

FFWPU Europe and the Middle East: Robert Kittel on Lying Japanese Lawyers Shaming Japan

Knut Holdhus
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Japanese lawyers discussing



Dr. Robert Kittel

or more broadly the samurai spirit.

New analysis asks if "lawyers lying" to produce "evidence" in recent dissolution order case is part of a communist coup in the courts, and Japan's left targeting the Family Federation

Leftist Lawyers Lie and Shame Japan

Part 1 of analysis by Dr. Robert Kittel, Senior Advisor for the Asia Pacific Region of the [Family Federation for World Peace and Unification](#), April 2025

Japan is a beautiful nation with kind-hearted, honest people. The international image of Japan, justly so, is stellar. They are peace-loving people who follow the rule of law and live by democratic norms. Japanese are gracious and polite, almost overly so (in a good way). Trains and people are very punctual. They have a culture that emphasizes truthfulness, loyalty, courage, and self-control associated with the Bushido code [See editor's note below],



One of the architects of new law against the [Family Federation](#) and advisor to the Japanese authorities: Masaki Kito, one of the hostile lawyers of National Network of Lawyers Against Spiritual Sales and Nation-wide Unification Church Damage Countermeasures Legal Team



Hiroshi Yamaguchi, activist leftwing lawyer and founder and leading member of National Network of Lawyers Against Spiritual Sales (NNLASS)

However, a strange miscarriage of justice is being attempted largely behind closed doors. It's actually a communist coup in broad daylight.

On March 25, 2025, the Tokyo District Court [granted the request](#) by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) to dissolve and dismantle the [Unification Church](#) (a.k.a. [Family Federation for World Peace and Unification](#)).

In unprecedented legal maneuvering that violates statutes of the United Nations which Japan signed as well as its own established jurisprudence,

the [church](#) is being stripped of its legal status, and - unless overturned or withdrawn - its assets and properties, including bank accounts, churches, schools, and possibly even cemeteries, will be confiscated and sold off by the government. The proceedings were full of irregularities and the outcome was draconian.



*Karl Marx (1818-1883),
German philosopher, economist
and radical political thinker*

See [Unification Church Dissolution in Japan: An In-Depth Analysis of a Wrong Decision. 3. Settlements and "Potential" Cases.](#)

More importantly, Japan's image is being tarnished.

Leftist lawyers from the so-called "National Network of Lawyers Against Spiritual Sales" (NNLASS) care little about Japan's international identity or loss of face so important in the land of the rising sun. [Their motivation](#), gleaned from the communist ideology and statements by key players in Japan, is to terminate the institution of the [church](#), divide church families, and funnel [Family Federation funds to themselves](#) to fuel their leftist agenda. [See [Lawyers Manipulating, Coercing, Lying](#)]

These objectives, taken directly from the 1848 Communist Manifesto, are patently anti-Japanese and anti-religious. Karl Marx famously called religion "the opium of the people". Less well-known, he also called for "the abolition of the family!" noting that

"even the most radical [communists] flare up at this infamous proposal" (Karl Marx and Fredrick Engels, "The Communist Manifesto," p. 427).



[Sun Myung Moon](#) and Nobusuke Kishi, Prime Minister of Japan 1957-1960, shaking hands in Tokyo

The church has a long and successful history of opposing communism. [Rev. Moon](#), the [church](#)'s founder, had been [imprisoned](#) in a [communist labor camp](#) in North Korea for two years and eight months. He nearly died. He was [liberated](#) when 16 UN-backed nations defended South Korea against an unprovoked military invasion from the North backed by Russia and China.

As part of his religious ministry, [Rev. Moon](#) developed the most powerful, cutting-edge critique of communism which methodically dissects and exposes the numerous falsities of this materialistic ideology. In 1968 he established the International Federation for Victory over Communism (IFVOC).

In 1973, with [Mrs. Moon](#) by his side, [Rev. Moon](#) met former Japanese Prime Minister Nobusuke Kishi (岸信介), the grandfather of Shinzo Abe (安倍晋三). [Moon](#) and Kishi were

allies in fighting communism and created a friendship that lasted generations.

Japan had become a "spy's paradise" since espionage was not illegal. In 1978, Japanese IFVOC members were gathering 30 million signatures to support anti-spying legislation. That initiative ultimately failed to pass, but in the same year, the Japan Communist Party (JCP) lost the Governor's seat in Kyoto Prefecture which it had held for nearly three decades.

The JCP Chairman at the time, Kenji Miyamoto (宮本 顕治), publicly declared a "holy war" to annihilate the IFVOC along with the [Unification Church](#).

Since then, leftist lawyers have tried three times to have the [church](#) dissolved. Japanese courts rejected all three attempts. That is because Japanese law was clear: The [church](#) could be dissolved only based on criminal convictions and neither the church nor any of its leaders have ever been accused or convicted of any criminal offense. Criminal, not civil, law was the legal precedent for dissolution in Japan. This all changed on July 8, 2022, when Japan's longest-serving prime minister and current member of its House of Representatives was gunned down on the streets of Nara, Japan.

The [Unification Church](#), which had nothing to do with the murder, became the scapegoat of this terrible

tragedy. The assassin, Tetsuya Yamagami (山上徹也), told police he had "a grudge" against the [Unification Church](#) because his mother had given it [large donations](#) in the early 2000s. Following civil litigation, the [church](#) agreed to return half of the mother's donations, and Yamagami (never a member of the [church](#)) personally signed a legal document saying he released the [church](#) from any further claims.



Kenji Miyamoto - 1908-2007), chairman of the Japanese Communist Party (JCP) 1958-1977



Tetsuya Yamagami, the man who killed Shinzo Abe, the former prime minister of Japan

This went largely unreported in the Japanese press. In the first months following Abe's assassination, a relentless onslaught of more than 10,000 articles published in Japan's print and electronic media attacked the [church](#) [Editor's note: In 2015, the name [Unification Church](#) was in Japan changed to [Family Federation for World Peace and Unification](#)] with nearly 95% being negative. With only one side of the story being told, public opinion turned against the [church](#) which became the de facto culprit.

As it stands, Abe's assassination is a crime without a criminal. The real assassin is Tetsuya Yamagami. He made the gun and pulled the trigger that killed Abe and was apprehended on the scene. Nevertheless, it has been nearly three years, and he has never seen a courtroom. Compare this to Ryūji Kimura (木村隆二) who [tried to assassinate](#) Prime Minister Fumio Kishida on 15th April 2023, nine months after Abe was killed.



In Nov. 2022 interview, Kazuo Shii, chairman of the Japanese Communist Party (JCP) said the party is fighting the "final war" against the [Family Federation](#) / [Unification Church](#). Here Shii on March 30, 2023

In short order Kimura was tried, convicted, and handed a 10-year prison term. Having no criminal conviction in Abe's assassination is oddly convenient for all parties pushing their false narratives. Meanwhile, the [Unification Church](#) stands wrongly accused in the court of public opinion and now in the Tokyo District Court.

With the truth hidden, NNLASS lawyers and Japan's sensational media went into overdrive to heap public shock and blame on the [church](#). This was a phenomenon stage-managed by the JCP in collusion with leftist mainstream media that tightly controlled their carefully scripted narrative. They had the support of Abe's political foe, then-Prime Minister Fumio Kishida.

However, one voice stood out, almost celebrating Abe's demise. Japanese Communist Party Chairman [Kazuo Shii](#) boasted, "This time, we will go all the way until we get it right," referring to their decades-old goal to destroy the [church](#) (Sunday Mainichi, November 6, 2022). This is their ultimate agenda.

Slightly edited for publishing purposes.

To be continued. Part 2 coming soon.

Dr. Robert Kittel earned his Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) from the University of Bridgeport, Connecticut in 2004, specializing in family-value-based character education. He also holds a Master of Divinity degree from the Unification Theological Seminary, New York. Throughout his career, Dr. Kittel has been dedicated to promoting traditional family values, interfaith harmony, and youth education through his leadership roles in various organizations affiliated with the Unification Movement.

[Editor's note: The Bushidō code (武士道, meaning "the way of the warrior") is a traditional Japanese code of honor and moral principles that guided the samurai - the military nobility of feudal Japan. It's not a single, universally codified set of rules, but rather a collection of ethical ideals shaped over centuries, especially influenced by Zen Buddhism, Shinto, and Confucianism.]

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Christian Paper Prints FFWPU Remark To Coverage

• April 9, 2025 • Knut Holdhus



National Christian paper in Norway publishes FFWPU response to coverage on Japanese dissolution case

An article by Steinar Murud, chairman of the Family Federation in Norway 2008-2022, written in response to a news report issued by NTB, Norway leading press agency, and printed in several news outlets. Murud's response was first published in Norwegian in the online edition of the Christian newspaper Dagen (The Day) 8th April. Steinar Murud now serves as the Family Federation's representative on the Council for Religious and Life Stance Communities in Oslo.



Logo of the Norwegian Christian newspaper Dagen.

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Religious Freedom in Japan

An NTB news report titled “Japanese Court Orders Dissolution of Controversial Religious Community” was published in *Dagen* on Tuesday, 25th March. The report states that the religious community may continue as before but loses its registration as a religious organization and its tax-exempt status.

However, the legal process behind the dissolution has received little attention, and the consequences of such a dissolution are being severely underestimated.

Numerous human rights advocates dispute the verdict from the Tokyo District Court. A religious community that has not committed criminal acts cannot be ordered dissolved. Civil disputes do not qualify for dissolution. The verdict is a serious violation of religious freedom.

A dissolution represents a “death sentence” where the authorities not only remove the organization’s religious registration but may also confiscate all funds and properties and introduce legislative changes that hinder parents from passing on their faith to the next generation. In addition, dissolution brings immense social stigma.

The Japanese government’s rejection of a request from Nazila Ghanea, the UN Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Religion or Belief, to visit Japan and make her own assessments points to a questionable process.

Several problematic aspects led to the government’s request for dissolution and the court’s verdict on Tuesday, 25th March:

- An investigative committee composed of declared opponents of the Family Federation.
- Manipulation of the Council for Religious Organizations, where each member was individually visited at home by the ministry to create consensus for dissolution.
- Use of partially falsified evidence. The ministry has recently been reported for specific incidents.
- Use of court proceedings behind closed doors, without access for the defendants.

Instead of investigating the assassin, the Family Federation was made the scapegoat. Right after the assassination, a press conference was organized by a network of lawyers who are activists on the political left. This legal network has long aimed to eliminate the Family Federation due to the faith community’s criticism of totalitarian and atheistic communism.

Claims from the press conference quickly spread through the media and shaped public opinion. This put pressure on the government. The matter rapidly turned political, benefiting the lawyers network and the Japanese Communist Party, while harming the LDP (Liberal Democratic Party) and the Family Federation.

Aaron Rhodes, former president of the International Helsinki Federation, stated on 31st January 2023,

- It is deeply regrettable that Japanese authorities, instead of defending religious freedom, have listened to popular prejudice and propaganda generated by the Communist Party and quasi-legal groups to delegitimize the Family Federation, aiming to make it impossible for the religious community to operate and to eliminate its presence in Japan.

Haruhisa Nakagawa, president of Japan’s Christian Theological Institute, confirms the same,

- I did research on the Family Federation for 25 years from a negative perspective. However, I have now decided to send a letter to the court requesting not to dissolve the Family Federation. The main reason is that the information presented to the public deviates so much from what I personally have observed.



Sent formal UN request to Japan, but no reply:
Nazila Ghanea, UN Rapporteur on Religious Freedom since February 2023. Photo: GiovannaKa / Wikimedia Commons. License: CC ASA 4.0 Int



Aaron Rhodes. Photo: Bitter Winter

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Last year, four UN special rapporteurs sent a letter of concern to the Japanese authorities regarding the unusual measures Japan is taking to limit parents' ability to pass on their faith and traditions to their children.

Professor emeritus Seishiro Sugihara of Musashino University, author of the book *"The Ideal Regulation of Church-State Separation and Constitutional Reform"*, said the following about the legal process,

– If a religious organization is dissolved without an open trial, according to Article 32 of the Constitution, the process is clearly **unconstitutional**.



Seishiro Sugihara pointing out that legal process against **Family Federation** is unconstitutional. Photo: **Sekai Nippo**

The methods and legal changes implemented over the two and a half years since the assassination of Shinzo Abe have been criticized by many. Political motives seem to play a larger role than considerations of religious freedom. The verdict sets a precedent that may affect any religious community solely because of civil disputes. The **verdict** will be **appealed**.

Dagen pointed out,

"This is an opinion piece. The article reflects the author's personal views."

Dagen also mentioned,

"For simplicity, we use 'Family Federation'. The full and proper name is Family Federation for World Peace and Unification. The community is also known as the Unification Church and formerly the Unified Family."

Translated from Norwegian. Dagen published the photo of Dr. Seishiro Sugihara.

Featured image above: Steinar Murud preaching in Oslo 13th November 2022. Photo: Knut Holdhus

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