(Anniversary special)

## **Burkina Faso National Day**

## Cultural diversity, responsible citizenship

PASCAL BATJOBO

AMBASSADOR OF BURKINA FASO



On Dec. 11 Burkina Faso commemorates the 57th anniversary of its accession to national and international sovereignty. This major event takes place this year in the city

of Gaoua located in the southwest part of the country, and the people of this city have been actively working for several months to host the festivities under the theme "Cultural Diversity and Responsible Citizenship for a Supportive and Harmonious Burkina Faso."

It is in a context marked by social demands and the fight against terrorism that have undermined the country for several months, that the President of Burkina Faso His Excellency Roch Marc Christian Kabore will reaffirm on this occasion, in his traditional speech to the nation, the commitment of the government to advocate



President of Burkina Faso H.E. Roch Marc Christian Kabore

social dialogue and his determination to always strengthen security on the national and sub-regional level.

The people are requested to be active around the cardinal values of dialogue, peace and good citizenship, as a guarantee of stability and development, and to rid themselves of all acts that run against the

values of the Burkinabe culture.

The choice of the theme is a unifying element to rally all Burkinabe around these common values to allow the government of Burkina Faso, in its quest for a better life for all Burkinabe, to effectively reach the priority axes as defined in the political reference system, namely the National Program for Economic and Social Development.

The rotating nature of the national holiday adopted by the Council of Ministers since 2008, allows people from different regions of the country to host these festivities while benefiting from the construction of new infrastructure for this purpose.

It should be highlighted that the Embassy of Burkina Faso in Japan is in this same dynamic and aims to reproduce this same approach in the jurisdiction of Japan to get closer to grass-roots populations.

It is in this context that several Japanese cities, including Suzuka, Matsusaka, both in Mie Prefecture, Chofu in Tokyo and Yokohama have accepted, hosted and coorganized in their localities festivities celebrating the independence of Burkina Faso with all their populations and the Embassy



of Burkina Faso.

This great initiative is to be welcomed as it allows for interaction between peoples and contributes to strengthening ties of solidarity, friendship and cooperation.

If the current mobilization of all social and political classes for a frank success of this 57th independence day anniversary reflects the clear conviction of all Burkinabe to definitively begin the paths of socioeconomic development at the national level, it should be noted that the organization of this festival in the embassies, especially in the embassy of Japan, strengthens and consolidates the country's diplomacy on the international scene.

Laongo, a site with various carvings on granite slabs, shows the cultural diversity of the country.

EMBASSY OF BURKINA FASO

## Congratulations

to the People of
Burkina Faso
on the 57th Anniversary of
Their Independence

Cooperation through Projects in the Environmental Sector



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