

T a k e s h i m a ~ Takeshima: Japan's territory ~



▲ "Map of Takeshima and Matsushima submitted by Kotani Ihei" (Tottori Prefectural Museum) This is a map submitted by Tottori-Domain at the request of the Edo government in 1696. It depicts Shimane Peninsula, Oki Islands, Matsushima (currently called Takeshima), and Isotakeshima (Ulleungdo) in their correct locations. Also on Matsushima, it shows a picture of a cabin along with a "Boat Dock" annotation.

Shimane Prefecture / Shimane Prefecture Board of Education The Shimane Citizen's Conference Supporting the Return of Takeshima and the Northern Territories

- Takeshima: Early Showa Period –



"Fishing at Takeshima" Oki Fishermen actively hunted sea lions, gathered abalone and wakame seaweed.



"Map of Takeshima" (South side up) Drawn by late Isaburo Yawata from Oki Island. He visited Takeshima nine times during the early Showa period.



To solve the Takeshima issue

To solve the Takeshima issue, it is important to keep the public informed and raise awareness regarding Takeshima.

Shimane Prefecture has been studying the Takeshima issue, raising awareness among Shimane citizens, and enriching Takeshima education at schools.

February 22 is

In light of historical international law, an inherent part of



"Takeshima Territorial Right Establishment Campaign, Oki Island Town Meeting"(October 24, 2010)



"Learning about Takeshima at Local Elementary Schools" In 2009, all local Shimane elementary and middle schools started teaching children about Takeshima.



"Advertisement Tower" (JR Matsue Station)



"Ordinance to establish Takeshima Day" was adopted. (March 16, 2005 Shimane Prefectural Assembly)



"Takeshima Day" Memorial Ceremony (February 22, 2011)

- What is the Takeshima issue ? -

On January 18, 1952, the then President of the Republic of Korea (ROK), Syngman Rhee, issued a Declaration concerning maritime sovereignty, drew a line ("Syngman Rhee Line") in the Sea of Japan that included the area over Takeshima. By a Note Verbal dated January 28, 1952, Japan protested such action. As a result Takeshima has become the object of dispute between Japan and the Republic of Korea.

Since that time, ROK has continued its illegal occupation of Takeshima, stationing security personnel and taking further unilateral actions.

The Takeshima dispute is a problem for Japanese sovereignty.





Shimane Prefecture erected a wooden sign pole on Takeshima warning that the island belongs to it. (June 27, 1953)

"Puzzling 'Rhee Declaration' Damaging to Fishing Industry" (The Shimane Shinbun, January 26, 1952)



"Takeshima Day".

facts and based upon Takeshima is indisputably the territory of Japan.

> "A Japanese patrol boat was fired by a South Korean ship" (The San'in Shinpo, July 14, 1953)



– Today's Takeshima





(picture provided by AFP=Jiji)

(picture provided by AFP=Jiji)

"Higashijima" Korea's occupation of Takeshima has no legal basis in international law. Therefore, no measure taken by the ROK during its illegal occupation concerning Takeshima has any legal justification.

Takeshima and Japan in the Past

Shimane Prefecture Public Notice No.40



According to the Geographical Survey Institute, the current coordinates are 37.14°N and 131.52°E.

Sea Lion Hunting License Issued by Shimane Prefecture (January 21, 1929)





This photo shows Oki islanders hunting sea lions (1935).

Spring (May 20-July 10), 1935



Oki Islanders who engaged in the fishing industry. Also in the picture are female divers hired from Korea (1935). (Refer to the financial statements below.)

In the early Edo period, with permission of the Edo Government, Japanese people engaged in forestry and fishing at Ulleung Island, and also fished around the island that is now called Takeshima on their way and back home. After 1661, they fished on Takeshima, also having received an official permission by the Government.

In the beginning of the 20th century, Japanese started intensively hunting sea lions, and gathering abalone and wakame seaweed on Takeshima. People started pouring into present-day Takeshima for hunting. Concerned about sea lions extinction, Yozaburo Nakai of Oki Island requested the government to officially incorporate present-day Takeshima as Japanese territory so that sea lion hunting would be licensed and better controlled. The Japanese government confirmed that no other countries had occupied present-day Takeshima and that only Japanese people had actually been hunting and fishing there. In January 1905, Japanese government officially incorporated Takeshima as Japanese territory. Given this, on February 22, 1905, Shimane Prefecture publicly announced that Takeshima had been incorporated under the jurisdiction of the Shimane Oki Island District. (Refer to the picture on the left) Subsequently, fishing at Takeshima was licensed and continued for more than 30 years.

Korea claims that Japan's incorporation of Takeshima was "the first step of invasion (Korean Annexation)." However, this assertion does not make sense because Takeshima has never been Korean territory and it has long been used by Japanese as fishing ground.

Settlement Statement (30 contracted, one traded at 140 yen at Sakai Port)				
Revenue				
Sea Lions 2 Dried Abalones	29	4,060 yen 800 yen		Final the h
Total:		4,860 yen	(24,300,000 yen)	lkeda licen
Expense				Prefe is co
Overhead		800 yen	(4,000,000 yen)	now,
Commission (13 Fisherme	en)	1,300 yen	(6,500,000 yen)	ing s
Commission(4 Female Div	vers)	600 yen	(3,000,000 yen)	scho
Miscellaneous Expenses		500 yen	(2,500,000 yen)	_
Rice		180 yen	(900,000 yen)	
3 Small boats		250 yen		
Profit		1,230 yen	(6,150,000 yen)	
Total		4860 yen	(24,300,000 yen)	

Financial Statement from the hunting by Hashioka, Ikeda, and Yawata, licensed by Shimane Prefecture. One yen then is converted to 5000 yen now, based on the starting salary of elementary school teachers.

Territorial Dispute Arises

San Francisco Peace Treaty (signed September 8, 1951, came into force April 28, 1952)

Article 2 (a) Japan recognizing the independence of Korea, renounces all right, title and claim to Korea, including the islands of Quelpart, Port Hamilton, and Dagelet.

The peace treaty that defined post-war Japanese territory specified the areas that would be separated from Japan, such as Korea and Taiwan.

Korea asked the United States, who was preparing this treaty, that Takeshima be added to the areas Japan would give up.



Prime minister Yoshida singned the treaty.

To this, the United States answered, "(Takeshima) was according to our information never treated as part of Korea and, since about 1905, has been under the jurisdiction of the Oki Islands Branch Office of Shimane Prefecture of Japan. The island does not appear ever before to have been claimed by Korea. (Rusk Documents)



Then why is Korea occupying Takeshima?

January 18, 1952, three months before San Francisco Peace Treaty came into force, South Korean President Syngman Rhee suddenly declared the "Syngman Rhee Line," which included Takeshima within Korean waters. This was the **beginning of the Takeshima dispute**.

The Japanese government protested immediately, and Shimane Prefecture erected a wooden pole warning that the island belongs to it. However, Korea fired at a Japanese patrol boat and then occupied Takeshima. Subsequently, Korea built a lighthouse on Takeshima, deployed a Marine Police Force, and started watching. In 1965, Japan-Korea Fishery Agreement was signed and the "Syngman Rhee Line" became meaningless. Nonetheless, Korea has been building a heliport, lodging for its police force, piers, and so on, continuing to occupy Takeshima unlawfully.

The dotted line shows the "McArthur Line" whereby temporarily limiting Japanese fishing and prohibiting Japanese entry into the vicinity of Takeshima.

The thick line shows the "Syngman Rhee Line," which included Takeshima on the Korean side (pink area).

How Takeshima was treated post-war.

After the World War II, the General Headquarters (GHQ) of occupying forces drew the "McArthur Line," prohibiting Japanese fishing boats from coming within 12 nautical miles (NM) of Takeshima. (The limitation was reduced to 3 NM later on.) Also, the GHQ temporarily removed Takeshima from Japan's jurisdiction. However, neither directives defined Japanese territory nor declared Takeshima as Korean territory.

Before the San Francisco Peace Treaty came into force on April 28, 1952, GHQ abolished the "McArthur Line". The treaty confirmed that Takeshima belongs to Japan.

However, Korea, claiming that her territorial right to Takeshima is based on the aforementioned two directives from the GHQ, unlawfully declared the "Syngman Rhee Line" and occupied Takeshima. Later, Korea started claiming that Takeshima was the first victim in a Japanese invasion. This claim has stirred anti-Japanese sentiment among the Korean public, further complicating the Takeshima issue.

Problems Arising from the Sovereignty Infringement

No access within 12 NM of Takeshima

Korea has been occupying the island unlawfully, deploying a Marine Police Force to Takeshima, unilaterally building a lighthouse, lodges and piers. They run a liner to and from Takeshima, allowing visitors for sightseeing. The Japanese government has been protesting against these actions.



We can not fish freely

Since Takeshima issue has not been solved, Provisional Zones were set up, pending demarcation of EEZ (Exclusive Economic Zone) between Japan and Korea. The EEZ border line should be drawn between Takeshima (Japan) and Ulleungdo (Korea).

This picture shows Korean fishing gear confiscated within Japan's EEZ.





Although both Japan and Korea are supposed to fish in the provisional zones, the fishery of a Japanese fishing boat is hardly possible. In this ocean area, fish and shellfishes have decreased very much by overfishing of the ROK fishing boats.

Japan cannot exercise its right to the marine resources

In 2006, Japan's Coast Guard tried to conduct a marine survey around Takeshima, but Korea immediately deployed patrol vessels to block this by force. The conflict was avoided by discussion between both countries. However, Korea is unilaterally planning to build an "Integrated Marine Science Base" and to survey the marine resources.



(The San'in Chuo Shimpo, April 23, 2007) /

The United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), grants each country the access to fisheries and marine resources within a 200-NM EEZ, as well as holds it responsible for resource preservation and pollution prevention. Due to the unsolved Takeshima issue, Japan and Korea are unable to draw an EEZ line. The Japan-Korea Fishery Agreement came into force in 1999, in which both parties agreed to set up "Provisional Zones," pending the demarcation. This is where a warm tide and a cold tide collide, and the existence of fishing banks makes the area a fertile fishing ground. Japan and Korea are supposed to be able to fish in the Provisional Zones. However, due to the differences in fishing regulations and Korean fishing boats not honoring the agreement, Japanese fishing boats have no choice but to withdraw and cannot fish except in a very limited space. Also, Japanese fishing boats cannot come within 12 NM of Takeshima. Recently, underwater resources such as oil and natural gas were found in the western part of the Sea of Japan. Takeshima is forevermore important to ensure access to these resources.

To Solve the Dispute in a Peaceful Manner

(picture provided by ANP/PANA)



As a peaceful solution for disputes between countries, decisions are often commissioned to ICJ (located in The Hague, Holland). However, for the ICJ to carry out a trial, both countries must agree to the petition. In 1954 and in 1962, Japan proposed that the dispute to be judged by the ICJ. Korea rejected the proposal, denying the existence of a territorial dispute between Japan and Korea. It continues to deny such a dispute even today.

International Court of Justice (ICJ)

The territorial dispute regarding Minquiers and Ecréhous Islands between Great Britain and France was brought to ICJ for trial. In 1953, ICJ found that the Islands belonged to the United Kingdom because she had been exercising various administrative rights.



"Also, we need to mention the existence of differences in territorial view between Japan and Korea regarding **Takeshima** and need to better educate students about Japan's territory, together with the Northern Territories issues."

(Excerpt from the middle school Social Studies curriculum guideline)

Japan Working



Based on this guideline, middle school students throughout Japan will learn about Takeshima.

<Ordinance to establish Takeshima Day>

In 2005, exactly 100 years after the Public Notice of the Incorporation of Takeshima by Shimane Prefecture in 1905, the Shimane Prefectural Assembly designated February 22 as "Takeshima Day" with hope of achieving a swift establishment of territorial rights to Takeshima. To achieve the purpose of the ordinance, Shimane Prefecture has been working on various projects necessary to solve the territorial dispute.



<Takeshima Issue Research Group>

In the research group, scholars, experts and educators clarify the correct historical facts of Takeshima, check Korean researches, and thus arouse public awareness.



Adults are learning as well Citizens, local government officials, educators, and various social groups are learning about Takeshima. (Picture shows "Lecture to consider Takeshima Issue.")



In 2010, the first "essay contest by middle school students regarding Takeshima and Northern Territories." (Picture shows a presentation in Oki Island town meeting.)

To establish a true cordial relationship between Japan and Korea, it is crucial to solve the Takeshima dispute based on historical facts and International Law. We must think about what we can do for a peaceful resolution.



Learning Broadly and Deeply Utilizing DVDs and documents based on the achievements of the Takeshima issue studies, students in all elementary and middle schools in Shimane Prefecture are learning about Takeshima.



"A Map of Eight Provinces" from "A Revised Edition of the Augmented Survey of the Geography of Korea"(1530) This is an old map drawn in Korea. Korea claims that the Usando drawn on the west side of Ulleungdo is Takeshima (Korean name: Dokdo).



A chronological table regarding Takeshima

- **1618** Tokugawa Shogunate Government issues license for developing Ulleungdo to the Ohya and Murakawa families. (Another source says this was in 1625.)
- **1661** The Ohya and Murakawa families start fishing at present-day Takeshima, authorized by the government.
- **1693** Ohya's boatmen bring back Ahn Yong-Bok and another person who were fishing at Ulleungdo.
- **1696** Government prohibits sailing to Ulleungdo.(The prohibition does not include present-day Takeshima.)
- **1903** Yozaburo Nakai of Oki Island starts hunting sea lions on and around present-day Takeshima.
- **1904** Yozaburo Nakai petitions the government to incorporate and commission to him present-day Takeshima.
- 1905 On January 28, Cabinet officially names the island "Takeshima" and puts it under the jurisdiction of Shimane Prefecture's Oki Island.
 The Covernor of Shimane Prefecture publicly appounces the name of Takeshima and its jurisdiction over

The Governor of Shimane Prefecture publicly announces the name of Takeshima and its jurisdiction over it. (February 22)

- 1910 Japan's Annexation of Korea
- 1945 World War II ends.
- 1948 Establishment of the Republic of Korea
- **1951** Korea demands America that Takeshima be Korean territory in a peace treaty. America rejects. The San Francisco Peace Treaty is signed.
- **1952** On January 18, Korea draws "Syngman Rhee Line" and claims Takeshima as its territory. On April, 28 the San Francisco Peace Treaty comes into force.
- **1953** Shimane Prefecture erects a wooden pole on Takeshima warning that the island belongs to it.
- **1954** Korea deploys Marine Police Force to Takeshima.
- Japan proposed commissioning the dispute to the ICJ, but Korea refuses.
- **1965** The Treaty on Basic Relations between Japan and the Republic of Korea and the Japan-Korea Fishery Agreement are signed. The Syngman Rhee Line become meaningless.
- 1987 The Shimane Citizen's Conference Supporting the Return of Takeshima and the Northern Territories is established.
 1999 "The new Japan-Republic of Korea fisheries agreement" comes into force and the Provisional Zones are
- established, pending demarcation of EEZ.
 2005 The Shimane Takeshima, Northern Territorial Issues Educators Conference is established. "Ordinance to establish Takeshima Day" is enacted.
 - Shimane Takeshima Issue Research Group is formed.
- 2007 The Takeshima Reference Room is opened.
 - The Takeshima Issues Research Group publishes its report.
- **2008** The Middle School Social Studies Curriculum Guidance, published by Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology mentions Takeshima issues

2009 - Elementary and middle school students in Shimane Prefecture start learning about Takeshima using DVDs. Shimane Takeshima Issue Research Group (Second session) is formed.

- 2012 Takeshima Informational Leaflet is issued.
- 2013 Hometown Reader: "Tell me more about Shimane History" is distributed.

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