

PAC Centre Report, July 2015-2016 - JAPAN

Year of report

2016

International Cooperation (highlight activities and work the PAC Centre has done in the international preservation and conservation network and where your PAC Centre has provided support on an international level)

- To contribute to the reconstruction of Nepal libraries after the Nepal Earthquake which occurred in April and May 2015, Mr. Yadab Chandra Niraula, Chief Librarian of the Nepal National Library, and Mr. Yam Bahadur Bashyal, Section Officer, Ministry of Education, were invited to the NDL to participate in a training program on disaster preparedness and to give a report on the post-earthquake situation in Nepal.
- Responding to inquiries from a university in Iran, PAC Asia provided information on anti-earthquake measures on shelving systems at the NDL.
- Responding to inquiries from the National Library of Iran on disinfection systems used for pest management, PAC Asia provided information on the method adopted at the NDL.
- Responding to inquiries from Indonesia, PAC Asia provided information on the use of Japanese paper (washi) for ura-uchi (lining) and sent them a sample and a catalog of washi.
- In addition, PAC Asia provided information on mobile shelves and their reaction to the earthquake for a preservation advisor from Switzerland on request.

Local Cooperation (highlight activities and work your PAC Centre has done in the local preservation and conservation network and where your PAC Centre has provided support on a local level)

- In 2014 the National Institute of Cultural Heritage kicked off the National Task Force for the Japanese Cultural Heritage Disaster Risk Mitigation Network (CH-DRM Network) to deal with disaster risk reduction activities during both ordinary times and emergencies. The CH-DRM Network also set up two groups: the Conference for the Promotion of the Japanese Cultural Heritage Disaster Risk Mitigation Network, and the Council of Experts for the Japanese Cultural Heritage Disaster Risk Mitigation Network. Since 2014, a staff member from the NDL Preservation Division has been involved with the former organization and the Director of PAC Asia joined the latter one.
- The NDL supports the activities of the Japan Library Association by appointing a staff member from the NDL Preservation Division to serve on the Preservation Committee.
- The Joso Municipal Library was flooded above floor level during massive rainfalls

caused by a typhoon in September 2015. Some 30,000 volumes from the library collection were damaged by the flood. The Joso Municipal Library requested help from the NDL in repairing these irreplaceable items. The NDL received about 30 items, finished the repair work in June 2016 and returned the items. NDL's support was appreciated by the Joso Municipal Library.

- In April 2016, there was an earthquake with an intensity of seven on the Japanese scale of one to seven in Kumamoto Prefecture. The NDL worked hard to collect information on disaster-affected libraries. In June at the request of the Kumamoto Prefectural Library, the NDL sent two lecturers to provide training for their staff in repairing the damaged materials. The NDL also received 5 damaged and irreplaceable items which the Kumamoto Prefectural Library could not handle for themselves. The NDL repaired and returned those items. The NDL's efforts were appreciated by the Kumamoto Prefectural Library saying that the skills and motivation of the staff had been raised by the training and that the damaged materials had been well repaired.
- The NDL Preservation Division also provides tours for visitors interested in learning about its preservation activities. It also works to raise awareness of preservation and conservation activities by accepting requests from journalists for interviews about these activities.

Workshops/trainings/events (what workshops/trainings/events has the PAC Centre organised? Which workshops/trainings/events did the PAC Centre participate in? both on international and national level)

- The NDL holds an annual one-day program on preservation and conservation of library materials for librarians working in Japan. During 2016, this program included a lecture on the basic theory of preservation and a workshop on elementary techniques for mending paper materials. The program was held three times during September and October for a total of 56 trainees.
- The NDL also dispatched its staff members to conduct training sessions on preservation in response to requests from prefectural and university libraries. During 2016, staff members were dispatched to provide training for 9 libraries/organizations.
- The NDL offers online training courses for librarians. As in 2015, a course entitled Basic Theory of Preservation and Conservation was also offered in 2016. Of the 245 people who registered and began the course in June, 158 people completed it successfully. Another course, entitled Basics of Digitization, has been available online since 2012 and can be started by anyone at any time.
- In December, an NDL Preservation Forum entitled "Preservation in the Digital Age" was held with 87 people in attendance. The keynote lecture was delivered by Ms. Virginia Lladó-Buisán, Head of Conservation and Collection Care of the Bodleian Libraries, Oxford University, which was followed by case reports by Mr. Keitaro Tokoi, Hitotsubashi University, Tokyo and Mr. Yukinobu Takahashi, NDL. These reports were followed by lively discussions.

- Chief of the Preservation Division, Mr. Keiyu Horikoshi, participated in the 35th Mutual Visit Program between the National Library of China (NLC) and the NDL held at the NLC. Mr. Horikoshi gave a report entitled “Preservation of materials and construction of stacks at the NDL.”
- Staff members of the Preservation Division participated in events, seminars and workshops such as Japan Library Association’s All-Japan Library Conference, Japan Society for the Conservation of Cultural Property Annual Conference, Training Course for Librarians on Conservation of Western Historical Materials, Image Preservation Seminar, etc.

Involvement of the PAC Centre with the IFLA Risk Register (e.g. promotion etc.)

- PAC Asia cooperated with the IFLA Risk Register project by including an article on this topic in the February 2016 issue of CDNLAO Newsletter.
CDNLAO: Conference of Directors of National Libraries in Asia and Oceania

Suggestions to IFLA HQ on improvements to the PAC Centre network (e.g. gaps in expertise covered by the current PAC Centre network, communication issues, support requests (non-financial) etc.)

New standards/guidelines/best practices which should be shared with the community

- To help disseminate information in Japan, the PAC Asia webpage on the NDL website features links to translations of IFLA/PAC publications by PAC Asia (full text) and a Japanese translation of the table contents to IPN.
- In 2016, the NDL translated into Japanese “Guidelines for Planning the Digitization of Rare Book and Manuscript Collections” written by the IFLA Rare Book and Special Collections Section, and put it up on the NDL website.
- The NDL has provided on the web hands-on manuals on conservation in English so that libraries in Asian countries can refer to them as useful tools.

Any other comments



Add additional resources and pictures at the end of the document.



Preservation Forum 2016, lecture by Ms. Virginia Lladó-Buisán

Any questions can be send to Julia.brungs@ifla.org