

The Use of Digital Object Identifiers in the National Diet Library Digital Collections

Presentation

Saho Yasumatsu
National Diet Library, Japan
s-yasuma@ndl.go.jp

Tomoko Okuda
National Diet Library, Japan
t-okuda@ndl.go.jp

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Abstract

The National Diet Library (NDL) is the sole national library of Japan, and is responsible for the acquisition and preservation of as well as the provision of access to publications that comprise Japan's cultural and intellectual heritage. The NDL creates digital surrogates of its collections and acquires digital objects, to both of which it assigns Digital Object Identifiers (DOIs) as a means for ensuring permanent accessibility.

The NDL also serves on the board of the Japan Link Centre (JaLC), which is the only organization in Japan authorized as a Registration Agency (RA) for DOI. Since 2012, the JaLC has been managing the bibliographic and location information of academic resources held by Japanese institutions in electronic format, to which it assigns DOIs as a means of enhancing utilization and access from both inside and outside Japan. The NDL works together with the JaLC to promote widespread use of DOIs.

The NDL is proactively engaged in digitizing its holdings as a means of ensuring both preservation of and access to its collections. Both digital surrogates and born-digital materials can be searched and browsed via our digital archiving system, which is known as the National Diet Library Digital Collections. Assignment of DOIs to the digital objects stored in this system began in March 2014, and as of March 2017, more than 240,000 digital objects have been assigned DOIs in one of four categories:

1. Japanese doctoral dissertations that were received by the NDL between 1991 and 2000 and have been digitized
2. Books and periodicals published and digitized by the NDL
3. E-books and e-journals published by the NDL
4. Rare books and old materials digitized by the NDL

The assignment of DOIs to digital surrogates of rare books and old materials is a notable feature of the NDL's approach.

This presentation explains how DOIs are assigned at the NDL, the uses to which these DOIs are being put, and indicates the issues of DOIs assigned by the NDL.

References

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