

Uganda Independence Day Special

Cordial relationships growing in various areas

BETTY GRACE AKECH-OKULLO
AMBASSADOR OF UGANDA

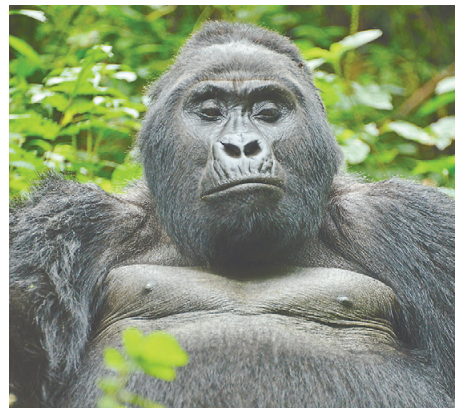


On this year's independence anniversary, I convey warm greetings from the President of the Republic of Uganda, His Excellency Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, the government and people of Uganda

to their imperial majesties the emperor and empress, the imperial family, Prime Minister, H.E. Yoshihide Suga, the honorable members of the Diet, all arms of the government and the fraternal people of Japan for their continued support and friendship with Uganda. We congratulate Suga on recently becoming the prime minister of Japan.

The government and people of Uganda commiserate with the government and people of Japan on the sad loss of lives and properties that were caused by Typhoon Haishen that hit Japan in September. We pray for fortitude and recovery for the victims of that calamity.

As the world continues to recover from the devastating effects of the coronavirus pandemic, it is evident that nations will need each other even more than before to deal with future crises. I wish to thank the governments of Uganda and Japan for their efforts in fighting the pandemic and protecting their people through unwavering support and guidance. The pandemic must motivate us to redouble our efforts to achieve the U.N.'s sustainable development



Uganda is home to half of the world's remaining population of silverback mountain gorillas. They can mainly be found at Bwindi Impenetrable National Park.

UGANDA TOURISM BOARD

goals and not be an excuse for missing them. We extend our deep condolences and sympathies to those who have lost their loved ones to the virus.

The warm cordial ties between Uganda and Japan continue to grow from strength to strength in the economic, political and sociocultural fields based on the foundation of mutual respect, as well as inclusive and constructive dialogue at all levels. This relationship has been strengthened further by a number of momentous activities and projects such as high-level visits of leaders and dignitaries from both countries, implementation of development projects in areas such as infrastructure, education, agriculture, health, trade and investment, and information and communication technology, among others. Relations have also grown strong through increased private sector

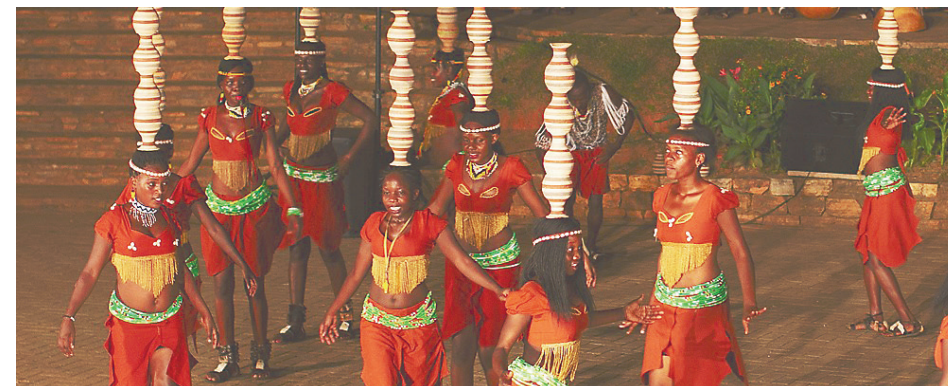
engagement and participation in business and cooperation frameworks, honorary awards and recognition, as well as people-to-people exchanges.

Uganda is one of the safest destinations in the world and continues to repeat a message of commitment to health and hospitality. Uganda, "the Pearl of Africa," has proved herself as a safe destination, pursuant to her responses to the coronavirus through her robust health system and protocols that ensure the safety of her citizens and any visiting tourists.

According to the U.N. World Tourism Organization, going forward, health and safety will be key determinants for any tourist anywhere in the world. Cognizant of this, and through the visionary stewardship of our president, the government of Uganda put in place safety measures that significantly ensured a near-flat curve in registration of new cases. All border points, including Entebbe International Airport, opened on Oct. 1, along with the easing of other travel restrictions. Activities such as wildlife, research, filming and commercial

Uganda's cultural ambassadors: the multi-award-winning Ndere Dance Troupe has been gracing stages for almost 25 years with high-quality performances that have resulted in worldwide recognition and fame.

NDERE DANCE TROUPE



tourism, hitherto suspended due to the pandemic, have recommenced.

With the inbound and outbound travel markets expected to start moving this month, this year's Tourism Expo Japan (TEJ) in Okinawa is set to be the first significant international trade event after the end of social isolation measures. Team Uganda will be very much in this mix and expects to carry on from the success achieved at TEJ 2019 in Osaka, where Uganda was awarded the Best Booth as voted for by the public that graced the Expo. Visit the Team Uganda booth from Oct. 29 to Nov. 1 in Okinawa, for an exhilarating experience of the allure and ambience of the Pearl of Africa.

I congratulate fellow Ugandans on this special day and urge them to keep united, work hard for development toward the realization of Uganda's middle-income status and Vision 2040, and to remain ambassadors of Uganda wherever they are. Finally, I thank all organizations that supported the publication of this supplement.

For God and my country.



Murchison Falls is a waterfall between Lake Kyoga and Lake Albert on the Victoria Nile in Uganda.

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

Congratulations

*to the People of
the Republic of Uganda
on the Anniversary of
Their Independence*

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