

House of Sharing

Established: 1992

The House of Sharing was founded in 1992 as an assisted living facility for the survivors of the Japanese military sexual slavery by Japan, through the efforts of the Buddhist Human Rights Committee. Its first location was in Seogyo-dong, Seoul, where the Halmonis (Grandma in Korean) with financial, physical and/or mental difficulties without families who can care for them shared a communal home. Later in 1995, with a donation of the land by a Buddhist sponsor, House of Sharing moved to its current location in Toechon-myeon, Gwangju-si, Gyeonggi-do, which is about 1 ½ hour drive from Seoul.

The facility also has the first museum dedicated to the issue of Japanese military sexual slavery, “The Museum of Sexual Slavery by Japanese Military” that draws many visitors from Korea and overseas each year.

The survivors often participated in the Wednesday Demonstrations in front of the Japanese Embassy in Seoul, and various other therapeutic activities such as art therapy. Some resident survivors like Ok-sun Lee and Il-chul Kang traveled overseas extensively to testify and advocate justice for the resolution of the “comfort women” issue. The current and the past residents at the House of Sharing include Bok-dong Kim, Duk-kyung Kang, Soon-duk Kim, Ok-sun Lee, Il-Chul Kang, Hee-nam Yoo and many more.



“Girls being burnt” by Il-chul Kang (Provided courtesy of House of Sharing)