

# Kuwait National Day Special

## Successful bilateral collaboration ongoing for over seven decades

HASAN MOHAMMAD ZAMAN  
AMBASSADOR OF KUWAIT



The State of Kuwait celebrates the 61st anniversary of its independence and the 31st anniversary of its liberation from Iraq this month. Concurrently, we are also celebrating 61 years of diplomatic

relations and friendly ties with Japan, following their official establishment in 1961. However, our friendship and cooperation date back years before.

Our bilateral relations have achieved numerous milestones in the past 61 years, starting with the establishment of diplomatic relations a few months after Kuwait declared independence in 1961, followed by the exchange of diplomatic missions in 1962 and 1963.

In 1990, Japan took historic stances to uphold Kuwait's legitimate rights against the invasion. It contributed \$13 billion to support the international coalition assembled to liberate Kuwait. The people of Kuwait will never forget Japan's initiatives. Its appreciation was evident when Kuwait, per the directives of late Amir His Highness Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, may Allah have mercy on his soul, offered 5 million barrels of crude oil in support of the recovery efforts following the Great East Japan Earthquake and the ensuing devastating tsunami in 2011.



His Highness Crown Prince Sheikh Mishal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah  
EMBASSY OF KUWAIT

Most recently, our countries' cooperation has also been evident in countering the COVID-19 pandemic. In addition to importing the medicine Avigan that was developed in Japan, Kuwait, per the directives of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, contributed \$40 million to the vaccine alliance Gavi in support of the COVAX facility, at the COVAX Advance Market Commitment Summit that the Japanese government hosted on June 2.

On the economic front, the collaboration between our nations dates to before Kuwait's independence, with private Japanese companies actively involved in the Kuwaiti oil sector since the 1950s. Today, Kuwait remains one of Japan's primary import sources for crude oil, while import-



His Highness Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, Amir of the State of Kuwait  
EMBASSY OF KUWAIT

ing numerous Japanese products in various sectors. The total volume of our bilateral trade has since reached \$9 billion annually.

Moreover, the circumstances under the COVID-19 pandemic highlighted several significant issues, such as food security, health systems, education systems, cybersecurity, and artificial intelligence. Considering their paramount importance, Kuwait is looking forward to working with the Japanese side to deal with these challenges and contribute to a better and more sustainable recovery.

In conclusion, I assure you that Kuwait and its people are proud of our friendly relations with Japan. We are committed to developing and promoting our bilateral ties in various fields under the wise leadership of his highness the Amir and His Highness Crown Prince Sheikh Mishal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah.

*This content was compiled in collaboration with the embassy. The views expressed here do not necessarily reflect those of the newspaper.*



Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah Causeway  
EMBASSY OF KUWAIT



Decorated water towers in Kuwait GETTY IMAGES



Kuwait City's Al Shaheed Park is the largest urban park in the country.  
EMBASSY OF KUWAIT

## Solid and long-lasting diplomatic ties continue to grow and thrive

YASUSHI KIMURA  
CHAIRMAN, JAPAN-KUWAIT SOCIETY



On this auspicious occasion of the 61st anniversary of the National Day of the State of Kuwait, I am pleased to offer on behalf of the members of the Japan-Kuwait Society our sincer-

est greetings and congratulations to the friendly people of Kuwait.

Japan and Kuwait celebrated the 60th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations in 2021, a year throughout which we were forced to live side by side

with COVID-19. As a result, commemorative events that would normally have been held with fanfare in various locations had to be scaled down or held online. However, it is pointless to lament what cannot be done; what is essential is to focus on what can be done and carry that out to the extent possible, maintaining a positive attitude.

Last year also marked 10 years since the Great East Japan Earthquake that occurred in 2011. Having received generous support from Kuwait in its aftermath, areas in eastern Japan have cherished and continued to maintain ties with Kuwait, never forgetting the kindness they received at the time. I hope that public- and private-sector exchanges between our countries will continue to deepen in a wide range of areas.



Above: Inside the Grand Mosque in Kuwait City Below: Fatima Zahra Mosque in Kuwait City GETTY IMAGES



Heartiest Greetings and  
Congratulations  
to the State of Kuwait  
on the Occasion of  
the Anniversary of  
their National Day and  
the Anniversary of  
their Liberation Day



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WE EXTEND OUR  
CORDIAL FELICITATIONS  
TO THE AMIR  
AND THE PEOPLE OF  
THE STATE OF KUWAIT  
ON THIS AUSPICIOUS OCCASION  
WISHING FOR THE FURTHERANCE  
OF FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN  
KUWAIT AND JAPAN



JAPAN-KUWAIT SOCIETY

Chairman: Yasushi Kimura

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Congratulations to  
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Heartiest Greetings and Congratulations to  
H.H. The Amir, H.H. The Crown Prince, H.E. The Prime Minister  
and The People of The State of Kuwait

On the Occasion of the  
61st National Day of Kuwait, and 31st Anniversary of Liberation



Kuwait Petroleum Corporation  
(Far East) (K.S.C.) Japan Branch