

FFWPU Europe and the Middle East: 3 Years after Abe Assassination Still Missing Answers in Japan

Knut Holdhus
July 8, 2025



On July 8, 2023, a flower offering stand was set up at Osaka Gokoku Shrine for the first anniversary memorial (isshuuki) of former Prime Minister Shinzo Abe. Organizer: The Itagaki Taisuke Memorial Association (a general incorporated association).



Three years since murder of former Prime Minister Abe, there are many missing answers as society is effectively playing into the hands of terrorist who sought to influence the public

Tokyo, 8th July 2025 - Published as an article in the Japanese newspaper [Sekai Nippo](#). Republished with permission. Translated from Japanese. [Original article](#).

[Editorial]

Three Years Since Abe's Assassination: Where Are the Politicians Who Will Inherit His Vision?

by the editorial department of [Sekai Nippo](#)

It has been three years since former Prime Minister Shinzo Abe (安倍晋三) was struck down by an assassin's bullet and met an untimely, tragic death. As domestic and international affairs grow increasingly chaotic, the magnitude of his loss is becoming ever more apparent. This moment calls for renewed reflection on the significance of the incident, as well as a remembrance of Abe's political legacy and ideals.

The LDP's core conservative base is drifting away

Abe's greatest legacy was the creation of a new international political framework led by Japan to defend freedom - embodied in the "Free and Open Indo-Pacific" initiative and the Quad (Japan-U.S.-Australia-India strategic dialogue). Today, countries around the world, including Japan, are struggling to cope with U.S. President Trump's aggressive tariff policies. Abe, who earned Trump's trust more than any other world leader, is clearly a global loss. Politicians must learn from Abe's diplomacy and negotiate with Trump with the same sense of scale.

Advocating for a "departure from the postwar regime", Abe promoted key conservative initiatives such as

laws paving the way for constitutional revision and security legislation. While he also implemented many centrist policies, they were grounded in a firm national vision. Even when compromise was necessary, he remained anchored by a solid core. This consistency supported the longest and most stable administration in Japan's constitutional history.



Former Prime Minister Shinzō Abe meeting with then President-elect Donald Trump at Trump Tower, November 17, 2016

With Abe's assassination, Japan lost a politician who had both a firm ideological backbone and the capacity to pragmatically handle reality. The Liberal Democratic Party's conservatism has since been hollowed out, and the party is beginning to lose support from its once rock-solid conservative base. Meanwhile, parties like the Sanseito and the Japan Conservative Party - who appeal to dissatisfied conservatives - have gained seats in the Diet, but their proliferation gives the impression of fragmented mini-parties.

Conservative sentiment is on the rise, and many voices are calling for someone to carry on Abe's ideals. The real issue is that no politician has emerged as a unifying figure to fulfill that role.

A democratic society undermined



Tetsuya Yamagami, the suspect for the assassination of Shinzo Abe, the former prime minister of Japan

Initially, when former Prime Minister Abe was shot while campaigning for the Upper House election, politicians and the media harshly condemned it as "a grave challenge to democracy". However, when it emerged that the suspect, Tetsuya Yamagami (山上徹也), was motivated by resentment toward the [Unification Church](#) (now known as the [Family Federation for World Peace and Unification](#)), which his mother had joined, media coverage shifted to a more sympathetic tone. The focus turned to the [religious organization](#) itself, and the relationships between LDP politicians and the [organization](#) came under fire.

In response, the government filed a request for the dissolution of the [religious organization](#), which is now under judicial review. But

in doing so, society is effectively playing into the hands of a terrorist who sought to influence the public and settle a personal grudge by assassinating a high-profile political figure. This is not merely a challenge to democracy - it amounts to a hijacking of democratic society.

The truth behind the incident must be investigated

The police pursued the case as a lone-wolf act by Yamagami. The first trial is scheduled for 28th October, and it is expected that the facts of the case will not be contested, with the focus instead on sentencing based on the defendant's background and circumstances.

However, since the beginning, many have questioned whether this was really a solo act. There are serious, reasonable doubts that cannot be dismissed as "conspiracy theories" - such as the significant discrepancies between the medical opinion of Dr. Hidetada Fukushima (福島英賢) of Nara Medical University Hospital, who treated Abe, and the official autopsy report by the Nara Prefectural Police; or the fact that the fatal bullet has never been recovered.



Positional relationship between former prime minister Shinzo Abe and the shooter Tetsuya Yamagami on his assassination

Given the profound societal impact of the incident, we must re-investigate the connections behind it and uncover the full truth.

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“Organized Terrorism, Not Lone Wolf, Killed Abe”

- July 7, 2025
- Knut Holdhus



Research indicates assassination of former Prime Minister Abe may not have been the act of a lone individual but rather an act of organized terrorism

Tokyo, 7th July 2025 – Published as an article in the Japanese newspaper *Sekai Nippo*. Republished with permission. Translated from Japanese. [Original article](#).

“Not a Lone Attacker, But Organized Terrorism”
Dr. Jun Takada (Ph.D. in science) gives a lecture in Tokyo on the truth behind the



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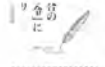
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by the editorial department of *Sekai Nippo*



Dr. Jun Takada at the Senichi Club 25th June 2022. Photo: *Sekai Nippo*

Ahead of the third anniversary of the shooting incident that led to the assassination of former Prime Minister Shinzo Abe (安倍晋三), a lecture event examining the case was held on 5th July at the Seiryō Kaikan in Nagatacho, Tokyo. The event was organized by Taasan Publishing and the Center for Radiation Protection Information. Dr. Jun Takada (高田純) [See editor's note below], a physicist, reported on his investigation.

He emphasized that the overall purpose of the incident was “the elimination of Mr. Abe and the weakening of the Abe faction”, and that the unrelated former [Unification Church \(Family Federation for World Peace and Unification\)](#) was exploited in the process.

Based on analysis of footage before and after the incident, Dr. Takada [See editor's note below] referred to the presence of a woman wearing a sailor-style school uniform, a white mask, and white headphones. “Upon investigation, it turned out that the uniform was not from any nearby schools. At the moment the incident occurred, she ran away in a different direction from everyone else,” he noted, arguing once again that it may not have been the act of a lone individual – Tetsuya Yamagami (山上徹也), the accused – but rather an organized act of terrorism.



Tetsuya Yamagami. He may not have acted alone assassinating Shinzo Abe, the former prime minister of Japan. Photo: Andrew2592009 / Wikimedia Commons. License: [CC ASA 4.0 Int.](#) Cropped

Takada [See editor's note below] also shared that he attempted to publish a book summarizing his research findings to uncover the truth behind the incident but was rejected by multiple publishers. He said,

“I can’t help but feel that there is considerable pressure being exerted on the media world.”

After the lecture, one attendee, information strategy analyst Tetsuhide Yamaoka (山岡鉄秀), stated,

“Those in power within the country are desperate to cover this up and will not speak the truth. We must once again make Japan a nation with high moral standards.”

Additional opinions from the audience included suggestions such as,

“The homemade gun should be reconstructed and tested in an experiment.”

Featured image above: Dr. Jun Takada, PhD in Science, giving a lecture. Photo: Provided by the organizers.

[Editor's note: Jun Takada (高田純) was born in 1954 in Tokyo. He holds a Doctorate in Science and served as a professor at Sapporo Medical University, now Professor Emeritus in Radiological Protection. He has conducted extensive field research on nuclear and radiological issues in locations such as Hiroshima, Chernobyl, Semipalatinsk, the Marshall Islands, Siberia, the Silk Road, and Fukushima.

Focus areas of his research include nuclear armament in China and North Korea, and nuclear terrorism preparedness, collaborating with Japan’s Self-Defense Force medical units.

Dr. Takada has authored “A Historical Examination of the Nara Incident” (国史 奈良の変 – 2023), a self-published investigative report in Japanese on the Abe assassination, featuring a comprehensive scientific analysis. The “Nara Incident” refers to the assassination of former Prime Minister Shinzo Abe in Nara in July 2022. The title suggests that the author is framing the event not merely as a criminal case but as a historically significant turning point worthy of national historical analysis.

Jun Takada regularly appears in public forums, including YouTube talk shows such as “The Intellectuals’ Broadcast Channel” (Bunkajin TV – 文

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化人放送局) analyzing the Abe shooting via acoustic and video data. The channel is an alternative Japanese media platform (often hosted on YouTube) featuring commentary from intellectuals, academics, and political pundits.

In June 2023, at a Senichi Club (世田クラブ) online lecture, Takada argued that the fatal shot was fired by someone other than Tetsuya Yamagami, and that the incident was likely an organized terrorist attack, not a lone wolf action. The Senichi Club refers to a public lecture or speaker series affiliated with or hosted by the Sekai Nippo.

Dr. Takada uses audio waveform analysis to pinpoint a third shot (a short, sharp noise just before the second loud bang), and suggests inconsistencies in bullet trajectory, bullet entrance and exit wounds, and possible cover-ups by law enforcement.]

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