

Resources for Japanese studies for everyone!

- improve accessibility for visually impaired users -

The 30th European Association of Japanese Library Resource Specialist September 18 - 21, 2019, Sofia, Bulgaria "Rethinking resources for Japanese studies"

Keiko Yokota-Carter, Japanese Studies Librarian



Describing images for visually impaired users – making Japanese resource for everyone

Screen Reader will read the text

[New constitution of Japan promotional slides] [slides]. 2.

Download
 Share/Cite
 Problems/comments?

New W



Pamphlet Text

軍人たち はおのれの野望をなしとげるため、国民の人権を徹底的に無視しました。国民の 考えや意見は自由にいわせないようにし、また政府の政策に反対するものはどしどしたい 捕するといった工合についに太平洋戦争を初めてしまいました。そのため国民は敗戦とゆ うみじめな苦しみをなめさせられることになったのです。国民はふたたびこうしたことを 繰り返してはならないと考え 今までの考え方に 根本的な反省が加えられました。そうし て新しい憲法制定のはこびとなったのです。

English Translation

In order to accomplish their personal aspirations, military personnel completely disregarded the rights of the people. They made it so that citizens were not allowed to freely express their thoughts or opinions and arrested those who stood in opposition to government policies one after the other. They ended up starting the Pacific War. Because of this, Japanese citizens had to experience the miserable hardships of defeat in war. The citizens knew that they didn't want this to happen again, so they conducted a comprehensive reflection on the previous way of thinking. It is these circumstances that ushered in the establishment of a new constitution.

Image Descriptive Text

A man wearing common clothing labeled as 新憲法 (Shin kenpō), meaning "new constitution", holds up a crying, nearly horizontal and falling anthropomorphized map of Japan. Kyushu Island is depicted with legs and feet; Honshu Island is leaning forward with human arms reaching down and Hokkaido Island features the crying eyes and mouth. The crying nation symbolizes the suffering of Japanese citizens under the harsh military personnel, and the man symbolizes the new constitution trying to ease their suffering.

Main Entry Personal Name

- Kondō, Hidezō, 近藤日出造
- Added Entry Corporate Name
- 03 日本幻燈株式会社,
- 03 Nihon Gentō Kabushiki Kaisha.

Published

[Japan : s.n., 1947?]

Format

16 slides : col. ; 4.1 x 5.4 cm. in box 5 x 7 x 6.7 cm.

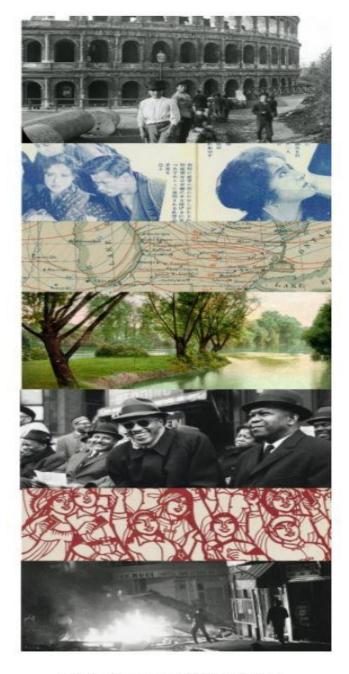
Note

Project Back ground

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) 1990

The U.S. Department of Health Service (HHS) Section 508 requires that all website contents be accessible to people with disabilities.

> Accessibility to Digital Image Collection for people with disabilities



Sample images from University of Michigan Library's Digital Collections.

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

The U-M Library is committed to providing equal access to information and services for all students, faculty, and staff members. We aim to provide an equitable experience for individuals with disabilities by following accessibility standards, responding to user feedback, and providing support and accommodations.

Accessibility My Account 🏾 🏋 Favorites Log in LIBRARY MGet It Databases Catalog Services Libraries & Departments About **Library Search** Browse Ask Get Help Search - Recommended Resources by Subject --Home > Services > Accessibility Accessibility Accessibility Collections **Digital Services** Statement **Adaptive Technologies Physical Spaces** The U-M Library is committed to providing equal access to information and services for all Instruction & Events students, faculty, and staff members. We aim to provide an equitable experience for individuals Additional U-M with disabilities by following accessibility standards, responding to user feedback, and providing support and accommodations. Resources

Contact

- For questions about disability access or accessibility, contact lib.accessibility@umich.edu or 734-763-9020
- For questions about access, see our University Library Access Policy
- For any questions, contact our <u>Ask a Librarian</u> services or approach any library information services desk

Accessibility at the Library

- Collections
 - Print & Digital Accessibility Services
 - Video Accessibility Services
- Digital Services
- Adaptive Technologies
- Physical Spaces
- Instruction & Events

A DESCRIPTION OF THE OWNER

Usability

Accessibility

Ease of use

Ease of use \rightarrow Possibility of use

Average person can reasonably figure the things out.

"Average" user \rightarrow Broad range of users

Accessibility definitions

Legal definition

"readily accessible to people with disabilities"

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

Accessibility definitions

Technical definition

"people with disabilities can perceive, understand, navigate, and interact with the Web, and that they can contribute to the Web"

Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.0

Accessibility definitions

Universal design

The design of products and environments to be usable to the greatest extent possible by all people, regardless of age, ability, or background, and without the need for adaptation or specialized design.

At Museums

- Sensory tours experience art ٠ through senses beyond sight. Visitors can touch, smell, and hear. (Detroit Institute of Art)
- Descriptive tours ٠
- Audio guides ٠ - describing images
- Touching objects ٠
- 3D printed examples ٠

MoMA

Plan your visit What's on Art and artists

Store

Q

Accessibility

Wheelchair access ↓	Everyone is welcome at MoMA. We offer a variety of free View all access programming			
	programs and services to make MoMA accessible to you.			
Individuals who are blind or have	View all our public access programming, or learn about	Museum training resources →		
low vision ↓	our full slate of services below.			
		Sensory map 🛓		
Individuals who are deaf or hard	MoMA is committed to facilitating the accessibility and			
of hearing ↓	usability of this website for all people with disabilities.	Social guide 🛓		
	The National Center for Accessible Media at WGBH serves			
Individuals with intellectual or	as accessibility consultant in our active and ongoing			
developmental disabilities 🔸	efforts toward this end. If you have questions or feedback			
	about the accessibility of moma.org, or any particular			
Individuals with dementia 🔸	MoMA Web page, please contact us at			
	accessprograms@moma.org.			
School and group visits 🔸				
	Admission is free for a caregiver accompanying a visitor			



with a disability.



At universities – offer resource and service for ALL students

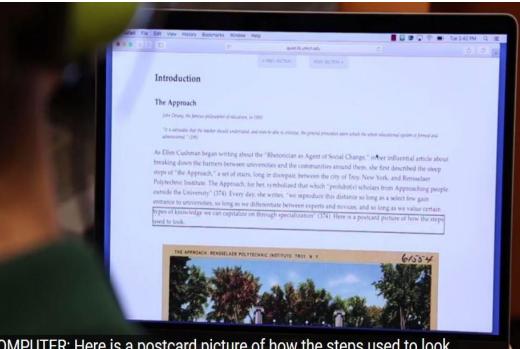
= Library funding from the public =

- Physical Classroom / Library setting
- Teaching materials
- Assignment materials
- Research materials
- Learning and research experience at Library

Digital resource – Web design becomes essential part of our resource.

including specialized assistive technology used by people with print disabilities,

Brandon Werner Screen Reader Specialist Department of Information and Technology Service Support



COMPUTER: Here is a postcard picture of how the steps used to look.

Access to Japanese digital collections for ALL ?

Add text descriptions to the images of digital collections related to Japanese Studies at the U-M Library Screen reader reads the text describing images

IMAGES INTO WORDS

Dorothy Ma Michigan Library Scholars Capstone Project July 26, 2019 Mentors: Keiko Yokota-Carter, Stephanie Rosen, Ben Howell

Two different types of Collections

Jinken Sengen 人権 宣言 (Proclamation of Human Rights) Slides, 1947 (Alfred Rodman Hussey Collection)

Promoting Japan's Constitution and its principle

Political, historical, and social content

Mushi no utaawase emaki scroll 虫歌合絵巻 Edo period (1600 – 1868)

15 panels of text and color paintings

Art and literature



Digital Humanities project –

create digital resource, research, and learning

"Michigan Library Scholar" – Library summer internship for undergraduate students

Undergraduate Student – researched and learned about

- -- how to describe images for visual impaired users
- -- the Constitution of Japan and its historical background
- -- Japanese art
- -- project management skills

with

Accessibility Specialist

User Experience & Accessibility Specialist (Art major) Japanese Studies Librarian

Asia Art curator at the University of Michigan Art Museum

Project Plan

Student intern was provided with training and resources

- Workshop on usability and accessibility on Web resources
- Resource on how to describe art images
- Content resource Constitution of Japan

 historical back ground
 Jinken sengen
 人権宣言(Proclamation of Human rights) slides
 Scroll Mushi no utaawase emaki 虫歌合絵巻
- Art museum visit Asian Art curator

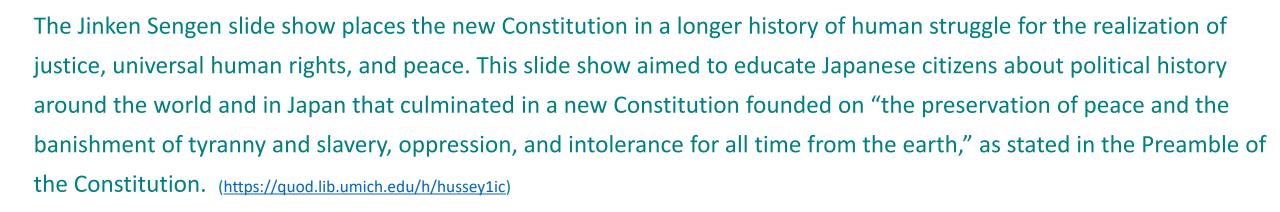
Japanese Art image collections at various museums



Historical background of "the images"

- Set of "lantern slides" produced by the Constitution Popularization Society in an effort to promote the new Constitution of Japan promulgated on November 3, 1946 and enacted on May 3, 1947 after World War II.
- The images and narration were created by Kondo Hidozo.

• Scope of the slide show





Examples



Pamphlet Text

こうゆう人々の力で、人間はだれかれの区別なく尊いものである。国家は人民の幸福と安 全をおかしてはならないとゆうことがわかってきたのです。そうして フランス革命によっ て 人々はやっとその理想を実現することができたのです。

English Translation

Thanks to the efforts of people like these, people learned that all humans are precious and are not to be discriminated against by anyone. Nations came to realize that the well-being and safety of their people should not be encroached upon. In this way, as a consequence of the French Revolution, these ideals finally came to be put into practice.

Image Descriptive Text 🗲

Three men and one woman, all dressed in contemporary post-war clothing, walk with work-related items, heading off to their different jobs. All of the people are smiling with crowns upon their heads, implying that all of them (and all people) are important. The Japanese text near the bottom reads 誰もが貴い (Dare mo ga tōtoi) meaning "everyone is precious". The image symbolizes how nations came to realize that human rights are very important and should not be violated.

Main Entry - Personal Name

Kondō, Hidezō, 近藤日出造

Added Entry - Corporate Name

03 日本幻燈株式会社.

03 Nihon Gentō Kabushiki Kaisha.

Published

[Japan : s.n., 1947?]

Format

16 slides : col. ; 4.1 x 5.4 cm. in box 5 x 7 x 6.7 cm.

Note

01 "制作日本幻燈株式会社"--box.

01 "seisaku Nihon Gentō Kabushiki Kaisha" -- box

Subject Added Entry - Topical Term

Constitutional law Japan Slides.



Pamphlet Text

新憲法には私たちは勿論 私たちの子孫至るまで日本国民であるかぎり誰でもこの基本的 人権はおかされることがないと はっきり定められました。

English Translation

Under the new constitution, it clearly established that no one can violate our basic human rights; and, of course, this extends to our descendants as long as they are Japanese citizens.

Image Descriptive Text

A happy Japanese family sits around a table, eating dinner together, a custom adopted after the new constitution, in place of man and woman eating separately from each other. The parents are wearing traditional clothing, and the children are wearing western clothing. The family is using western utensils and tableware, also potentially eating western food. A medium-sized circular brick wall surrounds the family, and it is labeled 新憲法 (Shin kenpō), meaning "new constitution". This symbolizes the new constitution protecting the family and equal rights. Bullets ricochet off of the wall, symbolizing that the new constitution will not allow harm to come to the family.

Main Entry - Personal Name

Kondō, Hidezō,	近藤日出造
----------------	-------

Added Entry - Corporate Name

03 日本幻燈株式会社.

03 Nihon Gentō Kabushiki Kaisha.

Published

[Japan : s.n., 1947?]

Format

16 slides : col. ; 4.1 x 5.4 cm. in box 5 x 7 x 6.7 cm.

Note

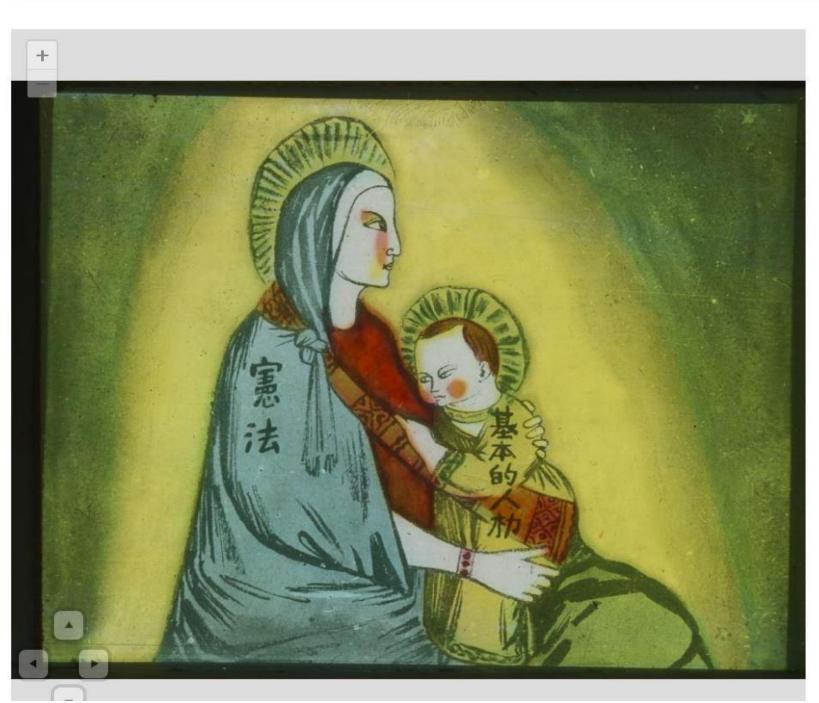
01 "制作日本幻燈株式会社"--box.

01 "seisaku Nihon Gentō Kabushiki Kaisha" -- box

Subject Added Entry - Topical Term

Constitutional law Japan Slides.

Diahte Statement



Pamphlet Text

いま 私たちは敗戦とゆう最も苦しい目にあいました。私たちの家は焼かれ、たくさんの同胞が死んでいきました。その結果として、授けられた尊いものであります。こんどこそ、 どんなことがあっても私たち日本国民の力で絶対におかされないように まもっていかなけ ればなりません。

English Translation

We Japanese have just now undergone the most painful of hardships, that of being defeated in war. Our houses were burned down, and many of our fellow countrymen have died. As a result, we have been granted something precious. This time for certain, no matter what happens, we the citizens of Japan with all our might must protect it and defend it against violation.

Image Descriptive Text

A woman with 憲法 (Kenpō) [Constitution] written on her clothing holds a baby labeled 基本的人権 (Kihonteki jinken) [basic human rights]. The mother and child resemble medieval Christian representations of the Virgin Mary and Baby Jesus in their dress, facial features, and halos around their heads. This symbolizes the constitution protecting basic human rights for Japanese citizens.

Main Entry - Personal Name

Kondō, Hidezō, 近藤日出造

Added Entry - Corporate Name

03 日本幻燈株式会社.

03 Nihon Gentō Kabushiki Kaisha.

Published

[Japan : s.n., 1947?]

Format

16 slides : col. ; 4.1 x 5.4 cm. in box 5 x 7 x 6.7 cm.

Note

01 "制作日本幻燈株式会社"--box.

01 "seisaku Nihon Gentō Kabushiki Kaisha" -- box

Subject Added Entry - Topical Term

Constitutional law Japan Slides.

Usability test by Screen Reader specialist Brandon Warner



- "I was very impressed by the image descriptions. One thing I really liked was use of what I assume are the correct Unicode characters for the languages depicted. This should allow screen readers with support for multiple languages to properly speak things. I also really liked how the facial expressions are themselves described. I think someone who is totally blind might not actually know what facial expressions look like so this is a great detail."
- "The image descriptions are also a perfect length in my opinion. I think keeping these less than a paragraph when possible is ideal and these manage this while still including lots of details."

Project 2: Image collection with waka text and art painting Mushi no utaawase emaki scroll 虫歌合絵巻 Edo period (17th or 18th century)

shi no Utaawase	Emaki						Help Sear	ch Portfolios	Login
Sort: (None) -								18 re	esults
grid 🛛 🖬 grid + details	📕 list								
Gelect all on page							Sele	ected items (0):	Add to po
			Pril and				*	E.	17.4°
Mushi no 📃 Utaawase Emaki	Mushi no 🔲	Mushi no 🛛 🗌 Utaawase Emaki	Mushi no 🔲 🗌	Mushi no 📃 🗌	Mushi no 📃 🗌	Mushi no 📃 🗌 Utaawase Emaki	Mushi no 📃 🗌	Mushi no Utaawase Emaki	
Scroll Exterior	Opening Section	Section 1	Section 2	Section 3	Section 4	Section 5	Section 6	Section 7	
38 x 9 x 7.6 cm. Black lacquered scroll box (Jikumono-bako)	309.5 x 34 cm.	100 x 34 cm.	89.5 x 34 cm.	77 x 34 cm.	91 x 34 cm.	92 x 34 cm.	100.9 x 34 cm.	76.6 x 34 cm.	
Mushi no Utaawase Emaki	Mushi no Utaawase Emaki	Mushi no Utaawase Emaki	Mushi no Utaawase Emaki	Mushi no Utaawase Emaki	Mushi no Utaawase Emaki	Mushi no Utaawase Emaki	Mushi no Utaawase Emaki	Mushi no Utaawase Emaki	
Section 8	Section 9	Section 10	Section 11	Section 12	Section 13	Section 14	Section 15	Full Scroll	
73 x 34 cm.	85.5 x 34 cm.	83.5 x 34 cm.	99 x 34 cm.	100 x 34 cm.	93.7 x 34 cm.	82.3 x 34 cm.	147 x 34 cm.	1722 x 34 cm.	

Mushi no utaawase 虫歌合 Story was written by Kinoshita Chōshōshi, 木下長嘯子 in the first half of 17th century.



Waseda University Library collection Middle of the 17th century Scroll creator is unknown

http://www.wul.waseda.ac.jp/kotenseki/html/he12/he12_03472/index.html





Kinoshita composed a fictional story of a monk

who writes a story by imaginative poem match between 15 pairs of 30 insects.

The insects compose sentimental love WAKA.

The frog is a judge for the competition and makes comments for a pair of poems in each session.

Challenge for descripting images of Mushi no utaawase scroll

Transcription of cursive writing text is available in Zoku Gusho ruiju 続群書類從 984 kan巻

No translation of the content

Our solution \rightarrow Describe the cursive writing part as "an image" in the scroll.

Pattern:

[text] Poem session No. X. The text consisits of a poem written by [insect name] and a poem written by [insect name], as well as a critique from the frog.

[image] Describe image as it is shown.

>> MORE INFORMATION

About this image

lame

Section 1

Image Descriptive Text

[text] Fifteen poem matches. Poem session No.1. The text consists of a poem written by the cricket and a poem written by the bee, as well as a critique from the frog.

[image] A cricket (こうろき, Kooroki) and a bee (はちhachi) are beside a house with a thatched roof and wooden fence. The "door" is just a red piece of cloth, blowing in the wind. In the foreground are some blue flowers. Behind the cricket and bee, a large pine tree stands with a beehive hanging from one of its branches. Behind the pine tree, a mountain looms in the background.

LESS

Transcription

十五番歌合

はんしややふもとのひきかいる一番 ひたりこうろき中々にあれてもよし や草の庵いつこうろきと君はたのめ すみきはち心にははりもちなからあ ふときは口に蜜ある君そわひしき判 者として。やふの本のひきかいる申 ていはく。左の歌いつこうろきとき みはたのめすなと。わかなをいひな して。人をうらみしこそ。さくいあ りてきこへ侍れ。右の歌くちにみつ あるきみといへる。すこしいやしき やうにきゝなし侍れは。ひたりのう たを。かちとや申はんへらん。



ATTRIBUTION

University of Michigan Library Digital Collections

×

>> MORE INFORMATION

Image Descriptive Text

[text] Poem session No.12. The text consists of a poem by the flea and a poem by the lice, with a critique from the frog.

[image] In the background is a mountain with several trees, rising above the waves. The majority of the image is a sandy beach with five people, and two dogs. The humans are all wearing kimonos in different colors. On the left, three children sit around the dogs, picking fleas (の み nomi) out of their fur. Two of the children hold the animals' leashes. To the right, a girl in a blue kimono sits and wrings out the water from her long black hair. Buckets full of water are near her. To her right, a man in a green kimono wearing a straw hat presses down on the head of a presumably young girl in a pink kimono. He is trying to find lice (しら み shirami) in her hair. Buckets of water are beside them as well, and behind them is a small hut with smoke coming out of it.

LESS

Transcription

十二番

左のみ心にはとひたつ許なけ>とも わかくふほとも君はかひなき右しら みせく心君につけてもとにかくにい ひしらみなる身の哀しれはんしやの いはく。左歌とひたつはかりといへ るは。しらみとの>さくいにこそ。 めつらかにもあるへけれ。のみと の>御さくにはいか>侍らん。又し

Feel images → 3 D printing Working with the Design Lab

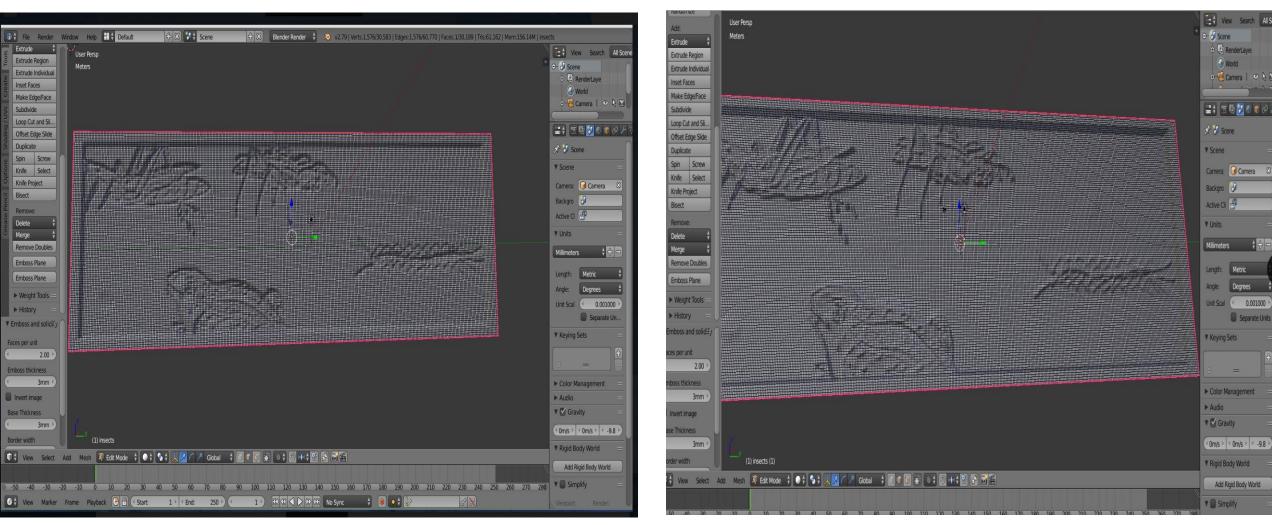


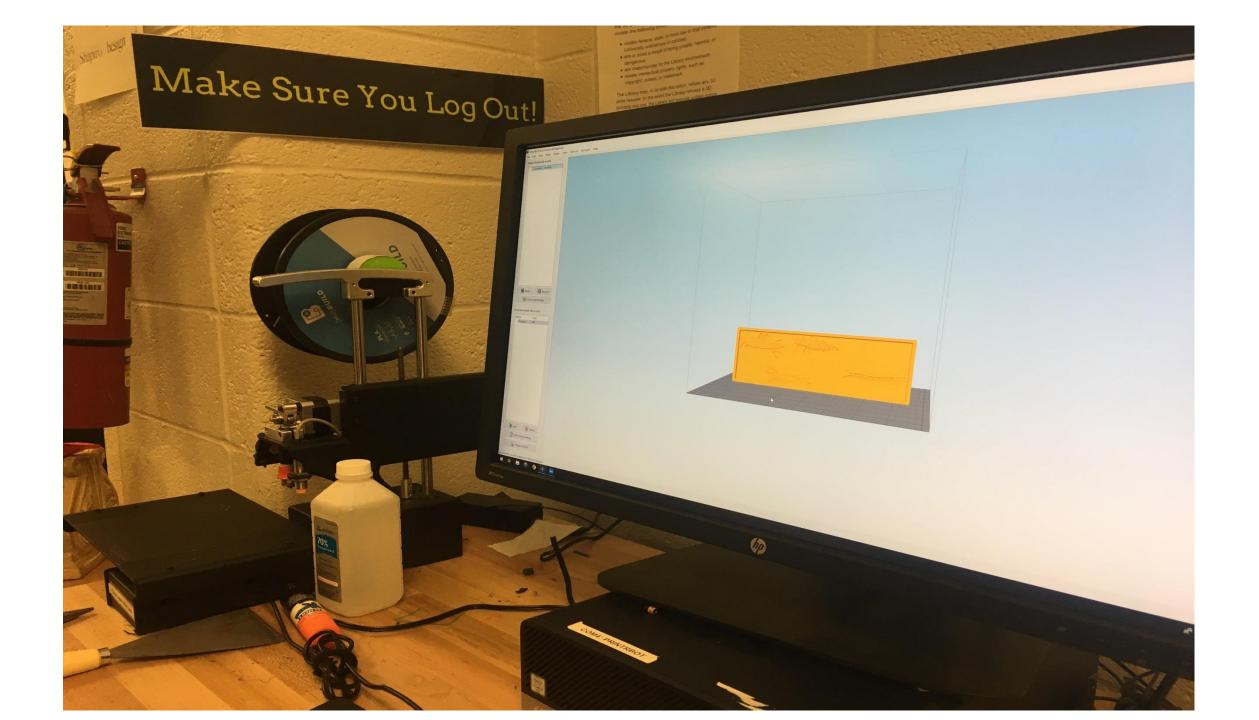
Convert Concave 💾 image to Convex 🖧 image

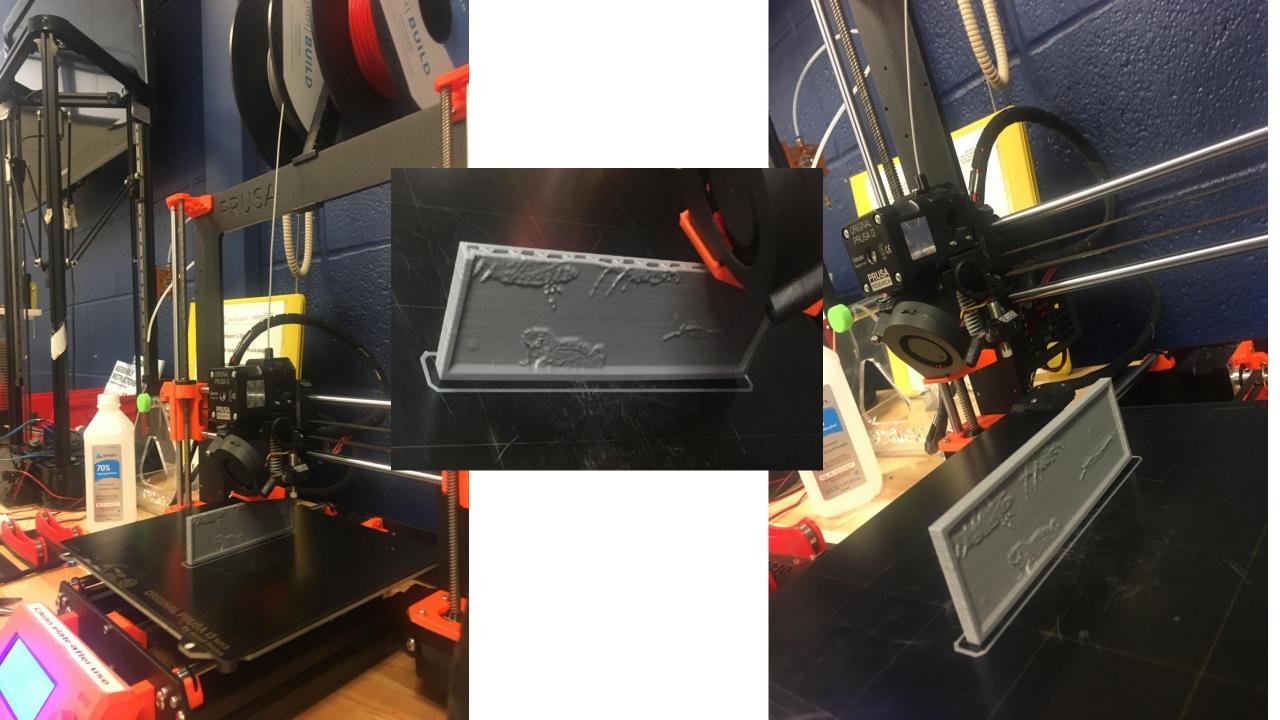
凹



卢占







Impact

• Reduce barriers to users with disabilities.

If faculty require students to use digital images without description, visually impaired students need to work extra on making the digital images available for them. More work that students have to take care of for their education.

• Reduce legal risk for faculty and university.

It is not legally required for faculty to prepare materials for all kinds of students, (gray zone), but if educational materials are not provided for everyone to use, there is legal risk for faculty and university.

Library public service support

Enrich content for all.

More content available to a broader range of users.

- Description of images add more text that is searchable and finable for all users.
- Reach out to all kinds of people beyond the ones who are interested in Japan related subjects.
- Reach out to non-humanities users to inspire more creative work, something unexpected.
- Pioneer work by which we would make a regular process of our digital collections at the University of Michigan.
- 3D printing conversion from Concave 💾 image to Convex 凸 image will be applied to other projects.

Lessons and Challenges

- Knowledge of historical, social, and culture of the material content and art image (icon) and its production is essential to describe what images symbolize.
- Discussion by the members with different background is beneficial to ensure that description is accessible to a variety of users. → Communication skill
- New awareness about the platform.
- New questions about how the work serves visually impaired users / screen users in particular.
- Digital projects are evolving with Information technology and social changes.

Future project – Jinken Constitution slides

• Naration pamphlet - 32 slides episodes

Slide images 1 – 16 (Box 1) missing.

- Slide imagee 17 32 (Box 2) is preserved at the U-M Library, not anywhere else.
- \rightarrow Find Box 1 of 16 slides to complete.

+++ with Japanese language advance class +++

- Japanese narration English narration translation
 - Japanese Image description English Image description
- → Add Japanese langauge image description

Future projects – Mushi no utaawase scroll

• Japanese image description -- English image description (with Japanese language advance class)

• Transcription of the classic content text in the scroll exists.

→ translation by modern Japanese of the content text

The scroll image starts with Matsu 松 (pine tree) Ume 梅 (plum)

and ends with Take 竹 (bamboo).

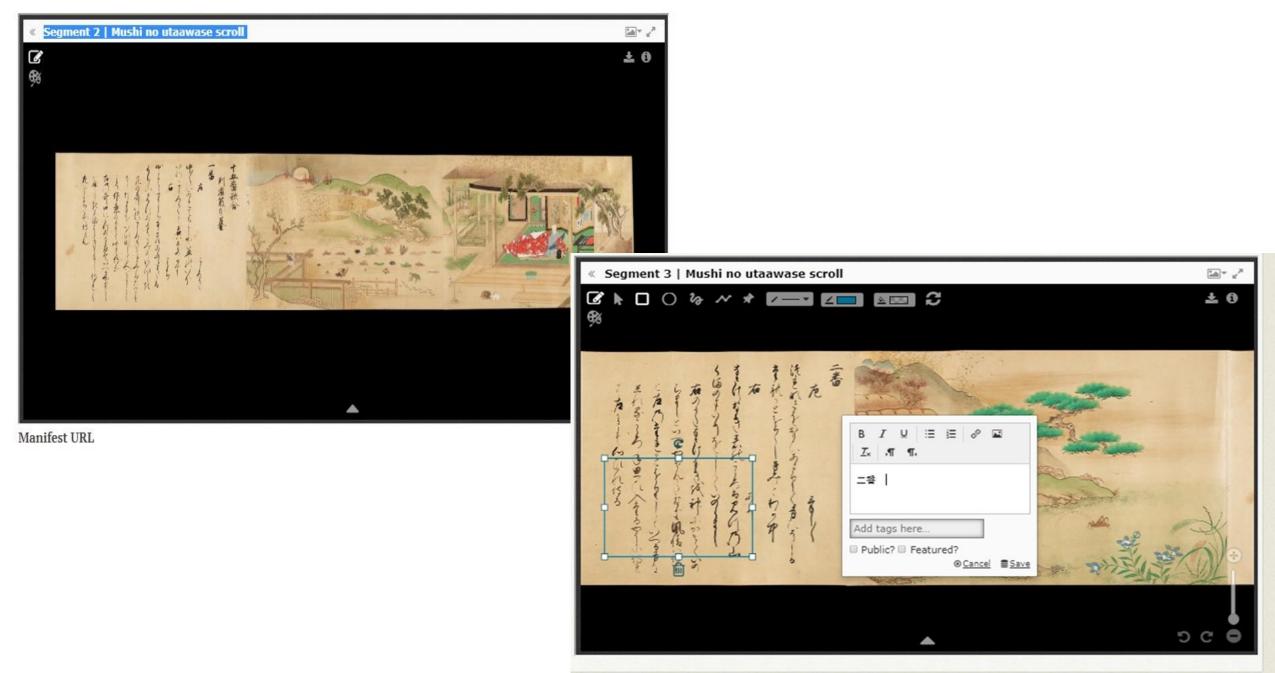
松竹梅





Invitation to "Mushi no utaawase 15 waka" Global Cloud Project

IIIF Manifest



Благодаря ти

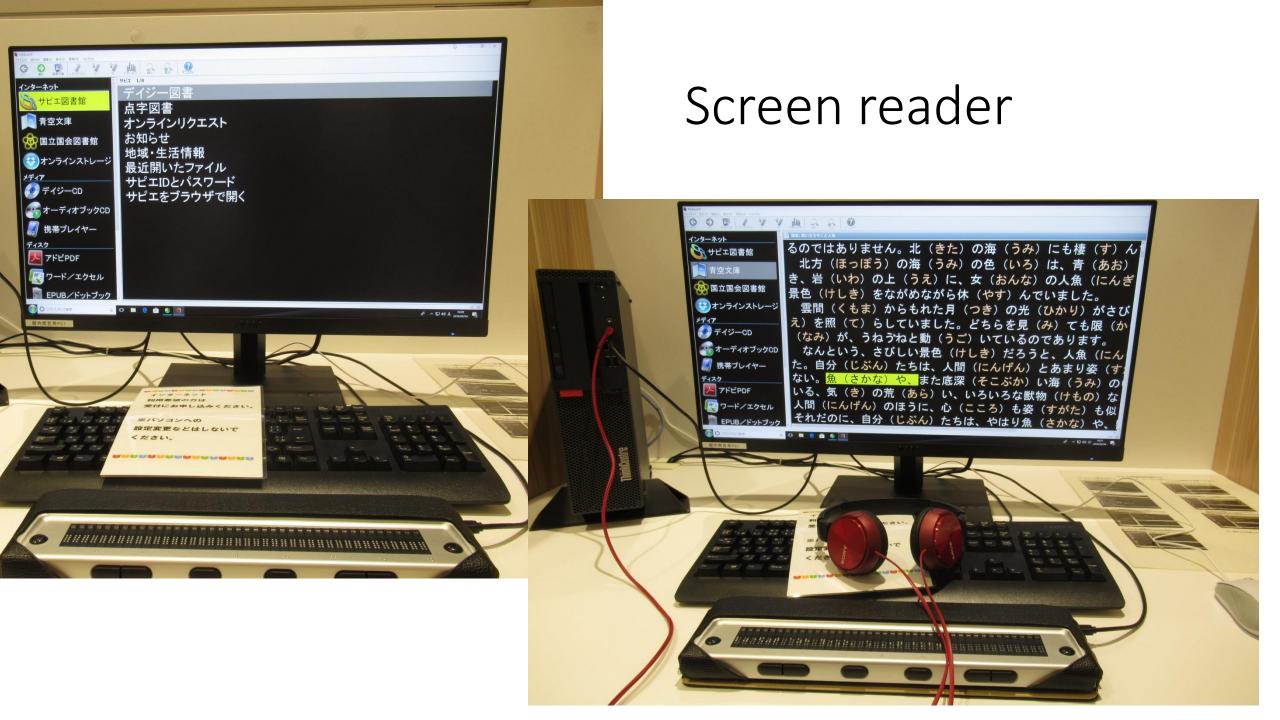
Blagodarya ti

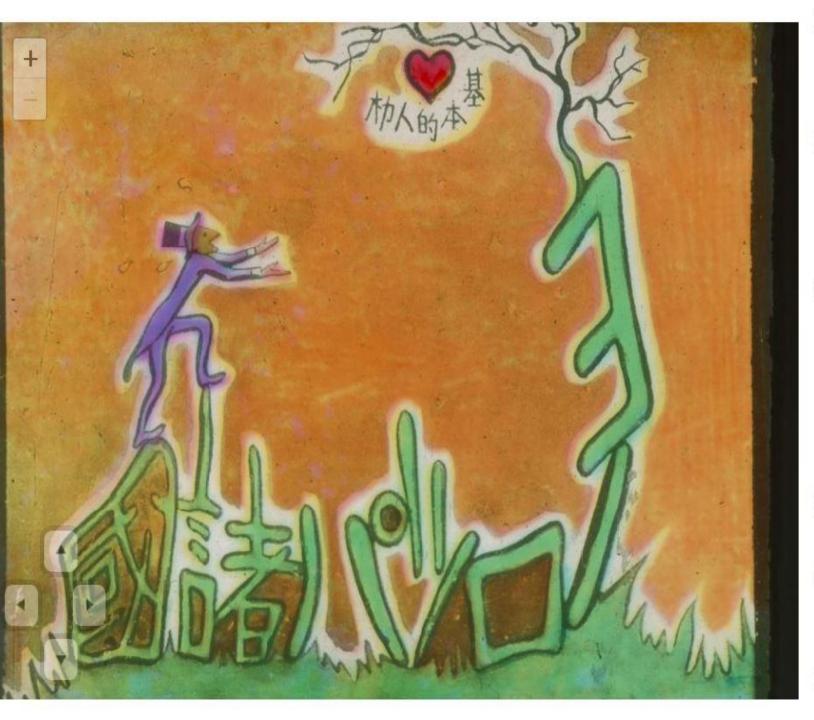
Thank you!

Case of Japan -- Otepia Kochi Library Unite for visually impaired users



Audio Braille Books





Pamphlet Text

ヨーロッパの国々ではこの基本的人権を得るために 何百年にもわたって文字通 り血みどろなたたかいをつづけてきました。それを思うと 日本国民の努力はま るでくらべものにならないくらいです。

English Translation

In order to acquire these basic human rights, European countries have fought literally blood-drenched battles continuing for several hundreds of years. When that is considered, the efforts of Japanese citizens are not even comparable.

Image Descriptive Text

A small thin man with a suit and top hat stands atop of the large characters ヨーロッパ諸国 (Yōroppa shokoku), meaning 'European countries', and reaches for a red, heart-shaped fruit labeled 基本的人 権 (Kihonteki jinken), "Basic human rights". This symbolizes how Japan can obtain basic human rights easier, partially because European countries have already fought for them and set a precedent.

Main Entry - Personal Name

Kondō, Hidezō, 近藤日出造

Added Entry - Corporate Name

03 日本幻燈株式会社.

03 Nihon Gentō Kabushiki Kaisha.

Published

[Japan : s.n., 1947?]