

Japan goes forward with Sado gold mines World Heritage bid

① Japan will recommend gold and silver mines on Sado Island for the 2023 UNESCO World Heritage list, Prime Minister Fumio Kishida finally announced on Friday(January 28th), ①despite South Korea's strong protest. South Korea has opposed the recommendation and urged Japan to stop attempting to list the site, arguing that more than a thousand Korean workers were forced to work in the mines during its 1910-1945 colonization of the Korean Peninsula.

2 The Cultural Affairs Agency selected the Sado gold mines complex on December 28th as Japan's only candidate site for the upcoming listing. The agency said Sado was the world's largest producer of gold in the 17th century. The gold mines on Sado Island long helped to support Japan's finances of the central governments and even influenced the global economy. Mining operations there reached their peak during the early Edo Period (1603-1867) and stopped in 1989. On Sado Island, there are well-preserved remains of mines and villages from several eras stretching back more than 400 years.

3 In January, ②the Japanese government was caught between a rock and a hard place in deciding if or when to forge ahead with plans to recommend the mines as a candidate for UNESCO World Heritage list. The deadline for nominations to UNESCO was February 1st.

go forward with～: ～を前にすすめる gold mine 金山・金鉱 heritage 遺産 bid 入札・努力
colonization 植民化 Cultural Affairs Agency 文化庁 complex 複合施設 candidate 立候補者
finance 財政 remain 遺跡 be caught between a rock and a hard place 板挟みになる・苦境に陥る
forge ahead with～: ～の計画を押し進める ★()

Q1 Where is Sado island? Please explain in English.

Q2 下線①の意味を変えずに、though を用いて節で書き換えましょう。

Q3 Why does South Korea oppose recommending gold and silver mines on Sado Island for the 2023 UNESCO World Heritage list?

Q4 When was the deadline for nominations?

Q5 文化庁によれば、佐渡金山にはどのような文化的な価値がありますか。2段落を参考に説明しましょう。

Q6 When did the Sado gold mines complex reach their peak?

Q7 Why was the Japanese government caught between a rock and a hard place?



Unique historical spot "Sado Gold Mine" in Sado Island, Niigata, Japan

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JlHr7bl d4_8&t=28s

Niigata Tourism Information, Enjoy Niigata, Japan 【English/6mins】

ガイドさんが英語で、佐渡金山の見どころを紹介してくれます。

4 ③With the deadline approaching, conservative LDP lawmakers raised their voices to appeal to their supporters ahead of the elections this summer. During Monday's(*January 24th) Diet session, Sanae Takaichi, the hawkish chairwoman of the ruling LDP's Policy Research Council, said, "The nomination concerns the dignity of the nation. We should by all means submit the recommendation by the end of the current fiscal year." Former Prime Minister Shinzo Abe has also called for recommending the Sado gold mines as a World Heritage site.

5 On February 3rd, Japan's Foreign Minister Yoshimasa Hayashi had a 35-minute telephone conference with South Korean ④counterpart Chung Eui-yong to discuss recent North Korea's ballistic missile launch on January 30th. The two countries agreed to cooperate closely, together with the United States under the shared understanding that Pyongyang's activities pose a grave threat to the peace and stability of Japan, East Asia and the world.

6 However, during the talks, Chung protested Japan's recent decision to nominate the Sado mines for designation as a UNESCO World Heritage site. He expressed ⑤his deep disappointment and said, "The Japanese government has continued to ignore the history of Korean laborers brought to work in the mines."

conservative 保守的な lawmaker 政治家 ahead of = before Diet session 国会会期 hawkish タカ派の chairwoman 会長(女性) LDP's Policy Research Council 自民党政務調査会 concern ~ : ~に関わる dignity 尊厳 by all means 必ず・ぜひとも counterpart 対応する(同等の)物／者 ballistic missile 弾道ミサイル pose a threat to ~ : ~に脅威を及ぼす grave 深刻な stability 安定 disappointment 失望 laborer 労働者 ★()

Q8 下線③の意味を変えずに、As を用いて節で書き換えましょう。

Q9 高市早苗氏と安倍晋三氏は何と言いましたか。

Q10 下線④は何を指しますか？

Q11 During the telephone conference, what did Japan's Foreign Minister Yoshimasa Hayashi and Chung Eui-yong agree on?

Q12 下線⑤について、何に対してか、内容を詳しく説明しましょう。



Japanese gov't sets up task force to list Sado mine as UNESCO World Heritage

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=teXYmbPpn8Q>

韓国の英語国際放送局 Arirang News のニュース番組 (English/2 mins)

7 Chung also criticized the 2015 designation of the “Sites of the Meiji Industrial Revolution” as a World Heritage site. The site includes the Hashima Coal Mine, located on a tiny speck of rock known as “Battleship Island” off the coast of Nagasaki city, where Korean laborers were brought and forced to work during the war. He said Japan’s explanation of how it used Korean laborers on the island remains insufficient. He said, “I strongly ask that Japan faithfully implement its promised measures to provide clearer explanations.”

designation 指定	sites of Japan's Meiji Industrial	Revolution 明治日本の産業革命遺産	Hashima
Coal Mine 端島炭坑	Battleship Island 軍艦島	speck 点	insufficient=not enough
implement 実行する	measures 措置	★(faithfully 誠実に)

Q13 Where is the Hashima Coal Mine?

Q14 Why did Mr. Chung criticize the designation of the “Sites of the Meiji Industrial Revolution” as a World Heritage site?

Q15 What did Mr. Chung request to Foreign Minister Yoshimasa Hayashi?

Q16 Do you think that Japan made a right decision in recommending the Sado gold mines for the UNESCO World Heritage site despite Korea’s backlash? Why do you think so?



【Japanagos】地球上の天国??長崎の戦艦島！

バイリンガールの Chika さんの動画（英語／10 分）

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-9w8APSmaRg>

★次の文を3回ずつ読んで、暗唱しましょう。

1) Japan will recommend gold and silver mines on Sado Island for the 2023 UNESCO World Heritage list.

2) South Korea argued that more than a thousand Korean workers were forced to work in the mines during its 1910-1945 colonization of the Korean Peninsula.

3) The two countries agreed to cooperate closely, together with the United States under the shared understanding that Pyongyang's activities pose a grave threat to the peace and stability of Japan, East Asia and the world.

4) Chung also criticized the 2015 designation of the "Sites of the Meiji Industrial Revolution" as a World Heritage site.

(和訳)

1) 日本は2023年のユネスコ（国連教育科学文化期間）世界遺産の候補として、佐渡ヶ島の金山と銀山を推薦する予定である。

2) 韓国は、1910～1945年に朝鮮半島が日本に植民支配されていた時期、1000人以上の韓国人労働者達がそれらの鉱山で強制労働をさせられていたと反論している。

3) 二国は、北朝鮮の活動が、日本・東アジア・世界の平和と安定に深刻な脅威を与えているという共通認識のもと、アメリカと密接に協力していくことで合意した。

4) チュン外務大臣は、日本が2015年に明治日本の産業革命遺産を世界遺産に指定したことについても批判した。