

# Saudi Arabian crown prince's visit

## A new chapter in bilateral history

Abdulaziz Turkistani  
AMBASSADOR OF SAUDI ARABIA

We will celebrate the 60th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Japan in 2015. Since its inception, we have maintained cordial and smooth relations through economic exchange, without mentioning mutual visits between the Royal Family and Imperial Family, and both governments' officials.

It gives me great pleasure to announce that His Royal Highness Crown Prince Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, Deputy Premier and Minister of Defense is making an official visit to Ja-



Prince Miqren bin Abdulaziz Al Saud



King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz Al Saud



Crown Prince Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud

pan for four days through Feb. 21. This is the second visit to Japan by H.R.H. Crown Prince Salman, the first having been in 1998 in his capacity as the Gov-

ernor of Riyadh. Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe visited Saudi Arabia last year and held talks with H.R.H. Crown Prince Salman,

in which both sides discussed the depth of the relationship that has existed between the two friendly countries, and reviewed the recent developments

in both the regional and international arenas. In addition, an agreement on the promotion and protection of mutual investments between the governments of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Japan was signed following the talks.

Economic ties have served to connect Saudi Arabia and Japan very closely. Saudi Arabia supplies Japan with one-third of the total amount of crude oil imported to the country. As a framework of the technical cooperation, there are three vocational training institutes in Saudi Arabia, which were established in cooperation with Japan. There have been about 3,000 Saudis who have graduated from these to date.

Additionally, we have recently witnessed an expansion of people-to-people exchanges between our countries over the last



Longstanding ties: Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko receive Prince Salman, then governor of Riyadh Province, at the Imperial Palace on April 22, 1998. EMBASSY OF SAUDI ARABIA

decade. For instance, more than 500 Saudi students are receiving higher education in Japan today.

I believe with absolute certainty that this auspicious visit

of H.R.H. Crown Prince Salman will open a new chapter in the history of friendly bilateral relations and will further strengthen them.

In conclusion, we, the Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia, are greatly honored to welcome this visit by H.R.H. to Japan at this important moment.



Strengthening relations: Prime Minister Shinzo Abe is welcomed by Crown Prince Salman at the King Abdulaziz International Airport in Jeddah on April 30 during his visit to Saudi Arabia. EMBASSY OF SAUDI ARABIA

### Brief profile and agenda of Crown Prince Salman

His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Abdulaziz was designated Crown Prince of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and appointed deputy premier by Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz on June 18, 2012, upon the death of Crown Prince Nayef bin Abdulaziz. Crown Prince Salman also serves as minister of defense.

Prince Salman was born in Riyadh on Dec. 31, 1935, and received his education at the Prince's School in Riyadh, which was established in 1937 by the late King Abdulaziz for his sons. He served as deputy governor of Riyadh from March 1954 to April 1955, and governor of Riyadh from April 1955 to December 1960 and again from February 1963 to Nov. 5, 2011, when he was appointed minister of defense.

Since 1956, Prince Salman has chaired various humanitarian and service committees that provide relief from natural and man-made disasters domestically and internationally. For his humanitarian services, he has been awarded many medals and decorations, including awards from Bahrain, Bosnia and Herzegovina, France, Morocco, Palestine, the Philippines, Senegal, the United Nations, Yemen and the King Abdulaziz Medal-First Class.

He is a recipient of several honorary degrees and academic awards, including an honorary doctorate from the Islamic University of Madinah, the Prince Salman academic award, and the Kant Medal by the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities in appreciation of his contributions to the field of science.

Prince Salman paid an official visit to Japan in 1998 in his capacity of the governor of Riyadh and met with Their Majesties Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko, Their Imperial Highnesses Crown Prince Naruhito and Princess Masako, as well as a number of Japanese officials.

H.R.H. Crown Prince Salman met with Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and a number of Japanese officials in April 2013.

H.R.H. Crown Prince Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, is paying an official visit to Japan through Feb. 21.

During his stay in Japan, H.R.H. Crown Prince Salman will have an Imperial Audience with His Majesty Emperor Akihito, who will host a Court Luncheon in honor of H.R.H. Crown Prince Salman.

Prime Minister Shinzo Abe will also hold a meeting and host a dinner for H.R.H. Prince Salman.

## Development and progress

### Education

In the 1950s, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia had few schools and very few citizens had access to formal education. Today, Saudi Arabia has tens of thousands of public and private schools and has invested a large portion of its budget in improving the standards of education at all levels for all citizens.

To support the kingdom's continued growth and to meet the needs of a burgeoning youth population, the government allocates about 25 percent of its annual budget to education.

Saudi Arabia's educational system is comprised of more than 30 public and private universities and more than 26,000

primary schools. Approximately five million students are enrolled in the system, which has a student to teacher ratio of 11-to-1, one of the lowest in the world.

The literacy rate in the kingdom has risen to 96 percent, up from 35 percent forty years ago.

In 2006, King Abdullah established the King Abdullah Scholarship Program for study abroad. The Saudi government has offered scholarships to more than 130,000 students, who are attending schools in more than 20 countries worldwide. There are more than 72,000 Saudi students studying in the U.S.

Saudi students in the U.S. CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

**Our Heartiest Welcome to**  
His Royal Highness  
Crown Prince Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud,  
The Deputy Premier and Minister of Defense of  
The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia  
on the Occasion of  
His Royal Highness' Visit to Japan

**azbil**  
Azbil Corporation  
<http://www.azbil.com/>

**Our Heartiest Welcome to**  
His Royal Highness  
Crown Prince Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud,  
The Deputy Premier and Minister of Defense of  
The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia  
on the Occasion of  
His Royal Highness' Visit to Japan

**CHIYODA CORPORATION**  
Minato Mirai Grand Central Tower  
4-6-2, Minatomirai, Nishi-ku  
Yokohama 220-8765, Japan  
<http://www.chiyoda-corp.com/en>

**Our Heartiest Welcome to**  
HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS  
CROWN PRINCE SALMAN BIN ABDULAZIZ AL SAUD  
The Deputy Premier and  
Minister of Defense of  
The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia  
on the Occasion of  
His Royal Highness' Visit to Japan

**FOC**  
FUJI OIL COMPANY, LTD.  
ARABIAN OIL COMPANY, LTD.

**Our Heartiest Welcome to**  
His Royal Highness  
Crown Prince Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud,  
The Deputy Premier and Minister of Defense of  
The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia  
on the Occasion of  
His Royal Highness' Visit to Japan

**ITOCHU CORPORATION**  
<http://www.itochu.co.jp/>  
TOKYO Headquarters 5-1, Kita-Aoyama 2-chome, Minato-ku, Tokyo Tel. 03-3497-2121  
OSAKA Headquarters 1-3, Umeda 3-chome, Kita-ku, Osaka Tel. 06-7638-2121

**Our Heartiest Welcome to**  
His Royal Highness  
Crown Prince Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud,  
The Deputy Premier and Minister of Defense of  
The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia  
on the Occasion of  
His Royal Highness' Visit to Japan

**Marubeni**  
<http://www.marubeni.com>

**Our Heartiest Welcome to**  
His Royal Highness  
Crown Prince Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud,  
The Deputy Premier and Minister of Defense of  
The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia  
on the Occasion of  
His Royal Highness' Visit to Japan

**Mitsubishi Corporation**

**Our Heartiest Welcome to**  
His Royal Highness  
Crown Prince Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud,  
The Deputy Premier and Minister of Defense of  
The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia  
on the Occasion of  
His Royal Highness' Visit to Japan

**MITSUBI & CO., LTD.**

**Our Heartiest Welcome to**  
His Royal Highness  
Crown Prince Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud,  
The Deputy Premier and Minister of Defense of  
The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia  
on the Occasion of  
His Royal Highness' Visit to Japan

**Showa Shell Sekiyu K.K.**  
2-3-2 Daiba, Minato-ku, Tokyo 135-8074  
<http://www.showa-shell.co.jp>

# Saudi Arabian crown prince's visit

## Crown Prince visit highlights friendship, trust

Hiromasa Yonekura  
CHAIRMAN, JAPAN-SAUDI ARABIA SOCIETY

On behalf of the Japan-Saudi Arabia Society, I would like to extend my hearty welcome to His Royal Highness Crown Prince Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.



The crown prince's visit to Japan this time, made less than one year after Prime Minister Shinzo Abe visited Saudi Arabia last April, is truly significant and it is a testimony to the strong bonds of friendship and trust between the Kingdom and Japan that have been developed over the past nearly 60 years since diplomatic relations were established in 1955.

H.R.H. Crown Prince Salman served as the governor of Riyadh Province for many years, during which time Crown Prince Salman enjoyed considerable accomplishments in the areas of urban and economic development, including the transformation of Riyadh, the Saudi capital, from a desert oasis town into a metropolis of skyscrapers.

In 1998, as the governor of Riyadh Province, H.R.H. Crown

Prince Salman visited Japan for the first time. During the visit, the crown prince met with Their Imperial Majesties Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko, as well as then Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto, and also paid a visit to a special school for handicapped children.

At present, H.R.H. Crown Prince Salman serves as the deputy prime minister and the minister of defense of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and under the leadership and guidance of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, the crown prince has played a significant role to drive the progress and ensure the prosperity of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia — a leader in the Middle East region and the world's largest oil exporter. The crown prince is also known for his philanthropic activities and humanitarian efforts.

After the summit meeting held in Jeddah last April, H.R.H. Crown Prince Salman and Prime Minister Abe issued a joint statement to affirm their commitment to enhance the comprehensive partnership between Japan and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in a wide range of areas, from energy and resources to defense, infrastructure development, agriculture, medical care, the environment and human



Big time: The King Abdullah Clock Tower in Makkah (Mecca) houses the world's tallest minaret, made of gold, the largest clock face and largest man-made crescent. EMBASSY OF SAUDI ARABIA

resource development. This has raised the expectation in Japan that economic and industrial cooperation between the two countries will gain further momentum.

At the Japan-Saudi Arabia Society we will continue working on our cultural exchange projects — efforts that we have

engaged in since the inception of the Society in 1960 — to contribute to the promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and the Kingdom of Saudi

Arabia and the further strengthening of ties between the two countries.

I sincerely hope H.R.H. Crown Prince Salman's visit to Japan

will be successful and rewarding and Japan-Saudi Arabia relations, built on friendship and trust, will continue to grow for many years to come.

## Kingdom a leader for investment

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

represent a \$6 billion investment in the U.S. economy.

### Economy and Society

When the modern Saudi state was established in 1932, the country had little in terms of infrastructure and economic development. As a result of the dramatic growth and progress in Saudi Arabia, today infant mortality is low, life expectancy is high and education is universal.

Saudi Arabia ranks as the 20th most competitive economy in the world, according to the World Economic Forum's 2013-2014 Global Competitiveness Report.

A recent International Finance Corporation (IFC)-World Bank report ranked Saudi Arabia 22 out of 185 economies surveyed in the annual Doing Business 2013 report.

In 2012, non-oil GDP grew by 7.2 percent and today Saudi Arabia is one of the world's fastest growing countries, with a per capita income that is forecasted to rise from \$20,700 in 2007 to

\$33,500 by 2020.

The Consultative Council (Majlis Al-Shura) was established in 1992 with 60 members and has since been expanded to 150. The powers of the Consultative Council have also grown to provide for greater oversight of government functions and programs, as well as broader authority to advise the Royal Court on legislative and administrative reforms. In January 2013, King Abdullah appointed 30 women to the Consultative Council.

Additionally, in 2005, the Saudi government held its first municipal elections.

### Foreign Investment

Saudi Arabia's free market economy has undergone remarkable changes in a relatively short period of time. Today, Saudi Arabia is one of the fastest developing countries in the world and has the largest economy in the Middle East.

Saudi Arabia remains the most attractive destination for foreign direct investment in the Arab world, according to

the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development's "World Investment Report 2013."

The U.S. is the kingdom's number one source of foreign direct investment in, and Saudi Arabia is the 9th largest trading partner of the U.S. In 2012, bilateral Trade amounted to nearly \$74 billion.

Saudi Arabia is the world's 15th largest exporter and 3rd largest importer of products and services.

Information provided by the Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia



Royal voice: Prince Salman speaks at a welcome reception in Tokyo, attended by representatives from the public and private sectors, on April 20, 1998. EMBASSY OF SAUDI ARABIA



History: Led by Ibn Saud, the recapture of Riyadh occurred in 1902 at Masmak Fort. EMBASSY OF SAUDI ARABIA

Our Heartiest Welcome to

His Royal Highness

Crown Prince Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud,

The Deputy Premier and Minister of Defense of

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

on the Occasion of

His Royal Highness' Visit to Japan

 SUMITOMO CHEMICAL

27-1, Shinkawa 2-chome, Chuo-ku, Tokyo 104-8260, Japan  
TEL: 03-5543-5500 Fax: 03-5543-5901

Our Heartiest Welcome to

His Royal Highness

Crown Prince Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud,

The Deputy Premier and Minister of Defense of

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

on the Occasion of

His Royal Highness' Visit to Japan

 Sumitomo Corporation

Our Warmest Greetings  
on the Occasion of the Visit to Japan  
by

**HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS  
CROWN PRINCE SALMAN BIN ABDULAZIZ AL SAUD**

The Deputy Premier and Minister of Defense of  
The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

**JAPAN-SAUDI ARABIA SOCIETY**

Chairman: Hiromasa Yonekura

Our Heartiest Welcome to

His Royal Highness

**Crown Prince Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud,  
The Deputy Premier and Minister of Defense of  
The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia on the Occasion of  
His Royal Highness' Visit to Japan**

 JGC CORPORATION

2-3-1, Minato Mirai, Nishi-ku, Yokohama  
220-6001, Japan  
Tel: 81-45-682-1111 Fax: 81-45-682-1112  
<http://www.jgc.co.jp/>

 JGC Gulf International Ltd.

P.O. Box 2257,  
Al-Khobar 31952, Saudi Arabia  
Tel: 966-13-896-5060 Fax: 966-13-896-5071  
<http://www.jgc.com.sa/web/home.html>