

# Kazakhstan National Day Special

## Celebrating journey to global prominence

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AMBASSADOR OF KAZAKHSTAN



Every Oct. 25, Kazakhstan commemorates Republic Day, a day of unique significance as it marks the pivotal moment in 1990 when Kazakhstan declared its sovereignty. This declara-

tion was more than a political statement; it signaled the nation's commitment to its people to carve out a destiny reflecting their aspirations and cultural identity.

Kazakhstan's journey since gaining sovereignty is nothing short of remarkable. Our nation swiftly adopted a constitution, delineated the roles of the president and parliament and has since conducted

several rounds of competitive elections. The emphasis has always been on unity in diversity, ensuring that its myriad ethnic groups find voice and representation in the nation's political fabric.

The last few years have been especially transformative for Kazakhstan. In line with constitutional amendments, we witnessed the direct election of rural mayors and the adoption of a mixed proportional-majoritarian model in the last parliamentary election. This marked a significant shift in the electoral landscape, allowing for participation of independent and self-nominated candidates, an occurrence that is truly unprecedented in the nation's history.

Kazakhstan has also recently become the top investment destination in the region and a major financial center. This is a result of concrete reforms and initiatives over the years, and in his latest State of the Nation address on Sept. 1, President Kassym-

Jomart Tokayev proposed additional economic reforms with the aim of promoting fairness, inclusiveness and pragmatism. He outlined objectives to diversify the economy, strengthen industry and target stable economic growth of 6% to 7%. These economic transformations, inspired by the president's vision of a "Just Kazakhstan," aim to contribute to the creation of a more balanced, sustainable and globally integrated economy.

On the international stage, Kazakhstan has etched a unique identity through astute diplomatic endeavors. During his address at the most recent U.N. General Assembly, the president reaffirmed that our country will continue cooperation with its major allies on all strategic issues. This approach has positioned Kazakhstan as a viable mediator in international crises, a role that it has already fulfilled successfully through the Astana Process on Syria.

One of the important partners of Kazakhstan on the global stage is Japan. Through close cooperation over the years, we have reached the level of an extended strategic partnership. We continue our close political dialogue, as evidenced by recent bilateral events, such as the meeting of our Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Kazakhstan Murat Nurtleu and Japan's Foreign Minister Yoko Kamikawa on the margins of the UNGA, as well as a delegation from the Japan Parliamentary Friendship League led by Chairman Toshiaki Endo visiting Kazakhstan.

Despite the impact of the pandemic and geopolitical factors, last year bilateral trade turnover grew by 71% and amounted to \$1.9 billion. Japan also remains among the top 10 largest investors in Kazakhstan, with around \$8 billion invested to date. I am confident that we have great perspectives for further expanding our multifaceted eco-



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nomie partnership through the implementation of mutually beneficial projects.

The progress Kazakhstan has made since its declaration of sovereignty is not just a testament to its past, but a robust foundation for its future. This foundation is fertile ground from which new innovations, deeper diplomatic ties and further advancements in all spheres — social, political and economic — will undoubtedly spring. The momentum generated by these achievements is poised to propel Kazakhstan even

further in the coming decades, reinforcing its position as a global beacon of growth and development. I am confident that the promise of tomorrow, illuminated by the achievements of today, ensures that Republic Day remains a celebration of not just sovereignty, but also of endless possibilities.

*This content was compiled in collaboration with the embassy. The views expressed here do not necessarily reflect those of the newspaper.*

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to the People of  
the Republic of Kazakhstan  
on the Occasion of  
Their Republic Day

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