

Interethnic relations in the Republic of Uzbekistan

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Abstract

The article discusses the works being done in the field of interethnic relations in the Republic of Uzbekistan, including the Republic of Karakalpakstan and also explains the role and importance of national-cultural centers in strengthening interethnic relations. The article states that all these works will contribute to the further development of interethnic relations.

Key words: *ethnicity, nationality, interethnic friendship, legal foundations, national-cultural centers.*

1. Introduction

One of the urgent problems of history is the large-scale reforms in the field of interethnic relations, the national composition of the population, the scientific study of the activities of national cultural centers implemented in the Republic of Uzbekistan during the years of independence, including the Republic of Karakalpakstan.

Most countries in the world today are multi-ethnic in nature. It should be noted that the Republic of Uzbekistan is one of such countries, which does not prevent the preservation of peace and interethnic harmony among citizens.

It is known from world experience that the stability of a state largely depends on its ability to solve various problems in interethnic relations. In recent times, in an environment of increasing global conflicts, including inter-ethnic conflicts, this problem has become particularly important. In this regard, interethnic harmony is important as a decisive factor for any multinational state [1].

The issue of interethnic relations has been studied in detail by Russian and Uzbek scholars, but the history of interethnic relations in the years of independence in Karakalpak historiography is one of the unexplored issues. Only some aspects of this issue are reflected in scientific journals, scientific-theoretical conferences. Therefore, a scientific study of the changes taking place in the Republic of Karakalpakstan during the years of independence, an in-depth study of the activities of national cultural centers is a topical issue today.

During the years of independence, special attention has been paid to strengthening interethnic friendship, maintaining cohesive and compassionate relations between different nationalities and ethnic groups in our society, educating the younger generation in the spirit of devotion to the motherland, respect for national and universal values. Today, more than 130 nationalities and ethnic groups live in our country as children of one family. They are united in the development of our common home - Uzbekistan, selflessly working in all areas and sectors, making a worthy contribution to building a democratic state based on the rule of law with a developed market economy and a strong civil society [2].

The legal framework of interethnic relations has been created in our country, which is a guarantee of peaceful life, political stability and interethnic harmony in our country. Article 8 of the Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan states that "the people of Uzbekistan, regardless of nationality, are citizens of the Republic of Uzbekistan" [3], and Article 18 states that "all citizens of the Republic of Uzbekistan have equal rights and freedoms, gender, race, nationality, language, religion, social they are equal before the law, regardless of their origin, beliefs, personal and social status"[4]. The Constitution of the Republic of Karakalpakstan also states that "the Republic of Karakalpakstan shall ensure respect for the languages, customs and traditions of the nations and peoples living on its territory, and create conditions for their development" [5].

The Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan on the State Language states that the language is a great wealth and invaluable property of the nation, and its fourth article states that "the languages of nations and peoples living in the territory of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall be treated with respect."]. On December 1, 1989, the Karakalpak language was granted the status of the "state language", and the second article of the Law "On the state language" states that giving the status of the state language to the Karakalpak and Uzbek languages does not interfere with the constitutional rights of nations and peoples. In fact, as stated in the requirements of this Charter, our Law "On the State Language" does not hinder the development of the language of other nationalities in our country, but creates conditions for the joint development and use of other languages [7].

As a result of the national policy pursued in the first years of independence, all opportunities have been created for the protection of the constitutional rights of all nationalities living in the republic, ensuring their equality, preserving their culture, traditions, speaking and receiving education.

Today, President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Sh. Mirziyoyev's leadership, the achievements in the field of interethnic relations are being further strengthened and large-scale reforms are being carried out.

President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Sh. Mirziyoyev on the five main directions of development of the Republic of Uzbekistan in 2017-2021 was "Main directions in the field of security, interethnic harmony and religious tolerance, well-thought-out, mutually beneficial and practical foreign policy" [8]. At the same time, ensuring interethnic harmony has been identified as the most important task, and practical work is being done to fulfill these tasks.

On January 24, 2017, at a meeting dedicated to the 25th anniversary of the Republican International Cultural Center, President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Sh. Mirziyoyev will talk about the tasks in the field of interethnic relations. In particular, "I consider another urgent task of the Republican International Cultural Center to organize research in cooperation with the institutes of the Academy of Sciences, dedicated to the further development and harmonization of interethnic relations in our country" [9].

The adoption of the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan on May 19, 2017 "On measures to further improve interethnic relations and friendly relations with foreign countries" has played an important role in strengthening and further developing peace, stability and interethnic harmony in society. According to the decree, the Committee on International Relations and Friendship with Foreign Countries under the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan was established on the basis of the Republican Center for International Culture and Friendship Societies [10]. The decree serves to develop a unified system for ensuring interethnic harmony, peace and stability in the country, to create more convenient and wide opportunities for national and cultural centers, to raise the activities of the centers to a new level.

On November 15, 2019, the adoption of the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On approval of the Concept of state policy of the Republic of Uzbekistan in the field of interethnic relations" raised the work in the field of interethnic relations to a new level. The decree approved the main directions of state policy of the Republic of Uzbekistan in the field of interethnic relations, the concept of state policy of the Republic of Uzbekistan in the field of interethnic relations, as well as the Roadmap for the implementation of the concept of state policy in interethnic relations in 2019-2021. was established.

According to the decree, the Commission was established to ensure the implementation of the concept of state policy of the Republic of Uzbekistan in the field of interethnic relations [11].

Thus, the adoption of this Decree is of great importance in the systematization of work in this area, the development of mechanisms for monitoring the state of interethnic relations on the ground.

On the basis of the adopted resolutions and decrees, national-cultural centers for the development of interethnic relations in the Republic of Uzbekistan have been established in each region.

137 national-cultural centers play a leading role in the development of ethnic identity and further harmonization of interethnic relations in our country ... It is noteworthy that the Republican International Cultural Center coordinates their activities and provides practical and methodological assistance [12].

During the years of independence, more than 120 active members of national and cultural centers have been awarded state awards, orders and medals, including 14 members were awarded the title of "Hero of Uzbekistan" [13]. These indicators are a clear example of the high level of attention paid to interethnic relations in the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Today, education in educational institutions of the country is conducted in 7 languages. Television and radio broadcasts are broadcast in 12 languages, and newspapers and magazines are published in more than 10 languages. Specialists are being trained in Karakalpak, Uzbek, Kazakh, Russian, Turkmen and Tajik languages.

At present, the Republic of Karakalpakstan has an Association of Koreans, a Russian Cultural Center, a Kazakh National Cultural Center, a Turkmen National Cultural Center, and a Ukrainian National Cultural Center. The main purpose of these national-cultural centers is to strengthen friendly relations between the representatives of different nationalities living in the Republic of Karakalpakstan, to preserve and develop the national characteristics, historical values and traditions of each nation.

The Association of Koreans of the Republic of Karakalpakstan was registered by the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Karakalpakstan on August 11, 1993. The main goal of the Korean Association is to create ample opportunities for the development of any economic and cultural sphere of Koreans [15]. Currently, the Korean Association has a language study, dance, a circle of young artists "Alye parusa", a choir of older mothers "Ariran" and an ensemble "Mugumhua". The ensemble of the Association of Koreans actively participates in the annual festival "Uzbekistan - our common home" with concerts, exhibitions of national culture and national cuisine.

The Center of Russian Culture of the Republic of Karakalpakstan was registered by the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Karakalpakstan on November 7, 1994. The main purpose of the Russian Cultural Center is to carry out educational work on the preservation of Russian culture, language, traditions, in-depth study of Russian history and literature [16]. Znayka group for preschool children and Alye Parusa youth club have been operating at the center since 2011.

The Kazakh National Cultural Center of the Republic of Karakalpakstan was registered by the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Karakalpakstan on July 3, 1996. The main purpose of the Kazakh National-Cultural Center is to satisfy the spiritual and cultural needs of the Kazakh people living in Karakalpakstan, to develop their language and traditions, thereby strengthening friendship between peoples [17]. At present, representatives of the Kazakh nation are educated in their native language, specialists in the Kazakh language are trained in higher education institutions, broadcasts are given in the Kazakh language, and newspapers are published.

The Turkmen National-Cultural Center of the Republic of Karakalpakstan was registered by the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Karakalpakstan on December 26, 1999. The main purpose of the Turkmen National Cultural Center is to preserve and develop the Turkmen culture, language, customs, literature, rituals, to strengthen and develop friendly relations between nations.

The center, located in Turtkul, Republic of Karakalpakstan, houses the editorial office of the Turkmen-language newspaper Mekan and a library of literature in Turkmen and other languages. Today, more than 20 schools in Turtkul teach in Turkmen. Textbooks in the Turkmen language in Uzbekistan are also being prepared by Karakalpak authors [19]. There is a Turkmen folk ensemble "Orzu" ("Dream").

One of the most important ethnic groups in Karakalpakstan is the Ukrainian people. Slavutich Ukrainian National Cultural Center was established in 2005 and works closely with other national centers, especially the Russian National Cultural Center, to strengthen and develop friendship between peoples.

The national and cultural centers of the republic contribute to the strengthening of interethnic harmony in many areas. These are clearly seen in the events related to historical-ethnographic, cultural-enlightenment, musical, scientific-popular, scientific, informational and social-charitable.

The festival is being held in the Republic of Uzbekistan under the motto "Uzbekistan is our common home" in order to further strengthen friendship and interethnic harmony between citizens and nations. Within the framework of the Republic of Karakalpakstan stage of the festival, various meetings, competitions of the Republican Festival of Friendship and Culture "Uzbekistan - our common home" among ensembles of national cultural centers of the republic, scientific seminars, roundtables will be held.

In our country, the national culture and traditions of each nation are reflected in the national holidays - Independence Day, Navruz, Easter, Maslenitsa, Chusok and others.

The friendly political, economic and cultural ties with neighboring nations play an important role in strengthening interethnic relations in our country. The reason is that the history, culture and spiritual values of the neighboring peoples are common, and the scientific and literary heritage of our ancestors is the common property of our peoples. In our country, the anniversaries of historical figures, writers, poets and statesmen of related nations, the promotion of their creativity are widely organized. For example, the works of the Kazakh poet Abay, the Turkmen poet Makhtumkuli, the Russian poet Pushkin and their scientific heritage are as valuable to each of us as the Karakalpak people appreciate Berdakh, the Uzbek people appreciate Alisher Navoi.

The conclusion is that interethnic harmony is an important factor in the socio-economic development of our society, and the interests of all citizens in our country, regardless of nationality, are legally guaranteed. Today, as a result of the state policy in the field of interethnic relations, all conditions have been created in our country for every nation to receive education in its native language, to realize its potential, and every nation living on this land strives to contribute to the prosperity of this single country. is doing.

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