Kingdom of Morocco Throne Day Special

Bonds based on mutual respect

RACHAD BOUHLAL

AMBASSADOR OF THE KINGDOM OF MOROCCO



Today marks the 21st anniversary of the enthronement of His Majesty King Mohammed VI. On this auspicious occasion, I would like to express my respectful greetings to Their Imperial

Majesties Emperor Naruhito and Empress Masako, the members of the imperial family, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and the government and friendly people of Japan.

The privileged ties between the Kingdom of Morocco and Japan date back 64 years since the establishment of diplomatic relations between our two nations.

This closeness is founded upon the longstanding friendship between the Moroccan royal family and the Japanese imperial family and nurtured by shared values, mutual respect and dynamic bilateral cooperation.

Turning to the economy, Morocco is moving ahead to become a leading economic partner of Japan on the African continent and in the Mediterranean region. The last three years witnessed a substantial increase in Japanese investments in Morocco, as the number of companies doubled to 72. To further enhance the bilateral economic framework, the two countries signed last January two important agreements. These were the Agreement for the Promotion and Protection of Investment, as well as the Convention for the Elimination of Double Taxation with respect to Taxes on Income and the Prevention of Tax Evasion and Avoidance.

During the early stages of the pandemic, the Kingdom of Morocco acted efficiently, taking anticipatory measures to curb the growing infections through the declaration of a state of emergency and implementation of containment measures, while scaling up the kingdom's health care system capabilities.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks to the government of Japan for its support. The kingdom received an important Japanese contribution of medical equipment, as well as a donation to UNICEF Morocco, intended for funding targeted actions aimed at coronavirus prevention and its impact on children.

Our two countries are partners in Africa, providing brotherly African countries with technical assistance.

I would like to conclude by reiterating Morocco's keen desire to further



H.M. King Mohammed VI

strengthen the existing excellent relations with Japan, in a win-win spirit, the mutual interest of both countries and aspirations and dreams of our citizens.

This content was compiled in collaboration with the embassy. The views expressed here do not necessarily reflect those of the newspaper.

Friendly ties continue to grow

HIROFUMI NAKASONE
PRESIDENT, THE JAPAN-MOROCCO
PARLIAMENTARY LEAGUE



On this auspicious occasion of the 21st anniversary of the enthronement of His Majesty King Mohammed VI, I am delighted to extend my sincere congratulations on behalf of the Japan-Morocco

Parliamentary League to his majesty, the royal family and the people of the Kingdom of Morocco.

We have enjoyed a long-standing and excellent friendship, and the last year can be described as one when our relationship attained a higher state in various areas.

Last year, we had the honor to welcome H.R.H. Prince Moulay Rachid in October on the occasion of the enthronement ceremony of His Majesty Emperor Naruhito. This followed the visit of the Moroccan Minister of Foreign Affairs H.E. Nasser Bourita for The Seventh Tokyo International Conference on African Development in August.

I myself, also had the privilege of visiting Morocco in September as the head of the Japan-Morocco Parliamentary League delegation and experienced warm hospitality. During my stay, I rediscovered Morocco's economic dynamism and high potential; this renewed my determination to further contribute to developing ties.

While the international community is facing the severe fight against the coronavirus, I would like to express my profound respect for the king to actively promote interregional cooperation in Africa.

Tough times bring opportunity — even in this unprecedented situation, I believe we can strengthen our friendly ties. I wish for the health and prosperity of the people of Morocco, as well as further development of the bond between us.

Business interest at higher level than ever before

HARUKO HIROSE

PRESIDENT, JAPAN-MOROCCO ASSOCIATION

On the occasion of Morocco's Throne Day, I would like to extend my sincere and heartfelt congratulations to his Majesty King Mohammed VI on behalf of all members of the Japan-Morocco Association.

On this auspicious occasion, I would also like to express my sincere greetings to all members of the royal family, as well as to the people and government of the Kingdom of Morocco.



In the difficult time of the coronavirus pandemic, physical and inperson interactions and exchanges are decreasing. However, the interest of private companies to invest in Morocco

remains high and Morocco is always among people's most popular travel destinations. The diligence and hospitality of the Moroccan people continues to attract interest from various sectors. I congratulate Morocco's royal leadership's successful handling of this pandemic and maintain a society calm, while even helping neighboring countries.

The Japan-Morocco Association is trying to enhance mutual cooperation and friendship in a different way, using online systems in a creative way. I believe the "new normal" will change people's minds and can even reduce distance between people with new technologies. I truly hope that our close relationship will continue and further develop under the king's reign.

Congratulations

on the Anniversary of
the Accession to
the Throne of His Majesty
King Mohammed VI

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His Majesty King Mohammed VI



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