

Invitation letter

XXX, 1999

Name
Address

Dear Mr./Ms. XXXXXX,

It is our great pleasure to invite you to attend the International Women's War Crimes Tribunal 2000 on Japan's Military Sexual Slavery as a prosecutor which will be held in Tokyo, Japan on December 8-10, 2000.

The Tribunal is organized in view of an overwhelming scale of systematic violation of women's human rights in war and armed conflict situations in this century. Among the global violation of women's human rights, Japan's military sexual slavery, which is believed to have victimized 200,000 young women as "comfort women" during the Asia-Pacific War (1931-1945), represents one of the most horrendous war crimes in this century. After the Second World War, however, sexual violence by the Japanese Imperial Army was hardly prosecuted by the International Military Tribunal for the Far East (The Tokyo Tribunal), or by any other military tribunal in Asia.

In the Last decade of this century, a new page of history has been turned as "comfort women" have broken their decades of silence to demand justice and redress. The tribunal was proposed by the Violence Against Women in War Network, Japan (VAWW-NET Japan) aiming to recover justice to survivors and to contribute to the global women's human rights movement calling for the elimination of violence against women in war and armed conflict. The International Organizing Committee was formed in early 1999.

The objectives of the Tribunal are to clarify that Japan's military sexual slavery constitutes a war crime against women and a crime against humanity, identify those responsible for the crime, both individuals and the states, and to record the complete findings and proceedings of the Tribunal in history.

The Tribunal will conduct a public trial to prosecute those responsible for crimes of sexual violence against women, in particular crimes committed by the Japanese Imperial Army before and during the Second World War. To this end, we would like you to collect evidences for the Tribunal including written evidences and oral/written testimonies of survivors and witnesses and other physical/material evidences.

We strongly believe that your expertise and participation will ensure the success of the Tribunal.

Hope to see you in Tokyo.

Sincerely yours,

XXXXX

International Organizing Committee
International Women's War Crimes Tribunal 2000
on Japan's Military Sexual Slavery

Secretariat
c/o VAWW-NET Japan

***as a judge

.....To this end, we would like you to examine evidences submitted by prosecutors, pronounce a verdict on those found guilty of any of the crimes referred to in Articles of the Charter and to present a reasoned opinion including recommendations regarding reparation to the victims..