

Ewaratan Bash

Ba Nawi Khudai Gaura w Mehraban

(Good evening, in the name of God the most merciful and the most passionate)

H. E. Mr. Sidad Barzani,

H. E. Mr. Safeen Dizayee, Minister of Department of Foreign Relations, additionally I deeply appreciate presence of Mr. Sidad Barzani,

Excellencies, Distinguished guests,
Good evening.

Hamoutan Bakher Ben,

khoshhalim ka amro lagaltanim la bonay Yad Krdnaway rozhi nishtimani Yaban la Hawlir

(Good evening. Welcome to you all. Today, I am so much pleased to have you all on this occasion of the Japanese National Day in Erbil)

Thank you so much for joining us today. It is a great honor for me to celebrate today the birthday of H.M. the Emperor Naruhito in the city of Erbil with Kurdish and foreign friends together. His Majesty turns 64 years old on February 23rd.

I would like to seize this opportunity to introduce to you the words of H.M. the Emperor for starting this New Year.

He said “I would like to offer my sympathy to the people in Japan impacted by earthquakes, heavy rains, typhoons and snowstorms. My heart aches for the many lives lost in the wars and conflicts around the world. These events once again remind me of the importance of striving for mutual understanding and cooperation in order to build a peaceful world. I hope that people will continue to support one another with compassion and the coming year will be a bright and hopeful one for people in our country and worldwide”

Being here in Erbil, I myself as Ambassador of Japan to Iraq entirely agree with the Emperor in his spirit. Over 160 years of modernization process, Japan has become a country that respects universal values such as democracy, freedom, basic human rights and rule of law. As a promoter of global peace and universal values, Japan continues to facilitate mutual understanding and cooperation among different stakeholders to bring about peace and stability in the region and around the globe.

Kurdistan has also come a long way to have achieved a current stability and development. Japan, as a true friend of Kurdistan including myself, has been always supporting Kurdistan to build peaceful and prosperous society. We are particularly supportive of the efforts of Kurdistan Regional Government led by H.E. Kak Masrour Barzani to realize a sustainable growth despite of all the challenges.

Japan and Kurdistan have enjoyed a great friendship over many years and I expect such an excellent relation will be further blossomed in the coming years. Building on the long-lasting friendly relationship, Japan is ready to further contribute to economic and social development of Kurdistan so that our bilateral relations will be much strengthened.

On the back of Dragon that will fly high this year, I look forward to seeing a brighter future of Kurdistan together with all of you.

Bezhi Kurdistan (Long live Kurdistan)
Zor Spas (Thank you)

[end]