

This book is dedicated to the women who have fallen victim to forced prostitution and sexualized violence in past and present times of war and peace. Its aim is to help make sure that their terrible experiences are not forgotten, and their voices are heard all around the world. In 29 academic and expert articles by renowned authors on current and historical topics, the book deals with the global phenomenon of women's sexual enslavement. The spectrum of sexualized violence against women and girls addressed ranges from today's civil wars in Africa and the recent armed conflicts in Bosnia and Kosovo, through forced prostitution under National Socialism, to the book's main subject, the Japanese military sex slaves during the Asia-Pacific War. A political discussion on this so-called "comfort women" issue is highly topical, as illustrated by the World Conference held in Los Angeles in October 2007, for example.