

# 全ての拉致被害者の帰国を目指す！

北朝鮮による日本人拉致問題について、日本政府は17名を拉致被害者として認定していますが、さらにこのほかにも拉致の可能性を排除できないケースがあります。

2002年9月に北朝鮮は日本人拉致を初めて認め、翌月、5名の拉致被害者が帰国しましたが、そのほかの被害者については、いまだ北朝鮮から安否に関する納得のいく説明はありません。

拉致問題は我が国の主権及び国民の生命と安全に関わる重大な問題です。拉致問題の解決なくして北朝鮮との国交正常化はあり得ないとの方針を堅持し、拉致認定の有無にかかわらず、全ての拉致被害者の安全確保及び即時帰国のために全力を尽くします。

## 政府認定拉致被害者

日本政府は拉致被害者として、次の12件17名を認定しています。



写真提供：北朝鮮に拉致された日本人を救出するための全国協議会













## 拉致の可能性を排除できない事案

日本政府は、北朝鮮当局によって拉致された日本国民として認定された人以外にも、北朝鮮によって拉致された可能性を排除できない人が存在しているとの認識の下、関係省庁・関係機関が緊密に連携を図りつつ、国内外からの情報収集や関連する捜査・調査を強力に推し進めるなど、全力で真相究明に努めています。

# Abductions of Japanese Citizens by North Korea

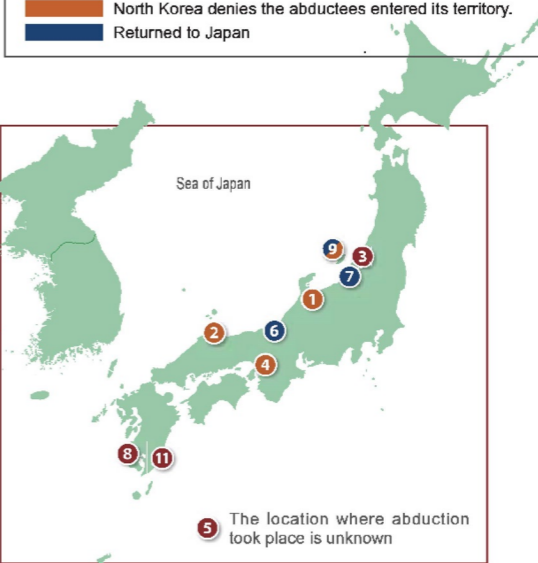
The abductions of Japanese citizens by North Korea have robbed the victims and their families of their loved ones and their lives. This issue has yet to be resolved, despite government's initiatives over the years to rescue them and clarify the full extent of the abductions and despite the intense efforts by their families. The abductees and their families are aging. The abductions issue is a humanitarian and time-sensitive issue with no time to spare. The Government of Japan (GoJ) will do its utmost to achieve the immediate return of all abductees.

## 17 Abductees Identified by the Government of Japan

<p><b>1</b> September 19, 1977 Ushitsu Case <b>Mr. KUME Yutaka</b> (52, Ishikawa Prefecture) Disappeared off the coast of Ushitsu, Ishikawa Prefecture. His whereabouts are unconfirmed. (North Korea denies he entered its territory.)</p> 	<p><b>6</b> July 7, 1978 Suspected Abduction Case Involving a Couple <b>Mr. CHIMURA Yasushi</b> (23, Fukui Prefecture) <b>Ms. CHIMURA Fukie</b> (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><b>9</b> August 12, 1978 Suspected Abduction Case Involving a Mother and a Daughter <b>Ms. SOGA Hitomi</b> (19, Niigata Prefecture) <b>Ms. SOGA Miyoshi</b> (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.)</p>  	<p><b>11</b> Mid-June 1980 Sin Kwang-Su Case <b>Mr. HARA Tadaaki</b> (43, Miyazaki Prefecture) Disappeared in Miyazaki Prefecture. His whereabouts are unconfirmed. (North Korea claims he died of cirrhosis of the liver.)</p> 
<p><b>2</b> October 21, 1977 Suspected Abduction Case Involving a Woman <b>Ms. MATSUMOTO Kyoko</b> (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><b>7</b> July 31, 1978 Suspected Abduction Case Involving a Couple <b>Mr. HASUIKE Kaoru</b> (20, Niigata Prefecture) <b>Ms. HASUIKE Yukiko</b> (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><b>10</b> In or around May 1980 Suspected Abduction Case Involving Japanese Males in Europe <b>Mr. ISHIOKA Toru</b> (22, Europe) <b>Mr. MATSUKI Kaoru</b> (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.)</p>  	<p><b>12</b> In or around July 1983 Suspected Abduction Case Involving a Japanese Woman in Europe <b>Ms. ARIMOTO Keiko</b> (23, Europe) Disappeared in Europe. Her whereabouts are unconfirmed. (North Korea claims that she died in a gas accident.)</p> 

**Locations where abductees disappeared**

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



## Cases of Missing Persons in Which the Possibility of Abduction by North Korea Cannot be Ruled Out

With the recognition that, in addition to the 17 Japanese citizens already identified as having been abducted by North Korea, there are other cases in which the possibility of abduction by North Korea cannot be ruled out, the GoJ has been conducting information gathering and investigation activities both in Japan and overseas while maintaining close cooperation among the relevant ministries and agencies in every possible effort to solve the matter.

## Q 1

拉致問題って何ですか？

## A 1

- 行方不明事案に対する当局の捜査や、亡命北朝鮮工作員の証言によって、北朝鮮による拉致の疑いが濃厚である複数の事案が明らかになってきたことを受けて、1991年以来、政府は、機会あるごとに北朝鮮に対して拉致問題を提起しました。
- 北朝鮮は頑なに否定し続けましたが、2002年9月、金正日（キム・ジョンイル）国防委員長は、小泉総理との会談において、初めて日本人拉致を認め、謝罪しました。しかし、拉致された日本人のうち、日本に帰国できたのは5名にとどまっています。
- 5名以外の拉致被害者についても、政府は、その速やかな帰国を、北朝鮮に対して強く要求するとともに、いわゆる特定失踪者も含め北朝鮮による拉致の可能性を排除できない事案に係る関連情報の提供についても、繰り返し要求してきています。

## Q1

What is the abductions issue?

## A1

Since 1991, the Government of Japan (GoJ) has raised the abductions issue by North Korea at every possible opportunity, as the authorities' investigation into missing Japanese citizens cases and testimonies of defecting North Korean agents have revealed several strongly suspected cases of abductions by North Korea.

North Korea had stubbornly kept denying for quite some time that it had abducted Japanese citizens. At the Japan-North Korea Summit Meeting held in September 2002, however, North Korea's leader Kim Jong-Il, then Chairman of the National Defense Commission, admitted the abduction of Japanese people for the first time and apologized to then Prime Minister Koizumi Junichiro. But only five of the abductees have returned to Japan.

In addition to the five abductees, the GoJ has strongly demanded North Korea to promptly return the abductees to Japan, and also has repeatedly requested North Korea the provision of relevant information on cases in which the possibility of abduction by North Korea cannot be ruled out, including cases involving so-called "unidentified missing Japanese probably related to North Korea."

## Q2

なぜ北朝鮮は日本人を拉致したのですか？

## A2

拉致に関する真相が必ずしも明らかになっていくわけではないので、現時点で確定的なことはいえませんが、北朝鮮が拉致という未曾有の国家的犯罪行為を行った背景には、工作人員による日本人への身分の偽装、工作人員を日本人に仕立てるための教育係としての利用、北朝鮮に匿われている「よど号」グループ（注）による人材獲得、といった理由があったとみられています。

（注）昭和45年3月31日、日本航空351便（通称「よど号」）をハイジャックした犯人とその家族等の総称。

## A2

The full truth behind the abductions remains purposefully unclear, so nothing can be said definitively at this point. However, it is deemed that North Korea committed these abductions, which are unprecedented crimes sponsored by the North Korean government, for the following reasons:

## Q2

Why did North Korea abduct Japanese people?

- 1) disguising North Korean agents as Japanese citizens;
- 2) forcing abductees to train North Korean agents to act as Japanese;
- 3) recruitment by the “Yodo-go” group\*, which is still being harbored in North Korea.

\*(Note)

An inclusive term for the hijackers who hijacked Japan Airlines Flight 351 (commonly known as the “Yodo-go”) on March 31, 1970, and their family members.

## A 3

- これまで北朝鮮は、拉致被害者のうち生存している者は全て日本に帰国させた、残りの拉致被害者は「死亡」又は「入境せず」とし、したがって拉致問題は「解決」したと主張してきました。
- しかし、北朝鮮が「死亡」と説明する根拠は極めて不自然で、全く納得のいくものではありませんでした。
- 2014年5月の日朝政府間協議の合意では、北朝鮮側は、「従来の立場はあるものの」全ての日本人に関する調査を包括的かつ全面的に実施し、最終的に、拉致問題をはじめとする日本人に関する全ての問題を解決する意思を示したところであり、政府としては、引き続き、北朝鮮に対してストックホルム合意の履行を求めつつ、全ての拉致被害者の帰国に向けて全力を尽くしていきます。

## Q 3

北朝鮮は拉致問題を「解決済み」と主張していますが、それは嘘ですか？

### Q3

Is North Korea making a false statement in claiming that the abductions issue “has already been resolved”?

### A3

North Korea has been claiming that it has already returned all the surviving abductees and that the remaining abductees have either died or never entered its territory, and hence that the abductions issue has already been resolved.

North Korea, however, has only provided extremely unnatural and thoroughly unconvincing evidence of the “death” of abductees.

During the Japan-North Korea Intergovernmental Consultations held in May 2014, “despite its previous position”, North Korea made a commitment to conducting comprehensive and full-scale investigations on all Japanese nationals, including the abductees, then expressed its intention to resolve all related issues. The GoJ will continue to do everything in its power to realize the return of all the abductees.

## Q4

日本には、拉致被害者は何人いるのですか？

## A4

- 政府が、北朝鮮による拉致被害者として認定したのは17名です。このうち5名は、既に帰国を果たしましたが、残りの12名については帰国できていないままです。
- また、朝鮮籍の幼児2名が日本国内で拉致されたことも明らかになっています。
- このほかにも、拉致の可能性を排除できない方々も多くおられ（※）、政府は、認定の有無にかかわらず全ての拉致被害者を一刻も早く帰国させるように、強く求めています。

(注) 北朝鮮による拉致の可能性を排除できない方として、871名(2024年1月現在)に関して国内外からの情報収集や捜査・調査を続けています。

#### Q4

How many Japanese people were abducted by North Korea?

#### A4

17 are identified by the GoJ as victims of abduction by North Korea. Of those, five have returned to Japan, but 12 abductees still have not returned home.

In addition, it has also been revealed that two young Korean domicile children were abducted from Japan.

Moreover, there are many other missing Japanese people for whom the possibility of abduction cannot be ruled out\*. The GoJ has been urging North Korea to return all the abductees, regardless of whether they are officially identified as such, back to Japan immediately.

\*(Note)

The GoJ is continuing information gathering, investigations and inquiries both in Japan and overseas about the missing 871 persons (as of January 2024) for whom the possibility of abduction cannot be ruled out.

## Q5

北朝鮮は拉致を認めたのに、どうしてまだ帰国できない人がいるのですか？

## A5

- 拉致被害者が日本に帰国することにより、スパイ活動やテロ行為への関与など、北朝鮮にとって不都合なことが明らかになることを恐れているためと考えられています。
- 例えば、金賢姫（キム・ヒョンヒ）北朝鮮元工作員（スパイ）は、1987年11月、日本人になりすまして韓国の航空機を爆破しました。金賢姫元工作員は、拉致被害者（田口八重子さん）から日本語の教育を受けたと証言しています。
- しかし、北朝鮮はこの事件への関与をいまだ認めておらず、事実が明らかになることを恐れて田口さんを帰国させていないと言われています。

## Q5

Why are there abductees who cannot come back to Japan although North Korea has admitted their abduction?

## A5

It is suspected that North Korea considers it risky that inconvenient facts about the country such as committing espionage and terrorist activities will be revealed by returning the abductees to Japan.

For instance, former North Korean agent Kim Hyon-Hui passed herself as Japanese and blew up an airplane of the ROK in November 1987.

Kim Hyon-Hui gave testimony that she learned Japanese from an abductee (Ms. TAGUCHI Yaeko).

In the meantime, North Korea has not admitted to having been involved in this incident, and has not returned Ms. Taguchi back to Japan for fear that the truth will be revealed if she returns.

## Q6

拉致問題の解決のために、日本政府はどのようなことをしていますか。

## A6

- 我が国は、北朝鮮に対して拉致問題の解決に向けて行動するよう強く要求してきており、例えば、北朝鮮との間の輸出入を禁止するなど、様々な対北朝鮮措置を講じています。
- また、二国間会談や国際会議の機会を利用し、各国に対し、理解と協力を求めてきています。
- そして、拉致被害者に関する情報収集を行っています。加えて、拉致の可能性を排除できない方々の捜査・調査を行っています。

## Q6

What actions is the GoJ taking to resolve the abductions issue?

## A6

The GoJ has been strongly demanding North Korea to take actions to resolve the abductions issue, and implementing various measures on North Korea such as bans on imports from and exports to North Korea.

By taking the opportunities of bilateral talks and international conferences, the GoJ is seeking the understanding and cooperation of other countries on the abductions issue.

In addition, the GoJ is gathering information on the abductees, and conducting investigations and inquiries about the missing Japanese people for whom the possibility of abduction cannot be ruled out.

## Q7

日本政府は、拉致問題を解決するために、北朝鮮に対してどのような交渉方針で臨んでいるのですか？

## A7

- 政府の対北朝鮮政策の方針は、日朝平壤宣言に則って、拉致、核、ミサイルといった諸懸案を包括的に解決するというものです。
- 拉致問題の解決に向けた今後の対応については、引き続き、北朝鮮に対してストックホルム合意の履行を求めつつ、あらゆる施策を講じ、全ての拉致被害者の一日も早い帰国の実現を目指す考えです。

## Q7

What kind of negotiation policy is the GoJ following against North Korea in order to resolve the abductions issue?

## A7

In accordance with the Japan-DPRK Pyongyang Declaration, the GoJ's policy towards North Korea is the comprehensive resolution of the outstanding issues of concern such as the abductions, nuclear and missile issues.

As regards the GoJ's future efforts to resolve the abductions issue, the GoJ intends to continue to demand North Korea to fulfill the Stockholm Agreement and will take every measure to achieve the immediate return of all abductees.

## Q8

拉致問題を国際社会はどのようにみているのでしょうか。

## A8

- 2014年2月に公表された「北朝鮮における人権に関する国連調査委員会(COI)」の最終報告書では、北朝鮮による拉致事案の被害者の出身国は、日本以外にも、韓国、レバノン、タイ、マレーシア、シンガポール、ルーマニア、フランス、イタリア、オランダ、中国といった諸国に及ぶとされています。
- 拉致問題は、被害者がいる国、いない国を問わず、国際的に追及すべき人権問題であり、2014年12月、国連総会において、上記COI報告書の内容を踏まえた決議が賛成多数で採択され、国連総会及び人権理事会では、毎年、北朝鮮人権状況決議が採択されていることから明らかであるとおり、国際社会は北朝鮮に対し、拉致問題の早急な解決を要求しています。

## Q8

How does the international community see the abductions issue?

## A8

According to the final report published by the Commission of Inquiry (COI) on Human Rights in the DPRK in February 2014, victims of abduction by North Korea are not only from Japan but also from other countries including the ROK, Lebanon, Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Romania, France, Italy, the Netherlands, and China.

The abductions issue is a human rights issue that should be raised by countries around the world, regardless of whether their people have been abducted. The international community demands that North Korea resolve the abductions issue immediately, as is evident from the adoption, by majority vote, of a resolution based on the report by the COI at the UN General Assembly in December 2014 and the annual adoptions of Resolutions on the Situation of Human Rights in the DPRK by the UN General Assembly and the Human Rights Council.



令和7年（2025年）6月26日

日本政府は、米国、オーストラリア、韓国及びEUと共催し、拉致被害者御家族等出席の下、拉致問題に関するオンライン国連シンポジウムを開催しました。  
動画はこちら



June 26, 2025

The Online Symposium in the UN on the Abductions Issue was held, co-hosted by Australia, Japan, Republic of Korea, the US, and the EU, with the attendance of the families of victims.

Scan here to watch the video





令和7年（2025年）7月1日  
国連のエリサベス・サルモン北朝鮮  
人権状況特別報告者が拉致被害者御家  
族と面会しました。

**July 1, 2025**

Ms. Elizabeth Salmón, the UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the DPRK met with the families of abductees.

