



INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND INTER-RELIGIOUS TOLERANCE – THE FOUNDATION OF GROWTH

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Abstract: This article discusses the state policy pursued in the Republic of Uzbekistan in recent years in the field of religious tolerance. Information was also provided on the support of the National Cultural Center and religious organizations.

Keywords: tolerance, Islamic, non-Islamic, Christian, mosque, church, constitution, national cultural center.

Introduction

The goal of large-scale reforms in our country is to ensure the interests of man, his rights and freedoms. The interests of citizens can be ensured only by creating an atmosphere of peace and tranquility, mutual respect, kindness and solidarity. Uzbekistan's prestige in the international arena is growing due to maintaining social and economic stability, harmonization of inter-religious and inter-ethnic relations.

In particular, teaching in public educational institutions of the country is conducted in seven languages. The National Television and Radio Company of Uzbekistan broadcasts in twelve languages, and newspapers and magazines are published in more than a dozen languages. The Committee on International Relations and Friendship with Foreign Countries has 138 national cultural centers, as well as about 2,300 religious organizations of 16 denominations.

The main part

Uzbekistan has created favorable conditions for the well-being of people of different religions, nationalities and ethnic groups. is forgiving. The Constitution states that "all citizens of the Republic of Uzbekistan have the same rights and freedoms and are equal before the law, regardless of gender, race, nationality, religion, social origin, creed, personal and social status" [3, 7] and strengthening it serves as a legal basis for work in this area.

National values play an important role in promoting tolerance. Tolerance means not allowing self-conscious people to be discriminated against by people of other nationalities, and living in peace and prosperity with them. A sense of tolerance determines a person's character, morals, political and spiritual purity, the richness of his people and national heritage, as well as his attitude to national values. These qualities evoke in everyone a sense of tolerance and internationalism.

Of the 2,224 religious organizations operating in the country today, 175 are non-Muslim, including 159 Christians, eight Jews, six Baha'is, one Krishna Consciousness Society, and one Buddhist. In addition, there is an Interfaith Bible Society in the Republic.

There are three major Christian denominations in Uzbekistan: Orthodox, Catholic, and Protestant. There is also the Armenian Apostolic Church, which has its own direction in Christianity.

In this regard, a holistic, well-thought-out policy and practical measures aimed at its implementation are being implemented, with a focus on promoting inter-ethnic and inter-religious harmony. It should be noted that these reforms and changes are based on constitutional rights and guarantees. Therefore, it is necessary to cite the following arguments in this regard.

First, there are constitutional guarantees for the full realization of the potential of representatives of different nationalities and religions, the protection of their rights and interests. In this regard, special attention is paid to ensuring equal rights and freedoms of citizens, regardless of gender, race, nationality, language, religion, social origin, beliefs, personal and social status, their equality before the law.

The main principles of the state policy of the Republic of Uzbekistan in this area include equality of citizens, social justice, the rule of law, mutual respect for cultural, linguistic and religious values, traditions and customs of nations and peoples.

Constitutional guarantees ensure the participation of citizens in public and state building, regardless of gender, race, nationality, language, religion, social origin.

It should be noted that the policy of the Republic of Uzbekistan to establish interethnic and interfaith harmony is fully consistent with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international legal instruments [1].

Second, ensuring interethnic harmony and religious tolerance is an integral part of Uzbekistan's development strategy as a modern state.

In the last four years, more than 50 pieces of legislation and about 40 resolutions have been passed in the field of interethnic relations and religion. Many of these legal documents are aimed at expanding the rights and freedoms of citizens, regardless of religion or nationality, including the ability to participate in the management of public and state affairs

For example, the power to decide on the termination of a religious organization has been transferred from the executive to the judiciary, and the legal guarantees of their freedom of activity have been strengthened. The state fee for the registration of a religious organization has been reduced fivefold, and the frequency of reporting has been reduced. From now on, religious organizations will report only once a year.

Also, the concept of state policy of the Republic of Uzbekistan in the field of interethnic relations in 2019 was approved. At the same time, a number of decisions have been made to improve the activities of the religious and enlightenment sphere the system was introduced. In particular, the Committee on International Relations and Friendship with Foreign Countries has been established under the Cabinet of Ministers, and the Committee on Religious Affairs has been improved [1].

Third, an institutional approach to the development of interethnic and interfaith dialogue has been established in our country.

In particular, in accordance with the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated April 16, 2018 "On measures to improve the activities of the Committee on Religious Affairs under the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan", the new composition of the Council on Confessional Affairs under the Committee [1]

The composition of the council has expanded from 9 to 17 members - representatives of religious denominations operating in Uzbekistan. Significantly, the council also included leaders of a small number of religious organizations. The main purpose of this council, which is a public advisory body, is to discuss the existing religious and social processes in Uzbekistan and develop recommendations.

The main tasks of the Committee on Interethnic Relations and Friendship with Foreign Countries include ensuring and further development of interaction and cooperation of government agencies with national cultural centers and friendship societies located in the territory of the republic. A Public Council has been set up under the Committee to study, identify and satisfy the ethno-cultural needs of

citizens, to strengthen inter-ethnic relations, and to prevent possible conflicts for national reasons. The main expected result is the strengthening of public control over the activities of government agencies responsible for the implementation of state policy in this area.

The work on in-depth study of the traditions of the nations living in the territory of our country and the cultural and civilizational heritage, spiritual and philosophical significance of Islam has reached a qualitatively new level. The main purpose of this is to study in depth the historical roots of religious tolerance, interethnic relations and its development in today's conditions, based on the results of fundamental scientific research. In this regard, the Center for Islamic Civilization, the International Research Centers named after Imam Bukhari, Imam Termezi and Imam Moturidi have been established.

Fourth, ensuring interethnic harmony and religious tolerance has begun to play an important role in the foreign policy of the Republic of Uzbekistan. The government pays special attention to establishing constructive dialogue and cooperation with international organizations and experts in this field

During the visit of UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Zaid Raad Al-Hussein and High Commissioner for National Minorities of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe Lamberto Zanier, reforms in this area were discussed and international experts praised the changes.

It is noteworthy that in 2017, for the first time in the history of independent Uzbekistan, the Special Rapporteur of the UN Human Rights Council on Freedom of Religion or Belief Ahmad Shahid visited our country. On the basis of his recommendations, on May 4, 2018, the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan approved the "Road Map" to ensure freedom of religion and belief

In general, the international community appreciates the work of our country to ensure interethnic harmony and religious tolerance and is interested in the experience of Uzbekistan. In particular, the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev on September 19, 2017 at the 72nd session of the UN General Assembly adopted a resolution "On Enlightenment and Religious Tolerance" [2] aimed at promoting tolerance and mutual respect, ensuring religious freedom, protecting the rights of believers and preventing discrimination. An example of this is the proposed adoption of a special resolution entitled "December 12, 2018.

One of the important results of the reforms in this area is the fact that in 2018 the US State Department removed Uzbekistan from the list of "countries of particular concern" on religious freedom.

It is noteworthy that in the elections to the UN General Assembly on October 13, 2020, for the first time in the history of our national statehood, Uzbekistan was elected a member of the UN Human Rights Council for a three-year term - 2021-2023. 169 out of 193 member states of the United Nations voted for our country. Uzbekistan received the most votes in this election. It is no exaggeration to say that this is a recognition of the policy pursued in our country, regardless of nationality and religion, aimed at ensuring human rights, including in the field of interethnic harmony and religious tolerance.

All this indicates the strengthening of the role of Uzbekistan in international relations as a reliable and responsible entity.

The mosque is a sacred place for Muslims. It is a sacred place not only as a place of worship, but also as a place where you can receive spiritual nourishment and bond with each other. Accordingly, the blessing of opening a new mosque, building mosques and beautifying the existing ones is a great deed. In recent years, mosques in our country have been provided with ample opportunities to provide adequate conditions, facilities for prayer and listening to sermons.

It should be noted that in recent years, about 40 mosques have been opened, bringing the number of mosques to 2,077. In particular, in Tashkent "Sheikh Muhammad Sadiq Muhammad Yusuf", "Fayzulla hoja oglu Murod Haji", "Abu Talha", "Labi zah", in Surkhandarya region "Imam Termizi", "Hakim Termizi", "Sheikh Shamsiddin", "Ancient Darband". ”,“ Tolli ota ”,“ Sayyid Muhiddinkhan ”,“ Abdurahman ibn Awf ”,“ Mulla Abdukarim Akhund ”,“ Islam ota ”,“ Khidirsho ota ”,“ Ahathon ”,“ Ahmad Yassavi ”,“ Imam Nizamiddin Sangardakiy ”, Namangan “Muhammad al-Amin” in Fergana

region, “Chiligijiyda” in Fergana region, “Abu Bakr Siddiq” in Navoi region, “Tomdi”, “Hashman”, “Abu Hurayra”, “Firdavs”, “Dustlik” in Tashkent region, Ahmad ibn in Syrdarya region Malik ”and“ Umar ibn Khattab ”mosques in Bukhara region have opened new mosques.

In fact, there is a lot of good news about mosques. In particular, in recent years, more than 300 mosque buildings across the country have been completely rebuilt, and 300 mosques have been overhauled. This year, 281 mosques are being reconstructed. Last week, it was reported that 4 mosques in the capital were being reconstructed. News about the opening, reconstruction and repair of new mosques in our country is regularly published by the Department of Mosques of the Muslim Board of Uzbekistan on websites, Facebook pages and Telegram channels.

Conclusion

In conclusion, as a result of reforms in our country to strengthen the environment based on positive and mutual respect in the field of interethnic harmony and religious tolerance, a new model of interethnic and interreligious relations has been created. This model is based on inter-ethnic and inter-religious dialogue between different nationalities and religions, a constructive approach and equality of all citizens before the law

In this sense, the large-scale reforms carried out in Uzbekistan in recent years in the field of interethnic relations and religion have contributed to the formation of a system in the country that combines a new approach and strategic goals in these areas. The success of this system creates the basis for maintaining peace, ensuring the security of citizens and sustainable development in our country. After all, the main goal of the modern state is to ensure solidarity and stability in society, effective protection of human rights and freedoms

In this regard, our Basic Law - the Constitution is not only a high-level political and legal document that determines the development of society and the state, but also an important basis that guarantees a decent lifestyle for every citizen of our country.

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