

2 August 2001

**Counter Report to the Second Periodic Report by the Government of Japan
under the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
Violation of the Right under the Article 11 (Right to Housing)
Brief Report on the Destruction of the Kobe Earthquake
Victims and Others**

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Ms. Virginia Bonoan-Dandan

Chairperson of the Committee on

Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,

Mr. Alexandre Tikhonov

Secretary to the Committee on

Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,

UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights

Palais des Nations Office 1-025

8-14 Avenue de la Paix, CH-1211, Geneva 10, Switzerland

Dear Ms. Bonoan-Dandan:

I'm a woman that was damaged by the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake (On January 17,1995.)

But I wasn't immediately damaged by it.

I was demolished my house (our building) by a proper use of a policy to promote pulling down the building at public expense.

And this thing was done by a public agency.

I was demanded to clear away my expensive (for me) house by force of a judge.

(This judges the report paper of provisional disposition.)

In this way I lost my house.

The buildings (

The buildings (three buildings) were built 12,5 years ago.

Two inclined a bit.

But one wasn't damaged at all.

(The doors, windows and so on were quite well. of course 215 inhabitants were all well.)

So we lived there safely to December 30,1995,

The elevators were stopped by Them(管理組合 kanrikumiai.).

MY house was on 11 floors.

As I was in my old age, it was too hard to go up the stairs.

But I stood firm for two years.

I used my home as my atelier and a place for volunteer.

It was till October 24,1997.

On that day (October, 24, 1997)

I was demanded to clear away my home by force of a judge. (Please look at these pictures of our home, (our building). This building was demolished.)

They (管理組合 kanrikumiai) stopped the elevators, hindered our life and clear away our home.

In this way we lost our houses.

After that the new buildings were built.

But people who could live in the new buildings was 50% (110/214 cases)

50 outsiders bought the houses on the new buildings.

But two years later, Now 60 houses on the buildings are not sold.

That time many inhabitants were in their loan for their houses.

"It is too expensive for us to rebuild.

We must choose a way of repairing "

We –a few people- said.

As a consequence of our saying, we were treated harshly.

To promote pulling down the building at public expense “ They “ 管理組合 kanrikumiai demolished usable, fine and inhabitable buildings.

Why does the administration support “Their” doings?

Does the administration support “GENECON”?

(General contractor)

So we are now on trial-to annul a resolution of rebuilding and to protect us against the violation of resident rights.

But Japanese court mostly supports the administration and is conservative to the first case.

I have no debt.

I’m not a gang.

I never give the neighbors trouble.

But I was demanded to clear away by force of the judge.

Without reasons!

These things happened on me and on 15 others.

We can’t consent these things. (Because the short application period for pulling down the building at public expense lapses, these things happen on us!

We are now on a trial in order to prevent against such an unjust thing after this.

Please help us.

Please counsel respecting rights of cooperative residents (especially the aged person’s rights) to Japanese government and to Japanese judges.

Finally I’m sorry for my poor English.

I really thanks for reading my letters to the end.

I would like to make you know my will, our will and our pain.