

The term "Comfort Women" is a euphemism for sexual slavery during World War II, when Japan invaded its neighboring countries. Japan took approximately 200,000 girls and young women, with the majority from Korea, China, Philippines, Indonesia (then Dutch East Indies), and forced them into sexual servitude for the Japanese soldiers. These women served anywhere from 5-60 soldiers a day resulting in a fatality rate of 87%, compared to 27% of front line Japanese combatant soldiers. Historians state that this is the single largest case of institutionalized sexual exploitation committed by a government entity (Japan) in modern history. Sexual violence and rape against women and children during military conflict are "crimes against humanity." To this day, the Japanese government has not sincerely nor legally issued an official apology to the "Comfort Women."

On December 28, 2015, the foreign ministers of Japan and South Korea reached an "agreement" wherein Japanese Prime Minister Sinzo Abe offered a "sincere apology" through Japanese Foreign Minster Kishida (rather than directly and publicly to the women themselves) and promised to give approximately \$8 million to a foundation to be established by the South Korean government, for the "benefit" of the former "Comfort Women" of South Korea ON THE CONDITION that the "Comfort Woman" statue in front of Japanese embassy in Seoul be removed and the South Korean government never again raise the issue of the 'Comfort Women."

"위안부"라는 용어는 일본이 이웃 국가들은 침략했을 당시 2차대전중에 일어났던 성노예제도를 미화하여 일컫는 말입니다. 일본은 약 20만명의 소녀와 여성들의 대부분을 조선, 중국, 필리핀, 인도네시아(당시 네덜란드령)에서 끌고가 일본 군인들을 위한 성노예로 만들었습니다. 이 여성들은 하루에 5-60명의 군인들을 상대해야 했던 결과, 전장에서 일본 전투병들의 사망률이 27%였던 데 반해, 이들 여성의 사망률은 87%에 달했습니다. 역사가들은 근대 역사를 통틀어, 정부(일본)가 저지른 성착취 제도로는 유일무이하게 가장 큰 규모의 사건이었다고 말합니다. 전쟁중 여성과 아이들을 상대로 행해지는 성폭행 및 강간은 "반인륜 범죄"에 속합니다. 오늘까지도 일본 정부는 "위안부" 피해자들에게 진정한, 법적 공식성을 띠는 정부차원의 사죄를 하지 않고 있습니다.

2015년 12월28일 한국과 일본의 외교장관들은, 아베신조 일본총리가 (피해자들에게 직접 공개적인 사과를 하는 대신) 일본 기시다 외무상을 통해 "진정한 사과"를 하고, 그 대신 서울 일본 대사관 앞에 있는 소녀상을 철거하고, 한국 정부가 다시는 '위안부' 문제를 거론하지 않는다는 조건으로, 한국 정부가 세우기로 한 재단에 약 8백만달러를 출자하기로 합의했습니다. hoto of "Comfort Women." Some as young as



The "Comfort Women" in South Korea decried this agreement as a sell out by the South Korean government. Prominent "Comfort Woman" Grandma Lee stated, "This agreement seems to have been made without having the victims in mind. I dismiss it in its entirety." In light of the unfair bilateral agreement between the two foreign ministers of Japan and South Korea requiring the South Korean government to never mention the issue of "Comfort Women" again and remove its "Comfort Women" memorial, it is now more imperative to ensure that the "Comfort Women" Memorial in San Francisco be built and installed.

This memorial is a grassroots effort initiated by the "Rape of Nanjing Redress Coalition (RNRC) and supported by the "Comfort Women Justice Coalition" (CWJC) to remember history and to pay tribute to the courage of the "Comfort Women" who broke their silence in 1991. The grandmothers (as they are dearly called) - the former "Comfort Women" of the Japanese military - exemplify the universal sufferings of women and men who are victims of sexual exploitation. We need to insure these crimes against humanity never happen again!

한국의 '위안부' 할머니들은, 이 합의가 한국정부의 배신이라며 분노했습니다. 이용수 할머니는, "이 합의는 피해자를 생각하고 만든합의가 아닙니다. 전부 무시하겠어요"라고 말씀하셨습니다. 한국 정부가다시는 '위안부' 문제를 거론해서는 안된다는 것과 위안부 소녀상을 조건으로 내건 불공평한 양자합의였다는 점을 고려할 때, 샌프란시스코에위안부' 기림비를 만들고 설치하는 것은 그 어느때보다 중요하게되었습니다.

이 기림비는 역사를 기억하고, 1991년 침묵을 깬 '위안부' 피해자들의 용기에 경의를 표하기 위해 "난징대학살 보상촉구연대"(RNRC)가 발의하고 "위안부정의연대"(CWJC)가 지원하는 풀뿌리 운동입니다.



9/22/

FILE NO. 150764

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RESOLUTION NO. 342-15

[Urging the Establishment of a Memorial for "Comfort Women"]

Resolution urging the City and County of San Francisco to establish a memorial for "Comfort Women" and to educate the community about stopping global human trafficking of women and girls.

WHEREAS, According to most international historians, the term "comfort women" euphemistically refers to an estimated 200,000 women and young girls who were kidnapped

therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That appropriate City and County agencies will work with the community organizations to design and establish the memorial; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco during the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II expresses its strong support of creating a public memorial in memory of those girls and women who suffered immeasurable pain and humiliation as sex slaves and as a sacred place for remembrance, reflection, remorsefulness, and atonement for generations to come.

September 22, 2015 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED AS AMENDED

Ayes: 11 - Avalos, Breed, Campos, Christensen, Cohen, Farrell, Kim, Mar, Tang, Wiener and Yee

File No. 150764

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED AS AMENDED on 9/22/2015 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

