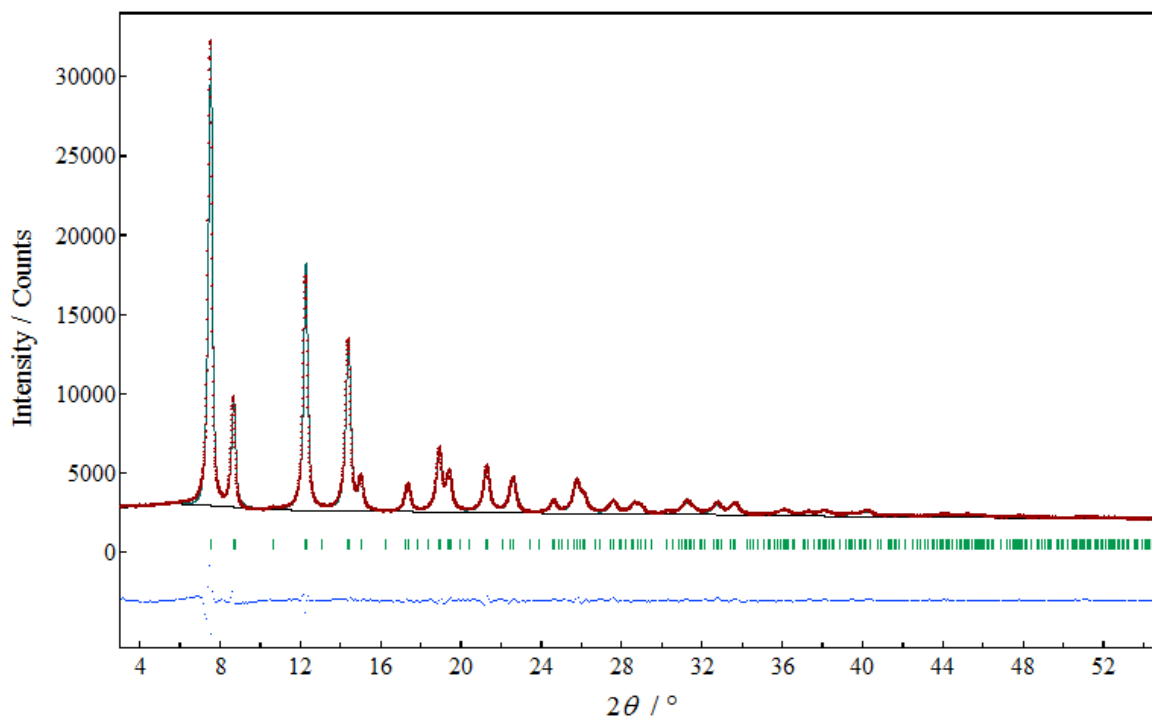


**Supporting Information A:**



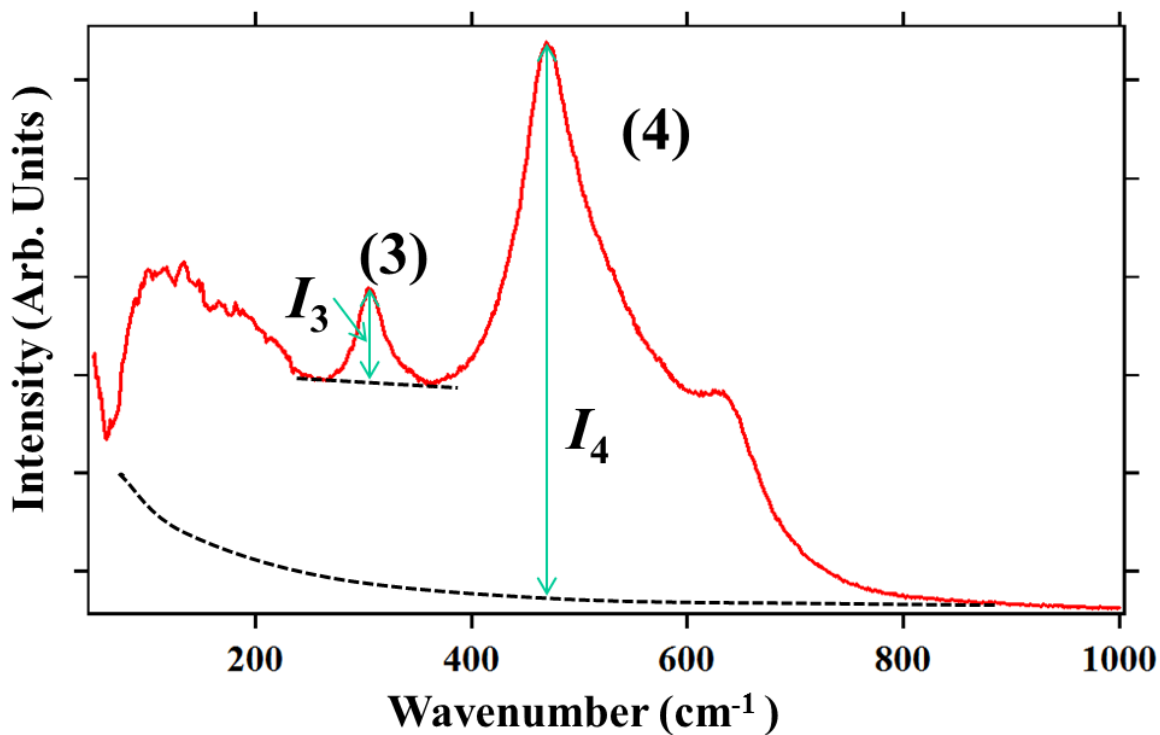
**Photo S1.** Photo of the formation of the polymeric gel obtained by heating at about 140 °C.

**Supporting Information B:**



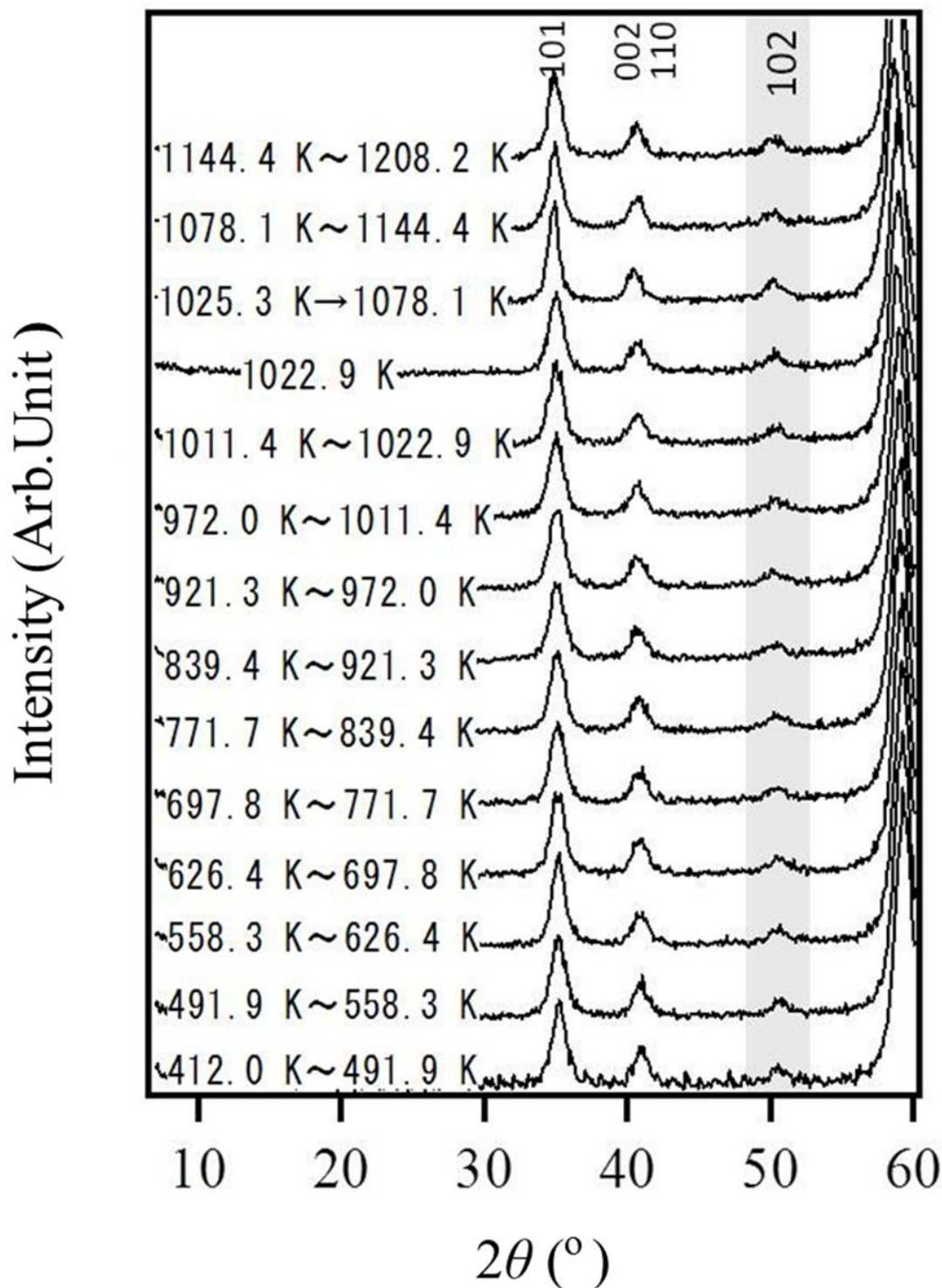
**Fig. S1.** Rietveld pattern of the synchrotron X-ray powder diffraction data of the nano-crystalline, compositionally homogeneous  $\text{Ce}_{0.5}\text{Zr}_{0.5}\text{O}_2$  taken at 303 K (BL02B2 of SPring-8). This analysis indicates that the sample consists of a single phase of  $t'$ -form.

**Supporting Information C:**



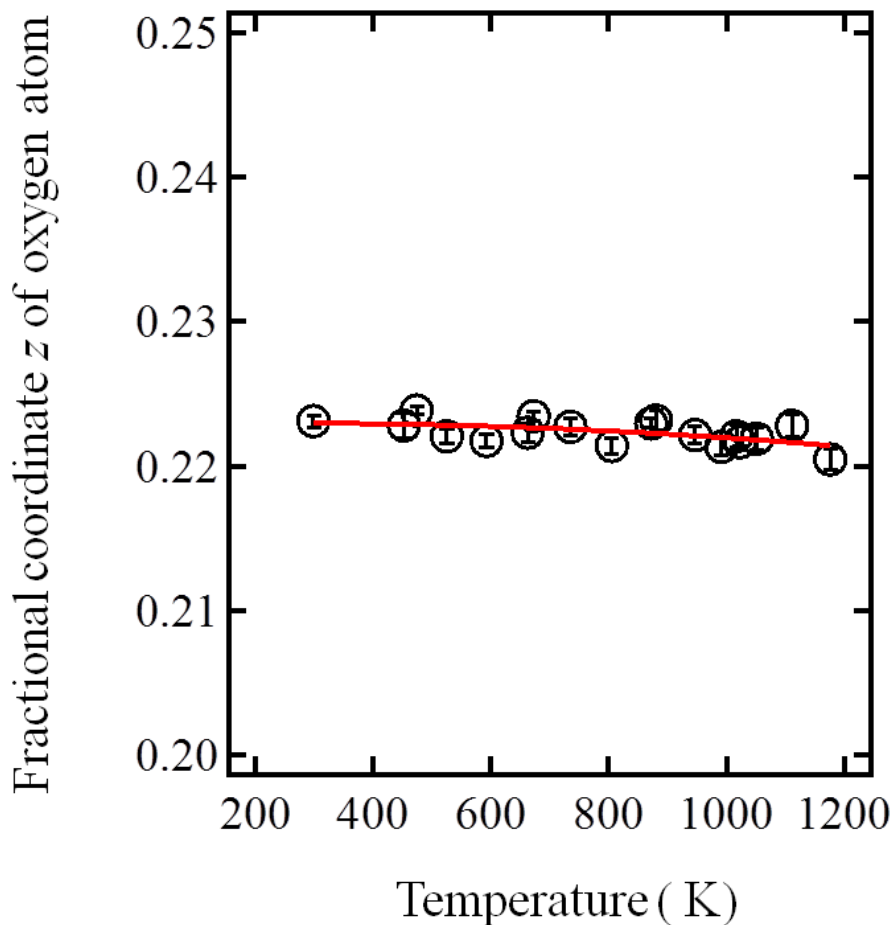
**Fig. S2.** Raman spectrum of nano-crystalline, compositionally homogeneous ceria-zirconia  $\text{Ce}_{0.5}\text{Zr}_{0.5}\text{O}_2$ . The Raman band (3) in Fig. S2 is characteristic of tetragonal symmetry, which is forbidden for the cubic symmetry. The normalized Raman intensity of the 3<sup>rd</sup> band was estimated to be  $I_3/I_4 = 0.17$ .

**Supporting Information D:**



**Fig. S3.** Neutron-powder-diffraction profiles of the nano-crystalline, compositionally homogeneous  $\text{Ce}_{0.5}\text{Zr}_{0.5}\text{O}_2$  measured *in situ* during heating or at a constant temperature in air, which indicates the existence of 102<sub>tet</sub> reflection and no phase separation in the whole temperature range up to 1208 K. The nano-crystalline, compositionally homogeneous  $\text{Ce}_{0.5}\text{Zr}_{0.5}\text{O}_2$  consists of a single phase of t'-form.

**Supporting Information E:**



**Figure S4.** Temperature dependence of the fractional coordinate  $z$  of oxygen atom in the nano-crystalline, compositionally homogeneous  $\text{Ce}_{0.5}\text{Zr}_{0.5}\text{O}_2$  solid solution. Error bar for each data is the estimated standard deviation in the Rietveld analysis. The solid line was obtained by the least-square means fit by a polynomial.

End of the supporting information.