



How Innovation Has Transformed Japanese Public Libraries

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OUTLINE OF THE PRESENTATION

- 1. Introduction to Japanese Public Libraries
- 1.1. Legal Basis of Japanese Public Libraries
- 1.2. Japanese Local Government System
- 1.3. Development of Public Libraries in Japan
- 2. Coping with Recent Social Changes by Innovation
- 2.1. Recent Social Changes in Japan
- 2.2. Public Libraries' Response to the New Situation
- 3. Notable Cases
- 4. Some Introductory Remarks on the Following Presentations

1. INTRODUCTION TO JAPANESE PUBLIC LIBRARIES

1.1. Legal Basis of Japanese Public Libraries



Local governments establish public libraries in accordance with Public Library Law (1950).



Normally a section in Education Department in a local government.



Use of library materials must be free. (Article 17)

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1.2. Japanese Local Government System

Two Tiers System:

- Prefectures
- Municipalities
 (Cities, Towns, Villages)

Each municipality belongs to any of the 47 prefectures.

Prefectures and municipalities are both local public bodies of equal status and cooperate according to their share of duties.

1.3. Development of Public Libraries in Japan

Year	No. of Libraries	Annual Circulation
1955	773	16m items
		(0.19 per capita)
2017	3,292	691m items
		(5.45 per capita)

- Emphasis on circulationWhich resulted in
- Growth in no. of libraries and circulation

Now public libraries are:

-- One of the most popular places in a community, with

-- Abundance of books

-- Free and open to all; Comfortable places to visit

Ishikari Public Library,

Hokkaido ALAAnnual2019



2. COPING WITH RECENT SOCIAL CHANGES BY INNOVATION

2.1.
Recent
Social
Changes in
Japan

The most aged country in the world!

 Population aging rate: 27.7%

(U.S.: 15.4%)

Declining number of working population;

- Low economic growth; Stagnant government income
- Growing social welfare expenditure

Which leads local governments to



Cooperate with other actors in the community



Demanding their departments and agencies much more contribution to the community



With as less money as possible

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2.2. Public Libraries' Response to the New Situation

Shift from circulation to a variety of innovative "Community-oriented" services:

- i. -- Promote reading and books in a unique style;
- ii.-- Become community's
 memory keeper;
- iii.-- Help people deal with
 their problems;
- iv. -- Become a meeting hub

3. NOTABLE CASES

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i. Promote reading and books in a unique style

Football players recommend their favorite books

Chofu City Library, Tokyo



Books Recommended by Librarians

Hirado City Library, Nagasaki



Biblio-battle



Home

Committee of Bibliobattle News

Report

Rules for Bibliobattle

Media Listing Information Sitemap

facebook fan page

Home

Japanese Original Site

Bibliobattle is a social book review game which was developed in the Graduate School of Informatics at Kyoto University in Japan. You (presenter) can bring your favorite book to the event.

You can talk about the book to the audience for 5 minutes as a Bibliobattler :-).

The most popular book will be elected as the "Champion Book of the Day" by the audience and presenters.

http://en.bibliobattle.jp/

Become Community's Memory Keeper

Wikipedia Town



https://www.slideshare.net/kenyahiraga/ 151012-wikimedia-tokyomeetup?qid=1087de56-9606-482a-b961bc10208a9d8b&v=&b&&from_search=9



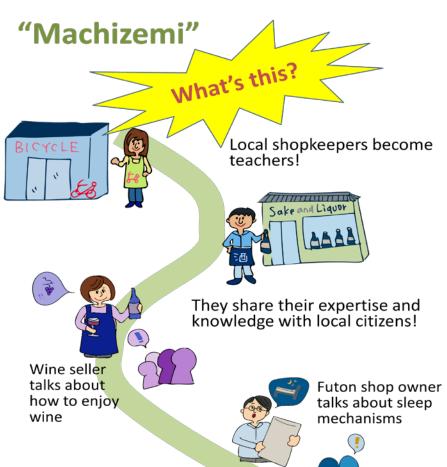






Help people deal with their problems

Machi-zemi : Turning a shopping district into a community's leaning space



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How does the library engage?



- Consulting on interesting topic ideas
- Providing background data, relevant history, etc., for each topic
- Introducing books on "how to deliver good presentations"

With local citizens:

 Delve into related books to learn more about topics









SHOPPING DISTRICT

Become a meeting Hub

► Takeo City Library, Saga

4. Some Introductory Remarks on the Following Presentations

Types of Local Government

Prefecture

 Tottori (Smallest Prefecture)

Municipalities

- Hiroshima (Large City)
- Shiwa (Small Town)

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Hope You Will Find Intriguing Innovations in the Following Presentations!

Thank you!

