

Egypt National Day Special

Decades of cooperation lift business and development

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Today, Egypt is proudly celebrating its National Day, marking the 73rd anniversary of the July 23, 1952, revolution. This occasion is of a great significance for the Egyptian people as the country observed a remarkable transformation to a new era of development, progress and prosperity.

This is a timely opportunity to shed light on the great progress that Egyptian-Japanese relations have achieved over the years, beginning with the samurai mission's historic visit to Egypt in 1864 on their way to Europe. It has continued to grow as seen by the milestone announcement of the leaders of Egypt and Japan in April 2023 to elevate bilateral relations to the level of strategic partnership.

That crucial moment cleared the path toward deepening and diversifying joint collaboration and encouraging active economic and sectoral engagements, accelerated by the exchange of senior high-level visits, to develop strategic relations and initiate cooperation in new fields of expertise, such as special needs education, ecotourism, entrepreneurship and artificial intelligence.

Economic ties play a crucial role in this partnership, with a growing Japanese business community in Egypt in key sectors such as manufacturing, construction, pharmaceuticals and renewable energy. Moreover, discussions are underway with many leading Japanese corporations in coordination with the Japan External Trade Organization to invest in the Suez Canal Economic Zone and other industrial parks benefiting from the offered incentives and the coun-

try's recently developed infrastructure and transportation networks.

Egypt and Japan recently celebrated the 70th anniversary of their developmental cooperation executed by the highly regarded role of the Japan International Cooperation Agency through concessional financing in a wide range of areas, including transportation, energy, education and health care. Our countries have boosted their tireless efforts in developing key joint megaprojects in Egypt, like the fourth line of the Cairo Metro and universal health insurance, among many others.

It is noteworthy to mention that Egypt-Japan cooperation is primarily centered on human development as the two countries share the core vision that humans are the main drivers for growth and prosperity. Education is a major aspect of cooperation in the various education stages as reflected in the Egypt-Japan Education Partnership launched in 2016. Such efforts led to the wide spread of the Japanese-style education system known as *tokkatsu* (special activities) in 55 Egyptian-Japanese schools. This number is expected to reach 100 schools within a short period along with 1,700 public schools applying the *tokkatsu* system.

Furthermore, the Egyptian-Japanese Uni-

versity for Science and Technology became a leading entity in Egypt and Africa, according to the latest rankings, and is playing an increasing role as a tool to develop higher education and research capacities across Africa, including via 150 scholarships offered to postgraduate African researchers per joint arrangements through the Tokyo International Conference on African Development mechanism.

Additionally, in September, Egypt will inaugurate the first Japanese institute for vocational training applying the *kosen* (technical training) system, which is expected to further develop business relations by offering well-trained personnel to private Japanese companies willing to expand their investments in Egypt.

The Grand Egyptian Museum stands as a testament to these great cultural ties with Japan and is preparing to receive Japanese tourists toward its rapidly approaching grand opening in the last quarter of 2025. Egypt is confident this new, magnificent museum will boost inbound tourism toward its target of 30 million tourists by 2030. In this regard, the "Ramses the Great and the Gold of the Pharaohs" exhibition is open in Tokyo as the first of its kind in Asia sponsored by the Egyptian government to display 180 authentic artifacts. Addition-

ally, the Egypt Pavilion at the Osaka Expo is noted for showcasing Egyptian development from ancient to modern times.

Egypt and its African partners are working closely with Japan to prepare for the ninth TICAD summit to be held in August in Yokohama. The aim is to ensure its success in further developing African relations with Japan toward new horizons, with a special focus on innovation, technologies and education. Egypt can be Japan's gateway to Africa in replicating these mutual

developmental success stories in other countries, which Egypt welcomes realizing in collaboration with Japan through trilateral cooperation mechanisms, given Egypt's long-standing expertise in Africa.

The future of Egyptian-Japanese relations is bright and very promising, given the political leadership support of our countries and the long friendship bonds between the people of Egypt and Japan as two incredible civilizations that share common human values.



Visitors line up outside the Egypt Pavilion at the Osaka Expo. EMBASSY OF EGYPT

Congratulations
to the People of the
Arab Republic of Egypt
on the Anniversary
of Their National Day



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