

Iran National Day

National, regional security dependent on dialogue

MASHALLAH SHAKERI
ACTING AMBASSADOR OF IRAN

At the outset, I would like to extend my best wishes and sincere greetings to their Majesties Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko, H.E. Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and the people of Japan. I also would like to express my sincere congratulations to my fellow countrymen residing in Japan on the 39th Anniversary of the Islamic Revolution of Iran.



Establishments of Iran were formed based on the votes of the Iranian people. We have been witnessing massive Iranian turnouts at polling stations to choose their leaders. Iran is considered one of the more unique political systems in the Middle East.

Democracy in Iran

The Iranian people, led by Imam Khomeini, rose against the despotic monarchy system on Feb. 11, 1979, and established the system

of the Islamic Republic of Iran based on a referendum. The Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Iran was written and came into effect in less than one year. From the beginning, the political establish-

Iran's foreign policy

Iran's foreign policy is created following the principles of the constitution and basic international laws. Iran's foreign policy is independent from leaning to the East or to the West. Iran has tried to adhere to principles such as the equal sovereignty of all states and non-interference in the internal affairs of other countries throughout the past 39 years. Iran considers regional security as its own security and has made great strides in this area. Iran's regional interests are defined by neighborly relations, peace and stability in the sensitive Persian Gulf region. Regional crises are rooted in occupation, illegal military interventions and hegemonic behavior of forces beyond the region. Iran firmly believes that its national security interests can only be secured through dialogue, confidence-building and multilateral cooperation within the region, and we are determined to actively contribute to the promotion of effective regional cooperation for peace and security. Unfortunately, Iran — along with other countries — has been victimized by terrorist attacks, resulting in the nation having a definitive role in combating terrorism in the region.

In today's intertwined world, security has multifaceted and complex dimensions. These days, the era of unilateral security based on military intervention has lapsed. The strategy of Iran is based on strengthening cooperation in all fields in the region, as well as with international organizations. The United Nations General Assembly Resolution on World Against Violence and Extremism, initiated by current President H.E. Hassan Rouhani in 2013, can provide a suitable framework for collective cooperation in the region and the world.



Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, supreme leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran



Hassan Rouhani, president of the Islamic Republic of Iran



Mohammad Javad Zarif, foreign minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Stabilizing the Middle East

The strategic approach of Iran toward the Middle East, especially in the Persian Gulf, relies on accepting the notion of the collective interests of all states based on a win-win principle. Thus, the national interests of each state depend on accommodating other states' positions in the region. Any efforts to eliminate others and create a regional hegemony is not possible and can be a source of tension among countries in the region. The littoral states of the Persian Gulf with common history, culture and religion are destined to coexist. Iran has always believed that dialogue and diplomacy are the best and most effective tools for solving disputes among the countries in the region. Iran firmly believes that the current crises in the region have no military solution and these crises should be settled through dialogue and peaceful means.

Nuclear deal commitments

Iran has demonstrated its goodwill by entering and reaching an agreement in nuclear negotiations with the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council (China, France, Russia, the U.K. and the U.S.) plus Germany, and we have demonstrated our commitment to our undertakings by the good faith implementation of our engagements in accordance with the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA). We firmly believe in the spirit of goodwill and cooperation and we urge all nations to uphold this standard.

The International Atomic Energy Agency, as the sole authority to conduct such monitoring and verification, has repeatedly confirmed Iran's full compliance with its commitments under the JCPOA. The latest report of Yukiya Amano, the IAEA director general, on Nov. 13, 2017, reconfirmed Iran's compliance with its commitments.

The JCPOA is a valid international instrument and an outstanding achievement in contemporary diplomacy that the interna-

tional community has come together and endorsed with the hope of assuaging global tensions as part of Security Council Resolution 2231. In these turbulent times, it is imperative that nations value bilateral collaboration over unilateral interests in order to maintain and strengthen global bonds. Iran wishes to continue to observe this with the fervent hope that other countries will value Iran's own goals in the same manner it has acquiesced to others. For example, it should be noted that keeping the JCPOA alive requires that Iran's economic interests be satisfied as a result of fulfilling its commitments.

As one of the most important supporting countries of the JCPOA, the government of Japan has always advocated the nuclear deal and taken practical steps to promote relations under the new atmosphere created by the JCPOA. Iran considers Japan as among the cordial and trustworthy countries whose real and practical support would preserve the JCPOA in the future.

Iran-Japan partnership

The two nations of Iran and Japan have a long history of friendly relations. The historical relics discovered and kept in the Shosoin artifact storage facility highlight the venerability of the Sassanid Empire. The two ancient nations have cultural commonalities in various traditions and customs.

Bilateral political relations

The political relationship between the two countries has always been consistently amicable. Japan regards Iran as an important country with a strategic location in the region. Following the presidential election in Iran and re-election of our president, as a gesture of goodwill the government of Japan dispatched Liberal Democratic Party Vice President Masahiko Komura as Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's special envoy to Tehran. During the last four years, the leaders of

the two countries have met each other on the sidelines of international forums and always emphasized their political will to expand all-out relations in various fields. At the sixth of these meetings during the 71st United Nations General Assembly, both sides emphasized drawing a 10-year road map for promoting their cooperation.

Ongoing economic relations

Iran and Japan as trade partners are opening a new chapter of economic and trade relations post-JCPOA. Last year, the countries continued their efforts to provide a suitable atmosphere for promoting economic ties.

In March 2017, the national legalization process of the Agreement on Reciprocal Promotion and Protection of Investment between Iran and Japan was completed and implemented. Therefore, a legal bedrock was created to further promote economic relations and investments. Negotiations were held by expert delegations from Iran and Japan to finalize a \$10 billion credit line for Iran to finance projects. Cooperation between the two countries in various fields has been consolidated in projects such as power plants, refineries, petrochemicals, health and nuclear safety. It is hoped that by solving the remaining technical problems, the agreement will be finalized and many projects will be executed by financing through Japanese companies. We hope to witness a boost in the economic relations in accordance with the two countries' capacities after the JCPOA.

One of Iran's advantages on the world stage is its geographical location. Iran is situated at the crossroads of the north-south and the east-west transportation corridors. Our efforts are to create geographical connectivity through the Sea of Oman and the Persian Gulf, enabling other countries to have access to Afghanistan, central Asia and Europe via Iran's territory, so Japan can also benefit from this opportunity.

Outlook is positive for salient expansion of global cooperation

FUMIO KISHIDA
CHAIRMAN, JAPAN-IRAN PARLIAMENTARIANS' FRIENDSHIP LEAGUE

On the occasion of 39th Anniversary of the Islamic Revolution of Iran, I would like to extend my sincerest congratulations to the government and people of Iran on behalf of the members of the Japan-Iran Parliamentarians' Friendship League.



The Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) nuclear agreement

between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council plus Germany has created a new horizon for the expansion of international, regional and bilateral ties. Japan has supported full implementation of the agreement, and I am happy to hear the adherence of Iran to JCPOA according to various reports of the International Atomic Energy Agency. I am confident that this trend can facilitate cooperation of the two countries in all fields.

My colleagues and I in the Japan-Iran Parliamentarians' Friendship League will use all our efforts for further expansion of the two countries' ties.



Persepolis was the ceremonial capital of the Achaemenid Empire (550-330 B.C.) and is located 60 km northeast of Shiraz. EMBASSY OF IRAN



The Imam Mosque stands on the south side of Naghsh-e Jahan Square. It is considered a masterpiece of Persian architecture from the Islamic Golden Age. EMBASSY OF IRAN

Congratulations

on the Occasion of
the 39th Anniversary of
the Islamic Revolution of Iran

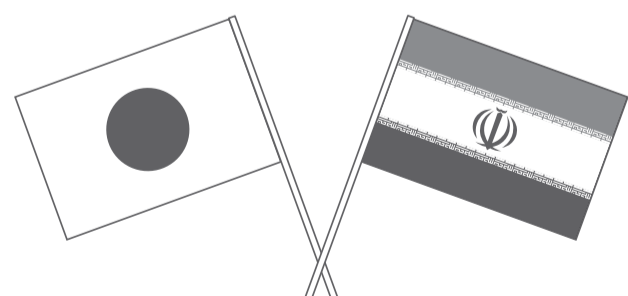


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Congratulations
on the Occasion of the 39th Anniversary
of the Glorious Islamic Revolution of Iran



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Congratulations

to the People of

the Islamic Republic of Iran

on the 39th Anniversary of

Their Islamic Revolution Day



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the Islamic Revolution of Iran

JGC

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