
Djibouti National Day Special

Honoring major milestones in bilateral ties

IBRAHIM BILEH DOUALEH
AMBASSADOR OF DJIBOUTI



As we celebrate the 48th anniversary of the independence of the Republic of Djibouti, the bonds between Japan and my country are getting stronger.

Indeed, Djibouti and Japan have

enjoyed excellent relations since our independence in 1977, with Japan providing unwavering support. However, it was in 2011 that these relations became a very special strategic partnership with the establishment of the only overseas base of Japan's Self-Defense Forces.

Since then, Japan has ensured maritime security in our region by combating piracy. And since 2023, Djibouti has acted as an anchor point in case Japanese nationals

require repatriation in the event of a crisis. This year, as in previous years, will include milestones of major importance for our bilateral relations.

In May, Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs Her Excellency Arfiya Eri paid an official visit to Djibouti. We also had, in April, the visit of a delegation from the Japan Ship-owners Association.

In June, there was an official visit to Japan by the President of our National Assembly His Excellency Dileita Mohamed Dileita, a great friend of Japan who received the Grand Cordon of the Order of the Rising Sun in 2013. During his visit to Japan, Dileita held meetings with key Japanese officials, including the speakers of both houses of parliament, the foreign minister, and the minister of defense. He also visited Hiroshima and the World Expo in Osaka.

In August, TICAD 9 will be held in Yokohama. This conference, focused on solidarity and codevelopment, is more important than ever in a world where instability and

unilateralism are unfortunately becoming the norm. Djibouti, which has demonstrated its stability and believes in multilateralism, is committed to making its contribution so that the conference's work can produce results that are beneficial for Africa, Japan and the world.

On Oct. 5, we will celebrate Djibouti's National Day at the Osaka Expo, but as the Djibouti Pavilion is already open in the Connecting Zone, in Commons B, visitors are welcome at any time.

Regarding cooperation between our countries, the outlook is very promising.

It is therefore with full confidence in the future of Japanese-Djiboutian ties that I extend my most sincere wishes for the health of his majesty the emperor and for the development of the great Japanese nation.

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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.