
Liberia Independence Day Special

Strong belief in global peace, development

EDWARD WADE APPLETON JR.
AMBASSADOR OF LIBERIA



I extend warmest greetings to all Liberians at home and in Japan as we mark the 178th anniversary of our independence on July 26. We celebrate our people, whose unwavering com-

mitment to liberty and democracy continues to define Liberia.

This Independence Day, we are reminded of the strength and tenacity of the Liberian people, which serve as a profound affirmation of our shared vision for prosperity and national unity, even as we face contemporary challenges.

A key policy of President Joseph Nyuma Boakai Sr. is the Agriculture, Roads, Rule of Law, Education, Sanitation and Tour-

ism Agenda for Inclusive Development. Liberia and Japan enjoy a growing bilateral relationship with potential trade and investment opportunities. Liberia's natural resource base and strategic location offer Japan a promising avenue for economic diversification and partnership.

Liberia's rich natural resources appeal to Japan's manufacturing and industrial sectors. Also, agricultural and marine products offer opportunities for Japan to diversify its food and raw material imports. We applaud Japan's provision of development support through official development assistance and the Japan International Cooperation Agency. Opportunities for deeper trade and investment also exist in other sectors.

Moreover, Japan's quality infrastructure expertise matches Liberia's development goals. The Osaka Expo provides a platform to showcase Liberian exports and attract Japanese investors. In addition, Liberia's high-level representation at the ninth Tokyo International Conference on African Devel-

opment in Yokohama will strengthen our partnership and cooperation with Japan.

Liberia's commitment to global peace, sustainable development and climate action demonstrates our role not just as Africa's first independent republic, but as a forward-thinking partner. In celebrating this historic milestone, and our recent election as a non-permanent member of the U.N. Security Council, Liberia reaffirms its exceptional capacity to navigate the complexities of international relations while staying true to its ideals of liberty and unity.

As we celebrate, let us remember that the resiliency of Liberians is our greatest asset. May we stand united in our determination to build a brighter, more prosperous Liberia for generations to come.

Happy Independence Day!

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