## What the Victims of Japan's military Sexual Slavery Say about the JAPAN-ROK "announcement" 1



## Gun-ja Kim (b.1926)

"This is unfair. I cannot accept the agreement just between the two governments. We are the victims, and how come they just make such an agreement? We cannot accept this. We want reparations and official apology on individual basis."

#### Yong-su Lee (b.1928)

"The Korean government did not even discuss with us even though it was having a meeting with the Japanese government on the 'comfort women' issue. Are they civil servants of our country while they do not listen to the victims themselves, relieve Japan of their legal responsibilities and review the possibilities of getting rid of the Peace Monument? With the Agreement as the excuse, Japan already is claiming that 'There is no more apology.' I will fight until the end for the sake of 238 victims who have passed away already."



"We do not need money. It's not a matter of money. We want official apology and legal reparations."



#### Ok-seon Lee (b.1928)

"I can't accept this [agreement]. We did not see or hear anything, then the governments claim that apology and reparation are done. They made an agreement just between themselves then lied to us. How comes is this just? I believe the governments are wrong."



"We were forcefully dragged into the war. How come no one asked for our input?"





#### Bok-dong Kim (b.1926)

"Do they think we've been doing this for this long for money? We've been getting living expense support from our government and NGOs are taking care of us. We're not asking for money. What we want is a legal reparation. That is to admit that they committed the crime as a criminal state.

"Without even talking to us victims about what the two governments have discussed, I really can't understand how they can say that they came to an agreement. We are not beggars. About what Japan had done wrong in the past, it would be acceptable only if

Abe apologizes and settles things legally and educate their students the truth and fix their textbooks. However, without even a word, they talk amongst themselves and now this? Are they giving pity money to the poor? Giving kids candy money? And it's not even reparation. I really don't understand why they are doing this. And about the Peace Statue, both of the governments should leave it alone. The citizens erected it across the embassy on the peace street to teach our future generations of the tragedy that our nation once suffered. They have no rights to say anything regarding the Statue. And I can't accept this kind of apology. Why would we have been fighting until now if it was going to be settled ambiguously like this? If they are going to apologize, then do it properly, and if the Korean government wants to resolve the issue, then do it properly. If they are doing this for peace, then I hope they will do it the right way instead of hurting our feelings."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> These comments of the survivors above were from the report to the CEDAW by the Korean Council for the Women Drafted for Military Sexual Slavery by Japan. Source: INT\_CEDAW\_NGO\_JPN\_22816\_E (3)

## Japan-ROK "announcement" on the issue of "comfort women" (Dec.28, 2015) Content and wording differences between ROK/JAPAN websites

#### 1, Summary:

- The so-called JAPAN-ROK "announcement" consists of the announcement to the media by the Foreign Ministers and the "telephone talk" between the leaders on December 28, 2015. Since there is no document signed by both parties, we have compared the texts translated into English posted by each government.
- The biggest difference is concerning responsibility. While the ROK government uses the phrase "painfully acknowledges its responsibility", Japanese government uses "is painfully aware of responsibilities". The wording by Japan is weaker and more ambiguous.
- On the contrary, regarding the "peace memorial" in front of Japanese Embassy in Seoul, Japanese government uses the phrase the ROK "acknowledged" Japan's concern, whereas the ROK says they are "aware of" Japan's concern.
- In the telephone talk between the Prime Minister Abe and President Park Geun-hye, the ROK Website says "Prime Minister Abe, then, explained that his government would faithfully carry out the programs to help restore the honor and dignity of the comfort women victims and heal their wounds". This comment, however, is missing from Japan's website. Instead, Prime Minister Abe stated that the issues of claims were settled in the ROK-Japan treaty in 1965. There is no mention of this statement on the ROK website.
- As such, the "agreement" is unclear. The survivors had not been informed of the concrete content or meaning of the "announcement" in advance, which is supposed to be "final and irreversible".

### 2, The comparison of the "announcement" to the media by Foreign Ministers

Japan	Republic of Korea(ROK)			
Source: the website of the MOFA of Japan http://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/a_o/na/kr/page4_00166 7.html  Format: The remarks are edited for the written format.  (1) Foreign Minister Kishida announced as follows. The Government of Japan and the Government of the Republic of Korea (ROK) have intensively discussed the issue of comfort women between Japan and the ROK at bilateral meetings including the Director-General consultations. Based on the result of	Source: the website of the MOFA of the ROK file:///C:/Users/main1/Dropbox/Remarks%20at%20th e%20Joint%20Press%20Availability 1%20(1).pdf Format: Direct translation of the remarks at the Joint Press conference  Minister Kishida: The issue of "comfort women" has been intensively discussed so far between Japan and Korea, including through the Director-General level meetings. Based on those outcomes, the Government of Japan states the following.			
such discussions, I, on behalf of the Government of Japan, state the following:  (i) The issue of comfort women, with an involvement of the Japanese military authorities at that time, was a grave affront to the honor and	The issue of "comfort women" was a matter which, with the involvement of the military authorities of the day, severely injured the honor and dignity of			
dignity of large numbers of women, and the Government of Japan is painfully aware of responsibilities from this perspective.	many women. In this regard, the Government of Japan painfully acknowledges its responsibility.			
As Prime Minister of Japan, Prime Minister Abe expresses anew his most sincere apologies and remorse to all the women who <b>underwent</b> immeasurable and painful experiences and suffered incurable physical and psychological wounds as	Prime Minister Abe, in his capacity as Prime Minister of Japan, expresses anew sincere apologies and remorse from the bottom of his heart to all those who suffered immeasurable pain and incurable physical and psychological wounds as "comfort"			

comfort women.

- (ii) The Government of Japan has been sincerely dealing with this issue. Building on such experience, the Government of Japan will now take measures to heal psychological wounds of all former comfort women through its budget. To be more specific, it has been decided that the Government of the ROK establish a foundation for the purpose of providing support for the former comfort women, that its funds be contributed by the Government of Japan as a one-time contribution through its budget, and that projects for **recovering** the honor and dignity and healing the psychological wounds of all former comfort women be carried out under the cooperation between the Government of Japan and the Government of the ROK.
- (iii) While stating the above, the Government of Japan confirms that this issue is resolved finally and irreversibly with this announcement, **on the premise that** the Government will steadily implement the measures specified in (ii) above.

In addition, together with the Government of the ROK, the Government of Japan will refrain from accusing or criticizing each other regarding this issue in the international community, including at the United Nations.

(2) Foreign Minister Yun announced as follows. The Government of the Republic of Korea (ROK) and the Government of Japan have intensively discussed the issue of comfort women between the ROK and Japan at bilateral meetings including the Director-General consultations. Based on the result of such discussions, I, on behalf of the Government of

the ROK, state the following:

(i) The Government of the ROK values the GOJ's announcement and efforts made by the Government of Japan in the lead-up to the issuance of the announcement and confirms, together with the GOJ, that the issue is resolved finally and irreversibly with this announcement, on the premise that the Government of Japan will steadily implement the measures specified in 1. (1) (ii)above. The Government of the ROK will cooperate in the implementation of the Government of Japan's measures.

women."

The Government of Japan has been seriously dealing with this issue, and on the basis of such experience, will take measures with its own budget to heal the psychological wounds of all the former "comfort women." More specifically, the Government of the Republic of Korea will establish a foundation for the purpose of providing assistance to the former "comfort women." The Government of Japan will contribute from its budget a lump sum funding to this foundation. The Governments of Korea and Japan will cooperate to implement programs to **restore** the honor and dignity and to heal the psychological wounds of all the former "comfort women."

Along with what was stated above, the Government of Japan confirms that through today's statement, this issue will be finally and irreversibly resolved **on the condition that** the above-mentioned measures are faithfully implemented.

Also, the Government of Japan, along with the Government of the Republic of Korea, will refrain from mutual reprobation and criticism in international forums, including at the United Nations in the future.

Regarding the above-mentioned budgetary measure, the expected amount will be around 1 billion Yen. What I have stated is the outcome of consultations held under the instruction of the leaders of both countries, and I am confident that Japan-Korea relations will thereby enter a new era.

#### **Minister Yun:**

Now, I would like to state the position of the Government of the Republic of Korea on today's agreement.

The issue of "comfort women" has been intensively discussed so far between Korea and Japan, including through the Director-General level meetings. Based on those outcomes, the Government of Korea states the following.

The Government of the Republic of Korea takes note of the statement by the Government of Japan and the measures leading up to the statement, and, along with the Government of Japan, confirms that through today's statement, this issue will be finally and irreversibly resolved on the condition that the above-mentioned measures stated by the Government of Japan are faithfully implemented. The Government of the Republic of Korea will cooperate in the measures to be taken by the Government of Japan.

- (ii) The Government of the ROK acknowledges the fact that the Government of Japan is concerned about the statue built in front of the Embassy of Japan in Seoul from the viewpoint of preventing any disturbance of the peace of the mission or impairment of its dignity, and will strive to solve this issue in an appropriate manner through taking measures such as consulting with related organizations about possible ways of addressing this issue.
- (iii) The Government of the ROK, together with the Government of Japan, will refrain from accusing or criticizing each other regarding this issue in the international community, including at the United Nations, on the premise that the Government of Japan will steadily implement the measures it announced.
- 2. Furthermore, Foreign Minister Kishida announced that the amount of budget contributed to the foundation would be approximately one billion yen.
- 3. In addition, both sides exchanged views briefly about the Japan-ROK cooperation in the fields of security and other various issues between the two countries.

The Government of the Republic of Korea is aware of the concern of the Government of Japan over the memorial statue placed in front of the Embassy of Japan in Seoul with respect to the maintenance of the peacefulness and respectability of its mission, and will make efforts to appropriately address the concern, including through consultations with relevant groups on possible responses.

The Government of the Republic of Korea, along with the Government of Japan, will refrain from mutual reprobation and criticism in international forums, including at the United Nations in the future, on the condition that the measures stated by the Government of Japan are faithfully implemented.

This concludes the position of the Government of the Republic of Korea.

I am very pleased to announce here today that, working together, Minister Kishida and I have finally wound up the long and difficult negotiations on this issue before the end of this year, the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the normalization of diplomatic ties between Korea and Japan.

I sincerely hope that the measures to follow up on today's agreement will be faithfully implemented and thereby restore the honor and dignity and heal the psychological wounds of the victims who have had to endure so many years of agony.

It is also my sincere desire that, with the conclusion of the negotiations on the "comfort women" issue, the most challenging and difficult issue over history between Korea and Japan, we will be able to open a new chapter in the Korea-Japan relations in the new year with a new spirit of cooperation.

#### 3, The telephone talk between the Prime Minister ABE and President Park Geun-hye

Source:	Source:http://english1.president.go.kr/activity/briefing.php?sr
http://www.mofa.go.jp/a_o/na/kr/page4e_000366.html	h%5Bboard_no%5D=21&srh%5Bview_mode%5D=detail&sr
	h%5Bseq%5D=13605&srh%5Bdetail_no%5D=448
On December 28, commencing at 17:48 for approximately 15 minutes, Mr. Shinzo Abe, Prime Minister of Japan, held talks by telephone with Ms. Park Geun-hye, President of the Republic of Korea. The overview of the conversation is as follows. (In addition to the two leaders, Mr Yoshihide Suga, Chief Cabinet Secretary, Mr. Koichi Hagyuda, Deputy Chief Cabinet Secretary, Mr. Hiroshige Seko, Deputy Chief Cabinet Secretary, Shotaro Yachi, Secretary General of the National Security Secretariat(NSS),	
	<u>I</u>

Eiichi Hasegawa, the Special Advisor to the Prime Minister, Akitaka Saiki, Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs sat in from the Japan side during the telephone call.)

1. The two leaders confirmed and appreciated the fact that their governments had reached agreement regarding the issue of comfort women, after having accelerated consultations following the Japan-ROK summit meeting which was held on the occasion of the Japan-China-ROK summit in November.

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(1) As Prime Minister of Japan, Prime Minister Abe expressed anew his most sincere apologies and remorse to all the women who underwent immeasurable and painful experiences and suffered incurable physical and psychological wounds as comfort women.

While stating that Japan continued to hold the position that issues relating to property and claims between Japan and the ROK, including the issue of comfort women, had been settled completely and finally by the Japan-ROK Claims Settlement and Economic Cooperation Agreement of 1965, Prime Minister Abe welcomed the fact that the issue of comfort women is resolved "finally and irreversibly" with this agreement.

- (2) President Park appreciated the fact that final agreement regarding the issue of comfort women had been achieved in the foreign ministers' meeting and stated that she looked forward to both sides working to build a new ROK-Japan relations.
- (3)The two leaders confirmed that they would take responsibility as leaders to implement this agreement, and that they would deal with various issues based on the spirit of this agreement.
- 3. The two leaders confirmed the importance of moving forward in Japan-ROK relations by strengthening cooperation between the two countries in various fields such as security, human exchanges and the economy.

President Park Geun-hye received a telephone call from Prime Minister of Japan Shinzo Abe today. They exchanged views on the just-concluded negotiations on the issue of comfort women, who were forced to work as sex slaves by the Japanese military during World War II.

Prime Minister Abe expressed his heartfelt apologies and remorse to all those who suffered immeasurable pain and unbearable physical and psychological wounds as comfort women.

Prime Minister Abe, then, explained that his government would faithfully carry out the programs to help restore the honor and dignity of the comfort women victims and heal their wounds. He also confirmed that the issue of comfort women would be finally and irreversibly resolved through the agreement reached this time.

President Park remarked that this agreement should be made into an invaluable opportunity to restore the honor and dignity of the comfort women victims and mend the wounds rankling in their hearts.

Noting the difficult process the two governments went through to reach the agreement, the President expressed the hope that the two countries would continue to consult closely with each other in order to build trust and open a new chapter in bilateral relations, based on what was agreed upon this time.

## Recommendations by the UN Human Rights Bodies on Japan's Military Sexual Slavery Issue

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III-1 Japan's approach to the issue of "comfort women" causing further violations of victims' human rights, UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Navi Pillay, 6 August 2014

\*The following information is excerpts of relevant phrases and documents referred to the "comfort women" issue from the UN human rights institutions.

#### I. Regarding the JAPAN-ROK "announcement" on December 28, 2015

## I-1: Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women(CEDAW) Observation<sup>2</sup>

#### "Comfort Women"

28. The Committee recalls its previous concluding observations (CEDAW/C/JPN/CO/6, paras. 37 and 38) and also refers to numerous recommendations on the unresolved issue of "comfort women" made by other United Nations human rights mechanisms such as the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD/C/JPN/CO/7-9), the Human Rights Committee (CCPR/C/JPN/CO/6), the Committee Against Torture (CAT/C/JPN/CO/2), the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (E/C.12/JPN/CO/3), several United Nations Special Procedures mandate holders of the Human Rights Council and the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/22/14/Add.1, para.147-145 et seq.). While noting the efforts by the State party to attempt to resolve the issue of "comfort women", most recently through the bilateral agreement between the State party and the Republic of Korea announced on 28 December 2015, the Committee regrets the State party has not implemented the aforementioned recommendations and its position that the issue of "comfort women" does not fall within the mandate of the Committee, as the alleged violations occurred prior to the entry into force of the Convention for the State party in 1985. The Committee further regrets that:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> CEDAW/C/JPN/CO/7-8

- (a) Recently, there has been an increase in the number of statements from public officials and leaders regarding the State party's responsibility for violations committed against "comfort women"; and that the announcement of the bilateral agreement with the Republic of Korea, which asserts that the "comfort women" issue "is resolved finally and irreversibly" did not fully adopt a victim-centred approach;
- (b) Some "comfort women" have died without obtaining an official unequivocal recognition of responsibility by the State party for the serious human rights violations that they suffered;
- (c) The State party has not addressed its obligations under international human rights law towards "comfort women" victims in other concerned countries; and
- (d) The State party deleted references to the issue of "comfort women" in textbooks.
- 29. The Committee reiterates its previous recommendations (CEDAW/C/JPN/CO/6, paras. 37 and 38) and observes that the issue of "comfort women" gives rise to serious violations that have a continuing effect on the rights of victims/survivors of those violations that were perpetrated by the State party's military during the Second World War given the continued lack of effective remedies for these victims. The Committee, therefore, considers that it is not precluded ratione temporis from addressing such violations, and urges the State party to:
  - (a) Ensure that its leaders and public officials desist from making disparaging statements regarding responsibility, which have the effect of re-traumatising victims;
  - (b) Recognize the right of victims to a remedy, and accordingly provide full and effective redress and reparation, including compensation, satisfaction, official apologies and rehabilitative services:
  - (c) Ensure that in the implementation of the bilateral agreement announced jointly with the Republic of Korea in December 2015, the State party takes due account of the views of the victims/survivors and ensure their rights to truth, justice, and reparations;
  - (d) Adequately integrate the issue of "comfort women" in textbooks and ensure that historical facts are objectively presented to students and the public at large; and
  - (e) Provide information in its next periodic report on the extent of consultations and other measures taken to ensure the rights of victims/survivors to truth, justice and reparations.

#### I-2: Press Release: Japan/South Korea:

"The long awaited apology to 'comfort women' victims is yet to come"- UN rights experts<sup>3</sup>

GENEVA (11 March 2016) – A group of United Nations human rights experts today raised concerns at the agreement on the issue of 'comfort women' passed between Japan and the Republic of Korea in December 2015, and urged the Japanese Government to implement without delay the recommendations\* made earlier this week by the UN Committee on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). The term 'comfort women' refers to hundreds of thousands of girls and women from several Asian countries abducted and forced into sexual slavery prior and during World War II by the Japanese imperial military.

On 28 December 2015, the agreement between Japan and South Korea declared the issues arising from the widespread and systematic human rights violation of the 'comfort women' as final and irreversible.

In this context, Japan agreed to acknowledge and express regret for its role and to provide a one-time contribution of one billion yen (US\$ 8.3 million) to carry out joint projects with South Korea, including a foundation to be established by the country. For its part, the South Korean Government agreed to consider the removal of a statue commemorating the 'comfort women' built in front of Japan's embassy in Seoul. Both governments agreed to refrain from accusing or criticizing each other in the international community

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> http://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=17209&LangID=E

on this issue.

"We believe the agreement between Japan and South Korea falls short of meeting the demands of survivors," said the independent experts on discrimination against women, transitional justice and torture. "An unequivocal official apology recognizing the full responsibility of the then Japanese Government and military, as well as adequate reparations, would protect and uphold the victims' right to truth, justice and reparation." "We are also deeply concerned that the Republic of Korea may remove a statue commemorating not only the historical issue and legacy of the 'comfort women' but also symbolizing the survivors' long search for justice," they added.

The human rights experts drew attention to the fact that the agreement does not meet standards of State accountability for gross human rights violations and was reached without a proper consultation process.

"Neither the surviving victims nor the organizations representing them for more than 20 years were consulted in the preparation of this agreement," they stated. "This undermines decades of activism and efforts to seek truth and justice and naturally leaves the survivors in considerable distress."

The experts stated that "the Governments of Japan and South Korea should understand that this issue will not be considered resolved so long as all the victims, including from other Asian countries, remain unheard, their expectations unmet and their wounds left wide open." They underscored that this is now a race against time given the age of the survivors.

"It is the responsibility of States to put an end to impunity by condemning and addressing sexual and other violence against women and girls used as a war weapon, and by upholding women victims' right to redress," the experts said.

Japan has ratified the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and is therefore reviewed regularly by CEDAW on how it is implementing the Convention. In its last review during its 15 February – 4 March session in Geneva, CEDAW findings and recommendations are particularly important in the context of the bilateral agreement.

The Committee observed the continuing effect of the serious human rights violations of the 'comfort women' victims. It urged Japan to, among other things, recognize the rights of victims to remedy, to provide full and effective redress and reparation, including compensation, official apologies and rehabilitative services, to ensure that the views of the victims be taken into account as well as their rights to truth, justice and reparations ensured in the implementation of the 2015 agreement.

"We urge Japan to implement CEDAW's new recommendations. This will grant effective access to justice, truth and adequate reparation to these women whose inalienable human rights were brutally violated by the State," the experts concluded.

#### II. Treaty Bodies Concluding Observations from 2012-2014

### II-1: Human Rights Committee (CCPR), Observation in 2014<sup>4</sup>

#### Sexual slavery practices against "comfort women"

14. The Committee is concerned by the State party's contradictory position that the "comfort women" were not "forcibly deported" by Japanese military during wartime but that the "recruitment, transportation and management» of these women in comfort stations was done in many cases generally against their will through coercion and intimidation by the military or entities acting on behalf of the military. The Committee considers that any such acts carried out against the will of the victims are sufficient to consider them as human rights violations involving the direct legal responsibility of the State party. The Committee is also concerned about re-victimization of the former comfort women by

<sup>4</sup> CCPR/C/JPN/CO/6

attacks on their reputations, including some by public officials and some that are encouraged by the State party's equivocal position. The Committee further takes into account, information that all claims for reparation brought by victims before Japanese courts have been dismissed, and all complaints to seek criminal investigation and prosecution against perpetrators have been rejected on the ground of the statute of limitations. The Committee considers that this situation reflects ongoing violations of the victims' human rights, as well as a lack of effective remedies available to them as victims of past human rights violations (arts. 2, 7 and 8).

The State party should take immediate and effective legislative and administrative measures to ensure:

- (i) that all allegations of sexual slavery or other human rights violations perpetrated by Japanese military during wartime against the "comfort women", are effectively, independently and impartially investigated and that perpetrators are prosecuted and, if found guilty, punished;
- (ii) access to justice and full reparation to victims and their families;
- (iii) the disclosure of all evidence available;
- (iv) education of students and the general public about the issue, including adequate references in textbooks;
- (v) the expression of a public apology and official recognition of the responsibility of the State party;
- (vi) condemnation of any attempts to defame victims or to deny the events.

#### II-2: Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR), Observation in 2013<sup>5</sup>

26. The Committee is concerned about the lasting negative effects of the exploitation to which 'comfort women' were subjected on their enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights and their entitlement to reparation. (art. 11, 3)

The Committee recommends that the State party take all necessary measures to address the lasting effects of the exploitation and to guarantee the enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights by 'comfort women'. The Committee also recommends that the State party educate the public on the exploitation of 'comfort women' so as to prevent hate speech and other manifestations that stigmatize them.

#### II-3: Committee against Torture (CAT), Observation in 2013<sup>6</sup>

#### Victims of military sexual slavery

- 19. Notwithstanding the information provided by the State party concerning some steps taken to acknowledge the abuses against victims of Japan's military sexual slavery practices during the Second World War, the so-called "comfort women", the Committee remains deeply concerned at the State party's failure to meet its obligations under the Convention while addressing this matter, in particular in relation to: (arts. 1, 2, 4, 10, 14 and 16)
- (a) Failure to provide adequate redress and rehabilitation to the victims. The Committee regrets that the compensation, financed by private donations rather than public funds, was insufficient and inadequate;
- (b) Failure to prosecute perpetrators of such acts of torture and bring them to justice. The Committee recalls that on account of the continuous nature of the effects of torture, statutes of limitations should not be applicable as these deprive victims of the redress, compensation, and rehabilitation due to them;
- (c) Concealment or failure to disclose related facts and materials;
- (d) Continuing official denial of the facts and re-traumatization of the victims by high-level national

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> E/C.12/1/Add.67

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<sup>6</sup> CAT/C/JPN/CO/2

and local officials and politicians, including several diet members;

- (e) The failure to carry out effective educational measures to prevent gender-based breaches of the Convention, as illustrated, inter alia, by a decrease in references to this issue in school history textbooks;
- (f) The State party's rejection of several recommendations relevant to this issue, made in the context of the universal periodic review (A/HRC/22/14/Add.1, paras.147.145 et seq.), which are akin to recommendations made by the Committee (para.24) and many other UN human rights mechanisms, inter alia, the Human Rights Committee (CCPR/C/JPN/CO/5, para.22), the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW/C/JPN/CO/6, para.38), the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (E/C.12/JPN/CO/3, para.26) and several special procedures' mandate-holders of the Human Rights Council.

Recalling its general comment No. 3, the Committee urges the State party to take immediate and effective legislative and administrative measures to find victim-centered resolution for the issues of "comfort women", in particular, by:

- (a) Publicly acknowledge legal responsibility for the crimes of sexual slavery, and prosecute and punish perpetrators with appropriate penalties;
- (b) Refute attempts to deny the facts by the government authorities and public figures and to re-traumatize the victims through such repeated denials;
- (c) Disclose related materials, and investigate the facts thoroughly;
- (d) Recognise the victim's right to redress, and accordingly provide them full and effective redress and reparation, including compensation, satisfaction and the means for as full rehabilitation as possible;
- (e) Educate the general public about the issue and include the events in all history textbooks, as a means of preventing further violations of the State party's obligations under the Convention.

#### II-4: Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD) Observation in 2014<sup>7</sup>

#### Comfort women

18. The Committee notes information provided by the delegation of the State party about efforts made to solve the issue of foreign "comfort women" who were sexually exploited by the Japanese military during the World War II. The Committee also notes information on compensation provided through the Asian Women Fund, established by the State party in 1995, and government expressions of apology, including the apology of the Prime Minister of Japan in 2001. Bearing in mind that human rights violations against surviving "comfort women" persist as long as their rights to justice and reparation are not fully realized, the Committee is concerned at reports that most of the "comfort women" have never received recognition, apologies or any kind of compensation (art. 2, 5).

The Committee urges that the State party take immediate action to:

- (a) Conclude investigations on violations of the rights of comfort women by the Japanese military, and bring to justice those responsible for human rights violations;
- (b) Pursue a comprehensive, impartial and lasting resolution of the issue of comfort women, including expressions of sincere apology and the provision of adequate reparation to all surviving comfort women or to their families;
- (c) Condemn any attempts at defamation or denial of such events.

III.	Statement	by t	hen	UN	High	C	Commissioner	for	Human	Rig	zhts

<sup>7</sup> CERD/C/JPN/CO/7-9

# Japan's approach to the issue of "comfort women" causing further violations of victims' human rights<sup>8</sup>

GENEVA (6 August 2014) – UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Navi Pillay on Wednesday expressed profound regret that Japan has failed to pursue a comprehensive, impartial and lasting resolution of the issue of wartime sexual slavery, warning that the human rights of the victims, known as "comfort women", continue to be violated decades after the end of the Second World War.

"During my visit to Japan in 2010, I appealed to the Government to provide effective redress to the victims of wartime sexual slavery," the High Commissioner said. "Now, as my tenure in office comes to an end, it pains me to see that these courageous women, who have been fighting for their rights, are passing away one by one, without their rights restored and without receiving the reparation to which they are entitled."

"This is not an issue relegated to history. It is a current issue, as human rights violations against these women continue to occur as long as their rights to justice and reparation are not realised," she stressed.

Instead of justice, the High Commissioner said, the women are facing increasing denials and degrading remarks by public figures in Japan. A report issued by a Government-appointed study team on 20 June 2014, stated that "it was not possible to confirm that women were forcefully recruited." Following the release of this report, a group in Tokyo publicly declared that "comfort women were not sex slaves but wartime prostitutes."

"Such statements must cause tremendous agony to the women, but we have not seen any public rebuttal by the Government," Pillay said.

Over the years, Japan has received recommendations from a number of UN independent experts, human rights treaty bodies and from the Human Rights Council under its Universal Periodic Review for it to take concrete measures to tackle the issue. Most recently, the UN Human Rights Committee, which oversees implementation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, called on Japan to take "immediate and effective legislative and administrative measures" to ensure that all allegations of sexual slavery are investigated and perpetrators prosecuted. It also called for access to justice and reparations for victims and their families, the disclosure of all evidence available, and education in the country surrounding the issue.

Pillay noted that Japan had signed the UN Declaration on the Prevention of Sexual Violence in Conflict last year and that it had offered strong support to the UK summit on sexual violence in conflict earlier this year

"I encourage Japan to pursue a comprehensive, impartial and lasting resolution of the wartime sexual slavery issue with the same vigour," she added, noting the Office's readiness to offer any necessary assistance.

**ENDS** 

<sup>8</sup> Source: http://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=14920&LangID=E

受理	理番号	26-65	学校 中学校 教科	社会 種目 社会 (歴史的分野	F)	学年 1-3			
番	指指	商箇所				検定			
番号	ページ	行	指摘事項	指摘事由		基準	This document dated		
234	273	囲み	[忘れなかったマルタの歌声] ソ連は軍隊を送り、この民主化の動き を鎮圧しようとした。	生徒が誤解するおそれのある表現である。 (「民主化の動き」の鎮圧にいたる経緯)		3- (3)	November 2014 is a reply from the government-appointed screening committee to the		
235	278	1 - 14	林亜金は、海南島(中国)の小さな村で 暮らしていました。 …多くの女性が 入れられていました。	話題の選択が、具体の事項に偏っており、 て調和がとれていない。 (辞典類:通生的概能書にもほとんど取り いない個別事例であり、生徒が理解・追究)	上げられて	2- (5)	writer of the "Manabisha" history textbook publisher,		
236	278	4 - 9	1943年の夏、19歳の林亜金が稲刈りを 手伝っていたとき、突然、日本兵が現れ で、いっしょにいた3人とともに、軍の 駐屯地に連行されました。かやぶきの 小屋に別々に入れられ、日本兵たちの	健全な情操の育成について必要な配慮を介 (「暴行」についての具体的な記述)	ていている	1- (5)	indicating paragraphs considered to contain "deficiencies" with		
			暴行を受けました。少しでも抵抗する と、なぐられたり蹴られたり、たばこの 火を押しつけられたりしました。その 後も、島内を地の駐屯地で、大勢の兵士 の相手をさせられました。				accompanying reasons.		
237	278	13 - 14	海南島には、4カ所以上の軍の「慰安 所」がつくられ、多くの女性が入れら れていました。	生徒が誤解するおそれのある表現である。 (同ページ1~12行目及び279ページ図4 2	この関係)	3- (3)			
238	278 - 279	15 - 12	全学順の証言(全体) (237ページ囲み【朝鮮・台湾の人びと と日本の戦争】の「一方、朝鮮・台湾 の若い女性たちのなかには、「戦安婦」 として戦地に送り込まれた人たちがい	政府の統一的な見解に基づいた記述がされ 。(「慰安婦」に関する政府見解)	こていない	固有 2-(4)			
			た。女性たちは、日本軍とともに移動 させられて、自分の意思で行動できな かった。」も同様)						
			Flagged Iten	ns		2- 21	Explanation		
In hel	LIN Yajin was living in a small village in Hainan(China) many women were kept inside them.  In the summer of 1943 at the age of 19, she was helping with the rice harvest when a group of Japanese soldiers suddenly appeared and abducted her and three others girls. They were taken to an army barracks and				The choice of subject matter is slanted to one concrete incident and lacks overall balance. (This is a single example that can be found in almost no encyclopedia or historical overview. Students can neither understand it nor pursue research about it.)  Lacks necessary consideration of healthy emotional development.  (concrete description with regard to				
oth	dier	s suc girls	ddenly appeared and al . They were taken to a	n a group of Japanese oducted her and three n army barracks and	emot	ional d	levelopment.		
oth pla wh sho and the	diers ners neced nere owed bu ey we tpos	girls sepa they d the med rere f	ddenly appeared and all. They were taken to a arately in small rooms were violated by the seleast resistance, they with cigarettes. In the forced to lie with count attered about the island	n a group of Japanese oducted her and three n army barracks and with thatched roofs oldiers. If they were beaten, kicked period that followed, cless soldiers in	emot (conc "viol	ional d crete de ent act	levelopment. escription with regard to s")		
oth pla wh sho and the out	diers ners neced nere owed bu ey we tpos	girls separathey d they med rere for ts se	ddenly appeared and all. They were taken to a arately in small rooms were violated by the seleast resistance, they with cigarettes. In the forced to lie with count	n a group of Japanese oducted her and three in army barracks and with thatched roofs oldiers. If they were beaten, kicked period that followed, cless soldiers in d.	emot (conc "viol  An ex stude	crete de ent act	levelopment.		

government viewpoint.

(Government view on "comfort women")

Same for the column on page 237, [Japan's War and the

People of Korea and Taiwan] "In addition, some young

women from Korea and Taiwan were sent to the battlefield as "comfort women." The women were transported with Japanese troops and were unable to act

of their own will."

## **BEFORE**

The treatment of the "comfort women" issue in the Manabisha textbook BEFORE government screening.

#### 9. Reconsidering the Postwar Born and Raised on Hainan Island

LIN Yajin was living in a small village in Hainan (China) when Japanese troops occupied the island in 1939 and began developing mines and constructing airfields. LIN Yajin had a dream that one day she would meet the right man, have children and continue her life farming in the village. In the summer of 1943 at the age of 19, she was helping with the rice harvest when a group of Japanese soldiers suddenly appeared and abducted her and three others girls. They were taken to an army barracks and placed separately in small rooms with thatched roofs where they were violated by the soldiers. If they showed the least resistance, they were beaten, kicked and burned with cigarettes. In the period that followed, they were forced to lie with countless soldiers in outposts scattered about the island.

The war ended two years later and LIN Yajin returned home to her village. It had been burned to the ground, and her brother and mother and father were dead. LIN Yajin, now disabled, was taken in by her sister, but she never stopped cursing her fate. "Everything in my life," she said, "has been torn to shreds."

At least four military "comfort stations" were built on Hainan Island with many women kept inside them.



Taiwan were sent to the battlefield as "comfort women." The women were transported with Japanese troops and were unable to act of their

own will

"He's taking me away," a painting by Korean former "comfort woman" Kim Soon-duk

油も、鉄も、人間も

爾は、さらにフィリピン・インドネシ 南アジア全域と香港を支配しました。 スマトラ・ビルマでは油田を設定し、

などの肉体労働にかり立てました

ないとない。 加山を接収して、重要な資源を獲得しました。 本単は、東南アジア各地から人びとを分務者として集め、飛

万人、タイから3万人、マラヤとジャワ島から8万人など多く 「を、熱不のジャングル地帯の建設現場に送り込みました。 またの
実質工事で、鉄道は完成させましたが、重労働で多く

場労や病気で倒れ、多数の死者を出しました。この丁庫やは

Locations where "Comfort Stations" were established. Shows only places confirmed through existing public documents. Produced with cooperation from



The Testimony of Kim Hak-Sun

When questioned about "comfort women" in the Diet in 1990, the Japanese government responded that private brokers had taken the women from one place to another, a reply that was also broadcast in Korea. (Aged 67 at the time) Kim Hak-sun, on hearing this, decided to come out publicly as "living proof," revealing that she had been forced to become a "comfort woman" of the military.

After Kim Hak-sun, other women also began coming forward one after another, demanding that the Japanese government apologize and offer compensation. The government, for its part, acknowledged the military's involvement in the establishment and management of "comfort stations" and extended its apologies and remorse. It made clear, on the other hand, that it considered the matter of compensation to have been settled at the national level and would not compensate individuals. As a result, the government set up the "Asian Women's Fund" in 1995 and offered "atonement money" donated by the people of Japan to former "comfort women." It also implemented government programs to assist with the women's health and welfare. Some women refused the offer on the grounds that it left ambiguous the question of national responsibility.

The question of responsibility for violence against women during wartime continues to be pursued, the issue of the "comfort women" system having been taken up by the United Nations Committee on Human Rights as well as the United States Congress.



## **AFTFR**

WAM: Red sentences below were inserted after the government screening. The first suggests the issue is only with Korea, whereas the second summarizes an incorrect cabinet position.



[Kono Statement of 1993]

- · As a result of the study which indicates that comfort stations were operated in extensive areas for long periods, it is apparent that there existed a great number of comfort women.
- •The recruitment, transfer, etc. from Korean Peninsula were conducted generally against their will.
- •[This was an act] with the involvement of the military authorities of the day, that severely injured the honor and dignity of many women. The Government of Japan would like to extend its sincere apologies and remorse to all those, irrespective of place of origin, who suffered immeasurable pain and incurable physical and psychological wounds [as comfort women].
- ·We shall face squarely the historical facts, and reiterate our firm determination never to repeat the same mistake by forever engraving such issues in our memories through the study and teaching of history. [excerpt]
- \*Presently, the government of Japan expresses the view that no documents have been found that directly indicate any so-called forceful abduction by the military or government authority.

#### **Explanation from WAM:**

Testimonies of survivors as well as their actions demanding the right to reparations have completely disappeared. As for visuals, the painting by the "comfort women" survivor and the map of "comfort stations" have been replaced with other war-related pictures such as the annual death rates of Japanese soldiers and civilians during the war.



[Japan's War and the People of Korea

Korea and Taiwan were sent to the battlefield as "comfort women." The women were transported with Japanese troops and were unable to act of their own

【朝鮮・台湾の人びとと日本の戦争】 日本政府は、教教までに約70万人の明鮮人を国内の教室などに近り込んだ。長時間の原力者で、食事も になったり、潜亡したりする人も多かった。 5、条款の人がとが日本軍に襲撃された。また、軍撃として、日本の占領地にある情報なる所の監察して

**WAM**: Clearly, the phrase "comfort women" was erased after the screening.

WAM: Even though the paragraph mentions Kim Haksun, the first former "comfort women" to come forward, the phrase "comfort women" is omitted. The responsibility of the Japanese government has been rendered so vague it's nearly impossible to understand.

#### [Reconsidering Human Rights Violations]

Spurred by the testimony of Kim Hak-sun in 1991, the Japanese government undertook an investigation of violence against women and violations of human rights during wartime. In 1993, the government issued its opinion, extending apologies and feelings of remorse. The movement to readdress human rights violations during wartime also advanced in this manner in East Asia. Legislative bodies in the United States, the Netherlands and many other nations have also taken up the question.

The issue of the responsibility that nations around the world bear for violence and violations of human rights during wartime is at present undergoing renewed questioning.