

March 2024

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A photograph of two children, a boy and a girl, standing in a mountainous landscape. The boy is sitting on the ground, wearing a colorful striped shirt and a traditional Uzbek cap. The girl is standing next to him, wearing a red shawl over a pink dress and a traditional Uzbek headscarf. They are both smiling. In the foreground, there is a large, round, woven basket filled with ripe, golden-brown apples. The background shows a vast, mountainous landscape with green grass and distant peaks under a clear sky.

Uzbekistan
Investing in future



President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, H.E. Mr. Shavkat Mirziyoyev, conveyed Felicitation Letters to H.E. Mr. Shehbaz Sharif on the occasion of his election as Prime Minister of Pakistan, alongside the commencement of the holy month of Ramadan.



ПРЕЗИДЕНТ ШАВКАТ МИРЗИЁЕВНИНГ ЎЗБЕКИСТОН ХАЛҚИГА РАМАЗОН ҲАЙИТИ ТАБРИГИ



O'zbekiston Respublikasi Prezidentining
MATBUOT XIZMATI

DEAR COMPATRIOTS!

I sincerely and cordially congratulate the Muslims of our country, all our people on the holy holiday of Ramadan Hayit (Eid al Fitr).

At this blessed time, when such magnificent spiritual qualities as kindness, compassion and humanism are manifest particularly brilliantly, we all express gratitude to the Almighty for the current bright days. Celebrating this splendid holiday together with our families and people, we strive to consolidate the atmosphere of mutual understanding and harmony in society, to offer care and attention to the elderly, women and children, to provide disinterested help to those who need it.

I would like to note that these noble aspirations are consonant with the essence and substance of the reforms we are implementing in Uzbekistan in order to join the ranks of advanced nations of the world and ensure decent living standards for our people.

From this point of view, the pressing challenge for us remains to be the preservation of our national identity, spiritual values, ancient history and rich culture, as well as the study of them in depth and their extensive popularization.

Tremendous amount of work has been undertaken in Uzbekistan in recent years on this front; in particular, new scientific, cultural and religious education institutions

are being set up, places of worship are being improved.

During the holy Ramadan, new cathedral mosques have been opened in Termez after the great scholar and theologian Hakim Termezi, and in Tashkent after the outstanding ulemas Suzuk-ata and Sheikh Muhammad Sodik Muhammad Yusuf.

Within the framework of the implementation of a comprehensive program of social and spiritual transformation known as the "Five

Happy Ramadan to
People of Uzbekistan,
President H.E. Shavkat
Mirziyoyev

Initiatives", much has been done to improve the working and living conditions of people, especially youth and women.

Uzbekistan's initiatives launched as part of the principle "Enlightenment countering ignorance", calling for the preservation of peace and harmony, for ensuring freedom of conscience, interfaith tolerance, for bringing the humanistic essence of Islam to the world community are widely supported by the world community.

On this bright holiday, we heartily congratulate the Muslims from the countries

of near and far abroad, all our friends and partners, and wish wellbeing and prosperity to all the peoples of the world.

Dear friends!

At this wonderful time, when the joyful spirit of Ramadan is felt everywhere, the 5th and 6th June are declared days off in our country in order to create favorable conditions for the celebration of Eid al Fitr.

As stated in the sacred Hadith, as cited by our great ancestor Imam Bukhari, a true Muslim wishes other people only good, like that to himself.

Indeed, to do good deeds, to work in good faith by thinking about the happiness of your family, children, your people, is the most important criterion of faith for every Muslim.

I am convinced that if we always live with an open heart, filled with the light of the mercy of the Almighty, and at the same time fully aware of the demands of the time, mastering the achievements of science and progress, we will faithfully serve the Motherland for the sake of prosperity, we will definitely achieve the highest goals.

Dear compatriots, I congratulate you once again on the occasion of Ramadan Hayit and wish you all health, family happiness and wellbeing.

May all the good hopes and aspirations of our people come true!

H.E Shavkat Mirziyoyev

**Honouring human dignity
begins with honouring
precious women.**

8 March International women's day





The UN General Assembly unanimously adopted a resolution put forward by Uzbekistan on environmental challenges in Central Asia

The UN General Assembly unanimously adopted the resolution initiated by Uzbekistan "Central Asia in the face of environmental challenges: strengthening regional solidarity for the sake of sustainable development and prosperity".

The intergovernmental negotiation process to develop and agree on the text of the resolution took place over two months, namely in October-November at the UN headquarters in New York. Experts from countries from all continents of the world, including the USA, Russia, China, France, Great Britain, Germany, Canada, Australia, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Argentina, Brazil, Mexico and others, actively participated in the consultations. As a result, representatives of more than 100 countries made numerous proposals to fill the text with specific content and achieve universal consensus.

The text specifically mentions a number of initiatives of the President of Uzbekistan, including the "Green Agenda for Central Asia" and its role in promoting sustainable development in the region. In the resolution, member states welcome the initiative of Uzbekistan to hold the International Climate Forum in Samarkand in 2024. Particular attention is paid to efforts to mitigate the consequences of the drying up of the Aral Sea, with special emphasis on the activities of the UN Multi-Partner Trust Fund for Human Security for the Aral Sea region, created on the initiative of the head of

Uzbekistan. An appeal was made to the international community to continue to support this fund. The document notes the importance of introducing innovative methods and new technologies in the fight against desertification and land degradation. Contains greetings to the successful holding for the first time in Central Asia of the 21st session of the Committee to Review the Implementation of the UN Convention to Combat Desertification and a high-level meeting on combating sand and dust storms on November 13-17 in Samarkand.



The resolution contains specific tasks to effectively counter climate and environmental threats in Central Asia, including through the development of sustainable agriculture, landscaping, rational use of water resources, energy efficiency, waste recycling, development of sustainable tourism, creation of "smart cities" and sustainable transport.

The General Assembly recommended that the UN system, international and financial institutions, the private sector, investors and donors continue to mobilize resources, build capacity and provide assistance to address environmental problems in Central Asia.

The resolution also sets out the initiatives of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan in the field of environmental protection.

The document was presented on behalf of all Central Asian countries. The co-sponsors of the resolution also included countries such as Germany, Switzerland, Turkey, China, Singapore, Hungary, Vietnam, Azerbaijan, Armenia, Malaysia, Indonesia, Egypt, Jordan, Paraguay (covering representatives of all UN regional groups).

Following the adoption of the resolution, the UN News Service published an article entitled "The UN General Assembly adopted a resolution to combat environmental problems in Central Asia." It notes that climate change is one of the most complex problems of our time and creates serious difficulties for the sustainable development of all countries. As stated in the publication, speaking at the UN in September, President Shavkat Mirziyoyev noted that over the past thirty years the air temperature in the region has increased by one and a half degrees. "This is twice the global average warming," the portal quotes the head of Uzbekistan. "As a result, about a third of the total area of glaciers has disappeared." The article also quotes the words of President Shavkat Mirziyoyev that if this trend continues, then in the next twenty years the flow of two large rivers in the region - the Amu Darya and the Syrdarya - may decrease by 15 percent. "Per capita water availability is expected to decline by 25 percent and crop yields by 40 percent," he added at the time, calling on the international community to take action.



The delegation of Uzbekistan took part at the High-level Segment of the 55th session of the United Nations Human Rights Council

The delegation of Uzbekistan led by the **First Deputy Speaker of the Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis, Director of the National Centre for Human Rights (NCHR) Akmal Saidov** took part at the High-level Segment of the 55th session of the United Nations Human Rights Council.

According to the NCHR, during the speech of the delegation of Uzbekistan, it was noted that our country is consistently implementing its policy in the field of human rights, an example of which, in particular, is the updated Constitution of the country adopted during a national referendum in 2023.

Uzbekistan has formally prohibited the use of the death penalty in its recently adopted new Constitution. Internationally recognized institutions of jurisprudence as the Miranda Warnings and Habeas Corpus are consolidated at the constitutional level. The Pro bono institute, which provides free legal assistance has been granted constitutional status.

Notably, for the first time, the Constitution guarantees the right to approach both international and national human rights bodies. Furthermore, it firmly establishes the status of national human rights institutions. The new Constitution for the first time enshrines the institution of constitutional complaints from citizens.

In recent years, Uzbekistan achieved substantial results in the human rights protection. Forced and child labor has been completely abolished in Uzbekistan. Particularly, the complete eradication of forced and child labor has been achieved. The new Constitution of the country now not only ensures the prohibition of child and forced labor but also institutes criminal liability for such offenses.

Implementing the National Human Rights Strategy over the past 3 years, the following

results have been achieved:

First. According to the recommendations of the HRC and UN treaty bodies, the position of the Children's Ombudsman was established. Now

our parliament is adopting Law on the Children's Ombudsman.

Second. In order to implement the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, legal and administrative measures have been taken to improve the system of state support for persons with disabilities.

Third. The Strategy for Achieving Gender Equality until 2030 was approved.

Fourth. Uzbekistan openly condemns the use of torture, amendments have been made to the Civil Code to provide for the procedure for compensation for harm caused to victims of torture.



Fifth. According to the recommendations of the UN treaty bodies, the National Preventive Mechanism for the Prevention of Torture was created according to the "Ombudsman Plus" model. Additionally, Children's Ombudsman, the National Centre for Human Rights, and the Business Ombudsman have been empowered to oversee penitentiary institutions.

Sixth. Uzbekistan actively participates in the UN World Programme for Human Rights Education. The country is implementing the National Programme for Human Rights Education. Training and special courses "Human Rights", "Women's Rights", "Child's Rights" are being introduced in the system of professional education and universities. Training courses are being opened on the rights of persons with disabilities, women, children and migrants. An Electronic Platform for Human Rights Education has been launched. Furthermore, permanent

training courses on combating the use of torture have been launched for law enforcement officers and penitentiary institutions.

Seventh. Collaboration with business structures on human rights issues is essential as well. Particularly, human rights training courses for entrepreneurs are organized. The National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights is currently being developed.

Eight. The country is implementing consistent reforms in the political, judicial and legal spheres, increasing the role of civil society institutions, including on religious freedom. Uzbekistan places utmost emphasis on ensuring religious freedom within its borders, recognizing its historical experience of harmonious coexistence among diverse faiths and ethnic communities over the centuries.

Throughout its long history, Uzbekistan's territory has been a home to a multitude of religions and belief. Traditional faiths in our nation have always coexisted peacefully. This harmony is not just a legacy, but a fundamental element of our traditions.

Ninth. The Election code has been modified to outline the process for conducting elections for the Legislative Chamber using a mixed electoral system that combines majority and proportional elements. Furthermore, there are adjustments being implemented to raise the minimum representation of women in the candidate nominations from political parties, increasing it from 30% to 40% of the total candidates.

Tenth. Currently, the world is facing a critical environmental situation. The triple planetary crisis - crises of the climate change, the loss of biodiversity and the environmental contamination are worsening. In such challenging conditions, while Central Asia continues to grapple with the Aral Sea tragedy, the region is becoming one of the most vulnerable parts of the world in the face of climate change. Uzbekistan is doing its best to mitigate the consequences of the Aral Sea tragedy, which remains a global problem.

"Uzbekistan is always willing to engage in practical dialogue with the UN and its institutions as well as broad and mutually beneficial cooperation with all countries around the world. We have made significant progress in our interactions with the UN Special Procedures in a relatively short period of time", - Akmal Saidov said at the end of his speech.

INVESTING IN EDUCATION, INVESTING IN THE FUTURE

To raise a savvy, self-confident, intelligent generation, we need a love for our native language and a solid knowledge of foreign languages.

Languages are the key to access to global information, and the thirst for new knowledge.

Today, we met with teachers invited from foreign countries and drew up a roadmap for further cooperation. More than five hundred qualified teachers teach English, German, French, and other languages.

Our children will learn from the best mentors, our teachers will have the opportunity to receive the necessary master classes, and our country will get a generation that has no boundaries or restrictions.

By investing in the education of our children, we are investing in a better future!

Saida Mirziyoyeva



The Groundwork of Economic Reforms in 2024



On the situation in the economy and the tasks set

centralized investments decreased by 0.7%. The share of centralized investments in the total volume of investments in fixed assets continued to decline – from 15.7% in 2022 to 12.7% in 2023, and the share of non-centralized investments increased from 84.3% to 87.3%. The growth of foreign trade showed double-digit indicators – foreign trade turnover increased by 23.9% and amounted to \$62.6 billion.

However, a number of shortcomings and problems remained in the development of the economy last year, which the President critically pointed out during the meetings, set tasks and defined measures that will be taken to solve these problems in 2024.

In 2023 Gross domestic product grew by 6% compared to 5.7% in 2022. At the end of the year, the consumer price index dropped to 8.77% compared to 12.25% in 2022. Investment activity increased sharply – an increase of 22.1% compared to 0.2% in 2022.

Macroeconomic priorities

The meeting held on January 16 was devoted to the priority tasks of ensuring macroeconomic stability and economic development in 2024.

Economic growth. In 2023, industry grew by 6%, the service sector by 6.8%, construction by 6.4%, and agriculture by 4.1%. However, as the Head of State noted, with the growth of industrial production, the added value of products does not exceed 40%, which is due to dependence on imports, high energy consumption and excessive costs.

Therefore, 2024 has been declared the "Year of Efficiency and Cost Reduction in

Economy" for all state-owned enterprises. From now on, support mechanisms in industry will primarily ensure the production of products that create high added value. At the same time, the activities of the heads of the economic block will be linked to monthly, quarterly and annual performance indicators (KPIs).

This year, it is planned to increase the volume of gross domestic product by at least 6% and bring it to \$100 billion. But at the same time, the President has set the task of increasing added value, reducing cost by 15% and ensuring industrial growth by 7%.

The budget system. Noting that in 2023 the budget deficit was 5.5%, the President set the task that in 2024 it should go below 4%. In this regard, the need to review the tax system was pointed out and new directions for its reorganization were identified.

A separate system will be created to work with 80 largest enterprises and 35 commercial banks, providing 50% of the republic's tax revenues.

Another source of budget revenue is the privatization and sale of land at auction. In particular, it was noted that last year \$81.2 million were received from land auctions, 12 thousand new projects were established. However, 484 state assets included in the privatization program are not put up for auction. Therefore, the Cabinet of Ministers has been instructed to prepare a new privatization program designed to provide \$1.6 billion of income this year.

In addition, the task has been set to control the correctness of spending \$25.4 billion provided for in the budget for 2024. Target indicators will be set within the framework of 120 programs for evaluating the effectiveness of funds allocated to 37 ministries and departments.

The shadow economy. The most pressing issue today is the shadow economy. In this regard, the President at the meeting outlined additional measures designed to bring the fight against the shadow economy to a new level.

At present, 14 agencies are engaged in the fight against the shadow economy and economic crime. In order to coordinate and strengthen these activities, the powers of the Department for Combating Economic Crimes under the Prosecutor General's Office will be expanded. It is expected that by the end of the year, due to the reduction of the shadow economy, an additional \$811.5 million will be in the legal sector.

Business incentives. Last year, an open

Obid Khakimov,

Director of the Center for Economic Research and Reforms

Under the Administration of the Republic of Uzbekistan The dynamic growth of the population of Uzbekistan requires at least high outstripping economic growth rates in order to adequately meet the growing needs and improve the standard of living of people. But this requires new, more balanced and verified approaches to ensure timely achievement of the set goals.

And these new approaches to economic policy were clearly manifested in the decisions taken at the important meetings held at the beginning of the year under the chairmanship of the President of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev on the situation in the economy and the tasks assigned to the economic divisions for 2024.

In general, the year 2023 was quite successful for Uzbekistan, then there were favorable changes in the economy. Gross domestic product grew by 6% compared to 5.7% in 2022. At the end of the year, the consumer price index dropped to 8.77% compared to 12.25% in 2022. Investment activity increased sharply – an increase of 22.1% compared to 0.2% in 2022.

It is especially important that the increase was achieved due to the growth of non-centralized investments by 26%, while

rating of entrepreneurs was developed. At present the following incentives will be provided for entrepreneurs with the highest rating: all tax audits will be invalidated; the amount of value added tax will be refunded in one day without inspections (previously from 7 days to 30 days), the amounts of overpayment for other types of taxes will be refunded in three days (previously after 15 working days). The possibility of mutual accounting of value added tax on the import and sale of goods will be created in the customs and tax authorities.

The banking system. This year, \$22.3 billion of credit resources should be allocated to the economy. The Central Bank has been tasked with developing a program to reduce loan rates by at least 2-3% based on market mechanisms. The volume of micro-loans to entrepreneurs will be increased to \$3.3 billion; the volume of deposits of the population in the national currency has been doubled and \$10.6 billion have been attracted. State-owned banks should attract \$2 billion of resources this year without a state guarantee.

Employment of the population. In the field of employment, the importance of implementing the recently adopted program, which provides employment for 5 million people this year, was emphasized. At the same time, the activities of vocational education institutions will also be improved, which should train 100,000 skilled workers who can be employed in foreign markets.

Investments in increasing export

At the meeting on January 18, priority tasks in the field of investment, export and industry for 2024 were considered.

Export. As the President noted, over the past six years, our country has received almost \$50 billion in foreign investment, last year GDP and industry grew by 6%, but export growth does not correspond to these trends.

In order to bring our country's economy to a new level, it is necessary to increase export by at least 30% annually, the President pointed out that exporters still have to pass the control of four departments at the border. In this regard, it was decided to transfer all export control functions to the Customs Committee.

Many domestic enterprises cannot join global flows due to the lack of international certification. In this regard, the Technical Regulation Agency will be completely reformed and transferred to the government.

The export support system will also change. The Export Promotion Agency will be reorganized into a trade development company in accordance with the requirements of the World Trade Organization. Subsidies, loans and assistance from this company will be provided based on the new rating, primarily to exporters entering new markets with high-value-added products.

Investment efficiency. Over the past six years, the volume of investments attracted to the industry of our country has increased 7 times, and equipment worth \$14 billion has been imported over the past three years. At the same time, the possibilities of 24 special economic zones are not being fully used. In this regard, it was decided to implement a new experiment on the development of economic zones. In particular, 240 hectares of land in special industrial zones in Bukhara, Navoi and Tashkent regions will be outsourced to foreign companies. It was noted that this year 309 major projects can be implemented in special economic zones and 40,000 jobs can be created.

From construction to ecology

On January 29, a meeting was held on priority tasks in the fields of housing and communal services, construction, transport and ecology.

Construction. Last year, more than 1,000 infrastructure facilities and about 2,000 apartment buildings were built in the regions. This year, it is planned to build 1,637 infrastructure facilities as part of the investment program.

Considering that new projects worth \$2.5 billion will be launched this year in cooperation with international organizations, the system of project implementation through external borrowing will also change. In this case, the project assessment report and the feasibility study will be combined into one project document, which will reduce the approval to 8-9 months.

Urban planning. The task has been set to develop master plans for 170 cities and towns this year and at least 300 next year.

In order to save energy, a differentiated approach will be applied to the choice of heating systems for apartment buildings, i.e. centralized, local or individual, and some boilers will be switched to cogeneration. Due to this, only in 2024 it will be possible to save 600 thousand gigacalories of thermal energy and 2.5 billion kilowatts of electricity. It was also indicated at the meeting that it

was time to introduce a single billing account for payments for electricity, gas, water, heat, waste and tax payments.

Healthy ecology. Since 2020, 22 thousand new industrial enterprises have been launched in our country. At present, industrial enterprises and transport emit more than 2 million tons of pollutants into the atmosphere. In many cases, construction projects and projects are implemented without environmental expertise.

In this regard, it was determined that from April 1, a rating of air, water and environmental pollution by region will be introduced. The task has been set to start installing automatic atmospheric air monitoring stations in the cities of Tashkent and Nukus, regional centers and 20 industrial districts.

Modern gas cleaning and dust collection equipment will be installed and replaced at large production facilities and all cement plants. Enterprises of building materials, energy and metallurgy will create a "green belt" with an area of 5 hectares around themselves, 10 million trees will be planted in total.

Over the next five years, 3,000 hectares of "green belts" and 200 hectares of parks will be created in the city of Tashkent and neighboring districts of the Tashkent region. Also, the movement of heavy-duty vehicles and passenger cars older than 10 years will gradually be restricted on the streets of the capital. Starting from January 1, 2025, the issue of abandoning AI-80 gasoline will be resolved. In order to support the "green energy", a system of stimulating the population to switch to electric vehicles will be introduced.

Conclusion

A brief overview of the economic situation and tasks in priority areas of economic development of Uzbekistan in 2024, set at the January meetings of the economic complex, shows that despite the recognized successes in reforming the Uzbek economy, bottlenecks and individual problems continue to persist, which need timely and effective solution.

And the timely recognition of these problems and the development of an appropriate economic policy aimed at correcting the situation is the main key to solving problems. And it is the decisions taken at these meetings that will allow us to continue dynamically increasing the pace of economic growth and well-being of the population in 2024 in the coming year.

Celebrating Shared Heritage

Uzbekistan-Pakistan

Joint Cultural Photo Exhibition at PNCA

In a testament to the deep cultural ties between Uzbekistan and Pakistan, the National Art Gallery of Pakistan National Council of the Arts (PNCA) hosted a remarkable joint cultural heritage exhibition. This exhibition, held in December 2023, showcased the rich historical, artistic, and cultural heritage shared by the two nations, offering visitors a glimpse into the vibrant traditions and legacies that bind Uzbekistan and Pakistan together.

In his opening remarks, the **Ambassador of Uzbekistan Oybek Usmanov** expressed his gratitude to participating guests and dignitaries and paid homage to the historical significance of the diplomatic relations between the two countries. The Ambassador extended heartfelt appreciation to the Federal Minister Jamal Shah, for his unwavering support and guidance in organizing the beautiful event. He also appreciated DG PNCA, and his team



for their indispensable efforts, contributions, and excellent cooperation in arranging the exhibition. He said together we can show the Pakistani public and Diplomatic corps the retrospective and historical photos demonstrating the very active dynamic interaction of Uzbek and Pakistani leaders – Presidents, Prime Ministers, federal ministers, Secretaries, additional secretaries, generals, DGs, ambassadors, and diplomats of our countries had made great input in cementing our ties through the 3 decades.

Chief Guest Federal Minister Jamal Shah emphasized the exhibition's role in revealing the beauty, diversity, and historical resonance embedded within the joint cultural heritage of Pakistan and Uzbekistan.

He termed it as a visual narrative, weaving together the threads of shared traditions, artistic expressions, and the enduring legacy that continues to foster friendship and



collaboration between the two countries. He reiterated the importance of cultural diplomacy in strengthening bonds and promoting mutual understanding between Pakistan and Uzbekistan. He expressed confidence in the exhibition's role as a bridge, connecting the shared history and cultural affinities of both countries.

The joint exhibition at PNCA served as a platform for cultural exchange and collaboration between Uzbekistan and Pakistan. Through a diverse array of artifacts, artworks, and multimedia presentations, the exhibition highlighted the shared history, values, and artistic expressions that have flourished in both countries over the centuries. Visitors had the opportunity to explore themes such as architecture, music, literature, textiles, and culinary traditions, gaining insights into the unique cultural identities of Uzbekistan and Pakistan.

One of the highlights of the exhibition was the display of historical and architectural treasures from Uzbekistan and Pakistan. Visitors were treated to stunning photographs, replicas, and models of iconic landmarks such as the Registan Square in Samarkand, the Shahi Qila in Lahore, and



the ancient city of Bukhara. These exhibits provided a visual journey through the rich architectural heritage of both countries, showcasing the intricate designs, intricate motifs, and grandeur of historical monuments that continue to captivate audiences worldwide.

Beyond showcasing the cultural heritage of Uzbekistan and Pakistan, the joint exhibition at PNCA aimed to promote mutual understanding, friendship, and cooperation between the two nations. By fostering dialogue, exchange, and appreciation for each other's cultural traditions, the exhibition served as a bridge connecting people across borders and fostering a sense of shared humanity. Through cultural diplomacy and artistic collaboration, Uzbekistan and Pakistan reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening bilateral ties and building a more interconnected and harmonious world.

The Uzbekistan-Pakistan joint cultural heritage exhibition at PNCA was a resounding success, bringing together the best of both countries' artistic, architectural, and culinary traditions under one roof.



Through its diverse and immersive program, the exhibition captivated audiences, fostered cross-cultural dialogue, and celebrated the enduring bonds of friendship between Uzbekistan and Pakistan. As the exhibition concluded, it left a lasting legacy of cultural exchange and mutual appreciation, paving the way for continued collaboration and friendship between the two nations in the years to come.



Uzbekistan in 2023

A Year of Transformation and Economic Growth



Hamid Mahmood

In recent years, Uzbekistan has been on a path of significant transformation, with ambitious reforms aimed at modernizing its economy, improving governance, and fostering greater international cooperation. As we reflect on the year 2023, it becomes evident that Uzbekistan has made remarkable strides in various sectors, driving momentum towards sustainable development and prosperity for its citizens.

Economic Reforms and Growth:

One of the cornerstones of Uzbekistan's progress in 2023 has been its continued commitment to economic reforms. The government's efforts to liberalize markets, attract foreign investment, and diversify the economy have yielded tangible results. The country witnessed robust economic growth, fueled by increased industrial output, agricultural productivity, and export performance.



Strategic initiatives such as the privatization of state-owned enterprises and the simplification of business regulations have created a more favorable environment for entrepreneurship and innovation.

Infrastructure Development:

Infrastructure development has been a key

focus area for Uzbekistan, with significant investments in transportation, energy, and telecommunications. The completion of major infrastructure projects, including new highways, railway networks, and energy facilities, has enhanced connectivity within the country and improved access to markets. These investments not only stimulate economic activity but also lay the foundation for sustainable development and regional integration.

Social Reforms and Human Development:

In 2023, Uzbekistan continued to prioritize social reforms aimed at improving the well-being of its citizens and promoting inclusive growth. Efforts to enhance healthcare services, expand education opportunities,

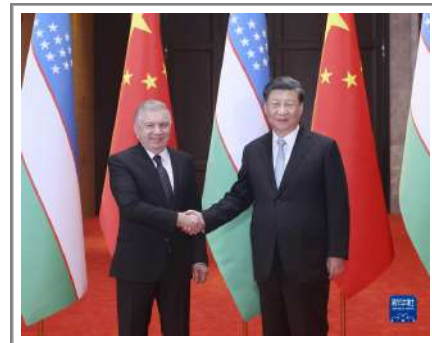


and address social inequality have contributed to improvements in human development indicators. The government's initiatives to empower women, protect vulnerable populations, and promote cultural diversity reflect its commitment to building a more equitable and cohesive society.

Regional and International Engagement:

Uzbekistan's proactive approach to regional and international cooperation has strengthened its position as a key player on the global stage. In 2023, the country deepened its ties with neighboring states through initiatives such as the Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC) and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO). Furthermore, Uzbekistan's active

participation in multilateral forums and diplomatic efforts to resolve regional



conflicts have underscored its role as a responsible and constructive actor in international affairs.

Challenges and Opportunities:

While Uzbekistan has made significant progress in various areas, it also faces a set of challenges that require sustained efforts and strategic solutions. Issues such as environmental degradation remain persistent obstacles to the country's development agenda. Moreover, external factors such as global economic uncertainties and geopolitical tensions pose additional risks to Uzbekistan's growth prospects. However, these challenges also present opportunities for further reforms, innovation, and collaboration to address them effectively.

As Uzbekistan looks ahead to the future, the year 2023 stands out as a period of transformation and growth, driven by bold reforms and forward-thinking policies. The country's progress in economic development, infrastructure modernization, social empowerment, and international engagement sets a solid foundation for continued advancement and prosperity. By building on these achievements and addressing remaining challenges with determination and resilience, Uzbekistan is poised to realize its full potential as a dynamic and inclusive society in the years to come.

Gallup World Poll 2022: Analysis of the results of surveys of Uzbekistan residents

The Center for Economic Research and Reforms (CERR) analyzed the annual Gallup World Poll, which is being prepared based on the study of public opinion.

Since 2005, Gallup has been conducting an annual World Poll among 160 countries (1 thousand people per country), which accounts for 98% of the world's adult population. The Gallup World Poll consists of 100 questions and includes Indexes:

- Law and order;
- Food and accommodation;
- Institutes and infrastructure;
- Good jobs;
- Well-being.

Gallup's study compares Uzbekistan with the countries of the post-Soviet Eurasian region.

Indicators of Well-being

In 2022, the Well-being Index (from 0 to 10 points) was 6.0 points, while the region's

average is estimated at 5.7 points. Consequently, Uzbekistan has shown one of the best results among the countries of the post-Soviet Eurasian region.

The region of post-Soviet Eurasia includes such countries as Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Russia, Belarus, Moldova, Ukraine.

According to the results of the survey in 2022, 39% of Uzbek people indicated that their well-being is currently increasing, which is significantly higher than the region's average of 30%.

To evaluate life satisfaction, the results of a survey called the Cantril-ladder scale are used. Respondents are asked to imagine a ladder from 0 to 10, where step 0 means the worst possible life, and step 10 means the best possible life.

Only 2% of Uzbek people reported experiencing difficulties in their lives, which is 6% lower than the region's average result.

Uzbekistan showed the best result among

the countries of the region in the Well-being Index.

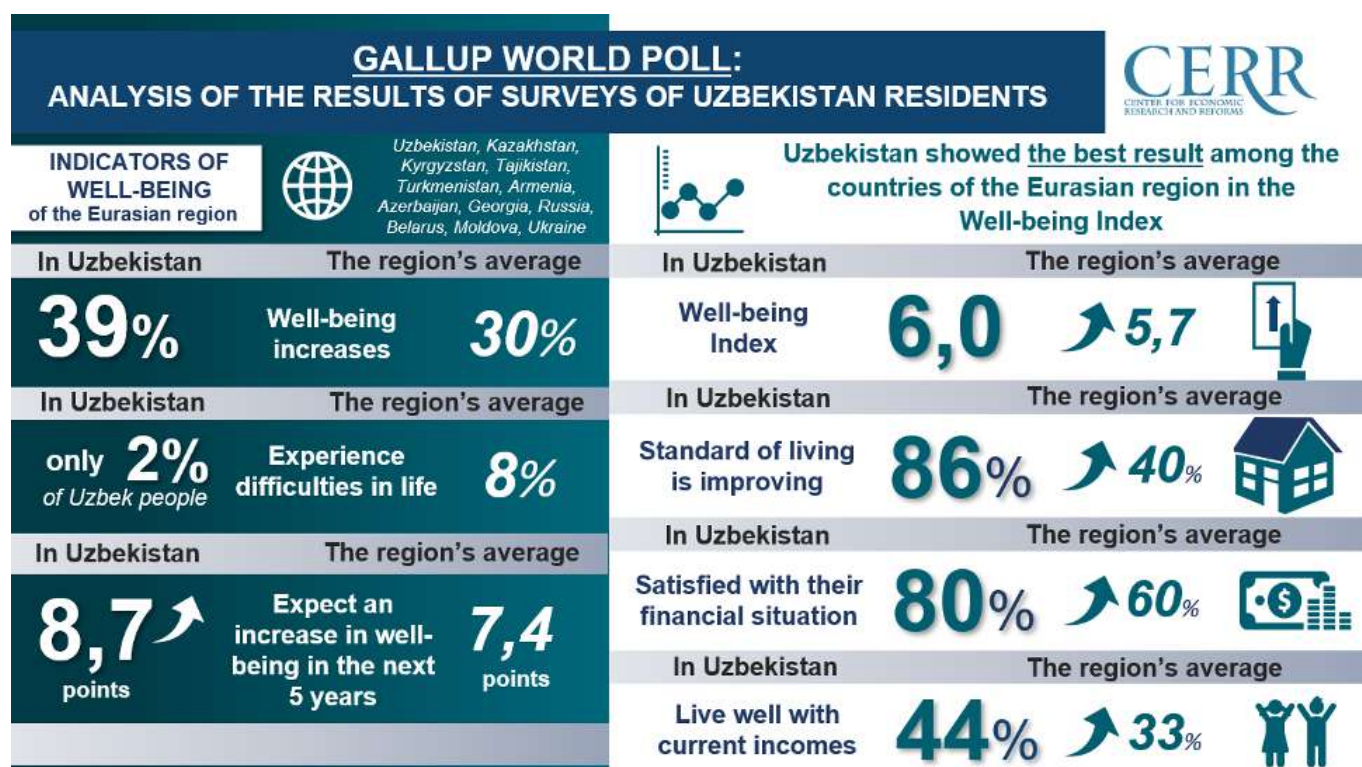
At the same time, Gallup estimated that Uzbekistan has become the fastest recovering country after the pandemic.

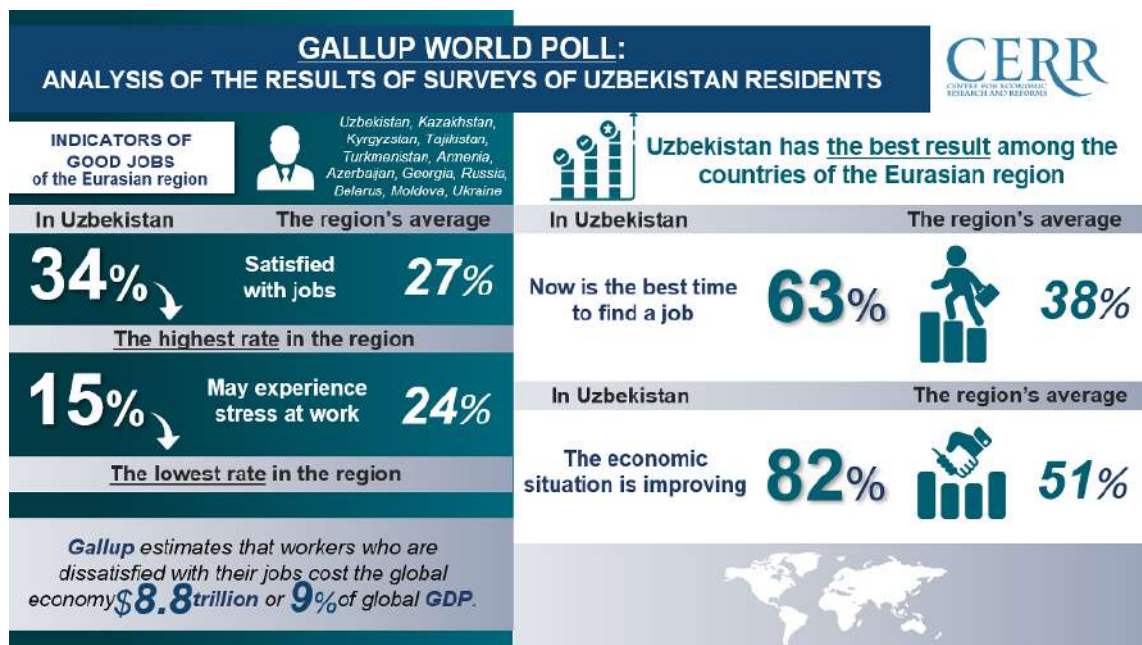
Uzbek people rated their well-being in the next 5 years at 8.7 points. In particular, regarding expectations of future well-being, Uzbekistan showed the highest result in the region, while the region's average score was 7.4.

86% of respondents stated that standard of living is currently improving, and the average for this indicator in the region was 40%.

80% of the surveyed residents of Uzbekistan expressed their satisfaction with their current financial situation, which is also a high indicator for the region, where the average score was 60%.

44% of Uzbek people believed that they live well with current incomes, whereas the average for the region was 33%.





92% in 2022, which is one of the best results among the countries of the region, where the average score was 68%.

At the same time, the share of those who have confidence in judicial systems in Uzbekistan has increased by 10% in two years and amounted to 74% in 2022. This indicator is noticeably lower in the region, about 45%.

Indicators of good jobs

34% of workers in Uzbekistan stated they were satisfied with their jobs. This, in turn, is the highest rate in the region, where the average score was 27%.

According to Gallup estimates, workers who are dissatisfied with their jobs cost the global economy \$8.8 trillion, or 9% of global GDP.

15% of workers in Uzbekistan reported that they may experience stress at work, 24% in the region.

Since 2020, the share of those who believe that now is the best time to find a job has increased by 17% and amounted to 63% which is one of the highest rates in the region, where the average score was 38%.

In two years, the confidence of Uzbek people in the improvement of the country's economy has increased by 7%, reaching 82%. This indicator averaged 51% in the region.

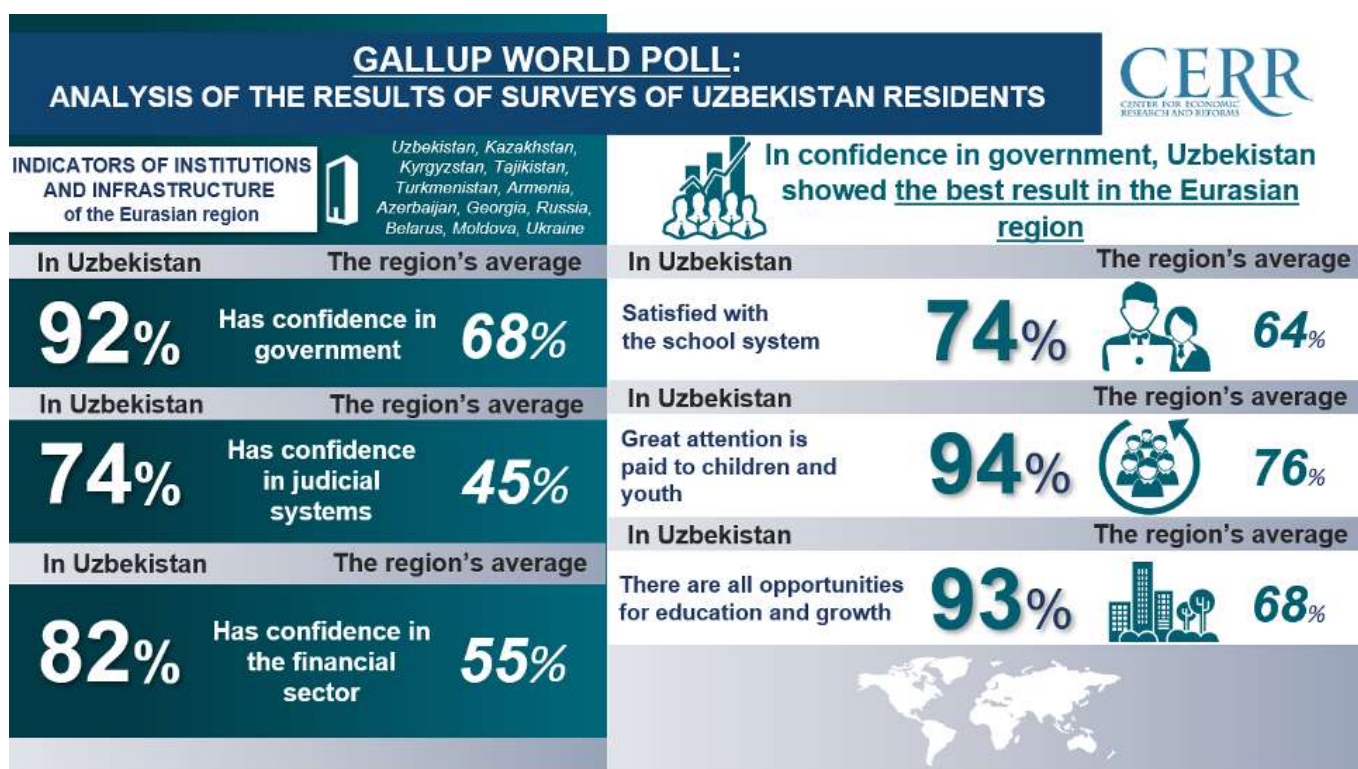
Institutions and infrastructure

The confidence of Uzbek people in their government has improved and amounted to

On average, 55% of the region's residents have confidence in the financial sector. 82% of Uzbek people expressed "quite high" confidence in the banking and financial system.

94% of Uzbek people note "great" attention to children and youth, which is also a high indicator relative to the region's average of 76%.

93% of Uzbek respondents reported having all the opportunities for education and growth in the country, compared to 68% in the region.



As the economic landscape continues to evolve, nations across the globe are actively seeking avenues to strengthen trade ties and foster mutually beneficial partnerships. Among these, the relationship between Uzbekistan and Pakistan holds immense potential for growth and collaboration. With both countries situated at strategic crossroads, their historical ties and shared cultural heritage form a solid foundation for deepening economic cooperation.

In recent years, there has been a concerted effort to bolster trade relations between Uzbekistan and Pakistan, leveraging their geographical proximity and complementary economies. From trade missions to joint ventures, initiatives aimed at enhancing bilateral trade have been on the rise. Against this backdrop, we sit down with Mr. Saqib Rafiq, President of the Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce, to gain insights into the current state of Uzbekistan-Pakistan trade relationships, the opportunities that lie ahead, and the challenges that need to be addressed.

Q. Can you provide an overview of the current state of Business relations between your chamber and Uzbekistan?

A. The Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce and Industry, being a significant business organization in Pakistan, has been playing an effective role in fostering business relationships and promoting trade with Uzbekistan. RCCI gave huge importance to Central Asian states including Uzbekistan.

In 2006, Deputy Minister of Foreign Economic Relation Investment of Uzbekistan, Odil Guraev along with trade delegation visited the Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (RCCI) where President Hasan Sarosh Akram and other senior executives of the chamber gave a warm welcome to the high level delegation. Uzbek trade delegation visited the Rawalpindi Chamber to look into the possible areas of co-operation. Similarly, in 2016, a 12-member trade delegation of Uzbekistan headed by Nodir Atajanov, Deputy Chairman, Uz Agro Sanoatmash Holding visited RCCI and discussed close trade cooperation.

In 2018, RCCI hosted Pak-Uzbekistan Networking Session, where Federal Minister Finance was the chief guest and the Uzbek Trade delegation was headed by Khodjaev Jamshid Minister of Foreign Trade of Uzbekistan. Adham Ikramov Chairman of CCI of Uzbekistan also signed Memorandum of understanding with RCCI on the occasion.

In 2023, Uzbekistan's Deputy Prime Minister and In-charge of Trade and Investment Dr Jamshid Khodjaev visited Pakistan where RCCI

Uzbekistan & Pakistan holds immense potential for growth and collaboration

An Interview with

Mr. Saqib Rafiq

President Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce



leadership had got a chance to interact with the Uzbek Trade delegation.

Recently, a regional connectivity desk at RCCI has been established. The aim of the trade desk was to provide information for trade promotion, networking, B2B and networking at the Chamber of Commerce level in Azerbaijan and the five Central Asian countries of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

Q. What are the key sectors where RCCI and Uzbekistan have been cooperating, and what opportunities do you see for further collaboration?

A. Specifically, for the Rawalpindi region, RCCI emphasized on promoting trade ties between chamber to chamber close cooperation and sector specific information sharing and joint ventures. The key sectors are machinery, pharmaceutical, mining, halal food and tourism (religious tourism).

Q. How has trade between Pakistan and Uzbekistan evolved in recent years, and what are the major commodities exchanged between the two countries?

A. The trade relationship between Pakistan and Uzbekistan has indeed evolved in recent years, with both countries making efforts to strengthen economic ties and increase bilateral trade.

Both countries have engaged in diplomatic efforts to enhance their relationship, leading to increased cooperation in various fields, including trade and commerce.

Pakistan and Uzbekistan have signed several bilateral agreements aimed at promoting trade and economic cooperation. These agreements provide a framework for facilitating trade and investment between the two countries. Improvement in transportation infrastructure, including the development of road and rail networks, has facilitated trade between Pakistan and Uzbekistan. Efforts to enhance connectivity through initiatives like the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) have also

contributed to this. Trade exhibitions, business delegations, and exchange programs have been organized to promote interaction between businesses from both countries.

Efforts have been made to diversify the range of products traded between Pakistan and Uzbekistan. Both countries have identified sectors with potential for cooperation, such as textiles, agriculture, pharmaceuticals, and energy. Harmonization of trade policies has made it easier for businesses to engage in cross-border trade. Both Pakistan and Uzbekistan have focused on promoting investment opportunities in each other's countries. This includes providing incentives for businesses to invest in key sectors and facilitating joint ventures and partnerships.



Q. Are there any specific challenges or barriers hindering the expansion of economic ties between the two countries, and how do you propose addressing them?

A. While there are opportunities for expanding economic ties between Uzbekistan and Pakistan, several challenges and barriers hinder the realization of this potential:

Uzbekistan and Pakistan are geographically distant from each other, which can increase transportation costs and logistics challenges for trade between the two countries.

Limited transportation infrastructure connecting Uzbekistan and Pakistan poses a challenge for the movement of goods and people between the two countries. Improving transportation links, such as road,

rail, and air connectivity, could help address this barrier. Non-tariff barriers, bureaucratic procedures, and regulatory hurdles can impede trade between Uzbekistan and Pakistan. Streamlining customs processes, harmonizing trade regulations, and reducing red tape could facilitate smoother trade relations.

Lack of information about market opportunities, business regulations, and investment procedures in each other's countries can deter potential investors and businesses from exploring opportunities. Enhancing information sharing and awareness through trade promotion initiatives could help overcome this challenge.

Currency exchange fluctuations and restrictions can complicate financial transactions and investment between Uzbekistan and Pakistan. Establishing mechanisms for easier currency conversion and providing greater financial flexibility could help mitigate this barrier. Also, Political instability and security concerns in the region may deter foreign investment and business engagement. Creating a stable and conducive political environment through diplomatic efforts and conflict resolution mechanisms could help alleviate this challenge.

Differences in legal frameworks and regulatory environments between Uzbekistan and Pakistan may pose challenges for businesses seeking to operate in both countries. Enhancing legal cooperation and providing clearer guidelines for business operations could help address this issue.

Addressing these challenges will require concerted efforts and cooperation between the governments, businesses, and relevant stakeholders of Uzbekistan and Pakistan. By overcoming these barriers, both countries can unlock the full potential of their economic partnership and foster mutually beneficial ties.



Q. The proposed Uzbekistan-Pakistan railway project has garnered significant attention. What potential benefits do you foresee from this project?

A. The proposed Uzbekistan-Pakistan railway project holds several potential benefits for both countries:

The railway project would significantly improve connectivity between Uzbekistan and Pakistan, providing a direct and efficient transportation link between Central Asia and South Asia. This enhanced connectivity can facilitate trade, tourism, and people-to-people exchanges between the two regions.

The railway would serve as a vital trade route, allowing for the easier movement of goods between Uzbekistan and Pakistan. This could lead to increased bilateral trade volumes and a more diverse range of traded goods, benefiting businesses in both countries.

Compared to alternative transportation modes such as sea or air transport, railways can offer lower transportation costs for bulk cargo and goods. The railway project could therefore contribute to reducing transportation costs for businesses engaged in trade between Uzbekistan and Pakistan, enhancing their competitiveness in the global market.

Improved transportation infrastructure, such as the proposed railway, can stimulate economic development along its route. This development can include the establishment of logistics hubs, industrial zones, and other related infrastructure, creating employment opportunities and boosting economic growth in the regions served by the railway.

The railway project has the potential to promote regional integration and cooperation between Central Asia and

both Uzbekistan and Pakistan by providing them with alternative trade routes and reducing their dependence on existing transportation corridors. This could enhance their geopolitical significance and contribute to their economic resilience.

Improved connectivity through the railway could also facilitate greater cultural and people-to-people exchanges between Uzbekistan and Pakistan. This can lead to increased tourism, educational opportunities, and cultural understanding between the two countries.

Q. In your opinion, what role can chambers of commerce and business associations play in further strengthening bilateral relations and promoting trade between Pakistan and Uzbekistan?

A. Chambers of Commerce and business associations can play a vital role in further strengthening bilateral relations and promoting trade between Pakistan and Uzbekistan in several ways:

Chambers of Commerce and business associations can facilitate networking opportunities between businesses from Pakistan and Uzbekistan. They can organize trade delegations, business forums, and networking events to bring together entrepreneurs, investors, and industry representatives from both countries.

These organizations can serve as valuable sources of information on trade regulations, market trends, investment opportunities, and business practices in Pakistan and

South Asia. By strengthening ties between Uzbekistan and Pakistan, it can contribute to broader efforts aimed at fostering economic and political cooperation across the region

.The railway project could enhance the strategic importance of

Uzbekistan. They can provide guidance and assistance to businesses seeking to enter each other's markets, helping them navigate regulatory requirements and cultural nuances.

Chambers of Commerce and business associations can advocate for the interests of their members in both countries, representing their concerns to government authorities and policymakers. They can lobby for policies that facilitate trade and investment between Pakistan and Uzbekistan, such as tariff reductions, customs reforms, and investment incentives.

Trade Promotion: These organizations can actively promote trade between Pakistan and Uzbekistan by organizing trade missions, participating in international trade fairs and exhibitions, and facilitating business matchmaking initiatives. They can help businesses identify potential partners, customers, and suppliers in each other's markets, facilitating business transactions and collaborations.

Capacity Building: Chambers of Commerce and business associations can provide training, workshops, and seminars to enhance the capacity and competitiveness of businesses in Pakistan and Uzbekistan. They can offer programs on topics such as export readiness, market entry strategies, quality standards, and business management practices, empowering companies to succeed in international markets.

Conflict Resolution: In cases of disputes or conflicts between businesses from Pakistan and Uzbekistan, Chambers of Commerce



and business associations can provide mediation and dispute resolution services. They can help parties resolve their differences amicably, preserving business relationships and preventing escalation into legal or commercial disputes.

Cultural Exchange: These organizations can

promote cultural exchange and understanding between Pakistan and Uzbekistan, fostering goodwill and friendship between the peoples of both countries. They can organize cultural events, language courses, and intercultural training programs to facilitate communication and collaboration in the business community.

By fulfilling these roles, Chambers of Commerce and business associations can contribute significantly to strengthening bilateral relations and promoting trade between Pakistan and Uzbekistan, fostering mutual prosperity and cooperation between the two countries.

Q. Are there any specific sectors or industries in Pakistan that could benefit from increased collaboration with Uzbekistan, and vice versa?

Certainly, several sectors in Pakistan could benefit from increased collaboration with Uzbekistan, and vice versa. These sectors include Textiles and Apparel: Both Pakistan and Uzbekistan have strong textile industries. Collaboration in this sector could involve raw material exchange, joint ventures in textile manufacturing, and exploring new markets for finished textile products.

Agriculture: Agriculture is a significant sector in both countries. Collaboration could include knowledge sharing, technology transfer, and joint agricultural projects aimed at improving productivity, enhancing crop diversification, and promoting agro-processing industries.

Energy: Both Pakistan and Uzbekistan have untapped potential in the energy sector. Collaboration could involve investment in renewable energy projects, such as solar and wind power, as well as cooperation in oil and gas exploration, extraction, and refining.

Pharmaceuticals: The pharmaceutical industry in both countries could benefit from collaboration in research and development, technology transfer, and the exchange of pharmaceutical products and expertise.

Information Technology (IT) and Software Development: Pakistan has a growing IT industry, while Uzbekistan is making efforts to develop its IT sector. Collaboration could involve joint ventures in software development, IT services outsourcing, and capacity building initiatives.

Infrastructure Development: Both countries

are investing in infrastructure development. Collaboration could include joint infrastructure projects, such as road construction, transportation networks, and urban development initiatives.

Tourism: Pakistan and Uzbekistan have rich cultural heritage and tourist attractions.



Collaboration in the tourism sector could involve promoting cultural exchanges, developing tourism infrastructure, and creating tour packages to attract visitors from both countries.

Education and Skill Development: Collaboration in education and skill development could involve student exchange programs, joint research projects, and capacity building initiatives to address the skill gaps in various industries.

By focusing on these sectors and fostering collaboration and partnerships, Pakistan and Uzbekistan can unlock new opportunities for mutual benefit and contribute to the economic development and prosperity of both countries.

Q. Looking ahead, what are your expectations for the future of Pakistan-Uzbekistan relations, particularly in the economic sphere, and what steps should be taken to realize these expectations?

Expectations for the future of Pakistan-Uzbekistan relations in the economic sphere are generally optimistic, with both countries expressing a desire to deepen their economic ties and explore new avenues of cooperation. To realize these expectations, several steps can be taken:

Enhanced Connectivity: Investing in transportation infrastructure, such as roads, railways, and air routes, can improve connectivity between Pakistan and Uzbekistan. This would facilitate trade, investment, and people-to-people exchanges, laying the groundwork for stronger economic relations.

Streamlining customs procedures, reducing tariffs, and harmonizing trade regulations can make it easier for businesses to engage in cross-border trade between Pakistan and Uzbekistan

Both countries can explore opportunities to diversify the range of products traded between them. This could involve identifying complementary strengths and promoting collaboration in sectors such as textiles, agriculture, pharmaceuticals, energy, and information technology. Creating a conducive environment for investment is essential to attract capital from both countries. Offering incentives for businesses to invest in key sectors, providing legal and regulatory certainty, and ensuring protection of investors' rights can help attract investment and spur economic growth.

Chambers of Commerce and business associations from both countries can play a proactive role in promoting business linkages and facilitating trade and investment. They can organize trade missions, business forums, and matchmaking events to connect businesses and foster partnerships.

Promoting cultural exchanges, educational collaborations, and tourism initiatives can strengthen the bonds between the peoples of Pakistan and Uzbekistan.

Both countries can leverage regional platforms and initiatives to deepen economic integration within the broader region. Participating in forums such as the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) and the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) can provide opportunities for greater economic cooperation and connectivity.

Finally, political commitment and leadership are crucial for realizing the full potential of Pakistan-Uzbekistan economic relations. High-level visits, diplomatic engagements, and bilateral agreements can signal a strong commitment to deepening economic ties and provide momentum for cooperation initiatives.

By taking these steps and fostering a conducive environment for economic cooperation, Pakistan and Uzbekistan can strengthen their bilateral relations in the economic sphere and unlock new opportunities for mutual prosperity and development.

Young writers

THE INFLUENCE OF SILK ROAD ON TRADITIONAL CLOTHING OF UZBEKISTAN



Uzbekistan's position along the historic Silk Road has left a lasting mark on its clothing traditions. The interplay of various cultures and civilisations is evident in the vibrant hues and intricate patterns that characterise traditional Uzbek attire.

Grace In Women Atlas and Adras

Explore the grace and beauty of Uzbek women's traditional dresses, crafted from luxurious fabrics like Atlas and Adras. Adorned with elaborate embroidery and striking patterns, these dresses are more than garments; they are wearable works of art that embody femininity and cultural pride that not only represents Uzbek culture but also exhibits heights of creativity and heritage.

Tubeteika: "The Crown of Uzbek Attire"

The cap conjures an image of cultural significance and traditional elegance. The title suggests that the tubeteika, a specific type of skullcap, holds a paramount position in the realm of Uzbek clothing, serving as a symbol of identity and a distinctive element within the cultural landscape. This title sets the stage for an exploration of the tubeteika's historical importance, intricate designs, and its role in shaping the visual identity of Uzbek traditional attire.

Saed Alina Shakilevna



WELCOME TO UZBEKISTAN



As of January 1, 2024, 766 industrial zones have been created in Uzbekistan

Ministry of Investment, Industry and Trade: In 2023, enterprises located in industrial zones manufactured products totalling 53.4 trillion soums and exported \$972 million.

In 2024, 841 projects are planned to be launched in industrial zones in Uzbekistan.

In recent years, the country has been implementing a number of consistent, irreversible reforms aimed at creating an open, competitive economy, investment and industrial development, expanding foreign trade relations, and creating an attractive business environment for domestic and foreign investors.

According to experts, the effectiveness of the ongoing reforms provides a symbiosis of the best practices in developed countries, the capabilities of the national economy and the political will of the country's leadership to radically upgrade and improve the living standards of the population.

One of the world's best practices for accelerated development of production and export potential, as well as attracting investments, is the creation of special economic and industrial zones.

As of January 1, 2024, 766 industrial zones have been created in the country, including 24 special economic zones, 532 small industrial and 210 youth industrial and entrepreneurial zones.

According to the master plans of these facilities, a total of 11,952.1 hectares are allocated for investment projects. Thanks to the work carried out under the coordination of the MIIT, today 6,382.3 hectares of industrial zones are occupied for investment projects. 4,123.5 hectares of land were put up for sale through auctions, including 3,304.8 hectares in special economic zones, 666 hectares in small industrial zones and 152.7 hectares in youth industrial and entrepreneurial zones. In January this year alone, more than 100 hectares of land were put up for auction.

The scale of work in industrial zones is increasing every year. In 2024, 841 projects are planned to be launched in industrial

zones. This figure is 124 units fewer than in 2023 (965 projects), which is due to the consolidation of newly created production facilities and the organization of a much larger number of jobs. So, if the total cost of projects implemented in industrial zones in 2023 amounted to 9.7 trillion soums, then in 2024 13.3 trillion soums will be attracted for these purposes. The situation is similar with jobs created - 20.7 thousand in 2023 against 27.7 thousand this year.

The "bull by the horns" was taken from the very first days of this year. Despite the usual "winter lull", already in January 2024, 14 projects worth 56.6 billion soums were commissioned, as a result of which 300 new jobs were created. Of these, 12 projects worth 54.1 billion soums were launched in small industrial zones and 2 projects worth 2.5 billion soums in youth industrial and

entrepreneurial zones.

As always, the results are important. In addition to the jobs being created, which make it possible to provide employment for residents of settlements nearby industrial zones, there has been an increase in production and exports. In 2023, enterprises located in industrial zones manufactured products totaling 53.4 trillion soums and exported \$972 million. In January this year alone, 4.4 trillion soums worth of goods were produced, and \$61.3 million worth of goods were exported.

Uzbekistan is confidently and gradually developing industrial zones. Thus, all other things being equal, the results of this work will exceed expectations and make a worthy contribution to achieving the strategic goals set by the Head of State for the phased economic development of the country.





On February 26, 2024, at the UN Headquarters in New York City, the General Assembly of the Organization unanimously approved the Resolution "2027 - the International Year of Sustainable and Resilient Tourism".

Over 80 member countries of the Organization are co-authors of the resolution initiated by the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Experts from leading countries such as Russia, China, the United States, Türkiye, Germany, the United Kingdom, the EU delegation, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Egypt, Brazil, and Argentina actively participated in the consultations to agree on the document's text. Representatives of UN member states noted the timeliness and

relevance of the presentation of this resolution.

The main goal of the document is entirely based on the thesis put forward by the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev at the Samarkand session of the UNWTO General Assembly in October 2023 on the sustainability and flexibility of the tourism sector to new problems and challenges of our time.

The resolution enshrines the principles voiced by the President of Uzbekistan on the vital role of tourism in preserving the rich cultural heritage of various civilizations, strengthening peace and tolerance, and respecting peoples' values.

Particular attention is paid to developing

green tourism to preserve the environment and biodiversity and reduce air pollution.

The document resolves to announce 2027 as the International Year of Sustainable and Resilient Tourism and calls on UNWTO and governments, UN agencies, and regional organizations to take comprehensive measures for its successful implementation.

The resolution highlights the importance of developing sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, which can contribute to achieving the SDGs, economic growth, full employment, rural development, and improving the livelihoods of rural people.

The resolution encourages all stakeholders to actively promote sustainable and resilient tourism as an essential tool for poverty eradication, promoting the participation of women, youth, older persons, and persons with disabilities, expanding economic opportunities, and creating decent jobs and income sources.

The document resolves that UNWTO will inform the UN General Assembly at its 83rd session (2028) on the implementation of this resolution, with particular attention to the assessment of the implementation of the International Year.



May, 2-3
2024

Tashkent, Uzbekistan

For registration
<https://www.iift.uz/registration>

**TASHKENT
INTERNATIONAL
INVESTMENT
FORUM**

The Miraki Tourist Center waiting for its investors

Tourism is one of the fastest growing industries in Uzbekistan. In recent years, the industry has been radically reformed, bans and restrictions have been lifted, a number of permit requirements have been canceled, preferential financing

implementation in the country is consistently increasing. The main reason is the high profitability of projects against the background of minimal investments and operating expenses. In this context, a lot of work is being done in our country to find new, promising projects that will be of interest to both domestic and foreign investors.

aquapark, a handicraft center, cafes and restaurants, viewpoints with an amphitheater and console, a museum and entertainment center, a children's and entertainment and wellness center, summer and country houses among other facilities.

The history of Shakhrisabz attracts tourists from all over the world. The city is located 80 kilometers south of Samarkand, behind the high-altitude Takhta-Karacha pass. No matter what time you go to this ancient city, it appears to travelers as a huge green garden. Shakhrisabz is already 2,700 years old, at one time the city was the capital of the ancient state of Sogd, and its fame as a center of culture, trade and crafts spread far

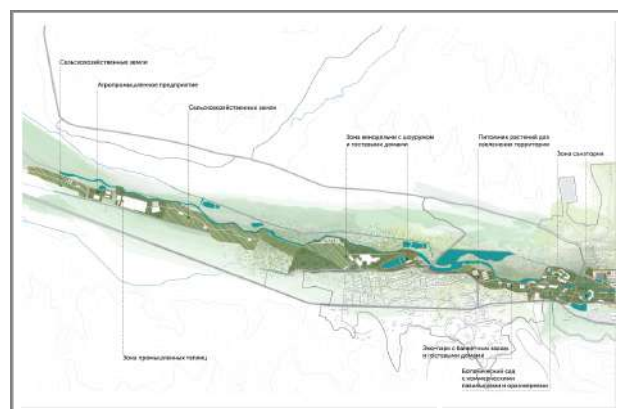


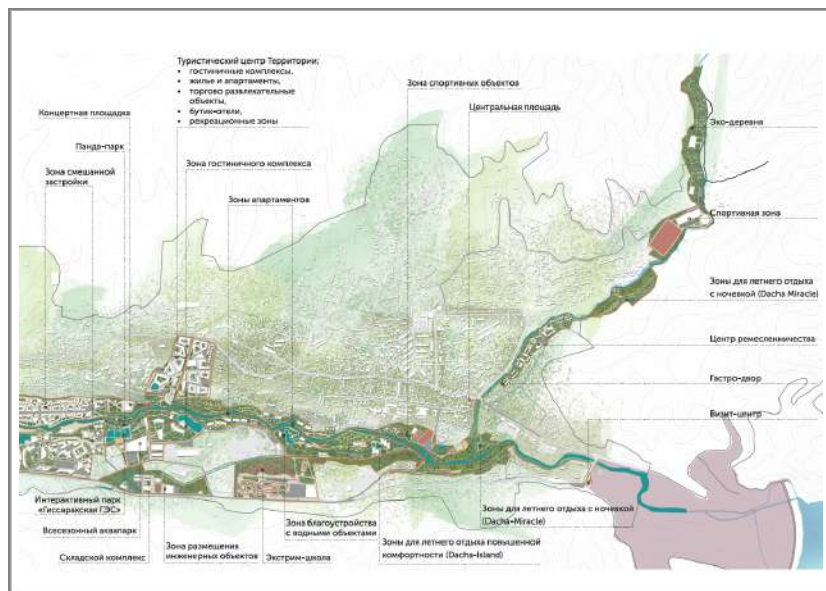
and tax incentives have been introduced. Thanks to these measures, private investments have become widely involved in the tourism sector – hotels are being built everywhere, guest houses are opening, no one is surprised by the halls of cafes and restaurants full of tourists.

Despite the results achieved – and this is over 6.1 million foreign tourists alone in 2023, the number of tourism projects under

Another promising project with a short turnaround time and high profitability, as well as the possibility of further expansion, is the Miraki Tourist Center, located on 246 hectares of the Shakhrisabz district of Kashkadarya region.

For reference: the total area of land allocated for investment lots is 205 hectares. It is planned to renovate the territory of 56 hectares, improve 111 km of engineering networks. The total number of investment lots is more than 30. The projects include the construction of a hotel, boutique hotels, a greenhouse complex, a winery with guest houses, a botanical garden, a sanatorium, an





beyond the borders of the state. Amir Temur was born in these places, who made Shakhrisabz his residence and built the Ak-Sarai Palace. The historical center of the city is included in the UNESCO World Heritage List. The most famous are the Ak-sarai Palace, the Dor-ut Tilovat memorial complex,

the Kuk-Gumbaz mosque, the mausoleums of Dor-us Saodat, Shamsad-Din Kulyala, Gumbazi-Saidon.

Among the Shahr-i Sabz crafts, carpet weaving, fine embroidery, and the production of skullcaps are the most

famous. Handicrafts here have a thousand-year history, and the products of local craftsmen have won many times at various international exhibitions and festivals.

Investment projects are designed for initiators who carry out activities or intend to engage in the tourism business.

It is important to note that during the implementation of the tourism project, the benefits and preferences specified in the presidential resolution #PP-238 of July 27, 2023 "On measures to further accelerate reforms and effective organization of the public administration system in the field of tourism" and #PP-3594 "On additional measures to stimulate the attraction of direct private foreign investment" as well as other regulatory acts in the field of tourism are applied.

If you have any questions, you can contact Allaberdiev Golib, Deputy Head of the Tourism Department of Kashkadarya region by phone at +998-90-441-52-08 or +998-75-612-39-31 and by deptourism@qashqadaryo.uz.



Exploring the Enigmatic Beauty of Uzbekistan



Qasim Ali Shah is a renowned Pakistani motivational speaker, educator, writer, and social activist. He is known for his inspirational talks, seminars, and workshops aimed at personal development, career growth, and social change. Qasim Ali Shah's work focuses on empowering individuals to unlock their potential and achieve their goals. He has a significant following in Pakistan and has garnered international recognition for his contributions to personal and professional development.

Nestled at the heart of Central Asia lies a land rich in history, culture, and breathtaking landscapes - Uzbekistan. As a traveler, embarking on a journey through Uzbekistan is akin to stepping into a realm where time seems to have stood still, yet every corner whispers tales of a glorious past and promises of a vibrant future.

Uzbekistan boasts a heritage that stretches back millennia, with cities like Samarkand, Bukhara, and Khiva serving as living testaments to the region's storied past. As I wandered through the labyrinthine streets of Samarkand, I was awestruck by the majestic Registan Square, adorned with intricately tiled madrasas that harken back to

the days of the Silk Road. Each monument seemed to narrate a chapter of conquests, trade, and cultural exchange that have shaped the destiny of this land.

Uzbekistan is a melting pot of diverse cultures, where influences from Persia, Arabia, and the nomadic tribes of Central Asia have converged to create a unique tapestry of traditions. From the hypnotic rhythms of traditional music echoing through the narrow alleys of Bukhara to the aromatic spices wafting from bustling bazaars, every moment in Uzbekistan is a celebration of its rich cultural heritage. The warmth and hospitality of the Uzbek people further enrich the experience, inviting travelers to immerse themselves in age-old customs and rituals.

One cannot help but marvel at the architectural wonders that dot the Uzbek landscape. The turquoise domes of Bukhara's mosques, the intricate mosaics of Shah-i-Zinda in Samarkand, and the imposing walls of the ancient city of Khiva - each structure is a testament to the ingenuity and craftsmanship of Uzbek artisans through the ages. As I gazed upon these architectural marvels, I couldn't help but feel a sense of reverence for the generations of artisans who had poured their hearts and souls into creating these timeless masterpieces.

No journey through Uzbekistan would be complete without indulging in its

mouthwatering cuisine. From hearty pilafs and succulent kebabs to delicate pastries and refreshing salads, Uzbek cuisine is a feast for the senses. I found myself lingering over steaming plates of plov, savoring each bite as the flavors danced on my palate. And no meal is complete without a cup of fragrant green tea, served in traditional Uzbek teacups as a symbol of hospitality and friendship.

Beyond its ancient cities and cultural treasures, Uzbekistan is blessed with natural beauty that captivates the soul. The desolate beauty of the Kyzylkum Desert, the serene shores of the Charvak Reservoir, and the lush valleys of the Fergana Valley - each landscape offers a glimpse into the diverse ecosystems that thrive in this land of contrasts. As I traversed the countryside, I found myself humbled by the raw power and beauty of Mother Nature, finding solace in the quietude of Uzbekistan's pristine wilderness.

My journey through Uzbekistan left an indelible mark on my soul, forever weaving its mystique into the fabric of my being. From the ancient cities steeped in history to the vibrant culture that pulsates through its streets, Uzbekistan is a destination that beckons the intrepid traveler to embark on a voyage of discovery. As I bid farewell to this enchanting land, I carry with me memories that will last a lifetime, eagerly anticipating the day when I can once again lose myself in the timeless allure of Uzbekistan.

IMAM BUKHARI COMPLEX



SAMARKAND

Glimpses of Pak Uzbek Friendship Council in 2023.



PAK UZBEK FRIENDSHIP COUNCIL



President Pak Uzbek Friendship Council Dr Pir Tariq Sharifzada meet with H.E. President of Pakistan Dr. Arif Alvi, the meeting revolved around discussions on further enhancing bilateral relations between Pakistan and Uzbekistan. Dr. Arif Alvi, being the head of state, emphasized the importance of nurturing ties with Uzbekistan and exploring avenues for collaboration in various fields such as trade, investment, education, and cultural exchange.



President Pak Uzbek Friendship Council Dr Pir Tariq Sharifzada meet with H.E. Oybek Usmanov the Ambassador of Uzbekistan in Pakistan, on the occasion of 32nd Independence day celebration at Islamabad. During this meeting both agree to enhance the cooperation between the two countries to promote Ziyarat Tourism between the two countries. It was also discussed to show the real Islam to the world by doing reproach work on Imam Bukhari, Imam Terms and Bahuddin Naqshbandi.



32nd Independence day of Uzbekistan was celebrated in Lahore. President of Pak Uzbek Friendship Council cut the cake. This celebration was organised by the women wing of Pak Uzbek Friendship Council. At the occasion Dr. Tariq emphasised the need of people to people contact between the two brotherly countries.



Renowned Seerat Scholar Dr Pir Tariq Sharifzada President Pak Uzbek Friendship Council presenting Newsletter Uzbekistan Magazine to Worthy Vice Chancellor University of Home Economics Lahore, Prof Dr Faleeha Kazmi. During meeting both agree that it is the time for

youth of both nations to interact with each other and work together for the betterment of Muslim Ummah.



President Pak Uzbek Friendship Council Dr Pir Tariq Sharifzada was invited by Hum TV for the special edition on 32nd Independence Day of Uzbekistan. During this telecast Dr. Tariq shared details of Muslim Scholars, Pirs and Scientist of Uzbekistan. During this interview a documentary on Uzbekistan been also telecast. Viewers took deep interest in that documentary.



II International Festival of Handicrafts Kokand A whirlwind craft festival

Vicki Mason
Contemporary Jeweller
Melbourne, Australia.

It was my good fortune to be selected by the Uzbekistan committee running the II International Handicrafts Festival in Kokand to show my work and attend their three-day festival in September. And what a joyous wild ride of a festival it proved to be. My Uzbek hosts were hospitable, generous, warm and natural dancers. I had heard they love to dance and the best words to describe something of what I experienced were 'seduced' and 'mesmerised', as I to was drawn into many mini dance-a-thons over my time at the festival where kaleidoscopic fabrics and tassels swirled and whorled. An Uzbek zest for life was palpably expressed through music and dance as we got off the train on arrival, in the festival's epic opening and closing ceremonies and in the in the ceremonial opening parade. I also encountered spaces in amongst the craft pavilions set aside for dancing, singing folk songs and playing traditional stringed gijak, dutar, tanbur and doira (drums). In fact, thundering music permeated the air of the stunning bejewelled palace grounds for much of the time I exhibited my work there. A local explained that loud music was normal, the stuff of wedding celebrations and festivals and all part of Uzbek culture, character and customs.

I showcased my jewellery in a pavilion on a main thoroughfare alongside seventy or so other countries' master craftspeople and international craft organisation representatives. Dotted around this street in amongst towering trees, 1000-1200 local craftspeople from the region exhibited their work. A generosity of spirit expressed through humour, the humble smile and hellos served as tools we all used to engage with one another as we connected and shared our work. Where spoken English united us, the stories underpinning the varied symbols and motifs used in works were told. Materials, processes and techniques employed were explained and how the objects might be used were

outlined. Many masters demonstrated processes and techniques, generously answering questions and sharing know-how. The passing of skills in the master-student model appeared to be alive and well in Kokand as I witnessed concentration and joy on the faces of young children, teenagers and young adults engaged in making alongside their elders. I subsequently read that many Uzbek centuries-old handicrafts are preserved and developed as they are passed through family lines over many generations. I had taken work to demonstrate but a huge demand from locals seeking to engage me in conversation in order to practise their English meant I took on the role as part-time conversational



English teacher. This, combined with requests for photos proved to be an unexpected pleasure as I gained deeper insights into the Uzbek people. At the end of day two the relentless smiling and laughing resulted in sore facial muscles, which was a new experience for me. It was testimony to our human need to connect with one another; that craft enabled this was magic.

I became fast friends with my tentmate Cindy Lilen from Argentina. Cindy exhibited beautiful textile lights and we navigated the

fluidity of the festival program together. We shared treasured moments as we connected and engaged with the diverse audience including interpreters, honoured guests, curators, industry experts, locals from Kokand, international travellers, media contingents and fellow makers.

Kokand holds the status as a cultural centre in Uzbekistan and is a World Crafts Council 'World Craft City'. Unique and original craft traditions are deeply embedded in this community and society. Encountering a city and country where craft is viewed as an honourable profession of value and worthy of government support at both a local and national level was eye opening. The president of Uzbekistan attended the event and the mayor of Kokand swung by everyone's exhibits to shake hands, welcome us and look at work. It transmitted a value message that remarkable objects, the skills to make them and the treasury of craft traditions and stories that underpin them matters. This valuing of the handmade to the extent I witnessed is scarce in my own country. When asked if we have an international festival of this kind in Australia I felt saddened as I answered no, having to explain that our leaders for the most part continue to erode support for making and manufacturing. It is not seen as integral to our cultural life and national identity, and we are the poorer for it.

A constant sense of discovery permeated my time at the festival as I saw and learnt about the myriad of world crafts on show. Touching the exquisite hand-dyed and woven Uzbek adras and ikat cotton/silk fabrics and learning about the plants used to dye them was fascinating. Watching masters wrangle gold and silk threads as they embroidered suzani and gold embroidered masterpieces with quiet honed precision was awe inspiring. Many of the striking local fabrics featured in uniquely designed clothes shown in a fashion parade that formed part of the festival's many activities and events.

Celebrations of any kind build community and my time spent in Kokand left me feeling hugely enriched, valued as a professional and part of a world community of makers supported by advocates for the handmade. I can't thank those involved enough. Putting on an event of this vast scale that also included masterclasses, competitions with prizes (one of which I won an award for) was icing on the festival's cake. Craft is a language that all cultures have in common, it connects us all. Building cross cultural connections in Kokand was a precious experience I hold close to my heart.

FOUNDATION OF THE COUNTRY, SUPPORT OF THE STATE

"...(Alisher's) titles were written like this: "The guide, the highest point of honor and respect, the head of religion and statesmen, the strength of the leaders of the country and nation, the initiator of good deeds, the developer of charity institutions, the pillar of the kingdom, the ruler of kings Amir Alisher, the leader, the hope and trust of the sultan's state, the sultan's close friend, the law of truth and religion."

From the work "Ravzat us-safo" by Khondamir

This year, on February 9, the 583rd anniversary of the birth of the great poet and thinker Alisher Navoi is widely celebrated. All the cultural and educational activities related to this blessed day will logically complement each other and will be of great importance in raising the spirituality of our country.

A new work on the life and work of Navoi

Alisher Navoi as an enlightened person was mentioned in historical sources both during his lifetime and in later periods, and was widely described and described in poetic works. For more than five centuries, many books have been written about the life path and creative activity of His Holiness Navoi.

The ideas of humanity and tolerance, goodness and justice are embodied in the life philosophy embedded in the core of Hazrat Navoi's works. Our contemporaries,



Akmal Saidov,
Academician, doctor of legal
sciences, Member of the Union of
Writers of Uzbekistan

who are building a new Uzbekistan and rebuilding the foundation of the Third Renaissance, should have such good qualities. Why, the call of the **President of Uzbekistan that "Spirituality should be ahead of other areas, become a new force, a new movement"** requires exactly

that.

Only in the 20th century, such outstanding scientists and writers as Izzat Sultan, Vahid Zohidov, Oybek, Aziz Qayumov, Hamid Sulaymanov, Natan Mallaev, Suyima G'anieva published their scientific, historical, literary and artistic works dedicated to various aspects of Alisher Navoi's work. At the beginning of the new century - in New Uzbekistan, the consistent research of Navoi scientists and writers is rising to higher levels.

Rector of Tashkent State University of Uzbek Language and Literature named after Alisher Navoi, **Academician Shuhrat Sirojiddinov** is a dedicated researcher and one of the leading authors of this field. We share this opinion with the scientist's book "Amir Alisher" published in 2023. The book "Life and activity" clearly confirms this.

In what respects does the new book differ from other works? As noted in the summary (resume) on the first page of this publication, the main distinguishing features are:

firstly, the first manuscript sources related to Alisher Navoi's life and work were revised;

secondly, the degree of differentiation of information from early sources in the period before the 20th century was determined;

thirdly, some unknown aspects of the life of the great poet and statesman are clarified;

fourthly, by presenting a number of new information, it was possible to fully imagine the details of His Holiness Navoi's life.

In this sense, the new book is a synthesis of the long-term research of the well-known naveistologist. This work is, so to speak, a weighty summary of in-depth scientific and creative research processes on a specific topic.

Alisher Navoi as a great figure of the Second Eastern Renaissance

In this book, as the author himself admits, "the biography of Alisher Navoi based on the information given in the oldest, first sources" is covered. This is very important from a scientific-historical point of view.

Because today's reality related to New Uzbekistan puts on the agenda to promote Alisher Navoi's great contribution to the development of our nation and world culture and science. In this case, it is necessary to study Navoi's biobibliography in full and to create a true biography, to research the creativity and spiritual heritage of the nation with a deep understanding of its essence, and to use it consistently and efficiently.

Such new practical steps are necessary first of all for the rise of our spirituality and the restoration of our old history. At the same time, such a modern approach is to study the rich scientific-literary heritage of Alisher Navoi and dozens of other scholars, poets and thinkers who brought the culture of the peoples of the East closer with their life and work, by translating, publishing and popularizing the unique books and manuscripts left by them into different languages of the world. supporting related initiatives is extremely important in realizing the goals of making this universal material and spiritual heritage serve to strengthen the friendship of peoples.

Therefore, His Highness Navoi, the great Uzbek poet and thinker, famous state and public figure, patron of education and science, spirituality and culture, our native language and literature, is among the bright figures who had a strong and effective influence on the formation of the spiritual world of our people. Alisher Navoi occupies a special place in the history of world civilization as a major representative of the Second Eastern Renaissance.

The literary heritage of our great ancestor is huge and colorful, his poetic works alone contain more than 100 thousand lines. In the words of Academician Sh.Sirojiddinov, "It is no exaggeration to say that such a poet is few in world literature."

The researches of our grandfather Navoi not only as a poet, but also as a literary critic were very important, and his effective work in this direction was of great importance in the development of Turkish and Persian literature. In the words of the author of the book we are interpreting, "He organized the aruz system in the work "Mezon ul-Avzan", but he paid special attention to restoring the genres of Eastern poetry, such as problems and odes, which were almost forgotten by the 15th century."

Another important aspect is that the sultan himself created great conditions and facilities for the development of the literary environment of Herat led by Navoi. In this way, the name of Alisher Navoi became famous as the patron of the virtues of the seven climates and artists.

Many tazkiranavis, historians, poets, scientists have testified about Navoi's benevolent virtues in their works. The proof of this can be found in the works of our great ancestor's contemporaries, even in various hymns written in honor of Navoi by many calligraphers and scribes.

Alisher Navoi is the founder of Turkish literary language

The President of Uzbekistan has been paying attention to solving a number of urgent issues in the field of spirituality and enlightenment based on the tasks that today's complex and dangerous life puts before us. One of these priority tasks is to actually strengthen the status of the Uzbek language as a state language.

At the extended meeting of the Republican Council of Spirituality and Enlightenment held on December 22, 2023 under the chairmanship of **President Shavkat Mirziyoyev**, special attention was paid to the issue of increasing the effectiveness of teaching the Uzbek language. It was noted that the teachers of the subject "Uzbek language and literature" who have a national certificate will be paid a 50 percent bonus starting from the new academic year.

The head of our state also noted that measures will be taken to encourage our compatriots who have received education in other languages to learn the state language. It was noted that the hours of teaching the state language in schools specializing in

other languages will be increased, and an international science Olympiad on the Uzbek language will be organized.

In this sense, "Amir Alisher. It is worth noting that the book "Life and activity" presents interesting information about the fact that Alisher Navoi is the founder of the Turkish literary language. On the one hand, this shows how relevant this work is, and on the other hand, the scientific information related to the formation and development of our native language, especially the complex and extremely important efforts to bring it to the status of a state language in distant history, will serve to fundamentally increase the knowledge of our contemporaries, especially our youth. .

For example, when thinking about Alisher Navoi's struggle to raise the status of the Turkish language, it is appropriate to first of all dwell on the work "Muhokamat ul-lughatayn". After all, in the form of this work, its author showed himself as a great linguist who showed the rich possibilities of our language and proved that it is a beautiful and powerful language in no way inferior to Arabic and Persian languages.

As noted by Academician Sh.Sirojiddinov, during Navoi's lifetime, Persian was considered the language of poetry, Arabic was considered a scientific language, and Turkish was regarded as the language of the common people. This, of course, is the result of problems related to the many thousand years of experience of statehood and the rich spiritual and literary heritage, glorious history and humanitarian values of the Turkic peoples, which were destroyed by the Mongol invasion, and the fact that it was difficult to restore the fascinating language.

Therefore, as the author of the book points out, "Even in Temur's palace, the work of bringing the Turkish language to the level of the state language has not been completed. In such a situation, Alisher Navoi set himself the goal of restoring the status of the Turkish-Uzbek language.

In this sense, today, in the development of modern technologies for learning the Uzbek language abroad and in our country, it is extremely helpful that the love for the mother tongue, the feeling of honoring it, realizing its incomparable wealth and greatness entered our thoughts and hearts first of all with the works of Navoi. Already, our great ancestor achieved his noble goal of restoring the status of the Uzbek language - he made the whole country yakkalam, i.e. monolingual.

As recognized in the famous ode

"Uzbekistan" by our beloved poet **Abdulla Oripov**: "The place where Temur's blade did not touch Alisher took it with a pen".

Thus, in the words of the President of the Nation, "The great poet, in his poetic and prose works, showed high universal ideas, the incomparable vocabulary and limitless possibilities of expression of our mother tongue with all its charm and grace, and won a worthy and solid place in the hearts of millions of readers on earth."

Studying Navoi's heritage: unexplored or controversial topics interpretation

In the years of independence, narratology also made remarkable progress. A number of researches were created on topics forbidden during the Mustabid regime, including the Qur'anic foundations of the work of the great poet, and Sufi worldview.

At the same time, one cannot turn a blind eye to the fact that there are still some problems that have not yet been thoroughly examined, certain topics that are fragile and "delicate". Academician **Sh.Sirojiddinov** deeply analyzed some of these topics from a scientific and historical point of view.

The author of the book took into account that in the course of this complex research, the honor and love, value and value, reputation and attention of our grandfather Navoi would not be harmed. At the same time, we believe that it is noteworthy that any controversial issues are covered on the basis of various primary sources, in which the principles of historical truth and scientific objectivity are consistently observed.

It should also be said that in the previously published researches of the Navoi scholar, in particular, in the work entitled "Alisher Navoi: comparative-typological, textological analysis of sources" published in 2011, the original state of the information known to Navoi studies was studied. It is worth noting that by conducting a comparative typological-textological analysis of these data, the degree of difference of the data from the sources created in the period before the 20th century was determined.

For example, **academician Sh.Sirojiddinov**, during a detailed study of historical sources, comes to the conclusion that Abu Sa'id Bek, the grandfather of His Holiness Navoi, was a very close person to Husayn Boygari in the Timurid period. In this place, "We even assume that Abu Sa'id Boykara may have been a close friend of Mirza, and in this sense Boykara was with him wherever he

lived," writes the author of the book.

On this basis, the navoi scholar comes to such a conclusion, which is unexpected, but has a certain historical and scientific-theoretical basis. That is, Mir Alisher, one of the four sons of Amir Temur - Husein Boygari, who was severely punished for his rebellion during the reign of Shahrukh Mirza and was accused of poverty, deeply realized that it was impossible to justify in historical works and at the same time be proud of his grandfather, who was his close comrade.

As **Academician Sh.Sirojiddinov** rightly assessed, our grandfather Navoi was a supporter of not overshadowing the history of the Timurids. Therefore, it is logical that it is written in the book: "The reason why Mir Alisher does not mention the names of the Boykara family and his ancestors can be explained by this."

Another confusing topic that has been unclear in Navoi studies: Was Alisher Navoi exiled to Samarkand? Our attention was drawn to the fact that in the book, by studying a number of sources related to the issues surrounding this question and analyzing them on a new basis, they tried to put forward the most appropriate answer.

In particular, based on the words of **V. Bartold** Babur, he approved the idea that Alisher Navoi was exiled to Samarkand by Abu Sa'id. Although Mir Alisher himself said that he went to study, he denied this evidence with the comment that "They did not go from Herat to Samarkand to study at that time." As a result, most Navoi scholars relied on V. Bartold's argument that "Navoi's departure from Herat to Samarkand should be considered as an exile" and went on to develop it.

On the other hand, **E. Bertels** in his monograph "Navoiy" considered Navoi's visit to Samarkand as an exile. He explained his conclusion with the opinion that "at that time, Samarkand was not a center of science".

Academician **Sh.Sirojiddinov**, while critically analyzing various approaches in this regard, first of all, it is significant that he drew attention to the misinterpretation of Babur's opinion. In particular, Zahiriddin Muhammad Babur actually asked, "Why did Abu Sa'id exile Nawai to Samarkand?" not that, but "I don't know, for what sin was he expelled from Herat?" the scientist said.

In the book, the Uzbek scientist's assessment of the same issue is also presented. That is, as Academician **Sh.Sirojiddinov** noted, "As Navoi himself admitted, 'helplessness, disaster, fate and

sadness" caused him to leave Herat, but it happened for reasons known only to him. Navoi was a poet who was not involved in politics during the time of Abu Sa'id Mirza.

In addition, it is openly recognized that there are different views in Navoi studies about



the reasons for sending Alisher Navoi as governor to Astrobad. Because it is not a secret to anyone that our modern Naviology views the sending of our great ancestor to Astrobad as an exile.

The author of the book put forward ideas as

close to the truth as possible to this problem. In particular, based on the conclusions of a number of Navoi scholars like A. Semyonov, he said that "Astrobad was the richest and most important province of Sultan Husayn, in which mainly princes or highly trusted people of the sultan were



governors, and the appointment of Alisher as the governor of Astrobad was a "distant province" It cannot be understood as "honorary exile", he believes.

Alisher Navoi is a fair statesman

Interest in the life and work of Alisher Navoi

has not faded from his time to the present day, especially in recent years, it has been growing. Naturally, as socio-historical development progresses, human thinking shows different views on certain events.

If we assume that such views are born on the basis of ideological-aesthetic directions that appeared in each period, the activity of historical figures is the fruit of complex thinking of this ideological-artistic phenomenon. The second part of the new book "Amir Alisher and the palace" written by **Academician Sh.Sirojiddinov** is fully devoted to the details of the time of our grandfather Navoi's 35 years in the service of the palace.

When talking about the history of the Timurid state, we proudly acknowledge that the name of Alisher Navoi is mentioned as a famous statesman. This recognition is fully confirmed by the description of Sultan Husayn Boykara ul Zat as "the pillar of the country, the support of the state".

In this sense, in the opinion of the Uzbek scientist, the reasons why the name of Alisher Navoi will be engraved forever in history are due to the following three reasons:

the first basis is that he wrote works that show his unparalleled talent;

the second reason is that he was a famous statesman;

the third reason is that he has reached the level of the possessor of worthy behavior, which elevated him to the status of a great man.

In fact, Navoi always acted in accordance with Sharia laws and the Sunnah of our Prophet (pbuh) in the interests of the state and the people. In each case, he solved the problems of the oppressed from the point of view of justice.

Alisher Navoi Amiri Kabir - As the Prime Minister, he always combined the interests of the state and the people in the most important and sensitive parts of the state administration, such as the judiciary, internal affairs, tax system, foreign diplomatic relations, internal conflicts, border problems, public gatherings and events. protected. On the other hand, as the author of the book wrote, "Navoi's qualities of tolerance, justice, wisdom, politicking and caring for the citizens helped the Sultan to manage the state fairly."

It is very important that **Academician Sh.Sirojiddinov** put forward completely new, as the saying goes, "untouched"

thoughts on these issues. He confidently stated, "The reason why our scientists deviated far from historical reality was that they relied on each other rather than expressing their opinions. Based on the ideology of the Soviet regime, the interpretations of the first Navoi scholars that Sultan "exiled him to get rid of his poisonous words" because Navoi was "a poet who was not afraid to tell the truth" are not true.

According to the work "**Makorim ul-Akhlaq**" ("Good manners"), Navoi had the right to appeal to the king up to nine times in order to defend his opinion on a decision or issue. However, as a contemporary Navoi scholar rightly noted, "As a subordinate of Alisher Navoi Sultan, he was never able to tell the truth clearly, but tried to explain it with mawridi."

Academician Sh.Sirojiddinov rightly stated, "Two important sources written specifically about Alisher Navoi's life and work have reached us. This is a collection of memories written by **Ghiyaziddin Khondamir and Zayniddin Vasifi.**"

In particular, Khondamir was able to fully reflect the spiritual image of Navoi in his work "Makorim ul-akhlaq". When talking about the admirable qualities of Alisher Navoi, the famous historian described Amir Alisher as "a person whom God looked upon from childhood", and on another page he paid special attention to showing the character of Navoi, which proves the truth of the same opinion.

At the same time, the well-known Navoi scholar was able to find the fault of the author of the work "Makorim ul-Akhlaq". The fact is that "the author had the opportunity to provide accurate information, firstly, in many cases, he did not mention the dates of the events, and secondly, he did not reveal Navoi's life in chronological order", writes academician Sh.Sirojiddinov.

From this point of view, the scientist's "Amir Alisher. In the book "Life and Activities" it is commendable that Amir Nizamiddin Alisher's personality and activities as a statesman are covered based on a clear chronology.

This book is a continuation of the author's monograph "Alisher Navoi: comparative-typological, textological analysis of sources" published in 2011. Because in the new work dedicated to His Holiness Navoi, the rare historical works and information from tazkiras, which were not analyzed in the previous book, are thoroughly analyzed and deserve attention and recognition.

Imam Termizi

Unveiling the Legacy of Islamic Scholarship

Northwest of Termez, close to the town of Shirabad, is the Mausoleum of Khoja Abu Isa Muhammad Imam Termezi, a significant figure in Islam as he travelled across the Islamic world for 30 years collecting sayings of the Prophet to contribute to the Hadith, the holiest book after the Qu'ran. The tomb is less impressive than one might expect, but it is still an important pilgrimage site.

The architectural complex of mausoleum of Hakim al-Termezi formed near the northwest corner of the citadel of Termez for centuries. In this sparsely western part of Old Termez is the tomb of the IX century scholar, founder of the dervish order "Hakimia" Abu Abdullah Muhammad Bini Ali Hakim at-Termizi, revered as the spiritual patron of the ancient city.

According to the book of Egyptian sheik Abdulfattoh Baraka, At-Termezi lived a long life and died at the age of 115 years in Termez in 932 and was buried in the medieval citadel of Termez. Over time, over the grave was erected a mausoleum became a popular place of pilgrimage. Here to worship at the sacred tomb come not only locals but also pilgrims from other countries in the Muslim world.

In the XIX century on the site of the temple

was built four-domed building of mud brick. In the mausoleum burial was found on three-tier white carved marble tombstone "Sagana", covered with beautiful carvings. At the end of the tombstone epitaph inscribed: "In the name of the person to whom praise.



Shaykh, Imam, scholar, saint Abu Abdullah Muhammad Bini Ali Hakim Bina Ali Hakim have mercy on him. He was the greatest of the great Sayyid, possessed a high eloquence, wrote famous works and has made remarkable sayings. He was a friend of Abu Abdullah Bukhari, the author's book "Sahih". Yes, have mercy on him. Among the shaykhs, he studied law better than lawyers hanafian, may God have mercy on him. Died, let God save him, in the year 255 / 869".

Later in the shape of the ensemble has

changed. The main building of the mausoleum was torn down, on the remains of its walls built new from the brick. Rebuilt also the building adjacent to the east. They were all raised on a platform. Within the walls of "kari khana" arranged narrow vertical through-slot that went round the mausoleum, so they could hear the voice of "kari", reading the funeral prayer. The tombs were joined a broad arched opening. Fencing of the yard and brick, they are also faced with the wall of old Sufi cell. To the south of the farm buildings are located "khanaka". These on ceramic "kuburs" (piped) water came. It prepared the food for its inhabitants and pilgrims.

In the late 50s XX century were carried out restoration work and detailed research, and in the 80s was restored decor of the main mausoleum. In 1990, UNESCO celebrated the 1000th anniversary of this esteemed Sheikh and were confined to this reconstruction of the object.

The studies revealed that the mausoleum, occupying a relatively small area (about 590 sq. m.), was one of the most complex of the medieval monuments of the number of buildings erected over the centuries, one above the other. Layers are composed of masonry and adobe brick, interspersed with numerous graves, decorative items and

household ceramics. Irregularities of the relief, reconstruction and repairs, burial chambers talk about the history of the ensemble. Prior to the first buildings are located a Buddhist temple. From a preserved base of columns, fragments of parts, burnt bricks, the remains of aqueducts and household ceramics Kushan period.

Since gaining independence, the works on restoration and improvement of this unique monument of culture. Craftsmen from all over the country have contributed to the restoration of the architectural complex. Work time-consuming, because it was necessary to preserve the original appearance. And judging by the results, it is succeeded. Significantly expanded the surrounding area of the complex, it is now landscaped, planted trees and flowers. Installed special lighting. Thus, the original features of the ancient monuments of architecture complemented with new bright colors today. Undoubtedly, this will allow a better study and understand the history of the region, which has always aroused great interest worldwide.

The complex was built in the museum which exhibits rare artifacts found during archaeological excavations carried out simultaneously with the restoration.

At-Termizi

Abu Isa Muhammad ibn Isa as-Sulami ad-Darir al Bughi at-Termizi (was born 824 –



died 8 October 892), often referred to as Imam at-Tirmizi, was an Islamic scholar and collector of hadith who wrote al-Jami as-Sahih (known as Jami at-Tirmizi), one of the six canonical hadith compilations in Sunni Islam. He also wrote Shamaili Muhammadiyah (popularly known as Shamail at-Tirmizi), a compilation of hadiths concerning the person and character of the Islamic prophet, Muhammad (SAV).

Birth

Muhammad ibn Isa at-Tirmizi was born during the reign of the Abbasid caliph al-Ma'mun. His year of birth has been reported as 209 AH (824/825). Adh-Dhahabi only



states that at-Tirmizi was born near the year 210 AH (825/826), thus some sources give his year of birth as 210 AH. Some sources indicate that he was born in Mecca (Siddiqi says he was born in Mecca in 206 AH (821/822)) while others say he was born in Termez, in what is now southern Uzbekistan. The stronger opinion is that he was born in Termez. Specifically, he was born in one of its suburbs, the village of Bugh (hence the nisbats "at-Tirmizi" and "al-Bughi").

Hadith studies

At-Tirmidhi began the study of hadith at the age of 20. From the year 235 AH (849/850) he traveled widely in Khurasan, Iraq, and the Hijaz in order to collect hadith

At the time, Khurasan, at-Tirmizi's native land, was a major center of learning, being home to a large number of muhaddiths. Other major centers of learning visited by at-Tirmidhi were the Iraqi cities of Kufa and Basra. At-Tirmizi reported hadith from 42 Kufan teachers. In his Jami, he used more reports from Kufan teachers than from teachers of any other town.

At-Tirmizi was a pupil of al-Bukhari, who was based in Khurasan. Adh-Dhahabi wrote, "His knowledge of hadith came from al-Bukhari." At-Tirmizi mentioned al-Bukhari's name 114 times in his Jami. He used al-Bukhari's Kitab at-Tarikh as a source when mentioning discrepancies in the text of a hadith or its transmitters, and praised al-Bukhari as being the most knowledgeable person in Iraq or Khurasan in the science of discrepancies of hadith. When mentioning the rulings of jurists, he followed al-Bukhari's practice of not mentioning the name of Abu Hanifah. Because he never received a reliable chain

of narrators to mention Abu Hanifa's decrees, he would instead attribute them to "some people of Kufa." Al-Bukhari held at-Tirmizi in high regard as well. He is reported to have told at-Tirmizi, "I have profited more from you than you have from me" and in his Sahih he narrated two hadith from at-Tirmizi.

At-Tirmizi also narrated some hadiths from Abu Dawud, and one from Muslim. Muslim also narrated one hadith from at-Tirmizi in his own Sahih.

A.J. Wensinck mentions Ahmad ibn Hanbal as among at-Tirmizi's teachers. However, Hoosen states that according to the most reliable sources, at-Tirmidhi never went to Baghdad, nor did he attend any lectures of Ahmad ibn Hanbal. Furthermore, at-Tirmizi never directly narrates from Ahmad ibn Hanbal in his Jami.

Several of at-Tirmizi's teachers also taught al-Bukhari, Muslim, Abu Dawud, Ibn Majah, and an-Nasai.

Death

At-Tirmizi was blind in the last two years of his life, according to adh-Dhahabi. His blindness is said to have been the consequence of excessive weeping, either due to fear of God or over the death of al-Bukhari.

He died on Monday night, 13 Rajab 279 AH (Sunday night, on 8 October 892) in Bugh.

At-Tirmizi is buried on the outskirts of Sherobod, a 60 kilometers north of Termez in Uzbekistan. In Termez he is locally known as Abu Isa at-Termezi or "Termez Ota" ("Father of Termez").

UZBEKISTAN

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Uzbekistan Tourist Information Center is official Representative office of Ministry of Tourism Uzbekistan in Pakistan. This office is being established to provide quality services to the travellers who wish to visit Uzbekistan.

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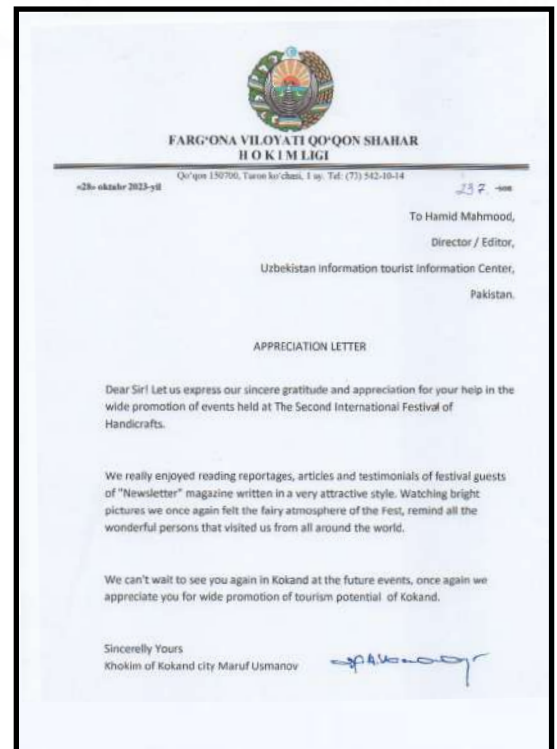
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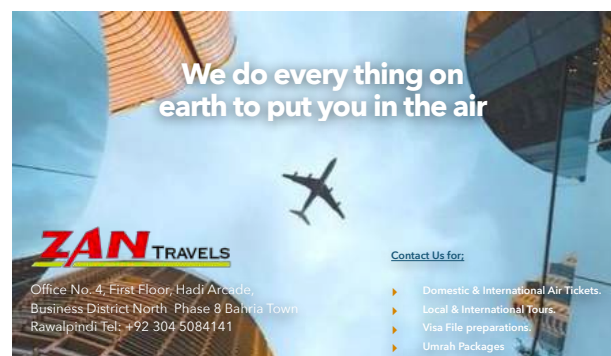
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- ▶ Ministry of Tourism Uzbekistan.
- ▶ Saqib Rafiq President RCCI
- ▶ Qasim Ali Shah Lahore
- ▶ Vicki Mason Australia
- ▶ Saed Alina Shakilevna

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Happy Navruz to our readers



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