

Turkmenistan national day

Peace, energy, transport among important initiatives

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AMBASSADOR OF TURKMENISTAN

Since obtaining independence in October 1991, Turkmenistan has constantly and successfully been developing its politics, diplomacy, mutually beneficial trade and economy, as well as its cultural and humanitarian relations. These relations are conducted on the basis of Permanent Neutrality, which was unanimously approved by the General Assembly of United Nations in December 1995. Next year we will solemnly celebrate the 20th Anniversary of our Neutrality, which constitutes the very essence of our foreign policy.

Peace, disarmament, energy security, environmental protection, improvement of the transport system on the Eurasian continent and regional and global security are some of the most important initiatives put forward by Turkmenistan through reputable international organizations and they are much appreciated by other countries, including Japan.

Neutrality and the open door policy of Turkmenistan have created favorable conditions for widening the country's foreign economic relations, further developing of international cooperation as well as participating in the world economy.

One of main strategic directions of the foreign policy of the Turkmen state is to establish productive relations with Asia-Pacific countries. And Japan, which is currently strengthening its position among developed countries, is one of the most vital partners



Left, President of Turkmenistan H.E. Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov; Above, official logo commemorating the 23rd Anniversary of Independence of the nation.
EMBASSY OF TURKMENISTAN

of Turkmenistan.

The current smooth-growing economy of Turkmenistan is oriented toward modernization and diversification through the creation of new fields and the implementation of innovative and advanced technologies. Presently, the annual growth of the economy of Turkmenistan is about 10 to 11 percent.

Turkmenistan also enjoys complete political and social stability and special attention is paid to the social protection of our fellow citizens. As a result, gas, water and electricity are provided free to all citizens of Turkmenistan.

As the Ambassador of Turkmenistan in Japan, my main duty is to implement agreements reached during the official visit of H.E. President of Turkmenistan Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov to Japan in September 2013, as well as to work out new areas of cooperation.

During his visit, a large Turkmen-Japan forum, as well as high-level meetings and negotiations were held. Discussions

during these resulted in 21 bilateral documents covering politics, trade, economy, science, education, health care and horse breeding being signed.

Our country's enterprises together with dozens of large Japanese corporations are implementing economically beneficial and very important regional joint projects, espe-

cially in the fields of oil and gas. Turkmenistan is known to Japan not only as country that possesses the world's fourth-largest reserves of natural gas, but also as a politically, socially and financially stable, strong and loyal partner. And the fact that many new Japanese companies are interested to work in Turkmenistan clearly proves that fact.

Turkmen-Japanese cooperation is successfully developing in different fields and one of these fields is parliamentary cooperation. Presently more than 30 members of Japan's Diet have joined the Japanese-Turkmen Friendship Parliamentary League. In Turkmenistan's Mejlis, a Turkmen-Japan Friendship Group also has been established.

Successful cooperation is taking place with other governmental organizations in Japan as well. Leaders of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan are regularly meeting with high-level officials of Turkmenistan. Among the agenda of meetings are also issues related to the Chairmanship of Turkmenistan in the Central Asia + Japan Dialogue in 2015-2016.

One of the new fields of bilateral cooperation is the health care and medical industry. Relevant institutions from both countries are fruitfully working in these promising fields and Turkmenistan is interested in the high-quality medical expertise of Japan and its superior medical equipment.

Cooperation in the field of



A view of the modern capital Ashgabat, the largest city in Turkmenistan. EMBASSY OF TURKMENISTAN

culture, science and education between the two countries is also successfully growing and the establishment of the Japanese-Turkmen Association for Science and Technological Cooperation in March 2013 is another indication that bilateral partnership in the field of science has a great future.

Because of this interaction,


we observe that the number of Japanese people interested in our 5,000 year history, magnificent Akhal-teke horses, wonderful handmade woolen carpets and, of course, the white-marbled capital of Ashgabat is growing day by day. As a result, we can see a substantial increase of number of Japanese tourists visiting Turkmenistan and we are

pleased to welcome them.

In the end, I would like to express my confidence that multifaceted, mutually beneficial and equal Turkmen-Japanese cooperation has a great future. I heartily congratulate all dear friends of Turkmenistan on the Independence Day of Turkmenistan!

Long live Turkmen-Japanese friendship!

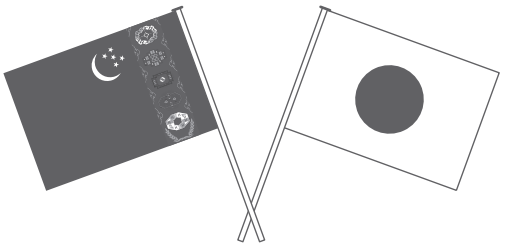
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to the People of Turkmenistan
on the Occasion of
the 23rd Anniversary of
Their Independence

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