

Paving toward the construction of 'New Uzbekistan'

By Mukhsinkhuja Abdurakhmonov
Ambassador of Uzbekistan

The Uzbek people, having overcome all trials and difficulties, on Aug. 31, 1991, realized their sacred dream — our Motherland gained independence. On Sept. 1, Uzbekistan will celebrate the 30th anniversary of that Independence Day.



Mukhsinkhuja
Abdurakhmonov

Uzbekistan has embarked on a new stage of its development. In the process of modernizing the country, ensuring rights and freedoms of citizens and the rule of law is creating a new democratic image of Uzbekistan. As the President of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev noted, the idea of a "New Uzbekistan," which has become a national movement, is based on the dreams and aspirations of our great ancestors, who lived since time immemorial and created for the good of mankind on this ancient land.

The construction of this New Uzbekistan is not a subjective phenomenon, but an objective necessity. New Uzbekistan is a state, developing in strict compliance with the universally recognized norms in the field of democracy, human rights and freedoms, on the basis of the principles of friendship and cooperation with the international community, the ultimate aim of which is to create a free, comfortable and prosperous life for our people.

New Uzbekistan also means new economic relations, complete restructuring of the economic system and full implementation of market mechanisms. The priority of such reforms is support for business, protection of entrepreneurship and private property. An important role is played by the determination of points of growth, increasing the competitiveness of the economy. These measures have a positive im-



President Shavkat Mirziyoyev

pact on the life of people: entrepreneurs get new opportunities for development.

Social policy is one of the most important priorities of the state policy in Uzbekistan. Today, the most important areas of our strategy are a comprehensive increase in the well-being and living standards of people, which demands the creation of new jobs, sources of income, poverty reduction, and the development of our villages and cities.

This of course includes protecting the health and lives of the people during the pandemic. Measures are being taken to strengthen the primary health care system, especially the quality of health care in rural areas to introduce telemedicine and to further increase diagnostic and treatment capabilities in the field.

In order to train competitive personnel with in-depth knowledge and high skills, we have increased the number of universities from 77 in 2016 to 141 in 2021; branches of 26 foreign universities have been opened. Now, the overall educational coverage has reached 28%. For comparison, four years ago this figure was only 9%. We intend to increase the enrollment rate of school, lyceum and college graduates in higher education to 50% by 2030. We will definitely achieve this.

Over the past short period in historical terms, the political role and status of our country in the international arena have increased significantly. The main thing is that the problems accumulated over the years in our relations with neighboring countries have been resolved. The trade, economic, cultural and humanitarian ties are developing at an accelerated pace. Mutually beneficial relations with the main foreign partners of Uzbekistan, such as Russia, Japan, China, the United States, Turkey, Germany, France, the Great Britain, South Korea, India, Pakistan, the UAE and other states, are further expanding.

Another aspect is that Uzbekistan today, with its far-sighted policy, has become an active participant in the political processes in our region and in the world. Our cooperation with international and regional organizations has risen to a new level.

Certainly, it is too early to say that we have completely changed the old system and achieved our goal. We are in search every day, as we are just taking the first steps on this path. However, those who say that these changes are just a temporary campaign that will pass and be forgotten are mistaken. This is one of the priorities of the long-term, pragmatic, people-focused policy pursued by President Mirziyoyev and his team. And together with our people, we will definitely accomplish it, and we will never draw back.

Japan is our long-standing and reliable strategic partner. The visit of President Mirziyoyev to Japan in December 2019 started a new era in deepening Uzbek-Japanese cooperation. The telephone conversation between our leaders in May this year contributed to the strengthening of the political dialogue between Tashkent and Tokyo.

I believe that the close historical and cultural ties between our countries, along with the enormous potential for economic and political cooperation, will continue to deepen the Uzbek-Japanese strategic partnership.

Congratulatory message

By Taro Aso
Chairman of the Japan-Uzbekistan
Parliamentary League of Friendship

I would like to express my heartfelt felicitations to the leadership and people of Uzbekistan on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of their independence.

Our countries maintain traditionally close relations with deep historical ties that date back to the time of the Great Silk Road. Uzbekistan was the center of the Great Silk Road and a cradle of ancient civilization.



Taro Aso

Uzbekistan is a key strategic partner of Japan in Central Asia. Under the strong leadership of President Shavkat Mirziyoyev, a wide range of economic, social and democratic reforms are being implemented in the country.

Japan-Uzbek relations have been developing in the spirit of the 2002 Joint Statement on Friendship, Strategic Partnership and Cooperation, as well as the 2019 Joint Statement on Further Deepening and Expanding the Strategic Partnership between Japan and the Republic of Uzbekistan.

The official visits of then Prime Minister Shinzo Abe to Uzbekistan in October 2015 and the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev to Japan in December

2019 were the most important events in the history of Japan-Uzbek relations and gave stimulus to the further development of our relations in the fields of politics, economy, finance, investment, tourism, technology and science. During Japan-Uzbek summit telephone talks in May 2021, the two leaders concurred on further developing the strategic cooperative relationship.

On the occasion of the 30th anniversary of Uzbekistan's independence, I express my sincere belief in the further development of cooperation between Japan and Uzbekistan, and the further expansion of the ties of friendship between our peoples.

I wish the people and leadership of Uzbekistan peace, health and prosperity.

Congratulations
to the People of
the Republic of Uzbekistan
on the Occasion of
the 30th Anniversary of
Their Independence

KAORI INTERNATIONAL JAPAN Co., Ltd.

President **KENTARO ABE**

11-2 Ekimae Honcho, Kawasaki-ku,
Kawasaki-shi, Kanagawa-ken 210-0007

Congratulations
to the People of
the Republic of Uzbekistan
on the Occasion of
the 30th Anniversary of
Their Independence

 **Mitsubishi Corporation**