

Other Violent Incidents

The cult used various chemical weapons (sarin, VX, cyanide) and biological weapons (botulinum, anthrax) in an attempt to caused several violent incidents.

The following is a brief summary of the 13 cases in which Asahara was convicted (the number of crimes prosecuted was limited to speed up the trial).

Incidents using Chemical Weapons

[Sarin Gas]

Sarin is an organophosphorus chemical that is colorless and odorless and a liquid at normal temperatures but highly volatile. If absorbed by the body, it may cause injuries to respiratory muscles or cause paralysis of the respiratory center, leading to death (February 27, 2004 court case judgment for Shoko Asahara (born Chizuo Matsumoto)).

1. Sarin gas plant (November 1993 ~ late-December 1994)

In order to murder an unspecified number of people by spraying sarin gas, from around November 1993 to around late-December 1994, Asahara nearly completed a sarin gas plant at the cult facility No. 7 Satyam located in then Kamikuishiki Village, Yatsushiro County, Yamanashi Prefecture. The raw materials were put in the plant, and it was operated to produce sarin gas.

2. Attempted murder of a lawyer (May 9, 1994)

Top followers who were instructed by Asahara placed a sarin solution in and around the groove of the windshield under panel of the car owned by the lawyer who was conducting counseling activities for cult followers and was a part of a defense team for victims of *Aum Shinrikyo*. The lawyer later drove the car and was poisoned by the sarin.

3. Matsumoto sarin gas attack (June 27, 1994)

Top followers who were instructed by Asahara activated a heated sprayer installed on a car to heat and vaporize sarin gas in a parking lot located in Kitafukashi, Matsumoto City, Nagano Prefecture, and then set up a large fan to spread the gas around. Eight people were killed by sarin poisoning, and approximately 140 people (*) were injured.

* The number of victims is based on criminal trial records

Reference: [Matsumoto Sarin Gas Attack](#)

4. Tokyo subway sarin gas attacks (March 20, 1995)

Top followers who were instructed by Asahara, aiming to kill an unspecified number of train passengers by dispersing sarin gas, pierced sarin-filled plastic bags with the tips of umbrellas to disperse the gas in train cars of the Hibiya, Chiyoda and Marunouchi lines that stop at Kasumigaseki Station in Chiyoda, Tokyo, killing 13 passengers by sarin poisoning and injuring more than 5,800 (*) people.

* The number of victims who received benefit payments based on the Act Relating to the Payment of Benefits for the Relief of Aum Shinrikyo Crime Victims

Reference: [Tokyo Subway Sarin Gas Attacks](#)

[VX]

VX is a nerve agent whose toxicity is said to be 100 to 1,000 times that of sarin. When absorbed in the body, as with sarin, symptoms such as miosis (pupillary contraction), cramps, dyspnea, etc. can be seen (February 27, 2004 court case judgment for Shoko Asahara (born Chizuo Matsumoto)).

5. Attempted Murder of the Protector of a Former Follower with VX(December 2, 1994)

Top followers who were instructed by Asahara, tried to kill a man who harbored a former live-in follower of the cult who left the cult facility in (then) Kamikuishiki Village, Yatsushiro County, Yamanashi Prefecture and introduced the person to a lawyer. They injected VX into the back of the man's head on the street in Nakano, Tokyo, and he suffered VX poisoning.

6. Murder of Follower with VX(December 12, 1994)

As the result of a personal background check of a lay follower that Asahara had ordered because there was information indicating that the follower was trying to make a new faction, a company employee's name came up as a suspicious person who had a relationship with the follower. Asahara decided that employee was a spy, and top followers who were instructed by Asahara, injected VX into the back of the man's head on the street in Yodogawa, Osaka City, and he died from VX poisoning.

7. Attempted Murder with VX of Victims' Association Chairman (January 4, 1995)

Top followers who were instructed by Asahara put a syringe filled with the poisonous chemical VX near the back of the *Aum Shinrikyo* victims' association chairman's man who was conducting activities urging followers to leave the cult on a street in Minato, Tokyo, and he suffered from VX poisoning.

Other Incidents

[Strangulation and Other Violent Crimes]

8. Murder of Follower (early February 1989)

Top followers who were instructed by Asahara murdered a follower who intended to leave the cult strangling the victim with a rope in a container used for solitary training at the Fujisan cult facility headquarters located in Fujinomiya City, Shizuoka Prefecture.

9. Murder of Lawyer's Family (November 4, 1989)

Top followers who were instructed by Asahara broke into the home of a lawyer conducting activities critical of the cult, and suffocated the lawyer, his wife and child to death.

10. Lynching Murder of a Follower (January 30, 1994)

A male follower who was in close contact with a female follower who had an incurable disease and was being treated

by the cult, broke into a cult facility with the son of the female follower. Cult followers discovered and captured them trying to escape with the female follower.

Asahara instructed the son of the female follower to murder the male follower. Top followers who were nearby held down the male follower's body, and the son of the female follower placed a rope around his neck and strangled him to death. After that, the corpse of the male follower was placed in an incinerator (microwave incinerator) combining a microwave heating device and a drum, and his body was irradiated with microwaves to heat, incinerate, and destroy it.

11. Lynching Murder of a Follower (July 10, 1994)

Asahara suspected a follower of being a spy and top followers tortured him. Believing that if they left him alive he would be a hindrance to the later development of the cult after torturing him, they plotted his death, and murdered him by wrapping a rope around his neck and strangled him in a cult facility located in (then) Kamikuishiki Village, Yatsushiro County, Yamanashi Prefecture. After that, his corpse was placed in an incinerator (microwave incinerator) combining a microwave heating device and a drum, and his body was irradiated with microwaves to heat, incinerate, and destroy it.

12. Illegal Arrest and Imprisonment Resulting in Death of an official of a Notary's office (late February ~ early March 1995)

In order to find out the location of a follower in hiding because the follower feared the cult would take all of the follower's property, top followers who were instructed by Asahara pushed the elder brother, who was a notary official, of the follower into a van on a street in Shinagawa, Tokyo and took him to a cult facility located in (then) Kamikuishiki Village, Yatsushiro County, Yamanashi Prefecture (February 28), and he died from cardiac arrest caused by the side effects (respiratory depression, circulatory depression, etc.) of a large dose general

anesthetics (March 1). After that, his corpse was placed in an incinerator (microwave incinerator) combining a microwave heating device and a drum, and his body was irradiated with microwaves to heat, incinerate, and destroy it.

[Weapon Production]

13. Small Arms Products (Around June 1994 ~ January 1995)

Under the direction of Asahara, in an attempt to produce 1,000 automatic rifles imitating the Russian-made automatic weapon AK-74, a large number of parts for automatic weapons were produced at the cult facilities in (then) Kamikuishiki Village, Yatsushiro County, Yamanashi Prefecture from around late June 1994, and rifles were manufactured in the cult facilities located in Tomizawa-cho, Minamikoma County, Yamanashi Prefecture until January 1, 1995.