

**SPEECH BY H.E. BARAKA LUVANDA, AT THE WELCOME PARTY**  
**FOR MEMBERS OF JAPAN -AMAMI GOLF ASSOCIATION,**  
**AMAMI CITY, 15<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2024**

*Mister Sohei Yasuda,*

*Mayor of Amami,*

*Mister Junichi Okumiya,*

*Chairman of Japan- Amami Golf Association*

*Ms. Midori Miyazaki,*

*Director of Amami Park & Isson Tanaka Museum*

*Dr. Kosho Matsuura,*

*President of Naze Tokushukai Hospital,*

*Distinguished Guests,*

*Dear Friends,*

*Ladies and Gentlemen.*

*Habari za Jioni?*

*Mina San Konbanwa?*

As I have been introduced, my name is Baraka Luvanda, Ambassador of Tanzania to Japan since the past two and a half year. How time flies!

It is really an honor and a matter of privilege for me to have been offered a rare opportunity to visit this beautiful City of Amani, and especially to grace this auspicious occasion of *Welcome Party for Members of Japan- Amami Golf Association*.

On behalf of my delegation, I wish to express our most sincere appreciation.

I have been cautioned about the nature of this Party this evening. Since it is a wine and dine assembly, I do not intend to dampen your appetite and be accused of keeping you away from the sumptuous

foods and beverages which have been prepared for you.

First and foremost, I would like to sincerely thank you Mister Mayor, Yasuda *San*, for fulfilling a promise you made when we last met in Nagoya in June last year. My visit here today rekindles the good moment we had together in Nagoya. Thank you very much.

I should also like to sincerely thank the Chairman of Japan-Amami Golf Association, Mister Okumiya San and the logistics team for the excellent preparations of this Party and, especially for the very warm reception accorded to me and my delegation since our arrival this afternoon.

We are greatly indebted, and we cannot thank you enough.

Special thanks to Ms. Kuniko Shimizu, the Honorary Representative of Tanzania for Business and Cultural Exchanges in Central Japan and CEO of *Tanzaniaphilia*, and Mr. Katsuji Mori,

the General Manager of *Tanzaniaphilia*, for those many hours you have dedicated to making my visit possible. As we say in Kiswahili, *asanteni sana* (thank you very much).

*Dear Friends,*

I allow me to give special mention of Dr. Kosho Matsuura, President of Naze Tokushukai Hospital, which is owned by the TOKUSHUKAI GROUP.

As you may be aware Tanzania has a special and longstanding association with TOKUSHUKAI. I am delighted that during my visit here, I will have an opportunity to visit Tokunoshima Island, the hometown of the late Dr. Torao Tokuda, the founder of TOKUSHUKAI.

**Dear Friends,**

Let me abuse the privilege I have by acknowledging the late Dr. Tokuda. I will do so by quoting my Canadian friend of Indian

origin, Mister Aditya who once stated: (quote)...*In life you always get more than what you deserve. You never quite get the right amount. If you get less, you must work harder or smarter, and if you get more than, you must give back.*" (end of quote).

Under the late Dr. Torao, TOKUSHUKAI has truly given back through the generous support to Benjamin Mkapa Hospital which has saved the lives of not only Tanzanian kidney patients but also those coming from neighbouring countries in the East, Central and Southern African region.

Mister Mayor, as I mentioned during our interaction in Nagoya, we in Tanzania take great pride in the long-standing partnership between the City of Amami and Tanzania, which has been mutually beneficial.

I therefore wish to reaffirm my commitment to further strengthen this partnership during my stint in Japan and I hope I can count on your continued support.

*Ladies and Gentlemen,*

At this juncture let me declare that this Party today gives us more than wine and food. We are going to have an opportunity for meaningful exchanges amongst participants. Likewise, you will learn more about Tanzania, particularly about its rich cultural heritage and unique tourist attractions.

You will also be introduced to the acclaimed documentary “Tanzania - *The Royal Tour*,” filmed by Her Excellency President Samia Suluhu Hassan, with Japanese subtitles. This documentary which has gained popularity worldwide, offers a detailed look at Tanzania’s unique attractions.

And to spice things up, a pictorial presentation by Shirai-San will provide you with all the information you may need in planning your next visit to Tanzania.

I am confident that by the end of this Party tonight, you will be

further inspired to visit Tanzania and experience its cultural wonders firsthand.

*Dear Friends,*

It is quite appropriate to highlight that Tanzania is a destination that welcomes visitors year-round, catering to all kinds of budgets with a full range of leisure options. I am quite certain that you will find great value in your experience when you visit.

Like Japan, Tanzania is home to breathtaking landscapes, welcoming people, and an ideal environment for both travel and investment.

I therefore warmly invite everyone here today to visit Tanzania and experience firsthand the warmth, kindness, and unparalleled hospitality of the Tanzanian people.

*Thank you for your kind attention;*

*Asanteni sana kwa kunisikiliza;*

*Hontoni Domo Arigato Gozaimashita.*

