Pakistan Independence Day

Close friends share commitment to peace and security

ASAD M. KHAN AMBASSADOR OF PAKISTAN



On the 70th Anniversary of our Independence, let me express on behalf of the government of Pakistan, myself and my compatriots in Japan, our respectful and sincere greetings to Their Impe-

rial Majesties the Emperor and Empress, members of the Imperial family, H.E. Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, the government and the friendly people of Japan.

For me personally, it is a great privilege and honor to be celebrating the 70th anniversary of our independence in Tokyo as Pakistan's new ambassador to Japan. I started my career in this beautiful country as a language trainee and thereafter served in the embassy of Pakistan in Tokyo. Naturally, I am very excited to return to Japan to

RISING PAKISTAN

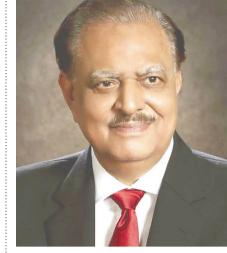


represent my country as ambassador. Pakistan and Japan are long-standing friends. As we celebrate the 65th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Japan and Pakistan, we are keen to further build on our shared commitment to peace, security and prosperity to lay the foundation of an enduring partnership based on trust and mutually beneficial cooperation.



The founder of Pakistan Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah

For Pakistan, Japan has been an important development partner with extensive trade and investment linkages. The continued presence in Pakistan of 83 major



President of Pakistan Mamnoon Hussain

Japanese companies and their growing numbers and range of activities are a testament to the trade and investment win-win relationship that our two countries have enjoyed over the decades.

Pakistan has made important strides these past four years, particularly on both the security and economic fronts. The improved security environment in Pakistan, with last year witnessing the lowest number of terrorism incidents in over a decade and the sustained economic turnaround in Pakistan, is duly recognized and acknowledged by international financial institutions and credit rating agencies. Even the Japan External Trade Organization's survey for 2016 ranked Pakistan as one of the most attractive business destinations.

The upbeat business projections about Pakistan are obviously attracting renewed business and investor interest in Pakistan from across the globe, including Japan. Already, Morinaga Milk Industry Co. and Ajinomoto Co. have set up their operations in Pakistan. Yamaha Motor Co. has also returned to Pakistan, while Japanese automakers are looking at expanding their



Prime Minister of Pakistan Shahid Khaqan Abbasi

production facilities in Pakistan. Naturally. we are excited about the growing Japanese business confidence and renewed Japanese interest in Pakistan.

The active and vibrant Pakistani diaspora in Japan, now numbering around 11,000, is acting as a strong and effective bridge between our two countries and peoples. I am very proud to recall the services rendered by the Pakistani diaspora to help their communities in the aftermath of the Tohoku tragedy. Their selfless contributions and tireless efforts to provide relief to the affected population have endeared them to their communities. Indeed all of this makes us very proud. I have every confidence that they will continue to make important and useful contributions to the Japanese society and economy.

As we celebrate the 65th anniversary of our diplomatic relations, we look to the past to carve out a better future. From Gandhara to Nara, Pakistan and Japan share a special bond. I do hope that as I begin my assignment here in Japan, my second home, I am able to nurture that bond, to the mutual benefit of our two great nations.



World peace and stability remain priorities for future

ANTONIO INOKI

MEMBER OF THE HOUSE OF COUNCIL-ORS AND GOODWILL AMBASSADOR OF PAKISTAN FOR SPORTS DIPLOMACY

I would like to express my heartfelt congratulations to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan on Pakistan Independence Day. We have recently seen chaos in global politics and we must hold discussions on how to more actively achieve peace.

I would like to continue to send a



I sincerely hope for further prosperity for the Islamic Republic of Pakistan.

Working toward closer bilateral relationship

SEISHIRO ETO

PRESIDENT OF THE JAPAN-PAKISTAN PARLIAMENTARIANS FRIENDSHIP LEAGUE

On behalf of the Japan-Pakistan Parliamentarians Friendship League, I would like to extend my warmest congratulations to the government and the people of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan



on the auspicious occasion of their 71st Independence Day. H.E. Shahid Khaqan Abbasi assumed

office as the prime minister of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan on Aug. 1. I hope the Abbasi administration continues to give

first priority to economic reform, as well as improvement of the security situation in the same manner as the former Sharif administration. As a friend of Pakistan, Japan supports these reform efforts and would like to establish bilateral relations from a long-term perspective.

I had a chance to meet Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, speaker of the National Assembly of the Islamic of Republic of Pakistan in June to discuss the economic and security situation and relationships with Pakistan's neighbors. I was impressed by Sadiq's strong remarks about Pakistan's revitalizing its economy and improving security. I felt the Pakistan market held strong expectations for Japanese companies. He also said that the government of Pakistan is extremely serious about fighting terrorism and restoring security. I believe that the stability and development in Pakistan is

not only in Asia, but also in the entire world. I would like to express my respect for the Pakistani people for their courage and firm will to achieve this objective.

Japan and Pakistan have had various exchanges since the establishment of our diplomatic relations in 1952. This year marks the 65th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Japan and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan. I hope further active exchanges will take place between our two countries. As president of the Japan-Pakistan Parliamentarians Friendship League, I am determined to continue to make utmost efforts to achieve better mutual understanding and closer bilateral relations.

I would like to take this opportunity to extend my best wishes for the continued prosperity of Pakistan and further development of friendly relations between Japan and Pakistan.

Economic, public safety reforms spur growth

TERUO ASADA CHAIRMAN THE JAPAN-PAKISTAN BUSINESS. targeted economic growth of 6 percent for fiscal 2017-18. As to this growth, active eco-

critically important to the peace and stability

and the relationship has kept growing to the mutual benefit of both countries.

CONGRATULATIONS on the Occasion of the

COOPERATION COMMITTEE

On behalf of the Japan-Pakistan Business Cooperation Committee, I would like to offer sincere congratulations to the government and the people of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan on the occa-



sion of Pakistan Independence Day. The economy of Pakistan demonstrated

continuous stable growth last year, as according to an announcement by the government of Pakistan, the real gross domestic product growth rate for fiscal 2016-2017 was 5.3 percent, with rates exceeding 4 percent for four consecutive years. The government expects further progressive growth as it has

nomic reforms along with improvement in public safety will have a positive impact. Moreover, robust domestic consumption is seen as a tailwind pushing growth forward.

Pakistan and Japan have had friendly relations for many years. For the past 65 years, not once has either friend left the other's side. Despite having our friendship tested more than once and passing through various difficult phases, both of us, side by side, have stood by each other. Our friendship started in the early 1950s when Pakistan, as an agrobased country, started producing some of the world's finest cotton. As such, Japan's advanced spindles and other textile machinery helped to jump-start industrialization in Pakistan. Over time, both countries became good trading partners. Pakistan has enjoyed very cordial relations with Japan since April 28, 1952, when the Japan External Trade Organization opened an office in Karachi,

We held the seventh Pakistan-Japan Private Sector Business Dialogue in Islamabad in 2015, at which time automotive industry policy and the taxation system were key topics of discussion. Also discussed were matters concerning the expansion of the export of Pakistani products, such as textiles and sporting goods. Considering the medium and long-term economic development of Pakistan, it is important to utilize the combined power of the public and private sectors. Additionally, it is important to hold flexible follow-up discussions to fully address the issues that will arise during dialogue meetings.

In closing, please allow me to express my congratulations to Pakistan once again on the occasion of the country's independence day. We look forward to the further reinforcement of the friendships and partnerships that exist between our two countries.

Congratulations

to the People of Pakistan

on their 71st Independence Day

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Did You Know? In The Quran ご存知でしょうか? God Says In Chapter No. 69, Al-Haqqah, Verse No. 28-29 Resurrection day human will say "My wealth has not availed me, my power and arguments have gone from me!"

(The above meaning is abandoning selfness when you are in this world.)

聖クルアーン69番、真実章、28-29節で創造者が仰せられています 復活の日に人間は言う「富は、わたしに役立たなかった。」 「権威は、わたしから消え失せてしまった。」

(上記は、現世に生きているとき自我を捨てなさいという意味です)

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71st Pakistan Independence Day



CHAUDHRY ASIF MAHMOOD

Wishing a great future for **Pakistan and Japan**



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