

Tributes flow for victims as Japan *reels* from deadly *blaze*

An alleged *arson* attack on a respected Japanese animation studio left a shocked nation *grieving*, as investigators looked to identify victims and determine a possible motive in one of the deadliest acts of violence in Japan's modern history.

reel 迷惑; 震惊

blaze 火焰

arson 纵火

grieve 悲痛

A total of 33 people — many of them young — were killed a day earlier when a man appeared to douse *flammable* liquid through the Kyoto Animation Co. studio and set it *alight*, *triggering* an *inferno*, officials said. Some 36 others were injured, about 10 critically.

flammable 可燃的

alight 燃烧的; 发亮的

trigger 触发; 引起

inferno 阴间; 地狱

The blaze at the production house struck at a pillar of Japan's anime industry, an obsession in the country and a *cherished* cultural export. Kyoto Animation, known as KyoAni, had produced hits such as "Lucky Star, " "K-On!" and "Haruhi Suzumiya, " winning worldwide acclaim for its skilled drawings.

cherish 珍爱; 珍惜

Outside the *charred* shell of the company's workspace in Kyoto's *outskirts* on Friday, crowds of well-wishers left flowers and messages of support for the victims. Many bowed, or knelt down and prayed as they offered their respects.

char 烧焦

outskirt 郊区

The suspect, Shinji Aoba, aged 41, remained in the hospital after suffering burns all over his body. A woman who saw police detain the man a day earlier told reporters that he "seemed to be discontented, he seemed to get angry, shouting something about how he had been *plagiarized*, " according to Reuters.

plagiarize 剽窃; 抄袭

Hideaki Hatta, a co-founder and president of Kyoto Animation, said Thursday that the studio had been receiving threats, including emails threatening murder. He said the attack had "broken our hearts."