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Cultural and Educational Significance of Pilgrimage Tourism Development in Uzbekistan

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Abstract:

In this article, the tourism sector has risen to the level of politics in the countries of the world, in this regard, the adoption of presidential decrees and decisions for the development of domestic and foreign tourism in our country, the reforms carried out for the development of pilgrimage tourism in our country, the restoration of the spiritual and material heritage of our ancestors, the development of ecotourism, the conditions for tourists creation, the material and spiritual importance of pilgrimage tourism in Uzbekistan, scientific research in the field of tourism, creation of innovative projects are highlighted.

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INTRODUCTION

At a time when the direction of tourism has become a priority area in the countries of the world today, the development of pilgrimage tourism related to our natural, spiritual, cultural and material heritage in our country, attracting foreign tourists along with the local population to it determines the state's perspective. Therefore, in the years of independence, many things are done.

From this point of view, in order to increase tourism in Uzbekistan, it is of great importance to research the possibilities of tourist objects in the regions, including historical monuments, architectural monuments, places of pilgrimage, places of pilgrimage, natural landscape and recreational resources on a scientific basis and to develop relevant practical recommendations [1:89-99,1-2].

MAIN PART

It is known that there are more than 7-8 thousand historical monuments in Uzbekistan, more than 200 of them are on the UNESCO list. 545 of the objects are architectural, 575 are historical, 1457 are art, and more than 5500 are archaeological objects [3:4,197].

Visiting shrines is related to the tourism industry, which has become the most important profitable industry in the world in the 21st century. Now it ranks third after the automotive industry and oil refining [4:504-533,61]. The development of the tourism sector is important in strengthening the national and regional economy.

Research scientist S. Roziev divides the development of tourism in Uzbekistan into stages, notes that the first stage was the establishment of Uzbektourism in 1992, the second stage was the adoption of the law on tourism in 1993-1999, and the third stage began in 2000, in which pilgrimage tourism also occupies a special place. [5:11-12]. Among these stages, as the fourth stage, large-scale state attention in the field of tourism after 2017 can be included.

Uzbekistan is the main link of the Silk Road project of the World Tourism Organization, and most of the tours offered to tourists under this project pass through the territory of Uzbekistan.

Relatively more developed. Although 87% of the material and technical base of tourism in our country corresponds to the Tashkent, Samarkand, Bukhara, Khorezm regions, Jizzakh, Navoi, Surkhandarya and Kashkadarya regions also attract tourists with architectural cultural objects named after Islamic scholars and many scenic ecotourism areas of nature. Cultural pilgrimage tourism means tourism policy implemented by people on the basis of interest in historical and archaeological monuments, culture, traditions of other peoples.

As one of the important centers of Islamic civilization, the land of Uzbekistan is inviting the shores of the whole world. As organizations operating in the field of tourism, the State Committee for the Development of International Tourism, the Committee on Religious Affairs under the Cabinet of Ministers, the Office of Muslims of Uzbekistan, the Vaqf Charitable Public Fund, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Department of Tourism of Regional Governments, ISESCO (Islamic Education, Science and Culture organization). Engages in cooperation with UNWTO (World Tourism Organization) on pilgrimage issues [6:94-104].

As the President of Uzbekistan Sh.Mirziyoev noted, "The potential of our country in terms of pilgrimage tourism is very high [7:273-302], in order to create the necessary facilities in this direction, a "Pilgrimage Tourism Support Department" was established within the Committee on Religious Affairs, some Muslim countries A visa-free regime was introduced for citizens.

For example, on December 2, 2016, the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Sh. Mirziyoyev's Decision No. PD-2666 "On the organization of the activities of the State Committee for the Development of Tourism of the Republic of Uzbekistan" and "Measures to ensure the rapid development of the tourism sector of the Republic of Uzbekistan" started a period of radical change in the field of tourism in the Republic of Uzbekistan. "On events" was adopted [8].

This Decree envisages the full and effective use of the potential of tourism, in addition to traditional tourism, the application of ecological, educational, ethnographic, gastronomic, sports, treatment-health types to social production activities [9:368-374]. Based on this Decree, in Uzbekistan the national company "Uzbekturizm", which conducts the state policy on tourism, was terminated, and the State Committee for the Development of Tourism was established in its place.

PD-4947 of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated February 7, 2017 "Strategy of actions on the five priority areas of development of the Republic of Uzbekistan in 2017-2021 "Rapid development of the tourism industry, increasing its role and share in the economy, diversifying and

improving the quality of tourist services, expanding tourism infrastructure, in the medium-term perspective, it was planned to develop a specific program of measures based on the "Concept for the development of tourism in the Republic of Uzbekistan" [10]. The government under the leadership of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Sh. Mirziyoyev emphasized that tourism is one of the branches of the economy, and it is necessary to further improve this branch by effectively using the available opportunities.

In the decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated February 3, 2018 No. PD-5326 "On additional measures to create favorable conditions for the development of tourism competence of the Republic of Uzbekistan", the tourism potential of the Republic, first of all, active attraction of investments, introduction of innovative ideas and technologies in the field, as well as creating favorable conditions for the development of the country's rich natural, cultural and historical heritage at the expense of the comprehensive use of existing resources and opportunities" [11]. Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated February 7, 2018 "On measures to ensure the rapid development of domestic tourism" No. PD-3514 and in order to ensure the implementation of the tasks given by the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan during his visit to Kashkadarya region on December 13-14, 2018, to turn the city of Shahrisabz into a city of festivals, a list of festivals held in the city of Shahrisabz and nearby areas was formed, and during the year, various festivals, seminars, conferences were organized [12].

Another important aspect of the issue here is that on February 21-23, 2018, a tourism forum was held in Bukhara, which has emerged as the capital of Islamic culture, on February 21-23, 2018, and the declaration of pilgrimage tourism was signed on an international scale [13: People's word. February 22, 2019]. The goal of this event is to develop pilgrimage tourism in the regions of our republic, to expand international cooperation, and to attract direct investments in this field. It was determined to recognize Uzbekistan as one of the largest centers of pilgrimage tourism in the world and to introduce halal world standards.

Also, on the basis of the Decree No. PD-5416 of April 16, 2018 "On measures to radically improve the activities of the religious educational sphere", Decree No. 709 of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan was adopted. According to it, the charitable public fund "Vaqf" was established [14:273-302,303-336]. In front of this fund, preservation, repair, beautification of historical and architectural shrines in our country, publication of religious and educational works of our ancestors who made a great contribution to the development of Islam, It carries out the task of further increasing the prestige of our country's shrines and shrines in the Muslim world, and creating conditions for attracting local and foreign pilgrims to the shrines.

It can be said that during the years 2016-2018, if we observe the implementation of the laws adopted in this area in the numbers of Kashkadarya region, there are 1043 archaeological, 208 architectural, 27 places of interest, 43 monumental, 1321 material and cultural heritage objects, 50 in total. accommodation facilities (2,646 places), more than 100 restaurants serving national and European cuisine and national-style teahouses, 18 tour operators were organized. At the same time, 17 tourist class motor vehicles and 43 accompanying interpreters are serving tourists. In January-November 2018, a total of 1.4 million tourists visited the region, of which 62.7 thousand were foreign tourists. The number of foreign tourists has doubled. The majority of tourists are Europeans (46.4% - Italy, France, Germany, Spain, Great Britain), 27.4% of neighboring countries, 12.6% of Southeast Asian countries [15: Karshi city, March 19, 2021].

The safety of tourists is the most important aspect of tourism infrastructure. In order to increase the tourist potential in our country and create comfortable and safe conditions for them, in accordance with the decision of the Cabinet of Ministers on November 23, 2017, in Bukhara, Samarkand, Khorezm and Kashkadarya regions with a high flow of tourists, from January 1, 2018, in Surkhandarya from March 2019, departments for ensuring safe tourism were established [16 : Decision No. PD-4229. June 12, 2019]. This department carries out activities related to the reception of visiting delegations from foreign countries and international organizations, their security and monitoring.

On January 5, 2019, the Decree of the Parliament of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On additional measures for the rapid development of tourism in the Republic of Uzbekistan", which defined the main tasks and directions for the development of tourism in the Republic of Uzbekistan, was adopted [17: Xalq so'zi newspaper.-January 8, 2019, 3- number]. and based on it, the Concept of tourism development in the Republic of Uzbekistan in 1919-2025 was announced.

Although the country of Uzbekistan has passed the pandemic period at the international level in 2021, the work of developing this industry on the basis of world standards continues. In particular, on February 9, 2021, the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. PD-6165 "On measures to develop domestic and pilgrimage tourism of the Republic of Uzbekistan" was adopted [18]. On February 24, 2021, the Cabinet of Ministers Resolution No. 100 "On additional measures for the development of domestic and pilgrimage tourism" was adopted, and according to this decision, a list was created for the development of domestic and pilgrimage tourism in the region and submitted to the tourism department. On March 3, 2021, the decision of the Cabinet of Ministers No. 119 "On measures to strengthen the protection of material and cultural heritage sites and territories included in the UNESCO World Heritage List" was adopted. According to this decision, all material and archeological monuments of heritage were transferred to the Department of Culture, the Museum Reserve under operational management. The activity of the Ministry of Tourism and Sports was established on the basis of the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated April 6, 2021 PD -6199 "On measures to further improve the state management system in the fields of tourism, sports and cultural heritage"[19]. Since January 2023, the Ministry of Culture and the Ministry of Tourism and Sports have merged and started their activities as the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

In 2021, it was decided to attract 1.7 million foreign and 7.5 million domestic tourists, and to increase the export of tourism services to 370 million dollars according to the tasks set in this field. Based on this, the issues of forming the flow of local and foreign pilgrims and creating the necessary conditions for them, implementing measures to widely promote the competence of the republic's pilgrimage tourism were put forward. In terms of pilgrimage tourism, in 2021, about 5,000 flights will be launched and at least 700,000 pilgrims will be attracted. 130 mln. dollar services were exported.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, it can be said that the existing shrine, mausoleum, shrines are one of the religious and national values of our people. The lives, activities, history of the shrines of the people buried in the soil of our country today, learning the traditions there, passing them on to the young generation as our spiritual heritage, increasing the position of the shrines of the republic, region, district in the Muslim world, attracting local and foreign pilgrims there, visiting development of tourism is considered one of the urgent tasks before us.

Pilgrimage tourism, which is a part of our national values, shows that Uzbekistan is a place of such historical values on a global scale, in building a great future for our people who are implementing socio-economic reforms in the country, in the process of seeing today's world with new eyes, perceiving it with a new way of thinking, with the heritage of great ancestors. means to get acquainted. Today, the activities that are being carried out in order to re-collect all the lost talents, lost cultural and spiritual wealth, restore traditions, take a worthy place of Uzbekistan among the world nations with its national image, restore the heritage left by our great ancestors, protect our identity, human feelings, honor and dignity. to do, to keep it always high and to gain our place on the international level is important.

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