



THE ROLE OF PEOPLE'S DIPLOMACY IN UZBEKISTAN'S FRIENDLY RELATIONS WITH SOUTH KOREA AND JAPAN

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ANNOTATION

Today, research on the process of establishing relations and foreign policy of Uzbekistan with each partner country is also relevant to the science of history. The importance of scientific and theoretical study of the relations of people's diplomacy with the Far East is to focus Uzbekistan's foreign policy on practical and mutual interests, to intensify mutual political dialogue, expand the country's export potential, attract foreign investment, advanced technologies and scientific achievements. - development of humanitarian ties, implementation of initiatives to expand the flow of tourists to Uzbekistan, as well as the establishment of systematic cooperation with Uzbeks and compatriots abroad.

KEY WORDS: *mutual trust, respect, friendship, strategic partnership, people diplomacy, The League of Friendship, the Great Silk Road, literature, art, painting, cultural events, tourism, cultural diplomatic relations,*

DISCUSSION

Uzbekistan is geographically far from South Korea and Japan, but they share a common goal of peace and development. There are many similarities and commonalities between the Uzbek and Korean peoples. Linguistically, we are united by the Altaic language family, while regionally we are united by one continent, one region - Eurasia and the East. Historically and culturally, many similarities can be seen [1]. History has shown that our peoples have been intertwined since the time of the Great Silk Road. In particular, the murals kept in the Afrosiyob Museum in Samarkand reflect the ceremony of reception of the ancient Korean-Chosun ambassador by the ruler of Samarkand in the middle of the 7th century [2].

Japan is also an important and reliable partner of Uzbekistan. The existence of trade, economic and cultural ties between the Uzbek and Japanese peoples through the Great Silk Road in history has been confirmed by scientific research. Cooperation has been strengthened not only through trade through ancient and preserved cities such as Samarkand, Bukhara and Khiva, which are included in the UNESCO World Heritage List, but also through cultural and humanitarian exchanges through other ancient centers of civilization - Nara and Kyoto in Japan. Eight centuries ago, the great scholar Mahmud Kashgari, in his *Devonu lug'atit-turk*,

mentions the name of the Sunrise country, calls it "Jabarqa", and first describes the map of the country.

From the second half of the 19th century, Japan began to take a serious interest in the Central Asian region. In 1880, the Japanese diplomat Nishi Tokudziro traveled around the country. He visited Tashkent, Samarkand, Bukhara and the Fergana Valley. In Bukhara he met with Amir Muzaffar. This event was one of the first official contacts of the Japanese with Muslim countries. In 1886, Nisi Tokudziro's "Travelogue of Turkestan" was published in Japanese. The fact that Japanese researchers such as Yasumasa Fukushima, Kazuo Otani, Masaji Inoue, Zuicho Toshibana traveled to Central Asia in the late 19th and early 20th centuries testifies to the high interest of the Japanese people in our country. The Scientific Library of the National University of Uzbekistan has a large collection of books and magazines published in Japan in 1927-1941. After the establishment of cooperation between Uzbekistan and Japan in the field of silkworm breeding and mulberry in the 1930s, a group of Uzbek experts visited Japan and studied the advanced Japanese experience in this field and introduced it in the country [6]. Thus, the relations of people's diplomacy, which for a long time defined the common mentality of the Uzbek, Korean and Japanese peoples, have been developing to this day.

Today, the relations between Uzbekistan and South Korea are based on mutual trust and respect, friendship and strategic partnership. On December



30, 1991, the Republic of Korea was the first country in the Asia-Pacific region to recognize the independence of the Republic of Uzbekistan. After the establishment of diplomatic relations between Uzbekistan and the Republic of Korea in January 1992, extensive cooperation was established in the political, economic and cultural spheres[7].

Uzbekistan considers strengthening cooperation with the Republic of Korea, which has strong economic, industrial and intellectual potential, as one of the strategic issues. As a result, 16 summits of the leaders of the two countries (1992, 1994, 1995, 1999, 2005, 2006, 2008 (twice), 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2014, 2015, 2017, 2019) were held [8].

The state visit of the First President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Islam Karimov to the Republic of Korea on June 19, 1992 laid the foundation for economic, trade, cultural and technical ties between the two countries. It was during this visit that the Declaration on Interstate Relations and Cooperation between Uzbekistan and South Korea was signed. Long-term plans for cooperation in the fields of culture, education, media, travel, sports have been identified [9].

Following the state visit of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Sh.M.Mirziyoyev to the Republic of Korea on November 22-25, 2017, a joint statement on comprehensive deepening of strategic partnership was signed, more than 20 interstate, intergovernmental and interagency agreements, as well as 64 sets of documents were signed. The total value of cooperation between the two countries exceeded \$ 10 billion in trade, economic, investment, financial, technical and other fields. Billions of dollars of agreements, new investment projects and cultural cooperation are a strong guarantee of the people's diplomatic relations between the two countries and are the result of today's friendly relations.

As a result of the state visit of the President of the Republic of Korea Moon Jae-in in 2019, the Joint Declaration on Separate Strategic Partnership between Uzbekistan and the Republic of Korea, promotion and mutual protection of investments between governments and ministries, study of free trade agreement, peaceful space exploration Cooperation in the field of technology and innovation, the establishment of the Uzbek-Korean Center for Cooperation in Health and other documents were signed [11]. Today, more than 170 interstate, intergovernmental and interdepartmental documents adopted between the countries serve as a solid foundation for cooperation. The Joint Declaration on Strategic Partnership, signed in 2006, and the Joint Statement on the Comprehensive Deepening of Strategic Partnership, adopted in 2017, are a testament to the commitment, friendship and mutual trust of the parties [12].

Japan recognized the independence of Uzbekistan on December 28, 1991, and diplomatic relations between the two countries were established on January 26, 1992. [13] In 1993, the Embassy of Japan was opened in Tashkent, and in 1996, the Embassy of the Republic of Uzbekistan in Tokyo was opened. Since then, the countries have been actively cooperating in various fields, including politics, economy, culture, humanitarian exchange and others.

The First President of the Republic of Uzbekistan I.A Karimov visited Japan three times in 1994, 2002, 2011[15], and the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Sh.M.Mirziyoyev paid an official visit to Japan in December 2019. In response, in August 2006, Japanese Prime Minister J. Koizumi, in October 2015, S. Abe visited Uzbekistan.

During the visits, political dialogue intensified and cooperation between the two countries reached a new level. Joint Statement between the Republic of Uzbekistan and Japan of May 17, 1994, Joint Statement of Friendship, Strategic Partnership and Cooperation between the Republic of Uzbekistan and Japan of July 29, 2002 and Joint Statement of October 25, 2015 on Deepening and Expanding Strategic Partnership between Uzbekistan and Japan are the main documents regulating the relationship [17].

During the visit of President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev to Japan in December 2019, a number of agreements were reached in political and parliamentary relations, trade and investment, innovation, small and medium business, science and education, health, culture and other areas of cooperation. The signing of the Joint Statement was another important step in taking multifaceted cooperation to a qualitatively new level. More than 160 agreements signed today serve as a solid legal basis for the development of relations between Uzbekistan and Japan [18]. The official visit of the leaders of the two countries and the high-level Uzbek-Japanese talks have been a guarantee of friendship and interstate relations.

Inter-parliamentary relations also play an important role in the development of mutually beneficial relations between Uzbekistan and South Korea and Japan, based on the principles of high trust and mutual respect, as well as in people's diplomacy.

In 1995, the Korea-Uzbekistan Parliamentary Friendship Association was established in the National Assembly of the Republic of Korea within the framework of inter-parliamentary cooperation. Since 2005, the Inter-Parliamentary Friendship Group of the Parliament of the Republic of Uzbekistan has been cooperating with the Parliament of the Republic of Korea.

The League of Friendship with Uzbekistan was established in the Japanese parliament and the Liberal Democratic Party of Uzbekistan-Uzbekistan Friendship League was established in 2002 at the



initiative of prominent political figures Taro Aso, Yoshiro Mori and others. is operating [21].

The countries have also established constructive cooperation within international organizations and institutions. Uzbekistan welcomes the peace-loving policy of the Republic of Korea aimed at strengthening mutual understanding on the Korean Peninsula, which is of great importance in ensuring global security. In turn, the Republic of Korea supported the resolutions "Strengthening regional and international cooperation to ensure peace, stability and sustainable development in Central Asia" and "Enlightenment and Religious Tolerance" adopted by the UN General Assembly in 2018 at the initiative of Uzbekistan.

Uzbekistan supports Japan's initiatives in foreign policy, strengthening the regional and international security system, as well as solving environmental problems. The parties are also actively developing multilateral relations within the "Central Asia + Japan" dialogue mechanism [22].

The Central Asia + Japan Dialogue plays an important role in Japan's cooperation with Central Asian countries, including Uzbekistan. The dialogue was established in 2004 at the initiative of former Foreign Minister Yoriko Kawaguchi. The main feature of this dialogue is that, in addition to the meetings of foreign ministers, it provides different public-level platforms for discussions at different levels. For example, innovative mechanisms such as the Grand Public Meeting, the Tokyo Dialogue, and the Expert Meeting are drawing the attention of the international community, the European Union, South Korea, and the United States to the dialogue platform with a similar approach. The principle of dialogue "Central Asia + Japan" is fully consistent with the priorities of good neighborly policy and people's diplomacy of Uzbekistan. However, this dialogue area could also lead to an increase in Japanese influence in the region. To prevent such consequences, it is necessary to accelerate continuous cooperation and equality-based communication through public diplomacy. Every year the program of cultural events expands, including Korean and Japanese films, art exhibitions, concerts, performances by Korean and Japanese artists, as well as regular presentations of Uzbek culture, art and tourism potential in major cities and regions of South Korea and Japan. A good example of this is the opening of permanent Uzbek houses of culture in Osaka, Fukushima and Maebashi with the support of a number of social organizations in Japan [24].

During the years of independence, it has become a tradition for Uzbek culture and art figures to demonstrate their skills in South Korea and hold Korean Culture Weeks in Uzbekistan. In particular, in the framework of such weeks in 1998 and 1999, an exhibition of Korean books and photographs, an exhibition of Korean artists and painters was

organized in Tashkent[25]. In 2009-2010, the National Museum of Korea hosted an exhibition of ancient art of Uzbekistan. It features unique historical exhibits confirming the age-old cultural and spiritual ties between the two countries.

In 2012, 26 cultural events were organized to mark the 20th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Uzbekistan and Japan, including the Japanese Film Festival, the Tohoku Restoration Photo Exhibition, the No and Kogen Japanese Theater, and the INSPI Acapella Vocal Ensemble Concert.

In recent years, South Korea has hosted cultural evenings dedicated to the art of Uzbekistan, and our country has hosted South Korean Culture Days. In particular, the Korean Week 2015, which took place on October 19-24, 2015 in Tashkent, Navoi and Urgench, [28] and the Korea Festival 2017, which took place in Tashkent in 2017, are a continuation of this work.

The public of the countries has been cooperating for many years in dozens of fields of science, such as literature, art and painting.

One of the most famous representatives of Japanese literature is Yasusi Inoue. His historical works "Tiled Tempo" and "Journey to Samarkand", Man Inoue's "An Evening in Tashkent" tell about the common culture, traditions and way of life of the Uzbek and Japanese peoples. Over the past period, about 30 novels, short stories, poems and short stories by famous Japanese artists such as Yosie Hotta, Kobo Abe, Yasunari Kawabata, Ryunosuke Akutagawa, Takeo Arisima, Masudzi Ibuse have been published in Uzbek.

In turn, in Japan, the works of our writers, such as M. Zamakhshari, A. Navoi, Z. Bobur, A. Fitrat, A. Qodiriy, Sh. Rashidov, Zulfiya, Ramz Bobojon, have been translated into Japanese and published several times. serves to further strengthen the literary ties between [31].

Over the years, Japanese and Uzbek scientists have established cooperation in scientific and cultural spheres. In particular, fruitful cooperation has been established in the fields of history, linguistics and archeology. Many hard-working Japanese scholars, such as Itaro Komatsu, author of the Uzbek Language Handbook, Uzbek Conversation, and the Uzbek-Japanese Dictionary, and Professor Eiji Mano, who translated Zahiriddin Muhammad Babur's "Baburnoma" into Japanese with scientific commentary, have established scientific ties between the two nations. individuals who have made significant contributions to the development of cultural relations [32].

Ikuo Hirayama, an internationally renowned artist, scientist and public figure, has played a significant role in cultural and humanitarian relations and public diplomacy between Uzbekistan and Japan. In his works "Ruins of Turkestan", "Bukhara",



"Central Asia" a certain philosophical and poetic essence of the peoples who passed through the caravan route was expressed with great clarity and ability, embodied the powerful spirit of the peoples, his works influenced the minds and spirits of millions of people. gave them an opportunity to get acquainted with the great history of ancient Uzbekistan. The establishment of the Uzbek-Japanese scientific and creative center "International Cultural Caravanserai" named after I. Hirayama in Tashkent in 2002 in his memory is another confirmation of our mutual cultural closeness [33]. The results of Ikuo Hirayama's public and charitable activities allowed him to overcome the existing boundaries and distances between the Uzbek and Japanese peoples, and his fruitful work became a standard of tolerance and people's diplomacy.

In turn, a number of exhibitions of works by Uzbek artists are being organized in Japan under the auspices of the Academy of Arts of Uzbekistan. In particular, the works of the People's Artist of Uzbekistan, Rishtan potter Ibrahim Rakhimov, and the paintings by Syrdarya artist Anarkul Boybekov are among the largest collections of exhibitions in Japan [34].

Cooperation between the scientific and academic circles of the two countries is developing positively. In particular, in the field of archeology, strong scientific cooperation has been established between universities and research institutes in Uzbekistan and Japan. In this regard, the famous Japanese archaeologist, anthropologist, well-known historian and ethnographer Kato Kyuzo (May 18, 1922 - September 11, 2016), who made a great contribution to the discovery of the unknown pages of Central Asia, noted the worthy place in the diplomatic relations between the two peoples. the transition is appropriate. Professor K. Kato is one of the Japanese scientists who has made an invaluable contribution to bringing together not only one country but also the peoples and cultures of the world with his scientific research activities. Kato Kyuzo widely promoted the history of Uzbekistan in Japan. K. Kato became not only an archaeologist, a great friend of Uzbekistan, he quickly studied local traditions and the Uzbek language. "I am Japanese, I call Uzbekistan my second homeland, and I am proud to be an honorary citizen of this country," - said the scientist, who for almost forty years conducted important scientific research in our country.

All this shows how important the cooperation between the two countries is. After all, this cooperation serves as a solid scientific basis for the discovery of new aspects of human history and culture.

Tourism plays an important role in Uzbekistan's people's diplomatic relations with South Korea and Japan. Today, tourism is developing as a modern network of public diplomacy of the state,

which introduces itself to the world. The peculiarity of tourism diplomacy is that it can combine several branches of public diplomacy, such as cultural diplomacy, economic diplomacy, sports diplomacy and gastronomic diplomacy. In particular, in 2019, at the Hankuk University of Foreign Studies in Seoul, South Korea, the "Day of Uzbekistan" showcased the art, national customs and traditions of the Uzbek people, national wrestling and national cuisine [36].

Uzbekistan, with its ancient historical cities and cultural monuments, is especially attractive for Japanese tourists. In 2004, more than 3,000 Japanese tourists visited Uzbekistan, [37] and in the first eight months of 2018, the number of Japanese tourists visiting our country reached its highest level. Special attention is paid to the development of tourism in our country. President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Sh. An important step in this direction was the introduction of visa-free travel for up to 30 days for citizens of 7 countries, including Japan, in accordance with the Decree of Mirziyoyev dated February 3, 2018 "On additional organizational measures to create favorable conditions for the development of tourism potential of the Republic of Uzbekistan." In January-August 2018, more than 10,000 Japanese tourists visited Uzbekistan for the first time. That is an increase of 154% compared to the same period in 2017. In the summer of 2018, Japan's leading tourism corporation - HIS - published a rating of the most attractive countries for Japanese citizens in the summer. Uzbekistan took the second place.

The Uzbek, Korean and Japanese peoples have many similarities and national and spiritual values, dignity, diligence and kindness are common to all three countries. In turn, it is gratifying that these similarities are reflected in the friendship and cooperation of our peoples. Relations with friendly societies in South Korea and Japan give a lot to the people's diplomacy of Uzbekistan. as well as great opportunities for collaboration. Thus, a long-term relationship is one of the important foundations for maintaining the friendly and good relationship that has developed over time. Thanks to the consistent cooperation of Uzbekistan, confidence in South Korea and Japan as a real partner has been strengthened, despite its geographical location.

The analysis of the dynamics of relations between Uzbekistan, South Korea and Japan in recent years shows the positive results of bilateral partnership and multilateral dialogue. Uzbekistan considers South Korea and Japan to be an attractive, economically developed country with a peaceful foreign policy.

At the same time, over the years, a solid foundation has been laid for the further development of multifaceted and fruitful cooperation between nations. As mentioned above, over the years, relations between the countries have been developing



steadily in various areas, such as political, economic, cultural and humanitarian exchanges.

In short, the level of Uzbekistan's relations with South Korea and Japan is achieving unprecedented results in bilateral relations. However, when it comes to issues of public diplomacy, more specifically the interaction of public organizations between peoples, a lot of work needs to be done to intensify bilateral cooperation. First of all, it is necessary to consider possible areas for strengthening cooperation in accordance with the principle of people's diplomacy.

An important aspect of strengthening mutual understanding and cooperation between peoples is the development of people's diplomacy, the expansion of ties between the peoples of the countries. Uzbekistan takes this cooperation seriously. At present, Uzbek-South Korean and Uzbek-Japanese relations are reaching a new level. Broad horizons of cooperation are opening before us. This requires the intensification of cultural and humanitarian ties in order to strengthen traditional friendship and achieve greater success for the benefit of peoples and countries:

1) Expansion of cultural diplomatic relations of Uzbekistan with South Korea and Japan, which is an important branch of people's diplomacy. 2) Improving the organization and coordination of governmental and non-governmental organizations (including friendship societies). 3) Organization and holding of sports events, in particular: holding "friendship" competitions in various sports with Korean and Japanese youth and teenagers. 4) Cooperation in the field of education. Joint seminars and conferences between students of the two countries, organization of educational science Olympiads, increase of joint programs of Uzbek universities with South Korean and Japanese universities. 5) Cooperation in the field of medicine. Exchange of specialists: joint consultations, joint development of the latest methods of treatment of patients. Volunteering: Joint programs to help people with disabilities and people with disabilities. 6) Cooperation in the field of IT technologies. Establishing cooperation with research institutes of the two countries in the field of IT development.

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