



HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE

131 Session (01 Mar 2021 - 26 Mar 2021)

Report for the Preparation of the List of Issues prior to reporting
on the 3rd Periodic Report of the Government of
Democratic People's Republic of Korea

December 29th, 2020

Japanese Women for Justice and Peace (JWJP)

President YAMAMOTO Yumiko (Ms.)

Tokyo, JAPAN

URL: <http://nadesiko-action.org>

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.

Abductions of Japanese Citizens by DPRK

1. Relevant article of ICCPR

Article 12

2. Issue

Abductions of Japanese Citizens by DPRK is the case of “Enforced Disappearance” and one of the worst crimes against humanity committed by a state. Japanese government should rescue by whatever means all Japanese victims. At present, 17 people are officially recognized as abductees by the Japanese government. ¹



<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 Shuichi (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> 	

¹ <https://www.rachi.go.jp/en/>

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.)

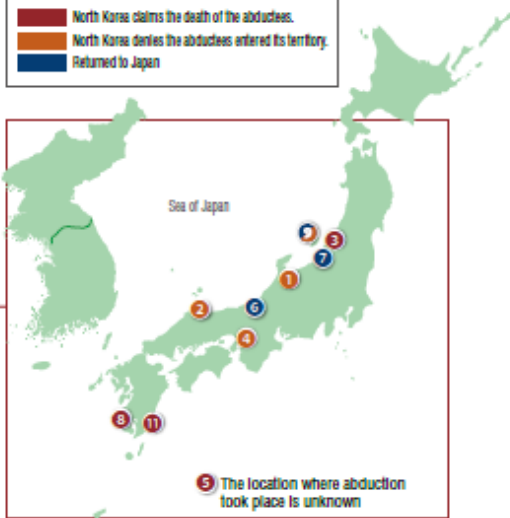
12 In or around July 1983
Suspected Abduction Case
Involving a Japanese Woman in
Europe
Ms. ARIMOTO Kelko
(23, Europe)

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! ²

Headquarters for the Abduction Issue, Government of Japan

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 Korea³, the number of "missing Japanese probably related to North Korea" is approximately 470.⁴ Furthermore, according to the Japanese National Police Agency, the number of missing Japanese possibly abducted by North Korea is 875.⁵

² <https://www.rachi.go.jp/en/p-en2020.pdf>

³ <https://www.chosa-kai.jp/>

⁴ <https://www.chosa-kai.jp/archives/2164>

⁵ <https://www.npa.go.jp/bureau/security/abduct/list.html>

And according to the latest number as of January 2020 in the booklet of Japanese government⁶, there are 878 cases of missing persons in addition to the 17 Japanese abductees.

調査会認定北朝鮮拉致疑惑特定失踪者
全員救出せよ!

この冊子調査会リストには約200人の非公開者が、また警察庁には約680名の拉致疑者が存在する

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岸や海上で不審な人物、船を目撃した方
- その他が活動地域もしくは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

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

⁶ <https://www.rachi.go.jp/en/p-en2020.pdf>

3. Proposed recommendations

We strongly request the CCPR to make the following recommendations.

The DPRK government should:

- 1) Release all the innocent abductees immediately without any conditions
 - 2) Release not only the abducted Japanese citizens but all other abducted victims of other countries, such as Republic of Korea, Thailand, Romania, Lebanon etc.
 - 3) Comply with United Nations Human Rights Code, respect and engage all resolutions of the United Nations related to this crime as a state member of the United Nations
 - 4) Hold immediate consultation with the Japanese government and with the government of the United States of America for immediate return of the abducted victims.
- (The U.S. President Trump and Kim Jong-Un, the Chairman of the State Affairs Commission of North Korea, had three summit meetings. The first summit was held in Singapore on June 12,2018, the second in Hanoi on February 27–28, 2019 and the third in Panmunjom on June 30 ,2019.)

End