Bahrain National Day

Appreciation for ever-deepening bonds between our countries

Khalil Ebrahim Hassan AMBASSADOR OF THE KINGDOM OF BAHRAIN

The Embassy of the Kingdom of Bahrain celebrates the 45th National Day, the 44th anni-



versary of the diplomatic relations with Japan, the 17th anniversary of the Accession to the Throne of H.M. King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa,

and the 11th anniversary of the embassy in Tokyo.

On this occasion, the Embassy of the Kingdom of Bahrain in Tokyo has the honor to renew, on behalf of the government and people of the Kingdom of Bahrain, its heartfelt greetings and good wishes to Their Imperial Majesties Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko, the government and

the people of Japan. I am delighted to pronounce that the Kingdom of Bahrain has enjoyed a strong relationship with Japan since the early years of independence. Over the years, the Kingdom of Bahrain has been an important focal point and friendly host for Japanese companies and enterprises.

Since I was appointed as the first ambassador of the Kingdom of Bahrain to Japan, our embassy's main mission has been to enhance the Bahrain-Japan partnership. Specifically for the economic perspective to implement, we have formed a very strong joint force with the Japan office of the Economic Development Board (EDB), which is a dynamic public agency with an overall responsibility for formulating the economic development strategy of Bahrain, and for world, Islamic countries and

> Congratulations to the People of the Kingdom of Bahrain

on the 45th Anniversary of Their National Day

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His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa of Bahrain

creating the right climate to attract foreign direct investment into Bahrain.

Together with the EDB Japan Office, we serve as the first point of contact for Japanese people exploring business opportunities in Bahrain, offering to facilitate successful entry to its market and helping them form a network in Bahrain.

To this end, I must say with pride and gratitude that we have been achieving remarkable progress so far, with the kind assistance and cooperation from our precious friends, associations and companies in this beautiful and friendly country, Japan.

The Kingdom of Bahrain, with the democratic reforms of H.M. King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, the sovereign of the country; the premiership of Prime Minister H.R.H. Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa; and the economic vision of Crown Prince H.R.H. Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, is managing the global challenges of the third millennium by working in harmony and peace with all the nations of the Middle East, the Arab

the rest of the East and the West. This has been the reason our country has become known as the "Pearl of the Gulf region."

Taking this opportunity, we, at the Embassy of the Kingdom of Bahrain would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to H.M. King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, Prime Minister H.R.H. Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa and Crown Prince H.R.H. Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa for their vision and support in initiating this new era of Bahrain-Japan relations.

Modern, open society

For most of the Japanese people staving in the Arabian Gulf, Bahrain is an ideal destination for vacations. Sunny sandy beaches, beautiful green parks, fresh air and vigorous markets await them. The legendary "Garden of Eden" in the Old Testament and "Eternal Land" in the Great Epic of Gilgamesh are the exact words for this paradise on earth. The modern and liberal atmosphere of our country is also attracting the visitors.

The Kingdom of Bahrain is continuously changing. H.M. King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa has an ambitious vision of investing in human resources to further develop the country's status as a cultural, financial and technology center in a democratic constitutional monarchy. Indeed, women's roles in the society are already large and education is open to

the entire nation.

Moreover, there are numerous luxurious development projects being undertaken. You may already know about the Bahrain International Circuit, which hosts a race on the Formula One circuit. There are also artificial island resorts, surrounded by beautiful emerald green seas that are increasingly becoming alluring destinations for relaxing vacations. In addition, there is the 25 km King Fahd Causeway linking Bahrain to Saudi Arabia.

Your choice of the Kingdom of Bahrain as a regional base of business, destination for vacation or second home after retirement will enrich your life with more fascination and energy

Strong business history

Japan and Bahrain have traditionally maintained a very solid friendship. The relationship dates back to 1934, when the first Bahraini oil shipment to Japan began after the dis-covery of oil in Bahrain in 1932. Since establishment of diplomatic relations between Japan and Bahrain in 1972, the relationship has become profound.

The Kingdom of Bahrain, which is at the heart of the Gulf region, is the gateway to the Middle East market. This strategic location provides Japanese companies with the efficient access to every market in the region and high purchasing power.

It is noteworthy that Bahrain's economy has long been the freest in the region for over 20 years. Today the The Heritage Foundation's Index of Economic Freedom ranked the country as the 18th globally and Bahrain is the only country from the Middle East and North Africa region to feature in the Top 20. Furthermore, Bahrain gives approval to foreign companies to retain 100 percent foreign ownership and they are also able to benefit from the region's lowest taxes.

To conclude my remarks, I wish the best of continuous prosperity and happiness to Their Imperial Majesties Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko, as well as the country of Japan and its people. I hope for continuing progress in all fields for both countries and the continuance of the special relationship joining both nations.



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Bahrain skyline EMBASSY OF BAHRAIN

on the 45th Anniversary of Their National Day

F Fuji Electric Innovating Energy Technology



to the People of the Kingdom of Bahrain

on the 45th Anniversary of Their National Day



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