

Mongolia National Day Special

A bright future amid ongoing progress

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On the occasion of the 2,230th anniversary of Mongolia's First Statehood, the 815th anniversary of the Great Mongol Empire and the 100th anniversary of the People's Revolution, I would like to extend

my warmest greetings to the dear readers of The Japan Times.

Mongolia is a young democracy that embarked on the path of democracy and reform about three decades ago. The country has a unique cultural heritage, as well as traditions and customs not found anywhere else. It has untouched nature, a long history, nomadic culture, abundant natural resources and vast land.

Mongolia is in the process of improving its parliamentary system, diversifying and activating its economy, and developing its people's culture and education in line with

the philosophy of progress. Under this framework, the country amended its constitution in October 2019, stating it will pursue a "sustainable, stable development policy." In May 2020, it came out with "Vision 2050," which lays out its long-term development policy over the next three decades. The development goals are linked to the United Nations sustainable development goals. The policy was formally introduced in 2021, and Mongolia now stands at the beginning of a new phase of development and progress.

Over the next three decades, our country will build plants to process mining products, including mainly copper concentrates, metallurgical coal, iron ore, gold and silver, into high-value-added products. Additionally, we will launch projects to build infrastructure that will link these industries. Furthermore, the vision aims to support agriculture and livestock, industry and energy, tourism, transportation and logistics, science and information technology, as well as creative industries, and carry out large projects in collaboration with the private sector while soliciting foreign investment.

Mongolia attaches importance to main-

taining an open investment environment under the "third neighbor" policy framework. By carrying out large projects that form the pillar for our future development, we aim to diversify the economy into areas where we can maintain competitiveness in the long term by actively engaging in international cooperation to help encourage foreign investment, participate in initiatives to integrate regional economies and trade, and simplify trade procedures. We also aim to expand export opportunities and develop integrated networks for transportation and logistics.

Like Japan, one of Mongolia's third neighbors, we embrace democratic values. Deepening and developing friendly relations with Japan is one of the top priorities of our foreign policy.

Today, relations between Mongolia and Japan, which are based on shared democratic values, human rights and peace, have grown in all areas on the strategic partnership level. Based on this trusting political relationship, reciprocal trade and economic cooperation have expanded, as have educational and cultural exchanges. Our countries have been



A statue of Mongolian Emperor Genghis Khan on horseback sits on the bank of the Tuul River outside Ulaanbaatar. EMBASSY OF MONGOLIA IN JAPAN

tied in a historic bond as can be symbolized by such terms as "Mongolian spots" and the Altaic languages, to which our respective mother tongues are said to belong.

Mongolia and Japan established diplomatic relations on Feb. 24, 1972, and will celebrate the 50th anniversary of this in 2022. On this occasion, Mongolia wishes to deepen this strategic partnership further, promote its culture, arts and customs and further strengthen our mutual understanding and friendship. Additionally, we aim to expand trade and economic relations and stimulate investment to deepen this partnership for our region's peace and sustainable development.

May the partnership between Mongolia and Japan and the close friendship between our peoples prosper for generations to come.

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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 Mongolia

on the Occasion of

the Mongolian National Day

 **Mitsubishi Corporation**