



## Redemption of Past Is Legal, Moral Obligation of Japan

Pyongyang, April 1 (KCNA) -- A spokesman for the Association of Korean Victims of Forcible Drafting and Their Bereaved Families made public a statement on Sunday on the elapse of 80 years since the Japanese imperialists fabricated and proclaimed the criminal "National Mobilization Law".

The spokesman said that the Japanese reactionary ruling circles obsessed with the ambition for overseas invasion made public the above-said fascist law on April 1, 1938 to make up for human and material resources needed for the expansion of war and severely clamped down on the Korean people.

## He went on:

The Japanese imperialists took the Korean people to battlefields for war of aggression, forced labor and disgraceful sex slavery and inflicted pain and death upon them.

These atrocities against mankind can never be pardoned as they are the hideous human rights abuses unprecedented in history.

Nevertheless, the Japanese authorities and right-wing reactionaries force the history textbook full of embellishment and falsity to be used for education,

claiming that there was no the forcible drafting of Koreans and in those days it was a "legal" in those days.

Worse still, they are taking the lead in crying out for the sanctions and pressure upon the DPRK in the international arena, not content with slandering the DPRK, the biggest victim, and are laying bare an attempt for reinvasion of the Korean peninsula while positively joining in the reckless U.S. military exercises against the DPRK.

What should not be overlooked is that they are severely infringing upon the democratic national rights and right to existence of the victims of forcible drafting and Korean citizens in Japan, their descendants.

Behind the Japanese reactionaries' vicious moves against the DPRK and the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongryon) is a sinister aim to divert elsewhere the spearhead of bitter denunciation of the international community for their evading liquidation of past and, furthermore, to bury in oblivion the blood-stained past and carry out their old dream of the "Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere" by doubling the efforts for a military giant.

The liquidation of past is Japan's legal and moral obligation and historic task.

The Japanese authorities should immediately stop the anachronistic hostile policy toward the DPRK and all human rights abuses against Koreans in Japan and thoroughly make an apology and reparation for the victims and their bereaved families as early as possible.