

# National Day of Pakistan

PUBLICITY

## Pakistan-Japan relationship gathers further momentum

By Raza Bashir Tarar  
Ambassador of Pakistan

Today, March 23, is an important landmark in the history of Pakistan. It was on this day in 1940 when the historic Lahore Resolution was passed which united the Muslims of the sub-continent for a greater objective. The Muslims of the subcontinent through their collective will expressed unwavering resolve to carve out a separate homeland for themselves wherein they could lead their lives in accordance with their own religion, traditions, values and culture. Today, we also pay homage to the Father of the Nation Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah, Poet of the East Dr. Allama Muhammad Iqbal and all the other great leaders of the freedom movement who paved the way for the creation of Pakistan.



Raza Bashir Tarar

Friendly relations between Pakistan and Japan are historical and time tested. Pakistan attaches great importance to its relationship with Japan. We have always looked to Japan with a sense of respect and veneration as a very important country in Asia, whose economic success and model is worth emulating.

I am pleased to note that the relations between Pakistan and Japan have gained enhanced momentum during the past few years. A number of visits have taken place, which are a clear manifestation of mutual desire to enhance already excellent relations. Both sides have also signed a number of memorandums of understanding (MoUs) and agreements which govern bilateral cooperation in a number of sectors. A number of institutional mechanisms are in place to consolidate and expand relationship in various fields. Both friendly countries also cooperate at the international forums on a wide range of issues.

The bedrock of our relationship has been economic,



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The Shandur Polo Festival is held on July 7-9 every year at the world's highest polo ground in Shandur located at an altitude of 3,700 meters.

with Japan being a key development partner, a major investor and a significant export destination for Pakistan. Pakistan-Japan economic cooperation and engagement has been picking up in the last few years. Big Japanese corporations such as Marubeni, Mitsui, Sojitz, Morinaga and auto manufacturers like Toyota, Honda and Suzuki have investments in Pakistan. Pakistan's exports to Japan have been on an upward trajectory.

I would like to highlight the major contribution of the strong Pakistani diaspora in Japan. Our community in Japan is well established and well regarded.

Pakistan has undergone another smooth democratic transition following elections in February 2024. The new government has highlighted its priority areas including economic stability and revival. Pakistan has established a dedicated body under the direct leadership of Prime



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Bilamik is one of the most beautiful valleys, surrounded by peaks and glaciers, in Roundu, Gilgit-Baltistan, northern Pakistan.

Minister known as the Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC). This reflects the determination of the government to continue Pakistan's international engagements as a mature economy while supporting priority sectors including agriculture, energy, IT, defense production and mineral development.

In all these fields, Japan has a natural complementarity with Pakistan. Japan has technological advancement in all these areas which can provide substantial improvement to related industries in Pakistan. At the same time Pakistani youth offers an opportunity for addressing demographic problems in Japan, while uplifting local economy and making a bridge of connectivity.

Looking forward, we are optimistic for the year 2024 and beyond. We will endeavor to carry forward the momentum in our relations in the years ahead and forge

new partnerships in multiple fields.

We are also confident that through our joint efforts our friendly ties and cooperative relations will acquire further depth in the years to come, for the mutual benefit of our two peoples and regional peace and prosperity. Pakistan-Japan friendship Zindabad.

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