

Report on the support for preservation in the areas stricken by the March 11th earthquake and tsunami in the Tohoku district (north-east part of Japan)

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On April 6th, the Japan Libraries Association (JLA) reported that the JLA has been investigating the situation of the damages to library materials and other records caused by the March 11th earthquake and tsunami. Mr. Yasue's report on websites which provide information on the earthquake in Japan was also introduced.

On April 7th, there was an article on support to people, libraries, and institution in the stricken areas in *Current Awareness –E* No.119, published in Japanese by the National Diet Library. This time I am going to introduce the report on support for preservation which is now being carried out, in the article of *Current Awareness –E* No.119.

The JLA and the Nippon Association for Librarianship provided on their websites literature about earthquakes, library recovery, and risk management which had appeared in their periodicals. The Network for Historical Materials appealed for cooperation to preserve historical materials so that they might be not scattered and lost in the confusion. The Film Preservation Society opened its office to give advice on the treatment (including cleaning) of original audio-visual materials, with the cooperation of private companies' cooperation. The Agency for Cultural Affairs announced the project to rescue immediately important cultural heritage, damaged by the earthquake and to prevent cultural heritage from being disposed, scattered, and lost, which could happen when ruined houses and buildings are removed. (The agency has already launched this project.) The National Diet Library provides on its website the information (including websites) on the recovery in libraries and archives.

Ref:

- <http://www.jla.or.jp/earthquake/articles/list.html>
- <http://wwwsoc.nii.ac.jp/nal/kikikanri.html>
- http://blogs.yahoo.co.jp/siryo_net/34373323.html
- <http://www.filmpres.org/archives/939>
- http://www.bunka.go.jp/bunkazai/tohokujishin_kanren/pdf/bunkazai_rescue_jigyo.pdf

- http://www.ndl.go.jp/jp/aboutus/data_preserve110317.html
- <http://pr.jst.go.jp/new/info20110328.html>
- E1155 (<http://current.ndl.go.jp/e1155>)
- E1161 (<http://current.ndl.go.jp/e1161>)

The Network for Historical Materials

The Network for Historical Materials established after the Hanshin Earthquake in 1995 has been working actively in the nation for the rescue of disaster-damaged documentary heritage. It collects contributions for the relief of suffered documentary heritage both from Japan and abroad.

(written by Mr. Akio Yasue, Preservation consultant, Japan)