



**Joint Press Release by Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)
and Petra Development and Tourism Region Authority (PDTRA)**

The Petra Museum Celebrates its Grand Opening on 18 April



Wadi Musa, April 15, 2019: The grand opening of the Petra Museum will take place on 18 April 2019, coinciding with the International Day for Monuments and Sites (World Heritage Day). The Petra Museum will be a new community hub for cultural and social development in Petra region to promote the cultural heritage and to raise awareness of its relevance and importance of conservations.

The Petra Museum, which was constructed right next to the main entrance of Petra Archeological

Park, was funded by the Grant Assistance from the Government of Japan. The grant amounted to approximately 5 million Jordanian Dinars. In October 2014, His Majesty King Abdullah II laid the foundation of the Petra Museum, and the construction works and the exhibition preparation were implemented with assistance from Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).

Covering around 1,800 square meters, the Museum accommodates 8 galleries and showcases over 300 artifacts found in Petra region, which date back to Early Stone Age and other ages. Each gallery contains thematic exhibition, and the visitors can learn how the people in ancient civilization were living, and also how they coped with severe climate and geographic condition utilizing their wisdom and skills. 6 videos as well as 22 interactive screens will also help the visitors understand more about Petra and its legacy.

The opening ceremony will be held with the presence of Mr. Kazuhiko Koshikawa, Executive Senior Vice President of JICA along with the high figures from Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and Embassy of Japan, including Dr. Suleiman Farajat, Chief Commissioner of PDTRA and Dr. Mary Kawar, Minister of Planning and International Cooperation. The ceremony will start at 13:00 on 18 April at the Petra Museum, and the press tour inside the museum will follow the ceremony.

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