

## ADMINISTRATIVE AND TERRITORIAL DESIGN OF UZBEKISTAN

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**Annotation:** *This article deals with the country which is Uzbekistan in Central Asia known for its rich history, diverse culture, and stunning landscapes, is also characterized by a well-defined administrative and territorial structure. The country is divided into regions and autonomous republics, each with its own unique characteristics and significance. Let's delve into the administrative and territorial design of Uzbekistan to gain a better understanding of its organization and the key features of its regions and cities.*

*Geographical position of the Republic of Uzbekistan.*

Uzbekistan is a landlocked country in Central Asia, with a total area of 448,969 km<sup>2</sup>. Area – comparative: slightly larger than California, same size as Morocco, slightly smaller than Sweden.

It is bordered in the northeast by the Aral Sea, in the north by Kazakhstan, in the east by Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan and in the south by Afghanistan and in the West with Turkmenistan.

*The administrative and territorial structure of the Republic of Uzbekistan*

On its state structure, the Republic of Uzbekistan is a unitary state. The Article 70, the Section IV of Constitution on the administrative-territorial division, stipulates that the sovereign Republic of Karakalpakstan is a part of the Republic of Uzbekistan. Uzbekistan consists of 12 administrative regions (oblasts), the Autonomous Republic of Karakalpakstan and Tashkent City.

1. **Andijan Region:** Located in the eastern part of the country, known for its fertile valleys and agricultural production.
2. **Bukhara Region:** Home to the historic city of Bukhara, famous for its well-preserved architecture and Silk Road heritage.
3. **Fergana Region:** The heart of the Fergana Valley, an economically important region known for its agriculture and industry.
4. **Jizzakh Region:** A region with a mix of industry and agriculture, known for its cotton production.

5. Karakalpakstan: An autonomous republic in the west known for the Aral Sea crisis and its unique culture.

6. Khorezm Region: Located in the northwest, known for its ancient history and agricultural activities.

7. Namangan Region: A region known for its natural beauty, including mountainous landscapes and fertile valleys.

8. Navoiy Region: Home to the city of Navoiy and significant mining and industrial activities.

9. Samarkand Region: Famous for the ancient city of Samarkand, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

10. Sirdaryo Region: Located along the Syr Darya River, known for its agricultural productivity.

11. Surxondaryo Region: Known for its diverse landscapes, from mountains to deserts, and agricultural activities.

12. Tashkent Region: Surrounding the capital city, Tashkent, an important political, economic, and cultural center.

Cities:

**Tashkent:** The capital and largest city of Uzbekistan, a vibrant political, economic, and cultural hub.

**Samarkand:** Known for its breathtaking Islamic architecture and historic significance.

**Bukhara:** A UNESCO World Heritage Site renowned for its well-preserved ancient buildings.

**Khiva:** A city with a well-preserved old town showcasing its Silk Road history and architectural beauty.

**Andijan:** A city in the Fergana Valley known for its agricultural activities and cultural heritage.

**Population of Uzbekistan:** Uzbekistan's population is currently growing at a steady pace. The current population is about 37 million people, which is expected to increase over the next few decades until it peaks at 44.4 million people in 2070. By the end of the century, the population is estimated to be about 42.27 million people.

#### *Climate of Uzbekistan*

Uzbekistan's climate is arid continental. The northern region of Uzbekistan is temperate, whilst the southern region is subtropical. The country's climate is characterized by seasonal and day-to-night fluctuations in air temperatures. The best times to visit Uzbekistan are spring and autumn in order to avoid the climate extremes to which the country is subject. In particular, in most of the country (Tashkent, Samarkand, Fergana valley), you can choose April and October, while in the north-west (see the Aral Sea), you can choose the periods from mid-April to mid-May and from mid-September to mid-October.

### *Borders of Republic of Uzbekistan*

We mentioned above that Uzbekistan is bordered by five landlocked countries.

Now, we are introducing each of them:

#### *Republic of Kazakhstan*

In 2017, President Shavkat Mirziyoyev began to improve relations with Kazakhstan. 2018 was declared the "Year of Uzbekistan in Kazakhstan". On 27 November 2018, the President Nursultan Nazarbayev said: "Today our relationship is at a good level. We meet with Shavkat Mirziyoyev several times a year and discuss all pressing issues in the field of economic and political cooperation". At the moment the President of Kazakhstan is Qosim-Jo'mart To'qayev. The capital of this country is Astana.

#### *Republic of Kyrgyzstan*

Uzbekistan dominates southern Kyrgyzstan both economically and politically, based on the large Uzbek population in that region of Kyrgyzstan and on economic and geographic conditions. Much of Kyrgyzstan depends entirely on Uzbekistan for natural gas; on several occasions, former president of Uzbekistan Islam Karimov has achieved political ends by shutting pipelines or by adjusting terms of delivery. The president of Kyrgyzstan is Sadr Jabborov. The capital of Kyrgyzstan is Bishkek.

#### *Republic of Tajikistan*

Five years ago, relations between Uzbekistan and Tajikistan entered a new stage of their development. Tajikistan supports the new regional policy of Uzbekistan. According to foreign experts, the constructive nature of Uzbek-Tajik relations in this area can have a positive impact on regional efforts to ensure water security in Central Asia. The capital of Tajikistan is Dushanbe. The president of this country is Emomali Rakhmon.

#### *Republic of Turkmenistan*

The Republic of Uzbekistan has an embassy in Ashgabat. Turkmenistan has an embassy in Tashkent. Both countries were previously subordinated republics of the Soviet Union as Turkmen Soviet Socialist Republic and Uzbek Soviet Socialist Republic before its collapse in 1991. The Embassy of Turkmenistan in Tashkent was opened in 1996. The Embassy of Uzbekistan in Ashgabat was opened in 1995. The president of this country is Sardor Berdimukhammedov. The capital of Turkmenistan is Ashgabat.

#### *Republic of Afghanistan*

The territories of Afghanistan and Uzbekistan were under a single control during the period of the Samanid, Ghaznavid and Timurid dynasties. Uzbekistan began playing a larger regional role in trade, cultural connections, and as a mediator in the Afghan conflict. In 2017 the two countries signed more than 40 export agreements. The last president of the Islamic Republic, Ashraf Ghani. The capital of Afghanistan is Kobul.

In conclusion, Uzbekistan's administrative and territorial design reflects its diverse geography, history, and economic activities. The regions and cities of Uzbekistan each contribute to the country's rich tapestry of culture and heritage, making it a fascinating

destination to explore and a complex administrative system to govern. Understanding the layout of Uzbekistan's administrative divisions provides insights into the country's development, governance, and unique regional characteristics. The administrative and territorial design of Uzbekistan represents a balance between central governance and regional autonomy, creating a harmonious system that promotes diversity and unity. The cultural richness of cities like Khiva and Andijan, coupled with the strategic planning of regions like Fergana and Navoiy, exemplifies the cohesive mosaic that defines Uzbekistan. By recognizing and appreciating this administrative framework, we gain insight into the intricate tapestry of traditions, landscapes, and governance that shape the nation's identity.

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