

**Speech by Mr. Akira Ouchi, Consul General of Japan at Karachi  
on the occasion of the Book Launching Ceremony, on 1<sup>st</sup> February, 2013**

Distinguished guests, ladies and gentleman,  
Assalam-alaikum!

It gives me a pleasure to attend a ceremony to mark the launch of two new books. The book written by Mr. Sohail Khurram entitled “Green Fragrance of Red Flowers” introduces Japanese literature and poetry and the book written by Mr. Abdullah Miyazawa, Ms. Fatima Miyazawa and Mr. Iqbal Barma entitled “Journey of Tradition of Japan” introduces Japanese history to Urdu speaking people.

Japan and Pakistan marked 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations last year and we carried out a series of celebrations and cultural events to commemorate this anniversary. The publication of these books serves to commemorate this anniversary and I express gratitude to these authors for publishing the books, which contribute to the bilateral friendship.

Both books help Pakistani people understand the richness of Japanese historical and cultural background. Through the extensive research and analysis, “Green Fragrance of Red Flowers” introduces numerous Japanese poetry and literature writings in Urdu by both the Japanese and Pakistani authors. It also demonstrates comparison of both countries’ art and culture, portrays Japan through the eyes of Pakistani journalists, and above all Japan’s influence on Urdu literature. “Journey of Tradition of Japan” describes a journey from the ancient Japan to the modern Japan. It introduces to readers not only the ancient history of Japan, but also the development of Japan after World War II and the recent economic and technological development of Japan.

I am certain that these two books will contribute to the introduction of the Japanese culture and history well to the Pakistani people, thereby to promote the cultural exchange, mutual understanding and friendship between the two countries. I sincerely hope that these two books will be read by many Pakistani people.

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