

UZBEK NATIONAL CUSTOMS AND TRADITIONS

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Abstract: *Traditional Uzbek clothes are a part of rich cultural traditions and lifestyle of Uzbek people. In urban places it is uncommon to meet people in traditional Uzbek clothes, now it is worn on traditional festivals and holidays. But in rural places it is still a part of everyday and holiday garments.*


Keywords: *national dress, festivities, chapan, kerchief, tubeteika, kuylak, ishton, yakhtak, khan-atlas, satin, puppet, national heroes.*

Uzbekistan, a country rich in history and culture, boasts a diverse tapestry of national customs and traditions that reflect its unique heritage. From the ancient Silk Road to the modern era, the customs of the Uzbek people have evolved while preserving their core values and cultural identity. This essay explores the significance of these customs and traditions in shaping the social fabric of Uzbekistan and argues for their importance in contemporary society.

Uzbekistan's location at the crossroads of Central Asia has made it a melting pot of various cultures and influences. Historically, it was a vital stop on the Silk Road, facilitating trade and cultural exchange. This historical backdrop is crucial for understanding the customs that have emerged over centuries. For instance, the Uzbek language, which belongs to the Turkic family, has absorbed words from Persian, Arabic, and Russian, showcasing the country's diverse influences. The customs surrounding hospitality, family, and celebrations are deeply rooted in this rich history.

Traditional Uzbek clothes are very bright, beautiful and cosy. Uzbek clothes are a part of rich cultural traditions and lifestyle of Uzbek people. In urban places it is uncommon to meet people in traditional Uzbek clothes, now it is worn on traditional festivities and holidays. But in rural places it is still a part of everyday and holiday garments. The basic of national men's suit is a chapan, the quilted robe, tied with a kerchief. Traditional Uzbek woman's suit consist of plain khan-atlas tunic dress and wide trousers. Holiday garments were made of satin fabric richly embroidered with golden thread. Uzbek weddings can last several days. They often include traditional music dance and rich dastarxan. Uzbek people





make money and spend it all for their weddings. This is one of the traditions of us. Uzbek dolls dressed in national costumes have become a traditional Uzbekistan souvenir, which can be used not only as a toy, but also as an interesting, colorful details of the interior. Mainly, they represent different heroes or national characters of literary works.

The basis of national men's suit is a chapan, the quilted robe, tied with a kerchief. Traditional men's cap is tubeteika. Kuylak is the men's straight cut undershirt. Ishton is men's wide trousers, narrowed at ankles. Traditional footwear is high-boots, made of thin leather. Shirts were worn everywhere, but men from the Fergana Valley and Tashkent region wear a yakhtak, a wrap shirt. Both of these types were sewn from homespun cotton cloth and feature a moderate aesthetics in a form of a decorated miniature braiding-jiyak, stitched along the collar. Belts for gala dresses were normally very smart, made of velvet or embroidered, with silver figured metal plates and buckles. Everyday shirts are tied with long sashes.

Traditional Uzbek women's suit consists of plain khan-atlas tunic-dress and wide trousers. Holiday garments were made of satin fabric richly embroidered with golden thread. Woman's headdress consists of three elements: a skull-cup, kerchief and turban. An essential part of traditional holiday garments of Uzbek women are gold and silver jewellery: earrings, bracelets, necklaces.

Headdress is one of the main elements in the traditional Uzbek clothing. The national headwear in many countries of Central Asia, including Uzbekistan is a tubeteika. Tubeteika is derived from the Turkic word "tube", which means "top, peak". Tubeteika is worn by everybody: men, women, and children. Only elder women do not wear tubeteikas.

According to experts, dolls not for only entertain the child but also for bring up children in a spirit of respect to our traditions and customs. At the moment a special attention is paid to the production of dolls reflecting our customs and traditions in our country. First of all, they are in a high quality and affordable. Even tourist from other countries interest them and want to show their compatriots.

One of the most prominent aspects of Uzbek culture is hospitality. Uzbeks take immense pride in their ability to welcome guests, which is considered a sacred duty. When a visitor arrives, they are greeted with warm smiles, traditional bread called "non," and fragrant tea. This custom highlights the importance of community and interconnectedness within Uzbek society.

Family plays a central role in the lives of Uzbeks, with strong ties that often extend beyond the nuclear family. Respect for elders is paramount, and it is common for families to gather for meals and celebrations. Events such as weddings and birthdays are grand affairs, steeped in tradition. The preparation for these events often involves the entire family, reinforcing bonds and ensuring that customs are passed down through generations.





Uzbekistan is known for its vibrant festivals and celebrations, which are integral to its cultural identity. One of the most significant holidays is Navruz, the Persian New Year, celebrated on March 21st. Navruz symbolizes the arrival of spring and renewal. Families come together to prepare special dishes, clean their homes, and participate in various cultural activities. The holiday is marked by traditional music, dance, and the sharing of meals, fostering a sense of unity among the people.

Another important celebration is the wedding ceremony, which can last several days. The festivities include elaborate rituals such as the "Kelin Salom," where the bride is formally introduced to her new family. The intricate attire, traditional songs, and dances reflect the richness of Uzbek culture. These celebrations not only mark significant life events but also serve to strengthen community ties and cultural identity.

Uzbek national customs are also evident in the craftsmanship and arts that flourish within the country. The art of carpet weaving, for example, is a time-honored tradition that has been passed down through generations. Each carpet tells a story, with intricate patterns and vibrant colors symbolizing various aspects of Uzbek life. Similarly, ceramics, embroidery, and silk production are deeply embedded in the culture, showcasing the creativity and skill of the Uzbek people.


These crafts are not merely functional items; they represent the soul of the nation. They are often incorporated into traditional ceremonies and are used as gifts during weddings and other celebrations, further emphasizing their significance in expressing cultural identity.

Islam plays a central role in the lives of many Uzbeks, influencing various customs and traditions. Religious practices are intertwined with daily life, and important events such as Ramadan and Eid are observed with great reverence. During Ramadan, the fast is broken with communal meals, reinforcing the values of sharing and generosity. Eids are marked by prayers, feasts, and charitable acts, emphasizing the importance of community and compassion.

However, the relationship between religion and culture in Uzbekistan is complex. While Islam provides a framework for moral and ethical behavior, many customs are rooted in pre-Islamic traditions. This blend of beliefs contributes to a rich cultural landscape that is uniquely Uzbek.

In conclusion, Uzbek national customs and traditions are vital in preserving the cultural identity of the Uzbek people. They reflect a rich history shaped by diverse influences and continue to play an essential role in contemporary society. The values of hospitality, family, community, and craftsmanship are not only cherished in Uzbekistan but also serve as a reminder of the importance of cultural heritage in an increasingly globalized world. Understanding and appreciating these customs is essential for fostering respect and





admiration for the diverse cultures that enrich our global community. So it is important to mention that Uzbek national dresses are a whole layer of Uzbek culture which is given much attention in modern Uzbekistan. Unlike the other clothes of the European people having avolved in everyday life, is still used by most of the rural population. Even European people dress it. Today dolls dressed in national costumes have become a traditional Uzbekistan souvenir which can be used not only as a toy, but also as an interesting, colorful details of the interior. Mainly, they represent different heroes or national characters of literary works. The more children play with dolls the more they want to like them.

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