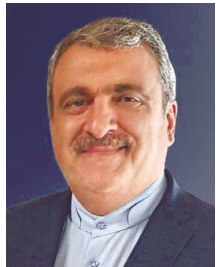


Iran National Day Special

Peaceful progress continues in many areas

MORTEZA RAHMANI MOVAHED
AMBASSADOR OF IRAN



Feb. 11 serves as a reminder of the victory of the glorious Islamic Revolution of the Iranians led by Imam Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini. Forty-two years have passed since that day.

Under the rule of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the great nation has experienced bitersweet situations.

Independence, freedom and liberation from global colonial domination and arrogance are the results of the patience and resistance of honorable Iranian citizens under the wise leadership of Khomeini and the respectful continuation of this path by the Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei. Therefore, the Islamic Republic of Iran has become one of the great regional powers with the ideal of development, prosperity, peace and sustainable security for all in the Middle East region.

Despite comprehensive sanctions and economic pressure on Iranians, according to international scientific authorities, progress in the pace of research in scientific and academic fields in the Islamic Republic of Iran is 11 times faster than the average growth rate and ranks 12th in the world.

Before the Islamic Revolution, there were just 57 universities in Iran. This had increased to 2,569 universities by 2018. The number of students has also grown, from 175,000 at the beginning of the Islamic revolution to 4,330,000.

The two TV networks Iran had in 1979 now number in the dozens, with 22

national TV channels, 18 international and 33 local networks, 51 radio stations and six internet networks.

The cinema industry of the Islamic Republic of Iran has seen unique growth in the Middle East in the post-revolutionary years. Forty-one Iranian movies and 202 actors and actresses have received valuable awards from prestigious international film festivals, such as Oscars.

Iran is one of the top 10 countries in the world in stem cell technology and research.

The country has achieved a complete nuclear fuel cycle thanks to the efforts of its experts and is ranked among the eight most developed countries in the world in terms of scientific and technological knowledge in this field.

The Islamic Republic of Iran's valuable achievements in the nanotechnology and laser fields are brilliant, and it ranks 12th in the world in the nanotechnology and biotechnology fields.

Iran already is the only country in the region with indigenous satellite knowledge and technology. The country is one of six in the world that designs, manufactures and launches satellites.

The Islamic Republic of Iran is also set to be a medical hub in West Asia.

In the fields of quantum science and technology, cloning, pharmaceuticals, organ transplants, the development of COVID-19 diagnostic kits and vaccine production, Iran has been a pioneer in the region.

The whole world has been in a massive struggle for public health against the coronavirus pandemic. Despite the pressures of economic sanctions, patient and resilient Iranians are more determined than ever to move their country forward by relying on their domestic knowledge and capabilities.

Business and trade between Iran and Japan show great potential, and the two countries should use such opportunities to enhance economic cooperation. We hope that, in a new international atmosphere, Iran and Japan can closely cooperate in oil, gas and petrochemical activities, as well as in infrastructure, the environment and other projects.

In recent years, with the will and desire of the leaders of the two countries, friendly and historical relations between Iran and Japan have been on the path of expansion. High-level political consultations, scientific and academic cooperation and educational and technical exchanges are the main topics of bilateral relations. It is expected that in 2021 there will be more prosperity and expansion of economic and trade cooperation.

Last December, Iran and Japan signed a memorandum of cooperation in the field of sports. Iran and Japan have great potential in this field, and Iran is also a great place for tourism. We hope that with the end of the pandemic, the exchange of sports and tourism between the two countries will resume. Iran is considered one of the cradles of civilization, with numerous ancient sites registered in UNESCO's list of tangible and intangible heritage. Iran is the largest producer of saffron, pistachios, barberries, berries, rugs, turquoise and other items. From a list of Iranian artifacts abroad, we can mention thousands of Persian antiquities from Iranshari cultural regions. Some are located in historical sites in neighboring countries or in world-famous museums.

Iran, with 24 UNESCO World Heritage sites, 34,000 nationally registered heritage sites and 600 active museums, has a huge capacity to receive international tourists. Interesting rituals, diverse handicrafts and traditional arts provide more than

enough reasons to visit Iran.

Let us spread the message of peace and nonviolence throughout the world. Long live the friendship between the two great nations of Iran and Japan.

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



The Masjed-e Jame mosque in Isfahan, Iran, is "a stunning illustration of the evolution of mosque architecture" over 12 centuries, according to UNESCO.

EMBASSY OF IRAN



The Naqsh-e Rostam, located in the south of Iran, is a famous Achaemenid tourist sight. EMBASSY OF IRAN

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

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the National Day of Iran

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