

Qatar continues to be prosperous, inclusive

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

As the State of Qatar proudly celebrates its National Day, it is my pleasure to address this message to the esteemed readers of The Japan News. This national occasion is not only a celebration of our history and identity, but also an opportunity to reflect on the path of growth and development that has shaped modern Qatar.



Jaber Jaralla Al-Marri

In recent years, the State of Qatar has witnessed significant expansion in its economic projects and infrastructure development, in line with its unwavering commitment to the Qatar National Vision 2030, which places human development, a knowledge-based economy and economic diversification at its core. Supported by modern legislation, world-class infrastructure, specialized economic zones and the possibility of full foreign ownership in most sectors, Qatar has today become one of the most attractive investment destinations in the region. Guided by its wise leadership, the country continues to build a prosperous and inclusive future for generations to come.

Over more than five decades, diplomatic relations between the State of Qatar and Japan have evolved into a mature, distinctive partnership that goes far beyond traditional areas of cooperation. What began as collaboration in the fields of energy and trade has expanded to encompass advanced technology, innovation, scientific research, food security, renewable energy, educa-

tion and culture. This evolution was crowned in 2023 by the elevation of our ties to a Comprehensive Strategic Partnership, reflecting the shared political will and common vision of both countries. Regular political consultations, ministerial meetings, institutional cooperation and high-level exchanges have all contributed to strengthening mutual trust and opening new horizons for collaboration. Occasions such as this provide an opportunity to reaffirm the strength and resilience of the partnership between the State of Qatar and Japan — one that is founded on mutual respect, shared values and a steadfast commitment to constructive, future-oriented co-operation.

Although the energy sector has for decades remained the cornerstone of Qatar-Japan relations, the scope of cooperation today is broader and more diversified, extending to investment, trade, education, scientific research, advanced technology, food security, environmental sustainability, clean energy, infrastructure development and cultural exchange. This diversity reflects the adaptability of our bilateral partnership and its capacity to keep pace with global developments and contribute to stability and development at both regional and international levels.

Japan remains one of the State of Qatar's most important strategic partners in Asia.

More than 60 Japanese companies are currently operating in Qatar, contributing to vital sectors such as engineering, manufacturing, transport, urban development, services and technology. Our trade relations have also recorded steady growth, with Japanese exports to Qatar reaching their highest level in more than a decade — a clear indication of economic dynamism and mutual

confidence.

Building on this solid economic foundation, I am pleased to extend an open invitation to companies, business leaders and investors in Japan to explore the promising opportunities offered by the State of Qatar. The country provides a stable political and economic environment, a transparent and competitive regulatory framework, streamlined establishment procedures and low tax rates, complemented by advanced economic platforms such as Qatar Free Zones, the Qatar Financial Centre and Qatar Media City. Qatar's strategic geographic location, linking Asia with Europe and Africa, also offers companies an ideal springboard for expansion into regional and global markets.

Cultural and academic cooperation between Qatar and Japan is also experiencing growing momentum. The Chair of the State of Qatar for Islamic Area Studies at Waseda University serves as an important academic bridge that promotes scientific research, cultural dialogue and mutual understanding. Student exchange programs, joint research projects, art exhibitions and cultural initiatives likewise play a key role in strengthening the human and intellectual ties between our two countries.

The State of Qatar's participation in the 2025 Osaka-Kansai Expo has provided an important opportunity to present its history, achievements and future aspirations to visitors from Japan and around the world. Qatar's pavilion reflected the country's commitment to sustainable development and international co-operation and helped build effective bridges of understanding between peoples. As the Expo concludes, we look forward to further strengthening cultural and economic dialogue on



All photos courtesy of the Embassy of the State of Qatar, Tokyo

Imam Muhammad bin Abdul Wahhab Mosque in Doha

the basis of the momentum generated. The State of Qatar was also the first country to sign a participation agreement for the International Horticultural Expo 2027, Yokohama, Japan, a testament to the depth of cooperation and exchange between our two friendly countries.

Qatar has also consolidated its position as a leading cultural and tourism destination, particularly following its exceptional success hosting the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022, which showcased the country's organizational, cultural and technological capabilities to the world. The State continues to invest in museums, cultural institutions and tourism infrastructure as part of a national strategy that aims to attract millions

of visitors annually by the end of this decade.

Since assuming my duties as Ambassador of the State of Qatar to Japan, I have had the opportunity to observe first-hand the depth of the relationship between our two countries and the warmth and mutual respect that characterize it.

I reaffirm my continued commitment to working with our Japanese partners to further strengthen our co-operation and broaden the horizons of our partnership in the service of the shared interests of our two peoples.

In conclusion, I would like to extend my deep thanks to The Japan News for providing this valuable platform and to express my sincere



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gratitude to the friendly people of Japan for their enduring friendship and support.

As the State of Qatar celebrates its National Day, I look with confidence to a future in which the relations between our two countries grow ever stronger and more prosperous, under the umbrella of our shared values of peace, innovation and sustainable development, for the benefit and well-being of all.



West Bay, Doha



Old heritage wooden ships, Doha



Banana Island Resort Doha



Congratulations

to His Highness Sheikh Tamim Bin Hamad Al-Thani, the Amir of the State of Qatar on the National Day



Chiyoda Corporation
Chubu Electric Power Co., Inc.
THE CHUGOKU ELECTRIC POWER CO., INC.
Cosmo Energy Holdings Co., Ltd.
Doha Bank
ENEOS Corporation
ENEOS Xplora Inc.
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
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.
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Japan-Qatar Friendship Association