

BBC Documentary: “Predator: The Secret Scandal of J-Pop”

- 1 This March, the BBC, the national broadcaster of the United Kingdom, aired a one-hour documentary, ①“Predator: The Secret Scandal of J-Pop.” It revealed Johnny Kitagawa’s sexual abuse against minors, and the Japanese society’s silence on the issue for nearly 50 years.
- 2 In Japan, Johnny Kitagawa was regarded as one of the largest figures in the music industry. He founded ②Johnny & Associates Inc., one of the most influential talent agencies managing male idol actors and singers. His agency has produced dozens of popular boy bands such as SMAP and Arashi.
- 3 On April 12th, Japanese-Brazilian singer-songwriter Kauan Okamoto, 26, said he was sexually abused by Johnny Kitagawa at least 15 times from 2012-2016, beginning when he was 15. Okamoto said he had been compelled to speak out after the BBC released the documentary. Okamoto spoke at a news conference held at the Foreign Correspondents’ Club of Japan in Tokyo. "Japanese media are extremely reluctant to cover this issue, but I have heard foreign media, like the BBC, might report on it," he said.
- 4 Okamoto added he believed as many as 100 boys are the victims of the abuse. He said that he and other boys at the agency could not refuse Kitagawa because they feared their future careers in show business would be harmed.
- 5 Before Kitagawa died at the age of 87 in 2019, he had denied all accusations of sexual abuse, and never faced charges. A BBC documentary in March detailed allegations from several victims.

predator 捕食者 broadcaster 放送局 air 放送する reveal 明らかにする minor 未成年者 issue 問題
regard A as B: AをBとみなす figure 人物 industry 産業 agency 事務所 be compelled to~: やむを得ず~する
speak out はっきりと意見を述べる news conference 記者会見 be reluctant to V: ~するのを嫌がる
add 付け加える refuse 拒否する deny 否定する accusation 告発 charge 告訴・罪 allegation 申立

★abuse の発音に注意しましょう: ●動詞: [əbjuːz] 虐待する ●名詞: [əbjuːs] 虐待

★Johnny’s Associates Inc.(Incorporated): 株式会社ジャニーズ事務所

★Foreign Correspondents’ Club of Japan 日本外国特派員協会

Q1 Regarding ①“Predator: The Secret Scandal of J-Pop,”

- (1) Which broadcaster aired the program?
(2) How long was the program?
(3) この番組が着目している 2 つのテーマを説明しましょう。

Q2 What is ②Johnny & Associates Inc. especially famous for? Please explain with your words.

Q3 On April 12th, what did Kauan Okamoto announce in a press conference?

Q4 岡本カウアンさんは、なぜ日本のメディアでなく、外国特派員協会に対して記者会見を行ったのですか。

Q5 According to Okamoto, why couldn’t the boys refuse Kitagawa when they were sexually abused?



Why is J-Pop's Johnny Kitagawa still revered in Japan despite being exposed for abuse? – BBC News 【BBC NEWS】
1時間のBBCの番組の要点を、6分でまとめた映像です。

Johnny Kitagawa's sexual abuse against young boys

6 Okamoto joined the agency in 2012 when he was 15. He became a member of "Johnny's Jr.," the group of boys who have not yet officially debuted either with a unit or as a solo act.

7 Okamoto is from Aichi and lived in Tokyo alone. He was often invited to Kitagawa's apartment after dinner. When he was sleeping on Kitagawa's bed, Kitagawa entered the bedroom and started massaging his shoulders. He removed Okamoto's clothes, and his hands moved bit by bit, and directly touched Okamoto's genitals. Okamoto pretended to be asleep throughout the act. "The next day, when we were in the elevator together, he gave me ¥10,000," he said. Okamoto was sexually assaulted about 20 times. Not only he, but also other boys were the victims of the abuse.

8 Asked why the boys put up with the abuse, Okamoto said, "Only Mr. Johnny's favorite boys can make their debuts and get opportunities." He also said that he had heard from other Johnny's Jr. boys, "If you don't go to Kitagawa's home, you won't be a star."

9 He said, "Johnny-san's acts were wrong, but I am grateful to him. Thanks to him, my life has changed." He said he's not considering taking legal action against Johnny & Associates.

genital 生殖器 pretend to V : ~するふりをする assault 攻撃・暴行する put up with ~ : ~を我慢する take legal action 法的措置を取る

Q6 When did Okamoto join the agency?

Q7 What is Johnny's Jr.?

Q8 How many times was Okamoto sexually abused?

Q9 According to Okamoto, why do the boys put up with Kitagawa's abuse?

Q10 Why does Okamoto say he's not considering taking legal action against Johnny & Associates?



Ex-J-pop hopeful Kauan Okamoto alleges sexual abuse by late music mogul Johnny 【Kyodo News PLUS】
岡本カウアンさんの記者会見を、2分でまとめたものです(日本語／英語字幕あり)

★groom とは？

グルーミングとは、動物(特にネコ)の毛づくろいのことですが、児童虐待の「グルーミング」は、下記の意味になります。

grooming: manipulative behaviors that the abuser uses to gain access to a potential victim, coerce them to agree to the abuse, and reduce the risk of being caught.

グルーミングとは、虐待を行う者が相手を操る時に使う手口です。それは、被害者に近づき、性的虐待行為に賛同させ、自分が逮捕されるリスクを軽減することをねらいとしています。(和訳:著者)

<https://www.rainn.org/news/grooming-know-warning-signs>

BBC and Bunshun

[11] Okamoto is not the first person to accuse Kitagawa of sexual misconduct. Allegations that Kitagawa groomed and sexually abused minors date back to the 1960s. In 1999, the weekly magazine “Shukan Bunshun” reported that Kitagawa had sexually abused many boys at the agency. Most Japanese media did not cover the allegations.

[12] Kitagawa sued Bunshun for libel and was awarded damages. The Tokyo High Court concluded that key parts of Bunshun’s report were true. But the court ordered the magazine’s publisher to pay the plaintiff 1.2 million yen in compensation. Kitagawa was never charged with a crime.

[13] Japan’s mainstream mass media ignored the scandals and covered up the truth, because Japan’s entertainment industry had depended on Kitagawa, who had strong ties with big newspapers and sponsors. This silence of the Japanese society has been criticized for decades.

[14] When BBC aired the documentary this March, the journalists and the producer of the program said they hoped it would help to create an environment where victims of sexual violence could come forward. Okamoto also said, “I couldn’t talk about my experiences for a long time. I decided to show my face, but other victims have decided to stay anonymous. It is my wish that every victim can speak out and there will be no more sexual assaults in the entertainment industry.”

[15] Since Kitagawa’s death, Johnny & Associates has been run by his niece, Julie Keiko Fujishima. Johnny and Associates released a statement on April 12th saying that the company will continue to work to "strengthen corporate governance". It did not directly address Okamoto's press conference.

accuse 非難・告訴する misconduct 違法行為 groom グルーミングをする(★2ページ参照) date back to ～: ～にさかのぼる sue 訴える・起訴する for libel 名誉毀損のため be awarded damages(裁判所から)損害賠償を認められる Tokyo High Court 東京高等裁判所 publisher 出版社 plaintiff 原告 in compensation 損害賠償として mainstream 主流の ignore 無視する cover up 隠蔽する・包み隠す ties 関係 come forward 人前に進み出る anonymous 匿名の niece 姪 statement 声明 corporate governance 企業経営を監視する仕組み

Q11 Which magazine accused Kitagawa’s sexual misconduct? When did it happen?

Q12 ジャニー喜多川氏は、上記の雑誌を、どのような理由で起訴しましたか。

Q13 東京高等裁判所は、

(1)ジャニー喜多川氏の行為に関して、どのような結論を下しましたか。

(2)どちら側に対し、いくら賠償金の支払いを命じましたか。

Q14 Japan’s mainstream mass media ignored the scandals and kept silent. Why?

Q15 ジャニー喜多川氏のスキャンダルを報じた BBC の番組のジャーナリスト、プロデューサーは、番組制作の意図について何と述べていますか。

Q16 岡本カウアンさんは、顔を出して自分の性被害について表明することで、何を願っていると語りましたか。

Q17 ジャニーズ事務所は、4月12日(岡本カウアンさんが記者会見を行った後)、どんな声明を出しましたか。

Q18 今日のニュースを読み、日本社会の何が問題だと思いましたか。あなたの意見を書きましょう。

★次の文を3回以上読んで、暗唱しましょう。

1. Kauan Okamoto said he was sexually abused by Johnny Kitagawa at least 15 times.
2. He and other boys could not refuse Kitagawa because they feared their future careers in show business would be harmed.
3. Kitagawa sued Bunshun for libel and was awarded damages.
4. The Tokyo High Court ordered the publisher to pay the plaintiff 1.2 million yen in compensation.
5. Japan's mainstream mass media ignored the scandals and covered up the truth, because Japan's entertainment industry had depended on Kitagawa, who had strong ties with big newspapers and sponsors.

(和訳)

1. 岡本カウアンさんは、少なくとも15回、ジャニー喜多川氏に性的に虐待されたと言いました。
2. 彼や他の少年たちは、喜多川氏を拒否することができませんでした。なぜなら、彼らの芸能界での将来のキャリアが傷つけられることを恐れていたからです。
★abuse の発音に注意しましょう: ● 動詞: [əbjuːz] 虐待する ● 名詞: [əbjuːs] 虐待
★fear の発音に注意しましょう: [fiə]r
3. 喜多川氏は名誉毀損で週刊文春を起訴し、損害賠償を受けることを認められました。
4. 東京高等裁判所は出版社に、原告に対して120万円の損害賠償金を支払うことを命じました。
5. 日本の主要なメディアは、このスキャンダルを無視し、真実を隠蔽しました。なぜなら日本の芸能界は、ずっと喜多川氏に依存してきたからです。喜多川氏は、大手の新聞やスポンサー企業と強い関係を持っていました。
★had depended: 過去完了(継続)が用いられているのは、喜多川氏がすでに亡くなっているため。
★who 以下は、直前の Kitagawa を修飾(固有名詞を修飾しており、関係代名詞の非制限用法となる)