

**Remarks by H.E. Mr. TAKEUCHI Kazuyuki  
Ambassador of Japan to the Republic of Zambia  
On the Occasion of the Handover Ceremony of Japanese Books  
11<sup>th</sup> December 2024**

Vice Chancellor of University of Zambia Professor Mundia Muya,  
Chief Librarian of University of Zambia Dr Charles Banda,  
Distinguished guests,  
Ladies and gentlemen,

It is a great pleasure to be here today to hand over 158 books on Japan donated by the Nippon Foundation to UNZA Library. This donation is part of the Nippon Foundation's "Read Japan Project," a remarkable initiative aimed at promoting the understanding of Japan around the world through books. And this event marks the second donation to this library, following the initial contribution of 90 books in 2021.

The collection of books donated today covers a wide range of topics, including Japanese culture, history, economics, politics, and contemporary society. I hope that these books will serve as a valuable resource for students, researchers and faculties at UNZA, providing insights and knowledge about Japan that will enrich their studies and broaden their perspectives.

In an increasingly interconnected world, it is essential that we continue to build bridges of understanding and cooperation. By sharing our knowledge and culture, we strengthen the bonds of friendship between Japan and Zambia. It is my sincere hope that these books will inspire curiosity and foster a deeper appreciation of Japan among the readers here in Zambia.

I would also like to express my gratitude to the staff of UNZA for their dedication and hard work in making this cultural exchange possible. Your efforts ensure that these resources will be well-utilised and appreciated by the university community.

In closing, I would like to reiterate my hope that this donation of books will contribute to the academic and cultural enrichment of UNZA. I look forward to seeing the positive impact these books will have on the students, researchers and faculties who use and enjoy them.

We look forward to continuing our collaboration and fostering even stronger ties between Japan and Zambia in the future. Thank you.

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