

Japan: A great nation

PART - 3



The golden dolphin or "The Orca" decorating top of the Nagoya Castle.

Part of the Nagoya Castle.

Nagoya: Rich in Samurai history



A picture in the museum shows the bombardment of the castle in WWII prior its renovation.

By Mohammed Bassam Al-Husseini

fter Ise Shima, we headed to Nagoya, the fourth largest city in Japan. Nagoya is famous for a well-known castle. Tourism and cultural hobbyists will enjoy one of the most prestigious museums in the city, the Tokugawa museum, which was opened in 1935 and contains the treasures of one of the most famous families in the history of Japan, after it reached the 19th grandson through inheritance. The Owari Tokugawa family was known during the Edo period (1603- 867) as one of the family branches from which the shogun or the country's military ruler was chosen.

Samurai swords, helmets, collections, vases, paintings, furniture, traditional Noh costumes that go back to that period, and other collections that are rich in detail bring joy to tourists, exactly like the museum garden which was established by the family. The city was considered, when it was built centuries ago, as the most beautiful in the region, and is a source of happiness with its lakes, falls, wooden bridges, flowers and gigantic trees.

Not far from Tokugawa museum is the famous Nagoya castle, with huge golden dolphin statues crowning its summit. This castle was destroyed during WWII, but the city council rebuilt it, restoring most details, especially those related to the samurai, using the most modern methods and techniques. We saw pictures of its bombardment and fire when we toured it. The West End hotel is located near it, and its rooms overlook it, and is considered one of Nagoya's most important hotels.



A mural shows the Samurai history.



Murals show tigers inside the Tokugawa museum.

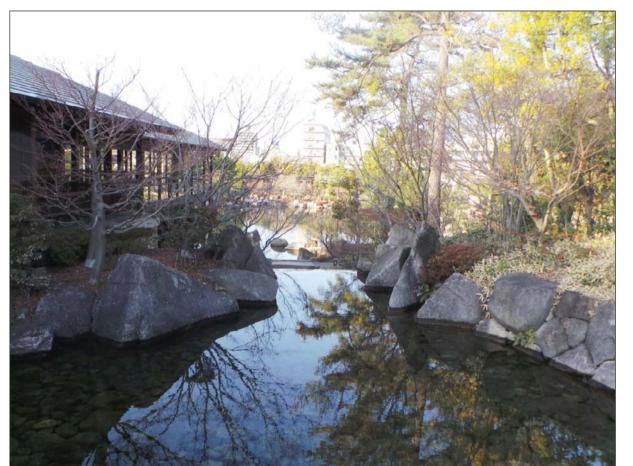


Photo shows Tokugawa museum, garden and palace.

Encouraging exports and investments

here is a special authority for Japan's foreign trade called Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO), which encourages Japanese companies to head abroad, as Japan relies on its companies' and citizens' investments to temper the balance of payments and motivate Japanese exports abroad. It also provides logistics facilities for new investors in Japan. Director of the Middle East and Africa research department at the organization Takashito Tsunimi said the organization has five offices in the Middle East in Dubai, Riyadh, Istanbul, Tehran and Tel Aviv.

Tsunimi spoke about Japanese investments in Kuwait and pointed to allocating 35 percent for the offset program being a big hurdle that reduces Kuwait's



Director of the Middle East and Africa Research Department at the Organization Takashitosunimi.

competitiveness, compared with other countries in the region that do not impose such a high percentage. About the reduction of oil prices, he said despite Japan's benefits from reduced oil cost, it fears negative repercussions also, because the Middle East and oil countries in particular make a very important invest-

ment field for Japanese companies.

They have allocated a large portion of their income for infrastructure projects in partnership with Japanese companies, adding that a large number of these companies, nearly 400, have opened offices in Dubai and run business from there despite the challenges of the oil prices drop and the growing threat of IS. Tsunimi said Japanese companies are distinguished by commit-

ment towards countries they invest in, and they withdraw quickly as challenges appear, and this is what distinguishes them.

He expressed worry towards the deep differences between Saudi Arabia and Iran. "This worries us as Saudi Arabia is a market that has 30 million consumers, and this highly interests us, in addition to being an important source of oil.

Also Iran, which has 80 million people, and after sanctions on it were lifted, interests us. A conference was held in Tokyo about investment opportunities there with the attendance of 310 participants," Tsunimi said, adding, "It is not in the interest of Japanese companies for the situation to worsen."



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

e 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

events, and what Daesh is doing

informed and follow all the news

and this is why they got a negative

image about Islam." This is the rea-

son that made him invest in a cul-

tural center and not in building a

mosque. "We attract Japanese

youth, because we tell them to

Turkish government," he said.

Islamic societies and centers in

Japan, and each of them has a

mosque in Japan is the Tokyo

mosque or prayer area. The largest

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

come and get educated, and they

interact with us. We have designat-

ed one of the new building's floors

as a prayer area with the help of the

Hajj Tukumaso said there are 100

today," Tukumaso said. "The

Japanese people are highly

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

ago, and today we are 10,000 and

through our commitment to what

Tukumaso said the Japan Muslims'

Society was established in 1952 as

the first Muslim society in the coun-

try, 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

Japan society traditions, introduce

them, strengthen their beliefs and

support loving links with Muslims

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 impor-

tant of which is the translation of

the Holy Quran, translating all parts

of Sahih Muslim and Tafseer Jalalain.

outside Japan.

Islam to the Japanese to familiarize

rituals in a way that agrees with

intend to increase the number

our religion requires," he said.

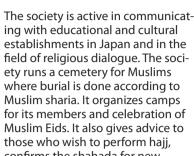
ety runs a cemetery for Muslims where burial is done according to Muslim sharia. It organizes camps for its members and celebration of Muslim Eids. It also gives advice to those who wish to perform hajj, confirms the shahada for new Muslims and completes marriage procedures. There are many stories and 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 del-

The accident shocked both families, and with the delegation

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 jour-

fraternity" magazine later.



egation 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.

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' 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 nalist who published the "Muslim

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.

agoya 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



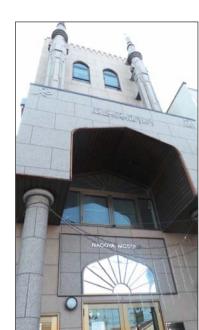
The Japanese preacher Sara Quraishi

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

Another issue that worries Adbelwahab 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.



Nagoya Mosque

Share the experiences across areas at Waseda University in January 2016 Br. Omar Br. Ahmad from Fukuoka

The most prominent propagandists in japan, including Sara.

Development of medical technologies: Important care for dialysis patients

Hajj Ameen Tuku Maso



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

apan 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

n 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

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.