

FOREIGN POLICY OF JAPAN

— The US and the Caucasus —

Tadahiro Abe
Ambassador Extraordinary and
Plenipotentiary of Japan

Khazar University Press

— 2007 —

PREFACE

Japan is well known as having succeeded in establishing itself as a major economic power in the international community through its steady and strenuous efforts during the latter part of the 20th century, and moving forward as a peace-oriented country placing the internationally recognized common values such as democracy, rule of laws and basic human rights in its national foundation. Over the past sixty years, Japan has been contributing to the realization of global and regional peace through various means such as provision of the Official Development Assistance (ODA), response to the transnational issues like the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, international terrorism, infectious diseases, transnational organized crime and environmental problems in concert with the UN activities and so forth.

Since the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991, the global community got into the so-called Post-Cold War regime where the US and other major countries play substantially important role in maneuvering the international affairs. And Japan has been endeavoring to build a desirable international order through proactive foreign policies on the basis of its alliance with the US and cooperation with the member countries of the international community.

Azerbaijan became independent in August, 1991, under the circumstance of the Soviet's dissolution, and is in a process of realigning its nation through political, economic and social reform. Japan has been extending its support to these endeavors by working together with the government and people of Azerbaijan through such means as ODA and various consultations. In order to facilitate this process and become reliable partners in the international arena, I believe that it is indispensable for us to know each other correctly and strengthen mutual understanding between us. It is very important to learn about Foreign Policy of Japan in this context, since Japan has been making a unique contribution to a state building of the newly independent countries. Those efforts, I am sure, are highly appreciated by the international community.

His Excellency Tadahiro ABE assumed his post as Ambassador of Japan in Azerbaijan in November 2004 and has been making quite extensive work for more than two years .His effort, along with his diplomatic routine, to facilitate mutual understanding between us through his lecture/speech in universities and institutions is highly appreciated by the people in our country. Thanks to Ambassador ABE'S efforts, Japan and Azerbaijan have succeeded to attain incomparably friendly and meaningful relations ever happened.

H.E. Ambassador ABE is a graduate of the faculty of Economy of Japan's Keio University. There he obtained a Bachelor degree. After, he continued his education at London School of Economics and completed Master degree course in economics. Also, Mr. Tadahiro Abe, delivered lectures as a visiting scholar at the J.F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University in USA. Besides, Mr. Abe has been engaged in diplomatic activity in Washington DC, Los-Angeles and Boston. Before his post as Ambassador of Japan to Azerbaijan, he has been Consul-General of the Consulate-General of Japan at Seattle in the state of Washington of the US.

Hamlet ISAXANLI, Professor

Founder and President

Khazar University

Baku, Azerbaijan

January, 2007