

## Press Release

“Dekho Japan!” to be held from October 24-31

at Pearl Continental Hotel, Karachi

From October 24-31, 2013, a special Japan Week called “Dekho Japan!” will be organized by Pearl Continental Hotel, Karachi in cooperation with the Consulate-General of Japan at Karachi, along with Japanese cultural groups, namely Ikebana International Karachi Chapter, Ohara Study Group, Sogetsu Study Group, Metal Seinen, Pakistan Bonsai Society and Pakistan Ju-Jitsu Federation.

During the week, the three *ikebana* (Japanese art of flower arrangement) groups: Ikebana International Karachi Chapter, Ohara Study Group and Sogetsu Study Group will respectively showcase their exquisite and unique flower arrangements at the main entrances and lobby hall of the Hotel as well as in Sakura Restaurant on the tenth floor. The visitors can enjoy over thirty magnificent flower arrangements throughout the week.

Pakistan Bonsai Society will exhibit their *bonsai* (Japanese art of growing a miniature tree in a container) at the main corridor of the tenth floor. The visitors will have an opportunity to see these beautiful botanical art forms from October 24-27. There will also be Japanese Dolls Exhibition at the same venue of *bonsai* exhibition, where variety of Japanese traditional dolls, owned by the Consulate-General of Japan, will be on display, including the grand “*Hina-matsuri*” (Doll Festival) dolls, from October 24-31.

Metal Seinen, a Pakistani youth group actively engaging in promoting Japanese pop culture in Pakistan, will organize series of interesting events on October 26 and 27 at Zaver Hall. Through their programmes, Metal Seinen aims to introduce and promote Japanese pop culture such as *anime* (animation), *manga* (comics), music and video games to the visitors.

Pakistan Ju-Jitsu Federation will hold two sessions of demonstration on October 26, from 16:00-17:00 at the Conference Room, by their members who will show their brilliant *Ju-Jitsu* (one of the traditional Japanese martial arts) techniques.

Mr. Akira Ouchi, Consul-General of Japan in Karachi, at the opening press conference stated that he is very much delighted to see the Japanese cultural groups get together and perform their skills and arts to make “Dekho Japan!” a successful event. Mr. Ouchi emphasized that through this Japan Week, the people in Karachi will be able to “see” and experience the fascinating diversity of Japanese culture. Mr. Ouchi extended his heartfelt appreciation for the generous cooperation of Pearl Continental Hotel, Karachi in organizing the event and reiterated that the Consulate-General of Japan at Karachi will continue to conduct various cultural

activities to bring the peoples of Pakistan and Japan even closer; thereby promoting mutual understanding and further strengthening the friendly relationship between the two countries.

(End)

For further information, please contact Japan Information and Culture Center at the Consulate-General of Japan at Karachi: 35220800 (Ext. 134)

