

Rising Again

The Notre Dame Cathedral is being rebuilt



■ 骨組みが完成した修復中のノートルダム大聖堂 (2024年1月15日)

修復作業を行う作業員が笑顔で手を振るこの写真は、X (旧 Twitter) でシェアされ、多くの祝福の声が寄せられた。屋根の先端には祝いの花束が飾られている。

REUTERS/AFLO

When the Notre Dame Cathedral burned down in April 2019, it was a huge shock. The cathedral was loved all over the world as the symbol of Paris. It also got about 12 million visitors a year. No other historical

place in Europe received that many visitors. “We cannot imagine a Paris without Notre Dame,” said the French Heritage Society.

Right away, France’s president Emmanuel Macron promised that the cathedral would

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00. cathedral [kəθiːdrəl] 大聖堂	22. lockdown [lɒkdaʊn] ロックダウン、封鎖	33. Victor Hugo ヴィクトル・ユーゴー
00. rebuild [riːbɪld] 再建する	25. donation [daʊneɪʃən] 寄付 (金)	33. <i>The Hunchback of Notre Dame</i> (<i>Notre-Dame de Paris</i>) 『ノートルダムのせむし男(ノートルダム・ド・パリ)』
08. heritage [hɛrɪtɪdʒ] 遺産	26. spire [spáɪər] 尖塔 (せんとう)	38. reconstruction [riːkənstrʌkʃən] 再建
09. Emmanuel Macron エマニュエル・マクロン	32. the French Revolution フランス革命	
16. lead [léd] 鉛		



■ 炎をあげて燃えるノートルダム大聖堂 (2019年4月15日)

火は出火から9時間後に消し止められた。ノートルダム大聖堂の象徴であった尖塔が焼け落ち、屋根の3分の2が消失したが、イエス・キリストが十字架に磔 (はりつけ) にされた際にかぶっていたとされる「いばらの冠」などの所蔵品は、火災直後に消防士に運び出されて無事だった。火災の原因は現在も特定できていない。

USA TODAY Network/AFLO

be rebuilt within five years. Some people thought that the goal was impossible. Workers had difficulty rebuilding the cathedral for various reasons. The roof had been almost completely destroyed. Large amounts of lead were also used in the roof, and this lead melted in the fire. Lead is very dangerous for people, so workers had to wait for some time. High winds in the first winter after the disaster made the work dangerous. The next year, France was on lockdown during the COVID-19 pandemic. After it became safe to work, about 500 people worked on the cathedral every day. With hard work and donations from all over the world, the cathedral’s famous spire rose again in December 2023.

The work on the original Notre Dame Cathedral was started in 1163. It took more

than 100 years to finish. Over time, the cathedral was damaged by nature and by people in the French Revolution. In 1831, the writer Victor Hugo wrote a novel called *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* (*Notre-Dame de Paris*). This story about the bell ringer of the cathedral became very popular. People cared about the cathedral again and wanted to repair it. A reconstruction project lasted until 1864 and made the cathedral very popular again.

Notre Dame is scheduled to reopen in December 2024. Visitors to France for the Paris 2024 Summer Olympics will not be able to enter the cathedral. However, they will be able to see its spire from far away. Work on the outside of the cathedral will continue for a few more years. After it is finished, Notre Dame will live on as the symbol of Paris. ■



■ 新しい尖塔に取り付けられた風見鶏 (2023年12月16日)

以前設置されていた風見鶏は大きく損傷したため修復できなかった。新しい風見鶏の内部には、大火災をまめかれた遺物や、大聖堂の再建に携わった約2,000人の名前が記された封書が収められている。

AFP/AFLO

WANT TO LEARN MORE?

Website	ノートルダム大聖堂公式 (英語) - https://www.notredamedeparis.fr/en/
Book	ヴィクトル・ユゴー著『ノートルダム・ド・パリ』岩波文庫
Book	アニエス・ポワリエ著『ノートルダム：フランスの魂』白水社

VOICE DL

