

HISTORICAL ROOTS OF UZBEKISTAN AND INDIA RELATIONS AND COOPERATIVE ACTIVITIES.

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ABSTRACT: The history of relations between Uzbekistan and India goes back a long time. There are periods in history when two countries were part of one state. Examples of this are the historical Greek-Bactrian and Kushan kingdoms, or states such as the Timurids and the Ghaznavids in the Middle Ages. We can see that friendly relations were established during the Shaibani and Baburi period, and these relations were further strengthened during the Ashtarkhani period. The purpose of today's article is to study when the relations between independent Uzbekistan and India were established, how far they have grown and what interests are strengthening the relations.

Key words: Independence, mutual cooperation, historical relations, CIS, "North-South" transport corridor.

INTRODUCTION: If we look at the history of statehood, relations between Uzbekistan and India go back to the distant past. Our region, located on the Great Silk Road, was traded with Asia and Europe. Over time, states changed in the region, but the main traders were settled Sogdians. Over time, several Muslim sultans and emirs conquered the land of India in the Middle Ages. They also built powerful empires in that region. As an example, we can say that our great grandfather, Zahiruddin Muhammad Babur, founded the great Baburi empire that ruled India in 332. There are many such cases. By the end of the Middle Ages, after the conquest of the Uzbek khanates by the Russian Empire, the relations were severed. Because at the same time, India was colonized by the British Empire, the rival of the Russian

Empire. For a long time, relations were considered British-Russian relations. After the Second World War, all relations between the regions continued in the form of USSR-India relations. On August 31, 1991, we chose the path of our independence. Since then, the Republic of Uzbekistan has shown its strategic path to the whole world. India was one of the first to recognize the independence of our country in 1991 and established diplomatic relations in 1992. The fact that our first president, Islam Karimov, made his first state visit to India also means that in the post-independence period, we considered India to be our loyal friend. The legal basis of relations between the Republic of Uzbekistan and India is the state, governmental and inter-institutional documents regulating bilateral cooperation in various fields. Until 2005, about 60 official documents were signed between the two countries. In 1992, the Consulate General of India in Tashkent, in 1994, the Consulate of the Republic of Uzbekistan in Delhi was turned into an embassy. During this period, our President Islam Karimov paid an official visit to India 4 times in 1991, 1994, 2000, 2005. In 1993, Prime Minister of India Narasimho Rao, in 2006 Manmohan Singh, in 2015 Narendra Modi visited the Republic of Uzbekistan. A number of economic agreements and documents, including "Agreement on Trade and Economic Cooperation", "Agreement on Mutual Promotion and Protection of Investment", "Agreement on Avoidance of Double Taxation" formed the basis of bilateral contractual legal basis for trade and economic relations between the two countries. agreement". In 2004, the volume of trade between the countries was 160 mln. It amounted to US dollars. Paper and cardboard, medicines, equipment, organic and chemical compounds are brought to Uzbekistan from India. Uzbekistan sends non-ferrous metals and products made from them, some services, poly products, silk and chemical fibers to India. At the moment, about 40 joint ventures formed with the participation of Indian investment and representative offices of 4 companies in India are operating in Uzbekistan. India's place on the world stage is incomparable. In a short period of time, it became one of the leaders of the world, leaving the ranks of the "Third World" countries. He is entering the world stage with his soft politics,

not forgetting caution, keeping himself away from contradictions. India, the most populous country in the world, spreads its personnel around the world. Relations with India improved a step after 2017, that is, from the time our country opened to the world. In 2017, Uzbek-Indian relations reached the stage of the most rapid development and reached the level of strategic partnership. The first meeting of the President of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev with the Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi took place within the framework of the SCO summit organized in Astana in June 2017, and the second meeting took place in June 2018 during the next SCO summit held in Qingdao, China. The President of the Republic of Uzbekistan visited India twice. In particular, in October 2018, he traveled on a state visit, in January 2019, he participated in the international investment summit "Vibrant Gujarat - 2019", and in December 2020, he participated in the Uzbekistan-India virtual summit. Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi emphasized that the strong strategic partnership between the two countries is of great importance in India's cooperation with Central Asia. In bilateral relations, issues of transport connectivity of Central and South Asia occupy a special place. In particular, Uzbekistan and India participate in the Ashgabat agreement, the "North-South" transport corridor project. That is, India wants to move from our country and region to the North, to Russia. Establishing trade relations with Russia through the Central Asian region will help the countries of the Global South and members of the BRICS+ organization to strengthen their mutual economic ties. In this project, the construction of the Mazari Sharif-Herot railway, which has access to the Iranian port of Chobahor, plays an important role. Both countries are also interested in the Mazari Sharif - Kabul - Peshawar trans-Afghan railway project, the implementation of which will serve to create more favorable conditions for the development of the existing potential of cooperation. Recently, the establishment of direct cooperation between the regions of the two countries is another rapidly developing direction of Uzbek-Indian relations. The improvement of cooperation between the Andijan region of Uzbekistan and the state of Gujarat is particularly noteworthy, in which 9

projects worth 84 million dollars are being implemented together with Indian companies. In January-December 2021, the volume of mutual trade increased by 10.3% and amounted to almost 490 million dollars. The export of Uzbekistan increased by 36.8% and reached 29 million dollars, while the import of India increased by 9.0% and amounted to 460 million dollars. At the same time, a number of investment projects with a total value of about 700 million dollars are being carried out in cooperation in the fields of infrastructure development, tourism and pharmaceutical industry. The import of Indian pharmaceutical products in our country is 927 million dollars, and the import of products from Uzbekistan in India is 155 million dollars. Cooperation in information technology and programming also continues to develop actively. In 2019, the Uzbekistan-India joint committee on cooperation in the field of science and technology was formed. In July of the same year, the Tashkent technopark was established in cooperation with the Society of Software Technology Parks of India. In the last 3 years, the number of joint ventures in the field of ICT has increased 3 times. Our country is interested in participating in SCO digital space development initiatives together with India. I believe that India is the best partner in fulfilling the goals that should be implemented in Uzbekistan - 2030 strategy. First of all, India's achievements in finding solutions to the many goals that need to be achieved in the field of medicine are unmatched.

Conclusion: Our country's cooperation with India and using its experience to become a developed country with high potential is our main goal of cooperation. I think that the rich experience of India and the support of friendly cooperation will greatly help to build the third "Renaissance" in our country.

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