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Japanese Ikebana Flower Arrangement at the Annual Flowers Exhibition in Khartoum

On 2nd March 2014, Ikebana (Japanese Flower Arrangement) Competition was held on the occasion of the Annual Flowers Exhibition at the Botanical Garden in Khartoum. The event was organized by the Sudanese Horticultural Society and was attended by H.E Mr. Ryoichi Horie, Ambassador of Japan to Sudan and Mr. Imad Al-Deen Ali Idris , Secretary General, Sudanese Horticultural Society, as well as, a number of the public who gathered to enjoy the event.

Ikebana, namely “Japanese Flower Arrangement”, is one of the well-known traditional Japanese arts and literally means "Giving Life to Flowers". It has been known since 13th centuries and was meant to symbolize philosophical ideas related to Buddhism, but with the passage of time the religious concept has ceased to a large extent. There are various schools of Ikebana in Japan, but recently new schools began to appear in different parts of the world.

The Sudanese Horticultural Society organizes a Ikebana competition on annual basis. Since a Japanese Ikebana Artist's visit to Sudan presenting an Ikebana demonstration in 2010, remarkable improvement of techniques as well as increasing popularity of Ikebana has been seen among the Ikebana community in Sudan.

Ambassador Horie said in his speech that, "The flowers symbolizes greenery, peace and beauty. Both Japan and Sudan share the same value which is conscious of the flowers and importance of nature". He considered this common platform as an important element in strengthening the bonds of friendship and partnership between the two countries. He further added that this event could provide a great opportunity for Sudanese people to experience the variety of Japanese culture.

At the end of the event, the Japanese Ambassador has selected the best design of flower arrangement for the year 2014 by considering colors, balance of shape and creativity. Mr. Ameer Al-Sadig Suliman who received the Ambassador Cup, while Ms. Marwa Zaid and Ms. Hiyam Mohammed Ahmed came on the second and third place respectively, and other performers received medals for participation from Ambassador Horie. After the competition, all the attendees including Ambassador Horie enjoyed different types of flower arrangement exhibited at the Botanical Garden and received a great joy and excitement throughout the event.

(End)

Ikebana Competition (Japan Day) at Botanical Garden

