

THE IMPACT OF TOURISM ON DEVELOPMENT

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Annotation: This article discusses the reforms being carried out in the field of tourism development, one of the fastest growing sectors of the country in today's development environment

Keywords: cultural heritage, ancient sites, green nature, monuments, architectural monuments.

Uzbekistan has a vast historical and cultural heritage - more than 7,300 ancient architectural and archaeological monuments. Most of them are located in the cities of Samarkand, Bukhara, Khiva, Shahrisabz, Termez, Kokand and Tashkent. More than 200 historical monuments and sites in our country are included in the UNESCO cultural heritage list. "Currently, one of the promising sectors that brings high income to the national economy is tourism. Uzbekistan is a country with great potential in the world in the field of tourism. There are more than 7,300 cultural heritage sites in our country, and about 200 of them are included in the UNESCO list. At the same time, it is possible to open new tourist destinations using the unique nature of our country and the opportunities of beautiful resorts. Actively attracting world brands to this area, we need to pay special attention to the development of pilgrimage tourism, ecological, educational, ethnographic, gastronomic tourism and other sectors of this industry. In this regard, we must take into account that the use of public-private partnerships opens up broad opportunities for the development of the industry. The interests of the Motherland and the people are at the heart of all reforms being implemented for the prosperity of our country. Reforms are being implemented in all areas.

In order to achieve such positive changes and take development to a new level, we must all fulfill our duties wholeheartedly and be selfless. As an industry expert, my proposals for developing the tourism sector and increasing the number of tourists are as follows: - Provide preferential loans to entrepreneurs who want to operate in the tourism sector, simplify land acquisition procedures, increase the number of hotels that meet world standards, thereby strengthening competition and reducing hotel prices. Because as the price of tour packages increases, the number of tourists coming to our country also decreases. As a result, they prefer to go to other countries with much cheaper prices. Surkhandarya region is distinguished by mountain and ecotourism. In the region, you can see caves, massifs and gorges that demonstrate the amazing beauty of the natural landscape. These places attract great attention from tourists and adventure seekers. Here you can get acquainted with the monuments of the distant past. This It is worth mentioning, among others, open-air museums, Buddhist temples, ruins of ancient settlements, ancient fortresses, places of worship. The Surkhandarya Valley was the cradle of the development of a new culture. It gave the names of famous poets, theologians, Islamic religious figures, and philosophers to history. Thanks to them, magnificent architectural monuments of the Middle Ages appeared. The significance of these monuments is significant for the entire Islamic world. In and around Termez, the most ancient city and center of the region, there are ruins of cities and fortresses of various peoples, such as



Zoroastrians, Nestorians, Buddhists, as well as monuments of Islamic architecture. Not far from Termez, Surkhandarya region, where ivory chess pieces were found, is the southernmost region of Uzbekistan. It is bordered by the Hisar Range in the north, the Bobotog Mountains in the east, the foothills of the Kohitang and Baysun Mountains in the west, and the Amu Darya River in the south. There are 374 historical, cultural, artistic, architectural monuments, and unique archaeological excavations in Surkhandarya region for the development of tourism.

The region's natural beauty, enchanting waterfalls, mineral water, and healing mountain salts create favorable conditions for the development of agro-eco, mountain, and medical tourism. The unique customs and traditions of this ancient land, as well as national crafts, are of great interest to people around the world.

The region's historical sites and holy shrines play an important role in introducing pilgrimage tourism in the region, expanding the flow of not only local but also foreign tourists. However, until now, the region's potential in this regard has been neglected. The regional Department of Tourism and Cultural Heritage pays special attention to the development of not only foreign, but also domestic tourism. In particular, 762,106 of our compatriots were served last year. In comparison, the number of local tourists increased by 3.5 times compared to 2020. We did not cite these figures for nothing. This indicator is much lower than in other regions where this sector is well developed. However, it is gratifying that the growth dynamics of the indicators has taken a positive turn. It should be noted that today, 49 hotels, 141 family guest houses, 9 hostels, and 40 tourist vehicles operate in the region. 40 tour operators and 5 guide-translators provide services to foreign and local tourists. It is noteworthy that currently 7 hotels in the region, as well as 41 family hotels and 5 hostels were built and commissioned in 2021. All this work, of course, creates convenience for local and foreign guests visiting the oasis. The five priority areas of development of the Republic of Uzbekistan for 2017-2021 are outlined in the Strategy of Actions

The "roadmap" for the development of pilgrimage tourism, developed within the framework of the implementation of the tasks, serves to bring work in this area to a new level.

During his visit to Surkhandarya region on January 19-20 of this year, our President Shavkat Mirziyoyev paid special attention to the effective use of the tourism potential of the oasis, creating new jobs and increasing the income of the population. In accordance with this, the region is adopting a program of measures for the comprehensive development of the tourism potential of Surkhandarya region in 2018-2019. It places special emphasis on such important issues as creating a renewed, modern image of the territory, improving transport infrastructure, and providing quality services to tourists visiting from abroad, which creates a favorable environment for the effective use of the opportunities of pilgrimage tourism.

In the past, Surkhandarya was the cradle of many great scholars, such as Hakim Termiziy and Isa Termiziy, who promoted the holy religion of Islam and made a worthy contribution to its development, - says Sh. Ibragimov, representative of the Surkhandarya region of the State Committee for Tourism Development of the Republic of Uzbekistan. - In this land with a rich history, great people such as Sufi Olloyor, Alouddin Attor, Muhammad Zohid found eternal rest. Based on this program, holy places and shrines in the districts of Boysun, Termiz, Jarkurgan, Altinsoy, Denov, Uzun, Sherabad will be reconstructed and improved. Roads will be repaired. Trade and craft shops will be built. All modern conditions will be created for foreign tourists to visit freely.



In Denov district, there is a holy shrine where the first caliph of the founder of the Naqshbandi doctrine, Hazrat Bahauddin Naqshband, Alouddin Attar, found eternal rest. In Altinsoy district, another great saint included in the "Silsilai Oliya" - the mausoleum of Muhammad Zahid, the grave of Sufi Olloyor, a major representative of the Turkic Sufi doctrine, and a mosque built by him have been preserved. The "Roadmap" for the development of pilgrimage tourism in new directions stipulates the improvement of these places where our saints are holy, the creation of modern amenities for pilgrims to perform ablution and pray, and the introduction of the "halal" standard

The establishment of pilgrimage tourism in our country is of great importance in remembering the great people who lived in our country, praying for them, and deeply studying their exemplary ways of life, - says A. Sayfuddinov, regional representative of the Muslim Office of Uzbekistan. - Foreign tourists have also visited in the past It will provide a wide opportunity to get acquainted with the religious teachings of our dear saints who lived and their significant contribution to the development of Islam. The surroundings of the holy places will be more prosperous and more beautiful. As part of the comprehensive creative work to be carried out to develop pilgrimage tourism, historical monuments such as the Kokildor Ota, Kirq Kiz, Sultan Saodat monuments, Chorgumbaz Mosque in Termez district, the Hazrati Eshonbabo shrine and healing water in Boysun district, the Hazrati Sultan Vali, Khoja Samandar Termizi shrines in Jarkurgan district, the Khojaipok shrine and healing water in Altinsoy district, and the Ak Astona Baba mausoleum in Uzun district will be transformed into a lush green area. Naturally, the first step of foreign and local tourists begins in the central cities. Taking into account this important aspect, in June 2021, the "IKEBERG" entertainment complex with an artificial ice rink with an area of 4,500 square meters was built and put into operation in the oasis center - the city of Termez.

This modern center has an artificial ice rink, a supermarket, banking services, more than 40 shops, a children's playground, a restaurant, a fast-food restaurant, Wi-Fi, a karaoke club, and a prayer room. As a result, about 300 new jobs have been created here. Also, 6 "Coffee shops" have been launched in Termez, 2 in Denov district, 1 in Kumkurgan district, and 1 in Shorchi district, a total of 10. In addition, sanitary and hygiene facilities have been newly built at 189 tourist facilities, and the existing ones have been thoroughly renovated. 150 Wi-Fi points and 65 tourist signposts have been installed. The work carried out by the Surkhandarya Regional Tourism Development Department to improve local infrastructure, especially in the areas of highways and tourist attractions, and the creation of additional amenities, is also noteworthy. The scale of work in this regard can be seen in the consistent implementation of the tasks set out in the Program for the Development, Restoration and Renovation of Cultural Heritage Monuments, Tourism and Tourism-related Infrastructure, approved by the relevant resolution of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated April 2, 2021.

In particular, within the framework of this program, the necessary funds were allocated for the restoration of the Said Otaliq madrasah in Denov, the excavation and expansion of the moat around the Imam Abu Isa Muhammad at-Termizi complex in Sherabad district, the improvement of the Khojaikon salt cave in Sherabad district and the installation of a turnstile. In a word, the infrastructure of each destination visited by tourists is improving and becoming more prosperous every year. In order to create convenience for tourists, 8 information centers have been established in the region today, which are successfully operating. These centers are



located in the city and district of Termez, and in the border area of Sariosiyo district with neighboring Tajikistan.

The activities of the Termez Archaeological Museum and the regional museum of local lore reflect the past of the oasis in a mirror. As you look at the exhibits that are interpreters of glorious history, the distant past will come alive in your mind. This year, it is planned to establish a museum "History of the Kushan State".

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