



## OUR DISTANT RELATIVES

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### Annotation

Pakistan is the 24th largest developing industrialized country in the world in terms of GDP per capita (2019). Today, the country is one of the eleven countries with the greatest potential, striving to become one of the world's largest economies in the 21st century.

**Keywords:** Pakistan, Uzbekistan, economy, industry, cooperation, business, culture.

### Introduction

Thanks to its significant socio-political, socio-economic, cultural-humanitarian and human potential, favorable geopolitical location and balanced foreign policy, the country today plays an important role in regional policy and addressing current international issues.

The comprehensive expansion of multifaceted mutually beneficial cooperation with Pakistan is in the interests of Uzbekistan, which is currently at a new historical stage of development. This was stated in the Address of President Shavkat Mirziyoyev to the Oliy Majlis<sup>1</sup>.

Today, the necessary conditions are being created for the establishment and strengthening of effective dialogue between the two countries. The establishment of a powerful empire in the 16th century in modern Pakistan, India, Bangladesh and southeastern Afghanistan, founded by the great ancestor of the Uzbek people Zahiriddin Muhammad Babur, was the basis for the interaction of cultures and spiritual values. . The rich cultural, historical, scientific and educational heritage inherited from history will remain the eternal property of present and future generations.

### Materials and Methods

Today, the two countries have embassies in the capitals of Uzbekistan and Pakistan, which contribute to the consistent development of cooperation established in May 1992. Friendship groups have been established in the parliaments of our countries, and political dialogue at various levels has become regular.

This is evidenced by the meetings of President of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev with President of Pakistan Mamnoon Hussain and Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif in the framework of international events (SCO and Islamic Cooperation summits) in 2017-2018. In April 2019, at the International Forum "One Place, One Way" in Beijing, and in June this year at the SCO Summit in Bishkek, the President of Uzbekistan met with the current Prime Minister of Pakistan Imran Khan.

<sup>1</sup> <https://yuz.uz/ru/news/ozbekiston-va-pokiston-munosabatlari-strategik-sheriklik-darajasiga-kotarildi>



In February this year, President of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev received Adviser to the Prime Minister of Pakistan Abdul Razzaq Dawood, who is in Uzbekistan to attend the Uzbek-Afghan-Pakistani summit. During the talks with the head of our state, the sides discussed prospects for developing mutually beneficial cooperation in various areas.

The countries support each other in the international arena and actively cooperate in the framework of international organizations such as the UN, SCO and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation<sup>2</sup>.

The consistent development of Uzbek-Pakistani relations is in the long-term interests of the two countries and will have a positive impact on strengthening security, trade, economic, communications and humanitarian ties in the region.

Uzbekistan and Pakistan, Afghanistan's closest neighbors, who share a common interest in peace and stability in the country, say the Afghan problem can only be resolved through peaceful political talks under the auspices of the United Nations and a compromise between the two sides. unanimous in opinion.

## Results and Discussion

Today, Tashkent and Islamabad are actively cooperating with Kabul in the implementation of joint economic and infrastructure projects that fully meet the interests of the three countries. One such project is the construction of the Mazar-e-Sharif-Kabul-Peshawar Trans-Afghan Railway, which has the potential to become part of the new Silk Road.

As noted above, a high-level meeting was held in early February in Tashkent with the participation of delegations from Uzbekistan, Pakistan and Afghanistan, as well as representatives of international financial institutions to discuss the project, which resulted in the adoption of a joint action plan<sup>3</sup>.

Of course, the construction of a direct transport corridor between our countries will serve to expand trade and economic ties and investment cooperation. They are still evolving rapidly. In particular, in 2020, Pakistan ranked 13th among trade partners in the export of goods and services from Uzbekistan. Last year, bilateral trade reached \$ 123.3 million, of which exports from our country amounted to \$ 98.5 million.

The Uzbek-Pakistani Intergovernmental Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific and Technological Cooperation and the Joint Business Council serve as effective platforms for bilateral cooperation.

New growth points are emerging in the field of economic cooperation. The number of joint ventures and foreign enterprises with Pakistani capital in Uzbekistan has almost doubled in the last five years.

Today, there are more than 140 enterprises in the country, such as trade, light industry, paper, leather and food production, 4 of which are 100% foreign-owned. Pakistan's total investment in the Uzbek economy has exceeded \$ 11 million.

Representatives of the two countries are actively participating in concerts, festivals, exhibitions and sports competitions in Uzbekistan and Pakistan. In particular, Pakistani artists regularly take part in

<sup>2</sup> <https://review.uz/uz/post/infografika-ozbekiston-va-pokiston-ortasidagi-savdo-hajmi>

<sup>3</sup> <https://uzreport.news/politics/o-zbekiston-va-pokiston-prezidentlari-uchrashdi>



the Sharq Taronalari International Music Festival in Samarkand. In turn, Uzbek experts traditionally give lectures at scientific conferences dedicated to the life and work of Abu Ali ibn Sino, Alisher Navoi, Zahiriddin Muhammad Babur and other great scholars and thinkers in Pakistan.

## Conclusion

In this regard, the Central and South Asia: regional interdependence, which is planned to be held in Tashkent this year at the initiative of the head of our state. Threats and Opportunities "high-level international conference is expected to be an effective platform for discussing the prospects of bilateral and multilateral cooperation. Its results will inevitably lead to closer collaboration and the development of robust conceptual solutions to complement the current agenda with concrete projects of strategic content.

## References

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