



THE ORIGIN OF UZBEK PEOPLE'S CULTURE AND TRADITIONS

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Annotation (English): *This article examines the historical origins of the culture, customs, and traditions of the Uzbek people. It analyzes the influence of ancient civilizations, the Silk Road, Islamic values, family traditions, and national ceremonies on the formation of Uzbek cultural identity. The article also highlights the importance of preserving national traditions in the modern era of globalization. Historical and scientific sources are used to provide evidence-based conclusions.*

Keywords: *Uzbek culture, traditions, customs, Silk Road, national identity, Central Asia, spirituality, family values.*

Annotatsiya (O'zbek tilida): *Mazkur maqolada o'zbek xalqining madaniyati, urf-odatlar va an'analarining tarixiy ildizlari ilmiy asosda tahlil qilinadi. Unda qadimgi sivilizatsiyalar, Buyuk Ipak yo'li, islomiy qadriyatlar, oilaviy an'analar hamda milliy marosimlarning o'zbek madaniyati shakllanishidagi o'rni yoritilgan. Shuningdek, globallashuv sharoitida milliy qadriyatlarni asrab-avaylashning ahamiyati ochib berilgan.*

Kalit so'zlar: *o'zbek madaniyati, urf-odatlar, an'analar, Buyuk Ipak yo'li, milliy qadriyatlar, ma'naviyat.*

Аннотация (Русский): *В данной статье рассматриваются исторические корни культуры, традиций и обычаев узбекского народа. Анализируется влияние древних цивилизаций, Великого шелкового пути, исламских ценностей, семейных традиций и национальных обрядов на формирование узбекской культурной идентичности. Особое внимание уделяется сохранению национальных ценностей в условиях глобализации.*

Ключевые слова: *узбекская культура, традиции, обычаи, Великий шелковый путь, национальная идентичность, духовность.*



The culture and traditions of the Uzbek people have deep historical roots that were formed over thousands of years. Uzbekistan, located in the heart of Central Asia, has long been one of the centers of world civilization. The territory of present-day Uzbekistan was home to ancient states such as Sogdiana, Khorezm, and Turan. These civilizations played an important role in shaping the spiritual and cultural heritage of the Uzbek people.

The Uzbek nation has historically been influenced by various cultures due to its geographical location along the Great Silk Road. Trade routes connected East and West, allowing cultural exchange among Chinese, Persian, Arab, Turkic, and European civilizations. As a result, Uzbek culture developed as a unique combination of Eastern traditions, Islamic values, and Turkic heritage. Today, Uzbek traditions remain an essential part of national identity. Customs related to hospitality, family relations, marriage ceremonies, respect for elders, and national holidays continue to reflect the spiritual richness of the Uzbek people.

Historical Origins of Uzbek Culture. The origins of Uzbek culture date back to ancient times. Archaeological findings in Samarkand, Bukhara, Khiva, and Termez demonstrate the existence of highly developed urban civilizations in Central Asia. Ancient peoples living in these territories developed agriculture, handicrafts, architecture, and trade relations.

The Turkic tribes that migrated into Central Asia significantly influenced the ethnogenesis of the Uzbek people. During the medieval period, Islamic civilization also became one of the main factors shaping Uzbek culture. After the spread of Islam in the 8th century, religious values, moral principles, and educational traditions became deeply integrated into social life. Scholars such as Abu Rayhan Beruni, Abu Ali ibn Sina (Avicenna), and Alisher Navoi contributed greatly to the intellectual and spiritual development of Uzbek culture. Their scientific and literary works became an important part of world civilization.

The Timurid Renaissance of the 14th–15th centuries further enriched Uzbek cultural heritage. During the reign of Amir Temur and his descendants, science, architecture, literature, and art flourished.

Historical monuments such as Registan Square and Gur-e-Amir Mausoleum still symbolize the greatness of Uzbek culture. Uzbek customs and traditions mainly reflect family values, social solidarity, and respect for humanity. Hospitality is considered one of the highest virtues among Uzbek people. Guests are traditionally welcomed with great respect and offered national dishes such as palov, somsa, and non. Family occupies a central place in Uzbek society. Respect for parents and elders is one of the most important moral principles. Young people are taught to value kindness, honesty, patience, and



mutual support from childhood. Wedding ceremonies are among the richest cultural traditions in Uzbekistan. Uzbek weddings include ancient rituals such as “Fatihatoy,” “Kelin salom,” and traditional music performances. These ceremonies symbolize unity, blessings, and continuity of generations. Another important tradition is Navruz, celebrated on March 21 as the beginning of spring and renewal. Navruz reflects ideas of peace, friendship, kindness, and harmony with nature. During this holiday, people prepare sumalak, organize public celebrations, and visit relatives. Traditional clothing also reflects Uzbek cultural identity. National costumes such as atlas dresses, doppi caps, and chapan robes symbolize regional diversity and artistic craftsmanship.

The Great Silk Road played a major role in the formation of Uzbek culture. For centuries, cities such as Samarkand, Bukhara, and Khiva became centers of international trade and intercultural communication. Merchants, scholars, and travelers brought not only goods but also scientific knowledge, languages, religions, and artistic traditions. As a result, Uzbek culture absorbed elements from different civilizations while preserving its national uniqueness.

The Silk Road also contributed to the development of architecture and handicrafts. Uzbek ceramic art, embroidery, wood carving, and silk weaving gained worldwide recognition

due to cultural interactions along trade routes.

Preservation of National Values in Modern Society. In the modern era of globalization, preserving national traditions has become increasingly important. Technological development and mass culture influence the worldview of young generations. Therefore, strengthening spiritual education and national consciousness remains one of the key priorities in Uzbekistan. Educational institutions, cultural centers, and families play a significant role in teaching national traditions and values. National holidays, folk festivals, and cultural programs help preserve historical memory and strengthen patriotism among youth.

The government of Uzbekistan also pays special attention to the restoration of historical monuments and the promotion of cultural heritage at the international level. UNESCO recognition of Uzbek cultural elements, including Shashmaqom music and Navruz traditions, demonstrates the global importance of Uzbek heritage.

The culture and traditions of the Uzbek people were formed through centuries of historical development, intercultural communication, and spiritual evolution. Ancient civilizations, Turkic heritage, Islamic values, and the influence of the Silk Road all contributed to the richness of Uzbek culture. Today, Uzbek traditions continue to serve as a foundation for national identity, social harmony, and moral education. Preserving and promoting these traditions



is essential not only for Uzbekistan but as a whole.
also for the cultural diversity of humanity

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