



Japanese Women for Justice and Peace (JWJP)

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Information for the UPR 42nd Session / JAPAN

Title: **Enforced Disappearance - Abductions of Japanese Citizens by DPRK**

Japanese Women for Justice and Peace (JWJP) is a non-governmental organization of Japanese women in Japan and overseas. Our goal is to achieve the women's rights and to protect our children's rights.

1. Proposed Recommendation

Abductions of Japanese Citizens by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) is the case of "Enforced Disappearance" and one of the worst crimes against humanity committed by a state.

We request that the Government of Japan:

- 1) Rescue by whatever means all Japanese victims promptly.
- 2) Investigate all 875 cases of missing Japanese possibly abducted by DPRK.

2. 875 Cases of Missing Persons in Which the Possibility of Abduction by DPRK Cannot be Ruled Out

At present, **17** people are officially recognized as abductees by the Japanese government. ¹ In fact, far more people are abducted. According to the research by the private citizens' group, the Investigation Commission on Missing Japanese Probably Related to North Korea², the number of "missing Japanese probably related to North Korea" is approximately **470**.³ Furthermore, according to the Japanese National Police Agency, the number of missing Japanese possibly abducted by North Korea is **871**.⁴ And according to the latest number as of October 2020 in the booklet of Japanese government⁵, there are **875** other cases of missing persons in addition to the 17 Japanese abductees.

The world admires Japan as one of the most peaceful and safe country. However, this admiration derives from superficial observation. It is not long time ago that Japan allowed invasion of sovereignty and abduction of Japanese innocent people. And this may happen still now at present time.

¹ <https://www.rachi.go.jp/en/>

² <https://www.chosa-kai.jp/>

³ <https://www.chosa-kai.jp/archives/2164>

⁴ <https://www.npa.go.jp/bureau/security/abduct/list.html>

⁵ <https://www.rachi.go.jp/en/p-en2020.pdf>

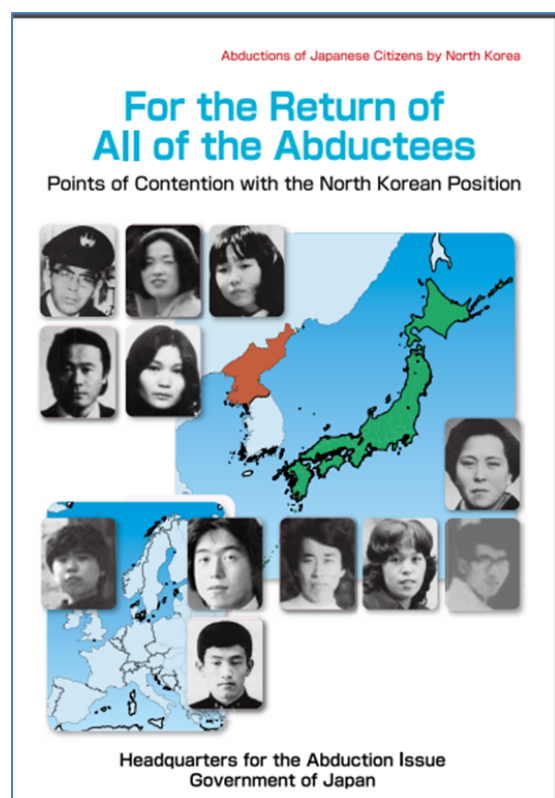
To make matters worse Japan cannot seem to be able to rescue them. How can Japan be a safe country, allowing abduction by foreign country and not being able to let the criminal country release the victims? For decades, the victims' families have been waiting for their loved ones to come back home.⁶

If it were a crime inside Japan, it would be Japanese police that rescue them. Outside Japan, it is Japanese government and military that rescue abducted victims detained in foreign country.

However, the Japanese Constitution does not have a clear provision about military even for defense but rather seems to ban to hold it. That is, there is no power in Japan to rescue Japanese innocent citizens detained in foreign countries. Japan is a country which has actually no means at final stage in order to protect lives and properties of its nation under the present Constitution, which contradictory has provisions to protect lives and properties of its nation as a right to live.

To rescue Japanese victims abducted by DPRK and to establish consistency of the provisions of the Constitution, the Japanese Constitution should be amended as soon as possible.

END





<p>1 September 19, 1977 Ushitsu Case Mr. KUME Yutaka (52, Ishikawa Prefecture) Disappeared off the coast of Ushitsu, Ishikawa Prefecture. His whereabouts are unconfirmed. (North Korea denies he entered its territory.)</p> 	<p>6 July 7, 1978 Suspected Abduction Case Involving a Couple Mr. CHIMURA Yasushi (23, Fukui Prefecture) Ms. CHIMURA Fukie (Maiden name Hamamoto) (23, Fukui Prefecture) Disappeared after going out stating that they were going on a date. The couple returned to Japan in October 2002.</p>  
<p>2 October 21, 1977 Suspected Abduction Case Involving a Woman Ms. MATSUMOTO Kyoko (29, Tottori Prefecture) Disappeared on her way to a knitting school close to her home. Her whereabouts are unconfirmed. (North Korea denies she entered its territory.)</p> 	<p>7 July 31, 1978 Suspected Abduction Case Involving a Couple Mr. HASUIKE Kaoru (20, Niigata Prefecture) Ms. HASUIKE Yukiko (Maiden name Okudo) (22, Niigata Prefecture) Mr. HASUIKE Kaoru disappeared after he went out stating that he was going out and would soon be back. Similarly, Ms. OKUDO Yukiko disappeared after going out. The couple returned to Japan in October 2002.</p>  
<p>3 November 15, 1977 Suspected Abduction Case Involving a Girl Ms. YOKOTA Megumi (13, Niigata Prefecture) Disappeared on her way home from school in Niigata city. Her whereabouts are unconfirmed. (North Korea claims she committed suicide.)</p> 	<p>8 August 12, 1978 Suspected Abduction Case Involving a Couple Mr. ICHIKAWA Shulohi (23, Kagoshima Prefecture) Ms. MASUMOTO Rumiko (24, Kagoshima Prefecture) Disappeared after going out, stating that they were going to see the sunset on the beach. Their whereabouts are unconfirmed. (North Korea claims that each of the couple died of a heart attack while swimming in the ocean.)</p>  
<p>4 In or around June 1978 Suspected Abduction Case Involving a Former Restaurant Worker Mr. TANAKA Minoru (28, Hyogo Prefecture) Disappeared after departing Japan for Europe. His whereabouts are unconfirmed. (North Korea denies he entered its territory.)</p> 	<p>5 In or around June 1978 Suspected Abduction Case of Lee Un-Hae Ms. TAGUCHI Yaeko (22, unknown) Her whereabouts are unconfirmed. (North Korea claims she died in a traffic accident.)</p> 


⁶ Japan Forward June 9, 2020 "Shigeru Yokota's Death A Call for PM Abe to Break the Deadlock Over Abductions"

<https://japan-forward.com/editorial-shigeru-yokotas-death-a-call-for-pm-abe-to-break-the-deadlock-over-abductions/>



9 August 12, 1978
Suspected Abduction Case
Involving a Mother and a
Daughter
Ms. SOGA Hitomi
(19, Niigata Prefecture)
Ms. SOGA Miyoshi
(46, Niigata Prefecture)
Disappeared after going out, stating that they were going shopping. Ms. SOGA Hitomi returned to Japan in October 2002. Ms. Miyoshi's whereabouts are unconfirmed. (North Korea denies she entered its territory.)


11 Mid-June 1980
Sin Kwang-Su Case
Mr. HARA Tadaaki
(43, Miyazaki Prefecture)
Disappeared in Miyazaki Prefecture. His whereabouts are unconfirmed. (North Korea claims he died of cirrhosis of the liver.)



10 In or around May 1980
Suspected Abduction Case
Involving Japanese Males in
Europe
Mr. ISHIOKA Toru
(22, Europe)
Mr. MATSUKI Kaoru
(26, Europe)
Both disappeared during their stay in Europe. Their whereabouts are unconfirmed. (North Korea claims that Mr. ISHIOKA has died in a gas accident and that Mr. MATSUKI died in a traffic accident.)

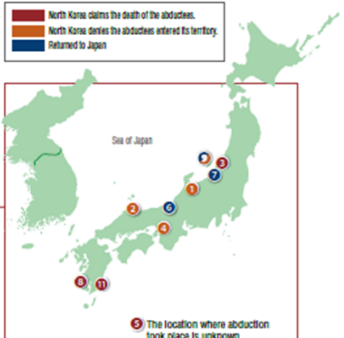



12 In or around July 1983
Suspected Abduction Case
Involving a Japanese Woman in
Europe
Ms. ARIMOTO Keiko
(23, Europe)
Disappeared in Europe. Her whereabouts are unconfirmed. (North Korea claims that she died in a gas accident.)



Locations where abductees disappeared

- North Korea claims the death of the abductees.
- North Korea denies the abductees entered its territory.
- Returned to Japan



⑤ The location where abduction took place is unknown

Abductions of Japanese Citizens by North Korea For Their Immediate Return!⁷
Headquarters for the Abduction Issue, Government of Japan

⁷ <https://www.rachi.go.jp/en/p-en2020.pdf>

調査会認定北朝鮮拉致疑惑特定失踪者 全員救出せよ!

北朝鮮認定特定失踪者
北朝鮮認定疑惑失踪者
警察認定失踪者
*青少年、認定失踪者



とどけ、海を越えて! 北朝鮮向けラジオ放送 しおかぜ

1日2時間半、毎日放送中!

北朝鮮への情報網
・パルンプロジェクト
・FAX送信作戦
・FM放送・動画配信

日本全国スマホで聴ける拉致問題
「たっぴん・ゆみねのオレがやらなや誰がやる!」
動画、特定失踪者・北朝鮮被害者家族の心のケア放送中!

情報をお寄せ下さい

- 上の写真の方々にに関する情報をお持ちの方
- それ以外の不審な失踪をした方についての情報をお持ちの方
- 拉致されそうになった経験のある方
- 日本海側、太平洋側を問わず海軍や海上で不審な人物、船を目撃した方
- その他拉致地域もふくめ北朝鮮に関係すると思われる情報をお持ちの方をお寄せ下さい

カンパ募集中!

お振込先
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*ふるさと納税、ふるさとチョイスでも受付可! 特定失踪者問題調査会

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*拉致被害者、失踪者、不審な失踪者等の心のケア活動に協力いたします。

Poster « Rescue All! Faces of missing Japanese probably related to North Korea »
the Investigation Commission on Missing Japanese Probably Related to DPRK