

Keynote Speech at the Seminar on Japan Asia Relations  
on January 20, 2016 at University of Sindh

Prof. Dr. Muhammad Siddique Kalhoso, Acting Vice-Chancellor,  
University of Sindh,

Prof. Dr. Lutfullah Mangi, Pro-Vice Chancellor, Shah Abdul Latif  
University,

Prof. Dr. Hamadullah Kakepoto, Director, Area Study Centre, University  
of Sindh,

Mr. Ghulam Murtaza Khoso, Assistant Professor, University of Sindh,

Deans and Professors of Faculties,

Dear Students,

Good Morning and Assalam Alaikum,

I am very pleased to be given the opportunity to speak at this Seminar on Japan-Asia Relations. After my speech, the distinguished professors will speak on each topic covering Japan and other Asian regions. So I will try to cover the common theme that is Japan's current foreign policy. And I would also like to touch upon some aspects of Japan-Pakistan relations.

(Overview of bilateral relations)

Before talking about the topic, I would like to briefly touch upon Japan-Pakistan relationship. Japan and Pakistan have always had a friendly relation throughout the last 64 years. Japan and Pakistan established diplomatic relations in April 1952. Their Majesties the Emperor and Empress of Japan paid a visit to Pakistan in January 1962 as then Crown Prince and Princess. In November 1992, Their Imperial Highness Prince Akishino, the second son of the Emperor and Princess visited Pakistan.

(Japan's foreign policy)

Last year marked the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of World War II. Since the end of the war on 15 August 1945, Japan has consistently followed the path of a peace-loving nation and has built up trust within the international community. Japan has learned many lessons from the tragic experiences and Japan is determined to contribute more actively to international peace. As the only country to have ever suffered the devastation of atomic bombings during war, Japan will fulfil its responsibility in the international

community, aiming at non-proliferation and ultimate abolition of nuclear weapons.

Japan's current foreign policy is centered on the basic policy of "Proactive Contributor to Peace", based on the principle of international cooperation. Japan as a "Proactive Contributor to Peace" will contribute even more proactively in securing peace, stability and prosperity of the international community, while achieving its own security and the peace and stability of the Asia-Pacific region.

In December 2013, Japan's first National Security Strategy (NSS) was adopted. The NSS sets out Japan's fundamental policies concerning diplomacy and defense in relation to national security, and presents the contents of the policy of "Proactive Contribution to Peace" to the people of Japan and the international community. Under these fundamental policies, Japan will both protect its national interests and conduct proactive and effective diplomacy that fulfills the country's responsibilities commensurate with its position in the international community.

In November 2015, "Japan's Legislation for Peace and Security" was approved by the Diet. The legislation enables seamless responses to any situations to secure the lives and peaceful livelihood of the Japanese people. And Japan will be able to contribute more proactively to the peace and stability of the international community under the policy of "Proactive Contribution to Peace" based on the principle of international cooperation. There is no change in Japan's basic posture and orientation for the past 70 years, including a peace-loving nation.

The Constitution of Japan has an article (Article 9) which outlaws war as a means to settle international disputes. And Japan adheres to this constitution. But given the fundamental transformation of the security environment, in certain situation, an armed attack against a foreign country could threaten Japan's survival, depending on its purpose, scale and manner. The Government of Japan has reached the conclusion that the use of force will be permitted when the following "Three New Conditions" are met:

- (1) When an armed attack against Japan occurs or when an armed attack against a foreign country that is in a close relationship with Japan occurs and as a result threatens Japan's survival and poses a clear danger to fundamentally overturn people's right to life, liberty and pursuit of happiness,
- (2) When there is no other appropriate means available to repel the attack

and ensure Japan's survival and protects its people,  
(3) Use of Force should be limited to the minimum extent necessary.  
As a matter of course, use of force must be carried out while observing international law.

The legislation also enables Japan to further contribute to the peace and stability of the International Community. For example, Japan will be able to participate in internationally coordinated operations for peace and security under a certain conditions like a resolution of U.N. General Assembly, Security Council or Economic and Social Council, etc. This enables Japanese corps to contribute more proactively to the United Nations peace keeping operations.

The troops of Japan's Ground Self-Defense Force are now stationed in South Sudan as a part of United Nations Mission in the Republic of South Sudan, contributing to the stability and nation-building of South Sudan. While Japan has a prominent track record of United Nations peacekeeping operations, such as Cambodia, East Timor, etc., the level of Japan's recent contributions in terms of manpower is not as much as that of Pakistan. In order to play a more active role in peacekeeping and peace building, Japan will make efforts in these fields as the second largest financial contributor.

Since the inauguration of the current administration led by Prime Minister Abe, Japan has pursued a strategic foreign policy that "Takes a Panoramic Perspective of the World Map," upholding universal values such as freedom, democracy, respect of fundamental human rights, and the rule of law. Since taking office in December 2012, Prime Minister Abe has been actively engaged in this strategic foreign policy, and he already visited over 70 countries, which is the most for any Japanese prime minister.

(Relationship with South Asian Region including Pakistan)

Now I will talk about Japan's Relations with South Asian Region. South Asia is becoming increasingly important in the international arena with its large population of approximately 1.6 billion, its geopolitical importance, and the continued high rates of economic growth enjoyed by many countries in the region. Japan will further strengthen the economic relationships with South Asian countries with which it traditionally has friendly and cooperative relations. Moreover, Japan will continue its cooperation for each country's efforts such as establishing national reconciliation and democratization.

As for Pakistan, Japan has dispatched an election observation mission at the time of general election in May 2013 and I was also a member of the mission. Our observation was that Pakistan successfully held general election in a democratic way and the Government was transferred democratically. And Japan will continue to encourage Pakistan's positive effort and cooperate with it to promote the peace and stability of the region and the entire international community.

(Towards a society where women shine)

The realization of a society in which women shine—by reaching their full potential—is an important issue not only for the further growth of the Japanese economy, but also for the dynamism of the international community. To date, Japan has built a track record in the support of women in developing countries. Prime Minister Abe put forward three pillars at the United Nations (UN) General Assembly in September 2013: **(1)** promoting women's participation in society and of the empowerment of women; **(2)** engaging in greater efforts in the field of health and medical care for women; and **(3)** promoting women's participation and protection in the areas of peace and security. Mr. Abe indicated that Japan will implement ODA in excess of US\$3 billion over the next three years, targeting these pillars.

Prime Minister Abe put forward three pillars at the UN General Assembly: (1) promoting women's participation in society and women's empowerment; (2) engaging in greater efforts in the field of health and medical care for women; and (3) promoting women's participation and protection in the areas of peace and security. Mr. Abe indicated that Japan will implement ODA in excess of US\$3 billion over the next three years, targeting these pillars. The Government of Japan hosted the "World Assembly for Women in Tokyo" twice in 2014 and 2015. The Government of Japan has made continued efforts on women's empowerment, and creating "a society where women shine" has consistently been one of the highest priority issues since the launch of Prime Minister Abe's administration in December 2012.

Creating an environment in which women find it comfortable to work and enhancing opportunities for women to work and to be active in society is a matter of great importance. I don't have to repeat the story of Ms. Malala Yousafzai who has strongly appealed to the world the message of the

importance of education of women not only in Pakistan but in the world and won the Nobel Peace Prize in 2014.

(Japan's Economic Diplomacy)

The year 2014 marked Japan's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of ODA. Over 60 years since 1954, Japan has actively utilized ODA and contributed to poverty reduction in developing countries, peace-building, realization of sustainable economic growth, resolution of global issues, and providing humanitarian assistance/emergency relief.

ODA addresses development issues in developing countries, and is also expected to help revitalize Japan's economy by taking in the dynamic growth of developing and emerging countries. The "Infrastructure System Export Strategy" (formulated in May 2013) and the "Japan Revitalization Strategy" (approved by the Cabinet in June 2013) express Japan's intention to utilize ODA strategically in such areas as infrastructure systems export, sharing advanced technologies and know-how of small and medium-size enterprises (SMEs) and local governments, sharing medical technology and services, and the securing of international standards.

The importance of ODA is increasing as Japan seeks to be a "proactive contributor to peace" as upheld by Prime Minister Abe. The National Security Strategy (NSS) approved by the Cabinet in December 2013 states that responding to development issues contributes to improvement in the global security environment, and Japan needs to strengthen its efforts as part of its "Proactive Contribution to Peace" based on the principle of international cooperation.

Moving ahead, Japan will cooperate closely with local governments, NGOs and the private sector to promote proactive and strategic ODA activities.

(Japan's ODA to Pakistan)

Since 1954, Japan has been extending its ODA to Pakistan. The schemes of cooperation range from technical cooperation, grant aid to ODA loans in various sectors like health, education, environment, water supply, agriculture, transportation, infrastructure and so on. The cumulative amount of ODA from Japan to Pakistan up to Year 2013 is 1,278 billion yen, 976 billion yen of Yen Loan, 253 billion yen of Grant Aid and 50 billion yen of Technical Assistance.

In the area of emergency aid, Japan provided timely emergency assistance

to Pakistan at the time of earthquake in AJK in 2005 and the floods in 2010, 2011 and 2012.

Japan has a scheme called “Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Project (GGP) to support small-scale development projects to meet the basic human needs of the local people. Japan has granted about 350 assistances to Pakistan through this scheme to date and the Consulate-General of Japan in Karachi has so far implemented 15 projects since 2009.

(Prospect for Pakistan’s development)

Pakistan is a country with great potential for economic growth and Karachi is the key area for such economic growth. Pakistan has a large population of 188 million, the 6<sup>th</sup> largest in the world and going to be 340 million in 2050, becoming the 4<sup>th</sup> largest in the world. And the population is very young, of which 60% is under 25 years of age. This means there is a large market and ample workforce in Pakistan. And Pakistan is very near to the Central Asia and the Middle East. So a large potential market lies not only in South Asia but also in Central Asia and the Middle East. The large manpower and natural resources such as copper, coal, zinc and natural gas are also available. With these available resources and favorable conditions, Pakistan has a big potential for development in the future.

What I would like to stress here is that education is one of the most important factors for development of a nation. Japan has no natural resources but has only human resources, who are very well educated. Human resources of Japan have such qualities as sincerity, honesty, dedication, discipline, punctuality and consideration for others. These qualities are as important as technical skills. The media in the world reported very highly that at the time of the Great East Japan Earthquake of March 11, 2011, the people in Tohoku region of Japan were very much disciplined, helped others and lined up patiently for food allocation, etc. The Japanese people with these qualities rose from ashes of World War Two and are now rising again after the Great East Japan Earthquake.

Let me quote a figure of Japanese educational level. In Japan about 98% of junior high school graduates go on to high schools and the rate of high school graduates who go on to study in the higher level is about 80%, including the rate of 50% of going to universities and 30% of going to junior colleges or technical schools.

In Pakistan too, the key for success in developing the country is education. Basic education for all and higher education, especially in the area of science and technology, is important for economic development.

Let me touch upon the foreign students who come to Japan for study. The number of foreign students at Japanese universities continues to increase, reaching over 184 thousand in 2014. About 93% of these students are from Asia. For your information, there are programs such as the Japanese Government Scholarship and Invitation Program to visit Japan for one or two weeks for university students and high school students from SARRC countries including Pakistan. If you are interested in the scholarship or the invitation program, please look at the website of the Consulate-General of Japan in Karachi.

(end)