

2020 Emperor's Birthday Celebration Reception

February 2020

On February 5, 2020, the reception to celebrate the Birthday of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan was held at the Residence of the Ambassador of Japan, Tatsuo Hirayama, with over 170 guests in attendance, including the Honorable Chief Justice Ivor Archie, Senator the Honorable Donna Cox, Minister of Communications, The Honorable Major General (Retired) Edmund Dillon, Minister of Housing, and Ms. Reita Toussaint, Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Foreign and CARICOM Affairs, on behalf of Senator the Honorable Dennis Moses, Minister of Foreign and CARICOM Affairs.

At the beginning of the Reception, the national anthems of Trinidad and Tobago and Japan were played on the steelpan by Mr. Yaadav Charan, a student at St. Mary's College.

Ambassador Hirayama gave his remarks, stating that this was a very special occasion as this was the first birthday celebration for His Majesty Naruhito after His Majesty's enthronement, and that Japan and Trinidad and Tobago have maintained and strengthened their excellent relations based on shared universal values. Ambassador Hirayama also mentioned that this year Tokyo would host the Summer Olympic and Paralympic Games and exchanges between the two countries were expected to be promoted through host town arrangements (Osaki Town, Kagoshima Prefecture and Nakatosa Town, Kochi Prefecture). Permanent Secretary Ms. Toussaint also reiterated excellent relations between the two countries.

There were displays of products from Japanese companies based in Trinidad and Tobago, as well as displays of bonsai and calendars. Guests were also able to socialize and enjoy Japanese food culture with servings of Japanese cuisine, including sushi and Japanese sake, at the venue.



Opening remarks, given by Ambassador
Tatsuo Hirayama



Ms. Reita Toussaint, Permanent Secretary
(Ag.), Ministry of Foreign and CARICOM
Affairs, with Ambassador Hirayama and
Mrs.Hirayama



Embassy staff manage the Sake tasting
booth



Guests enjoy servings of Japanese food,
such as sushi, prepared by Japanese chef,
Mr. Osawa



Bonsai exhibition set up by the Bonsai
Society



The booklets with information on the
Ceremony of the Abdication of His Majesty
the Emperor



Guests look at Japanese Calendars on display



Cars displayed by Toyota Trinidad & Tobago Ltd