

# Japan Should Stop Manipulating Its Past History

## OPINION

This article questioning the Japan's responsibilities on the Korean "comfort women" was contributed to the Chosen Jiho by Tsuda Keiji, one of its readers. The Chosen Jiho is a Japanese-written Korean newspaper issued twice a week and prepared in the Chosen Shinbo Company. Translation and subtitles are Ours..Ed)

When I first acknowledged the existence of "the comfort women" I was in the 12th grade. Of course I didn't learn it from school text books. An educational trainee (woman) who was teaching sociology told us the story. I was awfully shocked by her story.

Being aware of this issue as in my case is very rare in Japan. Even since the problem was picked up by the media few Japanese (especially Japanese young) know the true facts of what happened to "the comfort women." According to surveys a considerable number of Japanese think "the comfort women" were nurses.

### Concealed Past History

This shows how the Japanese government has been concealing its past colonization over Korea. Even the Japanese mass media does not make it clear that "the comfort women" were sexually and mentally abused.

The Japanese government has ignored the issue, denying any governmental involvement in "the comfort women."

The Japanese authorities, however, acknowledged the participation of the Japanese military in the crimes when unshakable material proving the existence of "the comfort women" were submitted by involved Koreans. Being questioned on the governmental involvement, the authorities

It has been said "the Korean comfort women" totaled from 80,000 to 200,000. Girls aged 14 and 15 and young mothers who were still holding new-born babies were forced to provide sex for Japanese troops. How unbearably humiliating it must have been for the Korean women who eagerly defend their virtue through Korean custom. Their girlhood virginity and self respect stolen by Japan are never to be retrieved. I feel so sorry to think of those who died without disclosing their painful experience and also for those who appeared in public to reveal what Japan did to them.

### Motives of Enforcement of "the Comfort Women"

There are several views on why Japanese government started to hunt for "the comfort women" in Korea. One is that it aimed to obliterate the pride of the Korean nation by depriving "sex" from Korean women, as well as to please Japanese soldiers. There is nothing scarier to me than this.

The enforcement of "the comfort women" was a cruel national crime committed under the name of Emperor Hirohito. Who judges a national crime? We, the Japanese ourselves who are responsible for today's Japan have to settle this issue.

The Japanese government should clarify the truth as early as possible and make a sincere apology for its colonization of Korea and so as not to repeat the same mistake it should fulfill an obligation to peace in the area and teach its colonizing history to future generations without distorting the facts.

As far as compensation is concerned, the Japanese government asserted that the issues "were completely concluded with the 'Japan-S. Korea Fundamental Treaty' and related treaties." The treaties are far from being accepted by either north or south Korea.

South Korea is only half of the Korean Peninsula where these awful crimes occurred

# List of Korean Women Drafted As "Comfort Women" by Japan

## MATERIAL B

(Continued from the previous issue)

Ku, Chung Bun  
Korea Keihoku do Koshin gun  
Chutaimen Chutai ri 19 banchi

KURE, Yoshiko  
Korea Keihoku do Taikyu fu Hisan do  
2 banchi

KYO, Eikyoku  
Korea Keijo fu Moto machi 3 chome 58  
banchi

KYO, Yoshiko  
Korea Keijo fu Tongan cho 851 banchi

LEE, Seinin  
Korea, Keifuku Reisen gun Shinmo men  
Kopeiri

LEE, Tainin  
Korea Keifuku Reisen gun Kyofuku  
men Kyofukuto 7 banchi

LEE, Yong Jr (RI, Eiko)  
Korea Keifuku Ando gun Nango men  
Injindo

MIN, Sun Nan (MIN, Junna)  
Korea Keiki do Keijo fu Shoroku  
Ikisen cho 44 banchi

PAK, Chung Ei (HARUYAMA, Shojo)  
Korea Keinando Kayo gun Inko do

PAK, Chun To (BOKU, Shundo)  
Korea Zennan Nando Moko fu  
Takehashiri 10 banchi

PAK, Chung Jr (BOK, Shunko)  
Korea Chusei Nando Taiden fu Nishi  
machi 331 banchi

PAK, Su Nin (SHIRAKAWA, Junnin)  
Korea Keisho Nando Shoshu gun Hojo  
men Ratori

PAK, Tar Rimi (ARAI, Konami)  
Korea Keihoku do Taikyu fu Intai do  
1391 banchi

PEK, Chung Ki (MIZUHARA, Haruki)  
Korea Keiki do Keijo fu Naka ku  
Nandaimon cho 5 chome 64 banchi

POK, Kojun  
Korea Jenun Kempei gun Kaihon men  
Ryushiri

POK, Sei Eun  
Korea Keisho Nando Shinju fu Josai  
cho 72 banchi

SHIN, Sadako  
Korea Keinan Shinshu fu Yoshita cho  
121 banchi

SON, Haruko  
Korea Keiki do Suigen gun Seishin men  
Paikori

SON, Sun Chung  
Korea, Keiki do Anjo gun Yuran  
Takayama cho 138 banchi

TE, Kum Jr  
Korea Keinando Son fu Seryo cho 587  
banchi

TEI, Chinshi ku  
Korea Keijo fu Koran cho 135 banchi

TEI, Yoshi Re (Sanaye)  
Korea Keiki do Yosun gun Kiseifu yu  
269 banchi

TOKU, Hoku Hyoshiku (Hiroko)  
Korea Kankyo Hokudo Seisen Sin  
machi 2-3 banchi

Yo, Eiko (AOKI, Eiko)  
Korea Kankyo Hokudo Seishin fu  
Hingansan do 92 banchi

KIM, Suk Cha  
Korea Chusei Nando Heitaku 102  
banchi

SAI, Chun Ja  
Korea Chusei Nando Heitaku 102  
banchi

USAI, Jun (NODA Kasako)  
Korea Keisho Hokudo Kesuu Okori 382  
banchi

HON, Roku Jun (YASUMOTO, Haruko)  
Korea Keisho Hokudo AE Nichi gun  
Shinko men Jouto 445 banchi

IKE, Kezun (IKEHARA, Kezun)  
Korea Keikido Kesofu Kokicho 2  
chome 183 banchi

Ii, Ren Ka  
Korea Keisho Nando Taikiu fu Hisan  
cho 101 banchi

IN, Su Nami (HAYASHI, Chunan)  
Korea Keisho Nando Mitsuo gun Joto

The Japanese government has ignored the issue denying any governmental involvement in "the comfort women."

The Japanese authorities, however, acknowledged the participation of the Japanese military in the crimes when unshakable material proving the existence of "the comfort women" were submitted by involved Koreans. Being questioned on the governmental involvement, the authorities, at last, admitted a direct involvement on July 6.

As for the matter of whether or not Korean women were forcibly taken to Japan, the government shelved the issue, saying no conclusion could be made due to "the lack of material." If Korean women were not taken forcibly, did they volunteer to prostitute their bodies? I feel anger with the government's inarticulate attitude on this issue.

North and south Korea have started to collect verbal evidence from ex-"comfort women," instead of the Japanese government. The Japanese government is the one which should have initiated any investigation related to those women. One more thing I can't stand is why the Japanese people who were involved in collecting Korean women do not appear in public to testify.

How can it be profitable for Japan to hide the unpleasant past? By disclosing everything about its past and atoning for what the Japanese did to Koreans, mutual trust with neighbors such as Korea will be established. Personally I want as many Japanese who engaged in the enforcement of "the comfort women" as possible to testify for the real profit of Japan.



A Korean girl who was forced to be a sex slave for Japanese troops was captured by the U.S. soldiers on June 14, 1945 in Okinawa, the southernmost island of Japan.

As far as compensation is concerned, the Japanese government asserted that issues "were completely concluded with 'Japan-S. Korea Fundamental Treaty' and related treaties." The treaties are far from being accepted by either north or south Korea.

South Korea is only half of the Korean Peninsula where these awful crimes occurred as a result of the cruel Japanese invasion. It is fair enough for north Korea to reject the treaties signed without its participation.

Today investigations on the issue of "the comfort women" have been launched by the Koreans in Japan. However, the majority of Japanese show little interest in this issue. Why is this so? I guess the Japanese can not understand pain from which others (non-Japanese) are suffering. Japanese tend to think "we do not care about others, we care only about ourselves." We, Japanese should turn to the issue of "the comfort women" as a matter it is our responsibility to solve.

Last week NHK news station broadcast the stories of some of "the comfort women." I was choked as I saw the woman who was forced to tattoo and the woman who was begging, saying "Please tell Japanese women of what Japan did to us in the past." I was speechless.

The issue of "the comfort women" is not a problem we can skip over. For the establishment of a friendly relationship with Koreans both in Japan and Korea we need to solve the issue urgently and I hope that the gloom dominating the minds of those Korean women become a little fainter.

Korea Keihoku do Taikyū fu Intai do 1391 banchi  
PEK, Chung Ki (MIZUHARA, Haruki)  
Korea Keiki do Keijo fu Naka ku Nandaimon cho 5 chome 64 banchi  
POK, Kojun  
Korea Jenun Kempei gun Kaihon men Ryushiri  
POKU, Sei Fun  
Korea Keihoku Risen gun Eisen men Saishindo 321 banchi  
RI, Fuku Jo  
Korea Keikito Koyo gun Suijin men Suiryu ri 678 banchi  
RI, Hanako (KUNIMOTO, Nanako)  
Korea Chena Hokudo Kunzei gun Shinkawa ri  
RI, Jun Kei  
Korea Keisho Nando Usan gun Onyo men Namburi  
RI, Ken Re (MATSUMOTO, Ken Re)  
Korea Keijo fu Kentei jo 105-485 banchi  
RI, Shunken  
Korea Heijofu Kasuicho 51 banchi  
RI, Tamako  
Korea Keinan Kangan gun Kangan men Hojo ri  
RI, Tamako  
Korea Chunan Koshu gun Kamihon machi 45 banchi  
RIN, Horei  
Korea Chunan Ronsan gun Fuyo men Shoko ri  
RYO, Tenko (YOKAWA, Aiko)  
Korea Keijo fu Kogane machi 7 chome 11-6 banchi  
RYU, Ei Hi  
Korea Keina Shinshyu fu Shinan ri  
SAI, Nan Zun  
Korea Keisho Nando Kojo gun Kosen men Tentai ri 13 banchi  
SAI, Nan Chun  
Korea Keikito Koyo gun Suijin men Shiryu ri 678 banchi  
SEN, Ryo Chin

#### (Continued from page 6)

- nese people's Liberation Army led by Song Qingwei, political commissar of the Jinan military area.
- \* A Ukrainian government scientific and technological delegation led by Volodimir Parkhomenko, first deputy chairman of the Committee of Science and Technology.
- \* Giancarlo Elia Valori, secretary general of the Italian Institute of International Relations.

IKE, Kezun (IKEHARA, Kezun)  
Korea Keikido Kesofu icho 2 chome 183 banchi  
Ii, Ren Ka  
Korea Keisho Nando Taikiu fu Hisan cho 101 banchi  
IN, Su Nami (HAYASHI, Chunan)  
Korea Keisho Nando Mitsuyo gun Joto men Kokusan ri 50 banchi  
HAN, Sho Jun  
Korea Kezo fu Suirin cho 54 banchi  
RI, Tai Nin  
Korea Keisho Nando Kaeso gun Hokujomen Rikori  
KAN, Sun Bun (KADA, Jun bun)  
Korea Keisho Nando Shisai gun Sannin to  
CHON, Bon He (ORIHARA, Hojun)  
Korea Keisho Nando Shisai gun Senninto  
KIM, Yonju (KANEMOTO, Nenju)  
Korea Keisho Nando Utsusan Gun Hokiyodo 171 banchi  
LEE, Junki (NAKAMURA, Junkei)  
Korea Keisho Nando Utsusan gun Onyo men Naburi  
LEE, Suiko (YAMASHITA, Suiko)  
Korea Kokendo Kojo gun chanjan yu 2 ku  
SHIN, Ue Sen (SHIRAYAMA, Kaisan)  
Korea Keso Hokudo Gigio gun Kinjo men Kile  
SHI, Bu Mi (OOYE, Buni)  
Korea Keso Hokudo Ko Rye gun Go Rye Ken Kamanto 242 banchi  
CHUN, Shok Sun (KEIKEN, Sakijun)  
Korea Keisho Hokudo Bun Ke gun Sanboku men Kinrui  
CHAN, Wan Hue (NIHARA, Nanki)  
Korea Tsusai Nando Rye San gun Kiyokugan men Kakiyokuri  
KIYO, Kin Giyoku (TSUKIGAWA, Kingi Yoku)  
Korea Keisho Hokudo Tikiyu Fu Ginmachi 2 chome 68 banchi  
(Concluded)

- \* A delegation of Thammasat University of Thailand led by its Vice Rector Phanom Aiumprayoon.

#### AUG. 18

- \* A visiting group of the Committee for Realizing the Festival of Peace and Friendship of Japanese Youth and Students headed by its Secretary General Masami Tanaka.
- \* A delegation of the Social Literary Society of Japan headed by Professor Nishida Masaru of Hosei University.