

Qatar committed to enhance collaboration with Japan

By Jaber Bin Jaralla Al Marri
Ambassador of the State of Qatar to Japan

As we commemorate the National Day of the State of Qatar, I am deeply honored to share this message with the esteemed readers of The Japan News. This occasion is a moment to reflect on the enduring legacy of our nation, its remarkable achievements and its vision for the future. It is also a time to celebrate the strong and multifaceted partnership that unites Qatar and Japan — a relationship rooted in mutual respect, shared values and a commitment to constructive cooperation.



Jaber Bin Jaralla Al Marri

The National Day of the State of Qatar is not just a celebration of the past but a testament to the unity and aspirations of the Qatari people. Guided by wise leadership, Qatar has made significant strides over the years, transforming its economy from one reliant on natural resources to a diversified and sustainable model that embraces innovation, education and environmental stewardship. These achievements reflect our commitment to building a prosperous future for generations to come.

Since the establishment of diplomatic relations in 1972, Qatar and Japan have nurtured a robust and dynamic partnership that has grown stronger with each passing year. This relationship has been enriched by regular high-level engagements, such as the fifth round of political consultations between our Ministries of Foreign Affairs, which took place in November 2024. These consultations have been instrumental in identifying new areas of collaboration and reinforcing the bonds of friendship between our nations.

Organizations such as the Japan-Qatar Friendship Association have also played a pivotal role in fostering mutual understanding and promoting cultural and economic ties. These efforts are a testament to the deep-seated goodwill that exists between our peoples and our shared commitment to advancing our partnership for the benefit of both nations.

Japan has long been a strategic partner for Qatar, and our collaboration spans across wide range of sectors. While energy remains a cornerstone of our relationship, our cooperation has expanded into areas such as trade, culture, education, technology and infrastructure development. Today, over 60 Japanese companies operate in Qatar, including 33 entities with 100% Japanese capital. These companies are actively contributing to critical sectors, underscoring the depth and breadth of our economic ties.

In 2023, trade between our nations reached unprecedented levels, with Japanese exports to Qatar achieving their highest figures in 15 years. This remarkable growth is a reflection of the strong economic collaboration that has been a hallmark of our partnership. To further

enhance these ties, Qatar's Investment Promotion Agency (IPA Qatar) and the Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) signed a Memorandum of Understanding aimed at fostering cooperation in renewable energy, technology and the green transition. These areas represent the future of global economic development, and our collaboration holds immense potential for innovation and mutual growth.

On this occasion, I would like to extend a heartfelt invitation to Japanese businesses and investors to explore the abundant opportunities that Qatar offers. With a business-friendly environment, advanced infrastructure and a commitment to fostering innovation, Qatar provides an ideal platform for Japanese companies to thrive. Our shared vision of sustainable development and economic diversification creates a fertile ground for partnerships that will benefit both nations.

The Qatar National Vision 2030 serves as the guiding framework for our nation's development. This vision emphasizes a holistic approach to progressing and balancing economic, social, environmental and human development. Since its inception, Qatar has made significant advancements in areas such as education, healthcare and environmental sustainability. Our efforts to diversify the economy have focused on developing key sectors such as manufacturing, digital technology, tourism, financial services and agriculture, while also prioritizing clean and renewable energy sources.

Tourism has emerged as a vital component of Qatar's strategy for economic diversification. Our goal is to attract six million visitors annually by 2030 as we are making significant investments in world-class tourism infrastructure, streamlining visa procedures and promoting Qatar as a premier global destination. Events such as the FIFA World Cup 2022 and the Horticultural Expo 2023 have showcased Qatar's capabilities as a host nation and its commitment to excellence. These events have also highlighted the rich cultural heritage and modern achievements of Qatar, further cementing its position as a hub for global tourism and cultural exchange.

Education is another cornerstone of Qatar's development, and our partnership with Japan in this field continues to thrive. The establish-



Courtesy of the Embassy of the State of Qatar, Tokyo

Above: The Pearl Island, a man-made island near Doha's prestigious West Bay District

Right: Located in Lusail City, Katara Towers is a striking symbol of the country's national identity and is among is Qatar's most iconic modern architectural landmarks.

ment of the Qatar Chair for Islamic Area Studies at Waseda University in 2019 represents a significant milestone in our academic collaboration. This initiative has provided a platform for research and dialogue, fostering greater understanding between our nations. Additionally, enhanced student exchange programs and academic partnerships have strengthened the ties between our educational institutions, contributing to the development of human resources and cultural understanding.

I am also pleased to invite you to visit Qatar's pavilion at Expo Osaka 2025, where we will showcase our achievements, culture and vision for the future. Qatar's participation in this global event underscores the importance we place on our partnership with Japan and our commitment to fostering deeper connections between our peoples. Through our pavilion, we aim to highlight the rich cultural heritage of Qatar, as well as our efforts to achieve sustainable development and preserve our traditions for future generations.



ture generations.

Since assuming my role as Ambassador of the State of Qatar to Japan last year, I have had the privilege of witnessing firsthand the strength and depth of our bilateral relations. Over the past year, I have engaged with numerous political, economic and cultural leaders, and I have been deeply impressed by the dedication and goodwill that underpin our partnership. These interactions have reaffirmed my commitment to working tirelessly to enhance our collaboration across all sectors.

In conclusion, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to The

Japan News for providing this platform to share my thoughts with its readers. I also extend my heartfelt thanks to our friends and partners in Japan for their unwavering support and cooperation. As we celebrate the National Day of the State of Qatar, I look forward to the continued growth and success of our partnership, guided by a shared vision of peace, prosperity and sustainable development.

On behalf of the State of Qatar, I wish the people of Japan a year filled with good health, happiness and success. Let us continue to work together to build a brighter future for our nations and the world.



Courtesy of the Embassy of the State of Qatar, Tokyo

Lusail Stadium is an awe-inspiring sports venue at the center of a new city, where it made history by hosting the dramatic FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022.

Congratulations

to His Highness Sheikh Tamim Bin Hamad Al-Thani,

the Amir of the State of Qatar on the National Day

Chiyo

Chubu Electric Power Co., Inc.

THE CHUGOKU ELECTRIC POWER CO., INC.

Cosmo Energy Holdings Co., Ltd.

Doha Bank

ENEOS Corporation

Fujita Corporation

Idemitsu Kosan Co.,Ltd.

IINO KAIUN KAISHA, LTD.

IMPERIAL HOTEL, LTD.

Inchcape Shipping Services (Japan) Ltd.

INPEX CORPORATION

ITOCHU Corporation

JERA Co., Inc.

JGC HOLDINGS CORPORATION

JX Nippon Oil & Gas Exploration Corporation

The Kansai Electric Power Co., Inc.

Kawasaki Heavy Industries, Ltd.

Kawasaki Kisen Kaisha, Ltd. ("K" Line)

KOBE STEEL, LTD.

LNG JAPAN CORPORATION

Marubeni Corporation

Mitsubishi Corporation

MITSUI & CO., LTD.

Mitsui O.S.K. Lines, Ltd.

Mizuho Bank, Ltd.

MUFG Bank, Ltd.

NYK Line

THE PENINSULA TOKYO

Qatar Airways Group Q.C.S.C

SHIZUOKA GAS CO., LTD.

Sumitomo Corporation

Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation

TAISEI CORPORATION

TOHO GAS CO., LTD.

Tohoku Electric Power Co., Inc.

Tokio Marine & Nichido Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.

Tokyo Boeki Holdings Corporation

Tokyo Gas Co., Ltd.

TotalEnergies Japan S.A.

United Petroleum Development Co., Ltd.

Waseda University

Japan-Qatar Friendship Association