Preservation and Public Access to the Ex-Colony-related Materials in Cultural Institutions

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1. Introduction

- **A growing movement** toward the return of cultural properties between former sovereign states and former colonial countries (Van, 2022).

- In Japan's history, **colonial rule** over many neighboring Asian countries, including Korea, China, the Philippines, and Southeast Asian countries, as well as military invasions of Asian countries during World War II, was conducted.

  military-forces-advantage-Japanese-success-holdings-turnaround.jpg

(1600 × 1270) (britannica.com)

- During those periods, many books and cultural assets from each region and country were seized by the **Japanese military** and brought to Japan (Arai, 2012 and Igarashi, 2019).
1. Introduction

- It is important to preserve books and various cultural properties for a long time (Arai, 2012), and to **digitize and widely disclose them** so that many researchers and citizens can access the information.

- Furthermore, preserving, digitizing, and publicizing various materials and cultural assets related to the **period of Japanese colonization and military occupation** will continue to be an important role for cultural institutions such as libraries, archives, art galleries, and museums.

- The number of **digital contents** related to these **former colonial materials** has been increasing in recent years.

![A part of the homepage of Japan Search](https://jpsearch.go.jp/)

(https://jpsearch.go.jp/)
1. Introduction

- In the study, **the ratio of materials** with only paper original materials to those with digital versions and how to open the digital images of original materials on paper to the public.

- Several leading services collect and digitize original materials on paper related to former colonies in Japan, such as Japan Search, NDL Online, NDL Digital Collections, Digital Archive of National Archives of Japan, and Japan Center for Asian Historical Records (JACAR).

- The paper also discusses future challenges for cultural institutions in preserving original materials on paper and making **publicly available digitized materials**.
2. Ex-Colony-related Materials in Cultural Institutions

- It is important to preserve and make available various policy and administrative materials from colonies or occupied territories during the World War II and prewar periods to the public.

- Many citizens will be possible to access them and avoid making the same mistake of starting wars with neighboring countries again.

A part of the homepage of NDL Digital Collections

(https://dl.ndl.go.jp/)
2. Ex-Colony-related Materials in Cultural Institutions

- Many public institutions and individuals in Japan are currently preserving various policy and administrative materials in colonies or occupied territories during the World War II and prewar periods.

- These materials have been increasingly digitized and made available on the Internet in recent years.

A part of the homepage of Japan Center for Asian Historical Records (JACAR).

Diagram of the relationship among institutions providing materials related to former colonies

**Overseas cultural institutions**
- National Library of Korea
- National Taiwan Library
- National Library of China

**National Portal**
- NDL (National Diet Library) Online
- NDL Digital Collections
- Japanese Modern Textbook Digital Archive

**Aggregator**
- Japan Center for Asian Historical Records
- Printed and Digital Collections in Public Libraries, Museum and Art Museum
- Printed and Digital Collections (National Archives of Japan)

**Organization**
- Digital Archives JETRO-Library
- Institutional Repository
- Kawai Collection in Kyoto University Library
- Tosho Bunko

**Users**
3. Accessibility and Openness of the Ex-Colony-related Materials

- **What institutions and in what quantities** the relevant materials are stored and digitized under the names of former colonial governments are retrieved in Japan Search.

- As of June 2023, Japan Search contains 210 linked databases, 129 linked institutions, and 28,558,010 metadata items.

Figure 2. Search screen of Japan Search by using the keyword of “朝鮮総督府” (Office of the Governor-General of Korea) in Japanese.
Ex-Colony-related Materials searched by the keyword of ”台湾総督府” (Taiwan Governor-General's Office in Japanese).

**Keyword:** 台湾総督府 (Taiwan Governor-General's Office). **Searched on May 17, 2023.**

**Total items:** 27,771 hit  **Display Order:** Score

https://jpsearch.go.jp/csearch/jps-cross?csid=jps-cross&from=0&size=100&keyword=台湾総督府 (May 16, 2023)
Three types of digital materials.

The first type of digital materials is freely available on the Internet for all users.

The second type of digital materials is made available on the Internet only to registered users.

The third one can only be viewed on computers located within the National Diet Library.

Table 1. Accessibility and Openness of the Ex-Colony-related Materials in NDL Online.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Accessibility</th>
<th>台湾総督府 (Governor-General of Taiwan) (%)</th>
<th>朝鮮総督府 (Governor-General of Korea) (%)</th>
<th>満州国 (Manchukuo) (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Available Online</td>
<td>8,249</td>
<td>8,112</td>
<td>12,424</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Via the Internet</td>
<td>6,714</td>
<td>5,869</td>
<td>3,717</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Only at the NDL</td>
<td>1,535</td>
<td>2,243</td>
<td>8,704</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Only at the NDL and its</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>partner libraries or to official registered users in Japan</td>
<td>1,343</td>
<td>1,987</td>
<td>7,521</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not Available Online</td>
<td>1,555</td>
<td>3,254</td>
<td>3,639</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of total records</td>
<td>9,804</td>
<td>11,366</td>
<td>16,063</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1) The number of records was searched in NDL Online on June 16, 2023.
Results from NDL Online limited to materials before the year of 1945.

Since World War II ended in 1945, the search is limited to materials published during the period when Japan had retained its former colonial governments.

The ratio of accessibility for the pre-1945 period in Table 2 is examined by comparing them with the accessibility ratio for the entire period in Table 1.

Table 2. Accessibility and Openness of the Ex-Colony-related Materials before 1945 in NDL Online.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Accessibility</th>
<th>台湾総督府 (Governor-General of Taiwan) (%)</th>
<th>朝鮮総督府 (Governor-General of Korea) (%)</th>
<th>満州国 (Manchukuo) (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Available Online</td>
<td>8,028</td>
<td>7,586</td>
<td>11,363</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Via the Internet</td>
<td>6,694</td>
<td>5,811</td>
<td>3,593</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Only at the NDL</td>
<td>1,334</td>
<td>1,775</td>
<td>7,770</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Only at the NDL and its partner libraries or to official registered users in Japan</td>
<td>1,245</td>
<td>1,700</td>
<td>6,974</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not Available Online</td>
<td>582</td>
<td>2,259</td>
<td>570</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Total records</td>
<td>8,610</td>
<td>9,845</td>
<td>11,933</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1) The number of records was searched in NDL Online on June 16, 2023.
The NDL Digital Collections has enabled searches of the full-text data of many digital materials since the end of 2022, allowing users to explore a very large number of digital materials using the same keywords compared to conventional searches of titles and bibliographic data, shown at the top of Table 3. This feature is called Full Text Search.

Table 3. Access Restriction in NDL Digital Collections.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Access Restriction</th>
<th>台湾総督府 (Governor-General of Taiwan)</th>
<th>朝鮮総督府 (Governor-General of Korea)</th>
<th>満州国 (Manchukuo)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Available without login</td>
<td>32,393 (38%)</td>
<td>27,823 (32%)</td>
<td>27,871 (17%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Available with Digitized Contents</td>
<td>44,118 (51%)</td>
<td>46,678 (54%)</td>
<td>101,331 (63%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transmission Service</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Available only at the NDL</td>
<td>9,403 (11%)</td>
<td>11,482 (13%)</td>
<td>30,408 (19%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of total records</td>
<td>85,914 (100%)</td>
<td>85,983 (100%)</td>
<td>159,610 (100%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Available without login</td>
<td>6,701 (82%)</td>
<td>5,857 (73%)</td>
<td>3,641 (30%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Available with Digitized Contents</td>
<td>1,312 (16%)</td>
<td>1,956 (24%)</td>
<td>7,306 (61%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transmission Service</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Available only at the NDL</td>
<td>144 (2%)</td>
<td>201 (3%)</td>
<td>1,069 (9%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of records without full text</td>
<td>8,157 (100%)</td>
<td>8,014 (100%)</td>
<td>12,016 (100%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1) The number of records was searched in NDL Digital Collections on June 20, 2023.
NAJ Digital Archive collects many materials from the period of former colonial rule.

Most of the materials held in NAJ are open to the public.

Table 4. Access Restriction in NAJ Digital Archive.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Types of Access Restriction</th>
<th>台湾総督府 (Governor-General of Taiwan) (％)</th>
<th>朝鮮総督府 (Governor-General of Korea) (％)</th>
<th>満州国 (Manchukuo) (％)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Image exists</td>
<td>12,620 (87)</td>
<td>15,836 (86)</td>
<td>2,797 (58)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open</td>
<td>14,080 (97)</td>
<td>17,750 (96)</td>
<td>4,661 (97)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partial open</td>
<td>15 (0)</td>
<td>42 (0)</td>
<td>16 (0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of total records</td>
<td>14,448 (100)</td>
<td>18,444 (100)</td>
<td>4,788 (100)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1) The number of records was searched in NAJ Digital Archive on June 20, 2023.
Table 5. Number of materials retrieved from each organization constituting JACAR.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>台湾総督府 (Governor-General of Taiwan)</th>
<th>朝鮮総督府 (Governor-General of Korea)</th>
<th>満州国 (Manchukuo)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NAJ Digital Archive</td>
<td>12,281</td>
<td>13,784</td>
<td>3,591</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diplomatic Archives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs</td>
<td>2,312</td>
<td>2,391</td>
<td>8,091</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The National Institute for Defense Studies, Ministry of Defense</td>
<td>7,004</td>
<td>1,725</td>
<td>6,311</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hoover Institution, Stanford University</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>3,249</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Support Office, Faculty of Economics, Oita University</td>
<td>309</td>
<td>4,177</td>
<td>263</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of total records</td>
<td>22,082</td>
<td>22,235</td>
<td>21,712</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1) The number of records was searched in JACAR on June 20, 2023.
5. Case Study of Kawai Collection

What is the Kawai Collection?

- The Kawai Collection is one of the typical examples of public disclosure of materials collected during the former colonial period through international collaboration.
- The Kawai Collection consists mainly of documents and books collected by Dr. Hirotami Kawai who is a Japanese researcher of Korean history.
- The documents and books related to Korean history were collected during the period when Japan was a colonial power in Korea. The materials collected by Dr. Kawai were donated to the Kyoto University Library by the bereaved family after his death.

A part of the homepage of Kawai Collection in English

The materials of Kawai Collection

- Variety of documents during and after the Yi Dynasty in Korea.

- Politics
- Economy
- Religion
- Customs
- Private records
Digitization of Kawai Collection

In 2015, the Kyoto University Library, the Institute for Research in Humanities, Kyoto University and the Research Institute of Korean Studies, Korea University signed an agreement to cooperate in researching, digitizing, and creating metadata on classic literature in Korean held by the Kyoto University Library.

It is an essential and valuable resource for research on Korean financial history.

(https://rmda.kulib.kyoto-u.ac.jp/collection/kawai)
Figure 3. Process of creating digital materials in the Kawai Collection
Figuer4: Example of a typical output record from Kawai Collection
It is important to preserve and pass on to future generations the **school textbooks** and related materials that were **used in former colonies** to implement Japanese language education.

Making former colonial school textbooks available to the world via the **Internet**

**Citizens** and researchers can become to access them.

An important role for **cultural institutions** to avoid repeating the same mistakes that led to colonial rule and wars.
The Japanese Modern Textbook Digital Archive, Library of Education in the National Institute for Educational Policy Research (NIER) is a core institution.

Library of Education preserves many school textbooks and related materials used in the former colonies.

The digital images of textbooks and textbooks for teachers in Korea, Manchukuo, Taiwan, etc. have been open to the public by the Japanese Modern Textbook Digital Archive in June 2023. (https://www.nier.go.jp/library/textbooks/index-en.html)
Table 7. The textbooks of the former colonies, etc. in the Japan Modern Textbooks Digital Archive, Library of Education in NIER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Former Japanese colonies, etc.</th>
<th>Call number for school textbooks</th>
<th>Number of books</th>
<th>Open to the public</th>
<th>Limited in Education Library</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Governor-General of Korea</td>
<td>K710*</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Governor-General of Korea(Textbooks for Teachers)</td>
<td>K711*</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Manchukuo</td>
<td>K720*</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Manchukuo(Textbooks for Teachers)</td>
<td>K721*</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Taiwan</td>
<td>K730*</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Taiwan(Textbooks for Teachers)</td>
<td>K731*</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Mongolia</td>
<td>K740*</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Republic of China</td>
<td>K750*</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Republic of China(Textbooks for Teachers)</td>
<td>K751*</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Territorial Government of the South Seas</td>
<td>K760*</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Foreign Language Textbooks</td>
<td>K79*</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>216</td>
<td>154</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1) Number of textbooks was surveyed on July 1, 2023.
Tosho-Bunko was established in 1934 as the **first textbook library** in Japan.

Tosho-Bunko's collection of 76,420 modern textbook-related materials was designated as an "**Important Cultural Property**" by the Japanese government in 2009.

Elementary art textbook for 2nd grade published in 1936 by the Governor-General of Taiwan (http://www.tosho-bunko.jp/)
Although not listed on the Tosho-Bunko website, most of these materials were microfilmed around 2001 to preserve the original paper materials.

Converted from microfilm to digital format in 2002.

Currently, the materials can be viewed as image data on the library's PCs.

When considering the use of these materials, we hope that they will become available on the Internet in the future.

Table 6. The textbooks of the former colonies in the Tosho-Bunko collection

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Former colonies</th>
<th>Number of textbooks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Manchukuo</td>
<td>407</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kwantung Province, Manchuria for Japanese</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kwantung Province, Manchuria for Manchurians</td>
<td>96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taiwan</td>
<td>204</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Korea</td>
<td>492</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Sea Islands</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,276</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1) Number of textbooks was surveyed on June 29, 2023
Fig 4. Diagram of the relationship among institutions providing Former Colonial School Textbooks

- National Library of Korea
- National Taiwan Library
- National Library of China
- Open Educational Contents Archive of Tokyo Gakugei University
- Museum of Education, Tamagawa University
- Prometheus-Academic Collections, Tokyo University of Foreign Studies
- Graduate School of Education / Faculty of Education Library, University of Tokyo
- National Diet Library (Reprints only)
- Tosho-Bunko of a textbook library affiliated with Tokyo Shoseki Co., Ltd. that is a publisher of school textbooks

The number of university libraries digitizing textbooks is small. Access to Digitized textbooks is limited within Tosho-Bunko.

Digitized textbooks open to the public.
7. Discussion

- As shown in Figure 1, a conceptual diagram of how libraries, archives, museums, and other cultural institutions in Japan are preserving *old books* and various *cultural assets* from the former colonial period,

- digitizing them and making the information widely available to the public.

- The Japan Search launched as a national portal in 2020 has created the *first site* for obtaining information although there are still many issues to be addressed.
Diagram of the relationship among institutions providing materials related former colonies

1. National Portal

2. Aggregator

Japan Center for Asian Historical Records

3. Organization

Overseas cultural institutions
National Library of Korea
National Taiwan Library
National Library of China

Digital Archives
JETRO-Library

Printed and Digital Collections (①Digital Archive ② Institutional Repository) in Universities

③ Organization

Kawai Collection in Kyoto University Library

Printed and Digital Collections in Public Libraries, Museum and Art Museum

Printed and Digital Collections (① Digital Archive ② Institutional Repository in Universities)

National Archives of Japan

Japan Search

NDL (National Diet Library) Online

NDL Digital Collections

Japanese Modern Textbook Digital Archive

Users
7. Discussion

- The second half of the paper focused on an importance of the materials in two specific cases.
- The first case of **Kawai Collection** shows an importance of further promoting cooperative relationships with neighboring countries.
- In the second case of **school textbooks** of the former colonies, it became clear that a private textbook company is preserving Japanese textbooks used in the former colonies and digitizing them for future preservation of paper materials.
- The authors strongly hope that our joint relationship between **cultural institutions in Japan** and **those in neighboring former colonial countries** will be further strengthened in the future.
Thank you for listening to our speech until the end.