Although Japanese Military Sexual Slavery (JMSS) is one of the most horrendous human rights violations in human history that occurred during WWII, its stories are still unfinished. In fact, as of January 13, 2010, survivors are still protesting in front of the Japanese Embassy in Seoul, Korea; it is the 900th Wednesday Demonstration since 1992, demanding an official apology from the Japanese government. Further, with the rise of (conservative) nationalism, Japanese right-wing political leaders visit Yaskuni Shrine to commemorate those who are identified as Class-A war criminals – the group who claim that JMSS is a rumor and that the victims were prostitutes and/or volunteers. The history of JMSS and its surrounding political movements offer a powerful window into the history of colonialism, militarism, and sexism in the modern Asia, and a critical opportunity to reflect and advance ‘human rights for all.’ With various visual representations (photos, paintings, archives, films, etc.), this lecture will provide a brief historical overview of JMSS, highlight the US’ JMSS movements in 2007, and explore ways to resolve the issues of JMSS.

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