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A new phase of cooperation between the Sultanate of Oman and the Republic of Uzbekistan





Promoting coexistence among religions and cultures has become a strategic imperative for achieving international peace and security. In this spirit, fostering a culture of mutual respect, acceptance and tolerance of others, openness to human diversity, and dialogue is of central importance, offering the best path towards building a more stable and humane world—one in which justice prevails, coexistence flourishes, and the values of lasting peace take firm root

From the Royal Address of

HM Sultan Haitham bin Tarik

– May Allah protect and preserve him –

at the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), Paris

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The Sultanate of Oman is among the first countries in the world to have established friendly relations with the Republic of Uzbekistan. Diplomatic relations between the two countries began in 1992, marking an important step that helped shape the course of bilateral relations and define the framework for joint cooperation between the two friendly nations

The Sultanate of Oman and the Republic of Uzbekistan.. A Partnership Toward Wider Horizons

In light of the rapid transformations taking place across the world today, bilateral relations between countries emerge as a fundamental pillar for enhancing economic stability, expanding avenues of developmental cooperation, and building strategic partnerships capable of addressing challenges and capitalizing on opportunities. Within this context, relations between the Sultanate of Oman and the Republic of Uzbekistan represent a growing model of cooperation based on mutual respect and a shared desire to advance the economic and developmental interests of the two friendly countries.

The Sultanate of Oman is among the first countries in the world to have established friendly relations with the Republic of Uzbekistan, with diplomatic relations between the two countries commencing in 1992 through a visit by a delegation led by His Excellency Yusuf bin Alawi bin Abdullah, Minister Responsible for Foreign Affairs (at the time). This important step helped shape the trajectory of bilateral relations and define the framework for joint cooperation between the two friendly nations. These relations have continued through reciprocal visits between both sides and through the work of the Omani-Uzbek Joint Committee, which convened in Tashkent.

Omani-Uzbek relations are distinguished by deep-rooted diplomatic foundations based on mutual understanding and convergence of views on numerous regional and international issues, as well as a shared interest in expanding economic, cultural, and developmental cooperation. Official exchanges of visits over recent years have also injected growing momentum into these relations and opened new horizons for both the public and private sectors in the two countries.

The Sultanate of Oman represents an important partner for the Republic of Uzbekistan in the Gulf region, owing to its strategic location, stable economic environment, and advanced expertise in managing special economic zones and free zones. This creates broad opportunities for economic integration and the expansion of joint investments between the two sides.

The Sultanate of Oman places increasing emphasis on developing its system of special economic zones, free zones, and industrial cities as a key driver of economic diversification and the attraction of quality investments. This ecosystem provides an integrated business environment distinguished by investment incentives, advanced infrastructure, and supportive legislation, thereby contributing to the attraction of manufacturing, logistics, and technology industries and enhancing partnership opportunities with international investors, including partners from the Republic of Uzbekistan. These zones offer competitive advantages that support industrial integration and regional supply chains.

Economic relations between the two countries have witnessed notable progress in recent years, reflected in the signing of several agreements and memoranda of understanding covering a range of sectors, including the avoidance of double taxation, the promotion and protection of investments, as well as enhanced cooperation in transport, logistics services, agriculture, tourism, and energy.

Given Uzbekistan's strategic geographic location linking the markets of Central Asia, China, and Europe, together with its rapid economic growth and deep structural reforms, the country is emerging today as a promising investment destination offering a competitive business environment and multiple incentives for foreign investors, including investors from the Sultanate of Oman.

Relations between the two countries are not confined to the economic sphere alone; they also extend to cultural, educational, and tourism cooperation. The two peoples share a civilizational and historical heritage that strengthens opportunities for cultural exchange and human connection, in addition to supporting academic initiatives and the exchange of expertise between educational institutions.

Moreover, the convergence of views between Muscat and Tashkent regarding the importance of supporting regional stability and promoting dialogue and understanding among nations adds an important political dimension to these relations and lays the foundation for a balanced partnership based on respect for sovereignty and the strengthening of multilateral cooperation.

In light of these factors, relations between the Sultanate of Oman and the Republic of Uzbekistan are poised for further growth and development in the coming period, supported by a shared political will to enhance cooperation across various fields and transform available opportunities into tangible investment projects with a direct impact on economic development.

The next phase carries significant potential for deepening this partnership through expanding investment opportunities in Uzbekistan, activating the role of the private sector, enhancing trade exchange, and supporting cultural and tourism initiatives that strengthen ties between the two friendly peoples.

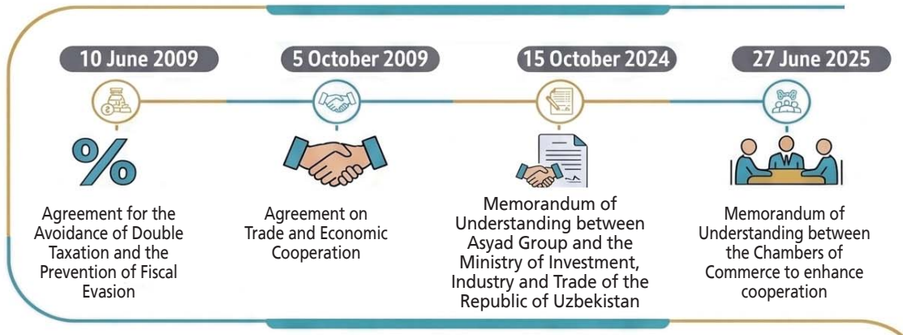
Omani-Uzbek relations represent a promising model of a growing international partnership founded on mutual trust and respect, steadily advancing towards broader horizons of cooperation and integration. This strengthens Uzbekistan's position as an attractive investment destination and supports the paths of development and prosperity in the two friendly countries.

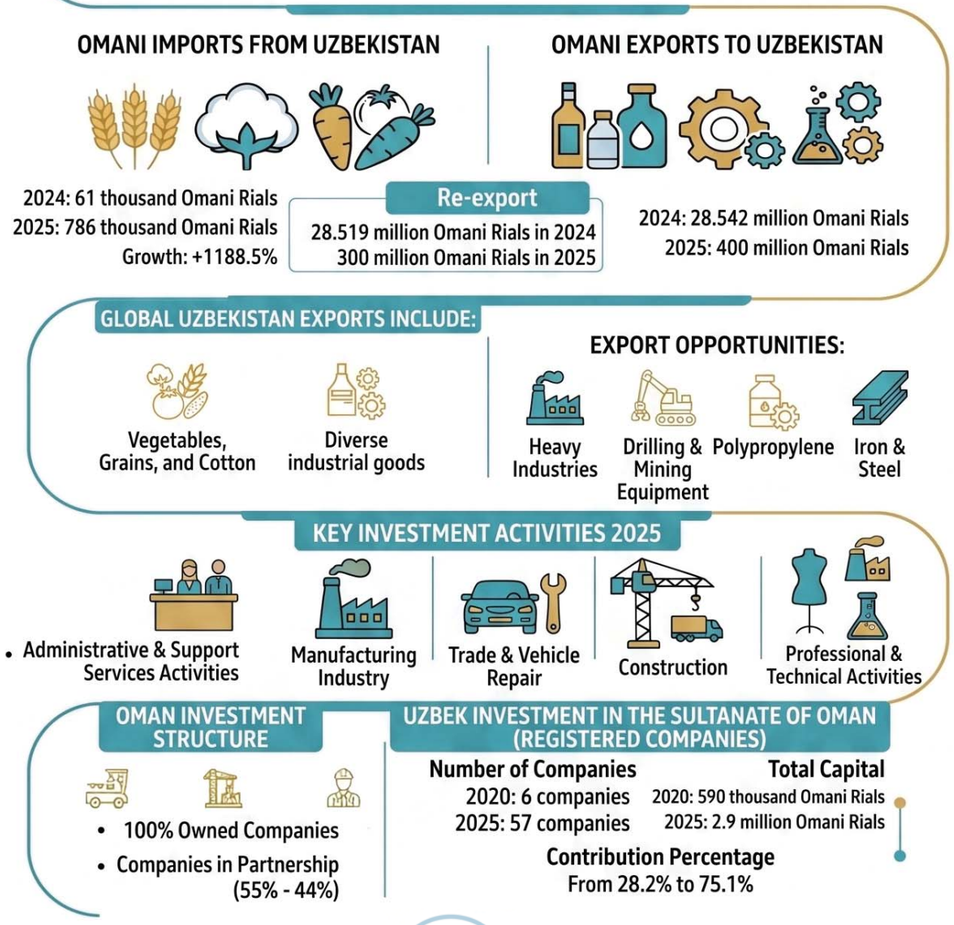
Trade and Investment Relations between the Sultanate of Oman and the Republic of Uzbekistan

Economic relations between the Sultanate of Oman and the Republic of Uzbekistan are witnessing notable growth, supported by a package of agreements and memoranda of understanding that have contributed to strengthening bilateral cooperation and opening new horizons for partnership across various economic sectors.

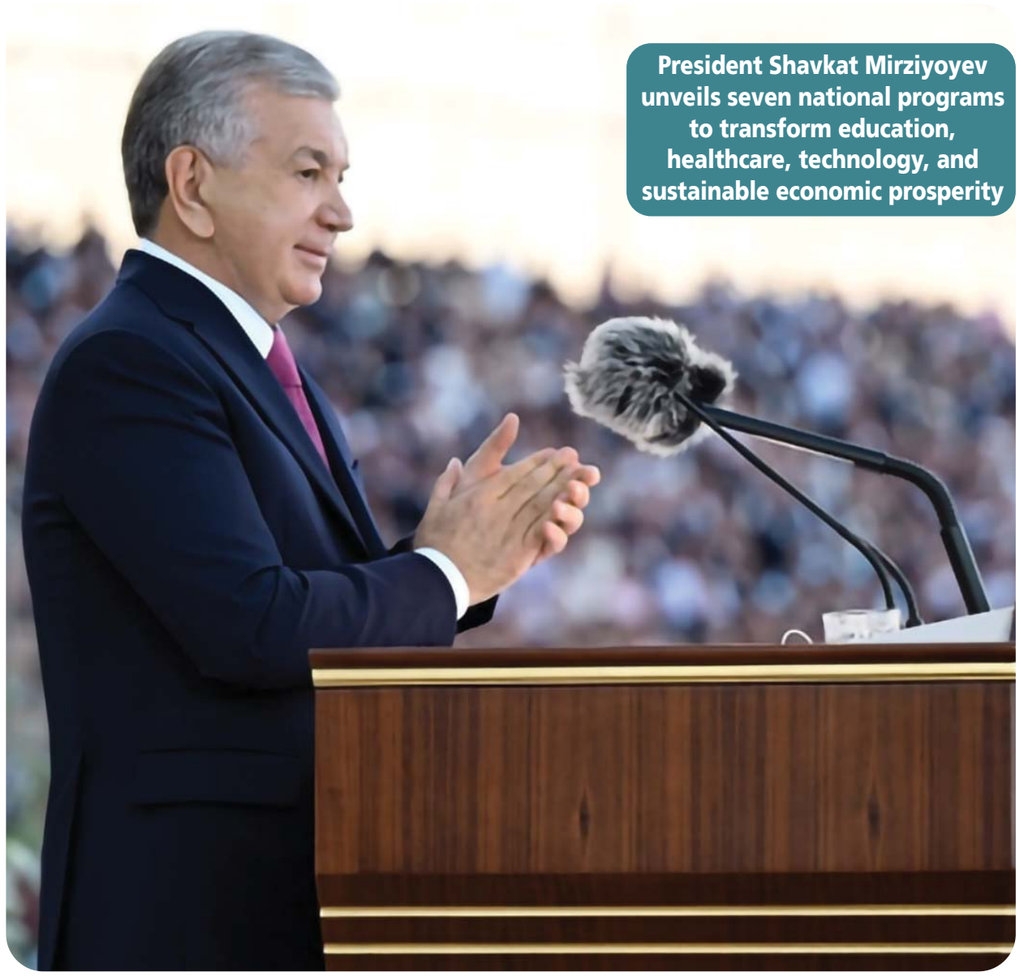


Agreements and Memoranda of Understanding





Launching an Era of National Progress and Human Dignity



President Shavkat Mirziyoyev unveils seven national programs to transform education, healthcare, technology, and sustainable economic prosperity

His Excellency Shavkat Mirziyoyev, President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, stated in his address during the celebration of the 35th anniversary of independence: "I sincerely congratulate all the people of Uzbekistan—from our pioneering older generation, ambitious youth, and esteemed women, to all nationalities and ethnic groups residing in our country, as well as our compatriots abroad. Celebrating our greatest national holiday in 'New Tashkent' imbues it with special joy and grandeur. Recently, the new campuses of New Uzbekistan University and the Nizami Ganjavi National Pedagogical University, alongside the Alisher Navoi National Library, were inaugurated here, transforming the city into a hub of science, education, and culture. Today's celebration is further graced by the inauguration of the world's longest musical fountain, officially recorded in the Guinness World Records. New Tashkent clearly embodies the strength and beauty of the New Uzbekistan we are building together..

Historical Roots and Honoring Our Forefathers

Achieved in 1991 through our people's unwavering will, our independence draws on over three thousand years of statehood and civilization. During the First and Second Renaissances, thinkers like al-Khwarizmi, al-Fergani, Beruni, Ibn Sina, Mirzo Ulugbek, and Alisher Navoi enriched humanity's heritage, while Amir Temur's state symbolized justice and creativity. Today, the dreams of our Jadid ancestors—Behbudi, Munavvar Qori, Fitrat, Qodiriy, and Chulpon—are fully realized. Independence restored our honor, dignity, religion, native language, and national values. We revere our selfless ancestors, thank all compatriots who strengthened our independence over 35 years, and honor our First President, Islam Abduganiyevich Karimov.

Human Dignity, Economic Freedom, and Poverty Reduction

Guided by the principle "For Human Interests, Honor and Dignity!", we abolished long-standing burdens including the oppressive cotton harvesting system, forced and child labor, currency restrictions, and residence registration, replacing fear with lasting confidence. Opening Uzbekistan to the world, we resolved border issues, strengthened neighborly ties, and reformed foreign exchange, tax, customs, and investment policies. Uzbekistan rose 80 places in the Index of Economic Freedom, while annual foreign investment surged from $2–3 billion to $40–50 billion. Despite global disruptions, we will achieve our 2030 GDP target of $160 billion this year and join upper-middle-income nations. Over 650,000 families now own modern homes, and systematic mahalla-level work reduced poverty from 35 percent in 2017 to 4 percent this year, improving 10 million lives.

Education, Science, Healthcare, and Youth Empowerment

Building the Third Renaissance, we restored teachers' prestige and incomes. Over 10 years, as our population grew by 8 million, preschool coverage reached 78 percent, school capacity expanded by 1.5 million places alongside Presidential and specialized schools, and university enrollment reached 1.6 million—over half being girls and women. Through IT, artificial intelligence, and creative economy initiatives, we will engage 10 million youths in digital professions, highlighted by launching the Samarkand 2028 satellite with Chinese partners. In healthcare, spending rose over eightfold, 652 new facilities tripled medical services, and over 100 advanced treatments were introduced locally, raising life expectancy from 66.4 to 75.4 years and cutting infant and maternal mortality fourfold. Alongside opening the Center of Islamic Civilization and memorial complexes of Imam Bukhari and Burhaniddin Marginoni, we allocate 20–25 trillion UZS annually to youth. Young entrepreneurs form 35 percent of businesses, our athletes excelled at the Tokyo and Paris Games and reached the FIFA World Cup, and Samarkand will soon host the World Chess Olympiad.

Our greatest wealth is our youth, who will become the driving force of New Uzbekistan

In these turbulent times, interethnic harmony and religious tolerance are a priceless national treasure

When the people and the state unite their efforts, no achievement is beyond their reach

Seven National Programs for a Decade of Progress

Entering a decisive decade of national progress, we will implement seven national programs:

1. **Knowledge and Skills:** Enrolling 100 percent of six-year-olds in preschool preparation, introducing international standards across schools and technical colleges, training 1 million youths in well-paid professions, and placing 10 universities in the global top 1,000.
2. **Health and Longevity:** Raising healthcare spending to 5 percent of GDP within five years, providing universal state health insurance, prioritizing disease prevention, and attracting five leading global clinics.
3. **High-Tech Economy:** Attracting $450 billion in foreign investment over ten years, increasing GDP to $300 billion with 2 million high-paying industrial jobs by 2030, boosting AI and startups, and raising GDP per capita above $10,000.
4. **Water and Nature:** Introducing water-saving technologies across 100 percent of cultivated land within five years and expanding urban green spaces to 30 percent under the Yashil Makon movement.
5. **Rule of Law:** Strengthening judicial independence, school legal education, and protections against cybercrime, drugs, human trafficking, the shadow economy, and discrimination.
6. **Mahalla-Driven Governance:** Formulating district budgets, investments, and infrastructure projects directly around mahalla requests and citizens' needs.
7. **Peace, Tolerance, and Diplomacy:** Fostering harmony among over 130 nationalities and 16 religious denominations, expanding ties with nearly 170 diplomatic partners, maintaining constructive policy toward Afghanistan, and chairing the 120-country Non-Aligned Movement from 2027 to 2029.

The great power and opportunities of independence are manifested above all in human dignity

Above all, independence restored our honor and dignity, our sacred religion, and our native language

Unity and Closing Congratulations

I thank the diplomatic corps, foreign media, and guests from the United States, Türkiye, and Singapore attending today. Over 35 years, we proved that when the people and state unite, no goal is beyond reach. We are grateful to the Almighty for the truly priceless gift of our independence, and we salute our courageous, resilient, and noble people. Together, as one Homeland and one people, we will usher in a golden era. May peace and prosperity fill our homes! Long live the Republic and people of Uzbekistan!

Address by the President of the Republic Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev at the Fifth Tashkent International Investment Forum

Six Strategic Priorities for Global Investment in New Uzbekistan



Welcome and Growing Global Confidence in New Uzbekistan

Dear forum participants, ladies and gentlemen, dear friends! I am pleased to welcome the heads of state and government, representatives of international financial institutions, major companies, investment funds, and distinguished business leaders joining the Fifth Tashkent International Investment Forum. Your participation is a powerful testament to growing global confidence in the reforms and development of New Uzbekistan, laying a solid foundation for achieving ambitious, far-reaching goals.

The outcomes speak for themselves. Over the past years, Uzbekistan has attracted over $150 billion in foreign investment, including $123 billion in the last five years alone. We remain open to investors and ready to build equal, mutually beneficial partnerships. The participation of nearly 4,000 foreign guests from over 100 countries clearly demonstrates the growing international recognition and prestige of the Tashkent International Investment Forum.

I express special gratitude for participating in our event to His Excellency Bajram Begaj, President of Albania; His Excellency Mikhail Mishustin, Chairman of the Government of the Russian Federation; His Excellency Aleksandr Turchin, Prime Minister of Belarus; His Excellency Ali Asadov, Prime Minister of Azerbaijan; His Excellency Olzhas Bektenov, Prime Minister of Kazakhstan; His Excellency Adylbek Kasymaliev, Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Kyrgyz Republic and Head of the Presidential Administration; and His Excellency Kokhir Rasulzoda, Prime Minister of Tajikistan. I also thank the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, New Development Bank, World Bank, International Finance Corporation, Asian Development Bank, Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, European Investment Bank, and other international financial institutions for their close cooperation in advancing our reform agenda. Welcome to New Uzbekistan!

Macroeconomic Growth and Improving the Investment Climate

As the global economy and capital map shift rapidly and trade tensions escalate, investors naturally seek countries where entrepreneurial rights and freedoms are reliably protected, the economy grows rapidly, and broad opportunities exist. We are therefore implementing systemic measures to fundamentally improve the investment climate in New Uzbekistan.

Last year, GDP growth reached 7.7 percent and $43 billion in foreign investment was attracted into our economy, while national currency stability was ensured and international reserves exceeded $70 billion. At the first forum four years ago, we set the goal of increasing Uzbekistan's GDP to $100 billion by 2026; this year, our rapidly growing economy will surpass $180 billion. Furthermore, Uzbekistan's international credit standing continues to strengthen: our country advanced 14 positions in the Index of Economic Freedom and, for the first time, joined the "moderately free economy" category—tangible evidence of new economic momentum.

Forum Theme and Six Strategic Priorities for Cooperation

Under this year's theme, "Investment Resilience: New Frontiers, New Partnerships," achieving our ambitious goals requires joint efforts. I would like to outline six priority areas to expand our multifaceted cooperation.

First Priority: Strengthening Legal Guarantees for Investors

Protecting investors' rights through strong institutions and recognized international mechanisms is vital. Since March, we have begun establishing the Tashkent International Financial Centre, whose legal foundations will be enshrined in a dedicated Constitutional Law. An attractive tax regime will be introduced for participants: corporate income tax, value-added tax, property tax, and customs duties will be set at zero percent, alongside unconditional guarantees for free capital movement and transactions in any currency.

A modern ecosystem for fintech, digital assets, and green finance will be regulated by an independent financial authority empowered to adopt normative documents within the Centre's territory for an initial 50-year period. Operating under English common law principles, the Centre will be supported by an independent Tashkent International Commercial Court staffed by respected foreign judges and international experts. We will also develop an investment mediation system and join the UN Singapore Convention on Mediation, ensuring guaranteed international legal protection in Uzbekistan.



Second Priority: Developing the Capital Market and Alternative Financial Instruments

Uzbekistan is rapidly developing next-generation financial technologies and capital markets. We have placed over $16 billion in international bonds and introduced corporate Eurobonds in our national currency. For the first time, we listed 30 percent of the National Investment Fund—managing assets across 13 strategic enterprises—on the Tashkent and London Stock Exchanges, marking the largest London IPO in five years, with more major companies preparing for IPOs.

To strengthen the legal framework, laws on the Capital Market and Alternative Investment Funds will be adopted. We will create broad opportunities for international clearing companies and launch sovereign Islamic bonds (sukuk) to attract at least $10 billion in additional capital into our enterprises. Under this year's privatization program, $6 billion in real estate, state enterprise shares, and land plots will be auctioned to local and foreign investors.

Third Priority: Attracting Investments to Expand High Value-Added Chains

We have launched major programs to transition all industrial sectors to a new technological level, aiming to increase high-tech industrial production 2.5 times over the next five years. Cooperation in the advanced chemical industry alone will unlock $20 billion in investment potential, create 15,000 high-income regional jobs, and produce 130 types of new products.

Uzbekistan is rich in gold, copper, uranium, tungsten, natural gas, and other rare minerals, with subsoil wealth estimated at $3 trillion. To open this sector to foreign investors, we will create an open digital geological database and quadruple the deposits put up for auction. To implement "mining to finished products" projects, we will attract foreign investment into the "Metals of the Future" technoparks in Tashkent and Samarkand, alongside $30 billion in joint projects across mechanical and electrical engineering, robotics, light industry, construction materials, and pharmaceuticals.

Fourth Priority: Deepening Partnership in Green Energy and Artificial Intelligence

We plan to increase the share of green energy in total electricity generation to 54 percent in the coming years. Alongside solar and wind power plants, we invite investors to develop energy storage systems, modernize grids, and build green-powered data centres.

Developing artificial intelligence is an imperative of our time, with foreign experts forecasting at least $10 billion in added value in Uzbekistan over the next five years. We adopted a National Strategy and launched the "Five Million Leaders" program to integrate AI across education, public services, and business. In Karakalpakstan, we created a special zone for AI projects and data centres where, until 2040, investors are exempt from all taxes and duties, infrastructure is state-financed, and a preferential electricity tariff of 5 cents per kilowatt-hour applies, alongside establishing the International Digital Technology Centre of Uzbekistan under a special legal regime.

Fifth Priority: Developing Regional Transport and Logistics Connectivity

Together with regional leaders participating today, we are working to transform Central Asia into an interconnected global hub. In cooperation with China and Kyrgyzstan, we are rapidly constructing a strategic railway, advancing the Trans-Afghan Corridor for direct access to southern seaports, and developing the Middle Corridor across the Caspian Sea to link our country to transport arteries connecting Asia and Europe. Domestically, with Saudi partners, we are building the new Tashkent International Airport to serve 20 million passengers annually, and we invite your active participation in constructing high-speed highways, multifunctional logistics centres, and "dry ports."

Sixth Priority: Elevating Investment Cooperation in Regional Development

With Uzbekistan's population approaching 40 million, rapid growth requires major urbanization programs. By 2040, we plan to double housing construction and raise urbanization from 51 to 65 percent, building New Tashkent for 2 million residents while transforming Andijan, Namangan, and Samarkand into cities exceeding one million residents. Housing construction will provide a guaranteed annual market of at least $10 billion, alongside $27 billion in public-private partnership infrastructure projects.

Tourism and modern agro-industry are also key regional drivers. Over the past five months, foreign tourist arrivals grew 27 percent to 5.5 million, with potential to host 15–20 million tourists annually and generate $15 billion in tourism services across Samarkand, Bukhara, Khiva, and other regions. In agribusiness, we export $3.5 billion annually in fruits and vegetables to over 70 countries and aim to reach $10 billion through higher yields and organic production. All 14 regional governors are participating today; we invite you to visit our regions with their full support.

Regional Integration and Closing Commitment

We view the Regional Alliance of Investment Councils of Central Asia and the Caucasus—initiated by the ADB and EBRD—as a timely step toward a harmonized common investment space. Tomorrow, we will convene the plenary session of the Foreign Investors Council under the President of Uzbekistan to define future priorities. For us, investment is a catalyst for advanced technologies, modern expertise, and new jobs. The doors of New Uzbekistan remain open to foreign investors, and I personally, together with our Government, stand ready to work alongside you as reliable partners. I thank you all and wish you health, prosperity, and success.

New Central Asia: Uzbekistan's Role in Shaping the Region and New Opportunities for Oman

Over the past decade, Central Asia has undergone a profound political and economic transformation. A region once associated with closed borders, territorial disputes, limited trade, and mutual suspicion has become a space of dialogue, connectivity, and shared prosperity. Borders have opened, longstanding disputes have been resolved, transport links have expanded, and regional leaders now meet regularly to pursue shared strategic objectives.

The result is a New Central Asia united by common interests, confident in its agency, and capable of engaging international partners from a stronger collective position. Amid global geopolitical fragmentation and supply chain disruptions, the region demonstrates that pragmatic diplomacy generates stability and growth. For external partners like the Sultanate of Oman, this landscape offers major opportunities for economic cooperation, connectivity, and investment.



Regional cooperation, political dialogue, and pragmatic diplomacy can create stability and economic opportunities

Borders that once symbolized division are increasingly becoming bridges of friendship, trade, and connectivity

Central Asia is increasingly transforming from a landlocked region into a land-linked strategic hub

Uzbekistan as a catalyst of regional transformation

At the heart of this transformation is Uzbekistan. The turning point came in 2016, when President Shavkat Mirziyoyev made Central Asia the principal priority of Uzbekistan's foreign policy, placing good-neighborliness, mutual trust, and cooperation at its core. This marked a shift from competition toward practical dialogue. Relations with Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Turkmenistan intensified as border crossings reopened, transport links resumed, travel restrictions eased, and cross-border trade expanded. Because Uzbekistan borders all four other Central Asian states, this shift transformed the political atmosphere of the entire region.

President Mirziyoyev subsequently turned bilateral rapprochement into a sustainable regional process. In September 2017, at the United Nations General Assembly, he proposed regular Consultative Meetings of the Heads of State of Central Asia. Beginning in Astana in March 2018, these meetings became the principal platform for regional dialogue across trade, transport, energy, water management, and security. The Seventh Consultative Meeting in Tashkent in November 2025 welcomed Azerbaijan as a full-fledged member, reflecting closer ties with the South Caucasus and the growing importance of the Trans-Caspian corridor. Central Asian countries are now shaping their regional future through direct dialogue rather than external mediation.

From disputed borders to a region of friendship and trust

The most visible achievement of the New Central Asia is the transformation of its borders. For decades, territorial disputes, movement restrictions, and occasional clashes undermined regional stability. New political dialogue has fundamentally changed this reality. A historic milestone occurred on 31 March 2025 in Khujand, where Presidents Shavkat Mirziyoyev, Emomali Rahmon, and Sadyr Japarov signed the Treaty on the Junction Point of the State Borders of Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, and Kyrgyzstan, alongside the Khujand Declaration on Eternal Friendship. These agreements proved that sensitive territorial issues can be resolved through compromise. Borders once symbolizing division are now bridges of connectivity, reducing uncertainty for foreign investors.





The economic dividend of regional trust

Political rapprochement has generated tangible economic benefits. As borders reopened and transport links improved, intra-regional trade reached approximately $15 billion, while Uzbekistan's trade with Central Asian neighbors rose from $2.4 billion in 2016 to nearly $9 billion in 2025. Growing trust has also spurred industrial cooperation, joint investments, and coordinated energy, water, and transport infrastructure.

Central Asian states are moving beyond bilateral ties toward regional interdependence, especially through major transport corridors. Initiatives like the China-Kyrgyzstan-Uzbekistan railway, the Trans-Caspian International Transport Route, and prospective Trans-Afghan railways are reshaping regional geography, connecting Central Asia with East Asia, South Asia, the Middle East, and Europe. Southern routes through Afghanistan offer direct access to international seaports, transforming Central Asia from a landlocked region into a land-linked strategic Eurasian hub.

From regional consolidation to growing global relevance

Internal transformation has reshaped how the world engages with Central Asia. Rather than relying solely on bilateral ties, global powers increasingly engage the region as a unified political and economic space through Central Asia Plus diplomatic formats. The United States developed the C5+1 framework, China institutionalized China-Central Asia summits, and the European Union and Japan elevated engagement to the summit level. Notably, the first EU-Central Asia Summit in Samarkand in April 2025 established a strategic partnership backed by a €12 billion Global Gateway investment package.

Central Asia is now viewed as an independent partner with strong diplomatic agency. With over 80 million consumers, vast energy and mineral reserves, and a young workforce, this consolidated market plays a vital role in global supply chains.

A new strategic opportunity for Oman

The emergence of a New Central Asia opens a promising chapter for the Sultanate of Oman. Though geographically separated, both sides possess complementary strengths. Central Asia offers a growing market, abundant natural resources, expanding industry, and interconnected overland networks. Oman provides strategic access to the Arabian Sea and Indian Ocean, deep-water ports in Sohar, Duqm, and Salalah, modern logistics infrastructure, and expertise in special economic zones.

These complementarities align with Oman Vision 2040, which prioritizes economic diversification, logistics, and industrial growth. Cooperation gives Central Asia maritime access to the Gulf, Africa, and global markets, while offering Oman access to emerging Eurasian markets. Central Asia seeks the world's oceans, while Oman strengthens its position as a global maritime gateway.

Connecting Central Asia to the Indian Ocean

Transport and logistics represent a premier area for practical cooperation. The Uzbekistan-Turkmenistan-Iran-Oman corridor under the Ashgabat Agreement, alongside prospective Trans-Afghan routes, can link Central Asian economies with Omani ports. In February 2026, an Omani delegation led by Undersecretary of Transport Khamis bin Mohammed Al-Shamakhi visited Uzbekistan to advance cooperation under the Ashgabat Agreement, multimodal transport, civil aviation, and cargo flows through Omani ports. Both nations can now build integrated logistics chains featuring joint facilities, digital cargo tracking, and customs digitalization.

An interconnected market of 80 million consumers offers greater opportunities for international investors

Central Asia and Oman possess complementary economic advantages and increasingly convergent strategic interests

Oman's ports of Sohar, Duqm, and Salalah are vital maritime gateways for Central Asia

Beyond transport, five priority sectors offer strong potential for Omani investment. In industrial development, Omani investors can participate in manufacturing clusters and special economic zones. In energy, Central Asia's renewable potential aligns with Oman's clean energy and green hydrogen ambitions. In agriculture, joint investments in food processing and cold-chain logistics can bolster food security. Furthermore, tourism partnerships can expand air links and hospitality, while collaboration in fintech, e-commerce, and digital infrastructure can modernize cross-border commerce.

Shared diplomatic approaches and regional stability

Uzbekistan and Oman share foreign policy principles centered on balanced diplomacy, peaceful conflict resolution, and constructive engagement. Uzbekistan's leadership in building regional trust and Oman's tradition of mediation provide a strong foundation for cooperation, particularly in supporting Afghanistan's stability, economic recovery, and transit corridors. Ultimately, the New Central Asia complements Oman's vision as a premier maritime gateway, forging a lasting strategic bridge between the heart of Eurasia and the Indian Ocean.

Oman and Uzbekistan: From Historical Ties to an Active Vital Partnership



Relations between the Sultanate of Oman and the Republic of Uzbekistan are built on the pillars of mutual respect, deep-rooted trust, and shared historical and cultural values. Despite the geographical distance between their territories, the two countries are connected by trade routes formed over centuries, close scientific and cultural ties, as well as the shared legacy of Islamic civilization.

Today, this historical convergence is of paramount importance in enhancing political dialogue, expanding the horizons of commercial and economic relations, and exploring new areas for joint cooperation.

The open and pragmatic foreign policy pursued by Uzbekistan, alongside the Omani approach aimed at developing regional and international cooperation, provides ample opportunities to elevate bilateral relations to new levels.

The prospects for cooperation in the fields of investment, transport and logistics, tourism, education, culture, and modern technologies are of particular importance in this context.

The Sultanate of Oman recognized the independence of the State of Uzbekistan in December 1991, and the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries on April 22, 1992, established the official and legal foundation for bilateral cooperation.

In 2009, an agreement was signed between the governments of the Sultanate of Oman and Uzbekistan to construct the library building for the Abu Rayhan Al-Biruni Institute of Oriental Studies, affiliated with the Academy of Sciences of Uzbekistan, in Tashkent. Within the framework of this document, a new library was built and opened in Tashkent to house the institute's collections and manuscripts, funded by a grant of approximately $20 million provided by the Omani side.

The Embassy of the Sultanate of Oman in Tashkent commenced its duties in April 2010, while the diplomatic mission of Uzbekistan in Muscat was opened in July 2018. Mutual visits by representatives of bodies and institutions from both countries, during the period between 2024 and 2026, have given fresh momentum to their partnership relations.

On April 15, 2024, Tashkent hosted the second ministerial meeting of the strategic dialogue between "Central Asia and the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC)," with the participation of H.E. Sayyid Badr bin Hamad Al Busaidi, Foreign Minister, who was received during the visit by H.E. the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Shavkat Mirziyoyev.

On June 25 and 26, 2024, an Uzbek delegation headed by H.E. Bakhtiyor Saidov, Minister of Foreign Affairs, visited Muscat, during which meetings were held with H.E. Sayyid Badr bin Hamad Al Busaidi, Foreign Minister, several senior government officials, and representatives of leading companies. Discussions focused on the main axes of bilateral cooperation and ways to enhance political dialogue and expand the scope of concrete joint action between the two countries.

The visit of the Foreign Minister of the Sultanate of Oman to Uzbekistan in 2025 also reflected the consistent continuity of the bilateral political dialogue; high-level meetings, political consultations between the ministries of foreign affairs, and mutual parliamentary contacts contribute to consolidating the institutional pillars of bilateral relations.

From October 26 to 29, 2026, a delegation headed by the Speaker of the Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis of Uzbekistan, Nurdinjon Ismoilov, visited the Sultanate of Oman.

Within the framework of this visit, meetings were held with H.E. Khalid bin Hilal Al Maawali, Chairman of the Shura Council, and H.E. Sheikh Abdulmalik bin Abdullah Al Khalili, Chairman of the State Council.

During the talks, it was noted that close dialogue and the exchange of experiences between the two legislative institutions are of mutual benefit to both countries.

Expanding commercial and economic ties and developing investment cooperation are among the most vital focal points in the trajectory of relations between the two countries.

Trade indicators demonstrate the presence of promising opportunities for a more comprehensive utilization of the economic potential available to both parties. In this regard, enhancing direct communication between entrepreneurs, implementing joint projects, and accessing new markets emerge as fundamental priorities and tasks.

Currently, 8 companies with Omani capital operate in Uzbekistan, including 3 joint ventures and 5 companies entirely owned by private capital. The Omani-Uzbek Investment Company has financed 15 projects in diverse economic sectors with a total value of $255.7 million.

The Joint Intergovernmental Commission between the Sultanate of Oman and Uzbekistan plays a pivotal role in coordinating economic cooperation; its fifth meeting was held in Tashkent on June 12, 2025, during which a roundtable was organized with the participation of business community representatives from both countries.

An Omani delegation headed by H.E. Dr. Said bin Mohammed Al Saqri, Minister of Economy (at the time) and currently Economic Advisor in the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs, also participated in the fifth edition of the Tashkent International Investment Forum, held from June 16 to 18, 2026, which also featured a high-level meeting between the two sides.

During the visit of the Uzbekistan delegation, headed by the Minister of Investment, Industry and Trade, to Muscat from September 29 to October 2 of this year, a package of commercial, economic, and investment projects with a total value of $5.3 billion took shape—initiatives that open new horizons for expanding mutual economic ties.

On October 16 of this year, H.E. the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan received Mr. Aymen bin Hamad Al Busaidi, Chairman of the Board of Directors of "Voltamp Energy," during the first meeting of the Investors Council in the fuel and energy sector.

During the meeting, issues regarding the development of cooperation between the two countries were discussed, particularly in the fields of constructing solar power plants and producing high-voltage transformers.

The transport and logistics sector is of special importance in developing economic cooperation between the Sultanate of Oman and Uzbekistan. Uzbekistan's geographical location in the heart of Central Asia, coupled with the Sultanate of Oman's capabilities to access international trade routes through its seaports, forms a fundamental pillar for developing fruitful cooperation that achieves mutual interests in the transport field.

In its quest to expand export destinations, Uzbekistan shows interest in utilizing the potential of Omani ports, their free economic zones, and their logistical infrastructure. Within this framework, there are plans to establish a joint Omani-Uzbek logistics company in the Sohar Freezone.

Furthermore, in 2026, the "Asyad" Group acquired a significant stake in two major logistics centers and platforms in Uzbekistan.

Another significant fruit of practical cooperation was the launch of direct flights between Muscat and Tashkent in July 2026. These flights, operated by "Oman Air" twice a week, contribute to developing business ties, stimulating tourism, and enhancing communication between the two peoples.

Cultural and humanitarian cooperation occupies a distinguished position in the relations between the Sultanate of Oman and Uzbekistan. The two countries share Islamic values, a deep appreciation for historical heritage, and a profound interest in science and enlightenment. Initiatives aimed at developing culture, education, tourism, and scientific exchange contribute to strengthening the bonds of friendship between the two peoples.

Cultural ties witnessed a more active dynamic in 2025; "Hero of Uzbekistan" and "People's Artist" Munajat Yulchieva participated in the "Sufi Music" festival held in Muscat from January 18 to 21. At this international event, organized by the "Bait Al Zubair" Foundation, which supports cultural movement, the rich culture, ancient history, and authentic traditions of Uzbekistan were showcased.

Within the framework of the visit by the Uzbekistan delegation, headed by the Chairman of the Tourism Committee, to the Sultanate of Oman on July 6 and 7, 2025, promotional events and introductory presentations were held, dedicated to highlighting the touristic assets and potential that our country abounds in.

Joint exchange in the education sector is also witnessing steady development. In 2025, two-month training and qualification courses were organized for 35 Arabic language teachers and students from Uzbekistan at the Sultan Qaboos College for Teaching Arabic to Non-Native Speakers. Furthermore, training courses were held for young diplomats from the Sultanate of Oman in Tashkent from May 11 to 17, 2025, while similar courses were held for young diplomats from Uzbekistan at the Oman Diplomatic Academy in Muscat from February 11 to 15, 2026.

New paths for scientific and technical cooperation between the two countries are also taking shape. During the visit of the delegation from the Uzbek space agency "Uzbekcosmos" to Muscat in November 2025, agreements in the field of space technologies were reached with "OmanLens" and "Mars Development and Investment."

Relations between the two countries are deeply rooted in history. Ties between Central Asia and the Arabian Peninsula have evolved over centuries through trade routes and maritime navigation, alongside scientific, religious, and educational connections.





Amidst these civilizational interactions, the major scientific centers in "Transoxiana" (Mawarannahr)—particularly Samarkand and Bukhara—held a prestigious and special position.

One can observe in certain architectural landmarks and cultural edifices in the Sultanate of Oman styles inspired by the motifs and artistic solutions characteristic of Islamic architecture in Central Asia. For instance, the architectural facade of the National Museum of Oman in Muscat incorporates decorative elements that emulate the historical "Mir-i-Arab" Madrasa in Bukhara.

Moreover, the designs of both the Sultan Qaboos Grand Mosque in Muscat and the Sultan Qaboos Grand Mosque in the city of Sohar feature distinct motifs and stylistic traits reflecting the architectural traditions of Central Asia. Such testaments are of vital importance in studying and promoting the shared Islamic artistic heritage between the two regions.

Diplomatic missions during the Timurid era serve as an important historical source for studying the ancient ties between the two regions. The 15th-century historian and statesman, Abdul-Razzq Samarqand, provided valuable information in his renowned work "Matla-i-Sa'dain wa Majma-i-Bahrain" about a diplomatic mission dispatched to India in 1442 AD. According to his account, the ambassadors set off from the city of Herat until they reached the coast of Muscat, and due to ship malfunctions, they were forced to reside in Omani territories for several months. These historical testimonies prove that since the Middle Ages, the Sultanate of Oman has been a vital station linked to international maritime navigation routes and diplomatic travels.

The joint study of historical sources, architectural landmarks, and scientific heritage allows for a deeper understanding of the spiritual and civilizational pillars upon which relations between the Sultanate of Oman and Uzbekistan are based. Such research also paves the way for opening new horizons of cooperation between scientific institutions, museums, archives, and universities in both countries.

In summary, relations between the Sultanate of Oman and Uzbekistan are growing and flourishing as a multidimensional partnership encompassing political dialogue, economic cooperation, and cultural and humanitarian ties. The solid legal foundation of diplomatic relations, high-level meetings, and regular political consultations contribute to ensuring the steadfast continuity of bilateral cooperation.

Most importantly, the shared historical and cultural commonalities that unite the two countries impart a profound spiritual and civilizational substance to their contemporary cooperation. Consequently, preserving and developing this legacy is of vital importance in propelling the trajectory of relations between the two countries forward toward broader horizons.

Omani–Uzbek relations have witnessed significant progress across several fields in recent years

H.E. Sayyid Badr bin Hamad Albusaidi
Foreign Minister



The President of Uzbekistan's visit reflects the two leaderships' commitment to advancing bilateral relations and exploring new avenues for economic cooperation

The Sultanate of Oman supports building bridges of cooperation and partnership with countries around the world, serving shared interests and advancing stability and development. In recent years, Omani–Uzbek relations have witnessed significant progress across several fields, most notably the economy, investment, tourism, culture, transport and logistics, drawing on the strengths and promising opportunities that both countries offer for cooperation and integration.

The visit of His Excellency the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan to the Sultanate of Oman reflects the shared commitment of the leaderships of the two friendly countries to taking bilateral relations to broader horizons and exploring new opportunities for cooperation in promising economic sectors, particularly ports, economic and tourism zones, renewable energy and food security, in line with the aspirations of the two friendly peoples for greater partnership and closer ties.

The visit also provides an important opportunity to strengthen dialogue and exchange views on regional and international issues of mutual interest, and to expand mutual support within international organisations. In this context, the Sultanate of Oman supports the Republic of Uzbekistan's hosting of the GCC–Central Asia Summit, reflecting a shared commitment to developing cooperation between the GCC countries and the countries of Central Asia.

The Sultanate of Oman, under the leadership of His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik — may Allah protect and preserve him — believes in the importance of economic openness and international cooperation based on mutual respect and the safeguarding of shared interests. This is consistent with the objectives of Oman Vision 2040 to strengthen international partnerships and attract high-quality investments.

With this in mind, the Special Economic Zone at Duqm (SEZAD) stands out as a promising strategic platform that could serve as an important hub for Omani–Uzbek cooperation, offering investment opportunities, logistical advantages and modern infrastructure connecting regional and global markets.

We are confident that the period ahead will witness further cooperation and coordination between the Sultanate of Oman and the Republic of Uzbekistan, serving shared interests and advancing development and prosperity in the two friendly countries.



Oman–Uzbekistan Relations: Broadening the Horizons of Economic and Investment Partnership

H.E. Anwar bin Hilal Al Jabri
Minister of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion
Chair of the Omani Side of the Oman–Uzbekistan Joint Committee



The visit of His Excellency Shavkat Mirziyoyev, President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, to the Sultanate of Oman marks an important milestone in relations between our two friendly countries. It reflects the importance both sides attach to these relations and their shared commitment to broadening cooperation across a range of sectors, particularly trade, investment, industry and logistics. The visit also provides an opportunity to reaffirm our common resolve to harness the economic strengths and opportunities of both countries to build high-value partnerships that advance mutual interests and open new avenues for the public and private sectors.

Economic relations between Oman and Uzbekistan are founded on friendship, mutual understanding and a shared ambition to diversify economic partnerships and strengthen access to regional and international markets. In this context, Oman regards Uzbekistan as a promising economic partner in Central Asia, given its industrial and productive capabilities, natural resources and geographical position, which offers significant opportunities for trade and logistics connectivity with surrounding markets. Oman, in turn, offers an attractive investment environment, advanced infrastructure, and ports, economic zones and free zones with competitive advantages, creating complementary opportunities for cooperation.

As the global economy undergoes significant changes, diversifying trading partners, strengthening supply chain resilience and opening new markets for products and investments have become increasingly important. This underscores the need to develop economic relations between Oman and Uzbekistan on a more diversified and integrated basis, extending beyond trade to encompass industrial and production partnerships, joint ventures, the exchange of expertise, and a stronger presence for companies in both countries and neighbouring markets.

Stimulating trade and broadening the range of products exchanged are key priorities for advancing bilateral economic cooperation. We are working to create the conditions that enable Omani products to access the Uzbek market, while benefiting from the diversity and competitiveness of Uzbek products in the Omani market. Our efforts also focus on strengthening direct links between exporters and importers and facilitating market access procedures, including standards, certification requirements and customs processes.

The next phase calls for building investment partnerships around clearly identified opportunities and economically viable projects, supported by closer engagement among investors, companies and relevant institutions in both countries. Oman continues to provide a stable and enabling investment environment, underpinned by legislation, streamlined procedures and incentives designed to attract high-quality investment and expand the private sector's contribution to economic activity.

Industrial cooperation also offers considerable scope for strengthening bilateral economic relations, particularly in manufacturing, resource-based industries, food processing and other productive activities.

The Oman–Uzbekistan Joint Committee plays an important role in guiding economic, trade and investment cooperation, following up on relevant matters and agreements, identifying priority areas, and translating bilateral understandings into practical programmes and initiatives. Through the Committee, we seek to strengthen coordination among the relevant government entities in both countries, address obstacles facing investors and exporters, and develop regulatory frameworks that facilitate trade and investment.

The friendship and cooperation between Oman and Uzbekistan provide a solid foundation for a broader economic partnership. We look forward to this visit opening new avenues for cooperation and translating the shared aspirations of our countries' leaderships into tangible initiatives and projects that benefit both nations and their peoples, while contributing to a more interconnected and prosperous economic future.



Oman and Uzbekistan: Building a New Era of Economic and Investment Partnership



His Excellency Laziz Kudratov

Minister of Investment, Industry and Trade of the Republic of Uzbekistan

His Excellency Laziz Kudratov, Minister of Investment, Industry and Trade of the Republic of Uzbekistan, stated that relations between the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Sultanate of Oman are founded on deep-rooted friendship and mutual respect. Today, they are entering a vibrant and dynamic phase, driven by the strong political will of His Excellency President Shavkat Mirziyoyev and His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik to deepen bilateral cooperation.

Over the past two years, our economic contacts have intensified significantly. In June 2025, the fifth session of the Uzbek-Omani Intergovernmental Commission on Economic and Trade Cooperation was held in Tashkent. This year, Asyad Group and its partners acquired controlling stakes in two major logistics operators in Tashkent. July also marked another notable milestone with Oman Air launching direct flights between Muscat and Tashkent.

We are currently preparing to organize a business forum and the "Made in Uzbekistan" national exhibition in Muscat. These events will bring Uzbek producers together with the Omani business community, helping to identify new areas of trade cooperation and create promising opportunities for partnerships. I am confident that they will mark a new and important chapter in our economic relations.

What is the current volume of trade and investment between the two countries, and what are your ambitions for increasing it in the coming years?

Bilateral trade remains considerably below its potential, but the recent growth is encouraging. In January–August 2026, trade exceeded $3 million, more than three and a half times the figure recorded during the same period last year and already surpassing the total for the whole of 2025.

Investment cooperation has a longer track record. Established in 2009, the Uzbek-Oman Investment Company (UzOman), jointly owned by the Oman Investment Authority and the Fund for Reconstruction and Development of Uzbekistan, has invested more than $256 million in sectors including construction materials, logistics, retail, hospitality, education and agrochemicals.

Our ambition is to increase bilateral trade severalfold in the coming years and, more importantly, translate the portfolio of approximately 35 projects worth over $5 billion, developed during my visit to Muscat, into concrete investments and operating enterprises.



What role can Oman play in strengthening the presence of Uzbek businesses in the Gulf region and enabling them to access regional and international markets?

Oman's geographical position is a significant competitive advantage. Its ports of Sohar, Duqm and Salalah, free and special economic zones, membership in the Gulf Cooperation Council, and trade agreements with countries such as the United States and India give businesses based in Oman access to markets across the Gulf, South Asia, East Africa and beyond.

For Uzbek companies, Oman can serve as an important gateway to the Gulf and wider international markets. It offers opportunities to establish distribution centers and warehouses, consolidate export shipments for re-export across the region, and process and package Uzbek products closer to consumers.

Food products, textiles, construction materials and electrical equipment are among the sectors with particularly strong potential. By establishing a presence in Oman, Uzbek businesses could make their products more accessible to regional consumers while building lasting commercial relationships with local partners.

Which economic sectors offer the greatest potential for investment partnerships between Uzbekistan and Oman?

We see the greatest opportunities in sectors where the strengths and capabilities of our two economies complement each other. Key priorities include food security and agro-processing, chemicals and petrochemicals, transport and logistics, as well as banking and finance.

There is also considerable potential in pharmaceuticals and healthcare, tourism and hospitality, construction materials, electrical engineering and critical minerals.

Uzbekistan offers a growing industrial base, access to raw materials, a skilled workforce and an extensive consumer market across Central Asia. Omani partners, in turn, bring investment capital, experience in implementing major industrial projects and access to the markets of the Gulf and beyond.

This complementarity is the foundation of our joint project portfolio. Our objective is to move beyond conventional trade and develop projects that generate value, create jobs and strengthen the industrial capabilities of both countries.

What incentives and facilities does Uzbekistan offer to Omani investors interested in entering the Uzbek market, particularly as both countries pursue economic diversification?



Oman Vision 2040 and Uzbekistan–2030 share an important objective: building diversified, competitive and export-oriented economies. This creates a strong basis for mutually beneficial investment projects.

Uzbekistan has established a comprehensive legal framework for foreign investors. Under the Law on Investments and Investment Activities, foreign investors are entitled to freely transfer profits abroad and benefit from protection against nationalization. The legislation also provides a ten-year guarantee against adverse changes in legislation in key areas and, where stipulated by an international treaty or investment agreement, access to international arbitration.

We also offer a wide range of industrial and investment facilities. These include 34 special economic zones, more than 400 small industrial zones and 27 technoparks. Companies operating in special economic zones are eligible for exemptions from property, land and water taxes, as well as customs duties on equipment, raw materials and components. Depending on the volume of investment, they may also benefit from accelerated depreciation over a period of three to ten years.

In addition, a one-stop-shop system facilitates investor engagement with government institutions, while large-scale projects can be implemented through investment agreements with the Government or public-private partnerships.

The results demonstrate the attractiveness of this environment: in 2025, Uzbekistan attracted more than $43 billion in foreign investment, an increase of 24 percent compared with the previous year. Omani citizens can also visit Uzbekistan visa-free for up to 30 days, making business travel and people-to-people contacts easier.

How can partnerships between Omani and Uzbek companies contribute to joint projects in industry, tourism, agriculture, food production and logistics?

Such partnerships can make a substantial contribution to both economies, and several practical examples are already emerging.

In industry, UzOman is co-investing in a $75 million plant for the production of crop-protection products and fertilizers currently under construction in the Tashkent region. In logistics, the two dry ports in Tashkent in which Asyad Group and its partners acquired controlling stakes handle approximately a quarter of Uzbekistan's rail container traffic. These projects demonstrate the potential for Omani investment to support the development of Uzbekistan's industrial and transport infrastructure.

Agriculture and food production are also promising areas, given the complementary nature of our markets. Uzbekistan can supply Oman with fresh and dried fruits, vegetables and processed food products, while Omani fish, seafood and dates have good potential in the Uzbek market. We are also discussing opportunities to establish joint food-processing facilities with Omani companies.

The launch of direct flights has created additional momentum for tourism. Uzbekistan's historic cities — Samarkand, Bukhara and Khiva — as well as the mountain resorts near Tashkent, offer attractive destinations for Omani travelers. This, in turn, opens up opportunities for joint investment in hotels, hospitality facilities and tourism infrastructure.

How can existing economic agreements and memoranda of understanding between Oman and Uzbekistan be translated into joint projects that generate added value for both economies?

Uzbekistan and Oman have already established a solid legal foundation for economic cooperation. It includes agreements on the mutual promotion and protection of investments, the avoidance of double taxation, trade and economic cooperation, and air services, signed in 2009.

As agreed during my visit to Muscat this autumn, we are now working on a preferential trade agreement and an updated agreement on investment protection. These instruments are expected to further strengthen the legal framework and create more favorable conditions for business and investment.

However, the real value of any agreement lies in its practical implementation. That is why we seek to translate agreements and memoranda of understanding into concrete roadmaps, with clearly identified projects, implementation deadlines and responsible institutions. Progress is regularly reviewed, including through the work of the Joint Commission, whose next session is scheduled to take place in Muscat. UzOman, in turn, provides an established mechanism for co-financing and advancing joint initiatives.

Our objective is to ensure that cooperation generates tangible added value in both economies. Omani capital and technology can support the processing of raw materials and the development of manufacturing in Uzbekistan. At the same time, Uzbek companies can explore investment opportunities in Oman's free zones and use the country's ports as a platform for reaching third-country markets.

This is the kind of practical, mutually beneficial partnership we aim to advance through the upcoming business forum and «Made in Uzbekistan» exhibition in Muscat. Ultimately, we want our cooperation to be measured not only by the agreements we sign, but by the businesses we establish, the jobs we create and the new markets we open together.



Our Investment in the Republic of Uzbekistan Reflects the Success of Omani Economic Diplomacy

H.E. Abdulsalam bin Mohammed Al Murshidi
Chairman of the Oman Investment Authority



Our investment in the Republic of Uzbekistan represents one of the successful investment experiences of the Oman Investment Authority, which pursues the development of long-term strategic partnerships that contribute to generating sustainable returns and strengthening economic relations with sisterly and friendly countries, thereby embodying its role as an executive arm of Omani economic diplomacy.

This promising partnership began in 2010 with the establishment of the Uzbek-Oman Investment Company (UzOman), serving as a joint investment platform aimed at capitalising on the growing opportunities within the Uzbek economy. As friendly Uzbekistan continues to advance and expand its promising economic sectors, the company has steadily strengthened its investment presence. Its capital increased from USD 100 million at inception to USD 266.7 million in 2025, through 16 investments distributed across a diverse range of vital sectors, including financial services, industry, logistics, real estate, retail, education, and hospitality, reflecting the success of the company's diversification and long-term investment strategy.

As we at the Oman Investment Authority take pride in the achievements of this strategic partnership over the past years, we look forward to building on these accomplishments and further strengthening the economic relations between the Sultanate of Oman and the Republic of Uzbekistan in order to create sustainable value for our two friendly countries and peoples.





State Visit of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan to the Sultanate of Oman Strengthens Strategic and Economic Partnership and Opens Broader Horizons for Cooperation

H.E. Qais bin Mohammed Al Yousef
Chairman of the Public Authority for Special Economic Zones and Free Zones (OPAZ)



The gracious visit of His Excellency President Shavkat Mirziyoyev to the Sultanate of Oman represents a pivotal milestone in the course of bilateral relations and reflects the remarkable progress these ties have witnessed, founded on solid principles of mutual respect and the shared desire to elevate cooperation across various fields in a manner that serves common interests and aligns with the aspirations of the leaderships and peoples of the two friendly countries.

The Sultanate of Oman, under the leadership of His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik — may Allah protect and preserve him — has pursued a balanced approach in its international relations, based on openness and constructive cooperation. This approach aligns with the ambitious reform-oriented vision adopted by the Republic of Uzbekistan under the leadership of His Excellency the President, which has contributed to strengthening its economic presence and opening wider horizons for regional and international partnerships.

In this context, economic relations between the two countries stand out as one of the key pillars receiving growing attention, supported by a package of agreements and memoranda of understanding that have contributed to consolidating bilateral cooperation and expanding its scope. Since the signing of the Agreement on the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion on 10 June 2009, and the Trade and Economic Cooperation Agreement on 5 October of the same year, through to the Memorandum of Understanding signed on 15 October 2024 between Asyad Group and the Ministry of Investment, Industry and Trade of the Republic of Uzbekistan to explore opportunities in the logistics sector, and culminating in the Memorandum of Understanding between the chambers of commerce and industry of the two countries on 27 June 2025, efforts have continued toward building an integrated framework for economic and investment cooperation.

Indicators also point to promising opportunities for enhancing trade exchange, particularly in several vital sectors, including iron and steel, polypropylene, drilling and exploration machinery, as well as metal products, reflecting significant potential for the growth of Omani exports to the Uzbek market during the coming phase.

On the investment front, the rapid growth of Uzbek investments in the Sultanate of Oman reflects the increasing level of confidence in the investment environment. The number of companies with Uzbek contribution increased from 6 companies in 2020 to 57 companies in 2025, while the total invested capital rose from approximately RO 590,000 to nearly RO 2.9 million. The value of contribution also increased from RO 166,500 to more than RO 2.18 million, with the contribution ratio rising from 28.2% to 75.1%. These positive indicators underscore the attractiveness of the Omani market, supported by encouraging legislation and ease of doing business, thereby enhancing opportunities for expanding joint investments in the coming period.

The Public Authority for Special Economic Zones and Free Zones (OPAZ) continues its efforts to create a competitive investment environment through the development of integrated infrastructure and the provision of qualitative incentives, contributing to attracting foreign direct investment and supporting the establishment of strategic partnerships with the Uzbek side, particularly within the special economic zones and free zones that represent advanced platforms for industrial, logistics, and commercial growth. We also hope that businesspeople and government companies in the Republic of Uzbekistan, alongside private sector institutions, will benefit from the promising investment opportunities offered by the Sultanate of Oman in these zones, with their competitive advantages that enable the establishment of qualitative projects and sustainable partnerships that enhance trade exchange and support paths of economic integration between the two countries.

In this regard, we reaffirm the importance of building upon the understandings and agreements achieved and working toward translating them into tangible projects that strengthen economic integration, contribute to sustainable development, and open broader horizons for the business communities in both countries to benefit from the available opportunities.

We highly value this high-level visit and look forward to it contributing to the launch of a new phase of fruitful cooperation between the Sultanate of Oman and the Republic of Uzbekistan, founded on strategic partnership and mutual benefit, in a manner that enhances the standing of both countries on the regional and international economic landscape.



An Invitation to Investors from the Republic of Uzbekistan to Explore Opportunities

Economic Zones, Free Zones and Industrial Cities: A Global Gateway for Business and Investment



The Public Authority for Special Economic Zones and Free Zones (OPAZ) continues to strengthen its role as a key driver of economic diversification in the Sultanate of Oman through the development of an integrated investment environment based on flexible legislation, competitive incentives and advanced infrastructure. These efforts contribute to enhancing the Sultanate's attractiveness to domestic and foreign investments and reinforce its position as a regional hub for trade, industry and logistics services.

Special Economic Zones, Free Zones and Industrial Cities serve as advanced production and logistics platforms aimed at attracting high-quality investments in renewable energy, pharmaceuticals and medical devices, food products, plastics and petrochemicals, and green metals, in line with the objectives of Oman Vision 2040 to promote sustainable economic growth and diversify sources of income.

24 Economic, Free and Industrial Zones

The Authority oversees 24 economic, free and industrial zones distributed across the governorates of the Sultanate of Oman, including 8 zones under development and 16 operational zones. These zones benefit from a strategic geographical location linking the continents of Asia, Africa and Europe and overlooking key maritime routes in the Arabian Sea and the Gulf of Oman, with direct access to the Indian Ocean. This location provides economic and free zones with a significant competitive advantage in accessing regional and global markets, enhancing supply chain efficiency and reducing shipping and transportation costs.

The attractiveness of these zones is further strengthened by Oman's network of free trade agreements with a number of regional and international markets, providing investors with greater opportunities to expand into foreign markets, increase exports and benefit from the preferential advantages offered by these agreements, thereby supporting business growth and enhancing investment competitiveness.

These zones are also supported by advanced infrastructure that includes adjacent ports with high operational efficiency, international airports, modern road networks and integrated logistics areas, in addition to advanced digital services that facilitate investment activities, simplify procedures and enhance the efficiency of the business environment.

Investment Incentives and Regulatory Facilitation

The Authority offers a package of investment incentives, including 100% foreign ownership of projects, the ability to transact in all currencies, no minimum capital requirement, tax exemptions of up to 30 years, 100% repatriation of profits, land usufruct rights extending up to 50 years and renewable for a similar period, issuance of foreign labour permits within 24 hours, and extensive facilitation for investor and workforce residency. In addition, flexible and streamlined establishment procedures are available through the "One-Stop Shop" system, single approval mechanisms and automatic licensing, ensuring a reduction in the time required to establish and operate projects.

The Authority also works to provide a stable and transparent regulatory environment that supports investor confidence and enables sustainable growth opportunities, while offering integrated support services to investors throughout all stages of investment, from establishment and operation to post-operation services.

Continuous Support and Strategic Partnership with Investors

Dr. Said bin Khalifa Al Quraini, Director General of Investment Development at OPAZ, affirmed that the Authority plays a pivotal role in building a promising investment ecosystem within the zones under its supervision through planning and development, ensuring the preparation of the necessary plans and solutions for current and future priority sectors, and regulating and supervising these zones to provide an attractive business environment while continuously monitoring their performance.

He explained that the Authority adopts an approach focused on simplifying procedures and providing investor aftercare services to ensure business sustainability and development through ongoing support and follow-up beyond the establishment stage, while providing various facilities that support project growth and expansion.



Dr. Said Al Quraini:

The Authority adopts an approach focused on simplifying procedures and providing aftercare services to investors to ensure business sustainability and growth through ongoing support and follow-up beyond the establishment phase

He noted that the Authority also works to market investment opportunities and attract high-quality investments in cooperation with key stakeholders, with the aim of developing and enhancing the added value of targeted economic sectors and attracting anchor investors to them. It also continues its efforts to promote operations and accelerate business growth by working with partners to build new economic engines, particularly in the Special Economic Zone at Duqm, through activating and accelerating the implementation of sub-zone development plans in line with Oman's national competitive advantages.

He added that the Authority places significant emphasis on institutional excellence by ensuring that it possesses the appropriate organisational culture, plans, skills and systems required to implement its strategies and achieve its objectives efficiently and effectively.

Regarding the types of zones supervised by the Authority, Al Quraini explained that they fall into three main categories: Free Zones, Industrial Cities and Special Economic Zones. Free Zones offer a range of incentives including tax and customs exemptions, as well as ease and speed of business establishment, with a focus on industrial activities and re-export operations. Industrial Cities provide a dedicated environment for factories and productive activities, offering competitive operating costs that support small and medium-sized enterprises, together with ready operational infrastructure that enables businesses to commence operations quickly and incentives that help investors target both the local market and the markets of the Gulf Cooperation Council countries.

He further noted that Special Economic Zones provide a comprehensive investment environment for major projects, supported by advanced infrastructure and logistics facilities including ports, airports and road networks. These zones encompass a wide range of sectors including industry, tourism, real estate and logistics services, in addition to multiple incentives that position them as gateways for strategic projects.

Al Quraini affirmed that the Authority continues to update legislative and regulatory frameworks in line with future requirements, noting the issuance of Royal Decree No. 38/2025 on 7 April 2025, which promulgated the Law of Special Economic Zones and Free Zones with the objective of unifying the legislative framework, enhancing high-quality investments, facilitating freehold ownership in real estate and residential projects, supporting infrastructure development and simplifying procedures through the One-Stop Shop system.

The Sultanate of Oman is a promising investment destination supported by an integrated and sustainable economic ecosystem.

The Authority provides continuous support to investors and promotes long-term partnerships through competitive incentives and regulatory facilitation that enhance investment attractiveness.

Special Economic Zones, Free Zones and Industrial Cities serve as advanced production and logistics platforms aimed at attracting high-quality investments.

He explained that the new law introduced several important incentives and facilitation measures, most notably the adoption of the Single Approval system for strategic projects and real estate development projects, the unification of incentives and benefits, greater flexibility in granting additional incentives to strategic projects, the introduction of freehold ownership within real estate development projects, electronic land allocation, the granting of National Certificates of Origin for products, and the issuance of various licences and approvals through the One-Stop Shop system.

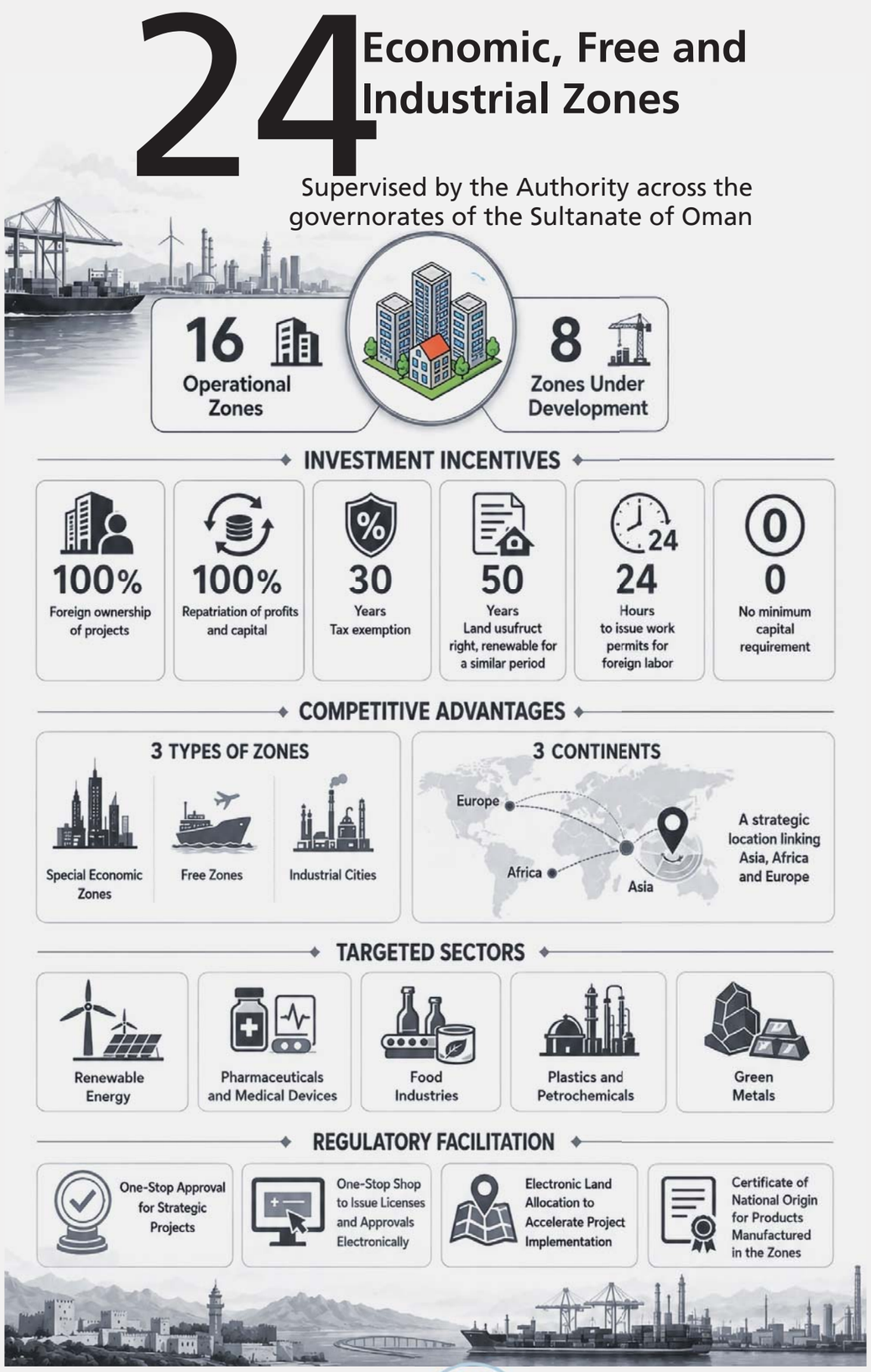
He noted that Special Economic Zones, Free Zones and Industrial Cities are among the most attractive investment destinations in the Sultanate of Oman, benefiting from a range of key strengths, foremost among them strategic location, growing international relations, ease of doing business, diversified natural resources and access to a high-quality transportation and logistics network.

He added that these zones are also supported by important economic enablers, including the availability of qualified human resources, high-quality infrastructure, integrated essential services and public facilities, and ease of access through transportation networks built to international standards, thereby enhancing their ability to attract investment and achieve sustainable economic development.

Investment Invitation to the Republic of Uzbekistan

As part of efforts to strengthen international economic cooperation, the Public Authority for Special Economic Zones and Free Zones invites investors from both the public and private sectors in the Republic of Uzbekistan to explore the promising investment opportunities available in the Sultanate of Oman and benefit from the competitive advantages offered by the Special Economic Zones, Free Zones and Industrial Cities.

This invitation also comes within the framework of strengthening economic relations between the Sultanate of Oman and the Republic of Uzbekistan and opening new horizons for investment partnerships, contributing to shared economic growth and expanding cooperation in priority sectors.



Omani-Uzbek Relations: A Civilizational Continuum Between the Frankincense Route and the Silk Road, and a Promising Future of Greater Cooperation and Economic Partnership



H.E. AlSayyida Wafa bint Jabr Al Busaidi
Ambassador of the Sultanate of Oman
to the Republic of Uzbekistan

The relations between the friendly Sultanate of Oman and the Republic of Uzbekistan embody the depth of affection and cooperation that bind the two countries together. Since the dawn of history, these relations have been founded upon the firm principles of mutual respect and peaceful coexistence—values deeply rooted in our cultures and shared heritage. Uzbekistan has long been a pivotal station along the historic Silk Road, where caravans laden with goods from East and West converged. This reminds me of my homeland, the Sultanate of Oman, which has, since ancient times, served as a distinguished maritime gateway linking the civilizations of the world. This similarity in our rich commercial heritage opens broad horizons for a genuine strategic partnership. This cooperation is not merely an economic exchange; it is also a cultural and human bridge through which Omanis in Uzbekistan discover a different spirit and a rich history that resonates with the depth of our own civilization, while our friends in Uzbekistan find in Oman a model of harmony and sustainability that offers a valuable addition to their country and people.

As Uzbekistan, during its golden age, stood as a beacon of knowledge and scholarship whose great minds enriched humanity across numerous fields—among them Al-Khwarizmi, Ibn Sina, and Abu Rayhan Al-Biruni—it also reminds me of Oman, which produced a distinguished constellation of scholars such as Al-Farahidi in linguistics, Ahmad bin Majid in navigation and astronomy, and Ibn Al-Dhahabi in medicine, among others who contributed significantly to human civilization. Today, therefore, we build upon this shared legacy to open wider horizons for cooperation and knowledge exchange.

As an expression of the Sultanate of Oman's appreciation for Uzbekistan's rich historical heritage, Oman presented a gift in the form of the establishment of the Al-Biruni Library in Tashkent, a cultural and knowledge landmark dedicated to preserving his name and bringing together his valuable legacy. It reflects the depth of brotherly relations and continuous cooperation between the two countries. Furthermore, the Al-Biruni Library's preservation of original copies of some of the most beautiful and rare manuscripts stands as clear evidence of the importance the Sultanate of Oman places on intellectual and human heritage. This valuable gift not only strengthens cultural cooperation but also embodies Oman's enlightened vision regarding the preservation and protection of rare archives and manuscripts for future generations, ensuring that they remain a living reference to the great minds of human history.

History has always served as a solid and important foundation for the future. Accordingly, the Uzbek-Oman Investment Company was established in 2009, coinciding with the opening of the Embassy in Tashkent, clearly reflecting the Sultanate of Oman's serious desire to consolidate its strategic partnership and its sincere initiative to open broad avenues for economic cooperation, while expressing the depth of the genuine relations between the two countries.

Just as the Sultanate of Oman has, since His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik—may Allah protect and preserve him—assumed the reins of leadership, witnessed structural economic developments aimed at achieving fiscal sustainability and contributing significantly to enhanced financial stability, driven by increased non-oil revenues and prudent management of public expenditure, efforts continue to implement further major development initiatives designed to advance economic diversification and build a sustainable economy capable of achieving long-term growth and prosperity.

Uzbekistan is likewise experiencing an unprecedented economic transformation today, thanks to the reform-oriented vision of its leadership. The government has placed great emphasis on attracting foreign direct investment through the provision of incentives and regulatory and legislative facilitation, alongside the establishment of free and special economic zones that offer advanced infrastructure and a competitive business environment. These efforts have gone beyond that, as Uzbekistan has also sought to revive the historic Silk Road and restore its role as a crossroads of global trade routes by developing an extensive network of modern highways linking West Asia with East Asia.

Just as the Sultanate of Oman is distinguished by its economic and free zones, such as the Special Economic Zone at Duqm, Sohar Freezone, Salalah Free Zone, and Khazaen Economic City—supported by a strong network of modern ports and airports that facilitate global trade—Uzbekistan, in turn, possesses key free zones and inland ports such as Angren and Navoi, among others, which serve as vital arteries for the movement of goods and the connection of Asia to world markets. These zones in both countries represent attractive investment strongholds for capital, reflecting a shared high-level ambition and significant opportunities to build a prosperous and promising economic future.

When we examine the features of Oman Vision 2040, we find a comprehensive development plan focused on building a robust knowledge-based economy founded on innovation and sustainability. It seeks to unlock national capabilities through income diversification and the development of logistics and manufacturing sectors, in addition to empowering the private sector to become the primary engine of growth.



A New Phase in the Partnership Between the Sultanate of Oman and Uzbekistan

Bilateral relations between the two countries are gaining renewed momentum, reflecting the depth of historical friendship and mutual understanding between Muscat and Tashkent



Abdusalom Khatamov

Ambassador of the Republic of Uzbekistan to the Sultanate of Oman

H.E. Abdusalom Khatamov, Ambassador of the Republic of Uzbekistan accredited to the Sultanate of Oman, stated that the visit of His Excellency Shavkat Mirziyoyev, President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, to the Sultanate of Oman represents a pivotal milestone in the trajectory of bilateral relations and an important opportunity to open broader horizons for cooperation across political, economic, and cultural fields. In this exclusive interview, His Excellency reviewed the current phase of Uzbek-Omani relations, the key developments witnessed in recent years, and their future prospects.

Your Excellency, thank you for granting us this interview. How do you assess the current state of Uzbek-Omani relations, and what is the significance of the upcoming state visit?

First, I would like to express my appreciation for this meeting. The upcoming state visit of His Excellency President Shavkat Mirziyoyev to the Sultanate of Oman represents a highly significant milestone in the course of bilateral relations, which are built on firm foundations of friendship and mutual respect. This visit provides an opportunity to enhance political consultations between the two leaderships and to open new avenues of cooperation in trade, investment, infrastructure, tourism, and culture, thereby contributing to advancing bilateral partnership to more comprehensive and integrated levels.

What are the most notable developments in relations between the two countries in recent years?

Recent years have witnessed notable progress in bilateral relations through intensified mutual visits at various levels, including ministerial visits and parliamentary engagement. These efforts have contributed to injecting new momentum into joint cooperation, alongside strengthening political consultations between the two sides.

The state visit of His Excellency President Shavkat Mirziyoyev is propelling Uzbek-Omani relations toward a new phase of partnership and integration

The political track is witnessing rapid development and advanced diplomatic coordination, strengthening convergence on regional and international positions



Both countries share a similar approach based on respect for sovereignty, non-interference in internal affairs, and the peaceful resolution of disputes through diplomacy. These principles were reaffirmed during the political consultations held in Tashkent in September 2025, which laid the foundation for a new phase of coordination and mutual understanding.

How are these shared political visions reflected in cooperation within international forums?

The convergence of political positions between the two countries enables effective coordination within international and regional organizations, foremost among them the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation. Multilateral dialogues, including meetings between the Gulf Cooperation Council countries and Central Asian states, also contribute to strengthening cooperation on regional and international issues and promoting a culture of dialogue and partnership.

How would you assess the current state of political dialogue between Uzbekistan and Oman, and what are the key milestones in its development?

Political dialogue between Uzbekistan and the Sultanate of Oman has been steadily expanding in recent years, reflecting the shared commitment of both countries to strengthening bilateral relations and deepening cooperation across various fields.

An important milestone was the meeting of the Foreign Ministers of Uzbekistan and Oman on April 15, 2024, in Tashkent, held within the framework of the Central Asia–Gulf Cooperation Council Strategic Dialogue. The meeting provided an opportunity to discuss bilateral relations as well as prospects for expanding cooperation between Central Asia and the Gulf states.

This dialogue gained further momentum during the visit of Uzbekistan's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Bakhtiyor Saidov, to Muscat on June 25–26, 2024. During the visit, the Uzbek delegation held meetings with the Omani leadership, Foreign Minister Sayyid Badr bin Hamad Al Busaidi, senior government officials and representatives of leading companies. The discussions focused on strengthening political dialogue and advancing practical cooperation.

The visit of Oman's Foreign Minister to Uzbekistan in 2025 further contributed to this positive momentum. In addition, parliamentary exchanges and contacts between relevant government institutions have become an important component of bilateral engagement.

We believe that regular high-level contacts, sustained political consultations and growing institutional cooperation provide a solid foundation for taking Uzbekistan–Oman relations to a qualitatively new level.

How do you assess the development of economic and investment relations between Uzbekistan and the Sultanate of Oman?

Economic relations between the two countries are witnessing steady and gradual growth, both in terms of trade exchange and joint investment projects. The private sector on both sides is actively engaged in economic forums, enhancing opportunities for establishing new partnerships.

Joint investments have achieved tangible results across various sectors, including logistics, infrastructure, food industries, and hospitality, with joint investment companies implementing projects worth hundreds of millions of dollars, reflecting mutual confidence in the investment environments of both countries.

What are the most promising sectors for enhancing future economic cooperation?



There are promising opportunities for cooperation across multiple sectors, including energy, logistics, agriculture, food security, tourism, as well as mining and manufacturing industries. The tourism sector is also witnessing increasing growth, with rising travel movement between the two countries and mutual interest in tourist destinations.

The operation of direct flights between Muscat and Tashkent, along with the visa-free regime, is expected to further facilitate the movement of individuals and businesspeople, thereby supporting trade and tourism exchange.

Notable growth in trade exchange and expansion of joint investments in promising strategic sectors

Continued efforts to enhance tourism cooperation, supported by travel facilitation and direct air connectivity between the two countries

Cultural and educational partnership is expanding, strengthening ties between the two peoples, with the Beruni Library in Tashkent serving as a symbol of Uzbek-Omani cultural cooperation

Training and exchange programs are being reinforced within a shared vision to deepen partnership and achieve sustainable economic growth



Your Excellency, what about cultural and educational cooperation between the two countries?

Cultural and educational cooperation between Uzbekistan and the Sultanate of Oman continues to develop steadily, reflecting the depth of human ties between the two peoples. The Beruni Institute Library in Tashkent, established with Omani support, has become a symbol of this cultural cooperation.

A number of Uzbek students and teachers have benefited from training programs in the Sultanate of Oman, while young diplomats participate in specialized training courses. Plans are also underway to organize cultural events, awareness days, and joint exhibitions, further enhancing people-to-people ties and supporting bilateral relations in the long term.

What are the future steps to ensure the sustainability of this partnership?

Advancing bilateral relations requires continued coordination at various levels, with a focus on strengthening the role of the private sector, expanding investment cooperation, and activating joint programs in research and development.

Joint work on these initiatives will open new horizons for sustainable economic growth and contribute to elevating Uzbek-Omani relations to a more advanced and deeper stage.

Your Excellency, thank you for this interview and for the valuable insights you have shared.

Thank you. I am pleased to reaffirm the depth of relations between our two countries and our shared aspiration for a more prosperous future of cooperation between the Sultanate of Oman and Uzbekistan.

UzOman Investment:

16 Years of Creating Value and Strengthening the Economic Partnership Between Oman and Uzbekistan

Since its establishment in 2009 as a strategic partnership between the Oman Investment Authority (OIA), and the Uzbekistan Fund for Reconstruction and Development (UFRD), UzOman Investment has played a pivotal role in supporting economic development and attracting quality investments to Uzbekistan. Over more than sixteen years, the company has successfully cemented its position as one of the leading direct investment platforms in Central Asia, guided by a long-term vision that combines sustainable investment returns with contributions to economic and social development.

Today, UzOman manages assets exceeding USD 300 million from a committed capital base of USD 500 million, with a strong investment track record that includes 27 successful transactions across various economic sectors. Its current portfolio comprises 16 companies providing approximately 15,000 jobs, making the company one of the most influential institutional investors in the Uzbek economy.

Over the years, UzOman has built a diversified investment portfolio spanning key sectors that represent the pillars of economic growth, including logistics, infrastructure, retail, real estate, financial services, education, hospitality, industry, and technology. The portfolio includes leading companies such as Universal Logistics Services, Highway Logistics Center, Hektas Asia, Zood, American University of Technology, and Encore Ramada by Wyndham, among others that contribute directly to the development of the national economy and the enhancement of its competitiveness.

The year 2025 marked an important phase in the company's journey, as it continued executing its growth strategy through new investments and ambitious expansion initiatives. Among the most notable was its investment in Hektas Asia, one of the largest food security and agribusiness projects in the region, strengthening Uzbekistan's industrial capabilities and supporting long-term food security objectives.

The company also continued developing its logistics platform, one of the most successful stories within its investment portfolio, by strengthening strategic partnerships with regional and international investors, including cooperation with Oman's Asyad Group, with the aim of supporting the expansion of the logistics sector and further connecting Uzbekistan to regional and international trade corridors.



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As part of its future growth plans, UzOman is working with its partners to launch the Central Asia and Caucasus Private Equity Fund (CACPEF), which aims to raise USD 500 million for investment in promising opportunities across the region, reflecting the company's ambition to evolve from a domestic investment platform into a significant regional player in the private equity sector.

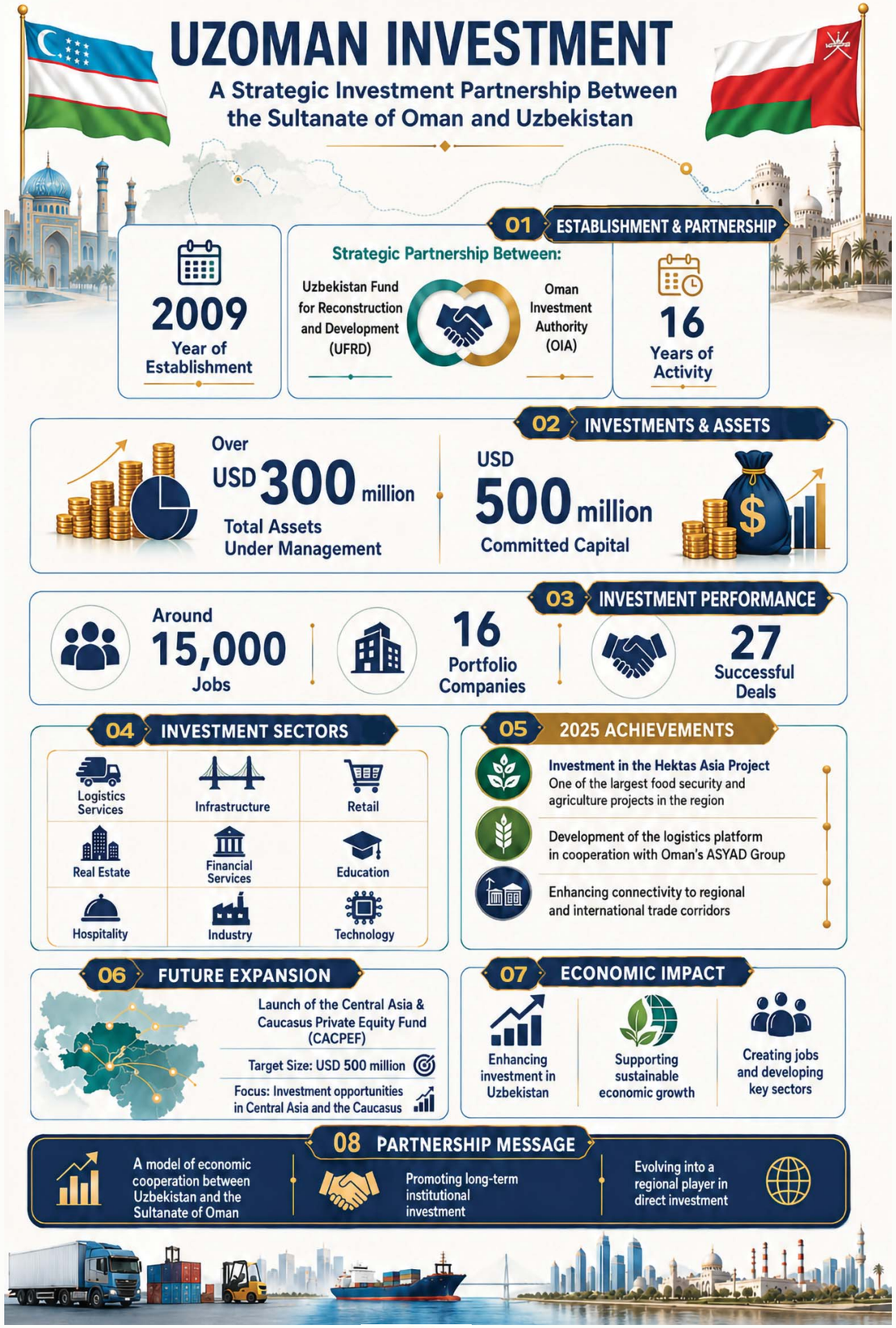
The company also called additional capital from its shareholders last year to support new investment opportunities, a step that reflects shareholders' confidence in the company's performance and its ability to create value and achieve sustainable growth. At the same time, UzOman continued executing a number of successful exits from mature investments, contributing to enhanced investment returns and the recycling of capital into new growth opportunities.

Commenting on the company's journey and future direction, UzOman Chief Executive Officer Omar Bahram said: "Over more than sixteen years, UzOman has built a strong investment track record founded on partnership, trust, and long-term value. We have contributed to the development of leading companies, attracted new investments, and strengthened corporate governance standards, all of which have had a positive impact on the national economy and on the performance of our portfolio companies."

He added: "Today, we are entering a new phase of growth and expansion, supported by a strong portfolio, a team with international expertise, and a broad network of partners. We look forward to continuing to invest in strategic sectors such as logistics, infrastructure, food security, technology, and education, while focusing on projects that generate sustainable economic impact and contribute to building a more prosperous future for Uzbekistan and the region."

He concluded by saying: "UzOman's success has not merely been an investment success story; it is also a successful model of economic partnership between Uzbekistan and Oman. We are proud of what has been achieved to date and look forward with confidence to continuing our role as a catalyst for growth, a trusted partner for investors, and an active contributor to economic development in the years ahead."

Today, UzOman stands on the threshold of a new phase of growth, supported by a strong institutional foundation, a diversified portfolio, solid strategic partnerships, and a clear vision aimed at strengthening its position as one of the leading direct investment platforms in Central Asia and as a key driver of economic and investment cooperation between Oman and Uzbekistan.



Uzbekistan

A Rising Tourism Power on the Silk Road

Uzbekistan is rapidly emerging as one of the most dynamic tourism destinations in Central Asia, combining centuries-old cultural heritage with modern infrastructure and ambitious national development strategies.

In the first quarter of 2026 (January–March), the country demonstrated strong and sustained growth across all key tourism indicators, reinforcing its position on the global travel map.

Strong Growth Across All Segments

Uzbekistan welcomed 2.9 million international visitors in 2026, marking a 37% increase compared to the same period in 2025. Growth was particularly notable from long-haul markets, reflecting the country's expanding global reach.

Visitor numbers from China increased by 3.5%, while arrivals from Japan grew by 75%, and from the United States by 47%. Key European markets such as Germany and the United Kingdom also recorded steady growth.

Domestic tourism is also gaining momentum. During the same period, 2.9 million domestic trips were recorded — more than double the previous year (+112%) — driven by national initiatives promoting regional travel.

Tourism as a Key Economic Driver

Tourism continues to strengthen its role in Uzbekistan's economy. In 2026, tourism export revenues reached $1.1 billion, representing a 48% year-on-year increase.

This growth builds on strong performance in 2025, when the country recorded:

- 11.6 million international tourists (April–November period)
- $4.8 billion in tourism exports
- 23.7 million domestic trips

For the first time, Uzbekistan consistently received more than one million international visitors per month, indicating a structural shift in demand.

Expansion of Infrastructure and Services

To support this growth, Uzbekistan is actively expanding its tourism infrastructure.

As of early 2026, the country offers 7,116 accommodation facilities, including:

- 1,200 hotels
- 4,239 family guesthouses
- 1,253 hostels

Within just three months, 224 new accommodation facilities were opened.

The tourism ecosystem is also expanding rapidly, with 4,588 tour operators and travel agencies currently operating in the market.

At the same time, investment activity remains strong:

- UZS 2.1 trillion invested in tourism projects (2026)
- 2,515 new jobs created

Global Recognition and Promotion

Uzbekistan's growing visibility is supported by active international promotion and increasing recognition from leading global media outlets.

The country has been featured among top travel destinations by major international platforms, while its historic cities and landmarks continue to attract global attention.

In 2025 alone:

- Uzbekistan participated in 27 international tourism exhibitions across 22 countries
- Conducted roadshows and marketing campaigns in more than 20 markets
- Published over 50 features in leading global media outlets

New Tourism Experiences

Beyond its iconic Silk Road cities, Uzbekistan is developing new tourism products to diversify its offerings.

Recent initiatives include:

- Establishing 39 tourism villages and cultural communities
- Launching digital tools such as tourism map platforms and mobile applications
- Introducing new cultural and artistic events, including large-scale international installations

These developments aim to enhance visitor experience and expand travel beyond traditional routes.

Uzbekistan–2030: Expanding the Sector

Uzbekistan's long-term strategy is outlined in the national development program "Uzbekistan–2030," which sets ambitious targets for the tourism sector.

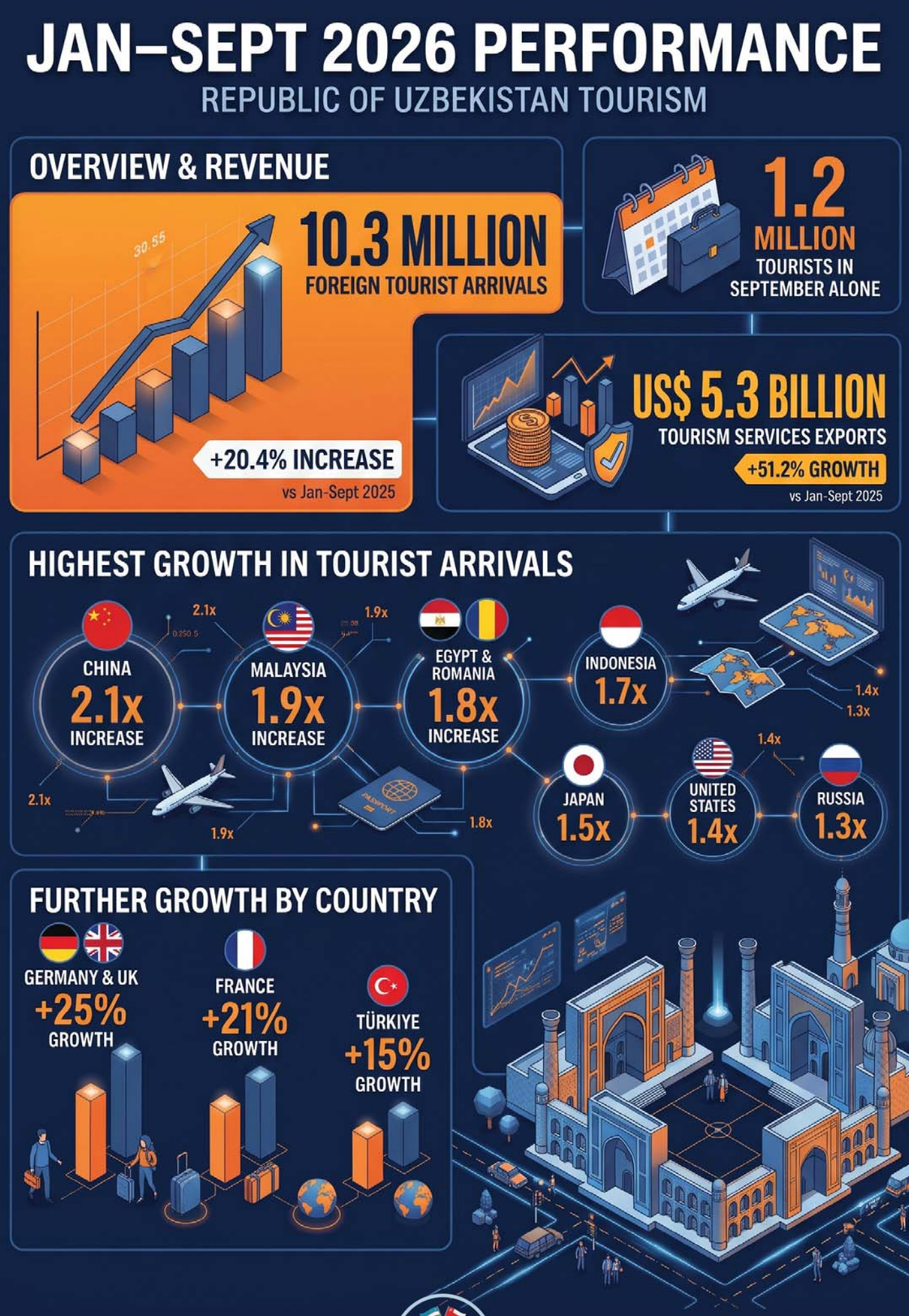
By 2030, the country aims to:

- Attract 20 million international tourists annually
- Increase domestic trips to 25 million per year
- Raise tourism export revenues to $6 billion

The strategy also includes:

- Establishing 4,000 new accommodation facilities
- Developing tourism clusters and resort zones
- Expanding transport and improving regional accessibility
- Investing in digital solutions and smart tourism





The Center of Islamic Civilization

A Landmark Project Earning International Recognition



His Excellency the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Shavkat Mirziyoyev, visited the Center of Islamic Civilization in Uzbekistan on 29 January 2025, where, during the field tour, he presented a series of recommendations and directives related to incorporating scientific and innovative projects produced by more than two thousand local and international researchers into the center's exhibitions.

This visit constituted a pivotal milestone in every sense of the word, marking a new starting point in the completion of the project. Over the following year, construction works were fully completed, while experts and designers from more than 40 countries contributed to strengthening the center's scientific and cultural content and enriching its exhibitions, within the framework of a major civilizational project emerging from the vision of the country's leadership and under the direct supervision of President Mirziyoyev.

In September 2025, the President announced from the platform of the United Nations the completion of the Center of Islamic Civilization project in Uzbekistan and the approaching official opening, adding an additional international dimension to the project. Since that announcement, the internal content of the exhibitions has witnessed remarkable qualitative development, making the center a unique knowledge space receiving growing attention from the international community. Today, visitors from around the world, alongside leaders of states and international organizations, engage with its exhibits and scientific projects that document civilizations, historical figures, and human achievements, affirming its exceptional importance.



A historic visit by the President of Uzbekistan to the Center of Islamic Civilization and directives to enhance its scientific content

Completion of the Center of Islamic Civilization project with broad international participation and announcement of its imminent opening from the United Nations platform

Uzbekistan's vision to revive the status of Islamic civilization and promote the values of enlightenment and intercivilizational dialogue



In a global context marked by profound civilizational transformations—where technological advancements accelerate at the expense of ethical and value-based dimensions, and where geopolitical crises and cultural identity challenges intensify—the urgent need emerges for new platforms that restore the essence of dialogue among civilizations. Moreover, the occasional use of religion as a tool of conflict, and the transformation of culture into lines of division, necessitate the existence of knowledge spaces capable of rebuilding human bridges.

Within this historical context, and at the heart of Eurasia—on land that has, for centuries, hosted great civilizations and where trade routes, religions, scientific schools, and cultures have intersected—the Center of Islamic Civilization in Uzbekistan has emerged as a unique project of its kind. This project was not the product of coincidence or a transient circumstance, but rather a direct reflection of the strategic vision of His Excellency President Shavkat Mirziyoyev.

Since 2017, in his address from the platform of the United Nations, President Mirziyoyev has called on the international community to restore the true status of Islamic civilization in human history, emphasizing that the essence of Islam is rooted in knowledge, enlightenment, and human values, and that confronting extremism and ignorance can only be achieved through knowledge and culture.

In this context, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, António Guterres, during his visit to the center while it was under construction, expressed high international appreciation for the initiative, noting that President Mirziyoyev represents effective leadership in promoting the values of dialogue, enlightenment, and mutual respect at the highest international platforms.



These positions reflect a growing international recognition that Uzbekistan, under the leadership of Shavkat Mirziyoyev, has become an active actor in shaping the contemporary global civilizational landscape.

The President's discourse at the United Nations laid the intellectual foundation for the center, ensuring that it is not merely an architectural complex, but an integrated civilizational project presenting a scientific and historical reading of Islam through the achievements of civilizations that flourished in science, medicine, philosophy, mathematics, and the arts, and that established libraries, academies, and research centers.

Thanks to the President's direct political will and strategic vision, the concept of the center has been transformed into a comprehensive reality on an unprecedented scale. It includes a modern next-generation museum, advanced research infrastructure, a vast digital and physical library, national and international archives, as well as the application of digital humanities technologies and the promotion of global scientific and cultural cooperation.

The project has received wide international praise, including from the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Kassym-Jomart Tokayev, who described it as a large and unique project combining scientific, touristic, and ethnocultural dimensions, affirming its potential to serve as a regional and international platform for scientific research.

International experts and observers have also emphasized that the Center of Islamic Civilization is not merely an infrastructure project or a cultural initiative, but rather a comprehensive civilizational response to contemporary challenges and a new cornerstone for dialogue among civilizations in the Islamic world and beyond.

In the same context, the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Ilham Aliyev,



during his visit to the center, stressed that the project reflects Uzbekistan's deep commitment to preserving spiritual and cultural values and delivers a clear message in confronting Islamophobia, affirming that Islam is a religion founded on tolerance, humanity, and brotherhood.

Among the center's most notable achievements is the restoration of cultural heritage. Under the direct supervision of the leadership, international cooperation mechanisms were established with leading global auction houses such as Sotheby's, Christie's, and Bonhams, in addition to museums and private collections, resulting in the recovery of approximately two thousand rare artifacts, including manuscripts of Ibn Sina, works by Al-Biruni, Timurid-era miniatures, and masterpieces of Islamic art.

This achievement represents a genuine restoration of Central Asia's civilizational memory and reinforces the concept of historical justice.

Following his visit, the President of Paraguay, Santiago Peña, noted that the center reflects an important historical reality—that many of humanity's major scientific achievements originated from this land—affirming that the experience strengthened his conviction in Uzbekistan's vast potential.

In the same vein, experts explained that the project combines the restoration of the past with the shaping of the future, as it has been designed to function as an integrated dynamic system encompassing scientific research, media, education, and publishing.

The President of Finland, Alexander Stubb, described his experience at the center as unique and unprecedented, noting that three thousand years of history were presented in a modern and contemporary manner that allows visitors to directly engage with civilizational memory.

Today, the Center of Islamic Civilization is establishing itself as a global intellectual hub, comparable to the role played by historic institutions such as the House of Wisdom in Baghdad, the Al-Ma'mun Academy in Khwarazm, and the Ulugh Beg Madrasa in Samarkand, combining historical knowledge with modern digital technology.

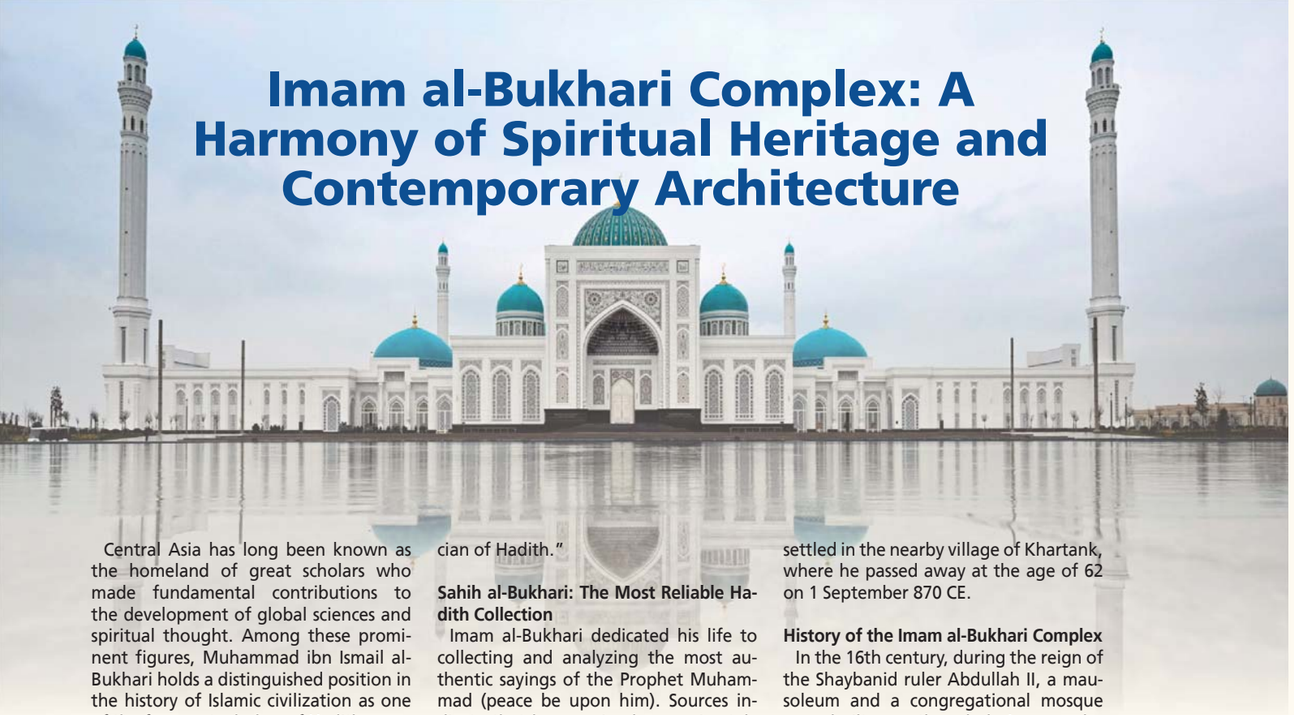
In concluding international impressions, the President of Serbia, Aleksandar Vucic, affirmed that the center represents a unique architectural and cultural experience, expressing great admiration and calling on his citizens to visit Uzbekistan to witness this exceptional civilizational landmark.

Wide international acclaim for the initiative and Uzbekistan's role in shaping a contemporary global civilizational discourse

Restoration of Islamic heritage and revival of historical memory through thousands of manuscripts and rare artifacts

The Center of Islamic Civilization as an integrated global project combining a museum, scientific research, digitalization, and civilizational dialogue





Imam al-Bukhari Complex: A Harmony of Spiritual Heritage and Contemporary Architecture

Central Asia has long been known as the homeland of great scholars who made fundamental contributions to the development of global sciences and spiritual thought. Among these prominent figures, Muhammad ibn Ismail al-Bukhari holds a distinguished position in the history of Islamic civilization as one of the foremost scholars of Hadith.

As His Excellency Shavkat Mirziyoyev, President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, affirmed:

"Many outstanding representatives of the Central Asian Renaissance have made unparalleled contributions to the development of Islam and world civilization. Among these great scholars is Imam al-Bukhari, internationally recognized as the author of Sahih al-Bukhari, which is regarded as the most sacred source in Islam after the Holy Qur'an."

The Life of a Great Hadith Scholar

Imam al-Bukhari was born in 810 CE in Bukhara. His father, Ismail ibn Ibrahim, was a respected scholar and expert in Hadith, who studied under leading scholars of his time. Even after his father's death, the intellectual and spiritual traditions of his family played a decisive role in shaping the personality of the young Muhammad ibn Ismail.

From an early age, Imam al-Bukhari demonstrated exceptional memory and dedication to knowledge. By the age of ten, he had begun memorizing hadiths, and later, after memorizing tens of thousands, he embarked on a journey in pursuit of knowledge.

He traveled extensively to major intellectual centers of his time, including Khurasan, Iraq, the Hijaz, Syria, and Egypt, studying under dozens of renowned scholars in cities such as Nishapur, Baghdad, Mecca, and Medina. Historical records indicate that he studied under nearly ninety teachers.

Imam al-Bukhari was not only a diligent student but also a teacher to hundreds of students, many of whom became distinguished scholars. Among them was Muslim ibn al-Hajjaj, who referred to him with respect as the "Physician of Hadith."

Sahih al-Bukhari: The Most Reliable Hadith Collection

Imam al-Bukhari dedicated his life to collecting and analyzing the most authentic sayings of the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him). Sources indicate that he examined approximately 600,000 hadiths, of which he considered more than 100,000 to be authentic.

His most renowned work, Sahih al-Bukhari, contains 7,397 verified hadiths and is universally regarded as the most reliable source of Islamic teachings after the Holy Qur'an.

In compiling this work, Imam al-Bukhari applied extremely rigorous scientific standards. He not only required that narrators had met each other, but also verified their interactions through reliable sources. This strict methodology ensured that Sahih al-Bukhari remains the most authentic collection in the history of Hadith studies.

Scholarly Legacy

In addition to Hadith studies, Imam al-Bukhari authored important works in history and ethics, including:

- Al-Adab al-Mufrad
- Al-Tarikh al-Kabir
- Al-Tarikh al-Saghir
- Al-Tarikh al-Awsat

His scholarly efforts laid the foundation for Hadith schools in Transoxiana from the 9th to the 12th centuries, which played a pivotal role in the advancement of Islamic intellectual thought.

Return to Homeland and Final Years

After decades of scholarly travel, Imam al-Bukhari returned to his homeland, where he was received with great respect in Bukhara. However, tensions arose with the local ruler, Emir Khalid ibn Ahmad, due to jealousy from certain quarters. Refusing to subject his knowledge to the service of the court, Imam al-Bukhari declared his famous statement: "Knowledge is sought, it does not go to anyone."

He then moved toward Samarkand and settled in the nearby village of Khartank, where he passed away at the age of 62 on 1 September 870 CE.

History of the Imam al-Bukhari Complex

In the 16th century, during the reign of the Shaybanid ruler Abdullah II, a mausoleum and a congregational mosque were built over the scholar's grave, located among four large plane trees in Khartank.

During the period of state atheism in the 20th century, like many Islamic sites, the complex suffered neglect and was on the verge of destruction. Interest was revived in the latter half of the century, driven by appeals from leaders of the Islamic world. In 1974, an international scientific conference in Samarkand marked the 1,200th anniversary of Imam al-Bukhari's birth, attended by scholars from 27 countries.

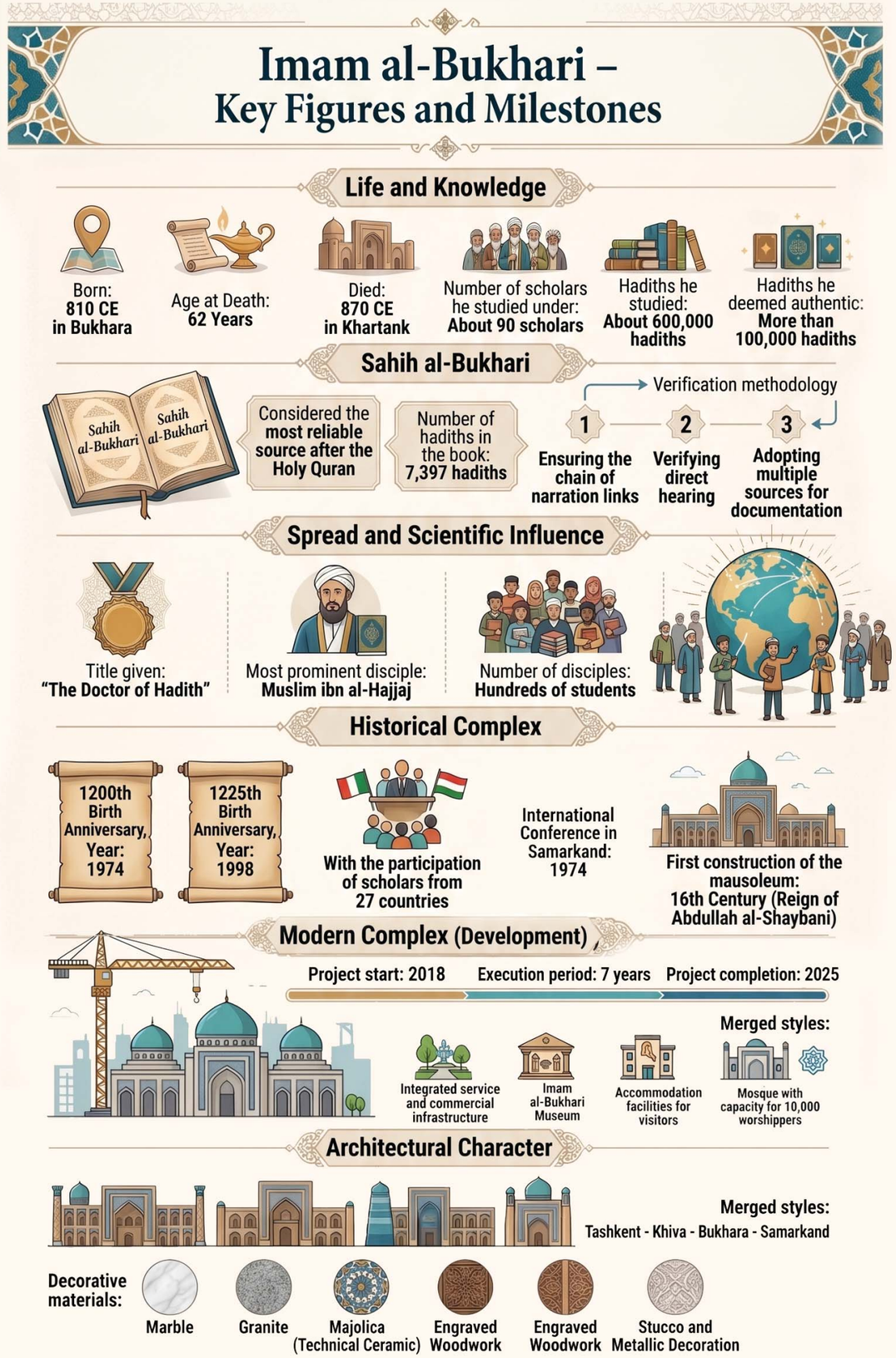
Following Uzbekistan's independence, the 1,225th anniversary of Imam al-Bukhari's birth was celebrated internationally in 1998, and the mausoleum was reconstructed.

The New Architectural Complex

In 2018, upon the initiative of President Shavkat Mirziyoyev, a comprehensive reconstruction project of the Imam al-Bukhari Complex was launched. By 2025, this unparalleled landmark in the Islamic world was fully completed. The complex has evolved into an integrated scientific and cultural settlement surrounding the mausoleum of Imam al-Bukhari, comprising:

- A grand mosque accommodating 10,000 worshippers
- The Imam al-Bukhari Innovation Museum
- Lodges and accommodation for visitors
- Spacious courtyards, parks, and green areas
- Bus stations and parking facilities
- Commercial and service infrastructure

The project was designed by a creative team led by the renowned Uzbek architect Professor Abdulkahar Turdiyev.



Human Dignity as a Pillar of Progress in Uzbekistan's Journey



Feruza ESHMATOVA
Human Rights Commissioner (Ombudsman) of Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan

For President Shavkat Mirziyoyev, Uzbekistan's progress extends beyond macroeconomic indicators or the construction of industrial and public facilities. Its true measure is improvement in everyday life. "The greatest achievement of the New Uzbekistan is the change in people's lives, citizens confident in their own abilities, and a society that feels a sense of involvement in the country's future," he stated in August 2026.

This approach reflects the Constitution adopted in 2023, which proclaims Uzbekistan a social state. Article 13 recognizes the human being, life, freedom, honor, dignity, and other inalienable rights as the highest value. Article 20 establishes that these rights apply directly and that legislative contradictions or ambiguities affecting relations between individuals and state bodies must be interpreted in the individual's favor.

Human rights discussions often concentrate on courts, although rights are exercised daily in schools, hospitals, workplaces, municipal offices, playgrounds, and families. Over the past decade, Uzbekistan has built schools accommodating 1.5 million students, kindergartens for 342,000 children, and hospitals providing 62,000 beds. Homes accommodating more than 8 million people have been connected to water supply networks. These developments give practical expression to education, healthcare, decent living, and equal opportunity.

Expanding education, vocational training, science, research, development, and sports strengthens human capital. Education broadens choices, professional skills support financial independence, and sports improve health and determination. Investment in these fields therefore helps people exercise their rights responsibly and participate actively in society.

Democratic reforms also seek to transform relations between citizens and the state. Their priorities include enabling people to report bureaucratic obstacles, ensuring their appeals are heard, providing remedies for violations, and strengthening public oversight. The mahalla, Uzbekistan's community institution of citizens' self-government, is closest to residents and their everyday needs. Through the "Mahalla's Seven" system, household challenges are identified and employment, entrepreneurship, youth, and women's issues are addressed together.

More than one hundred social services and forms of assistance are now delivered locally through "Inson" social service centers. These centers reduce the need to approach multiple agencies and bring support closer to those requiring it. Poverty reduction likewise combines vocational education, job creation, preferential loans, subsidies, and land allocations. The objective is sustainable income and the ability to improve one's own circumstances.

Women's rights and gender equality have benefited from substantial legal and institutional changes. Equal rights guarantees, protection against abuse, liability for sexual harassment and domestic violence, and stronger protection orders establish that violence is a human rights violation, rather than a private family matter. Legal responses are complemented by safe accommodation, psychological support, social protection, legal advice, and institutions assisting survivors.

Reforms concerning persons with disabilities similarly demonstrate how rights translate into better living conditions. The 2020 Law "On the Rights of Persons with Disabilities" and ratification of the corresponding UN Convention in 2021 marked a shift from viewing people as welfare recipients to recognizing them as independent rights holders.

This principle extends to detention facilities. The Ombudsman, Prosecutor General's Office, Ministry of Internal Affairs, and National Center for Human Rights initiated a roadmap to prevent torture and bring prison conditions into line with international standards. Measures included entrance ramps, Braille books in prison libraries, adapted bathrooms, and paid assistance from fellow prisoners in good health for inmates with mobility impairments. These improvements affirm that detention does not extinguish human dignity or fundamental rights.

Public authorities cannot efficiently ensure human rights alone. Uzbekistan therefore encourages NGOs, civil society institutions, activists, journalists, and bloggers to participate in oversight. The 2018 Law "On Public Oversight," the Concept for Civil Society Development, public councils within government entities, and public debate mechanisms have widened opportunities for engagement. NGOs increasingly act as partners, conveying public needs, evaluating the practical effects of legislation, and proposing alternatives. Constructive media criticism and human rights monitoring expose problems, improve government decisions, and encourage participation.

The Ombudsman connects individuals and the state through parliamentary oversight of legal implementation, consideration of public appeals, and recommendations addressing legislative and procedural obstacles. Cooperation with civil society strengthens this work. By examining individual complaints alongside broader institutional problems, the Ombudsman helps identify where legal guarantees require stronger implementation and where procedures need improvement in practice. Joint monitoring visits to closed institutions examine accommodation, healthcare, nutrition, sanitation, opportunities to submit complaints, and compliance with international standards prohibiting torture. Confidential interviews and "Ombudsman's mailboxes" inside prisons provide channels for raising concerns while safeguarding dignity.

At celebrations marking the thirty-fifth anniversary of independence in August 2026, President Mirziyoyev announced seven national programs advancing human dignity. They focus on knowledge and skills; healthier, longer lives; a technologically advanced, highly productive economy; improved water and environmental management; judicial independence and the rule of law as a shared moral value; stronger mahallas as drivers of social progress; and Uzbekistan's standing as a peaceful, hospitable country.

Together, these priorities connect national development with the rights experienced in daily life: learning, healthcare, a safe environment, access to justice, and support within the community. Economic transformation, institutional reform, and social investment thus form parts of a common agenda centered on people. Its purpose is not simply to expand services, but to make dignity, opportunity, and participation meaningful for every individual.

As Uzbekistan continues its economic and social transition, human rights remain central to its democratic development strategy. Respect for dignity strengthens confidence in justice, while accessible institutions and effective remedies deepen trust between society and the state. Citizens who can develop their abilities, secure their livelihoods, and influence public life become participants in the country's future. In this understanding, progress is measured not only by national achievements, but by the freedom, security, and opportunities those achievements bring to people, reinforcing democracy and development over the long term.

Uzbek Humanitarian Support for Palestinians: A Model of Government Commitment and Social Solidarity



The decree signed by the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan on 14 August 2025, titled "On measures aimed at establishing a system of state care and assistance for a group of Palestinian citizens in Uzbekistan based on the principles of mercy and humanity," represents an unprecedented humanitarian document that has received wide recognition not only at the national level, but also internationally.

It is noteworthy that, in global practice, comprehensive and systematic approaches that guarantee human rights and freedoms while extending assistance to those in need in such a manner are rarely found. This decree embodies such an approach, combining legal and social dimensions to provide structured and institutional support.

This document constitutes a tangible expression of the core principles of the "New Uzbekistan" policy—which places respect for human dignity and prioritizing individual well-being above all else. The reforms initiated under the President's leadership are now yielding tangible results; extending a helping hand to Palestinian families is not merely a moral duty, but a practical embodiment of Uzbekistan's consistent and principled policy in this regard.

Comprehensive Social Support Measures

The measures outlined in the decree are distinguished by their broad scope and inclusiveness. Each beneficiary of working age receives a monthly living allowance, full coverage of housing rent expenses, and a one-time financial grant, reflecting the state's commitment to their welfare. It is important to note that individuals suffering from debilitating illnesses are recognized as persons with disabilities regardless of the duration of treatment, while elderly residents without prior work experience are entitled to social pensions—representing a true model of social justice.

Special attention has been given to education-related support. Children of Palestinian residents are guaranteed admission to kindergartens and public schools without waiting lists, with parents exempted from tuition fees until 2028. Moreover, children are provided with opportunities for additional education, including vocational training, IT courses, and preparatory programs for higher education institutions, with all associated costs fully covered by the state. These initiatives represent a profound investment in the future of Palestinian youth and facilitate their full integration into Uzbek society.

Healthcare, Employment, and Social Integration

In the healthcare sector, Palestinian residents are entitled to state-funded medical services, including the provision of all necessary medications, on an equal footing with low-income local families. In terms of employment, they can participate in programs such as "Family Entrepreneurship Development," "Continuous Support for Small Businesses," and "First Step in Business," ensuring opportunities for economic participation and self-reliance.

Notably, the decree emphasizes the rights of children and their future prospects. In full compliance with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, Palestinian children are guaranteed access to the same opportunities available to Uzbek children, reflecting the state's commitment to equality and human development.



Sustainable Support Mechanisms

To organize and finance these initiatives, a "special fund" has been established, drawing its resources from legal sponsors and individuals, in addition to grants from international organizations, thereby creating an effective partnership between the state, society, and the international community. This framework ensures sustainable and long-term support for beneficiaries.

The active engagement of the "Mahalla Yettiligi" system also facilitates the integration of Palestinian residents into the local social and cultural environment, enabling them to rebuild community ties and quickly adapt to societal norms. This practice elevates Uzbek traditions of hospitality to the level of national policy.

A Model of Humanitarian Diplomacy

Through this decree, Uzbekistan's leadership has once again demonstrated to the world that the country is open, tolerant, and humane. The document vividly illustrates how the slogan of New Uzbekistan, "For Human Dignity," is translated into practical reality.

Under the leadership of President Shavkat Mirziyoyev, Uzbekistan has set a new standard for humanitarian diplomacy in the twenty-first century, presenting a replicable model of state-led compassion and organized assistance. History will record this decree for future generations as a significant contribution to building a world based on justice, mercy, and universal human values.

Mavluda Khodjayeva
Deputy Speaker of the Legislative Chamber
Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan

A Journey to the Heart of Central Asia:

The Story of an Omani Traveler in Uzbekistan

Omani traveler Nasser Al-Namani said that over 25 years of travel across more than 90 countries, and through 155 journeys around the world, some destinations remain present in memory in an exceptional way, whose impact does not fade despite the multiplicity of experiences and diversity of destinations. Among those destinations, Uzbekistan stands out as one of the countries most deeply rooted in his conscience, as he visited it three times at different periods, and each visit revealed to him a new face of an ancient country that sits along the historic Silk Road.

Al-Namani added that from the moment of his arrival in the capital, Tashkent, the scene appeared to him as a balanced mixture between modernity and historical depth. The capital, as he described it, is a city that is organized, clean, and vibrant, with streets that expand in a smooth and clear flow, while the deep metro represents one of its most prominent aesthetic and engineering landmarks, with artistic designs considered among the most beautiful globally. He pointed out that Tashkent clearly reflects the path of transformation that the country has undergone, as it was rebuilt after a devastating earthquake in the 1960s, while at the same time preserving its cultural identity.

He noted that traditional markets, foremost among them "Chorsu" Bazaar, offer a rich human and cultural experience, where the smells of spices mix with the overlapping sounds of vendors, in a scene that reflects the spirit of daily life, in addition to what distinguishes the Uzbek people in terms of hospitality and warm reception.

In his talk about Samarkand, he described it as the "crown jewel" and one of the greatest cities in the history of Islamic civilization, noting that each visit to it makes him feel as if he is passing through a time gateway that takes him back to the eras of great empires. He considered "Registan" Square the most prominent and impactful landmark of the city, due to its architectural and historical value, as it includes three historic madrasas decorated with mosaics and Islamic ornaments that reflect the magnificence of Islamic art across the ages.



During his three visits to Uzbekistan, he observed noticeable development in infrastructure and tourism services



He also explained that the experience of Samarkand is not limited to observation, but extends to living the details, starting from the mausoleum of Amir Timur, all the way to the Bibi-Khanym Mosque, affirming that every stone in the city tells the story of a civilization that flourished with science, trade, and arts, and contributed to shaping an important part of human history.

As for Bukhara, he described it as carrying a different character marked by calmness and depth, affirming that it is not merely a city, but rather an open-air museum that includes more than a thousand historic buildings. He pointed out that its narrow alleys, its old caravanserais, and its historic mosques grant the visitor a sense of tranquility and contemplation, adding that he used to spend long hours wandering without a specific purpose, in order to enjoy the spirit of the place. He also noted that the people of Bukhara are characterized by their simplicity and warmth, and that communicating with them, despite the language barrier, formed a rich and impactful human experience.

Al-Namani affirmed that what distinguishes Uzbekistan is not limited to its historical and architectural heritage, but extends to the nature of its hospitable people and its authentic culture, pointing out that Uzbek cuisine represents an experience in itself, foremost among which is the traditional dish "plov," which is considered a symbol of hospitality and is prepared through inherited methods. He also noted that green tea forms an essential part of daily life and is presented to the guest as a sign of welcome and respect.

He added that during his three visits to the country, he observed noticeable development in infrastructure and tourism services, which made Uzbekistan more open and easier in terms of travel and movement, without losing its authentic character or its historical spirit that distinguishes it from other destinations.

Al-Namani concluded his remarks by affirming that Uzbekistan is not merely a stop in his long record of travels, but rather a renewed experience rich in knowledge and humanity, from which he learned much about history, culture, and people. He pointed out that it is a destination worth visiting for anyone seeking the depth of civilization and the beauty of simplicity, and for a journey that is not measured by distances, but by the lasting impact it leaves on memory and the heart.

Tashkent is a balanced blend of modernity and historical identity, and a city that is organized, clean, and vibrant

Samarkand is a gateway through time to the civilizations of the Silk Road, and Registan Square is the city's most prominent and impactful landmark

Bukhara is an open-air museum reflecting the depth of Islamic history and includes more than a thousand historic buildings

The traditional dish "plov" is considered a symbol of hospitality and is prepared through inherited methods, while green tea forms an essential part of daily life

