

# **Criminal charges against the MEXT**

**(Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports,  
Science and Technology)**

March 30 , 2025

The Family Federation for World Peace and  
Unification (Family Federation)  
Believer Hiroshi Ogasawara  
Attorney : Shinichi Tokunaga

# 1. Request for Dissolution Order against Family Federation

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## (1) Petition for dissolution of Family Federation by MEXT

**Religious Corporations Act Article 81.1.1**  
To have committed an act that is deemed to be significantly harmful to the public welfare without complying with laws and regulations.



**MEXT appeals the "law" is "illegal acts" of Civil code Article 709.**



**MEXT determined that the "illegal act" is to force make believers to make large donations.**



**MEXT appeals the amount of "victim" by indicating the lump sum of the former believer's donations.**

# 1. Request for Dissolution Order against Family Federation

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## (2) The scale and continuity of the illegal act

Before

Lawsuit: 31 cases, 168 people , 1784 million Yen  
Settlement: 97 cases, 445 people, 6066 million yen  
Private Settlement: 921 people, 11,613 million yen  
Total : 1,534 people , 19,463 million yen

Compliance Declaration ( CD, March 2009 )

After

Lawsuit : 1 case, 3 people, 17 million yen  
Settlement: 8 cases, 9 people, 53 million yen  
Private Settlement: 167 people, 913 million yen  
Total: 179 people , 984 million yen

After Compliance Declaration (CD), there was a dramatic improvement. **MEXT cannot claim "continuity" for Dissolution Order with this evidence.**<sup>3</sup>

# 1. Request for Dissolution Order against Family Federation

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## (3) Submission of Statements of “Victims”

MEXT needs to prove that the large donations were made as a result of criminal coercion.



MEXT submitted statements of “Victims”.



Non-believers (relatives, etc.): 33 cases  
Member **before** CD: 242  
    (use the statement of the past court)  
    (Half of them are abduction victims)  
Member **after** CD : 19  
    (**18 Statements are made newly**)

**In these 18 cases, so many forgeries are found**

## 2. Forgeries in the Statements of “Victims”

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### (1) In the case of A'

Created on July 2023, (67 years old)

- (i) I joined the faith in hopes of improving my daughter's depression and other mental illnesses.
- (ii) The grudge of the ancestors was said to be the cause of the daughter's mental illness.
- (iii) I was told that I had to free my ancestors in hell and break the karma.

At the witness examination ( December 9 , 2024 ) , it was revealed that Mr. A 's daughter was not suffering from depression, and that her distress was not caused by his daughter's illness.

A' said, "I didn't read the contents carefully."

⇒ Accused A (a staff of MEXT) fabricated the statement and made A' to sign on it.

## 2. Forgeries in the Statements of “Victims”

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### (2) In the case of B'

**Created on July 2023, (68 years old)  
(note : MEXT requested Dissolution Order on  
October 2023)**

**I was forged to by a statue of Buddha statue in  
order to save my brother who committed suicide  
and was suffering in hell.**

**At the witness examination ( December 12 ,  
2024) , B' could not answer any specific questions  
about the word which he was told, and testified  
that there were things in the statement that B '  
did not remember.**

**⇒ Accused B (a staff of MEXT) fabricated the  
statement and made A' to sign on it.**

## 2. Forgeries in the Statements of “Victims”

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### (3) In the case of C’

**Created on September 2023, (65 years old)**

**(i) I made donations or purchased items out of fear that I would be cursed by the ancestors or go to hell.**

**(ii) I participated in the mass wedding to relieve the anxiety of my ancestors' ties. (there is Audio recording)**

**⇒ Accused C (a staff of MEXT) fabricated the statement and made C’ to sign on it.**

**In addition, almost half of the statements have problems. One of it was made by believer of other religions.**

### **3. The Accusation**

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**Accused A, B and C violated the Crime of Forgery of Private Document (Article 159 of Criminal Law) and Crime of using a Forged Private Document (Article 161, of Criminal Law).**

**Both are considered crimes punishable by imprisonment of between three months and three years.**

**I am filing a complaint, hoping that a swift investigation will be carried out and that the accused will be severely punished.**



## 4. Domestic and International Reactions

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### ( 1 ) Questions by Member of Parliament Satoshi Hamada in the Diet ( General Affairs Committee, March 13, 2025)

**[Member of Parliament Mr. Hamada ]**

**We would like to introduce a post by Attorney Tokunaga Shinichi. "The national crime of the century, the Ministry of Education's written request for a termination order. A designated representative of the Ministry of Education's staff conducted the hearing in court to determine what criminal responsibility would be pursued. At the same time, the Trump administration, which has made "religious freedom" its top priority and has taken issue with the discriminatory oppression of the Unification Church in Japan, has begun to take action. If Japan had granted a termination order for the Unification Church based on criminal charges, it would have brought shame on the world."**

**This is how it was posted. I will think about this. I would like to consider whether there is a problem with the facts of the content posted by Attorney Tokunaga.**



## 4. Domestic and International Reactions

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### ( 1 ) Questions by Member of Parliament Satoshi Hamada in the Diet ( General Affairs Committee, March 13, 2025)

[ Ms. Kobayashi, Director of MEXT ]

of the content of the question . The request for termination is pending in the Tokyo District Court as a confidential, non-nuisance case, and we will refrain from commenting on the allegations made in the trial regarding the former Unification Church. However, the Agency for Cultural Affairs has made the request appropriately, having carefully handled the matter by gathering information from the victims, and as the competent authority, determined that the case, as a religious corporation, met the requirements for an appropriate ruling under

[ Member of Parliament Mr. Hamada ]

In any case, I think it's important that he doesn't deny what Attorney Tokunaga is saying. That's true in this case. There are two issues I'm concerned about. The first is that the Trump administration is taking a strong stance on religious oppression. This is true not only in Japan but also overseas, and I think it will continue to be so for the time being. The other is whether the Ishiba administration will continue the policy of oppression against the former Unification Church that was implemented by the Kishida administration.



# 4. Domestic and international reactions

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## (2) Featured in overseas media

The Washington Times published an article about the criminal charges.  
Patricia Duval - Saturday, March 22, 2025

In its response to the interview, [Japan's](#) Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology told Kyodo News, “We have not disclosed the contents of the [her mother’s] statement, and we cannot comment [on the daughter’s claims].”

On March 10, a male follower of the FFWPU filed a criminal complaint with the Tokyo District Public Prosecutors Office, accusing officials from MEXT of document forgery and the use of forged documents. This comes amid allegations that MEXT submitted improper and altered statements as evidence in its request for a dissolution order against the FFWPU at the Tokyo District Court.

### **Sen. Hamada challenges the [Japanese government](#) for using fabricated testimony**

On March 13, the House of Councilors which is the Upper House of the Japanese Diet in the House of Councilors’ General Affairs Committee, Sen. Hamada, from the NHK Party, questioned the “fabrication and falsification of evidence by Ministry of Education officials in the dissolution hearing of the former [Unification Church](#).”