



NEWSLETTER

EMBASSY OF
THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF PAKISTAN
TOKYO, JAPAN



CELEBRATIONS OF PAKISTAN INDEPENDENCE DAY AUGUST 14, 2017

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The 70th anniversary of Independence of Pakistan was celebrated at the Embassy of Pakistan, Tokyo with utmost zeal, fervour and enthusiasm drawing large number of Pakistani Community. Khan hoisted the



members. Ambassador Asad M. the national flag whilst the audience National Anthem of Pakistan.

The Ambassador read the messages of the President and Prime Minister of Pakistan. The messages emphasized upon making a firm commitment to adhere to



our national objectives and goals besides promoting love and harmony to secure the future of the nation. The Ambassador in his remarks reiterated that Pakistan had been achieved after rendering innumerable sacrifices, hence, it was imperative upon all Pakistanis to strive for promoting peace, progress and unity in Pakistan. He expressed his resolve to work untiringly to further strengthen the close relationship between Japan and Pakistan.



THE AMBASSADOR INAUGURATES PAKISTAN-JAPAN FRIENDSHIP FESTIVAL

In connection with string of events being organized to celebrate the forth coming Independence Day of Pakistan and the 65th Anniversary of Pak-Japan relations, Ambassador Asad M. Khan inaugurated the Pakistan Japan Friendship Festival at Ueno Park, Tokyo. He was joined in the inauguration by the legendary sports icon and Member House of Councillors, Antonio Inoki, Ambassador Nobuaki Tanaka, Ambassador Seiji Kojima and Mr. Yoshikatsu Nakayama, former member of the House of Representatives.



Addressing the audience, the Ambassador highlighted the strength of Japan-Pakistan friendship stretched over a period of 65 years and based on mutual respect and dignity. He remarked that it was a moment of great personal satisfaction for him to return to Japan again after 23 years as he considered this great country as his second home. The Ambassador reiterated that it was his earnest desire that cordiality and co-operation remained the cornerstone in relations and friendship between the two countries.

PAKISTAN-JAPAN FRIENDSHIP FESTIVAL 2017

The Ambassador was all praise for the Pakistani Community for organizing a wonderful festival aimed at projecting the culture and cuisine of both countries. He acknowledged the fact that Pakistani community was vibrantly promoting Pakistan and the festival itself was testimony to it. He assured complete cooperation and support of the Embassy to the Community in all initiatives aimed at the projection of 'True Image' of Pakistan.



A huge number of people from all walks of life attended the opening of the festival and thoroughly enjoyed live music and cuisine of both the countries. People thronged the stalls showcasing Pakistani and Japanese artcrafts, dresses and other items of interest.

PAKISTAN-JAPAN FRIENDSHIP FESTIVAL 2017

Large number of people participated in the closing ceremony of the festival which was held on Independence Day i.e. 14th August. The festival enthralled people for five days. Ambassador Asad M. Khan alongwith Embassy staff attended the concluding event. Keeping in view the Independence Day of Pakistan, the Ambassador hoisted the flag whilst hundreds of people sang the national anthem. The national anthem of Japan was also played on the occasion.



Addressing the audience, the Ambassador remarked that it was heartening to see hundreds of Pakistanis attending in the event with enthusiasm and promoting the culture, life music and cuisine of Pakistan in Japan. He added that the efforts of the organizers were commendable as they were able to put-up an excellent show attracting people with their families from all walks of life.

The event concluded with pledge to work together for the betterment of Pakistan and further strengthening the cordial relations between Pakistan and Japan.

SUFI MUSIC EVENING HELD AT EMBASSY

As part of the celebrations to commemorate the 70th birth anniversary of Pakistan and 65th anniversary of Japan-Pakistan diplomatic relations, a musical evening was organized at the Embassy. Dignitaries including diplomats, political figures, media persons and socialites attended the event in a large number.



The Ambassador paid rich tribute to late ustad Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan on his 20th death anniversary and remembered him as one of the pioneers of the sufi music in Pakistan.

The audience was enthralled by maestro Joji Ali Khan who presented various Qawalis and Ghazals of late ustad Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan. The audience enjoyed the event and appreciated initiatives of the Embassy for holding a captivating event.

AMBASSADOR ATTENDS PAKISTAN INDEPENDENCE EVENT

Ambassador Asad M. Khan attended an event organized by Pakistan Association Japan to commemorate the 70th Independence anniversary of Pakistan and 65th anniversary of Pakistan-Japan relations. In his address, the Ambassador highlighted the importance of long standing Pak-Japan relations which had grown strong over a period of 65 years.



He showed his delight and personal satisfaction to return to Japan after two decades and again getting an opportunity to earnestly work for further strengthening the relations between the two countries. The Ambassador expressed his desire to enhance bilateral ties to the mutual benefits of both the countries in fields like scientific technological transfer, infrastructural development and education exchange programmes etc.

YOUM-E-AZADI (INDEPENDENCE) CUP

To celebrate the 70th Anniversary of Independence of Pakistan a friendly cricket match organized by the Pakistani Community in Japan was played between the Japan XI and Ambassador's XI at Sano Cricket Ground. The match named as the Youm-e-Azadi (Independence Cup) was won by the Ambassador's XI convincingly by a margin of 20 runs.

Ambassador Asad M. Khan who was the Chief Guest on the occasion. Members of the Pakistani Community and sports loving people attended the event. The Mayor of Sano City Mr. Masahide Okabe also graced the occasion and inaugurated the match. The

Ambassador welcomed the enthusiasm and dedication of the Pakistani Community and all players for organizing a wonderful event. At the conclusion of the event, Chief Guest Ambassador Khan distributed awards among the participating players and presented the Youm-e-Azadi (Independence) Cup to the winning captain.



The Ambassador joined the participants of the event to observe a minute of silence to pay tribute to the victims and survivors of the world's first atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima on August 6, 1945.

AMBASSADOR'S MEETING WITH PRESIDENT JICA

Ambassador Asad M. Khan met with Mr. Shinichi Kitaoka, President of Japan International Cooperation Agency on 18th April 2017. Wide ranging discussions on matters of mutual interest were held. The Ambassador appreciated JICA's long standing presence in Pakistan and stated that JICA's flagship projects like Indus Highway, Lowari Tunnel and Kohat Tunnel are a testament of its commitment as bilateral cooperation partner. Both sides expressed satisfaction at the spectrum of JICA's country programme and it was agreed that lot of potential exists to further enhance it. Ambassador Asad M Khan also referred to positive reviews on Pakistan by International Financial Institutions (IFIs) and expressed the hope that Japanese investors will also make use of the investment opportunities in Pakistan.



AMBASSADOR CALLED ON CHAIRMAN/CEO JETRO MR. HIROYUKI ISHIGE

H.E. Ambassador Dr. Asad M. Khan met with Mr. Hiroyuki Ishige, Chairman JETRO on August 23, 2017 and discussed investment relations between the two countries.

The Ambassador commended the time-honored role of JETRO in supporting bilateral trade and investment, which started with opening office in Karachi in 1954-only the fourth in the world.

The Ambassador said that JETRO and its counter-parts in Pakistan can adopt multipronged approach to promote bilateral trade. Ambassador Asad M. Khan referred to positive reviews of Pakistan by International Financial Institutions (IFIs) and expressed the hope that Japanese business will make use of the investment opportunities in Pakistan.

Chairman JETRO expressed the deep commitment of JETRO to the promotion of bilateral trade and investment. He highlighted that 83 Japanese companies earn one of the highest profits in Pakistan.



AMBASSADOR'S PRESENTATION TO PAKISTAN JAPAN ASSOCIATION

Ambassador Dr. Asad M. Khan met with the board of Pakistan Japan Association and gave a presentation on the Economic turnaround of the country that had been recognized by International Financial Institutions



(IFIs) and Credit Ratings Agencies. He also briefed the participants on the marked improvement in the security situation of Pakistan since 2014 and stated that of terror related incidents had dipped by 80%. It was generally agreed that the investment policy framework of Pakistan was the most liberal in South Asia and presented substantial opportunities for Japanese business houses as well.

AMBASSADOR'S MEETING WITH CHAIRMAN & CEO OF JAPAN SECURITIES DEALERS ASSOCIATION

Ambassador Dr. Asad M. Khan met with the Chairman and CEO of Japan Securities Dealers Association (JSDA). The Ambassador felicitated Mr. Suzuki on his appointment as the Chairman of the JSDA. Matters of mutual interest turnaround of



Pakistan's economy and its recognition by International Financial Institutions (IFIs) and credit rating agencies were discussed. Tracing the historical presence of Japanese business and manufacturing houses in Pakistan, the Ambassador expressed satisfaction at the upward trajectory of relations. While discussing the performance of Karachi Stock Exchange as Asia's top performing Stock Exchange in 2016, the Ambassador dilated upon the liberal investment regime of Pakistan. Chairman Suzuki was of the view that given Pakistan's improved security and economic situation, the potential for cooperation has grown substantially and should be tapped by business communities of both countries.

Prepared by Press Wing, Embassy of Pakistan, Tokyo