**Massage of Shinzo Abe, Prime Minister of Japan**

**May 21, 2013**

 I am happy to know that various functions to celebrate the 150th birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda, the great spiritual leader born in modern India, are now being organized, not only in India but also all over the world, including our country of Japan.

Swami Vivekananda laid a philosophical foundation to realize world peace and a harmonious human society, by his preaching about the importance of religious harmony through dialogue at the World's Parliament of Religions in Chicago, U.S.A. in 1893.

Such a person landed and stayed in Japan for 3 weeks on his way to America, and told the Indian youth of the day about his experience and how deeply he appreciated the high moral sense of the Japanese people and the strong patriotic spirit of Japanese youth.

Therefore, I earnestly hope that the Japanese people of the present-day will remember Swami Vivekananda’s laudatory words so as to regain their self-confidence and restart making various efforts for realizing the prosperity of all the countries of the world and also happiness for the whole of human society.

Finally I sincerely pray that all the commemorative functions to celebrate this spiritual giant’s 150th birth anniversary may be carried out successfully.

May 21, 2013

 Shinzo Abe,

Prime Minister of Japan