

EDUCATION SYSTEM OF UZBEKISTAN

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Annotation: *In this article you can read about education system, universities and institutions in Republic of Uzbekistan*

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In Uzbekistan, secondary education is divided into two stages. The first stage includes nine years of compulsory schooling with the same programs all over Uzbekistan. The second stage covers education and vocational training after nine years. It includes general secondary education and specialized secondary education. Young people receive general secondary education while staying in school for the tenth and eleventh grades. Upon successful completion, they get a Certificate of Complete Secondary Education..¹

During 30 years of independence deep structural and substantial reforms and transformations in the system of higher education has taken place in the Republic of Uzbekistan. Main purpose of these reforms were to provide the adequate place of the Republic of Uzbekistan in the world community. Indeed, it was impossible to provide the independent economy, social and political stability, development of intellectual and spiritual potential of the nation without rebuilding the system of education and upbringing. The first President of Independent Republic of Uzbekistan Islam Karimov, understanding this reality from the first days of independence, stated the necessity of deep reforms in the system of education and upbringing of new generation. The state policy in the field of education that could transform it into the priority sphere has been developed and conducted.

Thus, beginning from 1991 the system of education has been reconstructed according to the requirements of independent state meeting the needs of the new era. This process was carried out step-by-step in correlation with the types and forms of education– pre-school education, secondary school education, secondary specialised, professional (vocational) education, higher education.

Specialized secondary education is provided through a network of schools:

¹ "National library" Toshkent. 2005. 240p.

Professionalno-Tehnicheskoye Uchilish (PTU or Professional Technical School). Graduates receive a Junior Specialist Diploma equal to a Certificate of Complete Secondary Education.

Tehnikum (Technical College). Graduates receive a Junior Specialist Diploma equal to a Certificate of Complete Secondary Education.

Lytsei (Lyceum) or various training courses offered by higher education institutions or industry. Graduates receive a Junior Specialist Diploma or Diploma of Academic Lyceum equal to a Certificate of Complete Secondary Education.

In 2017, education reforms in Uzbekistan changed from 12-year program to 11 years after a previous reform disappointed and troubled parents and children. Eleven years of primary and secondary education are obligatory, starting at age seven. The rate of attendance in those grades is high, although the figure is significantly lower in rural areas than in urban centers. Preschool registration has decreased significantly since 1991.

. The official literacy rate is 99 percent. However, in the post-Soviet era educational standards have fallen. Funding and training have not been sufficient to effectively educate the expanding younger cohorts of the population. Between 1992 and 2004, government spending on education dropped from 12 percent to 6.3 percent of gross domestic product.[1] In 2006 education's share of the budget increased to 8.1 percent. Lack of budgetary support has been more noticeable at the primary and secondary levels, as the government has continued to subsidize university students."²

Between 1992 and 2001, university attendance dropped from 19 percent of the college-age population to 6.4 percent. The three largest of Uzbekistan's 63 institutions of higher learning are in Nukus, Samarkand, and Tashkent, with all three being state funded.

Private schools are forbidden as a result of a government crackdown on the establishment of Islamic fundamentalist (Wahhabi) schools. However, in 1999 the government-supported Tashkent Islamic University was founded for the teaching of Islam.

Among higher educational institutions, the highest rated at domestic level are Tashkent Financial Institute and Westminster International University in Tashkent. The first one was established by the initiative of the first president of Uzbekistan in 1991. Later in 2002, in collaboration with the University of Westminster (UK) and "UMID" Foundation of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Westminster International University in Tashkent was established. Currently these universities are regarded as the best in its sphere of education both in Uzbekistan and Central Asian countries.

² ziyo.uz.com

In 2007, Uzbekistan Banking Association (UBA) had a joint venture with Management Development Institute of Singapore, Singapore and set up MDIST university in Tashkent.

In 2009, Turin Polytechnic University in Tashkent was established from the collaboration among Polytechnic University of Turin, UZAVTOSANOAT, and the Uzbek Ministry of Higher Education. TTPU offers bachelor's programs in Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, Civil Engineering and Architecture and Computer Engineering.

In 2010 the British School of Tashkent was established to provide a high-achieving British school where children learn in a secure and stimulating environment and children of all nationalities are exposed to the English National Curriculum. The school is also able to deliver all local Uzbek curriculum requirements.

Higher private and entrepreneurial education is developing in Uzbekistan. In 2020 TEAM University was established as private entrepreneurial university by the Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan.³ Before the independence 42 higher educational institutions, including three state Universities (Tashkent, Samarkand and Karakalpak), 14 pedagogical or language, 9 engineering-technical, 3 agricultural, 7 medicalpharmaceutical, 3 culture and arts institutions, as well as one economical, cooperative, physical culture and sports were functioning in the republic.

Almost half of these institutions were situated in Tashkent (19), the rest were in Samarkand-5, Andijan-4, Bukhara-3. Thus, the third of higher educational institutions of the republic were situated in four cities.

Existing structural system of higher education and fields of its activity didn't meet the needs and requirements of economic, national, naturalintellectual, spiritual potential of the republic. Preparation of specialists on actual specializations directed to material production were mostly carried out in centralized higher educational institutions. Curricula and teaching programs on the subjects taught in the educational institutions of the republic were approved by the centre-Moscow, and it was not allowed to make any changes taking into account the regional requirements. The way to provide the priority of education, transform the education into the democratic, humanitarian, create intellectual-social oriented system capable to open all the possibilities of the person was chosen during the first years of independence.

Since 1991 the structural reconstruction of higher educational institutions has been commenced. Three independent institutions – the Tashkent State Technical University, the Tashkent Chemical-Technological Institute and the Tashkent Architecture and Building Institute were established on the basis of the big Tashkent

³ "Books on Teacher Education and Teaching Methodology for Students and Teachers" 2016. – 278 p.

Polytechnic Institute. The Tashkent State University of Economics and the Tashkent Financial Institute were established on the basis of the Tashkent Institute of Public Economy. The Tashkent State Institute of Oriental Studies became independent from Tashkent State University. In 1992 on the bases of branches of higher educational institutions of Tashkent were established the Jizzakh Polytechnic Institute, the Karshi EngineeringEconomic Institute, the Namangan Engineering-Economic Institute, the Navoi State Pedagogical Institute, and on the bases of the appropriate regional pedagogical institutions were established Andijan, Bukhara, Gulistan, Karshi, Namangan, Ferghana, Urgench Universities. The status of University were also given to the Tashkent State Institute of Foreign Languages, the Tashkent Institute of Agriculture. New higher educational institutions were established. The University of World Economy and Diplomacy was set up to prepare economists and diplomatic personnel of international level. The Tashkent Islam University prepares specialists on Islam and rules of Islam. Each higher educational institution had a specific programme of reconstruction of form and content of education according to its new status.”⁴

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