



## Japan 4-0 Tunisia: Ueda Brace Makes World Cup History as Samurai Blue Surge to Group F Summit

### Description

Japan made World Cup history in more ways than one on Saturday, thrashing Tunisia 4-0 in Guadalupe to register the biggest victory ever by an Asian nation at a FIFA World Cup. The milestone win - which was also the 1,000th match in World Cup history - lifted Japan level with the Netherlands at the top of Group F and put them on the cusp of the Round of 32.

### Kamada Sets the Tone, Ueda Takes Over

It took Japan just four minutes to break the deadlock - the fastest goal in their World Cup history. Keito Nakamura's incisive cross from the right found Daichi Kamada perfectly placed at the near post, and the Crystal Palace midfielder required barely any effort to tap home for his second goal of the tournament.

Tunisia, already reeling from a 5-1 defeat to Sweden in their Group F opener, had little answer to Japan's sharp pressing and fluid movement. The second goal arrived in the 31st minute and was a moment of real quality: Ayase Ueda received possession in midfield, drove toward the Tunisian box, and when a cutback seemed the obvious option, the striker instead fired a low, angled shot from outside the area that flew into the bottom-left corner. It was a goal that emphatically announced his tournament credentials.



Kamada's fourth-minute tap-in was the fastest goal in Japan's World Cup history. © AFC

## A Historic Night in Guadalupe

Japan entered the second half with a comfortable lead but showed no intention of easing off. In the 69th minute, Ueda played a perfectly weighted flick to release Junya Itâ• into a one-on-one with Tunisian goalkeeper Aymen Dahmen. Itâ•, one of the sharpest finishers in the J.League and Japanese football, finished with characteristic composure to make it three.

Ueda then completed his brace seven minutes from time with a looped finish into the bottom-right corner â?? a goal that encapsulated Japanâ??s confidence and control throughout. Four goals, two for Ueda, one each for Kamada and Itâ•. For a Samurai Blue side that had [gone into the tournament with enormous expectation following their first-place finish in Asian qualifying](#), this was a statement of intent.

The match itself carried a special footnote in football history. It was the 1,000th fixture ever played at the FIFA World Cup â?? a landmark celebrated across the tournament â?? and Japan ensured the occasion was marked with attacking football worthy of the moment.

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Japan's comprehensive 4-0 victory was the largest winning margin by an Asian nation in World Cup history. © AFC

## Group F Picture and What Comes Next

The result means Japan join the Netherlands on four points at the top of Group F, with the Dutch leading on goal difference following their 5-1 win over Sweden in the day's other fixture. Tunisia, with zero points and a goal difference of minus nine, are eliminated from the tournament.

For Japan coach Hajime Moriyasu, the challenge now is to manage his squad through the final group game while retaining the momentum of a result that will reverberate across Asian football. Japan have not merely qualified - they have dominated. Their 4-0 win moves them to the brink of the knockout rounds, and if their display against Tunisia is any indication, opponents in the Round of 32 will be wary.

Asia's pride rests squarely on Japan's shoulders at this World Cup. On Saturday in Guadalupe, they carried it with distinction.

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