme group instruction, such as reference training, remote training program via the Internet, etc. Personnel exchanges with libraries in Japan and other countries are also promoted in cooperation with related institutions.

- **Cooperation to Libraries for People with Disabilities**
  The Kansai-kan compiles and manages the National Union Catalog of Braille and Recorded Books in Japan. It creates and lends recorded academic literature, transmits data of recorded books, etc., and also provides reference services concerning library services for the handicapped.
### Guide for Visitors

- **Age limit**: 18 years or older in principle.
  - If you are under 18, please ask for an individual consultation. For details, please refer to the NDL website.
- **Use of materials only in the library (no materials may be taken out)**

### Library hours

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Opening hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reading service</strong></td>
<td>10:00-18:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Request for closed stack materials (registered users only)</td>
<td>10:00-17:15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inter-site request service (registered users only)</td>
<td>10:00-17:30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Copying service</strong></td>
<td>10:00-17:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Same-day photoduplication</td>
<td>10:00-17:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Printouts of electronic materials (including microform collections)</td>
<td>10:00-17:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self-service photoduplication</td>
<td>10:00-17:30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Later date photoduplication (registered users only)</td>
<td>10:00-17:45</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Reference service**: 9:30-17:00

**User registration**: 9:30-18:00

### Library holidays:

- Sundays, national holidays, year-end and New Year’s holidays, 3rd Wednesday of each month (for stocktaking), occasional day off

### Access Map

#### By car
- Toward Keihanna Plaza
- Route 163, Hanna Toll road and Kintetsu Gakuenmae station

#### Access by Public Transport
- From "Housono Station" on the JR Gakkentoshi Line, or "Shin-Housono Station" on the Kintetsu Kyoto Line, take bus 36 (Hikaridai Loop) or Nara Kotsu bus 41 or 47 (bound for "Gakken-Nara-Tomigaoka Station") to the Kokuritsu Kokkai Toshokan stop.
- From "Gakken-Nara-Tomigaoka Station" on the Kintetsu-Keihanna Line, take Nara Kotsu bus 41 or 47 (bound for "Housono Station") to the Hikaridai 1-Chome stop.

### Free parking available for about 300 vehicles.

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**Kansai-kan of the National Diet Library**
8-1-3 Seikadai, Seika-cho, Soraku-gun, Kyoto 619-0287
0774-98-1200 (automated voice information service)
http://www.ndl.go.jp

Kansai-kan of the National Diet Library March 2014