

Ghana Independence Day Special

Ties built on mutual respect, shared values

GENEVIEVE E. APALOO
AMBASSADOR OF GHANA



As Ghana celebrates her 67th independence anniversary on March 6, we are presented with a chance to reflect with our Japanese partners on our collective efforts over the years

to strengthen the bonds of friendship between our countries, toward the building of a mutually productive future for succeeding generations. This anniversary not

only marks a significant milestone in Ghana's history, but also symbolizes the enduring friendship and cooperation between Ghana and Japan.

Indeed, the trail blazed nearly a century ago by Dr. Hideyo Noguchi, the renowned Japanese bacteriologist, always provides the ultimate inspiration to bring Ghana and Japan closer, despite the geographical distance between our countries. Over the years, our nations have taken up the challenge from where Noguchi left off and have built a relationship founded on mutual respect, shared values and a common vision for prosperity and development.

Our bilateral ties have been further cemented by the exchange of high-level vis-

its, the most notable being the official visit to Ghana in May 2023 by His Excellency Prime Minister Fumio Kishida. This historic visit, a gesture of goodwill and partnership, has opened new avenues for cooperation and dialogue between our countries. Japanese businesses and entrepreneurs have seized the opportunity presented by the improved bilateral ties, as well as the goodwill reinforced by Kishida's visit, to further expand their commercial dealings in the country. The recent establishment of vehicle assembly plants in the industrial city of Tema by Suzuki and Honda easily comes to mind in this regard.

Our partnership is also exemplified in the realm of international cooperation.

Ghana participates in and benefits from the Tokyo International Conference on African Development, a clear indicator of Japan's commitment to supporting our developmental agenda. TICAD has been instrumental in addressing key challenges in Africa, and we are grateful for Japan's unwavering support in this regard.

As we look to the future, I am filled with optimism. The horizon of our bilateral relations is bright with phenomenal potential. Together, we can build a stronger partnership that not only benefits our nations, but also contributes to the stability and prosperity of our regions and the world at large.

On this auspicious day, as we celebrate



Kwame Nkrumah Memorial Park and Mausoleum is the final resting place of Ghana's first president. GETTY IMAGES

Ghana's independence, let us also celebrate the friendship between Ghana, the Black Star of Africa, and Japan, the Land of the Rising Sun — a friendship that stands as a beacon of cooperation, understanding and shared progress.

May our countries continue to flourish

and thrive in the spirit of mutual respect and collaboration.

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
the Republic of Ghana
on the Anniversary of
Their Independence*

 **Sumitomo Corporation**

Enriching lives and the world

<https://www.sumitomocorp.com/en/jp/>

Congratulations

*to the People of
the Republic of Ghana
on the Anniversary of
Their Independence*

 **TOYOTA TSUSHO**

WITH AFRICA FOR AFRICA



www.toyota-tsusho.com

**Congratulations to the People of
the Republic of Ghana
on the Anniversary of Their Independence**



LOTTE CO., LTD.