

1. History Leading to Attack

In 1991, the cult planned the new construction of cult facilities in Matsumoto City, Nagano Prefecture.

However, the opposition of local residents to the plan turned into a court struggle. As a result of the trial, the cult changed its original plans and reduced the size of the facility.

Asahara and his followers were fiercely hostile to the court because of the "unfavorable" order against the cult.

In July 1994, as there was a possibility that the cult would receive an unfavorable ruling regarding the sales contract of the Matsumoto branch of the cult, Asahara directed that sarin be dispersed at the court (later changing the target to a dormitory for court staff) in order to kill the hostile judge and surrounding residents.

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2. Carrying Out the Attack

- Cult leaders used a sarin sprayer to disperse sarin towards the dormitory
- 8 people were killed by sarin poisoning, and approximately 140 people (*) were injured

* The number of victims is based on criminal trial records