



Fire engulfs Japan's World Heritage-listed Shuri Castle

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A fire tore through Japan's World Heritage-listed Shuri Castle on Thursday, reducing the main hall of the more than 500-year-old landmark to a skeleton.

1. One of Japan's World Heritage sites _____

2-1. Flames _____

2-2. reducing the main hall of the over 500-year-old reconstructed landmark _____

3. Firefighters on the southern island of Okinawa _____

4-1. Local media quoted the city's mayor _____

4-2. and said the north and south halls _____

5. Japan's Chief Cabinet Secretary _____

JAPANESE CHIEF CABINET SECRETARY, YOSHIHIDE SUGA, SAYING:

"I know Shuri Castle, a World Heritage site, is an extremely important symbol of Okinawa. I feel my heart ache and extend my heartfelt sympathy to the people of Okinawa."

6. The wooden castle, painted bright red and enclosed by curved stone walls, _____

7. It was due _____

8-1. The city's fire department said _____

8-2. its halls did not - _____

9. Shuri Castle has been destroyed by fire several times, _____

10. After World War 2, _____

11-1. Once restored, _____

11-2. and was designated _____

[Vocabulary]

- **heritage**: the art, buildings, traditions, and beliefs that a society considers important to its history and culture
- **World Heritage**:
- **site**: a place where something happened, especially something interesting or important, or where there is an important building
 - *The site for next year's general meeting is the Hotel Vancouver.*
- **tear through**: to cause a great amount of destruction while moving rapidly through something or some place
 - *The hurricane tore through the town, leveling everything in its path.*
- **reduce something to something**: to make something change into a different form by damaging it or crushing it
 - *The earthquake reduced some buildings to rubble.*
 - *This beautiful forest has been reduced to a wasteland.*
- **reconstructed**: built or formed again after something has been damaged or destroyed
 - *From October 1979, the Tonopah Airport base was reconstructed and expanded.*
- **landmark**: a famous building or object that you can see and recognize easily
 - *The Statue of Liberty is a very famous landmark.*
- **mere**: used for emphasizing that something is small or unimportant
 - *I've lost a mere two pounds.*
 - *Her comments are mere opinion, not fact.*
- **skeleton**: a structure that supports something such as a building
 - *Only skeletons of buildings remained.*
- **blacken**: to become black, or to make something become black
 - *A mass of seagulls blackened the sky.*
 - *The walls were blackened by decades of soot.*
- **Chief Cabinet Secretary**: a Minister of State who is responsible for directing the Cabinet Secretariat of Japan. The main function of the Chief Cabinet Secretary is to coordinate the policies of ministries and agencies in the executive branch. The Chief Cabinet Secretary serves as the government's press secretary, conducts policy research, prepares materials to be discussed at cabinet meetings, and, in time of national crisis, coordinates ministries and agencies of the executive branch. The Chief Cabinet Secretary is customarily nominated as the first in line to serve as temporary Acting Prime Minister in case the Prime Minister is unable to serve due to death or other grave reasons until a new Prime Minister is appointed.
- **heartfelt**: Heartfelt is used to describe a deep or sincere feeling or wish.
- **heartfelt sympathy**:
 - *You have my heartfelt sympathy.*
 - *My heartfelt sympathy goes out to all the relatives.*
- **bright red**: of the red of fresh raspberries
- **enclosed**: surrounded by something and separated from what is outside
 - *a fear of enclosed spaces*
- **curved**: forming a curve
 - *a bull with huge curved horns*
- **stone wall**: a fence built of rough stones; used to separate fields

- **stop**: a place where you stop on a trip; a brief stay in the course of a journey
 - *The president's first stop on his tour will be Honolulu.*
 - *If you need an overnight stop near Santa Fe, this is an ideal place.*
- **torch relay**: An event during which a ceremonial torch is carried on a designated route by a succession of torchbearers.
 - *'the Olympic flame will travel to Britain for a 70-day torch relay covering 8,000 miles'*
- **exterior**: on or relating to the outside part of something
 - *exterior walls*
- **sprinkler system**: a system for extinguishing fires; water from a network of overhead pipes is released through nozzles that open automatically with the rise in temperature
- **code**: a set of rules about how something should be done or how people should behave
 - *According to city traffic code, traffic should slow down to allow emergency to pass.*
- **fire code**: set of standards established and enforced by government for fire prevention and safety in case of fire as in fire escapes etc.
- **Battle of Okinawa**: a major battle of the Pacific War fought on the island of Okinawa by United States Marine and Army forces against the Imperial Japanese Army. The initial invasion of Okinawa on April 1, 1945, was the largest amphibious assault in the Pacific Theater of World War II. The 82-day battle lasted from April 1 until June 22, 1945.
- **campus**: an area of land containing all the main buildings of a university, school, or other organization such as a hospital
- **restore**: to cause a particular situation to exist again, especially a positive one
 - *The old painting was carefully restored by experts.*
 - *By Sunday, electricity had been restored.*
- **designate**: to give someone or something a particular name, title, or description
 - *The park was designated as a National Monument in 1975.*

[参照辞書: Merriam-Webster, Oxford English Dictionary, America Heritage of the English language, Collins English Dictionary, Macmillan Dictionary, the Free Dictionary, Wikipedia]