Kinokuniya to Become the Sales Agent of JapanKnowledge School

Kinokuniya Company Ltd. (Chairman and President Masashi Takai) is pleased to announce the signing of an agreement with NetAdvance Inc. (President Masahiro Oga), by which Kinokuniya becomes the sales agent of NetAdvance's new product, JapanKnowledge School. ICT implementation is rapidly advancing in the field of education, with mobile devices being provided to students, and distance lectures becoming commonplace. In this new learning atmosphere, JapanKnowledge School will work as an educational support tool, facilitating inquiry-based learning—a form of active learning in which students study the themes they set themselves—and ICT utilization in the curriculum. The planned release date is April 1st, 2021.

JapanKnowledge School is an internet service that provides integrated searching and browsing of encyclopedias, dictionaries, book series, and other resources frequently used by junior and senior high school students. Each student can create a personal account that will be accessible from a variety of devices, including personal computers, tablets and smartphones, allowing the student easy access to the content they need, whether they are at school, at home, or on their commute.

The most remarkable point of JapanKnowledge School is the rich content. It includes two greatly renowned encyclopedias of Japan, *Complete Japanese Encyclopedia (Encyclopedia Nipponica)*, and *Heibonsha's World Encyclopedia*. It also offers multiple Japanese dictionaries including *Iwanami's Japanese Dictionary* and *Gendai Kokugo Reikai Jiten*, as well as *Digital Dai-ji-sen Japanese Dictionary*, which stands as one of the leading contemporary Japanese language dictionaries, and the largest Japanese dictionary, *Shogakukan Unabridged Dictionary of the Japanese Language*. In addition, a variety of English dictionaries are available, ranging from medium-sized to advanced, allowing users can find the one that best suits their needs and skill level. JapanKnowledge School also provides a full range of must-have resources for active learning, including yearbooks, social statistics, and geographical maps. Several book series are accessible, too, such as *Iwanami Shinsho* and *Iwanami Junior Shinsho*, and *The Complete Collection of Japanese Classical Literature: New Edition*, which consists of 88 volumes covering famous works from the ancient to the early modern period.

In support of ICT in the field of education, Kinokuniya is pleased to be the distributor of JapanKnowledge School to junior and high schools across Japan.

■Visit JapanKnowledge School site for further information (Japanese only): https://japanknowledge.com/school/

<NetAdvance Inc.>

NetAdvance Inc., a Shogakukan company, operates JapanKnowledge database services that deliver encyclopedias, dictionaries, and other academic resources. JapanKnowledge was launched in 2001 and is provided to institutional and individual customers. JapanKnowledge Lib, a database for institutions, is the most prominent knowledge database in Japan, used by over 800 subscribers including universities, research institutes, libraries, and high schools worldwide. In addition, NetAdvance Inc. provides JKBooks, containing digital archives of rare materials, and Shogakukan Corpus Network, one of the largest sites of integrated English corpuses in the world.

<Kinokuniya Company Ltd.>

Established in 1927, Kinokuniya Company Ltd. is one of the largest bookstore chains in Japan with a history spanning more than 90 years. Its institutional sales division currently has 28 sales offices in domestic areas stretching across Japan from Hokkaido to Okinawa, and 5 divisions specialized in respective products and services. Also, there are 6 sales offices and 3 export offices outside Japan. Kinokuniya carries out a wide range of businesses, providing high-quality solutions in the procurement of Japanese and international books, journals, databases, and eBooks; in the provision and installation of educational and research facilities and equipment; as well as in the assignment of contracts to outsource library operations on behalf of universities and local governments alike.

Kinokuniya has worked as the exclusive agent of the JapanKnowledge of NetAdvance Inc. for institutional customers since June 2019.