



Sasakawa Peace Foundation USA Presents:

**Abe, Modi, & Partnership
India's Views of Japan, the United States & the Indo-Pacific Partnership**

---As part of the 2018 National Cherry Blossom Festival---

April 4, 2018 | 11:30-2:30pm
Army Navy Club, Main Dining Room | 901 17th St. NW

As we celebrate springtime, cherry blossoms and the U.S.-Japan friendship that they symbolize, Sasakawa USA will host an event to focus on the blossoming of the two allies' relationship with one of their key like-minded democratic partners in Asia: India.

Come discover the importance of the U.S.-Japan-India relationship and India's views of Japan and the United States from a panel of knowledgeable experts. Embracing this year's theme of "Art, Music and Play," the audience will also have an opportunity to explore cultural exchanges and influences between India and Japan.

Sasakawa USA is a U.S. organization dedicated to strengthening U.S.-Japan relations through education, programs and research. This event is part of Sasakawa USA's Views of Japan Series, which offers opportunities for the American public to learn more about Japan's relationships with other countries and the country's influence in the rest of the world.

Program Agenda

*Speaker bios below

- 11:30-11:50 Registration & Lunch
- 11:50-12:00 Welcome Remarks
Ambassador James P. Zumwalt, CEO, Sasakawa USA
- 12:00-12:30 Special Feature: Japan's cultural influences on India
Yoshiaki Koga, Editor, Kodansha
*Moderator: **Kazuyo Kato**, Director, Education & Finance, Sasakawa USA*
- 12:30-2:00 Panel Presentations & Discussion
India's views of Japan, the United States and Indo-Pacific Partnership
Dr. Raja Mohan, Director, Carnegie India
Indo-Pacific Partnership from the U.S. industry perspective
Sumona Guha, Senior Director, U.S.-India Business Council
Japan's strategic & business interests in India
Ambassador Akitaka Saiki, Board Member, Mitsubishi Corporation, and former Japanese Ambassador to India
*Moderator: **Paul Beckett**, Washington Bureau Chief, *The Wall Street Journal**
- 2:00-2:30 Audience Q&A

Speakers Bios



Sumona Guha currently serves as Senior Director at the US- India Business Council for manufacturing and infrastructure. In this role, she works with companies that do business in India to assist them in identifying market opportunities and navigating regulatory actions that affect their operations. She liaises with Indian and U.S. government authorities to improve economic ties and commercial relations between the United States and India.

Prior to joining USIBC, Guha was a member of the U.S. Secretary of State's Policy Planning Staff, responsible for India, South Asia, and Central Asia strategy development. In that role, she advanced efforts to engage India on its role as an emerging global power and regional power in the Indo-Pacific, including through the U.S.-India Strategic and Commercial Dialogue and U.S.-India Policy Planning talks. She has previously served as a Senior Advisor to the U.S. Special Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan and member of the negotiating team for the U.S.-Afghanistan Strategic Partnership Agreement. Earlier in her career, Guha served in the Office of the U.S. Vice President as a Special Advisor for National Security Affairs, as a Legislative Fellow in the U.S. Senate, and as an advisor to the Under Secretary for Political Affairs at the U.S. Department of State.

Guha holds an M.A. from Georgetown University and a B.A. from Johns Hopkins University. She speaks Bengali, Russian and French.



Yoshiaki Koga is the Senior Deputy Director of the International Business Development Department, Kodansha, Ltd. Mr. Koga is Senior Deputy Director of the International Business Development department at Kodansha, Ltd., one of the largest Japanese publisher of books and magazines founded in 1909. In his current capacity, Mr. Koga is in charge of projects in the United States and project development in India. His project on reading and selling picture books for environmental and health education purposes was competitively selected by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) as one of its projects in 2016. Since joining the current department in 2010, Mr. Koga planned the remaking of the Japanese baseball anime “Kyojin no Hoshi” into “Suraj – The Rising Star”, cricket animation for the Indian market and first animation jointly produced by India and Japan. Prior to that, in 2005, Mr. Koga created and became the first editor-in-chief of “Courrier Japon,” an international issues magazine published in partnership with French weekly magazine “Courrier International”.

At Kodansha, Ltd., which he joined in 1989, Mr. Koga has covered social issues in Japan and abroad as editor and reporter of “Weekly Gendai” and “Weekly Friday” magazines, and experienced covering Iraq and North Korea. He has published books on the disaster at Mount Fugen (“*Fugen-OFF LIMITS*”), the Aum Shinrikyo cult (“*Basbo – Aum ga sunda mori*”, “*At Aum – Mukogawa kara mita seka?*”), and the story behind the production of “Suraj – The Rising Star”. Mr. Koga was born in Saga prefecture. In 2001-2002, he participated in a study overseas program in France.



C. Raja Mohan is director of Carnegie India. A leading analyst of India's foreign policy, Mohan is also an expert on South Asian security, great-power relations in Asia, and arms control. He is the foreign affairs columnist for the *Indian Express*, and a visiting research professor at the Institute of South Asian Studies, National University of Singapore. He was a member of India's National Security Advisory Board.

From 2009 to 2010, Mohan was the Henry Alfred Kissinger Chair in Foreign Policy and International Relations at the Library of Congress. Previously, he was a professor of South Asian studies at the Jawaharlal Nehru University in New Delhi and the Rajaratnam School of International Studies in Singapore. He also served as the diplomatic editor and Washington correspondent of the *Hindu*.

Mohan's most recent books are *Modi's World: Expanding India's Sphere of Influence* (Harper Collins India, 2015) and *India's Naval Strategy and Asian Security* (Routledge, 2016) (co-edited with Anit Mukherjee).



Ambassador Akitaka Saiki is a board member of Mitsubishi Corporation in Tokyo, Japan. From 2011 to 2012, he served as the Japanese Ambassador to the Republic of India, concurrently to the Kingdom of Bhutan.

Saiki entered Japan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) in 1976. In the early years of his extensive diplomatic career, he held directorships in the North America, International Economic Affairs, West Europe, and International Organizations Divisions of MOFA. He was Deputy Director-General at MOFA's Asian and Oceanian Affairs Bureau from 2002 to 2006, before serving as Deputy Chief of Mission at the Embassy of Japan in the United States. He returned to the Asian and Oceanian Affairs Bureau as Director-General from 2008 to 2011.

Following his ambassadorship, Saiki held the position of Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs. In June 2013, he became Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs, a position in which he served until his retirement from MOFA in 2016. He joined Mitsubishi Corporation as a Corporate Adviser in September 2016.