

# National Day of Uzbekistan

PUBLICITY

## Celebrating 'a new life, a new Uzbekistan'

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On August 31, 1991, the people of Uzbekistan won the right to control their homeland, destiny and future. A new sovereign state — the Republic of Uzbekistan — appeared on the world map.

The 32nd anniversary of the independence of Uzbekistan this year is being widely celebrated along the main theme of "For a new life, for a new Uzbekistan."

During the years of independence, the Uzbeks have achieved major milestones. In particular, the large-scale reforms carried out during the last seven years under the leadership of Shavkat Mirziyoyev are the basis for renewal and fundamental changes in all aspects of social life.

The economy is rapidly developing, creating new jobs and reducing poverty. The country provides world-class medical services and quality education, while infrastructure in cities and villages is improving, raising Uzbekistan's reputation internationally. All citizens are feeling the positive effect of reforms in their daily lives.

The Constitution of Uzbekistan, updated on April 30, 2023, declares the country to be a sovereign, democratic, legal, social, and secular state based on five constitutional symbols. It obliges the state to further promote human dignity and provide social protection to the population based on the principle of "Human-Society-State."

On July 9 this year, Uzbekistan held presidential elections that were conducted in accordance with international norms, democratic principles and transparency. Shavkat Mirziyoyev won with 87.05 percent of the votes, reflecting the support of the Uzbek people for his democratic reforms.

The name "New Uzbekistan" is gaining worldwide recognition due to significant achievements in the protection of human rights, the eradication of forced labor, media freedom, and the development of civil society over the last seven years.

New Uzbekistan is open to the world, interested in establishing equal and friendly relations with all.

Uzbekistan and Japan established diplomatic relations on Jan. 26, 1992, and have steadily expanded bilateral relations over the past 32 years based on mutual interests and respect. Japan recognized Uzbekistan's Independence on Dec. 28, 1991.

The President of Uzbekistan, Shavkat Mirziyoyev, visited Japan from Dec. 17 to 20, 2019, strengthening the relationship between the two countries, which has been steadily developing in recent years.

In addition, on June 9, 2022, the leader of Uzbekistan had a telephone conversation with Japan's Prime Minister Fumio Kishida. They discussed the expansion of cooperation between Uzbekistan and Japan, as well as current international and regional issues.

Bilateral agreements have solidified the relationship between Uzbekistan and Japan, with over 180 documents being signed throughout their years of cooperation.

One of the main priorities in Uzbek-Japanese relations is economic cooperation. Favorable procedures for mutual trade have been implemented, with both countries utilizing their export potential in industries such as mechanical engineering, metallurgy and services. In 2022, the mutual trade turnover reached \$250 million.

There are operating committees on economic cooperation between Uzbekistan and Japan. Sixteen meetings have taken place to date.

Currently, there are about 60 joint ventures in Uzbekistan with Japanese investments. Out of those, 30 were established with 100% Japanese capital, while 15 Japanese companies have opened representa-



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The Independence Monument with Uzbekistan national flags

tive offices in the country. These ventures and offices specialize in various industries, such as oil and gas, petrochemicals and chemicals, energy equipment and machinery production, transport and logistics services, trade operations, and tourism.

There has also been meaningful inter-parliamentary dialogue between the group of deputies of the "Oliy Majlis (Parliament of Uzbekistan) - Parliament of Japan" and the Japan-Uzbekistan Parliamentary Friendship League. Regular events of the Inter-Parliamentary Forum "Uzbekistan-Japan" are held.

The "Central Asia plus Japan" format, established in 2004 at the initiative of Japan, serves to deepen cooperation between Japan and countries in the region in the fields of trade, investment, transport and logistics, agriculture, tourism and education.

Cooperation in the cultural and humanitarian spheres is crucial because Japan's cultural and educational identity aligns with Uzbekistan's historical and modern life.

Since its opening in 2001, the Japanese Garden in Tashkent has become a beloved spot for Uzbeks to unwind and host events.

The Caravan Palace of Culture in our capital was

**Congratulations**  
to the People of  
the Republic of Uzbekistan  
on the Occasion of  
the 32nd Anniversary of  
Their Independence



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founded in 2002 in collaboration with Japanese artist Ikuo Hirayama. It functions as a modern cultural center that hosts art and photography exhibitions, as well as other engaging events.

Many young people in Uzbekistan are interested in studying in Japan and learning the Japanese language. Some higher educational institutions in our republic have included the study of the Japanese language in their educational programs, and centers for learning the language have been opened in several universities with the support of the JICA.

Uzbekistan and Japan have been cultivating a strong, mutually beneficial partnership built on mutual respect and trust in recent years. This bond of friendship between the two nations is encouraging the strengthening of their relationship.

I believe that both Uzbekistan and Japan are interested in their deep historical and cultural ties, as well as the development of their bilateral cooperation. These factors contribute to strengthening friendly relations and raising the strategic partnership between the two countries to a new level.

### Congratulations on the Anniversary of the Independence of the Republic of Uzbekistan

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