

Small Stream Will Make the Sea

The Korean Council Education Center is run by your continued interest and support. Hoping that the Education Center will serve to enable a true understanding of our history and a true recovery of women's human rights, we sincerely ask for your support.

How You Can Support the Education Center

Supporting the cause

This entails providing sponsorship for the operation of the Education Center.(100,000 won per account).

Amount - 100,000 won, 300,000 won, 500,000 won, 1 million won, etc.

Method - Lumpsum payment, monthly payment or installment payment

Benefits - Permanent preservation of the sponsor's name in the Education Center, and mailing of various materials

Supporting the publication of materials

This is a way of sponsoring the activities and publications of the Korean Council.

Amount - 5,000 won per month, 10,000 won per month

Method - Monthly payment, payment for 1 year, 2 years, etc.

Benefits - Member sponsoring 5,000 won/month (Newsletter)

Member sponsoring 10,000 won/month (Newsletter, materials, various information)

Payment Method

You can make the payment to the bank account shown below, or arrange for an automatic transfer from your own account for easier payment.

Please don't forget to telephone or fax us after your initial payment.

Bank account no. : (Cho Hung Bank) 308-03-009542

Payable to : The Korean Council for Women Drafted for Military Sexual Slavery by Japan

Contact Details Telephone : 822)365-4016, 822)392-5252

Fax: 822)365-4017

Address : 3rd Fl. CISJD Bldg., Chungjeongro 2Ga, Seodaemun-Gu, Seoul, Korea

Home Page : <http://witness.peacenet.or.kr>

E-mail : mss@peacenet.or.kr

When our grandma first stood overwhelmed with chagrin in
front of the Japanese Embassy
on a Wednesday eight years ago,
there was the youngest of us, a mere child then, innocent
and unknowing.

Now that child has become a high school student,
and holding the thin hand of our grandma,
raises the placard that says,

"The Japanese government should reveal the truth
and punish those responsible!"

The Education Center of the Korean Council for Women
Drafted for Military Sexual Slavery by Japan will teach our
youngest about the grief and chagrin, about the
overwhelming justice and the powerful struggle;

About why such a grave act of violation
of human rights took place,
And why human rights still continue to be violated;
About the sufferings and dignity of the lives
of all women on this earth.



The Education Center of the Korean Council
for Women Drafted for Military Sexual Slavery by Japan
now open

The Activities of the Korean Council for Women Drafted for Military Sexual Slavery by Japan

From before World War II to 1945, the Japanese government forcefully conscripted or abducted Korean and other Asian women, turning them into sex slaves for the Japanese military. The Korean Council for Women Drafted for Military Sexual Slavery by Japan (hereafter "the Korean Council") was launched on November 16, 1990, in order to recover the human rights of the "comfort women", the victims of the military sexual slavery by the Japan, and to correct the distorted history between Korea and Japan. Currently, efforts are being made by the 22 member organizations of the Korean Council to resolve the "comfort women" issue and to right the historical wrong.

Seven Demands to the Japanese Government

The Japanese government is still refusing to make formal apologies and pay reparations. The Korean Council is therefore calling on the Japanese government to meet the following seven demands:

- 1) Reveal the truth about the crime of military sexual slavery by Japan;
- 2) Acknowledge the war crime;
- 3) Make formal apologies;
- 4) Punish the war criminals;
- 5) Erect a memorial tablet and establish a museum to honor the victims;
- 6) Pay reparations to the victims of the crime;
- 7) Record the truth in the textbooks.

Wednesday Protests Calling for Reparations and Punishment of Those Responsible

The weekly demonstration that first took place in front of the Japanese Embassy in Korea at noon on a Wednesday in January 1992 marked its 360th session as of May 12, 1999. The Wednesday protests, which have been staged for over seven years, are organized by the Korean Council's 22 member organizations and 15 cooperative organizations. The weekly demonstrations represent a long struggle for women's human rights and peace, and provide the forum for on-site education on human rights.



Welfare Activities for the Victims

The activities carried out by the Korean Council to help the former military sexual

slaves now mostly in their old age include the provision of counseling, medical support, arrangements and counseling for funeral procedures, as well as consolation dinners. In addition, it plans to provide a place of repose where these elderly women can rest, offering them various health care programs.

Activities Vis-à-vis the Korean Government

As most of the survivors of the military sexual slavery were living in poor financial conditions, the Korean Council called for the legislation of "The Social Security Law for the 'Comfort Women' of the Japanese Army During the Period of Japanese Colonial Rule". The law, passed in 1993, guarantees each survivor a renting priority of government housing(11-18 pyongs, or 36-59 sq.m), among other things. In addition, the Korean Council launched active efforts to ensure the enactment of the "The New Immigration Law to Prohibit Japanese War Criminals from Entering Korea" in 1997. In particular, the Korean Council carried out nation-wide fund-raising campaigns over two occasions (1997, 1998) as a countermeasure against the Asian Women's Fund, a private fund established at the initiative of the Japanese government in May 1998 to provide atonement money to the victims of military sexual slavery. As a result of these fund-raising efforts, each of the victims received 7,608,000 won, in addition to the government subsidies of 31,500,000 each.

Solidarity with International Human Rights Organizations

Voices of conscience calling for the resolution of the "comfort women" issue are spreading throughout the world. Since the Korean Council brought the attention of the UN Commission on Human Rights (UNCHR) to the issue in 1992, the UNCHR, the International Commission of Jurists and the ILO Committee of Experts have issued recommendations to the Japanese government to fulfill its legal responsibilities. The Korean Council also holds Asian Women's Solidarity Conference almost every year with other victimized Asian nations to launch a joint effort to resolve the issue of military sexual slavery by Japan.



Towards the 'Women's International War Crimes Tribunal on Japan's Military Sexual Slavery' in 2000

To open a new era of human rights and peace in the 21st century, a civilian tribunal is planned to be held in 2000 in solidarity with the related organizations of the victimized countries and the Violence Against Women in Wartime (VAWW-Net).

It is aimed at revealing the truth about the military sexual slavery by the Japanese Army, the cruelest case of infringement on women's human rights in the 20th century, and to punish those responsible for the crime. The tribunal, to be held jointly by all the victimized countries of Asia, will mark a significant milestone in the history of international movement on women's human rights.



Establishment of the Education Center to Teach History and Women's Human Rights to Our Future Generations

The survivors, as living historical witnesses, are aging. More than 40 of them have died since 1990. What is important at this moment is to teach our future generations, in order to recover the human rights of women that have been trampled on by war. It is with this in mind that the Korean Council opened the Education Center of the Korean Council for Women Drafted for Military Sexual Slavery by Japan.

The Education Center Features the Following:

- The Grandmas' Room provides education and health care programs for the former MSS, in a warm room with traditional *ondol* floor.
- The Education Room provides education on history and human rights, with a seating capacity of 30-40 people.
- The Exhibition Room displays the articles formerly owned by the deceased MSS, historical photographs and photographs of the human rights movement, showing that the history of the cruel violation of human rights is not just confined to the past but represents an ongoing violence against women.
- Data Center and office preserves and lends domestic and foreign documents, pictures and films.

Various Education Programs

- Education programs on peace and human rights for middle and high school students, university students, civil organization activists and teachers
- Education for domestic and foreign visitors to help them wake up to the historical truth
- Education on women's human rights on a group-by-group basis
- Testimonies of the former MSS, the movements of the Korean Council seen through video, and lectures on the human rights of women with respect to the "comfort women" issue