



National Institute of Japanese Literature

国文学研究資料館 2026



Saigashokuninburui



National Institutes for the Humanities
大学共同利用機関法人 人間文化研究機構

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Director-General

Dr. WATANABE Yasuaki

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Welcome to the National Institute of Japanese Literature (NIJL).
I am Director WATANABE Yasuaki, and I'll be your guide.



Q First, let me ask: What is your current priority?

A We are promoting a project called *Model Building in the Humanities through Data-Driven Problem Solving*. This is a 10-year plan that launched in FY2024. The project focuses on how to utilize the image data of 300,000 premodern books, which was the major achievement of the *Project to Build an International Collaborative Research Network for Pre-modern Japanese Texts* (2014–2023).

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Q What are your goals?

A We aim to pioneer new humanities research by utilizing the vast data of premodern texts across disciplinary boundaries. This project is being carried out through the work of three centers: The Core Research Center manages database operations and related tasks, the Core Data Center handles data enhancement and enrichment, and the Center for Data-Driven Research on Premodern Japanese Texts conducts the research.

[Go to Center for Data-Driven Research on Premodern Japanese Texts page 14](#)

[Go to Core Data Center page 16](#)

[Go to Core Research Center page 20](#)



Illustrations by
SUGITA Kei



Q How does this relate to your previous activities?

A For the 53 years since our founding, we have collected and organized information that forms the foundation for research in Japanese literature and related fields. We are now working to further expand and enhance this data infrastructure.

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Q What would you consider as one of your most significant achievements?

A The Union Catalogue Database of Japanese Texts (Kokusho Database). It allows users to easily search for information and images of all known Japanese premodern books. We also provide various other databases, so please make use of them.

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Q How do you collaborate with the research community?

A We actively engage in collaborative research, ensuring that researchers from outside the Institute also take on key roles. We believe this is the lifeline for us as a public organization, serving as both a research institution and an inter-university research institute.

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Q What are the NIJL's core activities?

A They are primarily divided into four areas: 1) Research and archival survey/collection, 2) Materials use facilitation, 3) Social collaboration activities, and 4) International collaboration.

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Q Do you support early-career researchers?

A We actively support early-career researchers through initiatives such as administering the Prize in Classical Japanese Literary Scholarship and hosting the International Conference on Japanese Literature.

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Q Do you provide graduate school education?

A We serve as a base institution for SOKENDAI (The Graduate University for Advanced Studies) and have established a Japanese Literature Research Course. The diverse faculty covering various fields and the abundance of literature and historical materials are major features.

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The Goals of NIJL

This institute strives to serve researchers in various fields, including Japanese literature by collecting a massive archive of materials related to Japanese literature from various regions within Japan. NIJL is a comprehensive research institute and functions as a foundation for the broader promotion of advanced collaborative research into Japanese literature. Building on more than 50 years of accumulated research on Japanese premodern books since our founding, we are working to develop cross-disciplinary research that utilizes these books as rich intellectual resources, in collaboration with research institutions and scholars both in Japan and abroad.

A Brief Chronology of NIJL

1972 May	The National Institute of Japanese Literature (official name) is established, consisting of a management division, a documents and materials division, and a research and information division. The Ministry of Education Historical Archives (est. 1951) are incorporated into the organization of NIJL.
1977 June	Inaugural ceremony is held.
1977 July	Library services commence.
1987 April	Online search services set up for the database of NIJL's Microfilm Materials catalog and Premodern Japanese Manuscripts catalog.
1992 April	Online search services made available for the catalog of research articles on Japanese Literature.
2002 November	Ceremony held in commemoration of NIJL's 30th anniversary.
2003 April	Department of Japanese Literature is established in the School of Cultural and Social Studies within the Graduate University for Advanced Studies as a foundational institution for research.
2004 April	Internal reorganization at NIJL after the incorporation of its parent institution, which is hereafter named the Institute for the Humanities of the Inter-University Research Institute Corporation.
2008 March	NIJL is moved to its current location in Midori-cho, Tachikawa city.
2013 April	The Center for a Premodern Japanese Texts Database is established.
2014 April	The Center for a Premodern Japanese Texts Database is renamed as the Center for Collaborative Research on Premodern Japanese Texts. The Large-Scale Academic Frontiers Project "Project to Build an International Collaborative Research Network for Pre-Modern Japanese Texts" is started.
2019 February	Founding of the Tama Academic and Cultural Platform "Plat NIJL."
2020 November	The Global Consortium for Japanese Textual Scholarship is established.
2022 April	The Center for Data-Driven Research on Premodern Japanese Texts is established.
2022 May	Ceremony held in commemoration of NIJL's 50th anniversary.
2024 April	The Large-Scale Academic Frontiers Project "Model Building in the Humanities through Data-driven Problem Solving" is started. The Project Promotion Office and the Core Data Center are established, and the Information Research Center is reorganized into the Core Research Center.

About the Facility

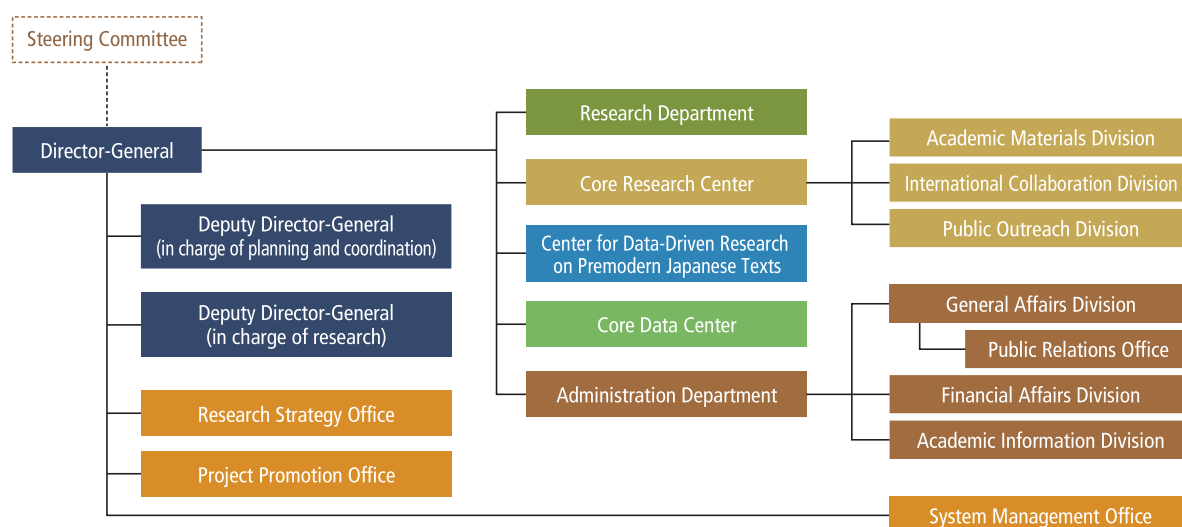
In August 1989 and again in June 1993, governmental meetings were held to discuss a proposal on relocating a number of national institutions to reduce the overcrowding and the overconcentration of national resources in the center of Tokyo's metropolitan area. It was in accordance with decisions reached during these meetings that NIJL was moved in March 2008, from Shinagawa Ward to Tachikawa city, outside the central metropolitan area.

The facility was designed to be fully accessible, with visitor convenience in mind.

The reading and exhibition rooms are open to visitors. The reading room provides open access to all reference books and a relaxed, spacious atmosphere for reading. We also hold various exhibitions of premodern books from our collection in the exhibition room.



Organization



Steering Committee

Non-NIJL Members

IKARI Tomokazu	President, Shirayuri University; Professor, Japanese Language and Literature, Shirayuri University
KANAMITSU Keiko	Professor, Graduate School of Literature, Kyoto University
KITAMOTO Asanobu	Professor, Digital Content and Media Sciences, National Institute of Informatics, Research Organization of Information and Systems
KURODA Satoshi	Professor, Graduate School of Social Sciences, Waseda University
SATO Yukiko	Professor, Graduate School of Humanities and Sociology, The University of Tokyo
Jonathan ZWICKER	Professor, University of California, Berkeley
SUZUKI Jun	Professor, Graduate School of Humanities and Sociology, The University of Tokyo
SUZUKI Hiroko	Professor Emeritus, Chiba University
TABUCHI Kumiko	Professor, Faculty of Education and Integrated Arts and Sciences, Waseda University; Deputy Director, Waseda University Library
TOYAMA Atsuko	Advisor, The Toyota Foundation
FUKUDA Yasunori	Professor, Faculty of Humanities, Japan Women's University
YAGI Toshiro	Chairman, The Tama Shinkin Bank

NIJL Members

IRIGUCHI Atsushi	Deputy Director-General (in charge of Planning and Coordination)
OKAZAKI Makiko	Deputy Director-General (in charge of Research)
OYAMA Keizo	Specially appointed Professor
KIGOSHI Shunsuke	Professor, Research Department (Head of Researcher, Assistant Director-General)
DAVIN Didier	Professor, Research Department (Head of Researcher)
NAKANISHI Satoko	Professor, Research Department (Head of Researcher)
NISHIMURA Shintaro	Professor, Research Department (Head of Researcher)
YAMAMOTO Kazuaki	Professor, Research Department (Head of Researcher)

Executive Staff

Director-General	WATANABE Yasuaki
Deputy Director-General (in charge of Planning and Coordination)	IRIGUCHI Atsushi
Deputy Director-General (in charge of Research)	OKAZAKI Makiko

Research Department

Head of Researcher	KIGOSHI Shunsuke
Head of Researcher	DAVIN Didier
Head of Researcher	NAKANISHI Satoko
Head of Researcher	NISHIMURA Shintaro
Head of Researcher	YAMAMOTO Kazuaki

Core Research Center

Director (dual post)	IRIGUCHI Atsushi
Director of Academic Materials Division (dual post)	KIGOSHI Shunsuke
Director of International Collaboration Division (dual post)	DAVIN Didier
Director of Public Outreach Division (dual post)	NAKANISHI Satoko

Center for Data-Driven Research on Premodern Japanese Texts

Director (dual post)	OYAMA Keizo
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Core Data Center

Director (dual post)	YAMAMOTO Kazuaki
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System Management Office

Director (dual post)	KIGOSHI Shunsuke
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Graduate Institute for Advanced Studies, SOKENDAI

Chair of Japanese Literature	NISHIMURA Shintaro
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Administration Department

Director	AKIBA Tadatsugu
Manager of General Affairs Division	KASAHARA Masahiro
Manager of Financial Affairs Division	UTSUMI Takahiro
Manager of Academic Information Division	TAKEUCHI Yaeko

As the only Large-Scale Academic Frontiers Project* (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology) in the humanities, we are implementing the Model Building in the Humanities through Data-Driven Problem Solving — Cultivating Next-Generation Humanities Research through Creation and Deployment of New Data Infrastructure — (NIJL DDH Project) as a 10-year plan from FY2024 to FY2033. This is a successor project that further develops the achievements of the Project to Build an International Collaborative Research Network for Pre-modern Japanese Texts (NIJL-NW Project), which conducted from FY2014 to FY2023.

In this project, we will establish a data infrastructure centered on Japanese literature by further expanding the collection of image data through collaboration with domestic and overseas institutions, converting imagedata into text data through the use of AI and other means, and promoting the development of data analysistechnologies. We aim to pioneer next-generation humanities research utilizing large-scale data in collaboration with domestic and international researchers from different fields based on an awareness of various issues.

What is the Large-Scale Academic Frontiers Project?

This is a large-scale project promoted by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) that brings together cutting-edge technology and knowledge to tackle research issues that have never been attempted before by mankind and achieve groundbreaking results that will lead academic research worldwide.

■ Data expansion and sophistication of the research infrastructure database ———

The scope of image data accumulation will be expanded to include the early modern era (early Meiji era), and large-scale machine-readable text data will be formulated (→ page 16-17).

• Expansion of image data

Through the NIJL-NW Project, we have fully digitized 300,000 volumes of premodern Japanese texts and made them available as open data in the Union Catalogue Database of Japanese Texts (→ page 18), which is available online for anyone to use anytime, free of charge. In the NIJL DDH Project, we will digitize additional 150,000 volumes, bringing the total to 450,000.

• Creation of text data

OCR is used to create machine-readable text data based on the image data of 300,000 volumes of premodern Japanese texts published in the Union Catalogue Database of Japanese Texts. This will allow us to use the data in online search and display systems as well as for the creation of machine learning models. We also provide more reliable texts with minimal markup according to TEI guidelines, and for some texts, through proofreading by researchers and existing reprinted materials.

■ Promotion of data-driven research through interdisciplinary fusion ———

The following four research plans are promoting data-driven research in collaboration with informatics, natural sciences, and other fields and the sophistication of fundamental technologies (→ page 8-9).

- Construction of Data Infrastructure
- Development of Humanities Data Analysis Technologies
- Interdisciplinary applications of Content Analysis
- Material Analysis and Modeling



Information Dissemination

In this project, we actively disseminate collaborative research results through symposiums and workshops in Japan and abroad, while also promoting the utilization of the Union Catalogue Database of Japanese Texts. We conduct outreach activities for the general public and for junior high and high school students to share research results with a broad audience.

As part of our activities with the Global Consortium for Japanese Textual Scholarship (→ page 26), we strengthen international exchange through initiatives such as online study meetings that bring together students, researchers, and professional staff from multiple institutions for joint study and research.

NIJL DDH Project International Conference

We hold the NIJL DDH Project International Conference in order to introduce a new field of humanities called "Humanities through Data-Driven Problem Solving" to the research community in adjacent fields and other fields and inspire deeper interest in the subject.

The First NIJL DDH Project International Conference

"The Forefront of Classical Texts: Opening the Library of Dreams"

Date: Dec. 11, 2025, 13:30-17:30

Venue: NIJL Large Conference Room and simultaneous broadcast online

Video available now [<http://youtu.be/KETViozbHQ0>]



Keynote speech by KUROHASHI Sadao
(Director, National Institute of Informatics; Program-Specific Professor, Kyoto University)



SDGs Events for Junior High and High School Students

We hold workshops on papermaking and microscopic observation of early modern Japanese books as part of the collaborative research project *Educational Practical Research on Methods for Cultivating Awareness of Preserving Classical Materials*.

[Implemented in FY 2025]

- Ochanomizu University Senior High School (July 1, 2025)
*Required class for students in specific courses
- Shiba High School (July 30, 2025)
- Jissen Joshi Gakuen Junior & Senior High School (August 27, 2025)
- Kaijo High School (September 24 and October 1, 2025)
- Kojimachi Gakuen Girls' Junior and Senior High School
(December 6, 2025)



Students taking a lecture / Participants analyzing paper pulp using small microscopes

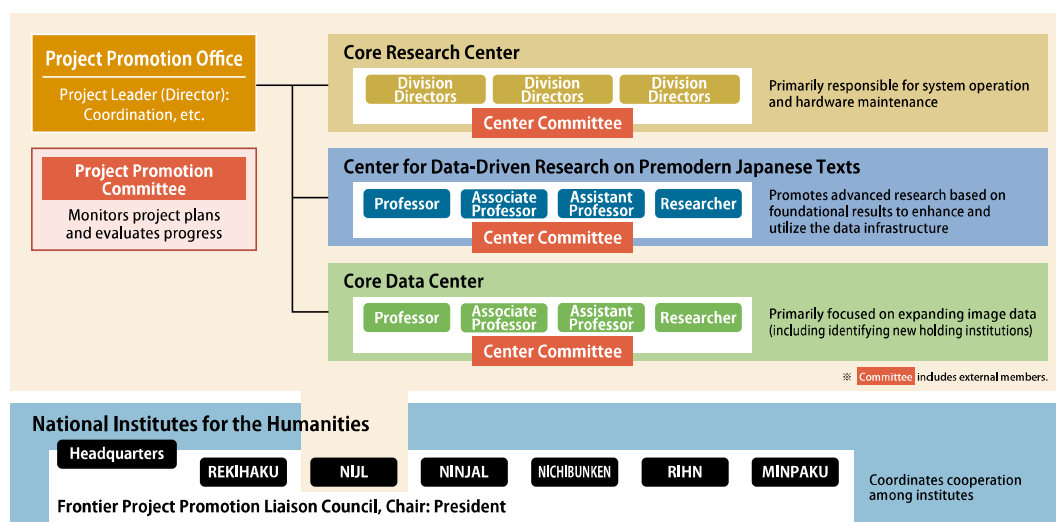


*Photos from past years

Implementation Structure

This project is coordinated by the "Project Promotion Office," which oversees operations, manages interdepartmental coordination, and serves as a liaison with the headquarters of the National Institutes for the Humanities. The "Core Research Center," "Center for Data-Driven Research on Premodern Japanese Texts," and "Core Data Center" each leverage their expertise to promote the project.

Additionally, a committee that includes external members provides a mechanism for incorporating the views of the research community into the project.



Interdisciplinary Integration: Four Research Themes

To achieve the digitization and textualization of a large number of premodern books—making them available to the general public—and to structure, systematize, and utilize the data, we promote collaborative research in four areas: Construction of Data Infrastructure, Development of Humanities Data Analysis Technologies, Interdisciplinary applications of Content Analysis, Material Analysis and Modeling.

Construction of Data Infrastructure

We develop both the hardware and software aspects of the data-driven research system designed to serve as foundation for this project, creating also a plan for how it will operate, which we will then put into practical implementation.

We are also conducting collaborative research on advanced OCR technology for premodern books and the development of image search functions.

Union Catalogue Database of Japanese Texts

This project aims to integrate and further develop the Union Catalogue of Early Japanese Books (a comprehensive catalogue of Japanese premodern books) and the Database of Pre-modern Japanese Works (built by the NIJL-NW Project). It also seeks to enhance functionality through measures such as constructing and publishing corrected text data and implementing tag search capabilities. (→page 18)



Development of Humanities Data Analysis Technologies

We develop methods and analytical technologies for data-driven integration of humanities data by extracting research materials through the use of AI technology and their adaptation to multiple fields, developing text analysis and search technologies for non-text materials such as images, and responding to international standardization of data storage.

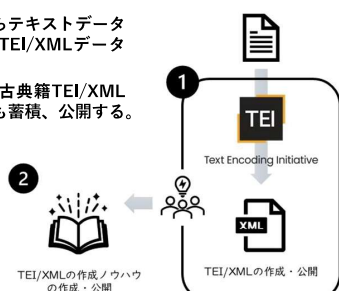


Development of images of premodern Japanese texts into machine-readable data

We conduct collaborative research to convert text data created from premodern book image data into user-friendly formats, while also sharing the resulting know-how with the public. By involving a diverse range of people in data creation, research resources will increase, allowing humanities information to be more readily used by researchers from different fields.

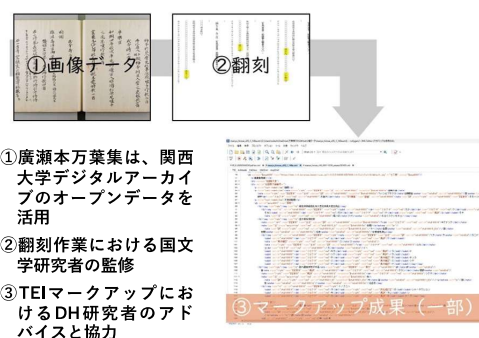
プロジェクトの目的

- ① 古典籍画像データからテキストデータを作成し、これらをTEI/XMLデータへと変換する。
- ② 研究活動を通じて、古典籍TEI/XMLデータ作成ノウハウも蓄積、公開する。



国文学研究者に限らず、国内外の古典籍所蔵機関および異分野の研究者コミュニティに発信し、もってデータ駆動型人文学のための研究資源の確立を目指す。

TEI/XMLマークアップの流れ



Citation: NIJL DDH Project Kickoff Symposium “AI × Humanities—Future Creation through Data-Driven Approaches—” Poster Presentation “Creation of TEI/XML Data Using Premodern Book Image Data—Focusing on the Hirose Manuscript of the Man'yōshū—” Nobuhiko Kikuchi (National Institute of Japanese Literature) (December 1, 2024)

Interdisciplinary applications of Content Analysis

Transforming the kind of evidential data previously confined to use in the human sciences into data that can also be utilized by the natural and social sciences, we will engage in collaborative research projects directed towards the resolution of various issues facing contemporary society.

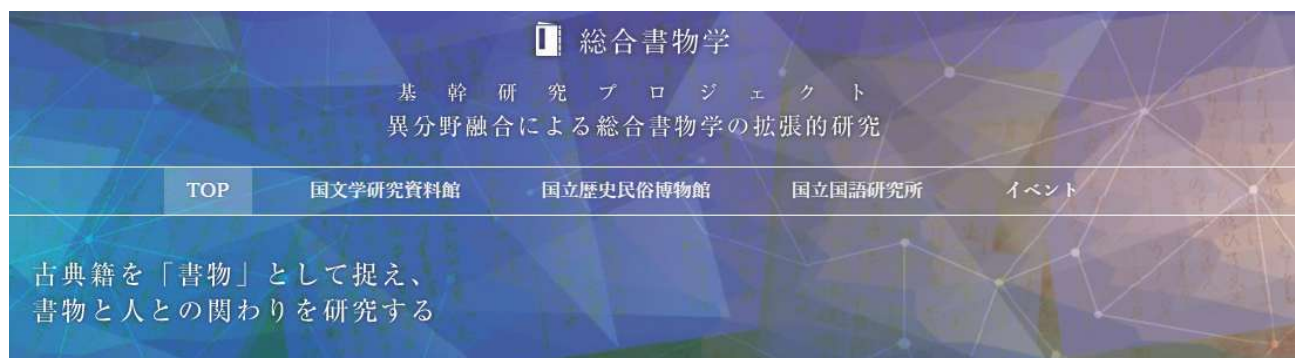


The collaborative research project *Interdisciplinary Research on Natural Disasters* is analyzing various anomalies in the natural world—such as aurora (red light), meteorites, and lightning—based on descriptions in premodern books. Researchers from diverse fields and organizations participate, including universities and research institutions like the National Institute of Polar Research, the National Museum of Nature and Science, regional archives, and academic societies.



Historical Materials and Premodern Books for Disaster Reduction and Climate Change Research aims to clarify historical disaster response and adaptation patterns found in premodern books, old records, and documents, contributing to future disaster reduction and climate change response through interdisciplinary research. Researchers from Ibaraki University specializing in environmental economics and geomorphology are participating in this project.

Also, we are conducting interdisciplinary research with domestic and international researchers based on the awareness of various issues using large-scale data, taking advantage of the economies of scale of the organization, in collaboration with other organizations within the National Institutes for the Humanities, which act as the hub for various humanities fields.



"Expansion Studies of Synthetic Bibliology," Multidisciplinary Collaborative Projects led by us in cooperation with the National Museum of Japanese History, National Institute for Japanese Language and Linguistics, and other research institutions outside of the organization such as universities

Material Analysis and Modeling

Japan's 1,000 years' worth of texts have not only the accumulated data of their written content to offer, but also all the data they themselves embody as physical objects. One of our aims is to establish a technological basis enabling the extraction—and analysis and investigation—of data from this material aspect of texts, on a scale only rarely attempted in the past.

In FY2024, we established the Material Analysis Joint Usage Laboratory (→page 15) to provide research equipment for shared use and to support research promotion.



Case example: Identifying reproductions among illustrated storybooks held in Japan and overseas



It is possible to distinguish between them because it is presumed that long ago, illustrated storybooks were printed on recycled paper for sale and had a standard quality of paper depending on the time of publication. Early illustrated storybooks from the middle of the 18th century often featured interspersed pages with black ink and color, but it is thought that they gradually came to use thin, grayish paper with stripes of bamboo blind.

Source: Poster presentation at the International Symposium on Buddhist Studies and Digital Humanities, "The Significance of Humanities in the DX-AI Era and the Construction of Research Basis," entitled "The Significance of Material Analysis in NIJL DDH Project," by YAMATO Asuka and MATSUBARA Noriko (Tokyo International Forum and online, December 20-21, 2025).

Written by Kyoden et al. Edoumareuwakinokabayaki: 3 Volumes, [TSUTAYA Juzaburo] [Tenmei 5 (1785)]. National Diet Library Digital Collections, <https://dl.ndl.go.jp/pid/9892607> (Reference: 2026-01-23)

High-resolution digital microscope used for material analysis research and an example of research results.

By developing research infrastructure including large-scale academic data and valuable materials and providing it to researchers in Japan and overseas, it is possible to conduct advanced collaborative research beyond the framework of universities and other institutions.

In addition to promoting the “Collaborative Research (Core Research Projects and Special Research Projects)” managed by the Research Department of NIJL and the interdisciplinary “NIJL Project-Based Collaborative Research” managed by the Center for Data-Driven Research on Premodern Japanese Texts of NIJL, we also participate in the “NIHU Research Projects/NIHU Co-creation Initiatives” managed by the Center for Innovative Research of the National Institutes for the Humanities, and the “Interdisciplinary Fusion and New Field Creation Program” promoted by the Inter-University Research & Education Alliance (IU-REAL).

Collaborative Research (Core Research Projects and Special Research Projects)

We are conducting collaborative researches below to further promote and expand the study of Japanese literature by drawing on a wide range of materials collected over more than 50 years of survey and acquisition efforts, as well as the results of the Large-Scale Academic Frontiers Project to Build an International Collaborative Research Network for Pre-modern Japanese Texts (FY2014–FY2023) and the ongoing Model Building in Humanities through Data-Driven Problem Solving Project (FY2024–FY2033).

Core Research Projects

Core research projects are collaborative research that serves as fundamental research on Japanese literature and the related fields. All projects are to be led by our faculty members as a main researcher.

- **Basic Research on Rare Books in the NIJL Collections** (2022–2027)
Main Researcher: SAITO Maori, Professor at NIJL
NAKANISHI Satoko, Professor at NIJL
- **Fundamental Research on the emergence of the foundations of society permeated with archival awareness** (2022–2027)
Main Researcher: OTA Naohiro, Associate Professor at NIJL
- **Comprehensive Research on Regional Cultural Centers in the 19th Century: Literary Activities and Networks of the Hirose Family** (2024–2027)
Main Researcher: IRIGUCHI Atsushi, Professor/Deputy Director-General at NIJL

Special Research Projects

Special research projects are collaborative research addresses specific research subject.

General

These projects are collaborative research promoted using various materials (premodern Japanese texts, digital data, microfilms, paper-printed photographs, etc.) accumulated by NIJL as the main research resources. All projects are selected through a public application process.

- **Regional Collaborative Research on the Early Modern Period Noble-Military Cultural Sphere Centered on the Tamura Family of the Ichinoseki Domain** (2024–2026)
Main Researcher: OYAMA Kazuya, Associate Professor at Doshisha University
- **Research on Building Open Data for the Utilization of Tanzaku (Poetry Card) Materials as Research Resources** (2025–2027)
Main Researcher: OKADA Takanori, Associate Professor at Kyushu University
- **A Basic Study of Commentaries and Enjoyment Materials of the Ise Monogatari (The Tale of Ise) held by Tesshinsai Bunko** (2026–2028)
Main Researcher: MATSUMOTO Oki, Professor at Kansai University

Project

These are collaborative research projects conducted on our specific collection (including the ones that loaned to us) and one of the research outcomes is creation, display, and publication of bibliographical introduction of related documents. The project is composed of researchers (applicants) who will conduct an individual research project as a project member, and each of them will also aim to acquire various knowledge through exchanges at the research meetings.

All projects are selected through a public application process.

- **Basic Research on the NIJL Ex-KITANO Tayuru Collection of Paintings and Calligraphy** (2024–2026)
Main Researcher: GOYAMA Rintaro, Professor at Keio University
- **Basic Research on the NIJL SUZUKI Keiichi Collection** (2025–2027)
Main Researcher: NAGATA Kazuya, Curator at Gotoh Museum Dai-Tokyu Memorial Library
- **Comprehensive Research on the NIJL Hatsukari Collection** (2026–2028)
Main Researcher: ASADA Toru, Professor at Ochanomizu University

Modern Literature

This is a collaborative research project on modern Japanese literature. Our faculty member leads a project as a main researcher.

- **Philological Research on the Correlation Between Revision and Ideology in Modern Literature** (2025–2027)
Main Researcher: TADA Kurahito, Associate Professor at NIJL

Regional Material

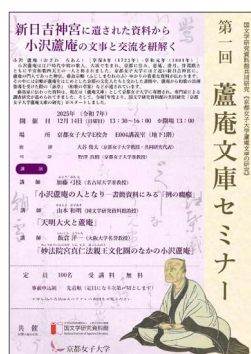
These are collaborative research projects led by a main researcher who is an expert in and has in-depth knowledge of one of the five collections selected from among libraries and collections across the country where we have performed surveying and collecting. The project members are mainly members of the regional material specialist committee (formerly known as “Japanese literature material investigators”) who were responsible for the regional surveying and collecting projects. It is required to hold a seminar in each fiscal year on the collection that was used by the project for its research material in order to share the importance of research resources with people in each region.

- **Research on the Roan Collection of Kyoto Women's University** (2025–2027)
Main Researcher: OTANI Shunta, Professor at Kyoto Women's University
- **Research on Kasugataisha shrine** (2025–2027)
Main Researcher: KAWASAKI Sachiko, Professor at Ritsumeikan University
- **Research on the Tezen Family Collection** (2025–2027)
Main Researcher: TANAKA Norio, Professor at Shimane University
- **Comprehensive Research on the Masamune Collection** (2025–2027)
Main Researcher: KAWASAKI Tsuyoshi, Professor at Shujitsu University
- **Research on the Hizen Matsudaira Collection** (2025–2027)
Main Researcher: SUZUKI Hajime, Professor at Prefectural University of Kumamoto

International

This is an international collaborative research project promoted based on research and study of overseas premodern Japanese texts. Our faculty member leads a project as a main researcher. (The participation ratio of overseas researchers in each project is assessed.)

- **Research and Survey of Premodern Books at the University of California, Berkeley** (2025–2027)
Main Researcher: KANSAKU Ken'ichi, Professor at NIJL



Examples of recent collaborative research activities and major research results

- National Institute of Japanese Literature (ed.), "Year Zero of the History of Literary Style: Styles of Modern Literature as Reflected in Collections of Examples" (Literary Communication, March 2025)
 - * Special Research Project (Modern): Research results of "Philological Research on the Correlation Between Revision and Ideology in Modern Literature."
- The first Roan Bunko seminar (held on December 14, 2025)
 - * Special Research Project (Regional Material) "Research on the Roan Collection of Kyoto Women's University"

NIJL Project-Based Collaborative Research

The Center for Data-Driven Research on Premodern Japanese Texts promotes interdisciplinary collaborative research by bringing together researchers from fields beyond Japanese literature and leveraging its research infrastructure. The program offers two research categories: Exploratory Research, which supports emerging research with the potential for future development, and Collaborative Research, which supports projects expected to produce tangible research outcomes. In FY2025, the Center also introduced a new research category, Priority Issue Research, focusing on the priority themes of the NIJL DDH Project.

Exploratory Research

- **Multimodal Feature Extraction of Brushwork and Style in NAKAI Riken's Handwritten Materials and Construction of Adaptive OCR** (2026)

Main Researcher: YOSHIGA Natsuko, Associate Professor at The University of Osaka

Collaborative Research

- **Analysis and Correction Support Methods for OCR Text of Premodern Books Using AI Technology** (2024–2028)
Main Researcher: FUJITA Satoru, Professor at HOSEI University; Visiting Professor at NIJL
- **Development of Geographic Information–Annotated Digital Resources for *The Tale of Genji*** (2025–2026)
Main Researcher: TAKEUCHI Ayano, Specially appointed Assistant Professor at NIJL
- **An Evolutionary Study on TEI/XML Data Creation on the Hirose Manuscript of the Manyoshu and Viewer Development** (2026–2027)
Main Researcher: AOYAMA Hidemasa, Professor at The University of Tokyo Graduate School
- **Study on Classical Machine Translation with Controllable Text Fidelity** (2026–2027)
Main Researcher: HIGASHIYAMA Shohei, Researcher at National Institute of Information and Communications Technology
- **Historical Network Research by Structural Analysis and Visualization of Personal Name Data** (2026–2027)
Main Researcher: Bettina GRAMLICH-OKA, Professor at Sophia University
- **Exploring Edo Publishing Culture from the Color Material of Illustrated Storybooks: Constructing a Scientific Index of Material Evidence in Premodern Japanese Texts** (2026–2027)
Main Researcher: TSUDA Mayumi, Professor at Keio University

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- **Research and Survey of Premodern Books at the University of California, Berkeley** (2025–2027)
Main Researcher: KANSAKU Ken'ichi, Professor at NIJL *NIJL Collaborative Research (Special Research Project - International)
 - **Expansion Studies of Synthetic Bibliology** (2022–2027)
Main Researcher: KIGOSHI Shunsuke, Professor/Assistant Director at NIJL *NIHU Multidisciplinary Collaborative Core Research Project

Priority Issue Research

[Program-Initiated type]

- **Study on Natural Disasters through a Comparison of Premodern Books and Natural Archives** (2026–2027)
Main Researcher: KATAOKA Ryuho, Principal Research Scientist at Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology
- **Development of Content Analysis and Presentation Methods for Premodern Book Images Using Big Data** (2026–2027)
Main Researcher: TERASAWA Kengo, Associate Professor at Future University Hakodate
- **Research on AI-Based Search Methods and Search Result Presentation for Large-Scale Premodern Japanese Book Images** (2026–2027)
Main Researcher: SATO Shin'ichi, Professor at the National Institute of Informatics
- **Disaster Reduction and Climate Change Research Utilizing Historical Materials and Premodern Books** (2026–2027)
Main Researcher: TAMURA Makoto, Professor at Ibaraki University
- **Development of Classical Japanese Text Resources through the NIJL–NINJAL Collaboration between the Union Catalogue Database and OpenCHJ** (2026–2027)
Main Researcher: TAKEUCHI Ayano, Specially appointed Assistant Professor at NIJL
- **Development of New Research Methods in Japanese Literature Research Using Data Infrastructure and Dissemination to Educational Activities** (2026–2027)
Main Researcher: MATSUBARA Noriko, Specially appointed Associate Professor at NIJL

- **Research on Improving the Usability of Japanese Historical Character Forms and Typographic Materials** (2026–2027)
Main Researcher: BABA Hajime, Director at the Center for Archaeological Operations, Nara National Research Institute for Cultural Properties
- **Construction of Data Infrastructure for Human-AI Co-Creation in Japanese Classical Culture** (2026–2027)
Main Researcher: KITAMOTO Asanobu, Professor at National Institute of Informatics/Director at the Center for Center for Open Data in the Humanities, Joint Support-Center for Date Science Research
- **Interdisciplinary Research on Reading Invisible Characters through Non-Destructive Methods** (2026–2027)
Main Researcher: MUKAIGAWA Yasuhiro, Professor at Nara Institute of Science and Technology
- **Advanced Research on Image Creation and Cataloging Algorithm Improvements for Materials Held by the British Library** (2026–2027)
Main Researcher: OTSUKA Yasuyo, Japanese Librarian at British Library
- **Advanced Research on Image Creation and Cataloging Algorithm Improvements for Materials Held by Sekisui Museum** (2026)
Main Researcher: KIRITA Takashi, Curator at Sekisui Museum
- **Exploration of Analysis and Data Set Construction Methods for Modern Literary Text Data Using Large Language Models** (2026–2027)
Main Researcher: HIBI Yoshitaka, Professor at Nagoya University
- **A Methodological Study of AI Analysis of Shin Kokinshu Text and Translation Data** (2026–2027)
Main Researcher: WATANABE Yasuaki, Director at NIJL
- **Comprehensive Research on Scientific Approaches to Premodern Books** (2026–2027)
Main Researcher: ASANO Yuta, Assistant Professor at the National Institute of Informatics

[Open-call type]

- **Integrated Development of OCR, Part-of-Speech Assignment, and Interference Analysis System for Universal Dependencies of Kanbun (Literary Chinese used in Japan)** (2025–2026)
Main Researcher: YASUOKA Koichi, Professor at Kyoto University
- **Development of OCR for Premodern Japanese Text Images through Improvement of Cursive Script Recognition AI** (2025–2026)
Main Researcher: HAYASAKA Taichi, Professor at National Institute of Technology (KOSEN), Toyota College
- **An Interactive Search System for Premodern Japanese Texts with Generative AI-Based Guidance** (2025–2026)
Main Researcher: SUZUKI Tokinori, Assistant Professor at University of Tsukuba
- **Place Name Recognition in Premodern Japanese Texts and a Search System Leveraging the Results** (2025–2026)
Main Researcher: KAMEKO Hirotaka, Assistant Professor at Kyoto University
- **Development of Workflows and Systems for Data Aggregation and Sharing According to Text Structure** (2025–2026)
Main Researcher: NAGASAKI Kiyonori, Professor at Keio University
- **Error Correction and Translation of OCR Readout Results into Modern Languages Using Large-Scale Language Models** (2025–2026)
Main Researcher: KOMIYA Kanako, Associate Professor at Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology
- **Creation of Teaching Materials and LOD Using the Union Catalogue Database of Japanese Texts and Its Text Data: Through Teaching Practice in Schools and International Cooperation** (2025–2026)
Main Researcher: OI Masao, Associate Professor at Doshisha University

NIHU Research Projects/NIHU Co-creation Initiatives - IU-REAL Interdisciplinary Fusion and New Field Creation Program

NIJL is involved in the following projects.

NIHU Research Projects

- Model Building in Humanities through Data-driven Problem Solving (→ page 6)
- Reconstruction of Archives and Historical Culture in Depopulated Areas (→ page 35)
- Expansion Studies of Synthetic Bibliology, network-based (→ page 35)

NIHU Co-creation Initiatives

- Research on the Construction of an Information Infrastructure for Archives Related to the Vatican and Japan (International Cooperation Promotion Project) (→ page 35)

IU-REAL Interdisciplinary Fusion and New Field Creation Program

- Historical Astronomical Phenomena to be Solved by Ancient Documents and AI

The Center for Data-Driven Research on Premodern Japanese Texts (CDDR) was established at the Institute in April 2022 to address the accelerating digitalization of society, promote open science and data-driven research, and develop new research systems.

Through collaboration between humanities researchers and researchers in informatics and natural sciences, it aims to establish problem-solving methodologies in humanities research that can drive interdisciplinary research activities.

Research Areas:

Construction of Data Infrastructure	Development of Humanities Data Analysis Technologies
- Development of technology for converting premodern books into textual data - Enhancement of the Union Catalogue Database of Japanese Texts and standardization of metadata, etc.	- Development of analysis technologies for large-scale data utilizing AI - Data structuring using TEI, etc.
Interdisciplinary applications of Content Analysis	Material Analysis and Modeling
- Identification of content that can contribute to society and other fields - Promotion of research such as comprehensive book studies and disaster prevention studies using premodern books, etc.	- Development of analysis and analytical technologies for books as material objects - Metadata creation for material data

NIJL Project-Based Collaborative Research

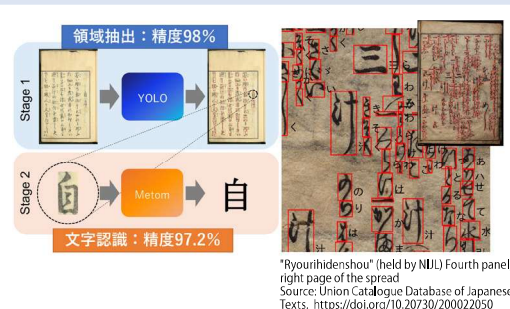
Here, we conduct interdisciplinary collaborative research through research infrastructure while partnering with researchers from fields beyond Japanese literature. (→ page 12-13)

Furthermore, we are taking steps to share information among the various collaborative research projects and to connect them to the NIJL DDH Project, including a results presentation meeting focusing on "Priority Issue Research" (at NIJL, March 6, 2026).

Classification	Overview
Exploratory Research	Collaborative exploratory research with potential for future development
Collaborative Research	Collaborative research expected to produce concrete results
Priority Issue Research	Collaborative research on important issues of the NIJL DDH Project
Open-call type	Collaborative research open to researchers in various fields
Program-Initiated type	Collaborative research planned together with NIJL DDH Project partners

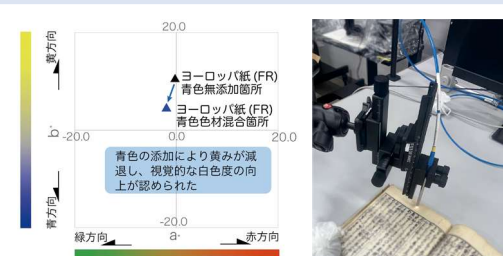
Case Example 1: Analysis and Correction Support Methods for OCR Text of Premodern Books Using AI Technology Main Researcher: FUJITA Satoru (Professor, HOSEI University)

By refining the learning method, the system was able to correctly recognize complex, scattered handwritten text with a mix of large and small characters, achieving better recognition accuracy.



Case Example 2: Comparative Study of the Acceptance of Western Studies in the Edo Period - Through material analysis of translated Western books Main Researcher: YAMATO Asuka (Specially appointed Assistant Professor, NIJL)

It was shown that the incorporation of blue fibers and pigments into paper was an intentional measure for the purpose of whitening paper in early-modern Europe, while it was likely unintentional in Japan.



Briefings Involving Early-Career and Senior Researchers

The CDDR briefing "Introduction to Data-Driven Humanities Research" was held (at NIJL, December 9, 2025).

A lecture was given to scholars of the humanities, including Japanese literature, on how to obtain data, process it in advance, analyze it, and visualize it, and this information was shared among all participants.



Personalized lecture

Research Activities

Some examples of research activities promoted by CDDR are introduced below.

Construction of TEI/XML Data of Premodern Japanese Texts

Under the project "Classical TEI/XML Markup for School Education: Connection from Classical Education in Junior High and High School to the Study of Japanese Literature in University," we are constructing Premodern Japanese Text TEI/XML data, expanding the number of people who construct the data, and putting the constructed data into practice, with school education as a particular target.

Material Analysis and Modeling

In collaboration with research institutes in the field of natural science, we are developing basic research to establish material analysis and analysis techniques suitable for humanities and new analysis methods for materials.

Information Dissemination

Publication of Research Data

In addition to disseminating research activities through the website of the Center for Data-Driven Research on Premodern Japanese Texts, it provides research resources such as TEI/XML data of the "Hirose Manuscript of the Manyoshu" as well as reprinted and TEI/XML data of the "Karo 2 (1226) Manuscript of the Kokin Wakashu."

Dissemination of Research Results

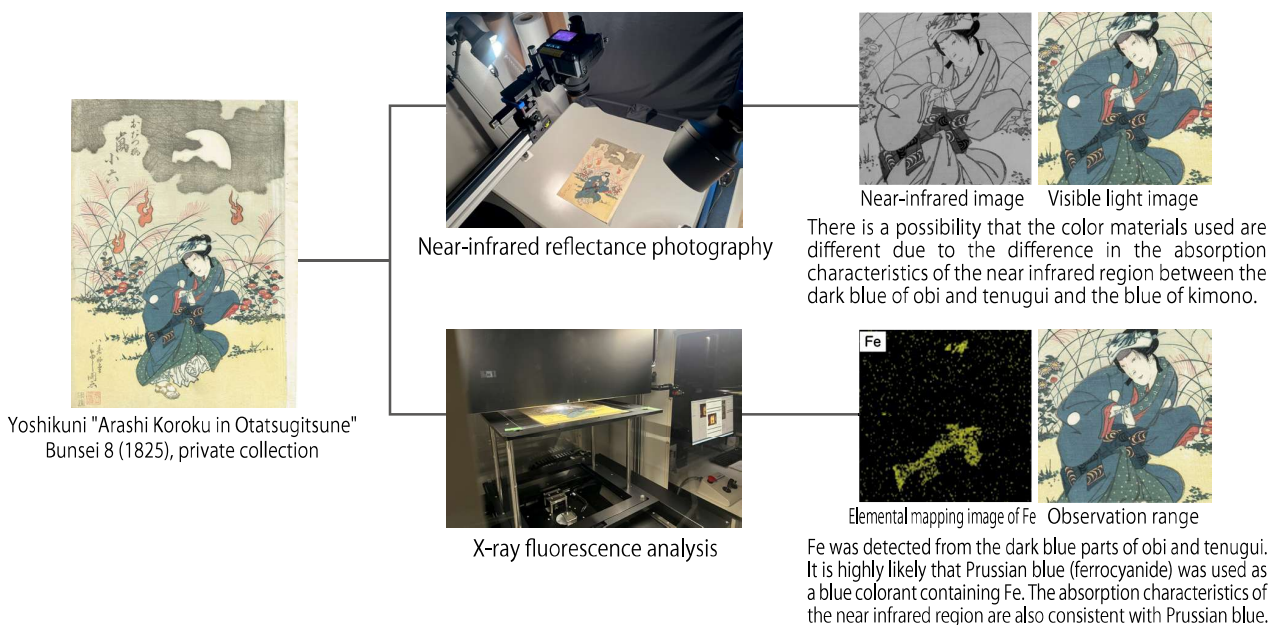
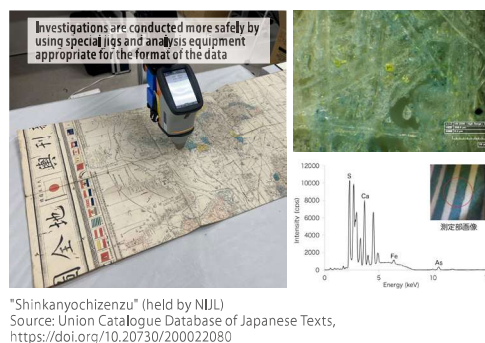
- Presentation at the 2025 Spring Symposium "Classics and Data-Driven" of the Society for Medieval Literature, entitled "How to Preserve Premodern Japanese Text Data for Connectivity" (Tsurumi University Memorial Hall, May 31, 2025)
- Presentation at the 33rd Annual (2025) Symposium "The World of Digital Philology Across Time and Space" of the Japan Society for Information and Knowledge, entitled "Rethinking Heian Kana Literature with Data" (University of Tsukuba, May 31, 2025)
- Research report at the PALA Conference 2025, entitled "A Corpus-Driven Approach to Stylistic Differences in Classical Japanese Literature –What Makes Stylistic Differences in Heian Kana Literature?" (Aston University, UK, July 12, 2025)
- Poster presentation and research report at DH2025 (International Science Conference "Digital Humanities Conference 2025") "Towards the "Model Building in the Humanities through Data-Driven Problem Solving" based around the Japanese Literary Studies" (NOVA University Lisbon, Portugal, July 16, 2025), etc.

Materials Analysis Shared-Use Laboratory

CDDR has positioned material analysis as one of the new pillars of data-driven research in the humanities and established the Materials Analysis Shared-Use Laboratory. This lab is equipped with optical instruments such as micro X-ray fluorescence analyzers and high-definition digital microscopes, which allow for non-destructive analysis of premodern books. These equipments are available for shared use by humanities researchers. We plan to gradually expand from collaborative research to general shared use and to extend the scope from premodern books to other types of humanities materials.



<https://www.nijl.ac.jp/outline/ddc/materiallabo/>
Materials Analysis Shared-Use Laboratory website



The Core Data Center is responsible for expanding and upgrading the data released from the Union Catalogue Database of Japanese Texts in order to promote the NIJL DDH Project.

We are working in cooperation with related organizations in Japan and overseas to produce images and bibliographic data as well as to prepare full-text, machine-readable text data. Through these efforts, we aim to further enhance the Union Catalogue Database of Japanese Texts and promote its internationalization and utilization.

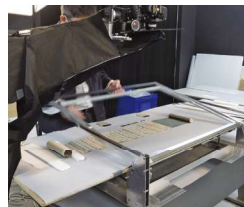
Image and Bibliographic Creation at NIJL

Images

Outsourced Imaging

We dispatch specialized contractors to owners' locations to photograph materials.

This allows us to photograph items that cannot be captured using scanners, such as those with three-dimensional objects like boxes, large materials, scrolls, and hanging scrolls.



Outsourced imaging in progress



In-house imaging by staff

In-house Imaging

There are two types of in-house imaging: **in-house imaging at the Institute**, where we borrow materials and photograph them using installed scanners, and **institutional in-house imaging**, where we lend scanners to owners for photography by local staff.

We primarily photograph bound books and also single sheets within A2 size (A3 size for institutional in-house imaging).

In-house imaging ensures the reproducibility of original materials by setting color profiles and creates images at a relatively lower cost compared to outsourced imaging.



Without color profile settings



With appropriate color profile settings

Other Methods

For materials difficult to photograph from the original but already captured on microfilm, we perform **digital conversion** from the film.

For overseas institutions, images are created by either commissioning the collection to be photographed at the holder's own photography studio or by bearing the holder's cost of commissioning a professional photography company for photographing.

We are also striving to make more images available in the Union Catalogue Database of Japanese Texts through the provision of image data by holders and **IIIF integration** with databases.

Bibliographic Information

Bibliographic Creation

For images created through these various methods, our staff—who are capable of deciphering cursive script—prepare the bibliographic data necessary for database search and use, such as “title,” “author,” and “collection.”

We link these bibliographic data with the images and publish them in the Union Catalogue Database of Japanese Texts (→ page 16).

Bibliographic Standardization

We are working on standardizing bibliographies related to Japanese premodern books in collaboration with the National Diet Library and the Japan Consortium for Open Access Repository (JPCOAR). Our contributions include the “Metadata Distribution Guidelines for Historical Materials” and “JPCOAR Schema 2.0,” which are adapted for digital archives of Japanese premodern books.

Furthermore, we have begun examining a mechanism to convert and output bibliographic data from the Union Catalogue Database of Japanese Texts into versatile schemas to promote metadata distribution.

Example of a bibliographic creation screen

Machine-readable Full-text Data Development

In the NIJL DDH Project (→ page 6), we will create text data over the decade from FY2024 to FY2033 based on digital images of premodern books that have been photographed and collected. To efficiently generate large volumes of data, we are experimentally using commercial transcription systems.



(1) Text data through OCR processing
270,000 items (target)



(2) Text data corrected through manual processing, etc. 3,000 items (target)

Some of the created text data will be prepared for utilization through the creation of corrected texts, annotated texts, modern Japanese translations, multilingual translations, etc., and the addition of standardized metadata, to be published in the future.

International Collaboration: Global Expansion

We will continue to actively enhance information on materials located overseas by building upon our previous efforts, such as including images of classical texts located overseas in the Union Catalogue Database of Japanese Texts, linking with digital archives, and incorporating information from the Konicki Union Catalogue of Early Japanese Books in Europe.

The "NIJL-NCC/CDDP Digitization Grant Program," which is implemented in collaboration with the North American Coordinating Council on Japanese Library Resources (NCC) to digitize premodern Japanese texts located in North America, has entered its second phase.

In 2025, a memorandum of understanding was concluded with the European Association of Japanese Resource Specialists (EAJRS). We will strive to promote the utilization of premodern Japanese texts in Europe.

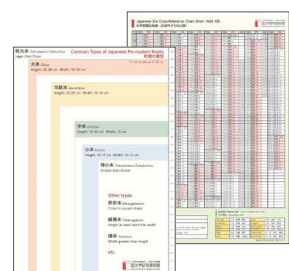
Beyond enriching the data, we are working to internationalize the Union Catalogue Database of Japanese Texts and promote its utilization through personal exchanges, such as discussions with Japanese studies librarians abroad and presentations at EAJRS annual conferences.



2026-2028 NIJL-NCC/CDDP Digitization Grant Program (NCC)
<https://guides.nccjapan.org/cddp/nijl-ncc/digitalgrant/2026-2028>



Agreement on the Second Phase of the
NIJL-NCC/CDDP Digitization Grant Program



Creation of bibliographic
cataloging support tools for
overseas institutions



Presentation at EAJRS 2025
(in collaboration with the University of
Michigan Library)



Conclusion of Memorandum of Understanding
with EAJRS



Presentation at the NCC Co-hosted Workshop

The Union Catalogue Database of Japanese Texts is the world's largest database of Japanese premodern books, providing free access to approximately 1,000,000 bibliographic data and about 300,000 digital images from around 700 institutions and individuals in Japan and abroad.



<https://kokusho.nijl.ac.jp/?ln=en>

Features of the Union Catalogue Database

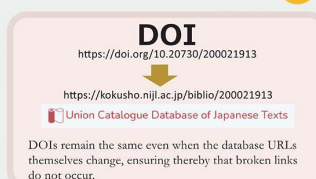
Point 1 Easy to Find

In addition to basic searches by title or keyword, there are a number of other available search options to choose from, including searches by image tag, full text searches, searches by recommended keywords, and searches of our featured contents.



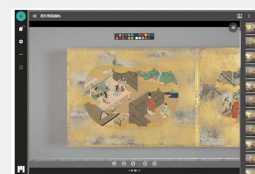
Point 2 Easy to Cite

Through the association of our images with international identifiers known as DOIs (Digital Object Identifiers), we secure for them a permanency of access that makes them easier to cite.



Point 3 Easy to Use

Our images of premodern texts are displayed in a reader designed to meet the digital archive standard IIIF (International Image Interoperability Framework), thereby facilitating the smooth sharing or reuse of images between different digital archives.



+ Even More User-Friendly!



Each image displays its usage conditions, allowing for safe utilization when those conditions are followed. Images published under "Public Domain," including materials held by our Institute, may be freely used for purposes such as publication or data utilization — regardless of commercial or non-commercial use, modifications, or intended purpose.



For details, please refer to the brochure.

https://kokusho.nijl.ac.jp/page/kokusho-pamphlet_202309_web_EN.pdf



FY2025 Photography Implementation Institutions

Tohoku University, Fukushima University, Ibaraki Prefectural Archives and History Museum, Ibaraki University, University of Tsukuba, Ichikawa City (materials on loan), Archives and Mausolea Department, the Imperial Household Agency, National Institute for Japanese Language and Linguistics, Jissen Women's University, Seikado Bunko, Setagaya Literary Museum, Senshu University, Tokai University, Tosho Bunko, Tokyo Shoseki Co. Ltd., The University of Tokyo, Nishogakusha University, Japan Arts Council, Nogami Memorial Noh Theatre Research Institute of Hosei University, Toyama City Library, Obama City Library, Sanada Treasures Museum, Toson Memorial Museum, Shizuoka Prefectural Central Library, Nagoya University, Sekisui Museum, Kyoto City Library of Historical Documents, Kyoto University, International Research Center for Japanese Studies, Zuikoji Temple, Doshisha University, The University of Osaka, Osaka Prefectural Nakanoshima Library, Kasugataisha Shrine, Tezen Museum, Okayama University, Masamune Bunko, Hikari City Cultural Center, Yamaguchi University, Zentsuji Temple, Uwajima Date Culture Preservation Society, Ozu City Library, Kyushu University, Yutoku Inari Shrine, Suwa Shrine, Nakatsu History Museum, Hirose Museum, Kagoshima University, British Library, Oberlin College, University of California-Berkeley, The University of Kansas, University of British Columbia

*Images and bibliographic data from FY2025 photography will be made available to the public in FY2026.

The following databases are available from our web site for purposes of research into Japanese literature and other related fields.

● Database of Academic Papers in Japanese Literature and Archival Studies

<https://ronbun.nijl.ac.jp>

The database offers a collection of scholarly papers, written in Japanese, on Japanese literature (from 1888 to the present) or archival studies.



● Archival Holdings on Japanese History

<https://archives.nijl.ac.jp>

These are archives of early modern and modern documents, records, and objects collected and maintained by the Ministry of Education Historical Archives (founded in 1951) and its successor, the National Institute of Japanese Literature.



● Directory of Overseas Collections of Old and Rare Japanese Books, Other Print Materials, and Manuscripts

<https://base1.nijl.ac.jp/~overseas/>

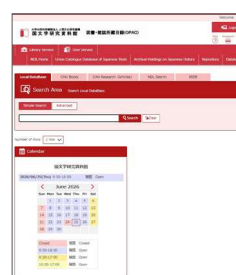
This directory provides information in English (and in Japanese in some cases) on contact information for institutions outside of Japan keeping premodern Japanese texts, and the accessibility of their collections.



● NIJL OPAC

<https://opac.nijl.ac.jp>

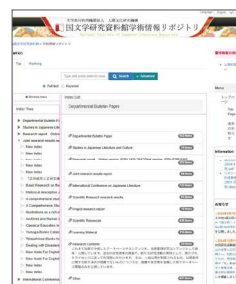
This is a catalog of the institute's collection of books, documents, and magazines (serial publications) from the Meiji Period onward.



● NIJL Repository

<https://kokubunken.repo.nii.ac.jp>

We publish our research results and other materials using the JAIRO Cloud service of the National Institute of Informatics (NII).



This institute performs specialized surveys and research on documents of Japanese literature and related fields housed at institutions both in Japan and overseas. It also seeks to expand its own collection of original materials, organize and preserve information gathered on such materials' location and bibliography, and provide a foundation for the study of Japanese literature and related fields. It also makes its materials available in various ways to users in Japan and abroad, while contributing back to the society through initiatives such as exhibits and lecture meetings.

1 Research and Archives Survey Collection

In collaboration with researchers affiliated with universities nationwide, we conduct research focusing on bibliographic aspects by visiting institutions that hold original source materials related to Japanese literature. The recorded survey cards are used for image creation and various catalog compilations, and the accumulated card information is digitized and published in the NIJL Repository. We are also conducting nationwide surveys and collecting materials from Japan's early modern and modern periods to develop archival information resource.

We publish the annual "Report on Investigation and Research" on our research results.

Survey and Archives Collection to Date

Surveys	Japan	1,039 locations	426,226 items
	Overseas	67 locations	16,367 items
	Total	1,106 locations	442,593 items
Archives Survey Collection	Japan	4 locations	7,679 items

ISSN 2435-2047

調査研究報告
第45号

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大学共同利用機関法人 人間文化研究機構
国文学研究資料館
学術資料部
2023年3月

FY2025 Survey Locations

Tohoku Region

Hirosaki City Public Library

Aizuwakamatsu City Library

Kanto Region

Archives and Mausolea Department of the Imperial Household Agency

National Institute for Japanese Language and Linguistics

Saimyoji Temple

Mushakoji Saneatsu Memorial Museum

Seisa University Mayama Seika Collection

Kanagawa Prefectural Library YAMAKAWA Kikue Collection

Chubu Region

Funatsu Shrine

Kinki Region

Kasugataisha Shrine

Zuikoji Temple

Chugoku/Shikoku Region

Tottori Prefectural Museum

Tezen Museum

Masamune Bunko

Hikari City Cultural Center

Uwajima Date Cultural Preservation Association

Ozu City Library

Kasaoka City Library (MORITA Shiken's manuscript)

Kyushu/Okinawa Region

Yutoku Inari Shrine (Nakagawa Bunko)

FY2025 Collection Sites

Archives

Egawa Bunko

Sanada Treasure Museum

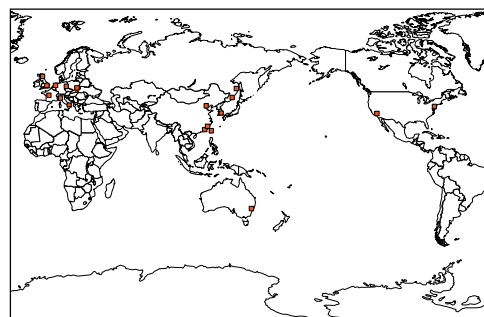
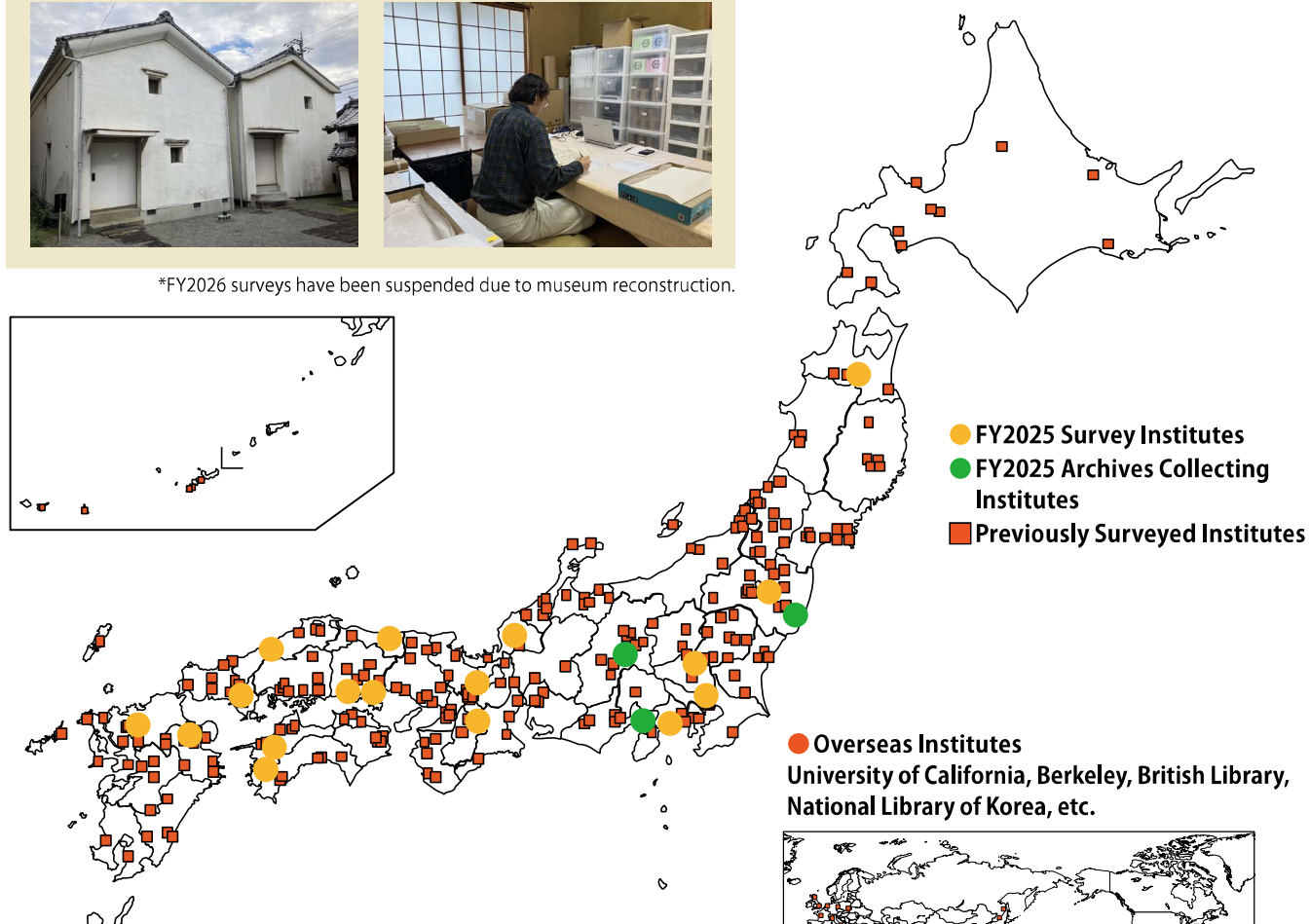
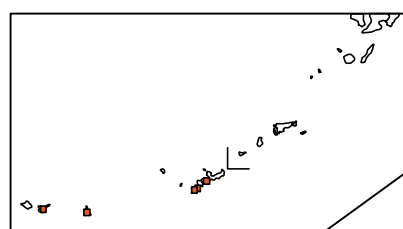
The Historical Archive Museum of Tomioka

Surveys at holding institutions around the country

● Uwajima Date Cultural Preservation Association [Ehime Prefecture]



*FY2026 surveys have been suspended due to museum reconstruction.



● Kasugataisha Shrine [Nara Prefecture]



● Sanada Treasure Museum [Nagano Prefecture]



● Tezen Museum [Shimane Prefecture]



2 Public Access to NIJL's Collections

The institute allows the perusal of documents and provides various copying services. Those not affiliated with any university can request copies directly by post, email, or fax. We also welcome inquiries by post, email, or fax.



Library



Copying machine

The materials at NIJL can be copied with a coin-operated copier upon request. Our staff will handle the copying of microfilm materials or other materials that are prone to damage by copying.

Library Services Guide

Service Hours	Hours of Operation	Weekdays 9:30 - 18:00 Saturday 9:30 - 17:00
	Library materials retrieval reception	Weekdays 9:30 - 17:00 Saturday 9:30 - 16:00
	Copy Services	9:30 - 16:00
Closed		• Sundays and public holidays • New Year holiday (December 27–January 5) • Annual collections inspection period (February) • 4th Wednesdays of every month • Summer holiday *Also subject to temporary closures for other reasons.
Services Offered	Collections	Microfilm, Premodern Japanese books, historical documents, printed books, photographic facsimiles, books on local history from across the country, and periodicals. *Prior reservations are required to view historical materials, rare books, special collections, and materials on loan to the library. Viewing is not available on Saturdays.
	Photo duplication Services	Electronic photocopying (including photocopying using a reader printer)
	Photography	Historical documents and other such materials excluded from electronic photocopying
	Lending	Overnight lending of printed-out facsimile copies (some books excluded)
	Lending for Exhibitions	Lending for exhibitions at libraries, archives, museums, etc.
	Reference Service	Accepting and responding to questions and requests for document searches
Inquiries	Interlibrary Loan	Photocopying and lending through the interlibrary loan system (ILL)
	Phone	050-5533-2926, Academic Materials Section
	E-mail	etsuran@nijl.ac.jp
	F A X	042-526-8607

Materials in NIJL's Collections

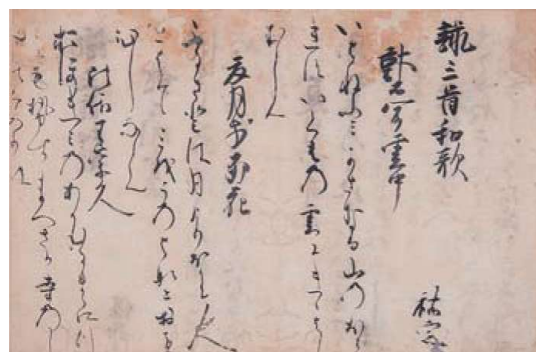
Types of Materials			No. of Items, etc.	No. of Volumes, etc.
Microfilm Materials	Microfilm	Japanese Literature	195,097 items	38,192 reels
		History	202 items	6,308 reels
	Printed Photographic Facsimiles	Japanese Literature	—	68,935 volumes
		History	—	11,196 volumes
Books	Premodern Japanese texts		21,737 items	69,391 volumes
	Printed books, printed-out photographic facsimile copies, etc.		122,298 items	209,789 volumes
	Periodicals		9,670 publications	—
	Microfiche		16,667 items	57,358 sheets
Historical Documents			512 items	about 520,000 items
Historical Documents and Other Materials on Loan to the Library		Japanese Literature	14 items	10,268 volumes
		History	17 items	6,847 items

Representative Collection Materials

Materials Related to Japanese Literature

Rare Books

Kasuga Kaishi (Important Cultural Property), a Ten'na 2 (1682) Aratoya edition of *Koushoku Ichidai Otoko*, an illustrated old moveable-type edition of *Soga Monogatari*, a Kamakura-era manuscript of *Shin Kokin Wakashu*, a Nara ehon edition of *Utsuho Monogatari*, the *Shin Kokin Wakashu Senka Soko*, and a Kamakura period manuscript of *The Tale of Genji* (16 chapters), etc. (244 items in all)



Kasuga kaishi
(National Institute of Japanese Literature collections)

Special Collections

Kokin Wakashu (Collection of Ancient and Modern Poetry) and related works formerly owned by Kyoichi Nishishita (Hatsukari Collection); anthologies of Chinese poetry from the Edo and Meiji periods formerly owned by author Shin'ichiro Nakamura (Japanese Chinese Poetry Collection); *Essays in Idleness* and other works (Isao Kojo Collection); a collection centered on the *Shin Kokin Wakashu* (New Collection of Ancient and Modern Poetry) (Kaifu Rogetsu Collection); diaries, records, and documents related to court lore, literature, and the performing arts from the Tayasu Tokugawa family (Tayasu Tokugawa family materials (Denpan Bunko)); books, documents and records collected by Ikujiro Ukai, a politician of the Meiji era (Ukai Bunko); a collection including works by Soko Yamaga (Yamaga Bunko); a collection centered on *The Tales of Ise* and related works (Tesshinsai Bunko); and 27 others.



Closed Stacks

Materials on Loan to the Library

Materials from 14 collections, including, among others, 6 items from the collection of KANEKO Motoomi, 156 items from the ancient manuscript fragment collection of SAKATA Yasuyoshi, and 50 boxes containing 6,690 pages of documents from the Masuda Collection.

Historical Documentary Materials

The Historical Materials collection focuses on the early modern and modern periods and contains over 520,000 items, covering nearly every region of Japan.

The early modern materials consist for the most part of town- and village-level documents (such as the Owari no Kuni Nagoya Moto Zaimokucho Inuyamaya Kandoke documents, and the Shinano no Kuni Takaigun Higashi Ebemura Yamada Shozamonke documents), but they also contain warrior-class documents (such as the Shinano no Kuni Matsushiro Sanadake documents, the Awa no Kuni Tokushima Hachisuka documents, and the Yamashiro no Kuni Yodo Inabake documents), court-family documents (such as the Yamashiro no Kuni Kyoto Sanjonishike documents), and documents from religious institutions (such as the Yamashiro no Kuni Kadonogun Saga Tenryūji Tacchū Rinsenji documents).

The modern collections contain documents dealing with prefectural, municipal, and village-level government (such as the Aichi Prefectural Office documents and the Okayama, Hiroshima, and Tottori Prefectural and Municipal documents).

3 Community Outreach Activities

NIJL contributes to the society by widely publicizing the results of its research via exhibitions, lectures, symposia, and various seminars.

Exhibitions

The institute hosts exhibitions in its first-floor exhibition room to showcase the results of its documentary surveys and other collaborative research projects.

Planned Exhibitions for FY2026

Regular Exhibition "A Variety of Japanese Books"

Scheduled from May 8 to August 4, 2026

Exhibition "Edo Shoga Kaleidoscope - The World of KITANO Tayuru Collection" (Tentative Title)

Scheduled from October 1 to November 27, 2026

Regular Exhibition "Japanese Literary History Based on Documents"

Scheduled from January 22 to March 18, 2027

Special Exhibit Corner

During the period of the Regular Exhibition, a special exhibit corner will be set up in the exhibition room to display documents from the institute's holdings.

Web Exhibition room

"Japanese Literary History Based on Documents,"
"Various Japanese Books"



Exhibition room



The institute's website
<https://www.nijl.ac.jp/koten/webtenji/>

Lecture Series

(1) Archives College

Long- and short-term courses are offered for the purpose of cultivating staff specialized in tasks such as archival record preservation and the provision of user services.

The long-term lecture course is scheduled to be held at the institute over a total period of six weeks from July 21 to August 7, 2026 and from August 17 to September 4, 2026. Also, a short course will be held at the Akita Prefectural Archives and Akita Lifelong Learning Center from November 9 to November 14.



Archives College Short-Term Course

(2) Workshop on Pre-Modern Japanese Books

This workshop, held in cooperation with the National Diet Library, seeks to impart to librarians from Japan and abroad who deal with premodern Japanese books the requisite basic knowledge about such books and their handling.

The FY2026 workshop is scheduled for the four-day period from July 14 to July 17.



Workshop on Pre-Modern Japanese Books

(3) Classics Day Lecture

A commemorative lecture is being held in conjunction with Classics Day on November 1. Classics Day was established in 2012 to commemorate November 1, the date in 1008 A.D. (Kankō 5) of the oldest record of The Tale of Genji.

We hope participants will take advantage of this opportunity to become more familiar with the classics. See our website for dates and other details.



FY2025 Classics Day flyer

The Tama Academic Cultural Platform "Plat NIJL"

NIJL has concluded an agreement with Tama Shinkin Bank to establish the Tama Academic Cultural Platform "Plat NIJL" in FY2018, composed of NIJL as the core organization, as well as a variety of businesses, local government bodies, universities, and other groups, to ensure the continual implementation of projects promoting academic research and cultural activities in the Tama Region.

These projects will involve holding courses and lectures on academic research and cultural activities in the Tama Region, collaborating and cooperating with various groups to utilize NIJL materials and databases, and promoting industry-academy cooperation in general.



NIJL Arts Initiative: Innovation through the Legacy of Japanese Literature

Since October 2017, we have been implementing the project, the NIJL Arts Initiative: Innovation through the Legacy of Japanese Literature. This project is to bring artists from various fields and non-native Japanese translators into contact with our rich collection of premodern texts and to co-create new cultural and artistic values through the creative workshops with our researchers.



"Seminar at NIJL" for Universities and Exploratory Learning Seminar

The university support program "Seminar at NIJL" offers the opportunity to hold seminars and lectures of undergraduate and graduate Japanese literature and history courses here at NIJL, utilizing our abundant collection of materials. Recent years have seen progress in the creation of databases of premodern Japanese texts and images have become very detailed, but the original texts contain a lot of information that can only be understood by seeing the actual document, including the size and texture of the paper. The Exploratory Learning Seminar inspires students to take interest in Japanese literature through the experience of seeing and handling original materials in person. Feel free to take advantage of this opportunity. Visit our website for application details.

Publications

- "Exhibition on Paper: The Thousand-Year Journey of NIJL" (CHUOCORON-SHINSHA, INC), published in September 2025
- A series titled "National Institute of Japanese Literature - An Invitation to the Classics" published in "The Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology's Educational Communications" (THE EARTH KYOIKUSHINSHA Co., Ltd.) from April 2025 to March 2026.

Other publications include the "NIJL News," the NIJL DDH Project Newsletter "Fumi" and the "Bulletin of the National Institute of Japanese Literature (Studies in Japanese Literature Series, Archive Studies Series)."



Website and social media

Events and other information are shared through the NIJL website and social media.



Website
<https://www.nijl.ac.jp/>



X
<https://x.com/nijlkokubunken>



Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/nijlkokubunken2/>



YouTube
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCmv2mV_IJKz9H690ST-7w

4 International Exchange

Japanese literature is a field of study pursued throughout the world. An important challenge facing Japanese literary research today is learning to perceive Japanese literature from a variety of different research viewpoints and methods. Based on such an awareness, NIJL has established the International Collaboration Division to revitalize activities of international exchange. As part of this, we have actively engaged in a number of activities in Japan and overseas, such as the hosting of various symposia, seminars, and conferences devoted to research on premodern Japanese texts.

Furthermore, the Global Consortium for Japanese Textual Scholarship was established as a voluntary organization on November 1, 2020, with the aim of enabling institutions both domestic and international to work together by sharing their limited resources and complementing each other's strengths and weaknesses in order to promote the study of pre-1900 Japanese manuscripts, scrolls, and printed books. The secretariat for this consortium is at NIJL. There are 83 participating organizations (41 in Japan and 42 overseas) as of the end of March 2026. <https://kotenseki.org/>

Academic Exchange Agreements

As an international center for research on Japanese literature, NIJL is actively engaged in a variety of academic exchange projects with researchers and research institutions overseas. In particular, it is the conclusion of academic exchange agreements with overseas institutions that makes stable, ongoing research exchange possible.

Its activities center on the exchange of researchers between institutions in Japan and overseas, as well as hosting international research symposia. They also include the implementation of joint surveys, collaborative research projects, and hosting of graduate students for short-term training.

Presently, academic exchange agreements have been concluded with the following overseas institutions:

- Beijing Foreign Studies University, Beijing Center for Japanese Studies (China)
- Korea University, Global Institute for Japanese Studies (Republic of Korea)
- Dankook University, Institute for Convergent Humanities in East Asia (Republic of Korea)
- Columbia University, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures (U.S.)
- University of California, Berkeley, C.V. Starr East Asian Library (U.S.)
- University of Hawai'i at Manoa, Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures (U.S.)
- Smithsonian Institution (National Museum of Asian Art) (U.S.)
- The University of Kansas (U.S.)
- The University of British Columbia, Faculty of Arts, Department of Asian Studies (Canada)
- The North American Coordinating Council on Japanese Library Resources (North America)
- Collège de France, Institute of Advanced Japanese Studies (France)
- École Pratique des Hautes Études (France)
- European Center for Japanese Studies in Alsace (France)
- Ca' Foscari University of Venice, Department of Asian and North African Studies (Italy)
- The University of Naples "L' Orientale" (Italy)
- University of Florence, Department of Education, Languages, Intercultural Studies, Literatures and Psychology (Italy)
- Sapienza University of Rome, Italian Institute of Oriental Studies (Italy)
- Leiden University, Faculty of Humanities (The Netherlands)
- Berlin State Library (Germany)
- Heidelberg University, Institute of Japanese Studies (Germany)
- Goethe University Frankfurt am Main, Faculty of Linguistics, Cultures, and Arts (Germany)
- Vatican Apostolic Library (Vatican City State)
- The British Library Board (U.K.)
- Inter-University Center for Japanese Language Studies
- Japan Foundation

Exchange with Overseas Researchers (Foreign and Outside Researchers)

To promote the internationalization of research on Japanese literature, we invite research fellow scholars from abroad who are active on the front lines of research into Japanese literature and other related fields, thereby offering our institute as a platform for the use of academic resources and the exchange of expertise.

International Conference on Japanese Literature (ICJL)

This conference has been held on a continuing basis since the establishment of NIJL in 1977 to promote the study of Japanese literature from a broad perspective and to deepen international research exchange.

We particularly welcome presentations by the next generation of researchers from Japan or abroad. The conference is held every year in May, and the call for research presenters is open from August to mid-November. Presenters are selected by the "Special Committee of the International Conference on Japanese Literature" (including outside committee members), a special committee of the International Collaboration Division of NIJL, which also manages the conference. The 49th Conference in FY2026 will be held in a hybrid in-person/online format.

- The 49th International Conference on Japanese Literature (ICJL)

Dates: May 16-17, 2026

Venue: NIJL Large Conference Room and online
(Zoom Meetings and YouTube Livestream)

- The 48th International Conference on Japanese Literature (ICJL)

Dates: May 10-11, 2025

Venue: NIJL Large Conference Room and online

Summary: 15 research presenters (including 14 young researchers) and 2 poster presenters (including 1 young researcher)

Participants: 208 (Total of 2 days)



49th ICJL poster

Material Workshop

Aimed at next-generation researchers, this workshop is co-hosted with the Inter-University Center for Japanese Language Studies (IUC) and is held twice a year, generally in-person. The workshop offers a useful forum that gives practical guidance primarily for developing research projects based on pre-modern Japanese texts. The content includes general introductions to the handling of various pre-modern texts, explanations of survey and usage methods for primary-source materials, and advice on how to profitably use the NIJL databases and other similar resources.

- 14th: February 20, 2026

Venue: NIJL Orientation Room and online

Participants: 64

- 13th: November 5, 2025

Venue: NIJL Orientation Room and online

Participants: 49



13th Material Workshop flyer

Seminar on Premodern Japanese Books

We work in collaboration with overseas researchers and research institutes to hold seminars focused on the bibliography and literary culture of premodern Japanese books, which are one of the foundations of Japanese culture.

- 14th: March 2027 (scheduled)

Venue: Online

Co-host: Beijing Foreign Studies University, Beijing Center for Japanese Studies



13th Seminar on Premodern Japanese Books flyer

■ Special Inter-University Research Fellows

At the request of national, public, and private universities, in FY1979, the Graduate School Education Collaborative System was established to promote cooperation in graduate-level education and began accepting graduate students. The program later expanded participation in FY1998 with the inauguration of the Special Inter-University Research Fellows Program.

Students currently studying Japanese literature, history, and related subjects in doctoral or master's programs at domestic national, public, and private universities are eligible for acceptance as Special Inter-University Research Fellows to engage in research at NIJL and receive the supervision they need. NIJL hosts around ten fellows in total at a time, each as a general rule for a period of one year, beginning in April and ending the following March.

Fiscal year	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Total Active Fellows	6	4	6	4	2	4

■ Participation in Collaborative Research

The research team will consist of approximately six to nine people, including a main researcher and project members, and at least 30% of them will be young researchers (under the age of 39; graduate students enrolled in doctoral programs are also eligible).

Fiscal year	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Total Active Fellows	17	21	73	82	96	76

■ Project Researcher

A person who is employed for a fixed period at the expense of a specific research project at NIJL and is working on the research project. As part of its support for young researchers, the Academic Materials Division employs project researchers who are responsible for organizing seminars and creating catalogs of premodern Japanese texts.

Fiscal year	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Total Active Fellows	13	12	8	5	4	2

■ PD Acceptance

The Japan Society for the Promotion of Science has been accepting Fellows-PDs since its FY2023 fellowship "Supporting the Employment of Young Researchers to Improve the Research Environment (hereinafter, "Research Fellowship for Young Scientists")," and NIJL is registered as an organization with an employment system for Fellows-PDs, etc. As a general rule, all new employees will be hired.

NIJL accepted two employees in FY2020 and one employee in FY2023.

■ Events Aimed at Young Researchers

- International Conference on Japanese Literature (ICJL) (page 27)
- Materials Workshop Series (page 27)
- Workshop on Pre-Modern Japanese Books

In FY2025, this training program was scheduled on the first and second days of the 23rd Workshop on Pre-Modern Japanese Books.

■ Prize in Classical Japanese Literary Scholarship

(Sponsored by the National Institute of Japanese Literature Support Association)

The "Prize in Classical Japanese Literary Scholarship" is a continuation of the "Japanese Classical Literature Association Award" sponsored by the "Japanese Classical Literature Association" foundation, established as the "National Institute of Japanese Literature Support Association" with the goal of encouraging and aiding young researchers of classical Japanese literature.

Eligible recipients of the award (as many as three per year) must have been under the age of 40 at the time of the work submitted for consideration. The award committee of the 18th Prize in Classical Japanese Literary Scholarship was unable to select any winners for their achievements (books) between January and December 2024.

Japanese Literature Program, Graduate Institute for Advanced Studies, SOKENDAI

This program, with the National Institute of Japanese Literature as its parent institute, fosters students to become leaders in the new development of Japanese literature. Specifically, this program aims to enable students to acquire specialized research techniques and comprehensive analytical skills and knowledge by focusing on primary sources as research subjects, mainly literature, among cultural resources. The program fosters logical thinking and writing skills, creative and interdisciplinary perspectives, as well as the ability to tackle issues in peripheral fields, to nurture researchers with a broad perspective who can tackle issues in surrounding fields and play an active role both domestically and internationally.

This program consists of only the doctoral program, and students in this program will study and conduct research activities at the National Institute of Japanese Literature, National Institutes for the Humanities, located in Tachikawa City, Tokyo.

Graduate Program Students (As of April 1, 2026)

Quota	1st year	2nd year	3rd year	Total
2	0	1	3	4

Degree Recipients of Past 5 Years

FY2021	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024	FY2025
3	2	0	2	1

*Including doctoral degrees based on research papers

Careers of Degree Recipients

Aoyama Gakuin University Human Innovation Research Center, Kanazawa University, Keio University, Korea University, National Institute of Japanese Literature, Sichuan International Studies University, Shohoku College, Tsuru University, Tokyo Kasei University Junior and Senior High School, Japan Society for the Promotion of Science, Hyogo University of Teacher Education, Morioka University, Waseda University, Soiku Co., Ltd., and others.

Advantages of Japanese Literature Program

Guidance by Multiple Supervisors

Students are supported by 19 expert supervisors with experience across a wide variety of educational and research fields. To provide a system of supervision responsive to the needs of individual student research projects, one main supervisor and two supporting supervisors are chosen for each student to supply finely customized guidance that draws on multiple perspectives.

An Environment Conducive to Education and Research

In conducting their research, students will have available to the massive collection of materials housed at NIJL. Graduate students may also avail abundant study facilities including graduate students' rooms, lecture rooms, graduate library studies, and common rooms.

Financial Support

A comprehensive range of financial support is available, including support for travel expenses incurred in research activities such as on-site archival research domestically and overseas, as well as in attendance or presentation at scholarly conferences.

Support is also provided through the active hiring of students as research assistants. Furthermore, photocopying of materials within NIJL is free (up to a certain limit). The institute can also purchase books to make available in the library upon request.

Graduate Institute for Advanced Studies 20 Programs	Research Institutes participating in SOKENDAI
Anthropological Studies	National Museum of Ethnology
Japanese Studies	International Research Center for Japanese Studies
Japanese History	National Museum of Japanese History
Japanese Literature	National Institute of Japanese Literature
Japanese Language Sciences	National Institute for Japanese Language and Linguistics
Informatics	National Institute of Informatics
Statistical Science	The Institute of Statistical Mathematics
Particle and Nuclear Physics	Institute of Particle and Nuclear Studies
Accelerator Science	Accelerator Laboratory / Applied Research Laboratory
Astronomical Science	National Astronomical Observatory of Japan
Fusion Science	National Institute for Fusion Science
Space and Astronautical Science	Institute of Space and Astronautical Science
Molecular Science	Institute for Molecular Science
Materials Structure Science	Institute of Materials Structure Science
Global Environmental Studies	Research Institute for Humanity and Nature
Polar Science	National Institute of Polar Research
Basic Biology	National Institute for Basic Biology
Physiological Sciences	National Institute for Physiological Sciences
Genetics	National Institute of Genetics
Integrative Evolutionary Science	Research Center for Integrative Evolutionary Science

*Due to a reorganization, the Department of Japanese Literature within the School of Cultural and Social Studies was renamed as the Japanese Literature Program, Graduate Institute for Advanced Studies as of April 2023.



Lecture Scene from "Introduction to Research Methods in Literature"

List of Researchers (as of April 1, 2026)

Director-General

Name	Research Interests
WATANABE Yasuaki	History of waka

Research Department

Name	Position	Research Interests
IRIGUCHI Atsushi	Professor, Deputy Director-General (in charge of planning and coordination)	Early modern literature
OKAZAKI Makiko	Professor, Deputy Director-General (in charge of research)	Research on Japanese literature of the Heian and medieval periods and on waka literature
KIGOSHI Shunsuke	Professor (Head of Researcher, Assistant Director-General)	Early modern Japanese literature, particularly the history of the novel
DAVIN Didier	Professor (Head of Researcher)	Medieval Buddhism and literature
NAKANISHI Satoko	Professor (Head of Researcher)	Heian-period literature and narrative literature
NISHIMURA Shintaro	Professor (Head of Researcher) *Chair of Japanese Literature (SOKENDAI)	Preservation of historical records in areas affected by the Fukushima nuclear disaster, editing of the Oaza Magazine
YAMAMOTO Kazuaki	Professor (Head of Researcher)	Research on 19th-century Japanese literature
KANSAKU Ken'ichi	Professor	Early modern Japanese literature, particularly the history of waka and the arts
SAITO Maori	Professor	Medieval literature, specializing in the literature and art of the Muromachi period
FUJIZANE Kumiko	Professor	Political culture of early modern and restoration-era Japan and the establishment of documentary book studies
OYAMA Keizo	Specially appointed Professor	Research on informatics, information retrieval, and construction and collaborative use of data sets to be used in research
NAGASAKI Kiyonori	Visiting Professor	Research on the digitization of humanities information (especially concerning data disclosure and development of young human resources in humanities and information science)
FUJITA Satoru	Visiting Professor	Study on cursive script recognition and image search of premodern Japanese texts
OTA Naohiro	Associate Professor	Regional government in early modern Japan and early-modern archives studies
KAWAKAMI Hajime	Associate Professor	Japanese medieval literature; in particular waka literature of the Muromachi Period
KIKUCHI Nobuhiko	Associate Professor	Digital history, digital public history, and the modern and contemporary history of Spain
KURIHARA Yutaka	Associate Professor	Representations of the Late Edo and Meiji Restoration Periods in Modern Japanese Literature
TAKAO Yuta	Associate Professor	Medieval literature, specializing in the literary arts and the intellectual foundations
TADA Kurahito	Associate Professor	"Citations" in modern Japanese literature
NISHIGUCHI Masataka	Associate Professor	Research on the history of transportation and logistics in early modern and modern Japan
MORIOKA Tomohiko	Associate Professor	Japanese literature in Classical Chinese, particularly of the Edo and Meiji periods
OSHIUMI Keiichi	Specially appointed Associate Professor	Research evaluation in social science and humanities, policy research
MATSUBARA Noriko	Specially appointed Associate Professor	Material analysis on pre-modern texts, and research on Japanese literature with a focus on 18th-century illustrated storybooks
EDO Hideo	Assistant Professor	Research on Japanese literature in the late ancient and early medieval periods
KNOTT Jeffrey	Assistant Professor	Classical studies and the reception of classical literature in medieval Japan

Name	Position	Research Interests
KAWATA Shoko	Specially appointed Assistant Professor	Medieval narrative literature, especially research on narrative elements in old records and commentaries
TAKEUCHI Ayano	Specially appointed Assistant Professor	Data construction, corpus expansion, and data mining, with a primary focus on Heian literature
NAKAYAMA Yosuke	Specially appointed Assistant Professor	Research on the formation and development of hiragana
YAMATO Asuka	Specially appointed Assistant Professor	Material analysis focusing on colorants in early modern materials
SHIMADA Ryo	Research Fellowship for Young Scientists	Research on Japanese literature of the Heian and medieval periods, particularly concerning waka expression
YASUI Mihiro	Research Fellowship for Young Scientists	Relation of form and content in books of modern Japanese literature

Core Research Center

Name	Position	Name	Position	Name	Position
IRIGUCHI Atsushi	Director (dual post)				
KIGOSHI Shunsuke	Deputy Director (dual post)				
Academic Materials Division, Core Research Center		International Collaboration Division, Core Research Center		Public Outreach Division, Core Research Center	
KIGOSHI Shunsuke	Director (dual post)	DAVIN Didier	Director (dual post)	NAKANISHI Satoko	Director (dual post)
TADA Kurahito	Deputy Director (dual post)	YAMAMOTO Kazuaki	Deputy Director (dual post)	IRIGUCHI Atsushi	Deputy Director (dual post)
OKAZAKI Makiko	Professor (dual post)	OTA Naohiro	Associate Professor (dual post)	NISHIMURA Shintaro	Professor (dual post)
KANSAKU Ken'ichi	Professor (dual post)	KURIHARA Yutaka	Associate Professor (dual post)	TAKAO Yuta	Associate Professor (dual post)
SAITO Maori	Professor (dual post)	KNOTT Jeffrey	Assistant Professor (dual post)	NISHIGUCHI Masataka	Associate Professor (dual post)
FUJIZANE Kumiko	Professor (dual post)	LIU Juan	Research Fellow	MORIOKA Tomohiko	Associate Professor (dual post)
KAWAKAMI Hajime	Associate Professor (dual post)			EDO Hideo	Assistant Professor (dual post)
KIKUCHI Nobuhiko	Associate Professor (dual post)			KAWATA Shoko	Specially appointed Assistant Professor (dual post)
KIDOKORO Takao	Project Research Fellow				

Center for Data-Driven Research on Premodern Japanese Texts

Name	Position
OYAMA Keizo	Director (dual post)
KANSAKU Ken'ichi	Deputy Director (dual post)
KIKUCHI Nobuhiko	Deputy Director (dual post)
KIGOSHI Shunsuke	Professor (dual post)
NISHIMURA Shintaro	Professor (dual post)
YAMAMOTO Kazuaki	Professor (dual post)
FUJITA Satoru	Visiting Professor (dual post)
NISHIGUCHI Masataka	Associate Professor (dual post)
MORIOKA Tomohiko	Associate Professor (dual post)
MATSUBARA Noriko	Specially appointed Associate Professor (dual post)
TAKEUCHI Ayano	Specially appointed Assistant Professor (dual post)
YAMATO Asuka	Specially appointed Assistant Professor (dual post)

Core Data Center

Name	Position
YAMAMOTO Kazuaki	Director (dual post)
OKAZAKI Makiko	Deputy Director (dual post)
KIGOSHI Shunsuke	Professor (dual post)
NAGASAKI Kiyonori	Visiting Professor (dual post)
KAWAKAMI Hajime	Associate Professor (dual post)
KIKUCHI Nobuhiko	Associate Professor (dual post)
TADA Kurahito	Associate Professor (dual post)
MORIOKA Tomohiko	Associate Professor (dual post)
TAKEUCHI Ayano	Specially appointed Assistant Professor (dual post)
KANEKO Eiwa	Research Fellow

Reference Data

Staff, Budget, and Facilities (FY2026)

Staff	(Unit: persons)	Budget	(Unit: 1,000 Yen)	Facilities	(Unit: m ²)
Director General	1	Income	1,350,465	Total floor area	13,002
Professor	10	Administrative cost subsidies	1,344,252	This includes :	
Associate Professor	8	Non-subsidized income	6,213	Reading room	1,584
Assistant Professor	2	Expenses	1,350,465	Stack room / storage	2,416
Specially appointed Professor	1	Education and research cost	814,433	Exhibition room	355
Specially appointed Associate Professor	2	Administrative overhead	536,032		
Specially appointed Assistant Professor	2				
Administrative Staff	43				
Total	69				

Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research “KAKENHI” (FY2026)

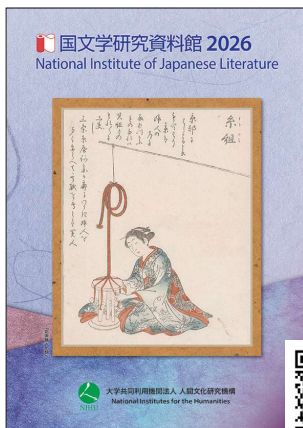
Research Categories	Review Classification	Principal Investigator	Research Project Title	Research period
Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (A)	General	IRIGUCHI Atsushi	Integrated research on text formation for a data-driven approach to Japanese literature and related fields	2022–2026
Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (B)	General	SAITO Maori	A Comprehensive Study of the Representation and Development of Literature and Art in the Middle Modern Period from the Perspective of the Receptive Circle for the Generation of Painting Titles, Theories of Painting, and Powder Books	2023–2026
Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (B)	General	YAMATO Asuka	Research on color materials used in polychrome woodblock prints for the purpose of elucidating the history of coloring culture in early modern Japan	2023–2027
Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (B)	General	KANSAKU Ken'ichi	Fundamental Study on the Early Modern Illustrated Books	2024–2027
Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (B)	General	WATANABE Koichi	Towards a Historiography of “Connections”: Rethinking the Environmental History of Early Modern and Modern Japan	2024–2028
Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (B)	General	OTA Naohiro	Basic Research on the Control of Forest Resources in the Early Modern Period: Focusing on the Owari Clan	2024–2028
Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (B)	General	OKAZAKI Makiko	Comprehensive Research on Waka-related Materials in the Possession of Kasugataisha Shrine	2025–2028
Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (B)	General	KIGOSHI Shunsuke	Comprehensive Research on Copyright Records (kabuchō) from Nineteenth-Century Osaka	2025–2029
Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (B)	General	FUJIZANE Kumiko	An Interdisciplinary and Comprehensive Study on Government Institutions and Officially Published Journals of Fu, Han, and Ken during the period of Meiji Restoration, Conducted through the Promotion of Open Data	2025–2029
Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (C)	General	NAKANISHI Satoko	Research on the Lengthening of the Genji monogatari within the household of Fujiwara no Michinaga	2023–2026
Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (C)	General	OSHIUMI Keiichi	Study on the Impact of Research Evaluation Systems on Researchers in the Humanities	2023–2026
Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (C)	General	YAMAMOTO Kazuaki	Developmental Study on Human Exchange in the Late Edo and Meiji Periods Concerning Pre-modern Japanese Texts	2024–2027
Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (C)	General	MATSUBARA Noriko	Development of the 18th- and 19th-century Jihon literature including later copies and redefinition of the history of illustrated storybooks as revealed by material analysis	2024–2027
Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (C)	General	KOBAYASHI Kenji	Research on Noh and Kyogen Paintings from the Mid to Late Edo Period to the Meiji Era	2025–2028
Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (C)	General	TADA Kurahito	Historical Study of Stylistic Diversity in Japanese Literature from the First Half of the 20th Century	2026–2028
Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (C)	General	HORIUCHI Nobuyuki	Research on Establishing a Method for Balancing the Use of Personal Information in Records Related to Drug-Induced Harm Incidents	2026–2028
Grant-in-Aid for Early-Career Scientists		TAKEUCHI Ayano	Quantitative Research on Discourse in Heian Literature—the Phenomenon of Free Indirect Speech	2024–2026
Grant-in-Aid for Early-Career Scientists		KIKUCHI Nobuhiko	The “Connection” Between Book Day and Sant George’s Day in Contemporary Barcelona and Its Global Development	2025–2029
Grant-in-Aid for Early-Career Scientists		KAWAKAMI Hajime	Basic Research on Materials from Public-Court Waka Gatherings in the Muromachi Period	2025–2028
Grant-in-Aid for Early-Career Scientists		KAWATA Shoko	Basic Research on the Formation and Reception of Medieval Kokin Commentary Focusing on Narrative Elements	2025–2029
Grant-in-Aid for Early-Career Scientists		KURIHARA Yutaka	Research on the Acceptance and Representation of Ideas from the End of the Edo Period to the Meiji Restoration in Literature Texts in Prewar Japan	2026–2030
Grant-in-Aid for Early-Career Scientists		KNOTT Jeffrey	Research on the Transformation in 16th Century Genji Studies: The Reality and Meaning of the Elaboration, Compilation, and Popularization of Commentaries	2026–2030
Academic Innovation Area Research (A) (Open Research)		KIKUCHI Nobuhiko	Research on Festival Space History by Remote Collaborative Digital Public History	2026–2027
Grant-in-Aid for Publication of Scientific Research Results (Databases)		KIGOSHI Shunsuke	Database of Academic Papers in Japanese Literature and Archival Studies	2025–2029
Grant-in-Aid for Publication of Scientific Research Results (Databases)		YAMAMOTO Kazuaki	Union Catalogue Database of Japanese Texts 2026	2026
Grant-in-Aid for Publication of Scientific Research Results (Scientific Literature)		YAMAMOTO Kazuaki	Study of 19th Century Publishing Culture	2026
Grant-in-Aid for Publication of Scientific Research Results (Scientific Literature)		MATSUBARA Noriko	Reconstructing the History of Illustrated Storybooks: Reexamining the Preface of Kikujuso	2026
Grant-in-Aid for JSPS Fellows		SHIMADA Ryo	Basic Study of Phonetic Expressions in Waka in the Heian and Kamakura Periods	2026–2028
Grant-in-Aid for JSPS Fellows		YASUI Mihiro	Historical Study on the Correlation between Modern Publishing and the Spread of Literature and Visual Expression	2026–2028

(As of April 1, 2026)

A List of Major Publications

Publications Introducing NIJL

Overview of the National
Institute of Japanese Literature



NIJL News

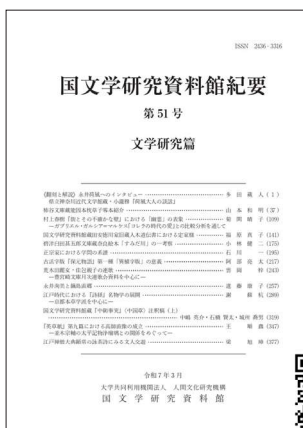


NIJL DDH Project
Newsletter "Fumi"

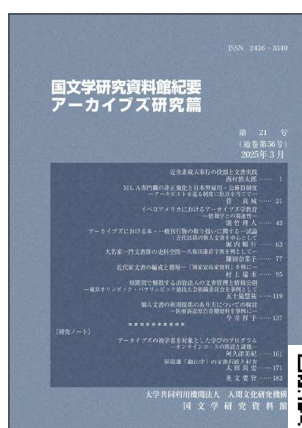


Publications Presenting Research Results

Bulletin of the National Institute of
Japanese Literature
Studies in Japanese Literature Series
(peer-reviewed)



Bulletin of the National Institute of
Japanese Literature
Archive Studies Series (peer-reviewed)

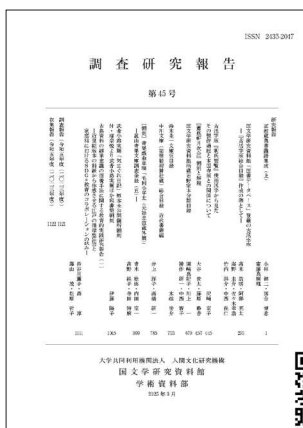


Reports on the Results of
Collaborative Research Projects



Project-related Publications

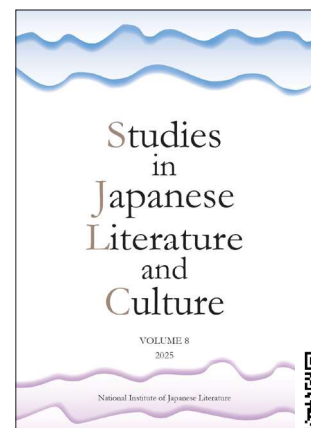
Report on Investigation and
Research (peer-reviewed)



Exhibition Catalogs



Studies in Japanese
Literature and Culture





Inter-University Research Institute Corporation
**National Institutes
for the Humanities**

National Institutes for the Humanities (NIHU)

The National Institutes for the Humanities (NIHU) was established in 2004 as a corporation to support and further develop inter-university research institutes* that promote research in the humanities.

NIHU's six institutes

- National Museum of Japanese History (REKIHAKU)
- National Institute of Japanese Literature (NIJL)
- National Institute for Japanese Language and Linguistics (NINJAL)
- International Research Center for Japanese Studies (NICHIBUNKEN)
- Research Institute for Humanity and Nature (RIHN)
- National Museum of Ethnology (MINPAKU)



As international centers of excellence in their respective research fields, these institutes promote fundamental and interdisciplinary research in collaboration with domestic and international universities and other research institutes and researchers.

In addition, these institutes offer courses at the Graduate University for Advanced Studies (SOKENDAI). The six graduate (doctoral) courses are designed to take advantage of the institutes' resources and provide an array of specialized training for researchers

The NIHU Headquarters houses the Center for Innovative Research (CIR), which conducts research and projects that link multiple institutes and universities, and promotes joint research using a research infrastructure built on digital technology.

* Inter-University Research Institutes

As Japanese Centers of Excellence (COE) in their respective research fields, these institutes provide universities and other research institutes in Japan and overseas with large facilities and equipment as well as vast materials and information that are difficult for any individual university to maintain, thereby facilitating effective joint research.

NIHU's Mission

As the only inter-university research institute corporation for the humanities, NIHU's mission is to comprehensively explore humanity and its cultures, and through this exploration, to ask what true abundance is, to promote harmony between nature and humanity, and to contribute to the survival and coexistence of humankind.

NIHU's Vision

To realize its mission, in the NIHU's Fourth Mid-term Plan Period (FY2022-2027), NIHU aims to explore various social issues related to the diversity of human culture and social dynamics, try to solve them, and present new values and humanities knowledge that will serve as guidelines for the formation of a future society in which people and nature live in harmony and where science, technology, and humanity coexist. To achieve this, the Center for Innovative Research was established within the NIHU headquarters with the aim of forming new knowledge open to society. Based on the philosophy of open humanities research through co-creation with various people in Japan and overseas, the center will build a research platform using digital technology, promote joint research through that platform, and work on the formation of a "Knowledge Forum" as a place for exchange and collaboration with various people in society and the formation of an international network.

Center for Innovative Research (CIR)

CIR promotes “[NIHU Research Projects](#)” and “[NIHU Co-creation Initiatives](#).”

NIHU Research Projects

As basic and interdisciplinary research on the humanities, which forms the core of NIHU, eleven research projects in three types will be implemented, leading to an expansion of academic networks and the creation of new fields to strengthen functions for fulfilling our mission as an inter-university research institute.

Institute-based Projects NIHU's six institutes have established priority research themes in accordance with their respective missions.	Construction of Japanese Historical Knowledge and Open Science Research
	Model Building in the Humanities through Data-Driven Problem Solving
	Empirical and Applied Research on the Japanese Language Based on Open Language Resources
	New Departures and Consortium for Global Japanese Studies: Pioneering and Cultivating Global Japanese Studies
	Renewing Modern Civilization through Nature-culture Complex toward Solving Global Environmental Problems
	Sustainable Development Humanities Research Based on the Info-Forum Archives of Human Culture
Multidisciplinary Collaborative Projects These are projects in which NIHU's institutes take on a central role while collaborating with other NIHU's institutes as well as universities and other external institutes, working with research themes that cut across different fields.	Interdisciplinary and Integrated Studies on Local Cultures: Aiming for the Emergence of Novel Communities
	Object-based Research of Nature-human Interactions up to the Anthropocene
	Expansion Studies of Synthetic Bibliology
Network-based Projects These are projects in which NIHU's institutes play a central role in forming a network with universities and other research institutes in Japan and overseas as well as implementing issues that are important to Japan and the world.	NIHU Global Area Studies
	Inter-University Research Institute Network Project to Preserve and Succeed Historical and Cultural Resources

NIHU Co-creation Initiatives

These are projects that promote the sharing of research results and co-creation with local communities and societies, promote [Co-creation research projects](#) and [Co-creation outreach](#), whose aim is to develop research in three ways: “social co-creation,” “digitalization,” and “international co-creation.”

Co-creation Research Projects

These projects promote joint research through co-creation with various organizations and people within and without NIHU as well as develop research in three ways.

- Establishing Science for Universal Communication (S_COM) [social co-creation]
- Building Digital Library for Humanities [digitalization]
- Japan-related Documents and Artifacts Held Overseas: [international co-creation]
 - Early Diplomatic Japanese Collections Abroad: Contextualizing 19th Century Japanese Material Heritage in World History through On-site and Online Research and Use
 - Study on the Construction of Archival Infrastructure for the History of Modern Japan-Vatican Relations
 - Japan-related documents and artifacts in Hawai'i: historical and social survey interface

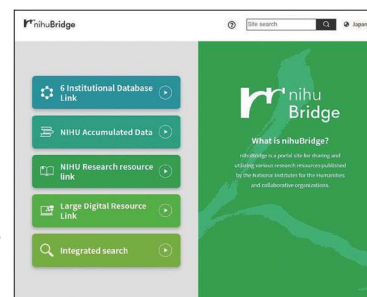
Co-creation Outreach

These initiatives implement projects to accelerate the three types of research development as well as aim to enhance and innovate research at NIHU's institutes and universities and other external institutes.

- NIHU Knowledge Co-creation Projects [social co-creation]
- NIHU "Digital Humanities" (DH) Projects [digitalization]
- NIHU Global Partnership [international co-creation]

nihuBridge

This is a portal site for sharing and utilizing diverse research resources disseminated by the NIHU and associated institutes.





Saigashokuninburui

Compiler Rashakutsu Kikyu

Painter Gyokuzuken Tachibana Minkou

Directions

By Tama Intercity Monorail:

Get off at JR Tachikawa Station, make switch to Tama Monorail Tachikawa-Kita Station, get off at Takamatsu Station, and walk 10 minutes.

By Tachikawa bus:

From JR Tachikawa Station's north entrance, board bus at boarding area ②, get off at "Tachikawa Gakujutsu Plaza," and walk 1 minutes.

From JR Tachikawa Station's north entrance, board bus at boarding area ①, get off at "Tachikawa Shiyakusho," and walk 3 minutes.

From JR Tachikawa Station's north entrance, board bus at boarding area ②, get off at "Saibansho-mae," and walk 5 minutes.

On foot:

From JR Tachikawa Station, walk about 25 minutes.

By car:

From Chuo Expressway's "Kunitachi Fuchu IC," drive about 15 minutes. *Free parking available

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