

## THE ROLE OF UZBEKISTAN ON THE GREAT SILK ROAD

Zubayda Yuldasheva

Pedagogical Institute of Termez State University,  
Lecturer of the Department of Philosophy and Fundamentals of Spirituality

### ABSTRACT

This article provides information about Uzbekistan as one of the main centers on the Great Silk Road. The article also discusses the geography of the creation and distribution of the Great Silk Road.

**Keywords:** Uzbekistan, Great Silk Road, Zhang Xiang, Huns, Samarkand, Bukhara, Termez, Khorezm, Merv, Central Asia, TRACECA.

In ancient times, there were several trade routes that played an important role in the economic, political, spiritual and cultural life of peoples. One of the largest, most important and richest roads in the world is the Great Silk Road. From the Atlantic coast to the Pacific coast, this road connected the countries of the Asian continent with the countries of the Mediterranean and the Far East. This road He dates back to the 2nd century. There were several roads before the Silk Road, and the Lal road was one of the main roads. The road started from the Pamirs and went to Iran, Old Asia and Egypt. This road is named so because of the rubble mined in the Pamirs. Another important route was the Royal Road, which was one of the main roads in the 5th-4th centuries. But the need for Badakhshan lapis lazuli in the Middle East before the appearance of the Shah's road led to the emergence of the lapis lazuli road.

The first written mention of the Great Silk Road dates back to 138 BC: Zhang Xiang, an ambassador and traveler sent to Central Asia by order of the Chinese Emperor Wu Di, studied the Great Silk Road. During this period, the Huns plundered the northern regions of China. The emperor sent Zhang Xiang to find allies and partners in the fight against the nomadic tribes of the Huns. The ambassador was captured by the Huns and imprisoned for ten years. He escaped from captivity and reached Issyk-Kul through the Central Tien Shan pass. It flows along the Naryn River to the Ferghana Valley. The ambassador wants the help of the ruler of Ferghana in the fight against the Chinese Huns. But the ruler of Ferghana only wants to improve trade relations. Zhang Xiang will continue his journey south. After crossing the Alay valley, he again fell into the hands of the Huns. He will return home in a year. The ambassador tells the

Chinese emperor about his "journey". He brought one of the Ferghana horses and alfalfa seeds to China. The Chinese called this horse heavenly. Thus, in the 2nd and 1st centuries BC, the so-called Great Silk Road, the world-famous caravan route connecting China with Central and Western Asia, followed the route of Zhang Xiang. The caravan from China will cross the Tien Shan mountains and cross Central Asia. Then he passed through Khorasan between two rivers, and from there to the Mediterranean cities. The main cities of the caravan route are Dunhuang, Khami, Turpan, Osh, Uzgen, Kashgar, Kuva, Kokand, Andijan, Bukhara, Samarkand and Merv. The road to Merv is divided into networks. The first branch crossed the Volga in Khorezm, Eastern Europe, Kyiv, Moscow and Novgorod. The second route ran through Balkh to Afghanistan and India. The third line passes through Baghdad through the Mediterranean cities [1, p.65].

In general, the Great Silk Road starts in Xi'an, the ancient capital of China, and leads to Dunhuang via Lanzhou. In Dunhuang, it is divided into two parts. The southwestern branch of the Silk Road went through the Takla-Makon desert to Khotan, from there to Yorkent, through the Pamir gorges to Vakhon, and from there to Zariasf (Balkh), the capital of Bactria. went to Marv, its southern branch to India and its northern branch through Termez to Darband, Nautak and Samarkand. The northwestern branch of the Great Silk Road ran from Dulhuan to Bami Kucha and through Turfan to the Tarim oasis in Kashgar. From here it is connected with Uzgen, Osh, Kuva, Akhsikent, Pongoy through Tashkurgan, then with Khojand, Zaamin, Jizzakh through the Asht steppe, and then with Samarkand through Nautaka. The road went from Samarkand to the west - Dobusia, through the Malik desert to Bukhara and Romitan, then through Varakhsha to Paikent and Farob to the city of Amul. Amul joins the road from Merv to Urgench along the Amu. In ancient times, the city of Merv was the largest city on the Silk Road due to its ancient traditions and geographical convenience of connecting trade caravan routes in all directions. The northwestern branch of the Great Silk Road was also of great importance. The branches of the Great Silk Road and the active trade on it have historically changed. The Syr Darya and Amu Darya rivers were used as waterways for the development of trade. The growth of trade led to the emergence of new cities. Such cities are Poikand, Varakhsha, Ramish. From the Great Silk Road to China and the West from the early Middle Ages, mainly silk, paper were exported, and from these countries to China - glass, wool, various fabrics, carpets, glass, metal, jewelry, precious stones, various medicines, horseshoes. Through these trade routes, Chinese bronze windows and square coins spread to the Ferghana Valley and the middle basin of the Syr Darya. Caravanserais and



villages were built. In the III-VII centuries, the control of the Silk Road through Central Asia and the Middle East was in the hands of the Sogdians, but by the middle of the VIII century there were fundamental changes in the system of international relations. The western part of the Silk Road came under the control of the Arabs. By the 13th century, Genghis Khan had taken control of all branches of the Silk Road. This continued until the middle of the 14th century. During the Mongol rule, the Khorezm merchants of Mahmud Yalov played a key role. At the end of the 14th and 15th centuries, Timur and the center of the Timurid state, Movarounnahr, were connected by large caravan routes with major cities and countries of Europe, the Middle and Far East. As a result of the political upheavals that began in the kingdom after the death of Amir Temur and its division into several independent states, the decline in attention to the "Great Silk Road", direct trade and embassy relations established by Timur with Western Europe slowly decreased, and then completely disappeared [2, c.54]. This was undoubtedly the beginning of the separation of Central Asia from Western Europe and the emerging world market, as well as the isolation of the inhabitants of Central Asia from the economic and social development of the peoples of the world.

Located on a significant part of the earth's surface, the ancient Silk Road is reflected in fortresses, caravanserais and cities that have retained their greatness and grandeur. Due to its location at the crossroads of the Great Silk Road in Central Asia, this road had great influence and importance. The Great Silk Road paved the way for a genuine international dialogue between countries that are the cradle of world culture, overcoming geographical and national barriers. It is well known that the land of Central Asia, its ancient cities of Urgench, Khiva, Bukhara and other ancient cities is a land of legends, and its beautiful architectural monuments are an integral part of the world cultural heritage. These historic cities, with their splendor and rich history on the Silk Road, require a lot of attention. The Great Silk Road was not only a trade route, but also had a strong influence on the socio-economic and cultural development of the peoples of Central Asia, as well as on the mutual enrichment of peoples. He made an invaluable contribution to the formation of cities and town planning, the formation of crafts and cultural layers, and stimulated social processes.

Today, the main task is to restore and improve the former status of the Great Silk Road connecting East and West. In May 1993, a meeting of representatives of the European Commission from Central Asia and the Caucasus, as well as the European Union, took place in Brussels [3, p.366]. The meeting discussed the construction of the transport corridor Europe-Caucasus-Asia TRACECA, connecting Europe and Asia. We can



say that this meeting was the first practical step in the restoration of the Great Silk Road. Today, about 50 countries of the world deliver their goods to their destinations through TRACECA. Both East and West benefit from these roads. The world market of Central Asia and the Caucasus will be wide open. Uzbekistan is located in the center of the road connecting Europe and Asia. The location of our country in the center of Central Asia and Kazakhstan has long led to the fact that the richest branches of the Great Silk Road passed through the territory of our country. Even today, most of the roads and railways connecting Central Asia with Europe and Asia pass through our country. Since ancient times, roads between countries were located in convenient places. The Great Silk Road also crossed sandy deserts, high mountains and vast steppes, connecting towns and villages. Most of today's busy highways run along the Silk Road. In September 1998, an international conference on the development of the transport corridor Europe-Caucasus-Asia (TRACECA) was held in Baku. It was attended by leaders of 32 countries and representatives of more than 10 international organizations. The first President of the Republic of Uzbekistan I.A. Karimov explained the importance of the TRACECA project as follows:

- The implementation of the TRACECA project will allow us to get access to both the western and eastern seas, and our exports and imports will be much cheaper.
- The countries of Europe and Asia will be able to enter the markets of the Caucasus and Central Asia.
- The entry into force of the TRACECA project will allow the implementation of other similar projects. This will further strengthen trade relations between Europe and the countries of the Pacific region of Asia.
- The opening of the Europe-Caucasus-Central Asia corridor will improve economic ties between the states of Central Asia and various regions within the country.
- With the full restoration of the Great Silk Road in a new context and quality, completely new sources, factors and opportunities for development will appear for the peoples of Europe and Asia. They can go even further and help solve the most serious environmental problem - the Aral Sea.
- With the full restoration of the Great Silk Road, first of all, trade relations between countries will be strengthened, trade will increase, which will positively affect economic development.
- New enterprises, modern technical stations and service points will be created, the productive forces of countries will develop. As a result of scientific and technical contacts and the introduction of new equipment and technologies, the development of science and



technology will accelerate, and the competitiveness of farms and goods will increase.

-Many new jobs will be created and they will increase and most of the unemployed will have their own jobs.

- The division of labor deepens and expands in every country and abroad, new types of labor and new occupations appear. National and international relations will change and improve.

-Conditions and factors affecting the decline in exports and imports of goods, production and sales, as well as economic growth, will continue to expand. As a result, the material life of people will improve and their material well-being will increase.

-Cultural, spiritual and educational relations between peoples, including educational tourism, will be developed and improved. The all-round development of all peoples will intensify.

## REFERENCES

1. Мамараҳимова Б.И. Буюк ипак йўли цивилизациялараро мулоқот йўли. - Т.,2010
2. Березиков Э. Легенды и тайны Узбекистана.-Т.,1991
3. Каримов И.А. Савдо уйидан Ипак йўлини тиклаш сари. Асарлар, 2-жилд.- Т.,1996
4. Bakiev, Anvar, and Zubayda Yuldasheva. "THE FIFTH CIVILIZATION OF THE ANCIENT EAST." *Theoretical & Applied Science* 8 (2020): 39-45.
5. Бакиев, Анвар Ахмедович. "О пятой цивилизация Древнего Востока." *Бюллетень науки и практики* 7.5 (2021): 541-555.
6. BAKIEV, Anvar. "Comparative Analysis of Timurids Genealogy in Historiography." *Ölümünün 600. yılında emir Timur ve mirası: uluslararası sempozyumu* 165 (2007).
7. Meligaliyevich, Qurbonov Abdusamad. "NEW UZBEKISTAN IN A NEW NEIGHBORHOOD RELATIONS WITH THE COUNTRIES OF CENTRAL ASIA." *Eurasian Journal of Academic Research* 1.6 (2021): 12-19.