

Groundbreaking for Japan Pavilion at Expo 2020 Dubai



August 26, 2019---Preparations for exhibits at the Expo 2020 Dubai Japan Pavilion are underway under the leadership of the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, co-organized by the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communication; the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology; the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries; and the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, with the Japan External Trade Organization as a participating organization.

On August 26 2019, Japan broke ground on the Japan Pavilion at Expo 2020 Dubai. The groundbreaking, which officially marked the beginning of construction, was done by Akihiko Nakajima, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the United Arab Emirates; Akima Umezawa, Consul-General of Japan in Dubai; Tomiyasu Nakamura, Commissioner General of the Japanese Section; and Najeeb Mohammed Al-Ali, Executive Director, Dubai Expo 2020 Bureau and other distinguished guests.

The Japan pavilion was designed by Yuko Nagayama, Director, YUKO NAGAYAMA & ASSOCIATES and NTT FACILITIES, INC. Obayashi Middle East Construction, LLC was awarded the contract to build the Japan Pavilion.

The design and construction of the Japan Pavilion focuses on “Connection between the Middle East and Japan” and “Sustainability”. Both principles are incorporated into the design, mechanism and content of the Pavilion, which draw inspiration from traditional Middle Eastern and Japan architecture, technology and culture.

The façade of the Pavilion will combine Arabesque and Asanoha patterns, representing the long history of connections and crossing of culture between Japan and the Middle East. Guests will be welcomed by a three-dimensional façade, which draws inspiration from Japanese Origami shapes that symbolize the respect shown to others through the Japanese art of Origata gift wrapping.

In keeping with the emphasis on sustainability, the Pavilion will utilize an environmentally-friendly, natural cooling mechanism inspired by traditional Arabic and Japanese technologies; windcatchers and uchimizu.

Tomiyasu Nakamura, the Commissioner General of the Japanese Section, Expo 2020 Dubai, said; “The design and construction of the Japan Pavilion focuses on “Connection between the Middle East and Japan” and “Sustainability”. It is my hope that this Japan Pavilion will be a junction to connect the legacy of Dubai Expo 2020 to Expo 2025, Osaka-Kansai, Japan.”

■ About the Japan Pavilion

Visit the official website at <https://expo2020-dubai.go.jp/> for the most up-to-date information on the Japan Pavilion’s construction and exhibits, as well as related events to be held in Japan in the lead-up to Expo 2020 Dubai.

■ About Expo 2020 Dubai

Expo 2020 Dubai will be the first registered world expo held in a Middle Eastern or African country. Scheduled to take place over a 173-day period from October 20, 2020 to April 10, 2021, the event will herald the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the host nation, the United Arab Emirates, and is expected to attract 25 million visitors. Over 190 countries have declared their intention to set up exhibits on the 438-hectare venue grounds, responding to the expo’s overarching theme of “Connecting Minds, Creating the Future” and its three subthemes: Mobility, Opportunity, and Sustainability.

Official website: <https://www.expo2020dubai.com>



See Attachments 1 and 2 for information on the architectural concept and perspective images of the Japan Pavilion at Expo 2020 Dubai.

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Hours: 9:30-17:30 (closed Sat., Sun., and holidays)

Attachment 1 : **Design & Mechanism**

●**Façade design combining traditional Arabesque and Asanoha patterns.**

Representing long history of connections and crossing of culture between Japan and the Middle East.

●**Three-dimentional expression of Japanese Origami shapes.**

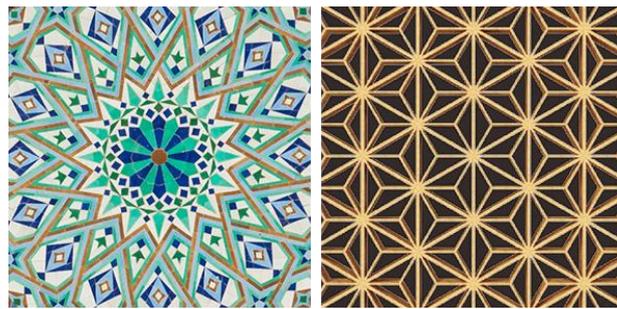
Guests welcomed by Japanese traditional Origami shapes that symbolize the respect shown to others through the Japanese art of Origata gift wrapping.

A soft thin layer material inspiring Japanese traditional paper used in the three-dimentional façade covers the pavilion from the sun light.

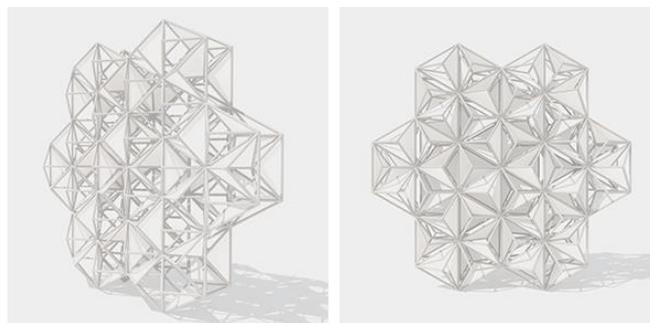
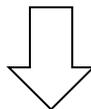
●**Natural cooling system that incorporates traditional Arabic and Japanese techniques**

Expanse of water in front of the Pavilion cools the area and reflects the three-dimentional façade.

Sustainable architecture employing use of environmentally-friendly system equipment.



Traditional Arabesque and Asanoha patterns > structure



Soft layer material > installation system

Attachment 2 : Expo 2020 Dubai Japan Pavilion perspective images

