

japan

information bulletin

VOL 80
August 2021

Embassy of Japan in pakistan & Consulate-General of Japan in Karachi



H.E. Ambassador MATSUDA Kuninori, wishing well for the Pakistani athletes participating in the Tokyo 2020 Olympics and Paralympics, said, "Congratulations to the athletes, coaches, supporting staff, and the families of the Pakistan's Olympic and Paralympic Team for competing in the Games. I respect your resilience and dedication to professionalism as the world goes through a health crisis".

Inside Contents

Focus Feature
**Japan's Economic
Assistance to Pakistan**

HIGHLIGHTS

- Ambassador's call on Gen. Nadeem Raza
- Bilateral Economic Cooperation
- Experience of Tokyo 2020: Mahoor Sheikh
- Publication of the Tale of Genji in Urdu
- Japanese Language Course in Quetta

H.E. AMBASSADOR MATSUDA KUNINORI,
CALLED ON GENERAL NADEEM RAZA,
CHAIRMAN JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
COMMITTEE, GENERAL QAMAR JAVED BAJWA,
CHIEF OF ARMY STAFF AND ADMIRAL M AMJAD
KHAN NIAZI, CHIEF OF THE NAVAL STAFF

H.E. Mr. MATSUDA Kuninori, Ambassador of Japan to Pakistan, called on General Nadeem Raza, Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee, at Joint Staff Headquarters, Rawalpindi on 23 June. Matters of bilateral interests and further strengthening of defense cooperation between the two countries were discussed during the meeting.

Japan and Pakistan will celebrate the 70th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations in 2022. Honoring this memorial year, the Embassy of Japan in Pakistan is planning a series of commemorative events in various fields including sports exchanges, defense exchanges and cooperation.



H.E. Ambassador MATSUDA Kuninori, called on General Qamar Javed Bajwa, Chief of Army Staff (COAS) at GHQ, on April 14, 2021. The Ambassador once again expressed his gratitude and respect for the success of Ex AMAN 21, and shared the recognition with General Bajwa, COAS of the importance of Japan-Pakistan cooperation, including Japan-Pakistan Bilateral Exercise on Counter Piracy off the Gulf of Aden.

The Ambassador during his meeting with Admiral M Amjad Khan Niazi, Chief of the Naval Staff recognized the importance of the Pakistani Navy's role in regional maritime security and agreed to further strengthen maritime defense cooperation between Japan and Pakistan.



JAPAN'S ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO PAKISTAN

JAPAN SUPPORTS REFUGEES, HOST COMMUNITIES IN PAKISTAN

Islamabad: 22nd February 2021

The Government of Japan has announced on Monday a contribution of USD 3.7 million to support UNHCR's programmes and activities for Afghan refugees and host communities in Pakistan. This three-year project will focus on education, livelihoods assistance and community structures in the provinces of Balochistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Punjab, benefitting over 240,000 individuals.



JAPAN SUPPORTS REFUGEES, HOST COMMUNITIES IN PAKISTAN

Islamabad: 27th April, 2021

Japan and Pakistan agreed on debt deferral amounting to JPY 40 billion (approximately USD 370 million) for making fiscal space to fight against COVID-19 in Pakistan. This is in line with the G20 Debt Service Suspension Initiative (DSSI) agreed on April 15, 2020 and the MOU signed between Pakistan and the creditor countries on June 9, 2020.



JAPAN PROVIDES GRANT FOR WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM IN FAISALABAD

Islamabad: 19th March 2021

The Government of Japan has agreed to provide grants worth 4.1 billion Japanese Yen (Equivalent to around USD 39 million / around PKR 6.2 billion) for improvement of water treatment plant and water distribution system in Faisalabad city, Punjab province.



JAPAN FUNDED PROJECT FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF SPECIALIZED MEDIUM RANGE WEATHER FORECASTING CENTER AND STRENGTHENING OF WEATHER FORECASTING SYSTEM INAUGURATED

This project has updated the degraded weather radar system in Islamabad and provided the wind profiler radar for upper-air observation, which monitor wind direction and speed in the Head Quarter of PMD in Islamabad and Multan Airport. The project enables Pakistan to forecast weather more accurately and contribute to mitigation of damage caused by natural disaster in Pakistan.



ECONOMIC COOPERATION

JAPAN – PAKISTAN TRADE AND INVESTMENT TIES

Agriculture is one of the most promising areas of Pakistan's industry. Pakistan's exports of mangoes and dates to Japan respectively reached an all-time high in 2020. In addition, the export of basmati rice from Pakistan to Japan has also increased in recent years and Japan has an interest in increasing import of sesame from Pakistan. Pakistan is now the largest exporter of dates and the 5th largest exporter of basmati rice and mango to Japan.

Pakistan's export of agricultural products to Japan

- **Dates :** **#1** exporter to Japan
Record high in 2020 (618 ton)
- **Basmati rice :** **5th** largest exporter to Japan
Record high in 2019 (1,608 ton)
- **Mango :** **5th** largest exporter to Japan
Record high in 2020 (211 ton)
- **Sesame :** High expectations on exports from Pakistan
Exported 4,000t in the past few years

Examples of Mango Processed Products Sold in Japanese Grocery Store

Products	Dried	Canned	Juice	Jelly	Ice Candy
Appearance					
Price (before-tax)	Rs.700-900 / Pack (100g)	Rs.300 / Piece (230g)	Rs.600-800 / 1 Liter	Rs.310 / Cup (160g)	Rs.450 / Piece (105ml)
Ingredients (except for Antioxidant, stabilizers and so on)	-Mango slice -Sugar	-Suparing Mango -Sugar syrup	-Mango juice -Sugar -Other fruit juice	-Mango paste -Sugar -Malt syrup -Other fruit juice -Gelatin	-Mango paste -Dairy product -Sugar -Other fruit juice -Gelatin
Origin of Mango	-Philippines -Mexico	-Vietnam	-India -UAE	-India	-Peru
Processing	Processed in Pakistan before export				Exporting Mango Paste from Pakistan

- ✓ Processed Mangoes are unaffected of seasons and transit time.
- ✓ Pakistani deliciously sweet and fragrant Mangoes must be suitable for processing.

JAPAN-PAKISTAN THINK-TANK COOPERATION

In the midst of COVID-19 pandemic, to develop intellectual exchange between Japan and Pakistan, the Institute of Developing Economies (IDE-JETRO) in Japan and the Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE) held the first online workshop on May 17.

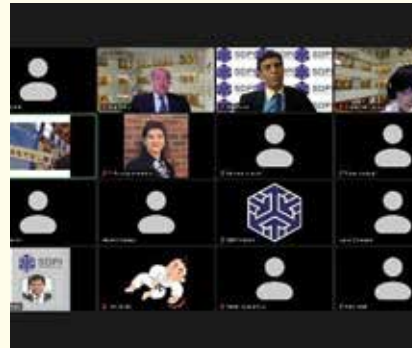
During the virtual interaction, Mr. FUKAO Kyoji, the President of IDE-JETRO and Nadeem Ul Haque, the Vice-Chancellor of PIDE, experts from both sides have made presentations and discussed about topics such as Labor Force Participation of Women, Reform Agenda for Accelerated and Sustained Growth, Geographical Simulation Model of IDE, and Tax Policy Design and Options for Reform.



(IDE-JETRO) in Japan and PIDE Pakistan held the first online workshop

IDE-JETRO AND SDPI HELD THE FIRST ONLINE WORKSHOP

IDE-JETRO in Japan and the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) in Pakistan held the first online workshop on May 26. The Embassy of Japan has always been committed to promoting think-tank cooperation between Japan and Pakistan, and we assume that this event symbolizes steady development of cooperation between leading institutions in both countries.



ECONOMIC COOPERATION

MOU SIGNED TO EXPLORE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN JAPAN FOR PAKISTANI EXPERTS IN ICT AREA

On 26th April, H.E. Mr. MATSUDA Kuninori, Ambassador of Japan to Pakistan and H.E. Mr. Sayed Zulfikar Abbas Bukhari, the then Special Assistant to Prime Minister witnessed the signing ceremony of a memorandum of understanding (MoU) between Mr. Kashif Ahmed Noor, Managing Director, Overseas Employment Corporation (OEC) and Mr. Zafar Mahmood, Chief Executive Officer, Inter SES. The purpose of the MoU is to explore employment opportunities in Japan for qualified Pakistani experts in the ICT area.



PAKISTAN BECAME THE TOP “GUAR GUMS” EXPORTER TO JAPAN IN THE WORLD IN 2020

The yearly guar gum export from Pakistan to Japan was 2,482 tons and JPY 443 million (equivalent to around PKR 620 million in 2020). This made Pakistan the top exporter of guar gum to Japan making up 46.1% of imported guar gum to Japan in 2020.



EXPORT OF PAKISTANI SALT TO JAPAN REACHED A RECORD HIGH OF 1,304 TONS

The yearly salt export from Pakistan to Japan reached a record high of 1,304 tons and 422 million JPY (Equivalent to around PKR 610 million) in 2020.

Pakistan now is the seventh largest exporter of salt to Japan on a weight basis and the fifth in value terms.

In Japan, Pakistani salt is used in fancy restaurants, and also sold in grocery stores as “Himalaya Pink Rock Salt” at around PKR 290 per 100g.



The Government of Japan Confers “The Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Rays” upon Mr. Zafar Mahmood, for promoting Japan-Pakistan Relations.



The Government of Japan Awards “The Foreign Minister’s Commendations for FY 2020” to Ms. WADA Akiko, for Promoting Mutual Understanding between Japan and Pakistan.



H.E. Ambassador MATSUDA visited centuries-old archeological site located at the foothills of Margalla in Shah Allah Ditta village in Islamabad and felt mesmerized by the beauty and significance of this ancient historical archeological site.



On June 15, Ambassador MATSUDA invited Pakistani national hero Mr. Muhammad “Falcon” Waseem, premier professional boxer, to his residence to discuss future Japan Pakistan cooperation in culture and sports.



茶 JAPANESE TEA CEREMONY



On 21st May 2021, Consulate General of Japan in Karachi celebrated International Tea Day, and for that, Mr. ASHIDA Katsunori, Deputy Consul General hosted a Japanese Tea Ceremony to create awareness about Japanese green tea.

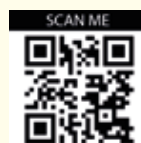
Ms. Anam Hakeem, a renowned travel blogger in Pakistan, playing an essential role in the industry as an influencer, was invited to experience tea, the Japanese way.

Japanese tea ceremony is a historical Japanese tradition. It is a formal, ceremonial way, of preparing and drinking tea.

During the Tea Ceremony held in JICC (Japan Information Culture Center) in Karachi, Ms. Anam was presented with a dessert, Sakura Mochi, to start the Tea Ceremony, followed by tea.



A video for the Tea Ceremony is available to watch on Consulate General of Japan's Facebook page. Scan the QR code to watch the video.



UMI NO HI 海の日



Consulate General of Japan in Karachi celebrated Umi no Hi (海の日), Ocean Day in Japan on 19th July 2021. Deputy Consul General Mr. ASHIDA Katsunori gave a brief introduction about Umi no Hi & its significance. Mr. ASHIDA demonstrated how to cook Fish Teriyaki, Prawn Nigiri & Egg rolls.

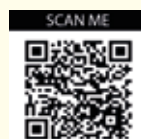
Umi no Hi is the day to give thanks for the ocean's bounty and to consider the importance of the ocean to Japan as an oceanic nation, surrounded by sea from all sides.



In order to celebrate Ocean Day, a Bento Box of Sushi, Egg rolls & Fish Teriyaki was sent to a renowned influencer & travel blogger, Ms. Anam, famously known as Girl with Green Passport. She is a Japanese culture enthusiast and loves Japanese cuisine, especially sushi.



To see the cooking demonstration, scan the QR code.



JAPANESE LANGUAGE COURSE AWARDING CEREMONY IN QUETTA

Honorary Consulate General of Japan in Quetta and Pak-Japan Friendship Society in Balochistan organized the "Certificate Distribution Ceremony of Japanese Language Course" at Pak - Japan Culture Center in Quetta on June 2nd 2021.

Mr. Mehfooz Ali Khan, former provincial Secretary was the Chief Guest. He, along with Syed Nadeem Shah, Honorary Consul General of Japan



in Quetta and Syed Feroz Shah, President Pak-Japan Friendship Society in Balochistan presented the certificates to the passing out students. This was the very first group of 5 students who completed an on-line 3 months Japanese Language Course.

The Honorary Consul General Japan in Balochistan, Syed Nadeem Shah, while speaking at the certificate distribution ceremony, congratulated the students

who completed the online Japanese Language course not letting covid-19 be a hurdle in language learning process.

He said that learning foreign languages would provide job opportunities for the educated youth of Balochistan, as many institutions and offices



working and dealing with foreign countries, including Japan, are in search of people who know Japanese language.

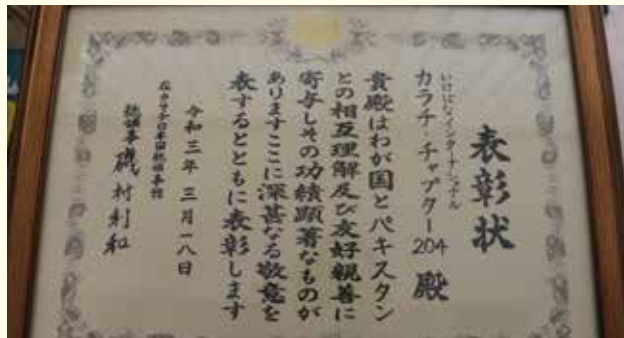
Syed Nadeem Shah appreciated the efforts of the Pakistan-Japan Friendship Society to bring the people of both countries closer through such language courses.

CONSUL GENERAL OF KARACHI COMMENDATION TO IKEBANA GROUP

On March 18, 2021 Mr. Toshikazu ISOMURA, Consul-General of Japan in Karachi, conferred the Certificate of Commendations upon five Ikebana groups in Karachi, in recognition of their significant contributions towards the promotion of Japanese Ikebana art of flower arrangements in Pakistan and their participations in events held by the consulate such as Japan Fest, adding to its success.



Mr. ISOMURA, presented the commendation to Ikebana International Karachi Chapter 204, Ikenobo Study Group Karachi, Ohara Study Group Karachi, Karachi Sogetsu Study Group and Indus Sogetsu Study Group.



Furthermore, Mr. ISOMURA, while extending his congratulations to the Ikebana groups stressed that people-to-people exchange is one of the most important pillars which are sustaining the friendly relationship between Japan and Pakistan.

A JOURNEY TO FIGHT CLIMATE CHANGE



Who knew that there's a plantation method through which you could grow a forest in your own garden.

Mr. Shahzad Qureshi, founder of the Urban Forest in Karachi, has used Miyawaki method, inspired by Doctor Akira Miyawaki, a world famous Blue Planet awarded Botanist.

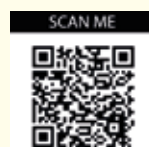
Using this forestation method, native urban forest ecosystems are made more quickly. This method takes its inspiration directly from processes and diversity in nature. 15-30 different native species of trees and shrubs are planted densely as in a Natural Forest. This plant community works very well together, & is perfectly adapted to local weather conditions.

The habitat created gets more complex over time and attracts biodiversity, and grows 10x the speed of regular plantation.

Mr. Qureshi has been able to start growing a forest in one of the neighbourhood parks in Karachi to fight climate change.



A video of his interview and the Urban Forest in Karachi is made available for you to watch. To watch the video, scan the QR code.



WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY 環境の日

On June 5, 2021, Consul-General of Japan in Karachi, Mr. ISOMURA Toshikazu visited Naya Nazimabad to take part in plantation drive on World Environment Day.



At the occasion, Mr. ISOMURA visited the sports facilities including cricket, hockey and football grounds in Naya Nazimabad in a buggy drive. He also had a chance to play basketball and show off his skills.



MAHOOR SHEIKH GOES FOR TOKYO OLYMPICS

AN INTERVIEW WITH MAHOOR

Participating in Olympic Games was a dream come true for me. I am the number one badminton player in Pakistan and have won five consecutive national game titles. I was extremely excited to be the first ever badminton player to represent my country Pakistan at Olympic Games I tried my best to win but unfortunately both my opponents played brilliantly & I learnt a lot from them. I will prepare myself more in future tournaments.

I wanted to visit different cultural and historical sites of Japan, but due to prevailing COVID 19 situation, I was unable to travel much. I found Japanese to be very hospitable and hardworking people. It was an honor for me to be present at the opening ceremony of Tokyo Olympics and raise Pakistani flag. Sporting facilities were also excellent but unfortunately we could not see jam packed stadiums. I would like to thank Japan for the support they gave me and I would definitely like to visit the beautiful country once again and have Onigiri and other delicious Japanese cuisine.



GRANTS FOR GRASSROOTS PROGRAM IN KARACHI

The Government of Japan handed over 07 vehicles to Karwan-e-Hayat, Institute for Mental Health Care under 'The Project for Provision of Vehicles for Mobile Medical Treatment and Transport for The Karwan-e-Hayat Mental Illness Hospital in Karachi', with the scheme of Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP).

The handing over ceremony took place at KeH Keamari Center in the esteemed presence of Mr. ISOMURA Toshikazu, Consul-General of Japan in Karachi and the CEO of KeH, Mr. Zaheeruddin Muhammad Babar.



KeH has been at the forefront of psychiatric care and rehabilitation in Pakistan for more than 38 years. KeH is a provider of mental health care, with a focus on poor and underserved sections of society, providing them free or highly subsidized quality care and rehabilitation. In Pakistan, so many people suffer from mental illness. Unlike other non-communicable diseases, which afflict humans at a later age in life, mental illness.

often affects people in their prime years. Entire families are adversely affected when one member is mentally ill.



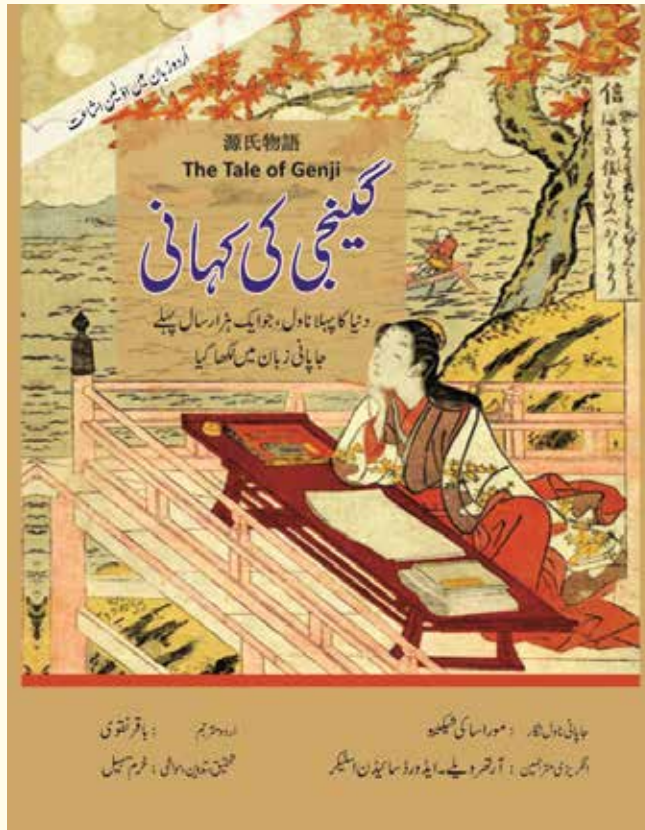
The grant has enabled the procurement of vehicles to facilitate the increasing numbers of psychiatric patients who need care and treatment. With this new induction into the fleet, expansion of mobile medical services and patient transportation will be made possible. Previously, KeH was undertaking this task with only one vehicle. Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Isomura said that access to Primary Health Care (PHC) for the mentally ill is an issue in need of urgent address in Pakistan. He stressed the immediacy of raising public awareness regarding PHC for vulnerable groups in society, especially in the current pandemic.

In response, Mr. Zaheeruddin Babar, CEO-KeH thanked the Consul-General and the people of Japan for the generosity they have shown towards psychiatric patients in Karachi. He assured that the donated vehicles would undoubtedly improve medical services and consequently ease the burden on the patients' families.

گینجی کی کہانی

(ایک ہزار سال قبل لکھے گئے دنیا کے پہلے ناول پر تعارفی مضمون)

دنیا کا پہلا ناول، جس کا نام "گینجی مونوگتاری" یعنی "گینجی کی کہانی" ہے۔ یہ عظیم ناول جاپانی زبان میں ایک خاتون ناول نگار نے لکھا، جس کا نام "موراساکی شیکیو" ہے، انہوں نے اس ناول کو گیارہویں صدی کے ابتدائی برسوں میں تخلیق کیا تھا۔ یہ ناول خیالی کہانی اور کرداروں پر مبنی ہے، اس ناول میں جاپانی شہنشاہ، اس کا شہزادہ "گینجی" اور اس کے پوتے "کاؤرو" کی زندگی کا نقشہ مفصل طور سے پیش کیا گیا ہے۔ گینجی کی کہانی نے جاپانی ثقافت، مقامی اور عالمی ادب پر گہرے نقوش چھوڑے ہیں۔ کہا جاتا ہے کہ دنیا میں کلاسیکی ناول نگاری کی ابتدا جاپان سے ہوئی۔



اس عظیم ناول کی مصنفہ "موراساکی شیکیو" کا تعلق اس وقت کے طبقہ اشرافیہ سے ہے۔ مصنفہ جاپانی دربار سے وابستہ ہوئیں، تو ملکہ کی نائب کے طور پر ان کا تقرر ہوا۔ "موراساکی شیکیو" کے حالات زندگی بہت زیادہ دستیاب نہیں ہیں۔ محتاط اندازے کے مطابق، ان کی پیدائش کا سال 973 عیسوی سے 978 عیسوی کے درمیان کا کوئی برس ہے، جبکہ وفات کا سال 1014 سے 1031 کے درمیانی عرصے میں سے ہے۔ "موراساکی شیکیو" نے جب جاپانی "گینجی کی کہانی" ناول لکھا، تو جاپان میں وہ زمانہ تھا، جب دربار میں چینی اور جاپانی، دونوں زبانیں سرکاری طور پر استعمال ہوتی تھیں، بلکہ علم و ادب اور علمی تفاخر کے لئے چینی زبان پر عبور کو سراہا جاتا تھا۔ اس ناول کی مصنفہ کو چینی زبان پر حیرت انگیز عبور حاصل تھا۔ کاغز کی دستیابی بھی اس زمانے میں جوئے شیر لانے کے مترادف تھی، مگر مصنفہ چونکہ دربار سے وابستہ تھیں، اس لئے ان کو کاغز کی فراہمی ممکن بنائی گئی، یوں تاریخ کا پہلا ناول قلمبند ہوا۔ اس عظیم ناول میں اس وقت کے شہنشاہ، سرکار، عوام، اشرافیہ کے معاملات اور احساسات کے نشیب و فراز کا عکس بخوبی دیکھا جا سکتا ہے۔

اس ناول کو دنیا کا پہلا ناول ہونے کا اعزاز تو حاصل ہے، مگر یہ ناول اپنے پلاٹ میں بھی بہت دلچسپ ہے۔ یہ کہانی صدیوں پرانے رسم و رواج، رین سہن اور خاندانی اقدار کو دیکھنے کا ایک روزن ہے۔ معروف جاپانی فلم ساز "اکیرا کوروسوا" نے بھی اس ناول کو اپنی پسندیدہ ترین کتاب قرار دیا۔ جاپان کے پہلے نوبیل انعام یافتہ ادیب "یاسوناری کاواباتا" نے بھی نوبیل انعام حاصل کرنے کی تقریب کے موقع پر اپنے کلیدی خطاب میں اس ناول "گینجی مونوگتاری" کا تذکرہ کیا تھا۔ ہر جاپانی شہری اپنے زمانہ طالب علمی میں اپنے اسکول کے نصاب میں بھی

خرم سہیل

Khurram.sohail99@gmail.com



Japanese Government Offices in Pakistan

Embassy of Japan in Pakistan

53-70, Ramna 5/4, Diplomatic Enclave 1,
Islamabad 44000
(P.O. Box 1110, Islamabad)
Tel: +92(51) 9072500
Fax: +92(51) 9072352
E-mail: ryoji@ib.mofa.go.jp (Consular/Visa)
economic@ib.mofa.go.jp (Economic)
culture@ib.mofa.go.jp (Public Affairs)
Website: <http://www.pk.emb-japan.go.jp/>

Consulate-General of Japan in Karachi

6/2, Civil Lines, Abdullah Haroon Road,
Karachi 75530
Tel: +92(21) 35220800
Fax: +92(21) 35220815
E-mail: culture@kr.mofa.go.jp
Website: <http://www.kr.pk.emb-japan.go.jp/>

Office of the Honorary Consul General of Japan in Lahore

1 Mcleod Road, Lahore
Tel: +92(42) 37225015-7
Fax: +92(42) 37233518
E-mail: anw@shiraziinvestments.com.pk

Office of the Honorary Consul General of Japan in Peshawar

No. 38, St. 3, Sector N-3, Phase 4, Hayatabad,
Peshawar
Tel: +92(91) 5828378
Fax: +92(91) 5817569

Office of the Honorary Consul General of Japan in Quetta

53-A, Jinnah Town, Samungli Road, Quetta
Tel: +92(81) 2829478, 2829633
Fax: +92(81) 2829515
E-mail: knadeem@cyber.net.pk/

Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Pakistan Office

Serena Office Complex, 4th Floor, G-5/1m
Khyaban-e-Suhrawardy,
Islamabad
Tel: +92(51) 9244500-07
Fax: +92(51) 9244508
Website: <http://www.jica.go.jp/paksitan/English/index/html>

Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO)

2nd Floor, Block-B, Finance & Trade Centre,
Shahrah-e-Faisal,
Karachi
Tel: +92(21) 35630727-32
Fax: +92(21) 35630733-34
E-mail: pak@jetro.go.jp
Website: <http://www.jetro.go.jp/>