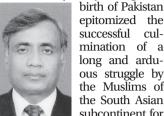
### Pakistan independence day

## Sixtieth anniversary of friendly Pakistan-Japan relations

Noor Muhammad Jadmani AMBASSADOR OF PAKISTAN

Today marks the 65th anniversary of the independence of Pakistan. Sixty-five years ago the birth of Pakistan



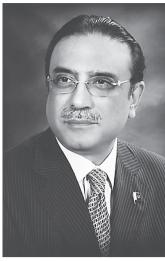
successful culmination of a long and arduous struggle by the Muslims of the South Asian subcontinent for a homeland of their own under

the inspiring leadership of Quaide-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah. Each year, this day is celebrated with great zeal and fervor within the country and all over the world. This year, the historic occasion has an even more special significance for us in Japan as we are celebrating 60th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between our two countries. On this auspicious occasion I express on my own behalf and on behalf of my compatriots in Japan our respectful and sincere greetings to Their Imperial Majesties Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko, members of the Imperial family, Prime Minister Yoshihiko Noda, the government and the friendly people of Japan.



Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah

The people of Pakistan draw their ancestral roots from the ancient civilizations that inhabited the land of today's Pakistan. The archeological and cultural remains from Mohenjodaro, Harappa and Taxila testify to the acumen and wisdom of inhabitants of this land. The Indus Valley civilization that existed between the rivers Indus and



President of Pakistan Asif Ali

Oxus is one of the oldest civilizations in the world. The great Buddhist civilization began its outward journey from Pakistan. Many renowned emissaries who came to Japan and other countries carrying the teachings of the Buddha were graduates of Taxila University. This ancient heritage provides a historical underpinning to Pakistan-Japan ties.

A multidimensional relationship between Pakistan and Japan has evolved since the establishment of formal ties in 1952.



**Prime Minister of Pakistan** Raja Pervez Ashraf

Presently, there is a wide-ranging and sustained cooperation between our two friendly countries. The high-level contacts between the two countries have augmented this relationship. President Asif Ali Zardari's two visits to Japan, first in 2009 and the other in 2011, and our foreign minister's two subsequent visits, including participation in the Tokyo Conference on Afghanistan, reflect the significance of Japan for Pakistan as a sincere friend and a major development and trade

partner. The Joint Statement on Japan-Pakistan Comprehensive Partnership signed during President Zardari's visit to Tokyo in February 2011 sets forth the future directions of Pakistan-Japan relations. Pakistan welcomes Japanese friends to explore the full potential of Pakistan's resources.

At present, 69 Japanese companies are involved in numerous businesses in Pakistan. Apart from a strong presence in the automobile sector, Japanese companies are actively involved in the trading, banking, power, construction and services sectors. Japan has undertaken major projects in Pakistan that have played important roles in the socioeconomic development of Pakistan. Kohat Tunnel in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, also known as the Pak-Japan Friendship Tunnel, is one of the landmarks of our friendship. Japan also helps Pakistan with improving roads, power transmission lines and grid stations all over the country.

With a domestic consumer market of more than 180 million, i.e., sixth largest in the world, flanked by the 2 billion-plus consumer markets and in close proximity to Middle Eastern and Central Asian markets, Pakistan provides an ideal location for strategic investments into the heart of the emerging growth hub of the future. Investing in Pakistan today is investing into the future.

Pakistan is blessed with all the essential and precious minerals such as gold, copper, iron ore, chromites and zinc, besides 50 other metallic and non-metallic minerals. Pakistani rock salt is world-famous for its health and cosmetic effects. Besides abundant natural resources and mineral deposits, Pakistan has all the credentials to become a breadbasket for the region and beyond. Globally, Pakistan ranks fourth in cotton production, fourth in milk, fifth in onions, sixth in mangoes, eighth in wheat, 10th in sugar and 11th in



Amicable relations: Pakistani President Asif Ali Zardari is greeted by Emperor Akihito during his official visit to Japan in February 2011. EMBASSY OF PAKISTAN

rice. The agriculture sector offers huge businesses potential for collaboration between Pakistan and Japan.

Owing to the increasing energy needs of a growing society, Pakistan is now exploring solar and wind energy alternatives. With abundant sunshine and excellent wind corridors, there is a huge potential to tap these clean and efficient sources of energy. Pakistan's huge coal reserves of 186 billion tons await the right kind of gasification technology for conversion into a massive source of energy.

The textile bond between Pakistan and Japan is no secret. Pakistan has a very strong textile base. The fabric and textile products are now touching new heights by advancing into hightech products. This sector offers tremendous potential for collaboration between the two sides. Similarly, there is a vast scope of in leather, surgical instruments, fish and shrimp farming, gems and jewelry sectors.

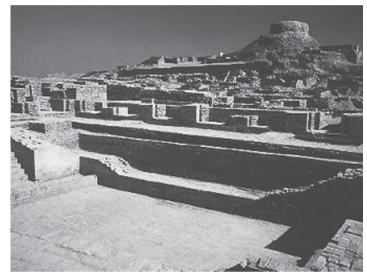
As 2012 marks the 60th anniversary of our bilateral relations, a number of events have been planned and undertaken in both countries. As part of the celebration, in May this year, both countries launched cricket in Japan in Sano, Tochigi Prefecture. The Pakistan women's cricket team visited Japan and played friendly matches with the Japan women's cricket team.

In July, the Pakistan-Japan Joint Karakoram Friendship Expedition led by 80-year-old Tsuneo Miyamori from Fukushima Prefecture, scaled two unexplored heights above 6,000 meters in the Shimshal Karakoram range. On the recommendation of the expedition members, the newly scaled 6,105-meter-high mountain peak has been named the "Peak of Hope" in honor of the efforts to rebuild the Tohoku

communities devastated by last year's triple tragedy of the Great East Japan Earthquake. All Pakistani members joined Miyamori's prayers for an early, speedy and strong recovery and rehabilitation of affected areas in Japan.

To promote better understanding between the two peoples, a two-day Pakistan Bazaar displaying Pakistani culture, cuisine, costumes and music was held at Yoyogi Park in March. Similarly, a two-day Pakistan-Japan Friendship Bazaar was held in Mito, Ibaraki Prefecture, in May. It was aimed at bringing life and festivity back to the Ibaraki area. Similar bazaars are being planned in other cities all over Japan.

Finally, I wish to thank The Japan Times to have kindly brought out this special supplement and acknowledge those friends who have supported it in this endeavor to mark the Independence Day of Pakistan.

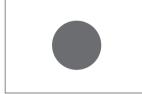




Sightseeing: Pakistan is home to various tourist attractions, such as Mohenjodaro of the ancient Indus Valley civilization in southeast Pakistan and Lake Saiful Muluk in the northwest of the country. EMBASSY OF PAKISTAN

# Congratulations

on the Occasion of the 65th Anniversary of Pakistan Independence Day





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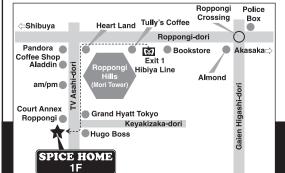
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### Pakistan independence day

### Bilateral ties foster mutual understanding

Seishiro Eto PRESIDENT, JAPAN-PAKISTAN PARLIAMENTARIANS' FRIENDSHIP LEAGUE; VICE SPEAKER, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

On behalf of the Japan-Pakistan Parliamentarians' Friendship



League, I send our most sincere congratulations to the government and people of the Isamic Republic of Pakistan on the auspicious

occasion of the 65th anniversary of their country's independence.

This year marks the 60th anniversary of diplomatic relations between the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and Japan and I have long waited for this auspicious year. I have learned that various commemorative events have been planned and are being held in cities in our countries. I wish all success to the events, hoping that they will contribute toward the further strengthening of bilateral ties.

When Pakistan's Foreign Minister Hina Rabbani Khar visited Japan in May this year, I had the honor and pleasure to welcome her and dine with her, along with other members of



Strengthening ties: Pakistan's Foreign Minister Hina Rabbani Khar meets her Japanese counterpart, Koichiro Genba, in Tokyo during her official visit in May. EMBASSY OF PAKISTAN

of close ties between our countries and the future promotion of our friendship.

On Aug. 1, I also had a meeting with Palwasha Khan, parliamentary secretary for foreign affairs, in my office within the Diet building. I was impressed the league. We had an active ex- with their way of conducting change of views on the 60 years diplomacy, which was based

on their love for their country and with foresight for the sake of their country and people. I express my deep respect to them for their achievements, and I am confident that they will continue to display leadership in this field.

For the people of Japan, Pakistan is a country of their dreams. Widely known in Japan are the

Indus Valley civilization, typified by the remains of the cities at Mohenjodaro and Harappa, Gandhara art, a fusion of the ancient Greek culture in the West and Buddhist art in the East, and K2, the world's second highest mountain, next to only Mount

On March 11 last year, Japan

was hit by the largest earthquake in our recorded history, followed by a gigantic tsunami, which claimed numerous lives. I am truly grateful for the warm support extended to us by the government and people of Pakistan. We will never forget your kindness and friendship.

Pakistan, like Japan, has suffered from many natural disasters, such as the large earthquake in 2005 and the terrible floods last year. Nature is so powerful, but we must face its fury, and I hope that by working together, we can develop countries that can surmount natural disasters.

I sincerely hope that starting from this anniversary year, new chapters will continue to be added to the history of our countries and our bilateral relationship by further stimulating exchanges in a wide range of areas including culture, academic fields and

To this end, I am determined, as president of the league, to exert all efforts toward the further fostering of mutual understanding and friendship between Pakistan and Japan.

Again, expressing my most sincere congratulations on the occasion of Pakistan's Independence Day, I close by offering best wishes for your country's

## High expectations for Pakistan draw heavy Japanese investment

Teruo Asada CHAIRMAN, JAPAN-PAKISTAN BUSINESS COOPERATION COMMITTEE

On behalf of the Japan-Pakistan Business Cooperation Committee, I would like to extend my sincere and heartfelt gratulations to



the people of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan on the occasion of their Independence Day. Japan and Pakistan have completed 60 years of diplomatic relations as of this year. However, the people-to-people contacts between the two countries date back to a much earlier era when Buddhist missionaries from the Gandhara region came to Japan to spread their faith.

Japan and Pakistan's relations have remained cordial despite numerous and significant changes at the global and regional levels. During the decades of the 1950s and 1960s, Pakistan was a major trading partner of Japan, while Japan was the biggest buver of Pakistani cotton yarn and raw cotton. Pakistan, in return, imported large quantities of Japanese spindles to boost its textile industry.

Japanese and foreign companies have high expectations for Pakistan, which possesses tremendous strength in human



Cooperation: Constructed with Japanese assistance, the 1.9-km long Kohat Tunnel, also known as the Pak-Japan Friendship Tunnel, serves as a shorter, alternate route to the Kohat Pass in the northwest frontier of the country. EMBASSY OF PAKISTAN

resources. For example, Japan's automobile industry has invested heavily in Pakistan over the Toyota, Honda and Suzuki have set up industrial units in Pakistan, creating job opportunities for highly skilled and semiskilled laborers. Moreover, these companies impart training to younger Pakistanis involved with these organizations.

In addition, Pakistan's ideal geographic location is also an

attraction for foreign direct investment in different sectors of the economy and offers remarkpast 60 years. Large Japanese able opportunities for foreign fered by Pakistan will contribautomobile companies such as investors. Sectors of particular ute to the economies of both interest include, but are not limited to, agriculture, energy and petrochemicals. Moreover, Pakistan is located in close proximity to the landlocked Central Asian republics and can function as a hub for the oil-rich Middle East. International business activity can serve as a path for exporting

oil to the world.

In the days ahead, Japanese companies' further efforts to make use of such strengths of-

In closing, I would like to again offer our congratulations and reiterate our firm belief in Pakistan's economic and social potential. In the future, the Iapan-Pakistan Business Cooperation Committee will continue to work for further ties between our

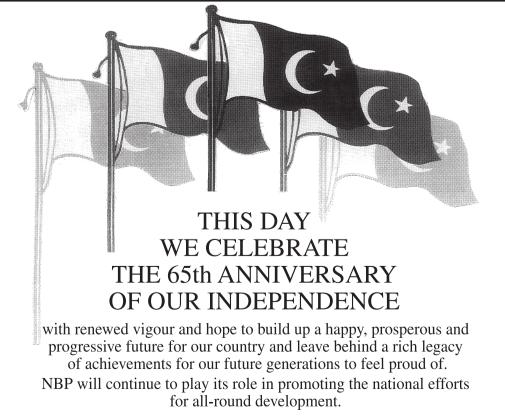


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to the People of Pakistan on the 65th Anniversary of Their Independence





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