

# Japan-Uzbekistan Diplomatic Relations History

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Over the years of independence, the Republic of Uzbekistan has established diplomatic relations with developed countries of the world and has taken a step towards mutually beneficial cooperation. In this article, Uzbekistan cooperates with Japan in political, socio-economic, cultural and humanitarian spheres

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## Introduction

The history of Uzbek-Japanese relations goes back to ancient times. There is also confirmation of the fact that trade and economic and cultural ties between the Uzbek and Japanese peoples are linked by the Great Silk Road. According to a study by scholars and Uzbek-Japanese archeological expeditions, Buddhism, which is one of the main religions of the Kushan kingdom, existing in Uzbekistan, enriched with the national values and traditions of Central Asian peoples, spread through Japan and China in the 6th century. Ancient Buddhist temples found in Uzbekistan. It is manifested in common with the temples in Japan.

The treasury of the Khujji Temple in Nara, Japan's first capital, contains items from the 8th-century Samarkand and Tashkent, as well as 9th-10th-century Udinese musical instruments. The elegant Japanese porcelain pottery of the 12th century, discovered during archeological excavations in Afrosiab, also shows that there was a link between the Uzbek and Japanese peoples. In the summer of 1880, Japanese diplomat Nisi Tokujiro, who later became Minister of Foreign Affairs of Japan, traveled across our country. He visited Tashkent, Samarkand, Bukhara and the Ferghana Valley. The Emir of Bukhara met with Muzaffarhon. This event was one of the first Japanese contacts with Muslim countries. In 1886 Nisi Tokudziro's book "Turkistan Travel" was published in Japanese. At the end of the 19th - early 20th centuries, Japanese explorers traveled to Central Asia such as Yasumashi Fukushima, Kazuo Otani, Masaji Inoue, Zuicho Toshibana [2, p.86].

The National Library of Uzbekistan has a large fund of books and magazines published in Japan in 1927-41. After the cooperation between Uzbekistan and Japan in the field of silkworm breeding and tailoring in the 1930s, a number of Uzbek specialists who visited Japan studied and introduced advanced Japanese experience in this field. Dozens of cultured Japanese mulberry varieties and coconut seeds are adapted to local conditions. In addition, Japanese machines and equipment were procured for the needs of the silk industry. In 1929 Central Asian University prof. Poyarkov made a speech at a silk conference in Japan.

## Literature review

There are reports that among the Volga Tatar Tatars who came to Japan in the 1920s, there were also Uzbeks [3, p.13]. They have contributed to the construction of a mosque in Tokyo and the spread of Islam. About 24,000 Japanese, who were captured as a result of the Soviet-Japanese war of 1945, were held in the Andijan, Bukhara, Tashkent and Ferghana regions of Uzbekistan in 1945-50. They have worked in many industries, agriculture, construction and other areas. In particular, about 600 Japanese prisoners participated in the construction of the Alisher Navoi

Academic Theater in Tashkent. 812 Japanese citizens, who died in Uzbekistan, were buried in 13 cemeteries throughout the country. In May 1990, a memorial was erected at the Yakkasaray cemetery in Tashkent in honor of 79 Japanese prisoners of war who died in Tashkent after World War II (1939-45).

In the 1960s and 1980s, Japan purchased cotton fiber from Uzbekistan, cotton seeds, sugarcane root, honey, silk and other products. Since the early 1970s, Japan has invested \$ 190 million annually. US dollars were purchased. In particular, Sumitomo Company sold \$ 547.3 million in 1971-93. For the US dollar purchased cotton. During these years, several Japanese companies were involved in the modernization of the light, chemical and petrochemical industries in Uzbekistan. Japanese technologies for ammonia production were installed in Fergana and Chirchik.

The silk mills of Yamato used silk factories in Tashkent, Samarkand, Bukhara, Margilan, Namangan, Shahrisabz and Urgench. In 1989, Chori, the first Japanese company to open a representative office in Uzbekistan, opened its representative office in Uzbekistan. [4.p.141]

## **Theoretical background**

They also cooperate in the scientific and cultural fields. Japanese and Uzbek scientists have studied and applied the methods of earthquake prediction, statistical reception of industrial products. Effective cooperation has been particularly in the areas of history, linguistics and archeology. Itaro Kumatsu's book "Japanese Language" for Japanese (1978), "Uzbek Talk" (1983), "Uzbek-Japanese Dictionary" (1980, 1985) has been published in thousands of copies. In the 1950s and 1980s, there was a significant relationship in the field of literature. In particular, Man Inoue, a well-known Japanese writer and translator who came to Uzbekistan in 1956, met with the famous Uzbek poet Gafur Gulom and shared the culture, traditions and lifestyles of the Uzbek and Japanese people in the Japanese book "One Night in Tashkent." During this time, about 30 novels, essays, poems and stories by famous Japanese artists such as Yosie Khotta, Kobo Abe, Yasunari Kavabata, Ryunoske Akutagawa, Takeo Arishima, Masuji Ibuse and others were published in Uzbek. In turn, in Japan, Alisher Navoi, Sh. Rashidov, Zulfiya, Ramz Babajan's works, Zahiriddin Muhammad Babur's "Baburnoma" translated into Japanese and published several times. [5.p.442]

In 1991, Japan recognized the independence of the Republic of Uzbekistan and established diplomatic relations in 1992, in 1992 the Embassy of Japan in Tashkent and in 1996 the Embassy of the Republic of Uzbekistan in Tokyo. The two countries have established equal relations. Over the past 14 years, a number of official documents have been signed between the two countries. During this period the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Islam Karimov paid an official visit to Japan twice (1994, 2002). In addition, there were visits of foreign ministers of the two countries, government and senior officials, parliamentary delegations and others. The first visit of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Islam Karimov to Japan in May 1994 intensified the political dialogue.

The second official visit of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Islam Karimov to Japan on May 28-31, 2002 played an important role in the development of cooperation between the two countries. During the visit, 14 documents were signed. These include the Declaration on Friendship, Strategic Partnership and Cooperation between Uzbekistan and Japan, the Joint Declaration on the Development of Economic Cooperation and Support for Economic Reforms in Uzbekistan, among others. During the visit, Islam Karimov initiated the establishment of the Uzbek Committee on Cooperation with Japan and the Japanese Cooperation Committee with Uzbekistan. Committees were formed and its first joint meeting was held in Tokyo in July 2004. [6.p.34]

To date, Japan's total financial resources invested in the country's economy are estimated at \$ 1.9 billion. The US dollar has approached. In addition, Uzbekistan will receive US \$ 160 million. US dollars were provided by humanitarian and humanitarian aid, mainly for education and health care. Japanese investments were directed to the development of fuel and energy, transport and

communications, light industry, personnel training and other sectors of the economy, in particular, development of telecommunication system of the republic, modernization of rail cars in Tashkent, airports in Samarkand, Bukhara and Urgench.

With the concessional loans of the Japanese Bank for International Cooperation the refinery has been refurbished, construction of a refinery in Bukhara region, modernization of the Fergana oil refinery, construction of the Shurtan gas chemical complex, and development of the textile industry. In addition to domestic resources, Japanese investment is involved in the construction of the Guzar-Boysun-Kumkurgan railway.

From 1993 to 2004, about 300 Japanese professionals worked in the fields of economy, telecommunications, tourism, transport infrastructure, silk industry and foreign investment.

In May 1994, an Uzbek-Japanese Economic Cooperation Committee was established in Tashkent, and a Japanese-Uzbek Economic Cooperation Committee was established in Tokyo. The Uzbek-Japanese Economic Cooperation Committee unites about 30 major Japanese companies, firms and banks. So far there have been 8 joint meetings of joint committees, which discussed the development of direct links between industry, financial institutions and entrepreneurs in both countries. [7.p.78]

Currently, there are 10 Uzbek-Japanese joint ventures, 3 100% Japanese-owned companies, and 22 representative offices of Japanese companies. Trade relations between the two countries expanded, and in 2004 the volume of trade amounted to \$ 102 million. It was close to US \$. Uzbekistan exports cotton and silk products, textiles, inorganic chemicals to Japan, and provides various tourism services. Japan also receives electrical and mechanical equipment, rubber and rubber products. Uzbekistan Airways has launched regular flights from Tashkent to Osaka from 2001 and from Tashkent to Tokyo since 2002.

One of the areas of cooperation between Japan and Uzbekistan is training. So far, about 800 people from various ministries and departments of the republic have been trained in Japan, 98 young specialists have completed master's courses in the leading Japanese universities. Since 2000, under the auspices of the Japan International Cooperation Center, 20 undergraduates from Uzbekistan go to Japan for two years. 2001 Uzbekistan-Japan Center for Human Development was established in Tashkent. To date, over 1,500 people have graduated from the Center's business, Japanese and computer courses. More than 100,000 people participated in various cultural and educational programs held by the Center.

Uzbek scientific relations are also expanding. The curriculum of universities in Tashkent, Samarkand, Bukhara, Ferghana and other cities also includes the study of Japanese. Science Academy of Uzbekistan Academy of Sciences, Electronics, Seismology, Immunology, Biochemistry, General and Inorganic Chemistry, Physiology and Biophysics, Oriental Studies, Archeology. The Center has established regular cooperation with the relevant unt, institutes and other organizations in Japan. In particular, ecologically clean technology in metallurgy created by the Electronic Institute was purchased by a Japanese firm "Nippon Style Corporation" under a licensed contract. In 1989-98, staff members of the Institute of Art Studies prof. Kudzo Kato led a study on the study of Buddhist monuments in Dalvarzintepa, located in Shurchi district of Surkhandarya region.

Cultural ties are also developing between the two countries. In particular, the launch of the International Caravanserai of Culture in Tashkent in collaboration with the National University of Fine Arts and Music in Tokyo; . In Japan and Uzbekistan, exhibitions, presentations, film festivals, concerts of national music and dance groups, as well as Japanese Culture Days have been regularly held in Uzbekistan since 1996 [8.p.56]

In 1996, President Islam Karimov's book "Uzbekistan on the way to deepening economic reforms" and in 1999 "Uzbekistan in the 21st Century: Security Threat, Conditions of Stability and

Guarantees of Development" were translated into Japanese. The President of the Republic of Uzbekistan was conferred the title of Honorary Doctor of Waseda and Soka Beta in Japan for his significant contribution to governance, development and strengthening of the Uzbek-Japanese cooperation.

Ikuo Hirayama was elected Honorary Foreign Member of the Republic of Uzbekistan (2002) for his contribution to the development of friendly relations with Uzbekistan.

## **Conclusion**

Kyudzo Kato and President of Waseda University Takayasi Okushima was awarded the Order of Friendship of the Republic of Uzbekistan (2002). In March 2004, a monument to the great Uzbek poet Alisher Navoi was erected in Tokyo in Soka unt. Sculptor R. Mirtojiev). 3,000 Japanese tourists visited Uzbekistan in 2004. Japan-Uzbekistan Friendship Society (founded in 1998), Fukushima Uzbekistan Economic and Cultural Relations Association, Fukuoka Uzbekistan Society, OtaTashkent Friendship Society, Japan Japan Friendship Society (founded in 1999) makes a decent contribution. In April 2002, at the Japanese Parliament, the Friendship League "The Liberal Democratic Party of Japan - Uzbekistan" was initiated by prominent political figures of the country Taro Aso, Yosiro Mori and others.

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