

Bahrain National Day Special

Further prosperity for bilateral relations

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AMBASSADOR OF THE KINGDOM OF
BAHRAIN



Today, the Embassy of the Kingdom of Bahrain in Tokyo celebrates Bahrain's National Day in commemoration of the establishment of the modern Bahraini state as an Arab and Muslim country

founded by Ahmed Al Fateh in 1783, the anniversary of its full membership in the United Nations, and the anniversary of His Majesty the King's accession to the throne.

On this occasion, the embassy has the honor to renew, on behalf of the leadership, government and people of Bahrain, its heartfelt greetings and wishes of continued health, prosperity and happiness to their majesties, the emperor, empress, imperial family, government and people of Japan.

The embassy also extends its heartfelt felicitations to the King of Bahrain, His Majesty Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, and His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince and Prime Minister.

We would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude to the Japanese government for the success of the Olympic and Paralympic games despite the challenges caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Tokyo 2020 witnessed a historical participation from our country, as Bahrain competed in five different sports for the first time.

In modern history, the relations between



H.M. King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa
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both countries go back to 1934 when the first oil exports from Bahrain went to Japan. July 9, 1934, was the first instance of Japan's importing of oil from Arab Gulf countries and it was the first oil export abroad by any Arab Gulf country. Furthermore, the first shipment of Bahraini liquefied petroleum gas shipped to Japan on the Japanese tanker Yuyo Maru in 1980. To this extent, the relations between Japan and Bahrain in oil related industries are long-standing and historic.

These traditional relations were translated into the world of diplomacy in 1972. Since then, the ties between our two countries have continued to prosper in various fields, especially the economic, trade, and investment sectors, with bilateral trade exceeding \$1.5 billion in 2021.

The Bahrain Economic Development Board has signed a memorandum of

understanding with the Japan External Trade Organization in Dubai. Through this partnership, the two entities will further strengthen relations between the Kingdom of Bahrain and Japan, resulting in strong partnerships, and hopefully highlight Bahrain as an investment destination for Japanese companies.

Last month the Cabinet of Bahrain announced an economic recovery plan that aims to drive economic growth and boost nonoil sectors in Bahrain as we emerge from the pandemic. One of the plan's priorities is simplifying and increasing the efficiency of commercial project procedures to attract \$2.5 billion of direct investment to the kingdom by 2023. Another priority is catalyzing over \$30 billion of investments in strategic projects and creating new industrial investment areas across the kingdom.

As part of the recovery plan, Bahrain's economic development board announced the launch of an investment platform that allows investors, including Japanese, to access investment opportunities in the kingdom's strategic projects. The invest.bh platform enables investors to explore current and future planned projects in the kingdom across a wide range of sectors including industrial, infrastructure, tourism and housing projects.

Throughout the years, Japanese companies have contributed to Bahrain's nation-building efforts through their participation in various development projects. Japanese companies contributed to infrastructure construction in such important fields as gas, oil and aluminum. Japanese companies are also a part of integrated water and power

plant projects, and taking part in supplying stable water and electricity. As such, we would like to see the presence of Japanese companies in the above-mentioned strategic projects and investment opportunities bringing higher efficiencies and quality employment to Bahrain.

Next year, the Kingdom of Bahrain and Japan will celebrate the 50th anniversary of establishing diplomatic relations. This occasion is another achievement in the relations between the two nations as we celebrate next year not only 50 years of official diplomatic ties, but also centuries of deep-rooted friendship and an opportunity to explore additional pathways of coordination for our mutual benefit.

To conclude, we wish the best for the continuing progress in all fields for both countries, and further solidification of the special relationship tying both of our nations together. We are very confident that our relations, for years to come, will see further enhancement of strong ties between the Kingdom of Bahrain and Japan.



The design of the Bahrain National Theatre in Manama draws inspiration from the tales of the Arabian Nights.
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Bu Maher Fort was built in 1840. EMBASSY OF BAHRAIN



The Bahrain National Library and Al Fateh Grand Mosque in Manama
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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 the Kingdom of Bahrain
on the Anniversary of Their National day*



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and others**



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