

FFWPU Europe and the Middle East: Lawyer Exposes Dirty Leftwing Plot in Japan

Knut Holdhus
February 1, 2024



Tatsu Nakayama delivering his message at International Religious Freedom Summit 2024 in Washington DC, USA 31st January, 2024

Attorney gives detailed insights about ugly leftwing plot against the Family Federation in Japan

Why the Family Federation in Japan Should Not Be Dissolved

A special pre-recorded message presented 31st January at the International Religious Freedom Summit 2024 in Washington DC, by Japanese lawyer Tatsu Nakayama (aka. Tatsu Nakayama). He delivered his presentation during a conference luncheon sponsored by The Washington Times Foundation and the Universal Peace Federation on the last day of the summit. Slightly edited.

Ladies and gentlemen, I'm Tatsu Nakayama, a Japanese lawyer. I'm highly honoured to be given this precious opportunity to speak at the IRF Summit.

I have been representing [Family Federation](#) - although I am not a believer - since the assassination of former Prime Minister Abe. With my experience, I learnt a lot, and today I'm going to share with you in three points why the [Family Federation](#) in Japan should not be dissolved.

It's a political fight, which is going on beneath the legal issues pending in Japan,

Deprogramming, which is also hidden underneath.

I will conclude that there is no requirement for dissolution of the [Family Federation](#).



Point number one: A political and ideological fight has been going on in Japan from way back in 1978 when Japan Communist Party declared war on anti-communist [Unification Church](#). Evidence of this: A couple of months after the Abe assassination, a famous journalist [Soichiro Tahara] commented that

"This conflict should be a final war against the [Unification Church](#)."

Then, in response to this, Communist Party Chairperson Kazuo Shii admitted that final war

and added that,

"This time we will do whatever it takes until we get it done."



With such strong words, leftwing parties have aggressively fought against the [Family Federation](#). Along with this political movement in Japan, leftwing lawyers [National Network of Lawyers Against Spiritual Sales - NNLASS] have been very aggressive and had a lot of influence on the mass media and also the Japanese government.

Those lawyers are anti-religious. Many are communists and started a dissolution campaign in 1987 in order to dissolve the Japanese [Family Federation](#), true to Shii's words "We will do whatever!" They worked with notorious

deprogrammers who deprogrammed - you may not believe it - as many as 4,300 poor [Family Federation](#) believers and broke the faith of many.

The top two gentlemen of these leftwing lawyers are Hiroshi Yamaguchi (to the left) and Masaki Kito, the current leader (to the right). They are lawyers, but they could be called political figures or political activists because they even knew that at the time of the commencement of this political fight there were no victims.

That means that even though there were no legal victims, they continued to argue in order to create "victims". They made many lawsuits representing apostates for the refund of donations made when they were believers.

Despite such a political campaign, as a lawyer, legally speaking, I do not think there is a requirement for dissolution because in Japan the legal requirement for dissolution of a religious corporation is very high.

Requirement for dissolution NAKAYAMA & PARTNERS

Article 81 of the Religious Corporations Act ("RCA")

A religious corporation commits an act which is **clearly** found to harm public welfare **extremely** in violation of **laws** and regulations

↓

"A CRIMINAL LAW MUST BE BROKEN"

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Article 81 of the Religious Corporations Act (RCA) says that a religious corporation can only be dissolved only if it commits an act which is clearly found to harm public welfare extremely - which is a very high criterion - in violation of laws and regulations.

This has been debated so much after the Abe assassination because according to case law [common law - law based on precedents] in Japan, "laws" here have been limited to criminal laws only. That means that in order to dissolve a religious cooperation, a criminal law must be

broken.

On the other hand, in the present case of the [Family Federation](#), since its foundation about 60 years ago, no criminal law has been broken. That means there is no legal reason to dissolve the [Family Federation](#).

PM Kishida changed in ONE day NAKAYAMA & PARTNERS

On Oct 18th 2022, PM Kishida said that the only **CRIMINAL** laws can be included in "laws" of Article 81 of the RCA.

→

On the next day of Oct 19th, he said that **CIVIL** suits can be included.

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Indeed, our Prime Minister Kishida admitted that case law and said in the Diet on 18th October 2022 that only criminal laws should be included. That means that at that time the government did not intend to file a dissolution suit against the [Family Federation](#).

However, very surprisingly and very strangely enough, he did a 180 degree turn. He changed his mind completely overnight and said the next day that civil laws can be included. That means that civil lawsuits filed against the [Family Federation](#) - and they lost some - could be another reason for

dissolution of the [Family Federation](#). That became the starting point to proceed toward a dissolution suit of the [Federation](#).

Forced "puppet" lawsuits NAKAYAMA & PARTNERS

Deprogramming

4,300 believers

Family Federation

NNLASS & Deprogrammers

Lawsuits for donation refund

Forced to sue to prove they are cured of "mind control"

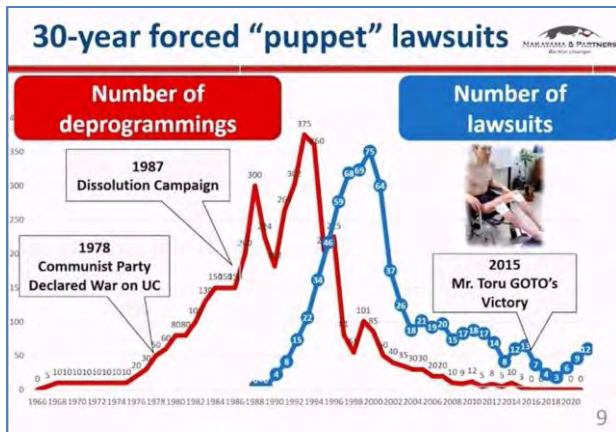
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However, legally speaking, in many of such lawsuits against the [Family Federation](#), we see "puppet" connections. We can call it "forced 'puppet' lawsuits". What happened is like this: Deprogrammers in consultation with leftwing lawyers deprogrammed as many as more than 4,000 believers and forced those poor believers to file a lawsuit against the [Family Federation](#) for donation refunds. The lawyers said something like this, "Unless you file a lawsuit, we continue to take you as mind-controlled by the [Family Federation](#). So do file an action against the [Family Federation](#). Otherwise, we will continue to confine

you and imprison you for deprogramming."

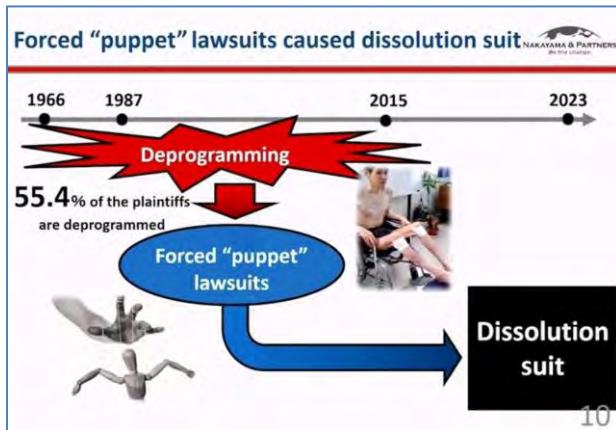
In order to make money for legal fees, the leftwing lawyers continued this cycle as an "ecosystem". We can find this "ecosystem" in the graph here.

The left line here is the number of 4,000 deprogrammings. It came to a peak after the Communist Party's declaration of war against the [Unification Church](#) and the leftwing lawyers' political campaign.



What follows is the blue line here - the number of lawsuits filed against the [Family Federation](#). From this visible intimate correlation between the red and the blue lines, you can note many of the lawsuits against the [Family Federation](#) are "forced 'puppet' lawsuits" using deprogramming.

This correlation came to an end in 2015 when Toru Goto, the skinny gentleman here, who suffered a very long confinement of more than 12 years, and who filed a lawsuit against the deprogrammer and won a victory in the Supreme Court of Japan.



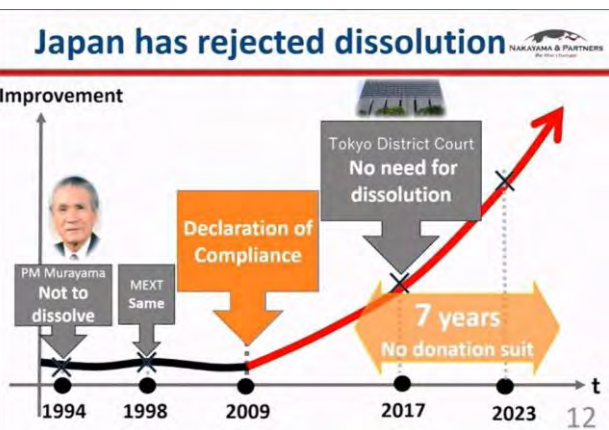
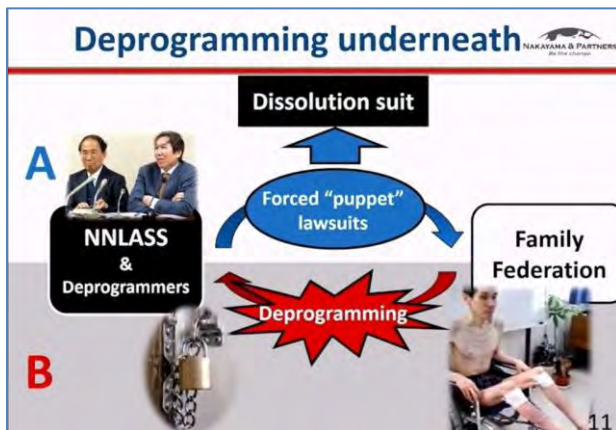
Indeed, very unfortunately, such "forced 'puppet' lawsuits" caused the dissolution suit now pending in Japan.

Historically speaking, deprogramming lasted 50 years in Japan. Some of the victims of deprogramming were used for "forced 'puppet' lawsuits". That could be said to be one of the main reasons for the dissolution suit pending in Japan.

After a careful legal analysis, we found that more than half, 55,4 percent of the plaintiffs were poor deprogramming victims. With this in mind, I don't

believe that the [Family Federation](#) should be dissolved.

What is going on now in Japan is a dissolution suit against the [Family Federation](#). The main reason is the many lawsuits filed against [Family Federation](#) initiated by leftwing lawyers.



But what lies underneath, is another framework (B) which consists of 4,000 inhumane deprogramming cases.

Indeed, Japan has rejected dissolution so many times. Demanding leftwing lawyers have requested many times that the government dissolve the [Family Federation](#).

No requirement for dissolution

Family Federation in Japan has:

1. **NOT** committed any crimes;
2. Lost in **CIVIL** lawsuits for refund donation; but
3. Half of the plaintiffs were **DEPROGRAMMED**; and
4. Improved compliance in these **15** years.

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30 years ago, the government rejected it twice, and recently Tokyo District Court also rejected to dissolve the [Family Federation](#). Meanwhile, the [Family Federation](#) issued a declaration of compliance intended to improve their internal operations. And it actually worked.

Evidencing this, during the last seven seven years, no single lawsuit has been filed against the [Family Federation](#).

With this, I hope you will be convinced that there is no requirement for dissolution. The [Family](#)

[Federation](#) in Japan has not committed any crimes during its 60 years.

There have been some civil lawsuits for refunds of donations, but half of the plaintiffs had been

deprogrammed. Also, the [Family Federation](#) has improved its compliance during the last 15 years.

Most of what I shared is written in my booklet published last year in Japan and English translation of which you can find on [Bitter Winter](#).

Lastly, I strongly hope that with this kind attention and support from you distinguished guests and honourable minds at this IRF Summit, religious freedom in Japan should be protected at any cost.

Thank you very much.

All illustrations by Nakayama and Partners.

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December 16, 2023 • Knut Holdhus

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Tokyo, 15th December 2023 – Published as an article in the Japanese newspaper Sekai Nippo. Republished with permission. Translated from Japanese. [Original article](#)

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No clear indication of “continuity” and the “3 requirements” that have disappeared into thin air

by the editorial department, interviewers: Takahide Ishii (石井孝秀) and Yoshiyuki Iwaki (岩城喜之)

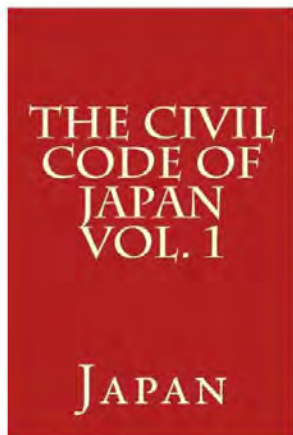
See part 1, part 3

– Regarding the three criteria of “organizational nature”, “malice”, and “continuity”, until now Attorney Nakayama has strongly asserted that the organization does not meet these criteria.



The logo of the Sekai Nippo

When you read the press release from the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology regarding the dissolution request, none of these three requirements are mentioned at all. There was no mention of “continuity” at all. There was no mention of the 2009 compliance declaration issued by the Family Federation either. The arguments of the two sides don't mesh.



An English exact reproduction of The Civil Code of Japan, vol. 1, 4th edition, first published 1906.

In October 2022, Prime Minister Fumio Kishida changed his interpretation of the law overnight and stated that “if there are three requirements, the Civil Code will be included.” However, at the time of requesting the dissolution order in October 2023, the “three requirements” had disappeared into thin air. Without even providing a clear indication that there had been “continuity”, the inclusion of Civil Code cases was justified based on a literal interpretation of the legislative process.

The government said a year ago that if there were three requirements, it would include

Civil Code cases. However, what was done one year later does not match this. In other words, they pretended there should be three requirements, but included Civil Code cases anyway, without such requirements.

– Does this mean that the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology did not attach importance to Prime Minister Kishida's answer to the Diet that if there were three requirements, the Civil Code would be included?

That's right. Judges would immediately recognize this kind of inconsistency. Therefore, it is clear at a glance that this dissolution request is not based on logic or law, but on politics. In a sense, such a heavy-handed approach by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology may work in favor of the religious organisation in court. On the other hand, the point stated so negatively – “a receptacle for the acquisition of property” – may make the judges think, “If it is described so badly, it must be a bad organization.”



It is extremely dangerous that the prejudice of anti-Unification Church factions, such as National Network of Lawyers Against Spiritual Sales (全国霊感商法対策弁護士連絡会 – Zenkoku Benren), can be conveyed to judges through the government. I am deeply

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concerned about it.

Attorney Tatsuki Nakayama. Photo: Sekai Nippo

Would the proposal presented by Tomihiro Tanaka, chairman of the Family Federation, at a press conference to deposit 6 to 10 billion yen with the government be effective?



Tomihiro Tanaka at press conference in Tokyo 7th Nov. 2023. Photo: Screenshot from live transmission by the Family Federation of Japan.

If you genuinely consider it in terms of "helping victims", it will be effective enough. To briefly explain the concept of deposits, let's assume a debtor is unsure whether to pay money to creditor A or B. Even if it is uncertain, as long as there is a payment deadline, you can deposit the money with a trustee until that date. Even without such a system, providing money that does not run away, is a good way to provide "victim relief".

Regarding the religious organisation's proposal for a deposit, criticism that it is a "sign of not engaging in negotiations" is off the mark. National Network of Lawyers Against Spiritual Sales (Zenkoku Benren) claims damages of 100 billion yen and argues that "100 billion yen is not enough." However, the actual evidence of harm is almost nonexistent. In reality they cannot go to court because they know they will likely lose if they do.



Prime Minister Fumio Kishida being swayed by arguments of hostile lawyers. Here speaking in the Japanese Diet 23rd January 2023. Photo: 首相官邸ホームページ / Wikimedia Commons. License: CC Attr 4.0 Int

National Network of Lawyers Against Spiritual Sales (Zenkoku Benren) seems to only think about "getting rid of the Unification Church". That comes across as their true intention, and you get the impression that there may be little consideration for helping "victims". The network's outright condemnation of the deposit suggestion, without being willing to consider it at all, is indicative of such a mindset.

The network of lawyers has never submitted any evidence of harm to the courts and shows no sign of willingness to discuss concrete relief methods, even though they say they are providing relief to victims. Those facts show that the actual damage differs

significantly from the claims of National Network of Lawyers Against Spiritual Sales (Zenkoku Benren).

If the network of lawyers files a lawsuit and ends up losing, that would be recognized as having 'no claim.' The network might try to delay the court process, maintain their claims, bring about dissolution, and distribute assets through liquidation, without having their rewards for their success reduced. There is a possibility of such strategic maneuvering.

Continued in [part 3](#)

See [part 1](#)

Tatsuki Nakayama (中山達樹) was born in Kanagawa Prefecture (神奈川県) in 1974. He graduated from the University of Tokyo's Faculty of Law. In 2005, he became a registered lawyer and graduated from the National University of Singapore Law School in 2010. After working as an international lawyer at a law firm in Singapore, he established Nakayama International Law Office in 2015. In 2016, he became a certified fraud examiner and graduated from the master course of Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy. His notable works include "Global Governance Compliance" and others.

Featured image above: 3 leading activist leftwing lawyers from National Network of Lawyers Against Spiritual Sales – from left: Masaki Kito, Hiroshi Watanabe, Hiroshi Yamaguchi. Photo: Screenshot / [Bitter Winter](#)

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