

Japan: A great nation PART - 3

President of Japan Muslims' Society: We aim to spread the forgiving Islamic sharia, in agreement with Japanese societal traditions

He studied at Al-Azhar, and since embracing Islam 50 years ago, works on propagation in his country, and as a result of long efforts, he achieved his dream with the establishment of the Islamic cultural center in Tokyo. Hajj Amin "Kimyaki" Tukumaso heads the Japan Muslims' Society, which is a charitable society that does not indulge in politics in compliance with the law, and has hundreds of Muslims as members, both individuals and families.

"Islam came under a major distortion campaign because of wars in Muslim countries, the Sept 11

a lack of resources that limits its efforts. Building the center, for example, required nearly \$2.5 million. \$1 million was collected from members, and the rest from donations from Saudi Arabia, UAE and Turkey. This helped it to start construction. Most members are workers in companies, and each of them pays \$80 annually, with \$130 for families.

Tukumaso carries out the administrative duties after he retired, but said the society is not under an individual's leadership - rather it adopts a monthly rotation system. "We were 3,000 Japanese Muslims 30 years

The society is active in communicating with educational and cultural establishments in Japan and in the field of religious dialogue. The society runs a cemetery for Muslims where burial is done according to Muslim sharia. It organizes camps for its members and celebration of Muslim Eids. It also gives advice to those who wish to perform hajj, confirms the shahada for new Muslims and completes marriage procedures.

There are many stories and studies about introducing Islam to Japan, but the most notable information in this field is in the book "Islam in Japan" which is authored by Dr Saleh Mahdi Al-Samarrai and Dr Saleem Al-Rahman Khan, who said communications took place between the 17th and 19th centuries between Muslims and the Japanese, but the first official communication between Japan and the Ottoman state was in 1871, when high ranking Japanese officials visited Istanbul to strengthen relations between the two empires.

Sultan Abdelhameed II decided to send a ship with an Ottoman delegation onboard to Japan in 1889. The ship "Al Tughrul" arrived at Yokohama port with 665 people onboard under the leadership of Adm Othman Bashe, and it was received by the Japanese emperor. When the ship was heading back three months later, it faced a huge storm on the second day while still in Japan's territorial waters, and sank with only 69 of its passengers surviving.

The accident shocked both empires, and a memorial was erected and still exists in Japan, and the Japanese mark their memory once every five years, once in Japan and once in Turkey. The Japanese held donation campaigns for the victims' families, and with the delegation that went to hand over the money was a journalist called Ashturu Nuda, who met in Istanbul with the first English Muslim Abdullah Quilliam.

He embraced Islam and called himself Abdelhalim, and played a major role in developing Japanese relations with the Muslim world. He was followed by many Japanese including Ahmad Areeja, who embraced Islam in Bombay after entering one of the mosques, and Hassan Hanano, an officer and journalist who published the "Muslim fraternity" magazine later.



Hajj Ameen Tuku Maso

events, and what Daesh is doing today," Tukumaso said. "The Japanese people are highly informed and follow all the news and this is why they got a negative image about Islam." This is the reason that made him invest in a cultural center and not in building a mosque. "We attract Japanese youth, because we tell them to come and get educated, and they interact with us. We have designated one of the new building's floors as a prayer area with the help of the Turkish government," he said.

Hajj Tukumaso said there are 100 Islamic societies and centers in Japan, and each of them has a mosque or prayer area. The largest mosque in Japan is the Tokyo Mosque, which was built by Turkey. He said the Japanese constitution permits religious freedom, and the government does not interfere in people's worship and beliefs. The center operates freely, and it is only

ago, and today we are 10,000 and intend to increase the number through our commitment to what our religion requires," he said. Tukumaso said the Japan Muslims' Society was established in 1952 as the first Muslim society in the country, and gained official recognition in 1968. Its official premises is in Yoyogi Shibuya neighborhood of Tokyo.

The society aims at helping Muslims, practice peaceful Islamic rituals in a way that agrees with Japan society traditions, introduce Islam to the Japanese to familiarize them, strengthen their beliefs and support loving links with Muslims outside Japan.

The society has sent, since its establishment, students to Muslim countries so that they return with what they learn. It has published several publications, most important of which is the translation of the Holy Quran, translating all parts of Sahih Muslim and Tafseer Jalalain.

Sarah: The Japanese preacher who roams the country to spread Islam



Photo shows Mohammed Bassam Al-Husseini sitting with Abdelwahab Quraishi, Sara Quraishi and Masjid's Imam Ahmad Al-Alami at the Nagoya Mosques library.

Nagoya hosts a mosque that was completed in 1998, and was established by a group of students from Sudan, Pakistan and several countries who were studying in Japan, and is run by the Nagoya Islamic Society headed

flat they rented to meet and pray as he feared he may face problems with the government.

Another issue that worries Abdelwahab and Sarah is halal food, which some businessmen attempted to turn into a major and complex issue, while they are trying to convey the message to the Japanese and especially restaurant owners that creating a halal environment of food and services for their customers is something easy and possible.

Sarah is proud that her four Muslim children speak Japanese, Urdu and English. She is active on Facebook and is in connection with a group of major preachers who are Japanese academics, who are able to help her, including Dr Kamal Ukoda. The mosque's library provides copies of the Holy Quran and Islamic publications in several languages including Thai, Chinese, German, Bengali and others.



The Japanese preacher Sara Quraishi



Nagoya Mosque

by Pakistani Abdelwahab Quraishi with the help of his Japanese wife Sarah, who is considered the most traveled female preacher in the country, who moves between cities and islands to spread Islam at the request and encouragement of her husband who believes that the best way to reach the Japanese is through citizens like them.

Quraishi, Sarah and the masjid's Egyptian imam Ahmad Al-Alami happily speak about its history and visitors, including the Haram Imam Sheikh Khalid bin Hameed, and they say that the main reason for constructing it is the harassment students faced from the owner of a

Share the experiences across areas

at Waseda University in January 2016



The most prominent propagandists in Japan, including Sara.

Development of medical technologies: Important care for dialysis patients



Doctor Yaman Kazokumoto Hatchi head of the planning unit at Tukatsu clinic.

Japan has announced, as part of its plans to encourage tourism, concentration on medical tourism under advanced capabilities and continued work by Japanese companies to develop medical technologies. Part of our tour was a visit to Tukatsu clinic

specialized in dialysis. We met the hospital Director Dr Shingoyaman and head of the planning unit Kazokumoto Hatchi, as they spoke about the studies that confirm with statistics their being ahead of all other hospitals.



Advanced equipment available in all the hospital branches.



Aerial view for the center and institution where athletes are being prepared for Tokyo Olympics 2020.

Sports Science Institute and the National Training Center, the largest Japanese investments to create champions

In order to prepare champions, and hoist Japan's flag high in international arenas, the Japanese government decided to construct two major facilities to support athletes and facilitate outstanding sport.

The first is the Japan Institute for Sports Science, and the second is the National

Training Center. The Sports Science Center, which started its activities in 2001, contributes in the field of scientific and medical research in three areas:

1 - Supporting physical and psychological medicine, follow athletes' fitness and carry out periodic tests on them.

2 - Carry out continued research to develop their abilities.

3 - Provide comprehensive clinics to treat and rehabilitate them.

As for the Training Center, it is a complex that includes most advanced facilities to carry out training in all disciplines.