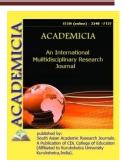




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# ETHNIC RELATIONS IN A MULTINATIONAL COUNTRY (UZBEKISTAN)

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### **ABSTRACT**

The article covers the issues of preserving the language, customs, traditions and cultures, unique values over the years of independence, the further development of interethnic relations of more than 130 nations and peoples living in a multinational Uzbekistan. The reasons for the arrival of people of other nationalities, hospitality and tolerance of the Uzbek people were revealed to the Uzbekistan. The article also notes that equal conditions have been created in Uzbekistan to preserve the national identity of nationalities - for this there are 138 national cultural centers in the country, coordinated by the State Organization - the International National Center, classes in the Schools of the Republic are conducted in 8 languages, the media are published in 12 languages. All this is explained by the fact that in Uzbekistan, there is a mutual understanding in the interethnic relations, all nations and peoples living in the republic live in peace and harmony on the basis of the idea of "Uzbekistan - our common house".

**KEYWORDS:** State Policy In The Field Of Interethnic Relationships, Concept, Migration, Ethnic Group, Interethnic Tolerance, Interethnic Consent, International National Center, National-Cultural Centers, National Identity.

#### INTRODUCTION

Uzbek land has long been populated by people of different civilizations, cultural layers, different religions and worldviews. People who live here are not people who migrated from other places and settled here. This land is ancient and sacred land where our ancestors lived. Uzbekistan, located at the intersection of the Great Silk Road, where the ancient past and great future are found, in the heart of Central Asia, is one of the most ancient centers of human thought, science and culture. It was on this basis that the roots of the world of civilization were formed that the



world was formed, the religious and philosophical traditions of the most ancient periods of human history were formed. It is worth noting that the desire for the inherent nobility, humanity and interethnic agreement is one of the highest qualities of our civilization. These traditions are transmitted from generation to generation.

Uzbekistan is a multinational state, its multinational roots go into the depths of centuries. Multiple migration of peoples living in our country at different stages of historical development, devastating wars, the battles of different rulers - all this affected the demographic processes.

Resettlement here for centuries, Iranian rulers, Alexander Macedonian, Arab invasion, the looting of Genghis Khan, the colonial invasions of Tsarist Russia, the arrival of people of different nationalities and races, permanent residence of some artisans from different cities and countries during the reign of Amir Temur the Great led to a sharp Changes in the national composition of the population.

## Main part

Our country is located at the crossroads of the Great Silk Road, has fertile lands, favorable natural climatic conditions, hospitality of indigenous people, breadwinning.

In addition, after the colonization of Turkestan, the Russian Empire from Russia began to relocate landless and unclosed peasants. For example, in 1889-1891, 28,911 families or more than 100,000 people were resettled in Turkestan. There are those who emigrated from Russia arbitrarily. By 1896, their number amounted to 178,400 people [1].

In the period of industrialization conducted by the former Soviet authorities in Uzbekistan in the late 1920s - early 1930s, 300 weaves were sent to Uzbekistan. In 1930, 15,000 skilled workers were resettled from Russia to Uzbekistan. In 1933, 3062 workers were sent, in 1934 - 3500, in 1935 - 300 people. In 1933-1938, 650 thousand workers were resettled to Uzbekistan for permanent job, including 94.3 thousand workers from Russia.

On the eve of the Second World War and in recent years, the national composition of the population of Uzbekistan has changed dramatically due to deported peoples. In October and November 1937, 16,307 families or 74,500 Koreans were deported from the Far East to Uzbekistan [2].

By 1944, Crimean Tatars, Meskhetian Turks, Kalmyks, Greeks, Poles and representatives of other nationalities were deported to Uzbekistan. As of July 1, 1951, 184,122 people were deported to Uzbekistan. As of April 1, 1953 there were 188,689 people [3].

After the Nazi invasion of the USSR, about 100 factories with the workers from the first days of war were evacuated from the center to Uzbekistan. After the end of the war, some workers who came to the factories remained in Uzbekistan for permanent residence.

In the 60-70s of the last century, foreign labor was brought to Uzbekistan for the construction and operation of chemical enterprises and the development of specially protected lands. In 1961-1975, about 400 thousand qualified workers were resettled from abroad.

Many forces to assist profits from Moscow, Leningrad and the Union republics of the former Soviet Union to cope with the consequences of the earthquake on April 26, 1966 in Tashkent. Among them were Russian, Ukrainians, Belarusians, Armenians, Azerbaijanis, Georgians,



Moldovans and representatives of the fraternal republics of Central Asia. When Tashkent rebuilt anew, some of them settled here forever.

The period of colonization of Uzbekistan, which lasted almost 150 years, had a significant impact on demographic processes in the country, including the ethnic composition of the population. It is known that complete information on the population, its total number, distribution by regions, age, sex, social and national composition, natural growth, migration is obtained by conducting a census. Population census in Uzbekistan was held 8 times in the last 100 years (in 1897, 1920, 1926, 1939, 1959, 1970, 1979 and 1989).

According to the 1989 census, the absolute number of Uzbeks has increased significantly over the past decade. Over the same period, it increased by 3,6 million and reached 14,1 million. As a result, the number of indigenous Uzbeks in 1989 amounted to 71,4% of the total population.

During the same period, the number of Russians remained at the same level - 1.7 million, their number in the national population of Uzbekistan decreased from 10.8% to 8.3%. The number of Tajiks has increased significantly from 594.6 thousand to 933.6 thousand, and the number of Kazakhs from 620.1 thousand to 808.2 thousand [4].

After finding Uzbekistan independence not only for the indigenous population of the country of the Uzbek people, special attention was paid to creating equal conditions and opportunities for people of different nationalities and ethnic groups living in the republic to preserve their language, culture, values and traditions as a nation.

The leadership of the country took steps to resolve the issue of law. In this regard, our country proceeded, above all, from the requirements of the Constitution.

The attention of all segments of the population and representatives of different nationalities focused on ensuring peace, calm and interethnic consent, strengthening the most important value facing the country - independence. Equality before the law was provided. It strengthened in the hearts of each citizen a sense of responsibility for a single land, a single place, a single homeland, which serves the idea of "Uzbekistan is our common house".

Article 4 of the Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan says that "the Republic of Uzbekistan provides respect for languages, customs and traditions of all nations and peoples living in its territory, and creates conditions for their developmen". Article 8 states that "the people of Uzbekistan, regardless of nationality, is a citizen of the Republic of Uzbekistan". This norm defines the concept of the "people of Uzbekistan". Everyone who was born lives and works in Uzbekistan, regardless of nationality, race or religion, is an equal citizen of our country. Citizens of Uzbekistan, regardless of their origin, race, social origin and other circumstances, constitute the people of Uzbekistan. Article 18 states that "in the Republic of Uzbekistan, all citizens have the same rights and freedoms and are equal to the law, regardless of gender, race, nationality, language, religion, social origin, belief, personal and social status" [5]. The principle of national equality of the people of Uzbekistan, enshrined in these articles, fully complies with the requirements of all international human rights treaties, including the Paris Charter for the New Europe, to which the Republic of Uzbekistan joined [6].

From world experience, it is known that in multinational countries, protecting the rights and freedoms, national and cultural interests of their citizens is one of the most important areas of



state policy. This requires the creation of the necessary conditions so that the peoples living outside their historic homeland can satisfy their national needs. This requirement is especially important for peoples without a nationally territorial device.

In the post-Soviet time, the National Policy was considered one-way. The national question was not resolved in any of the Union republics. Such a policy has had a negative impact on the socioeconomic development of the Union republics, including Uzbekistan.

Although the Constitution of the former Soviet Union enshrined the national question, the constitutional provisions on the development of national cultures, in practice, the policy of Russification was carried out, the formation of a unified nation, which lost its national identity on the basis of rapprochement of all nations, and the peoples were "Soviet people".

From the first years of independence, flaws in interethnic relations began to gradually be eliminated. A multinational country adopted measures to ensure the world of peoples.

The creation of national cultural centers in the country has opened a wide path for the development of the national language, culture and other unique values and traditions of the country's non-indanted population. Even before independence, in 1989, inter-ethnic cultural centers were created under the ministry of culture. Initially, these centers included 12 cultural centers, including Kazakh, Korean, Armenian, Azerbaijani and Tajik. Over time, the number of such centers has increased. By 1995, their number increased to more than 80. The increase in the number of centers required the coordination of their activities. To this end, on January 13, 1992, a republican International Cultural Center was established. Its main task is the implementation of a unified state policy in the field of interethnic relations, including ministries, departments, the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Karakalpakstan, regional, city and district khokimiyats, as well as public organizations, in particular:

- providing practical and methodical assistance to national cultural centers and coordinate their activities:
- assistance in the restoration and development of national traditions, customs and rites of peoples, comprehensive development of culture and spiritual values of peoples and national groups living in the territory of the republic;
- establishment and development of relations and cooperation with national centers of foreign countries;
- promoting the international integration of nations and peoples living in the Republic of Uzbekistan, the harmonization of interethnic relations [7].

In 2017, the 25th anniversary of the creation of the Republican International Cultural Center was widely noted. In his speech at a meeting dedicated to the 25 th anniversary of the Republican International Cultural Center, President Shavkat Mirziyev, assessing the activities of the Center, said: "It is noteworthy that the Republican International Cultural Center coordinates the activities of national cultural centers, provides practical and methodological assistance.

Based on bright events conducted in all regions of the country, the Center enriches our cultural and social life with a deeper meaning, strengthens the bonds of friendship and tolerance between people of different nationalities and ethnic groups living in Uzbekistan. It is noteworthy that



among the countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) only in Uzbekistan such a structure was created "[8].

To date, there are 138 national-cultural centers in the country, which effectively act as non-state non-commercial organizations. Azerbaijanis in Uzbekistan respect and keep the traditions and customs of the people. The Azerbaijan National Cultural Center in Uzbekistan - "Gardasylik" ("Brotherhood") was one of the first, founded in 1989 in Tashkent. Later, Azerbaijani national cultural centers were created in Samarkand and Bukhara. In 2003, the Republican Association of National Cultural Centers of Azerbaijan was established.

The center offers courses of Azerbaijani, clubs of Azerbaijani dance and national embroidery, as well as computer literacy lessons for everyone, regardless of nationality. It was a tradition to hold exhibitions of applied art and national cuisine, during which the Azerbaijan Gizlarri ensemble (Azerbaijani girls) under the control of the Honored Artist of Azerbaijan Cocaba Aliyeva (Tashkent) glorifies Azerbaijani folk songs and dances. In addition, on mass events in Tashkent and other cities of the country, the creative teams "Gardashlik", the "hearth" are allocated by their unique performances. Azerbaijani artists regularly take part in events dedicated to National Holidays of Uzbekistan - Independence Day and Navruzu. Concerts of Azerbaijani artists are organized in collaboration with the Azerbaijani Embassy [9].

The activists of the center, seeking to strengthen and develop interethnic relations, make a worthy contribution to the exchange and enrichment of the Uzbek and Azerbaijani cultures, the further strengthening of ultrasound of friendship between nations.

The exhibits of the Museum of Uzbek-Azerbaijani Friendship in the center of the Center tell the story of friendly relations between the two peoples since ancient times. One of the exhibits of the museum is a stone amulet in the form of two kite of the II millennium BC, found in the Fergana Valley, is very similar to Amulet discovered in Azerbaijan, which confirms the proximity of our peoples. Today, the center and its branches in Bukhara, Navoi, Samarkand, Syrdarya, the Tashkent region and the city of Tashkent are effectively working to achieve a common goal.

An important activity of the International National Center is to actively participate in the preparation and holding of national holidays. In particular, in the traditional holidays "Independence Day" and "Navruz", celebrated in the country, along with Uzbeks, the people of all nationalities living in the country are actively involved.

Another direction of the work of the International National Center for the years of independence is the Film Art Festival, which has been held every two years since 1994. In particular, our people with great interest meets the speeches of professional and amateur artists of Armenian, Azerbaijani, Tajik, Kazakh, Tatar, German and Korean peoples, which are actively involved in this festival. Festivals of each National Cultural Center are to truly note the national holiday, show the bright future of this people, to strengthen the sense of responsibility for the destiny of the country in which they live. The final performances of national cultural centers are running on the eve of Independence Day on August 20 at the Palace of Friendship of Peoples and on the Day of the Holiday - September 1.

It was the tradition of the annual celebration of the Russian national and cultural center together with the Russian Embassy in Uzbekistan of the Day of the Great Russian Poets A. S. Pushkin and S. Ya. Yesenin, which strengthens our fraternal relations with the Russian people. It is also



worth noting such cultural events as the anniversary of the Great Kazakh Poet Abay with our brothers and sisters-Kazakhs living in Uzbekistan, the celebration of the 1000th anniversary of the Kyrgyz National Epos "Manas" with our Kirgiz Brothers.

Another positive aspect of the development of interethnic relations in the country is the creation of a system of education corresponding to the national composition of the population. Note that today in 845 schools in the country, training is conducted in Russian, 491 - in Kazakh, 259 - in Tajik, 52 - on Turkmen, 40 - in Kyrgyz and 7 - on Korean.

In addition to Uzbek, teachers of pedagogical institutions under the Ministry of Public Education are preparing teachers for schools with Russian, Tajik, Turkmen, Kazakh and Karakalpak language learning languages. In addition to Uzbek, teachers of pedagogical institutions under the Ministry of Public Education are preparing teachers for schools with Russian, Tajik, Turkmen, Kazakh and Karakalpak language learning languages.

The media serving the diverse needs of the national composition of the country are published in 8 languages: Uzbek, Karakalpak, Russian, Kazakh, Tajik, Turkmen, English and Korean. Television and radio broadcast in 12 languages (Uzbek, Karakalpak, Kazakh, Kyrgyz, Tajik, Azerbaijani, Russian, Tatar, Bashkir, Korean, Uigur). Obviously, the inter-ethnic state policy of Uzbekistan is based on humanity and democracy [10].

In Uzbekistan, a unique experience of establishing an interethnic relationship has been accumulated. It adheres to the principle not only an understanding of the national identity, education of the sense of national pride, the preservation of the language, culture and traditions of nations, but also to achieving the overall unity of all nations in the country.

We should not forget that where the importance of the idea of interethnic consent is not recognized, various contradictions and problems that threaten peace and stability arise in society. This is evidenced by national conflicts that occur today in some countries of the world.

In order to consistently implement and further improve the state policy of the Republic of Uzbekistan in the field of further development of interethnic relations, the main directions of the concept of state policy of the Republic of Uzbekistan in the field of interethnic relations are developed in accordance with the Strategy of Action 2017-2021:

- improving the mechanisms of interaction between state bodies and organizations, local executive bodies with civil society institutions, including media, in the implementation of state policy of the Republic of Uzbekistan in the field of interethnic relations;
- the establishment of additional socio-economic conditions in the country for the further development of interethnic relations, the effective implementation of the state policy of the Republic of Uzbekistan in the field of conservation and development of the language, culture, traditions and customs of different nationalities and living ethnic groups;
- ensuring in the country. In society, the feelings of a large multinational family to prevent the discrimination of their constitutional rights and freedoms;
- strengthening of interethnic relations, the protection of freedoms and legitimate interests of citizens inside and outside the country;



• improving the organizational and legal framework of interethnic relations, taking into account the priorities of the Republic of Uzbekistan in the development of the state and society, an advanced foreign experience [11].

The concept of state policy in the field of interethnic relationships and the roadmap for its implementation for 2019-2021 has been approved. The Committee on Ethnic Relations and Friendship with Foreign Countries under the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan is entrusted with coordination and monitoring of the implementation of the Concept and Road Card. The Committee has created a center for scientific and practical research of interethnic relations for scientific and social research in the field of interethnic relations, the preparation and publication of scientific articles, books, research materials, information and analytical reviews [12].

#### **FINDINGS**

During the years of independence, one of the priorities of state policy was the provision of interethnic consent in society, strengthening the atmosphere of friendship and a multinational family, the upbringing of young people in the spirit of love and devotion to Fatherland, respect for national and universal value. The provisions of the Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan on the equality of all citizens are being implemented.

Today, representatives of more than 130 nationalities and ethnic groups living in the country, using equal rights and capabilities enshrined in the Constitution and Laws of the Republic of Uzbekistan, work effectively in various sectors of the economy and social sphere, science and culture. They make a worthy contribution to the prosperity of the country and strengthening its independence.

Analysis of conducted large-scale democratic reforms, further liberalization of political, economic, social and cultural spheres and considerable creative work in other areas of society's life, shows the association of representatives of all nationalities and ethnic groups living in Uzbekistan, for the sake of a common goal, such as building a bright future for the new Uzbekistan.

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