

# MEDIA RELEASE N 25

June, 25<sup>th</sup>, 2005

# **Tunisian National Day**

On June 23 th 2005, the Tunisian pavilion celebrated its national day in a fabulous environnement. The activities and the festival were rich and diversified. It involved the cities of Tokyo, Nagoya, Seto, and the Expo Site as well.

# **Official Ceremony**

The official ceremony festivities took place at The Expo Hall space, in presence of His Excellency Mr. Mohamed Ghannouchi, Prime Minister of Tunisia. At this occasion he passed on in his speech a message of President Ben Ali to the Japanese people and to the participants in this universal festival, in which he greated the fraternal relationships between the two countries, stressing that Tunisia and Japan require to reinforcing their cultural and civilizational dialogue. Mr.Yoshi Toyoda, Vice President of the Japanese Association, enphasized from his side on the cultural richness charactarizing the Tunisian Pavilion, highlighting the tremendous value of the country's historical heritage. As to the representative of the japanese government, he brought out the favorable climate that allowed Tunisia to carry out expectable successes.

Following this official ceremony, the Prime Minister paid visits to main Pavilions of the Expo Grounds, among which Japan Pavilion, Africa one, etc...



#### **Seminar on Investment**

The City of Nagoya hosted on 24<sup>th</sup> of May a Seminar on Investment in Tunisia, in which the attendies have carefully listened to the Tunisian Prime Minister's presentation, who was accompagnied by the Minister of Development and International Cooperation.

Tunisian Primer Minister has highlighted the the political and economic relationships encouraging condition between the two countries, which shall in addition celebrate on the year 2006, their political relations initiation 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Mr. Mohamed Ghannouchi has exorted the japanese investors interested in the Tunisian Market to considering the stable political climate ruling over the country. The assistance was also informed about the encouraging environment of investment in Tunisia and the existing potentialities as to bilateral and multilateral cooperation.

## Cooperation and twinning of Cities:

SETO City has celebrated on June 24<sup>th</sup> 2005, an outstanding party celebrating the twinning first anniversary of both SETO and NABEUL, two cities presenting similar economic specificities, among which in particular the Pottery activity. A cultural program has been developed at this occasion including in particular the inauguration of a Park presenting a Tunisian Olive Trees planted land in the Sister City of SETO.

## Tunisian Pavilion: musical entertainment



In the occasion of the Tunisian National Day on June the 23<sup>rd</sup>, two Tunisian musical groups have been setting down in Japan: The Women Group El Azifet" directed by the talented conductor Mrs Amina Srarfi and the folk troop 'El Kassirinia". One week long, these two bands have offered to the assistance beautiful Tunisian and Andalusia music, popular songs and folk dances shows.





With ten other women instrumentalists, Amina, daughter of the

famous Tunisian musician *Kaddour Srarfi* has been presenting to local audience, a wide range of melodies belonging to the national heritage which have already obtained a great success at a world level.



As to the Regional Band "El Kassirinia" (From the region of Kasserine in the Center of Tunisia), composed of six musicians, playing local instruments such as "Tbal" (Drum) and "Mezoued" (trumpet); they have been performing folksongs and other traditional music.

The two bands have undoubtedly succeeded to create a charming atmosphere during the National Day's celebration.