

Correcting the Erroneous Historical Awareness of the Abe Administration

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1. The denial of status as an invader by the Abe administration

- Prime Minister Abe: “**The definition of invasion has not been internationally or academically determined yet.**”(April 2013)
- Denial of the aggressive war by Japan-> “Japan is a nation that carried out a **liberation war** to liberate Asia from western control. It simply became branded as an invader and war criminal because it **lost the war.**”

- However, there is an international agreement on the 'definition of invasion.'
- The "<regulations> of the **International Criminal Tribunal**" under UN in 2010.
- "An invading act means the **use of armed force by a nation regarding the political independence, territory preservation, or sovereignty of another nation, or use of armed force** by all other methods that is not compatible with the UN charter."
- Is Abe Shinzo ignorant, or did he make an intentional statement?

2. Denial of Class A War Criminals

- View of the right wing of Japan regarding Class A war criminals
- The 14 people that were classified as Class A war criminals by the International Military Tribunal for the Far East (=Tokyo Trial) conducted from 1946 to 1948 became war criminals by the **political show of the allied powers**.
- There is no legal term for 'war criminal' in Japan, thus, all were classified as **death by judicial decision**, and all families of the deceased have received pensions.
- Class A war criminal means **those who were unfairly sacrificed by the political show** of the allied powers.

- However, Japan became independent by accepting the results of the war crimes trial. Article 11 of the San Francisco Peace Treaty states that, 'Japan accepts the judgments of the International Military Tribunal for the Far East and of other Allied War Crimes Courts both within and outside Japan.'
- The historical truth is that Japan had accepted the Tokyo Trial in order to symbolically succeed the emperor system.
- If Japan had not accepted the results of the Tokyo Trial, the allied powers would have had strongly voiced their opinions on abolishing Japan's emperor system.

3. Justification of Worshipping at Yasukuni Shrine



Yasukuni Shrine, which is located at Kudan of Tokyo

- **Yasukuni Shrine, which is the symbol of Japanese militarism, enshrines only the soldiers of Japan** who died during domestic or overseas wars during the process of carrying out the Meiji Restoration.
- **The Abe administration is promoting the worshipping** by claiming that 'it is a natural act for a Japanese to worship and honor the spirits of those who sacrificed their lives for the nation,' and Prime Minister Abe himself visited and worshipped at the end of December 2013.

* The danger of
Yasukuni Shrine

- **Yasukuni Shrine was a shrine established to fulfill the war and to enhance the fighting spirit** in order to prevent the morale of the public and army from falling when soldiers died during the Pacific War.
- Because of such aggressive behavior, even **the allied powers considered the incineration of Yasukuni Shrine.**



- The essential problem of Yasukuni Shrine is in its religious ceremony. A memorial ceremony is conducted by invoking the spirits of those who died during wars up to the Pacific War at Yasukuni Shrine. Then, the Japanese emperor or a proxy takes charge of the ceremony and performs an enlightenment ceremony.



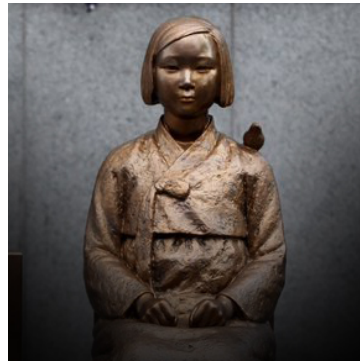
- Enlightenment at Yasukuni Shrine means the act of justifying and glamorizing the acts of the war dead performed during their lives.
- Thus, they elevate the spirits of the war dead into a 'god protecting Japan' after pleasing the spirits, by declaring that all acts by the war dead during their lives are praiseworthy and great, and that the current prosperity of Japan was made available through their great acts and sacrifice.

- In such act, there is **no apology or self-reflection regarding people of other nations sacrificed by the invasion** and colonization by Japan nor any self-reflection regarding the war at all.
- The desire to resurrect Japanese by positively viewing its history is contained in the acts of worshipping at Yasukuni Shrine by the prime minister or cabinet members.



4. Denial of Forcefulness in the Comfort Women Issue

- 'Comfort women have not been compulsorily mobilized.'
- 'The **Kono Statement of 1993**, which acknowledged the compulsory character in the mobilization of comfort women, **must be verified**.'
- The Kono Statement acknowledged that '**the former Japanese military was deeply involved in the mobilization of comfort women, and there were many women from Joseon who became comfort women against their will**.'



* Rebuttal to Japan's Claims

- The '**compulsory character**' denied by Japan refers to the **abduction or kidnapping through direct violence**.
- The compulsory character acknowledged by the 'Kono Statement' is the part stating that, 'there were women that became comfort women **against their will**, thus, women who were **taken to comfort facilities by deceit**.'
- However, Japan claims that even if there were women who were taken to comfort facilities by deceit, such deceiving acts were conducted by **private companies**, and **not by the military or the nation**.

- 1) The principal agent that selected the private companies is the former Japanese military.
- 2) The former Japanese military loaded women onto a warship and transported them to the local areas.
- 3) Most of the comfort facilities were operated by the military, and the women had no freedom to cease the business.
- 4) The Kono Statement of 1993 was sufficiently verified through the 'Kumaraswamy Report' announced by the UN Human Rights Council in 1996.
- 5) The 'McDougall Report', announced by the UN Human Rights Council in 1998, sufficiently explains the legal responsibility of the Japanese government.

5. Exercise of Collective Defense Rights and Possession of Military

- Japan lost the war with the United States during the Pacific War and became disgraced by being named as an invader and war criminal nation.
- However, if Japan could restore the Japanese military in the future and participate in wars along with the United States, Japan would win all wars it participates in and be able to wash away its dishonor and inferiority as a past invader, by becoming a victorious nation winning all wars.



- 1) Constitution revision→ Focus is on revising Article 9 of the Constitution (renunciation of war, prohibition on possessing warfare methods).→ Objective is to elevate the self-defense force into a national defense force.
- (2) Change or interpretation of collective defense right→ A right to help an ally when an ally is attacked, without revising the Constitution→ Attempt to change the interpretation regarding the Constitution of Japan.
- Position of Korea: It is difficult to accept Japan's claim since there is a possibility that the self defense force may land on the Korean peninsula during an emergency situation in Korea when Japan is not yet apologizing for the past violence of the former Japanese military (Manchurian Incident, Sino-Japanese War, etc.) that occurred by ignoring the order of the central government. Meticulous tuning between Korea, the United States, and Japan is necessary.

6. Abe's Ideological Tradition

- 1) Choshu-han and Yasukuni Shrine
- The central force of Meiji Restoration= Choshu-han and Satsuma-han. (current Yamaguchi Prefecture and Kagoshima Prefecture)
- The force that realized the centralized state by establishing a nation centering around the emperor, by overthrowing the Samurai way.
- Their ideological center=Yoshida Shoin of Choshu.
- Yoshida Shoin was a master of military science of Choshu-han, however, promoted the theory of invading into foreign countries by compiling Confucianism, Western learning, and domestic literature based on military science.

- Prime Minister Abe declared that **he respects Yoshida Shoin, the ideologist of Choshu-han at the end of Edo Shogunate, and worshipped the Shoin Shrine located at Hagi of Yamaguchi Prefecture.**



Yoshida Shoin: 1830-1859, an ideologist of Choshu-han that advocated invasion into Asia by compiling military science, Confucianism, Western learning, and domestic literature.



**Shoin Shrine located at
Hagi, Yamaguchi Prefecture
(worshipped by Abe Shinzo)**

**Abe Shinzo,
worshipping at the
grave of Shoin
(August 16th, 2013)**



*** Choshu Pupils of Yoshida Shoin**



**Kido Takayoshi
(leader of the Ganghwado incident)**



**Ito Hirobumi
(main proponent of Korea invasion)**



Viscount Miura Goro
(leader of the assassination of
Empress Myeongseong)



Yamagata Aritomo
(founder of the modern
Japanese army)



Terauchi Masaki (The third
superintendent of Korea and
first governor-general of Korea,
who promoted the Japanese
annexation of Korea and
suppressed Korea through a
military government)



Hasegawa Yoshimichi (The
second governor-general of
Korea who forced the
Protectorate Treaty between
Korea and Japan of 1905 and
took charge of suppressing the
1919 Independence Movement)

* The No. 1 pupil of Yoshida Shoin -Takasugi Shinsaku

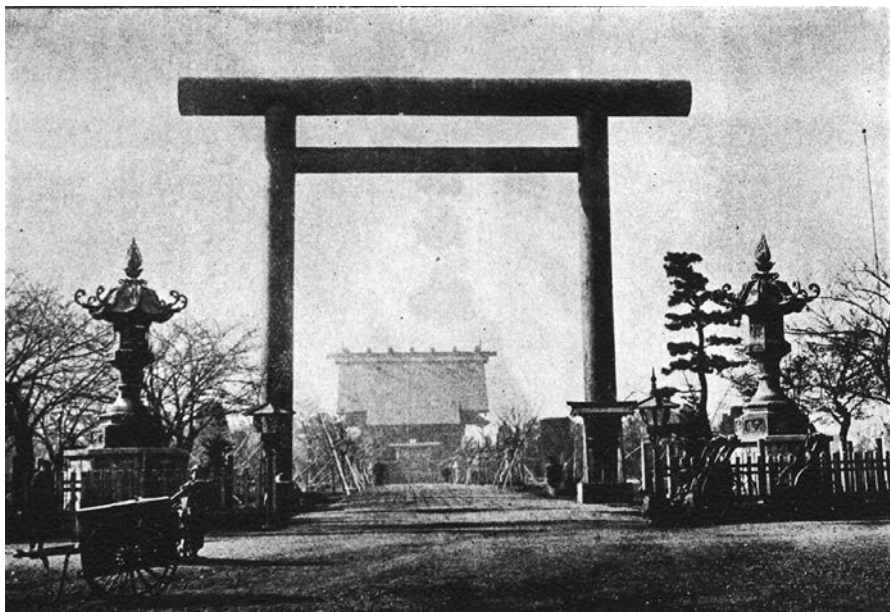


- Takasugi Shinsaku was the favorite pupil of Yoshida Shoin, who directed the **cavalry**, which became the basis of the modern Japanese military, and led to the overthrowing of the Shogunate.
- He played a central role in establishing **places that invited the spirits of the dead, carrying out spirit appeasement ceremonies and enlightenment ceremonies**, in 16 places of Choshu-han in order to honor the spirits of the soldiers of Choshu-han that died while fighting the Shogunate.
- The "Shin" from Abe Shinzo was taken from the name of Takasugi Shinsaku.



Sakurayama Shrine established at Shimonoseki, Choshu at the end of the Shogunate.

- After Choshu-han and Satsuma-han established the Meiji government, they established places to invite spirits of the dead at Choshu-han in Tokyo, and **established the Tokyo Shokonsha in 1869**. After 10 years, **Tokyo Shokonsha was renamed as Yasukuni Shrine**.



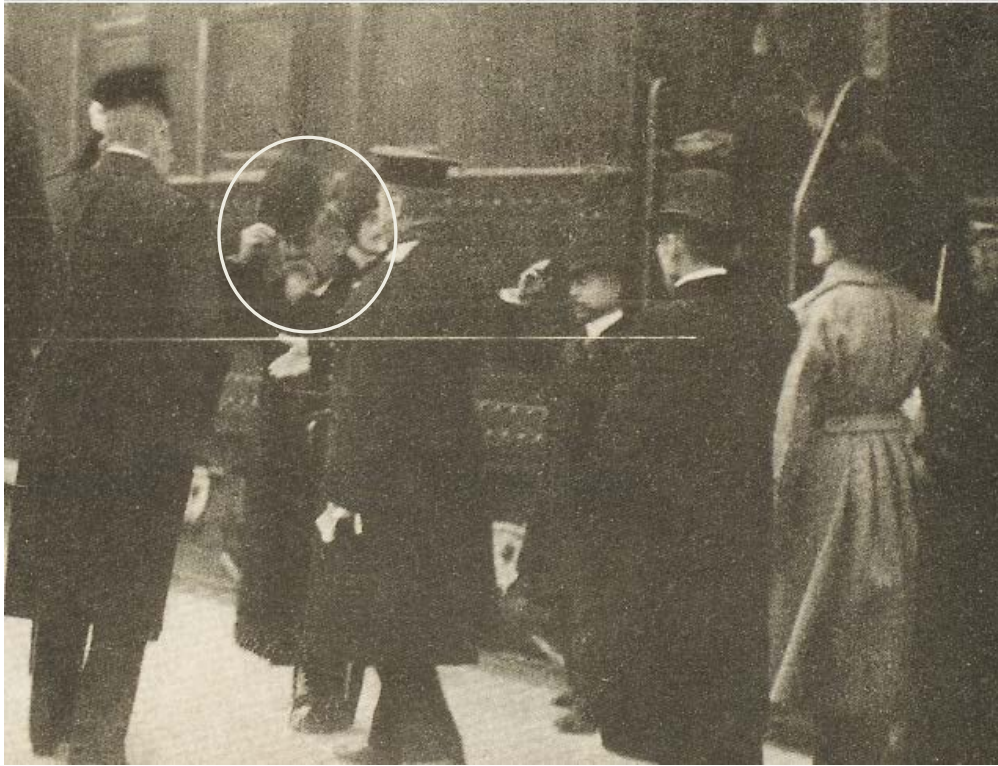
Tokyo Shokonsha during the early period of the Meiji era

- 2) Kishi Nobusuke, a Class A War Criminal and Former Prime Minister (maternal grandfather)
- There is **no category of 'war criminal'** under Japanese law. Although **Kishi Nobusuke**, the maternal grandfather of Abe Shinzo, **was a Class A war criminal**, he was released after being approved of his contribution in overthrowing the Tojo Hideki cabinet. Afterwards, he became the **prime minister of Japan**.
- The creed of Kishi Nobusuke was the **revision of the Constitution**.
- The denial of Class A war criminals and promotion of revising the Constitution by Abe Shinzo is due to the influence of his maternal grandfather.



7. The Persistent Terrorist Theory regarding Ahn Jung-geun

- The Japanese government, repeats the **'terrorist theory regarding Ahn Jung-geun,' by denouncing him, who shot Ito Hirobumi**, an important figure of the hometown of Abe, thus further earning his respect.
- The allegation by the Japanese government equals a **'thief criticizing the police.'**
- Their statements, which cannot even be accepted as a historically accurate reflection, reveals **their Hitler-like thinking method, that power will allow to distort even past history.**



**Ito Hirobumi (Harbin Station), immediately before
Patriot Ahn Jung-geun**



- In February 1904, the Japanese military, which occupied Seoul at the same time as starting the Russo-Japanese War, deprived Korea of its diplomatic rights by forcing the Japan-Korea Treaty of 1904 and the Protectorate Treaty between Korea and Japan of 1905.
- Gojong, who sought to inform the world of such truths, dispatched three secret envoys, including Jun Lee, to the Hague Peace Conference in March 1907, however, their entry into the conference room was rejected.
- The Japanese, which felt threatened by the secret envoy activities by Gojong, **abdicated Gojong through Ito Hirobumi by the decision of the Saionji cabinet at the time and dispersed the Korean army in July 1907.**
- **Then, the Japanese deprived Korea of its decision power of internal affairs by forcing the Japan-Korea Annexation Treaty of 1907. The person who led the activities was Ito Hirobumi.**
- **Ito Hirobumi, the superintendent of Korea, and the Japanese empire at the time were the terrorists, while Ahn Jung-geun, who punished Ito Hirobumi, the main culprit of invasion, was a patriot of Korea and a hero of the East.**
- Punishing the invaders was a natural act of combat by the Korean army and independence army.
- **The Abe administration, which is the descendant of Japan, a collective terrorist, must cease their statements.**

8. The Dokdo Policy by the Abe Administration

- **The commitment by Abe Shinzo** before the election of the House of Representatives in December 2012
- (1) I will protest against Korea with the spirit of **reclaiming Dokdo**.
- (2) I will elevate the 'Takeshima Day' in to a **national event**, to have a grand-scale celebration in **Tokyo**.
- In conclusion, the **objective of the Abe administration** is
- to arrange to **resolve the Dokdo issue by the ICJ (International Court of Justice)**, through a peaceful method.
- ICJ→ A trial will not be allowed if **refused by Korea** (in principle). Japan's Dokdo strategy is to **politically destroy** this principle.
 - **Effectively conduct promotional activities towards major institutions and key personnel of countries with huge influence, such as the United States**, with specific evidentiary materials and logic that Dokdo is a territory of Japan → Make them believe that Dokdo is a territory of Japan → Make then **announce an official view** that Dokdo is a territory of Japan. (the method of resolving the case by the U.S. Board on Geographic Names in July 2008)

9. The Ultimate Goal of the Abe Administration

- Ultimate goal: **Constitution revision and approval of mobilization of collective self defense, at the minimum.**
- Their absurd remarks are a method to achieve a goal. A tool for **educating the public towards a conservative shift.** The provocation regarding Dokdo and China is a means to make aware of the necessity of a formal military to the public.
- The absurd remarks stating that the Japanese military was not an invader or the denial of the comfort women issue are educational means to achieve **50% of the referendum necessary for revising the Constitution.**