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SOI: [1.1/TAS](#) DOI: [10.15863/TAS](#)

International Scientific Journal Theoretical & Applied Science

p-ISSN: 2308-4944 (print) e-ISSN: 2409-0085 (online)

Year: 2018 Issue: 01 Volume: 57

Published: 18.01.2018 <http://T-Science.org>



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**SECTION 13. Geography. History. Oceanology.
Meteorology.**

TOURISM IN UZBEKISTAN TODAY AND ITS FUTURE (In matters of Andijon region)

Abstract: The article describes the reforms taken by the Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan in the field of tourism and perspectives of Uzbektourism and its development from the scientific point of view.

Key words: Uzbektourizm, Maveraunnahr, Amir Temur, Dukchi Eshon, ecological resources of the naturally defended territories (NDT).

Language: English

Citation: Ismanov AN (2018) TOURISM IN UZBEKISTAN TODAY AND ITS FUTURE. In matters of Andijon region. ISJ Theoretical & Applied Science, 01 (57): 46-49.

Soi: <http://s-o-i.org/1.1/TAS-01-57-8> **Doi:**  <https://dx.doi.org/10.15863/TAS.2018.01.57.8>

Introduction

Tourism is considered as the most profitable branch of the economy. therefore most of the foreign countries pay special attention to the development of this branch.

A wide scaled work is being done in Uzbekistan in order to increase the touristic industry.

With the purpose of increasing the amount of the profit in this sphere and by developing the inner and outer tourism a wide scaled work is being done in Uzbekistan.

Materials and Methods

From the etymological point of view the word 'tourism' is borrowed from the French word 'mourning' and it denotes 'walking', sightseeing'.

It is already two centuries since the first day when it was founded. Looking back to the history of tourism we can be sure that this field was first appeared in Europe.

The first well organized tourism has taken place in 1815 from England to France. The founder of tourism is considered the English priest Tomas Cook. He organized the first railway tour in 1843. After that he established his first private tour company and the first groups of tourists were sent to the USA.[1].

Today this brach has already developed successfully and their activities are controlled by a number of conceptions, international contracts and agreements, The 24th article of the 'International Declaration of Human Rights' says that 'Each

person has the right to organize his working our properly and each year can have the paid vacation, can have a rest, and can have a free time'.[2].

The International Pact on economic, social and cultural rights stresses that

The International Pact on economic, social and cultural rights stresses that the citizens have theright to have rest and free time, just regulation of the working hours, periodical paid vacation as well as having paid workdays on holidays[3]. The government in Uzbekistan has joined all the Internaional documents on human rights and nternational tourism of the United Nations.

The Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekictan has the article saying that 'all the hired workers have the right to have rest'. 'The working hours and the deadline of the paid vacation is defined by law'.[4].

In accord with the Helsinki agreement on 'The development of tourism in the International Association' (August 1,1975) under the care of the UNO there has been organized a World Touristic Organizaion. This organization unites more than 120 states and Uzbekistan became its member state in 1993.

The first touristic movement in Uzbekistan goes back to Temur the Great's period of reign. Temur the Great established the international relations on the level of embassies with the French king Carl theYI and the king of England Henry the IV.

A Spanish tourist Klaviho's book on 'The life and activities of Temur the Great' reflects the social



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life in the Tranoxiana (Maveraunnahr) and the interests of tourists to this country [5].

Special attention to the problems of tourism in Uzbekistan began to be paid during the years of Independence.

In 1992 (July 27) in our republic a national company 'Uzbektourism'. By attracting the foreign investments this company is engaged in the developing of the touristic infrastructure, establishing the modern touristic complexes, organizing the new touristic routes, widening the framework of the services, etc.

The 3rd article of the 'Law of Uzbekistan on Tourism' stresses that tourism is an activity which deals with the tourists who leaves his/her place of habitat for health resorts or educational and enlightenment centers for the term of one year. In the place of arrival (country) he/she is not allowed to be engaged in the paid activity. In accord with the requirements of this law and other legal documents the touristic activity means organization of tourism and services connected with this activity [6].

The Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan 'On the program of development of tourism in Uzbekistan for the period up to 2005' has raised the attention to the development of national tourism to the new level [7].

The globalization process taking place today in our society is changing the manner of life of people greatly.

The development of social and economic life, development of conditions of life of the population, increase of urbanization process makes it necessary to pay special attention to the problems of tourism.

Having rest in the lawn of the nature, is the main component of today's life, important way of improving health problems, and interesting way of spending free time.

According to the data provided by the world tourist organization every year more than 1,2 billion people go sightseeing. During the last 10 years the number of registered tourists reached only 576 million people. The most important factor of development of this branch is recognition of the world, education and improving health. Today 10% of the Gross Domestic Product of the world, 6% of trade, 8% of the people engaged in labour comprises the branch of tourism is a real proof of this fact meeting the requirements of law [8].

During the years of Independence in our country the new basis of tourism built on market relations have been created. The objects of modern infrastructure have been erected, new directions of tourism meeting the requirements of modern times have been introduced. Thus new potentials of tourism are growing up and up.

From ancient times the Uzbek people are famous for their products of national craftsmanship.

The main factor attracting the tourists, foreign investors, business people, and proprietors is first of all that they wish to get acquainted with historical memorials of this magic and legendary land as Uzbekistan, and secondly, folk craftsmanship based on hand labour. There are more than 7 thousand rarely seen historical architectural memorials in Uzbekistan. But because of the fact that we are not always able to use these resources the contribution of this branch in the field of service and its export, in matters of providing the population with work is lower than the middle level in the world. According to the data provided by the Republican Statistics office.

The share of tourism in the GDP of the country is very low and it equals 2%. The number of tourist organizations and companies is around 400 and the most of them are concentrated in the central cities like Tashkent (73,4%), Bukhoro (4,5%), Samarqand (13,1%), and Khorazm (1%).

Generally speaking, 92% of the touristic companies specializing in the service of tourism and 9,1% of tourists are situated in these 4 zones. In the concluding session of the Cabinet of Ministers devoted to the results of social and economic development in 2016 and perspectives of 2017 the leader of our country stressed that "such a profitable branch as tourism is not paid enough attention, that the share of this branch to the economic development of the country should be increased, cultural valuables should be widely propagated and definite measures should be taken in increasing the reserves of currency should be increased" [9].

The decree of our President from December 2, 2016 "On measures of providing intensive development of tourism in the Republic of Uzbekistan" is aimed at liquidation of shortcomings in this field and its intensive development. In accord with the Decree of the President of Uzbekistan 'The national Company of Uzbekistan (ПФ-4861, 2016) was liquidated and on its basis The State Committee of development has been organized. This decree points out that it is necessary to create suitable conditions for the development of tourism as a strategic branch of our economy, real improvement of its management, more effective use of the potential of territories, to produce the goods of national tourism, and to pay attention to their marketing in the world markets, as well as positive formation of touristic potential.

As a result of these measures in the first half of current year touristic service has grown up to 27%, the amount of such services has grown up to 6,6%. Today more than 800 touristic companies, and more than 500 hotels are functioning in our country.

Today in most of the foreign countries the potential of aesthetic natural scenes, cultural ethnographic heritages, and suitable ecological resources of the naturally defended territories (NDT)

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are being used for the development of the ecological tourism. In our country there are 36 naturally defended territories which occupy 2604,2 thousand hectares. They contain magic caves and rocks of different shape, valleys, waterfalls, springs with bright water, huge trees, as well as landscapes.

There is a special representative branch of “Uzbektourism” touristic company and it closely connects its touristic activities with 16 local and foreign companies.

In our region we prepared perfect and addressed measures for the further increase of the exported touristic services and tourism in general. It aims at the development of tourism and travel infrastructures, offering the touristic services in the local and international travel markets, restoration of the local touristic objects, improvement of infrastructures and types of services up to the level of requirements of modern times. Today in our region there are 7 touristic companies engaged in the travel affairs, and 35 touristic operators.

Andijon is a city situated in the south-eastern part of the Farg’ona valley and it is 2000 years old. It is also a place of great interest that it is the birth-place of prince Zahiriddin Muhammad Bobur, the successor of Temurid dynasty, the founder of the Empire of “The Great Baburids “ in India. Babur’s house still remains there and it is always crowded with tourists.

In the 9th -10th centuries Andijon was included in the structure of Somonids’ state. In the 11th century the city was occupied by Qorahonids. Under the moghul invasion the city was destroyed and turned into ruins.

At the end of 13th century under the reign of moghul Khans Tuvakhan and Khaidukhan the city was restored.

In the 14th century under the reign of Temur-the-Great the economy, science and culture flourished in the city. Andijon was a capital city of Farg’ona state under the control of Temur-the-Great. During the reign of Umarshaykh Mirzo, Babur’s father and under Babur’s reign the economy and culture of the city flourished.

In the 16th century the city was occupied by Shayboniykhan.

Since the 1710 the city was included into the structure of Qo’qon Khanate. In 1876 the Qo’qon Khanate was occupied by the Tsarist government of Russia and Andijon was also involved into this structure.

At that time the silk and cotton materials produced in Andijon were famous not only in the Farg’ona valley, but also in foreign countries. In 1898 there was a riot of the local people against the repression of the Tsarist government under the leadership of “Dukchi Eshon Mahammadali halfa Sobir o’g’li”.

The riot was suppressed mercilessly by the reigning government.

In 1902 there was a strong earthquake in Andijon and a great number of architectural memorials were turned into ruins.

The only memorial which remained from that earthquake was Jome madrassah in the center of the old part of the city. The madrassah was erected at the end of the 19th century, its length is 123 meters.

This architectural memorial covers 1,5 hectares of land and it consists of a mosque, madrassah, and a column of minaret and five entrance gates. This memorial complex was restored in 1971-74, and in 1999-2000.

At the distance of 30 kilometers from Andijon there is an ancient capital of Dovon state ‘Arshi’.[10].

In our region there are more than 300 touristic objects and most of them as museums, historical memorial complexes, as well as beautiful places of rest and pilgrimage reflect the history of our people.

The most important place of pilgrimage in Andijon region is ‘Teshik-tosh’. Moreover, there are also such sacred places of pilgrimage as Imom-Ota, Toozlik Mozor, Oq G’or, Shirmonbuloq, Mirpo’stin etc.

There are also ‘Hontog’, Fozilmon-ota’ in Honobod district, ‘Imom-Ota’ in Hodjaobod district, ‘Shirmon buloq’ in Buloq-boshi district, ‘Uch buloq’ and ‘Tuzluk-Momo’ in Baliqchi district, ‘Mehmoni – Valiy’ in Andijon district, ‘Qutayba ibn Muslim’ in Jalolquduq district, ‘Ming-tepa’ in Marhamat district are attended by the visitors.

There are two museums in the city: country – studying museum and museum of art and literature. The ‘Bog’i Bobur’ park is always overcrowded by the visitors. During the years of Independence the city has changed its sight positively.

There are more than 50 joint-stock companies in the city. They have been established as a result of partnership with such foreign countries as the USA, China, Britain, Korean Republic, Russia, Italy, Kirgiziya, etc. Five of them produce spare parts for ‘Uz DAEWOO’ automobile producing company.

There are around 3000 small and middle business objects in the city and more than 7000 private proprietors in the city.

Conclusion

In our region where most of the tourist routes going through the Silk Road crossroad there are many possibilities necessary for further development of different branches of tourism.

In accord with the requirement of five perspective “The strategic program of development of the Republic of Uzbekistan in 2017-2021” in the third direction the urgent program directions on the development of the touristic industry and other tasks have been defined.

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According to this program during the 2017-2021 more than 200 projects will be realized.

We consider that by propagating our historical cultural valuables the share of contribution of "Uzbektourism" to the development of the economy of the country will be increased and this company will earn its own worthy place in the world system of tourism.

In the article published in "Financial Times" of Britain for the attention of those who are planning to spend time in the travels the list of most interesting touristic routes throughout the world has been mentioned. The fact that among 9 countries which attract the attention of tourists and travelers Uzbekistan occupies the second place as "...the most attractive route" proves the reality of our suggestions on the matter under discussion[11].

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