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GAINING INDEPENDENCE OF THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN

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Annotation: This article gives information about how the Republic of Uzbekistan became an independent country. Uzbekistan has a day of reflection, celebration, and hope for a prosperous future built on the principles of sovereignty, unity, and progress. It is called Independence day.
Key words: Uzbekistan, independence.

On 20 June 1990, Uzbekistan declared its state sovereignty. On 31 August 1991, Uzbekistan declared independence after the failed coup attempt in Moscow. 1 September was proclaimed National Independence Day. The Soviet Union was dissolved on 26 December of that year. Our people, the international community, know what difficult challenges and difficulties Uzbekistan faced on the threshold of gaining independence and which were overcome in order to achieve active political, economic, social growth, occupying a worthy place in the world and gaining prestige in international relations.

The Declaration of Sovereignty reflects the rich historical experience accumulated over thousands of years, the traditions of state building and cultural development. With the adoption of this document, on the basis of the historical experience of state building and the established traditions of Uzbek people, ensuring every nation the right to self-determination, international legal norms, universal values and principles of democracy, Uzbekistan began to independently resolve economic and political issues.

Therefore, the Declaration of Sovereignty, expressing the age-old dreams of Uzbek people, strengthened the idea of national independence and gave a powerful impetus to the people's desire to gain true independence. This document opened the way to achieving independence not by the method of mutinies, wars and bloodshed, but on the basis of the priority of the law and the ideals of humanism. At the same time, the development by Uzbekistan of relations with the international community also played an important role. We will make a short excursion into the history of Uzbekistan's independence. On the basis of the Declaration of Sovereignty, a proposal was forwarded to create a new Constitution of Uzbekistan. It was decided to form a Constitutional Commission. Under the chairmanship of the First President Islam Karimov, a Constitutional Commission was formed, composed of statesmen, deputies, and specialists. Based on the principles of the Declaration of Sovereignty, the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan “On the fundamentals of State Independence of the Republic of Uzbekistan” and the Basic Law of the country were adopted.

Today, thanks to the consistent implementation of the principles set forth in the Declaration of Sovereignty, a socially-oriented democratic legal state with a market economy is being built in our country and a strong civil society is being formed. Our republic strives to achieve significant success in ensuring the well-being of people, raising the level and quality of people's lives, and occupying a worthy place in the world community.

Uzbekistan Independence Day is celebrated on September 1st each year. It commemorates the day in 1991 when Uzbekistan officially gained independence from the Soviet Union. This event marked the end of decades of Soviet rule and the beginning of a new era for the people of Uzbekistan. On this day, various celebrations and events take place throughout the country. These might include parades, cultural performances, fireworks, and speeches by government officials. The holiday is an opportunity for the people of Uzbekistan to come together and celebrate their nation's history, culture, and achievements.

The history of Uzbekistan's Independence Day is closely tied to the dissolution of the Soviet Union and the subsequent emergence of independent nations in the early 1990s. Here's an overview of the key events that led to the establishment of Uzbekistan's Independence Day:

- Soviet Era: Prior to gaining independence, Uzbekistan was a part of the Soviet Union. It was officially incorporated as the Uzbek Soviet Socialist Republic within the larger Soviet federation.
- Perestroika and Glasnost: In the late 1980s, the policies of perestroika (restructuring) and glasnost (openness) introduced by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev led to increased political and cultural reforms within the Soviet Union. This era saw a relaxation of censorship and greater freedom of expression, which in turn fueled nationalist sentiments within various Soviet republics, including Uzbekistan.
- Growing Nationalism: As reforms progressed, Uzbekistan experienced a resurgence of its national identity. Calls for greater autonomy and independence from the central Soviet government became stronger.
- Declaration of Sovereignty: On June 20, 1990, the Supreme Soviet of the Uzbek SSR adopted a declaration of sovereignty. This marked a significant step toward asserting Uzbekistan's self-governance and increased decision-making authority.
- Referendum on Independence: On August 31, 1991, a national referendum was held in Uzbekistan to determine the country's future status. The referendum offered voters the choice of maintaining the Soviet Union or declaring independence. An overwhelming majority, around 98% of voters, chose independence.
- Declaration of Independence: On September 1, 1991, the Republic of Uzbekistan officially declared its independence from the Soviet Union. This decision was in line with the referendum results and the broader wave of independence declarations by other Soviet republics.
- Formation of the New State: Islam Karimov, the former Communist Party leader of Uzbekistan, became the country's first President. The newly independent Uzbekistan embarked on a path of nation-building, establishing its own government, constitution, and institutions.
- Recognition and Celebration: As a newly independent nation, Uzbekistan was recognized by the international community. September 1st was chosen as the day to celebrate the country's independence, marking the official break from Soviet rule and the beginning of a new era.

Since then, September 1st has been celebrated annually as Uzbekistan Independence Day. The holiday is an occasion for the people of Uzbekistan to reflect on their history, culture, and achievements, as well as to celebrate their national identity and unity. It serves as a reminder of the country's journey toward self-determination and its contributions to the global community as

an independent nation. Independence Day was the first holiday to be officially recognized after Uzbekistan's independence in 1991, and it continues to be celebrated with great exuberance each year. In each of Uzbekistan's 12 regions, special activities reflective of local culture and traditions are prepared for the public. Nowhere is Independence Day celebrated with greater fanfare, however, than in capital city Tashkent. A spectacular show fittingly held at Mustakillik Square (Independence Square) is organized well in advance and typically includes folk performances, sports competitions, special shows and a lively fair filled with the colorful displays of local artisans. Hundreds of participants of all ages, dozens of bands, dance troupes and pop stars converge on the square for an unforgettable performance, which culminates in a spectacular fireworks show in the evening. Independence Day events vary in scale and nature across different regions of Uzbekistan. However, the common theme across all celebrations is the spirit of unity, pride, and patriotism that brings people together to honor their nation's independence and achievements. To sum up, I can say Uzbekistan Independence Day carries immense significance as a reminder of the country's journey toward freedom, democracy, and self-empowerment. It's a day of reflection, celebration, and hope for a prosperous future built on the principles of sovereignty, unity, and progress.

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