
Haiti National Day Special

A year for partnerships, cultural exchanges

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On Jan. 1, 1804, Haiti made history by becoming the world's first nation of African descent to gain its freedom by force from a colonial power. In doing so, the country pioneered the liberation

movement for many countries in the Latin American region and paved the way for many others in terms of human rights. Haiti helped many other countries gain their freedom, either by inspiring their leaders or helping in battles. We are a people of strong will, courage, resilience and generosity.

Our history makes us proud and great as a nation. Yet, we remain humble in face of the help and support we receive continuously from the Japanese government and the

people of Japan. Haiti and Japan have a lot of similarities ranging from landscape, nature and the environment all the way to the types of hardship they face with natural disasters, for instance. We are very grateful and honored to count Japan as a friend and ally.

We hope that 2023 will present many opportunities for bilateral cooperation. The Haitian government looks forward to discovering and seizing unique partnership opportunities in such areas as agriculture, education, and risk and disaster management. As Haiti has a rich, vibrant and colorful culture, we are looking forward this year to putting an emphasis on cultural exchanges. Indeed, the strengthening of cultural cooperation ties with Haiti will certainly provide Japan with an occasion to promote its uniqueness and values. Furthermore, the promotion of culture is a great way for both countries to consolidate our friendship.

During the fight against COVID-19, the Haitian government, despite many hard-



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ships, took important measures to protect its population. With the support of countries such as Japan, the Haitian government is multiplying its continued efforts toward the betterment of the Haitian people's overall living conditions.

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