Since opening in 1948, the National Diet Library (NDL) has dedicated a specialized room for materials related to Asia. With the opening of the Kansai-kan in 2002, the NDL established the Asian Resources Room to expand its Asia-related information resources and services.

The Asian Resources Room collects and provides information resources on East Asia, Southeast Asia, South Asia, Central Asia, the Middle East, and North Africa.

Along with providing library services that enable a large number of patrons to access and use highly reliable information accurately and efficiently, the Asian Resources Room also actively cooperates with Asian information resource organizations and provides information on how to make efficient use of Asia-related information resources.

The Three Functions of the Asian Resources Room

1. Providing Library Services
2. Providing Information about Making Efficient Use of Asia-related Information Resources
3. Cooperating with Asian Information Resource Organizations

A Look at a Training Program

A Look at a Meeting

Visitor Information
- Age Limit: Visitors must be 18 years or older, in principle.
- Please contact the Asian Resources Room for visitors who are under 18 years of age.
- Hours: 9:30 ~ 18:00
- Closed: Sundays, national and public holidays, the third Wednesday of every month (closed for processing and shelving of materials), and at year-end and the start of the new year.

[By Public Transportation]
- Take the Nara Kotsu bus from either (1) Shin-Hosono Station via the Kintetsu Kyoto Line, or (2) from Hosono Station via the JR Gakkentoshi Line
- Take the Nara Kotsu bus from Gakken-Nara-Tomigaoka Station via the Kintetsu Keihanna Line
- Get off at the "Kokuritsu Kokkai Toshokan" (about 10-15 minutes)

[By Car (Free parking available)]
- Via the Kintetsu Expressway Seika Gakken Interchange, go west along Seika-odori Street
- Via National Route 163, head north on Prefectural Route 52 (the Nara Seika Line)

Asian Resources Room at the Kansai-kan of the National Diet Library

Address: 8-1-3 Seikadai, Seika-cho, Soraku-gun, Kyoto 619-0287, JAPAN
Tel: +81-774-98-1200 (Automated Voice Information Service) +81-774-98-1390 (Asian Resources Guide 9:30 - 18:00)
Asian Resources Room Homepage https://rnavi.ndl.go.jp/asia/entry/about-en.php

Issued on March 2020
Boasting preeminent library holdings, the Asian Resources Room provides a range of services rooted in a wide variety of Asian language materials and materials about Asia written in Japanese and European languages.

1. Books

- **Chinese language**: 365,000 (74.7%)
- **Korean language**: 51,500 (10.5%)
- **Other East Asian languages**: 900 (0.2%)
- **Southeast Asian languages**: 34,200 (7.0%)
- **South Asian languages**: 2,000 (0.4%)
- **Central Asian languages**: 1,100 (0.2%)
- **Middle East and North African languages**: 8,800 (1.8%)
- **Western languages**: 25,100 (5.1%)

2. Periodicals

- **Chinese language**: 4,440 (2,020 ongoing titles)
- **Korean language**: 3,000 (1,180)
- **Other Asian languages**: 950 (330)

3. Newspapers

- **Chinese language**: 370 (80)
- **Korean language**: 180 (30)
- **Other Asian languages**: 90 (30)

*Numbers in parentheses ( ) : ongoing titles

4. Major Asia-related Databases

- **CNKI (China National Knowledge Infrastructure)**: Over 11,000 Chinese academic journals and over 600 newspapers
- **KISS (Koreanstudies Information Service System)**: Over 3,000 Korean academic journals
- **DBpia**: Over 2,000 Korean academic journals
- **Dacheng Old Journals Full Text Database**: Over 6,800 journals published from late Qing Dynasty to 1949.
- **Siku Quanshu (Wenyuange Edition)**: Approximately 3,500 classical Chinese works totaling 80,000 volumes

**Collections Search**

Most of the materials in the Asian Resources Room, as well as major material groups (books, periodical articles, etc.) in the National Diet Library, can be searched using NDL Online (https://ndlonline.ndl.go.jp).

**Services to Visitors**

1. **Reader Services**

Materials in the Asian Resources Room (general surveys, dictionaries, major magazines and newspapers, etc.), databases such as the CNKI (China National Knowledge Infrastructure), etc., and the National Diet Library Digital Collections are all available to visitors. In addition to the materials and services mentioned above, visitors may also browse the vast majority of materials in the stacks once they complete user registration.

2. **Photocopy and Printout Services**

Please note, however, that materials may not be checked out of the library.

3. **Reference Desk**

Librarians are available for consultation about Asia-related information resources at the “Asian Information Desk”.

4. **At Your Local Public or University Library**

Users can apply for photocopy service, use of materials through interlibrary loan, and assistance with reference inquiries in writing that require detailed investigation.

5. **From the NDL Online**

Registered users can also request photocopies from here.

The Asian Resources Room provides information on how to make efficient use of Asia-related information resources through our “Research Navi” web page (https://rnavi.ndl.go.jp/), based on the know-how our staff have accumulated from our day-to-day operations.

1. **AsiaLinks (Asia-related web links)**

Information sources from countries and regions in Asia by country and region, organization, and theme are posted here.

2. **Lists of books on Japan published in Asia**

Introduces helpful information for libraries that collect and provide Asian language materials.

These links are below the “Features” heading on the “Asian Resources Room at the Kansai-kan of the National Diet Library” web page.

3. **Directory of Asian Information Resource Organizations in Japan**

Information on organizations in Japan which have materials in Asian languages and materials related to Asia are posted here.


The ‘Bulletin of the Asian Resources Room’ relates the activities of the Asian Resources Room and useful information on Asian materials for Asia research specialists and librarians in charge of Asia-related information resources.

The complete Japanese texts, beginning with the March 2003 issue, are available to the public under the “Bulletin of the Asian Resources Room” link.