

Danish crown prince's visit

Frederik to tour Tohoku, discuss energy solutions

Since June 13 and until June 16, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Frederik of Denmark is in Japan to show his sympathy and lend support to the people of Japan in the wake of the March 11 earthquake, tsunami and nuclear disaster.

In the aftermath of the disaster, Denmark actively participated in the massive search-and-rescue and recovery operations as well as provided humanitarian support to people in need.

The Danish Emergency Management Agency (DEMA) also contributed with radiation experts and a Technical Assistance Support Team for the European Union's emergency mission to Japan. Danish citizens and companies have also made timely, significant and generous contributions, including free transport of international relief goods to Japan as well as large cash donations.

At the end of March, Danish Ambassador Franz-Michael Sk-

jold Mellbin visited Higashimatsushima city in Miyagi Prefecture and handed over donations to Mayor Hideo Abe. The city is among the areas hit hardest by the disaster.

During his stay on Japanese soil, the Crown Prince will visit, among others, the city of Higashimatsushima. There will be a special focus on homeless and orphaned children in the city, and the Crown Prince will inspect the facilities for children established with the assistance of Danish companies following the earthquake.

The Crown Prince will hand over a number of donations, and will also meet with distressed families, rescue workers and volunteers in the area.

On June 15, the Crown Prince will participate in a seminar about energy solutions for Japan, and will also be visiting selected companies in Yokohama and Kawasaki.

Bilateral relationship

Japan and Denmark exchanged diplomatic missions on a reciprocal basis after conclusion of the Treaty of Friendship, Commerce and Navigation between Japan and Denmark in 1867 and have established a friendly relationship ever since. Both countries have close ties not



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Frederik of Denmark

only in the economic and trade fields, but also in the cultural and academic areas, and their friendship is growing at a steady pace.

The contact between Japan's Imperial Family and the Danish Royal Family also has a significant role to play for the two countries' friendship.

Crown Prince Frederik, the heir apparent to the throne of Denmark, visited Japan with a Danish economic mission in October 1997.

The first official visit of Their Imperial Majesties the Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko to Denmark was realized in June 1998.

In 2004, His Imperial High-

ness Crown Prince Naruhito visited Denmark to attend the royal wedding of Crown Prince Frederik and Mary Elizabeth Donaldson, which was celebrated in Copenhagen on May 14.

In November of the same year, Her Majesty Queen Margrethe II of Denmark and His Royal Highness the Prince Consort Henrik paid a visit to Japan for the second time as State Guests.

On April 20, 2005, Crown Prince Frederik and Crown Princess Mary visited Japan to attend the World Exposition in Aichi Prefecture and participated in a special program for the expo's official Denmark Day.

Profile of H.R.H. Crown Prince Frederik of Denmark

Born on May 26, 1968, Frederik André Henrik Christian, prince of Denmark, crown prince, count of Monpezat and heir apparent to the throne of Denmark, is the eldest son of Queen Margrethe II and Prince Consort Henrik.

Crown Prince Frederik started a course in political science at the Aarhus University in Denmark. In connection with these studies, he spent a year studying political science at Harvard University from 1992 to 1993. He then served for three months at the Danish Mission to the United Nations in New York in 1994. He obtained his master's degree in political science from Aarhus University in 1995.

The Crown Prince was posted as First Secretary to the Royal Danish Embassy in Paris from October 1998 to October 1999.

The Crown Prince's mother tongue is Danish. In addition, he speaks French, English and German.

He has also completed military studies and training in all three services. His military education began in 1986 as a recruit in the Queen's Life Guard Regiment.

In 1988, the Crown Prince was appointed lieutenant of the reserve. After having been appointed lieutenant, the Crown Prince became a platoon commander in the Royal Danish Hussar Guard Regiment in 1988. In 1989, the Crown Prince was appointed first lieutenant of the reserve.

The Crown Prince completed training as a navy frogman with the Royal Danish Navy Frogman Corps in 1995. The same year, the Crown Prince was appointed first lieutenant of the navy reserve, and in 1997 appointed lieutenant commander of the navy reserve.

In 1997, the Crown Prince was also appointed captain of the army reserve, and in 2000 captain of the air force reserve. In 2002, the Crown Prince was appointed major of the army and air force reserve as well as commander of the navy reserve.

Crown Prince Frederik remains active in

defense, and in the period 2002 to 2003 served as a staff officer at Defense Command Denmark, and from 2003 as a senior lecturer with the Institute of Strategy at the Royal Danish Defense College. In April 2004, the Crown Prince was appointed commander, senior grade, in the navy, lieutenant colonel in the army and lieutenant colonel in the air force.

The Crown Prince participated in an expedition to Mongolia in 1986. In 2000, the Crown Prince participated in Expedition Sirius 2000, which was a four-month, 2,795-km dog-sled expedition in the northern part of Greenland.

Crown Prince Frederik encourages Danish participation in sports. He is a patron and honorary member of various sports organizations. He runs marathons in Copenhagen, New York and Paris. He is a keen sailor, winning victories in the championships, including fourth place at the European Championship Dragon Class 2003 contested by 51 participating boats.

In 2009, Crown Prince Frederik was elected as a member of the International Olympic Committee for an eight-year period. He has announced that his point of focus and reason for joining the IOC is to promote an active lifestyle among youth and made it clear that he would terminate his membership upon ascending the Danish throne.

On May 14, 2004, Crown Prince Frederik married Mary Elizabeth Donaldson, who in connection with the marriage became H.R.H. Crown Princess Mary Elizabeth of Denmark. The wedding ceremony took place in Copenhagen Cathedral, and the wedding festivities were held at Fredensborg Castle.

Crown Prince Frederik and the Crown Princess Mary Elizabeth have four children.

Their eldest son, Prince Christian, was born in 2005 and Princess Isabella was born in 2007. Most recently, twins Prince Vincent and Princess Josephine were born in January 2011.



Friendly ties: Crown Prince Frederik (left) and Crown Princess Mary break open a sake cask during a visit to Japan in April 2005 for the Expo 2005 Aichi world fair near Nagoya. AP

A Warm Welcome to His Royal Highness Crown Prince Frederik of Denmark on His Visit to Japan

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