

# Recent mass killings in Japan

Japan is among the world's safest countries, but has a grisly record of mass violence

400km  
250 miles

JAPAN



1995

2000

2005

2010

2015

2019

**1 1995:**

Members of **Aum Shinrikyo** cult release **sarin** nerve gas on Tokyo subway, killing 13 people and injuring thousands more. ▲ Cult leader **Shoko Asahara** and 11 other members executed in 2018



**2 Jun 2001:** Eight children stabbed to death at elementary school in Osaka by former janitor

**3 Sep:** Fire at building in Tokyo's Kabukicho entertainment district kills 44. Arson is suspected

**4 Jun 2008:** Man who said he had been bullied online, kills seven people by driving over some and stabbing others in Tokyo's "anime" district of Akihabara

**5 Oct:** 16 people killed in arson attack on video rental shop in downtown Osaka

**6 2016:** 19 stabbed to death by former worker at centre for people with mental disabilities in Sagami-hara. He said he wanted disabled to "disappear"

**7 Jul 18, 2019:** At least 33 people killed and dozens injured after man sets fire to animation studio in Kyoto. He reportedly says he carried out attack because he believed his novel had been plagiarised