

Speech by the Ambassador, Consul-General Kuninori MATSUDA  
at the Birthday Celebration of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan  
(Macau, 9 December 2015)

大家好！

我係新上任嘅日本大使松田。

請多多指教。

First of all, I would like to sincerely thank and welcome the Honourable Chan Hoi Fan, Secretary for Administration and Justice of the Macao SAR for being with us today as our guest of honour, representing the Macao SAR Government. I would also like to thank all of you for joining this gathering.

His Majesty the Emperor of Japan is turning eighty-two years old on the coming 23rd of December. It is a great honor and pleasure for me to celebrate his birthday with all of you here.

The relationship between Japan and Macao has continued to develop throughout this year. I thank everyone who has been diligently lending their kind support and cooperation.

In particular, I would like to express my special gratitude to the Japanese people in Macao who have been firm and reliable bridges between Japan and Macao. In this regard, the Japanese Foreign Minister's Commendation was awarded to Mr. Kunio MURAISHI, Director of the Japan Society of Macao this year. Equally deep gratitude should be shown to The Macao government for its cooperation. I believe your support and cooperation will remain unchanged or even strengthened in all areas next year.

For the smooth development of Macao's relationship with Japan under "One Country, Two Systems", it is indispensable that the relationship between Japan and China also develops. In this regard, this year has seen a steady progress in Japan-China relations as well: Two summit-level meetings in April and November; and the resumption of the Party-to-Party high-level exchanges after a 6-year interval. The Consulate-General of Japan will also make its utmost effort in contributing towards the

further development of the bilateral relationship.

To conclude this speech, I am again deeply grateful to the Honourable Chan Hoi Fan, distinguished guests, and all of you, for coming to this reception. I would like to wish you all a happy holiday season and a happy new year of 2016. And, I wish for a long life for His Majesty the Emperor of Japan, for the further development of the friendship between Japan and Macao, for a promising future for Japan-China relations.

我哋祝大家身体健康，幸福快樂。

皆様の御健康と御多幸をお祈りいたします。

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