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### The Spiritual and Ideological Basis of International Harmony and Religious Tolerance in Our Country

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#### Abstract:

In the article, focusing on issues of inter-ethnic harmony and religious tolerance in our country, development of the Uzbek language, which is an expression of national identity, consistent and full realization of its state status, respect for the culture and language of the peoples living in the territory of the republic, and everyone's belief and religion Based on the fact that the right to practice, freely perform one's religious rituals, and the monopoly of a certain worldview belong to the modernized society, the issues of deciding bigotry and freedom of conscience have been scientifically analyzed.

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Since the first years of independence, in our society, special attention has been paid to shaping the worldview of our people with the idea of national consciousness, and to strengthening the ideological foundations of reforms in various fields. Especially today, in the current historical period, when the integration of the world community, ideological, ideological and informational struggles are intensifying, the preservation and study of national cultures is becoming an urgent problem.

Representatives of different civilizations, cultural strata, representatives of different faiths have lived side by side in the land of Uzbekistan since ancient times. This land is an ancient and sacred place where our ancestors lived. The junction of the East and the West, the North and the South, the ancient past and the great future, the heart of Central Asia is one of the oldest centers of human thought, science and culture.

There is no doubt that the foreign policy of New Uzbekistan is primarily to build a stable, fair and democratic state in our homeland, to promote the principle of openness of our country to the outside world and to develop regional and multilateral cooperation, to be an initiative and example in the above-mentioned directions by further strengthening its position in the world community.

Both theoretical and practical steps have been taken for this in our country. Several special resolutions of the UN General Assembly were adopted in the following years at the initiative of Uzbekistan in cooperation with the countries of Central Asia. The adopted resolutions on "Strengthening regional and international cooperation to ensure peace, stability and sustainable development in the Central Asian region" are as follows:

- "Enlightenment and religious tolerance" (June 22, 2018);
- "Sustainable tourism and sustainable development in Central Asia" (December 19, 2019);
- Many resolutions such as "Turning the Aral Buyi region into a region of ecological innovations and technologies" (May 18, 2021) not only address issues related to this field, but also strengthen relations and stabilize trust between the entities that move them - the citizens of the countries.

Honorable President Sh.M. Mirziyoev noted: "These issues are of crucial importance in today's conditions, where a complex situation is emerging in the Central Asian region and the whole world, and the danger of terrorism, extremism and radicalism is increasing. Taking this into account, we set the provision of peace and security as one of the priorities in the early stages of the establishment of New Uzbekistan"\*.

The results of the fundamental changes taking place in our country in recent years, the consistent and active foreign policy conducted by the leadership of our government, especially the environment of close neighborhood with Central Asian countries, are leading to further increase of the international prestige of our country.

In the Decree "On the Strategy of Actions for Further Development of the Republic of Uzbekistan" signed by President Sh. M. Mirziyoev on February 7, 2017, special attention is paid to "Ensuring security, inter-ethnic harmony and religious tolerance, conducting a well-thought-out, mutually beneficial and practical foreign policy"† focus is very important.

Clause 5.2 of Annex 1 to this Decree "Ensuring security, inter-ethnic harmony and religious tolerance and priority directions in the field of deep-thought, mutually beneficial and practical foreign policy" as well as many urgent tasks in the "Priority directions in the field of deep-thought, mutually beneficial and practical foreign policy" special attention is also paid to conceptual issues: "Strengthening the independence and sovereignty of the state, increasing the position and role of our country as an equal subject of international relations, including it among the developed democratic states, forming an environment of security, stability and harmonious neighborhood around Uzbekistan;

To strengthen the international prestige of the Republic of Uzbekistan among the developed countries of the world, to provide unbiased information to the world community about the reforms being carried out in our country‡.

Thousands of years of our history testify to the fact that nobility and humanity, the desire for interethnic harmony and religious tolerance are among the highest qualities of our people. Traditions in this regard are passed down from generation to generation.

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The idea of inter-ethnic harmony was put forward and achieved in practice, which is one of the biggest achievements in the development of independent Uzbekistan. The leadership of our country has taken measures to solve the national issue rationally, in accordance with international principles, and to harmonize inter-ethnic relations. In this regard, work was conducted based on constitutional requirements. Forming a true sense of patriotism in the minds of the multi-ethnic people of our country based on the idea that "Uzbekistan is the only Motherland" has become an important direction of work in this regard.

Article 8 of the Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan clearly states that "the people of Uzbekistan are made up of citizens of the Republic of Uzbekistan, regardless of their nationality"<sup>§</sup>.

The concept of "People of Uzbekistan" serves as a moral-ideological basis for mutual respect, friendship and solidarity between people of different nationalities and ethnic groups living in our country and working towards a common goal. In addition, our Constitution states that "The Republic of Uzbekistan respects the languages, customs and traditions of all nations and peoples living in its territory, and creates conditions for their development"<sup>\*\*</sup>.

In this regard, many activities are carried out in our life. In particular, an example of this is the establishment of the Republican International Cultural Center in 1992 in order to coordinate the activities of national cultural centers and to assist them.

The fact that many opportunities have been created for the representatives of different nationalities and peoples living in our country to study in their mother tongue, it is followed in schools and higher educational institutions, newspapers and magazines are published in many languages, and television and radio broadcasts are conducted.

The President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Sh.M. Mirziyoev said about this, "Regardless of the situation in the international arena and any emerging threats, Uzbekistan is pursuing a policy aimed at reliably ensuring its independence and sovereignty, stable socio-economic development, and the well-being of all citizens"<sup>††</sup>.

Considering the need to strengthen Uzbekistan's independence and ensure its security in such conditions, these events are bound to cause serious concern for us. On the occasion of the 28th anniversary of the establishment of the Armed Forces of the Fatherland and the Day of the Defenders of the Fatherland, President Sh. Mirziyoev, who foresaw the development of the events on January 14, 2020, said, "The situation in the world is changing rapidly, the situation is worsening in some regions of the world, and the danger of international terrorism and extremism is increasing. demands a comprehensive analysis and forecasting of the international and regional situation, increasing comprehensive measures aimed at ensuring the security and stability of our country, and increasing the combat readiness and potential of our Armed Forces"<sup>‡‡</sup>.

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In our country, focusing on issues of interethnic harmony and religious tolerance, since the first years of independence, the main principles of restoring national historical memory and developing it in various spheres of public life have been established in the state policy. Such principles in the social and spiritual sphere:

- Development of the Uzbek language, which is an expression of national identity, consistent and full realization of its state status, respect for the culture and language of the peoples living in the territory of the republic;
- based on the fact that every person has the right to follow his faith and religion, to perform his religious rituals freely, and the monopoly of a certain worldview belongs to the reformed society, to decide on the freedom of bigotry and conscience.

Ensuring the development of national historical memory, another important task in ensuring international harmony is related to the development of national languages. After all, “Cultural-historical experience, which preserves the uniqueness, national spirit, character, cohesion of each nation, is transmitted from generation to generation through the medium of language”<sup>§§</sup>. From this point of view, maintaining the purity of the national language has an impact on the process of realizing the national identity, its consistency, as well as the development of the national historical memory.

One of the urgent tasks is to create all the conditions for each nation living in our country to believe in its own religion. It is known that religion, by its nature, helps to promote the ideas of unity, kindness, and harmony in society. In particular, the presence of the instruction in the holy Quran, “O Muhammad, tell them about history, so that they may learn about the past peoples, think and take lessons” can be a proof of our opinion. In the process of reconstruction of the society during the period of independence, great attention was paid to the educational importance of religion.

In conclusion, the people of our country, which aims to build a humane, fair and legal society, which is related to the constant priority of the idea of inter-ethnic harmony, know that each nation has its own historical memory, that each ethnos, ethnic group is unique, and that they are respected in the world. It is extremely important to be. Also, maintaining stability in our society is based on relying on tolerance in everything we do. This indicates that the issues of raising the national memories of the brotherly peoples living in Uzbekistan are being considered with attention. The legacy of our ancestors, their great memories, exemplary ways will always be a lesson for us, calling for tolerance and solidarity. After all, peace and tranquility prevail in a country where inter-ethnic harmony and religious tolerance are stable.

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