# **Cambodia** National Day Special

# 70 years of friendly and fruitful relations

TUY RY AMBASSADOR OF CAMBODIA



Nov. 9 is the historic day Cambodia gained independence from France in 1953 under the royal crusade of His Majesty the late King Preah Borom Ratanak Kaudh Norodom Sihanouk,

the king father of independence, territorial integrity and national unity.

This year marks the 70th anniversary of Cambodia's Independence Day, reminding us of the activities of the late king, who bravely devoted himself for the sake of the Khmer motherland and people in demanding independence.

Subsequently, the coup d'etat, civil wars, the Khmer Rouge regime, and the states of peace and war, which Cambodia plunged through for many years, ended in 1998 thanks to the win-win policy of former Prime Minister Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, who brought full-fledged peace, national unity and territorial unity to Cambodia. Through peace. Cambodia has sustained

economic growth of more than 7% over the past two decades and graduated to lowermiddle income country status.

Samdech Moha Borvor Thipadei Hun Manet, having assumed the premiership on Aug. 22, has been leading Cambodia toward consecutive successes in undertaking reform measures such as the implementation of the first phase of the Pentagonal Strategy, including the development of human capital; economic diversification and competitiveness enhancement; development of the private sector and employment; resilient, sustainable and inclusive development; and development of society and the digital economy. This strategy aims to safeguard and nurture our hard-gained peace and accelerate national development to achieve the milestone of becoming a high-income country by 2050.

In this regard, Cambodia will further strengthen development partnership and cooperation, technically and financially, for the implementation of priority policies to help Cambodia to achieve her development goals in promoting regional and global integration.

This year also marks the 70th anniversary of Cambodia-Japan diplomatic relations. On this special occasion, I am honored to extend, on behalf of His Majesty King Norodom Sihamoni, Hun Manet and the people of Cambodia, my warmest greetings and best wishes of good health, happiness, further progress and prosperity to their majesties the emperor and empress, His Excellency Prime Minister Fumio Kishida and the people of Japan.

Over the past 70 years, our friendly countries have maintained excellent relations and cooperation in bilateral and multilateral frameworks, despite great uncertainties and major challenges recently faced by our region and the world. Cambodia attaches great importance to the further development of Cambodia with Japanese partnership, based on friendship, trust and mutual respect and understanding.

At present, the Cambodia-Japan relationship has reached a high level. On the political and diplomatic front, Hun Sen and Kishida held four summit meetings, twice in Cambodia and twice in Japan, in 2022. Furthermore, in September, on the sidelines of the 43rd Association of Southeast Asian Nations-related summit in Jakarta,

Hun Manet and Kishida agreed to work with each other to strengthen the two nations' comprehensive strategic partnership. On that occasion, the prime minister expressed his gratitude for Japan's contribution to Cambodia's peace, reconstruction and economic development, as well as his commitment to make efforts to strengthen relations with Japan.

Trade has recovered to pre-pandemic levels and investment remains strong. Cooperation in many sectors, such as economics, trade, investment, infrastructure, education, health, security and defense, democratic development and people-topeople connections has expanded greatly. We also highly value Japanese companies for their contribution to the strengthening of bilateral relations in various fields over the past several years.

In conclusion, I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude for Japan's continued assistance in all fields, and encourage all Japanese tourists, businesspeople and companies to continue conducting tourism, business and investment activities in Cambodia.

May the Cambodia-Japan friendship continue to flourish.

Left: Tourists gather

Wat in Siem Reap on

Sept. 23 to view the

autumnal equinox.

**Right: Phnom Penh** 

MINISTRY OF TOURISM

is home to many companies' head-

quarters.

sunrise on the

in front of Angkor



Prime Minister Fumio Kishida and former Prime Minister Hun Sen announce the logo for the 70th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Japan and Cambodia in Phnom Penh in November. SPM

### Strong growth in recent years with increasing international activity

MASAHIRO IMAMURA CHAIRMAN, JAPAN-CAMBODIA PARLIAMENTARY FRIENDSHIP LEAGUE



lomatic relations, Japan and Cambodia have fostered friendly exchanges for many years. During this period, Cambodia has experienced difficult times, including many years of civil war. However, thanks to the efforts of its people and the cooperation of related countries, including Japan, Cambodia has

achieved the peace and stability we enjoy today.

In recent years, Cambodia has recorded a growth rate of approximately 7% per year and has been active in the international arena. Investment by Japanese companies in Cambodia, as well as exchanges between the people of Japan and Cambodia, are becoming more active every year.

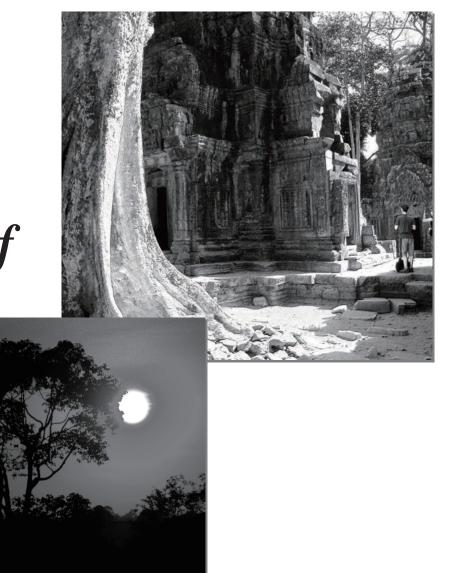
This year marks the 70th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Japan and Cambodia. Let us further deepen the friendship between our peoples by taking many commemorative events held in both countries as a step, and walk together toward a bright future of peace and prosperity, cooperating with each other more closely than ever.

I sincerely wish for the development of our countries, as well as the health and happiness of our peoples.





# Congratulations





lishment of dip-

# to the People of Cambodia on the Occasion of the 70th Anniversary of Their Independence

The Honorary Consulate of the Kingdom of Cambodia in Fukuoka is honored to have developed the following activities:

Visa issuance

- Promotion of two-way tourism
- Organizing cultural events in Fukuoka to showcase Cambodian arts and culture
- Introduction of Cambodia to young people in the Kyushu and Okinawa regions to promote their interest in building bridges between Japan and Cambodia





Haruhisa Handa Honorary Consul of the Kingdom of Cambodia in Fukuoka, Advisor to the Royal Government of Cambodia with the rank of Senior Minister

## **Honorary Consulate of** the Kingdom of Cambodia in Fukuoka

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# **Cambodia** National Day Special

# Environmental issues a key point of focus

NORIHIKO ISHIGURO JETRO CHAIRMAN AND CEO



I would also like to congratulate the new Prime Minister H.E. Hun Manet on his inauguration.

This year marks the 70th anniversary of Cambodia-Japan friendship and the 50th anniversary of Association of Southeast Asian Nations-Japan friendship and cooperation. Various commemorative events are being held in Japan, Cambodia and other parts of ASEAN.

The Japan External Trade Organiza-

tion has collaborated with the Ministry of Economy. Trade and Industry and the ASEAN and Japanese business communities to formulate the "ASEAN-Japan Economic Co-Creation Vision." This vision was announced at the ASEAN-Japan Economic Ministers' Meeting in August and was welcomed by the economic ministers of each country. The public and private sectors of ASEAN and Japan will work together to realize the new economic relationship outlined in the vision.

In Cambodia, we are also working on various projects to enliven the commemorative year. I would like to introduce some of the most symbolic initiatives.

After the novel coronavirus pandemic, an increasing number of companies, especially those in the manufacturing industry, are re-examining their supply chains. To meet these needs, JETRO held a Thailand Plus One Seminar in Bangkok in January. Current Deputy Prime Minis-

ter and Minister of Foreign Affairs (at the time. Secretary-General of the Council for the Development of Cambodia) H.E. Sok Chenda Sophea, also visited and spoke about tax incentives and investment laws. About 160 people participated in the seminar both in person and online. For Japanese companies in Thailand, it is easier to make inroads by taking advantage of tax incentives, and we believe this was an opportunity to reiterate the appeal of investing in Cambodia.

In August, we co-hosted a networking symposium with the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency. The theme was "Innovation to solve issues such as carbon neutrality using satellite data, achieving Sustainable Development Goals and improving agricultural productivity." The symposium was held simultaneously on-site and online, with over 200 attendees from Cambodian agricultural organizations, conglomerates and government agencies. There was a lot of interest in visualization of greenhouse gas emissions, carbon credit creation and sales, and flood risk measurement technology, and a lively exchange of opinions took place. As of October, several memorandums of understanding and concrete projects were already underway. The event marked a new direction for future Cambodia-Japan and ASEAN-Japan relations.

In December, we plan to invite Hun Manet to attend a seminar in Tokyo to attract investment. This will be the new prime minister's first large-scale seminar in Japan. The event will mark the conclusion of the 70th year of Cambodia-Japan friendship. We also hope that the event will be a step forward for Cambodia-Japan relations.

Finally, JETRO will continue to contribute to further business development in both countries through corporate support. I sincerely pray for the further happiness and prosperity of the people of Cambodia.



Left: His Majesty the late King Norodom Sihanouk (left) and then-Prime Minister Hun Sen visit Phnom Penh in November 1991. Right: The Koh Ker temple site was added to UNESCO's World Heritage List in September. ROYAL PALACE; MINISTRY OF TOURISM

### Working on new ways to build bridges of bilateral cooperation

#### TAITO SUZUKI PRESIDENT OF TAICA CORP.

On the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the independence of the Kingdom of Cambodia, we would like to congratulate and thank the people of Cambodia for their friendship and

cooperation. Not only is it the 70th anniversary of independence, it is also the 70th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations with Japan, and it is an honor to be here for this special moment. We are grateful for the unceasing efforts of our predecessors in both countries leading up to the anniversaries, and we will continue to carry on the spirit and work to build a bridge for bilateral relations. In addition, we are celebrating our 75th anniversary this year and are very happy to be celebrat-

ing our anniversaries together. Taica Corp. has four business areas, and our relationship with Cambodia started when we established a factory there in 2012. In the years since then, we have not only conducted business activities, but

have also deepened our relationship with the Kingdom of Cambodia by donating futsal courts and stationery based on our corporate philosophy of making international contributions.

We have worked with Japanese professional soccer team Shimizu S-Pulse and displayed the "Cambodia Kingdom of Wonder" logo on their uniforms for the past two years. We also sponsored a Cambodia Day match at which the Royal Embassy of Cambodia in Japan set up a booth to promote the country. It was an honor for the game to be recognized as a "70th Anniversary of Friendship Between Japan and Cambodia Commemorative Event."

We are confident that the Kingdom of Cambodia will make further progress and growth as it moves toward its next anniversaries, and as a company with a presence in Cambodia, we will not only observe the trajectory of this progress and growth, but also continue to seek new ways to contribute as a bridge between Cambodia and Japan.

The flow of people coming and going between our countries has been growing. As the situation is greatly improving, let us help each other and move forward together toward our 100th anniversary.

We hope that the bonds of friendship between Japan and Cambodia will be further strengthened.

## Proud to support exchanges in a variety of areas

#### KUNIHIKO HIRABAYASHI SECRETARY GENERAL, ASEAN-JAPAN CENTRE



sary of Cambodia's Independence Day on Nov. 9, as well as celebrating 70 years of diplomatic relations between Cambodia and Japan, and the 50th year of

ASEAN-Japan friendship and cooperation, it fills me with immense joy and honor to extend my heartfelt congratulations to the Cambodian people.

The ASEAN-Japan Centre takes great pride in fostering inclusive and sustainable trade, investment, tourism and people-to-people exchanges, thereby cultivating a robust partnership between ASEAN and Japan.

On behalf of the AJC, I wish to express our deep gratitude to the Kingdom of Cambodia for its invaluable role in nurturing harmonious relations within the ASEAN-Japan community and in strengthening the bilateral ties between Cambodia and Japan.

Embracing the challenges of these uncertain times, the AJC steadfastly upholds our commitment to bolstering our strategic partnership with Cambodia, laying the groundwork for a resilient post-

Congratulations

pandemic economy. Our joint initiatives in the tourism sector have yielded significant impact, particularly in enhancing the skills of spa and wellness professionals and promoting wellness tourism.

This year, we have channeled our efforts toward elevating Cambodia's strategic agricultural products and attracting Japanese investment to propel the modernization of Cambodian agriculture. Moreover, our virtual tour experiences have drawn greater attention to the enchanting tourist destinations of Cambodia, including the iconic Angkor Wat, captivating over 450 participants from Japan, 90% of whom have expressed a desire to visit Cambodia in person.

As we commemorate the golden jubi-

lee of ASEAN-Japan relations in 2023, we reflect on the five decades of cooperation and development we have enjoyed within the Asia-Pacific region, all underpinned by vital people-to-people exchanges. We fervently hope for these bonds to continue growing in strength and look ahead to another 50 years of flourishing relations.

In conclusion, as the secretary general of the AJC, I wholeheartedly extend my best wishes for ongoing happiness, prosperity and success to the Kingdom of Cambodia.

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

> **Congratulations** to the People of Cambodia on the Occasion of the 70th Anniversary of **Their Independence**

Congratulations to the People of Cambodia on the Occasion of



## MARUHAN GROUP



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the 70th Anniversary of Their Independence



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# **Congratulations**

to the Royal Government and People of Cambodia on the 70th Anniversary of Their Independence Day

### **Respectful greetings from:**

Mr. Hideo Yamada, Honorary Consul of Cambodia in Osaka Mr. Susumu Tai, Honorary Consul of Cambodia in Sendai

# **Cambodia** National Day Special

## Young workers support company's success

#### YOSHIHISA KAINUMA

REPRESENTATIVE DIRECTOR, CHAIRMAN, CEO, MINEBEA MITSUMI INC.



On the auspicious occasion of the 70th anniversary of Cambodia's Independence Day, on behalf of Minebea Mitsumi Inc., I would like to express my sincere congratulations and best wishes to the

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people of the Kingdom of Cambodia. Minebea Mitsumi has been operating in Cambodia under the company name of Minebea (Cambodia) Co. since December 2010 as a pioneering electronic components manufacturer. We expanded our plants to a total floor space of 200,000 square meters, providing job opportunities to 7,500 young Cambodians.

This year, I would like to express my sincerest congratulations for two joyous occasions to the Royal Government of Cambodia.

First, congratulations on successfully and memorably hosting the 32nd Southeast Asian Games for the first time in 64 years from May 5 to 17, and the 12th Association of Southeast Asian Nations Para Games from June 3 to 9, which were the biggest sporting events in the country's history. Second, congratulations on the victory of the Cambodia People's Party in the 2023 National Assembly Elections and the establishment of the seventh legislative term of the National Assembly and the new government for 2023 to 2028.

We are also delightfully providing our continuous support by sponsoring the Cambodian national soccer team to further promote the quality of the sport in Cambodia and internationally, while at the same time encouraging Cambodians to support and play more sports for a healthy community.

Once again, I cordially extend my heartfelt wishes of happiness and prosperity to the Kingdom of Cambodia.

## Restoration returns icon to former glory

#### YOSHIAKI ISHIZAWA

DIRECTOR, SOPHIA ASIA CENTER FOR RESEARCH AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT



On Nov. 9, which is the 70th anniversary of the Independence of the Kingdom of Cambodia, I wish to convey my sincere felicitations. My heartfelt greetings go out to His Majesty King Norodom

Sihamoni, to His Excellency Prime Minister Hun Manet, to His Excellency Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Tuy Ry, and to all the people of Cambodia as well.

We of Sophia University commenced work at Angkor in 1991. We trained Cambodian conservators at the site of the ruins and decided that their training would be in view of the restoration of the Angkor Wat Western Causeway. In November this year, the human resource training and restoration work was concluded. To begin with, on Nov. 2, to convey the results of this human resource training and restoration to the king, I was granted a hearing at the Royal Palace in Phnom Penh along with His Excellency Atsushi Ueno, the ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of Japan to the Kingdom of Cambodia, Her Excellency Phoeurng Sackona, minister of culture and fine arts, and His Excellency Hang Peou, the director general of the APSARA National Authority. I also reported on the closing of the work we had undertaken in cooperation with the APSARA National Authority.

On Nov. 4, the completion ceremony for the restoration of the Angkor Wat Western Causeway and the ceremony for the first crossing were conducted at Angkor Wat in line with early Cambodian tradition. There were readings from scriptures by monks and votive dances, as well as words of salutation from the king regarding the project. Then, with the king leading the way, Hun Manet, ministers, foreign ambassadors to Cambodia, Cambodian residents, and around 1,000 participants at the ceremony from Japan and abroad crossed the roughly 200 meters of the Angkor Wat Western Causeway for the first time.

At the ceremony site, ¥94.7 million worth of heavy machinery was visible. This was provided by the Japanese Foreign Ministry. With the completion of the Angkor Wat Western Causeway, the glory of the Angkor dynasty that was prevalent about 800 years earlier was restored. Tourists the world over flock to Angkor Wat.

On Dec. 4, Sophia University and the Royal University of Phnom Penh will cohost an international symposium to report on the causeway project. Professors from the Royal University of Phnom Penh will attend the symposium, while Sophia University President Yoshiaki Terumichi and researchers Satoru Miwa and Lao Kim Leang will present reports.

We would like our young students to become aware of the academic achievements of this international cooperation between Cambodia and Japan, and we congratulate Cambodia on its future, as it seeks to become a nation of cultural heritage.



### Congratulations

#### to the People of Cambodia



### Congratulations

to the People of Cambodia on the Occasion of the 70th Anniversary of Their Independence



#### The International Friendship Exchange Council (FEC) Landic Toranomon Bldg. No. 2, 3F





### Congratulations

to the People of Cambodia on the Occasion of the 70th Anniversary of Their Independence

#### Respectful greetings from:

Toyama-Cambodia Friendship Association Junichi Takata, Chairman Kazuo Takagishi, Vice Chairman Toyohiko Ise, Vice Chairman Ryoichi Takai, Vice Chairman

West Japan-Cambodia Friendship Association Kazuhiro Manabe, President Kenji Otani, Executive Director on the Occasion of

the 70th Anniversary of

**Their Independence** 



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## Congratulations

to the People of Cambodia on the Occasion of the 70th Anniversary of Their Independence

Since completing Japan Bridge in 1966, we have enjoyed a history of over 50 years in Cambodia.



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