

Cooperation in the Field of Education Between Uzbekistan and the Republic of Korea

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Abstract: This article analyzes the issues of active foreign policy of the Republic of Uzbekistan during the years of independence. In particular, the analysis of the history of educational cooperation between the Republic of Korea, one of the developed countries of East Asia, and the two countries aims to draw conclusions from it.

Keywords: oriental studies university, Korean studies, KOICA, Sejong hospital, UNICEF.



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INTRODUCTION

The peoples of Uzbekistan and South Korea have ancient ties of friendship, their culture and mentality are similar. Koreans who came to our country by the will of fate have become full and active members of our society. The large Korean diaspora plays an important role in supporting friendly relations between our countries and bringing our peoples closer together. These relations meet the requirements of the times, as can be seen from the significant positive results of the reforms being implemented in Uzbekistan, which allow for integration into the world community.

During the years of independence, friendly relations between the Uzbek and Korean peoples have developed anew. In particular, the scope of relations in the fields of science, culture and art is expanding. Korean cultural centers and educational institutions for studying the Korean language operate in our country. As is known, in recent years, our country has been undergoing extensive reforms and modernization of all spheres of social life. It is worth noting that the education sector has also been involved in these processes. Today, the development of the education sector in the republic is one of the urgent tasks. Based on national and universal values, our rich material and spiritual heritage, and the achievements of modern science, economy, technology and engineering¹.

The scope of cooperation with the Republic of Korea in order to build an education system is expanding. One of the most important areas of development of the education system is international cooperation in this area, the purpose of which is the integration of the education system of Uzbekistan with the world education space. International cooperation in the field of

¹ Almaronov O.Q. O'zbekistonning Xitoy, Koreya Respublikasi, Yaponiya, Vetnam va Malayziya davlatlari bilan hamkorlik aloqalarida xalq diplomatiyasining o'rni (1991-2017 yy.). – Toshkent, 2021. – B. 19.

education is carried out on the basis of the laws of the Republic of Uzbekistan and international agreements, treaties and conventions. In reforming education, it is necessary to use the experience of developed countries in this area, taking into account world standards, its place in the development of the state.

The application of the experience of modernization of the education system of the Republic of Korea in our country will inevitably lead to positive results. The Republic of Korea, as one of the unique countries of the Asia-Pacific region, has been attracting the attention of a number of researchers. The essence of this is that this country, having mastered the achievements of post-industrial civilization and preserving its traditional culture, is trying to implement political and socio-economic reforms in harmony with its culture, traditional values, and Eastern worldviews. UNICEF experts have assessed the level of growth of the country's education system as the most effective among industrialized countries².

A Korean Education Center has been operating in Tashkent since 1992. Korean Language and Culture Centers have been opened at the Uzbek State University of World Languages and the Samarkand State Institute of Foreign Languages, and an Information Technology Center has been opened at the Tashkent University of Information Technologies³. Tashkent State University of Oriental Studies has a Korean Studies Faculty, where major work and projects are being carried out to train qualified personnel. Vocationally oriented educational and methodological complexes are being created. University students study at prestigious universities in Korea on grants. Qualified teachers of Tashkent State University of Oriental Studies continue to improve their skills in the Republic of Korea. The project to open the Uzbekistan Korea Vocational Training Center in Tashkent has become another success of cooperation in the field of education. Every year, 360 young men and women study there in the fields of computer assembly, graphics, electrical engineering, agricultural machinery repair, and car service.

On August 13, 2007, Resolution No. 170 of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On measures to establish a vocational training center in Tashkent with the participation of the Korean International Cooperation Agency (KOICA)" was adopted⁴. The main goal of this decision was to create conditions for the training and retraining of the temporarily unemployed population, including those who graduated from general education schools and academic lyceums and did not have permanent jobs. South Korea is a country characterized by a weakening of state regulation. Today, decentralization, deregulation, and privatization are the main tasks of the national government. Such major goals entail profound social changes and require new approaches to early childhood education. The sector has expanded due to the need for a cheap, mainly female, flexible workforce, which in turn requires safe childcare centers for children. Traditionally, raising children has been considered the sole responsibility of the family, and state support has traditionally been minimal⁵.

DISCUSSION

The next direction of KOICA is the provision of technical equipment to the republican state structures. These are computers, various equipment, machines and many other equipment. In 2005, technical equipment worth 1,700 thousand US dollars was provided. They were provided to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Emergency Situations and universities. According

² Shermuhamedov B. O'zbekiston - Koreya Respublikasi: mustahkam hamkorlik ta'lim ravnaqi uchun qanotdir. Xalq so'zi, 2021-yil, 24-dekabr, – B. 3.

³ A'loxonov M. O'zbekiston va Janubiy Koreya davlatlari o'rtasida ta'lim sohasidagi hamkorlik rivojlanishining tarixiy tahlili // № 2019 (22) 5. – B. 39-41.

⁴ Abdujabborov Sh. Innovatsion ta'limni rivojlantirish sohasida Koreya respublikasi va O'zbekiston Respublikasi o'rtasida hamkorlik // O'tmishga nazar. №SI-3. 2021. – B. 133-146.

⁵ A'loxonov M. O'zbekiston va Janubiy Koreya davlatlari o'rtasida ta'lim sohasidagi hamkorlik rivojlanishining tarixiy tahlili // № 2019 (22) 5. – B. 39-41.

to the head of the organization, Song In-yol, the most important direction is the provision of assistance in the form of projects. In 1999, KOICA sent several volunteers to Uzbekistan⁶.

It supplied computers and printers to three lyceums in Tashkent, and assisted the University of World Economy and Diplomacy in opening a Korean-language auditorium. The Joint Declaration on Strategic Partnership signed in 2006 and the Joint Statement on Comprehensive Deepening of Strategic Partnership Relations adopted in 2017 are evidence of the parties' commitment to cooperation, friendship, and mutual trust. In addition to interstate agreements between the Republic of Korea and the Republic of Uzbekistan to provide social support to the population and further improve the education and healthcare systems, social support programs carried out by sponsoring organizations are also yielding high results. During 2014-2017, 3,467 citizens of our country underwent free medical examinations by the KOICA organization and Ewha Womans University⁷.

In addition, the scope of relations in the social sphere is expanded by the fact that in 2010-2017, more than 1,000 young children in Tashkent, Tashkent and Navoi regions were treated free of charge by the Inha University Medical Center of the Republic of Korea. In the development of relations in this area, the Uzbekistan Foundation "For a Healthy Generation" is implementing a lot of work in cooperation with the Korean sponsoring organizations "KOFIN", "JCI", "Sejong Hospital", "Yonsei University Severance Hospital", "Soo and Jin Cooperation", "Ewha Womans University", "Save the Children Vision Care Center for the Blind" and "Shin Dong Resources Co Ltd". Work in this area not only gives impetus to positive changes in the social life of our country, but also contributes to the further development of warm humanitarian relations between the two countries⁸.

More than 30 KOICA specialists and 450 volunteers have implemented their mission in Uzbekistan in the fields of education (teaching the Korean language), information and communication technologies, sports, healthcare and other areas. To date, KOICA has offices in each region of our country and is carrying out its activities. Today, the development of the education sector in the republic is one of the urgent tasks. It is worth noting the ongoing cooperation with the Republic of Korea in order to build an education system based on national and universal values, our rich material and spiritual heritage, and the achievements of modern science, economy, technology and engineering⁹.

This training center provides free retraining for a period of no more than 1 year in mechanical engineering production technology (turner, milling machine operator, programmer for programmed machines, operator for programmed machines); electricity, electronics and automation (electrician for electrical installation work, electrician for repair, adjustment and maintenance of electronic devices, electrician for installation, adjustment, programming and automation of electrical devices); information technologies (design and computer graphics designer, web programmer, master for adjustment and repair of office equipment, installer of computer equipment and computer networks)¹⁰.

⁶ Jumaev T.X. O'zbekiston va Janubiy Koreya davlatlari o'rtasidagi ijtimoiy-madaniy sohalarda xamkorlikning rivojlanish tendensiyalari. – Toshkent. 2020. – B. 15-16.

⁷ Sun Don Gi. O'zbekiston Respublikasi va Janubiy Koreya iqtisodiy va madaniy aloqalar hamda istiqbolli rejalar. Dis.tarix fanlari nomzodi. – Toshkent: 2000. –B. 18.

⁸ Shermuhamedov B. O'zbekiston - Koreya Respublikasi: mustahkam hamkorlik ta'lim ravnaqi uchun qanotdir. Xalq so'zi, 2021-yil, 24-dekabr, – B. 3.

⁹ Abdulleeva Z. Koica tashkiloti va uning O'zbekistondagi faoliyati. Yosh olimlarilmiy-amaliy konferensiyasi. 2022. – B. 137-139.

¹⁰ Sun Don Gi. O'zbekiston Respublikasi va Janubiy Koreya iqtisodiy va madaniy aloqalar hamda istiqbolli rejalar. Dis.tarix fanlari nomzodi. – Toshkent: 2000. – B. 19.

ANALYSIS AND RESULTS

The first electronic library of scientific and technical literature in Uzbekistan has been launched in Tashkent in cooperation with the Republic of Korea. The electronic library of scientific and technical literature was created on the basis of the "Knowledge" information and library center in Tashkent, based on the South Korean grant and with the direct assistance of the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), in accordance with the resolutions of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated June 20, 2006 "On the organization of providing the population of the republic with an information library" and "On the creation of an electronic library of scientific and technical literature with the involvement of a grant from the Korean government" dated August 26, 2008, and Order No. 259 of the Uzbekistan Agency for Communication and Informatization dated September 5, 2008, in order to further deepen reforms in the field of information and librarianship and implement Uzbekistan-Korea cooperation. The project was jointly implemented by the Republican Information Library Center of the Academy of Sciences of Uzbekistan and Korean specialists in 2008–2009. The complete renovation and decoration of the electronic library building was carried out by the Agency for Communications and Informatization of Uzbekistan, and the provision and installation of the library with computer equipment, furniture, equipment were carried out by Koreans. Electronic library specialists in the Republic of Korea have been improving their skills in such areas as technical and managerial management of the electronic library, and the formation of electronic resources. The continuity and coherence of the content of the professional education program for the bachelor's and master's stages of higher education, the mechanism and basis of the quality of education - State Educational Standards - have been created and introduced into the education system¹¹.

The information and material and technical base, which provides the required quality and level of education, which guarantees the sustainable development and functioning of the higher education system, has been raised to a new level, a number of works have been carried out to create new generation teaching aids. Foreign investments have entered the higher education system, international relations have expanded and strengthened. All this is aimed at ensuring that the provision of higher education institutions with highly qualified personnel is carried out on the basis of completely new requirements and has a positive impact on raising the social status and prestige of pedagogical activity¹².

Applying the experience of modernization of the education system of the Republic of Korea in our country is bound to bring positive results. The Republic of Korea, as one of the unique countries of the Asia-Pacific region, has been attracting the attention of a number of researchers. The essence of this is that this country, having mastered the achievements of post-industrial civilization, seeks to preserve its traditional culture and is trying to implement political and socio-economic reforms in harmony with its culture, traditional values, and Eastern worldview. UNICEF experts have rated the education system of this country as the most effective among industrialized countries. The government of the Republic of Korea is pursuing a tested and very effective policy in the education system. In Korea, great attention is paid to the computerization of schools and ensuring free access to the Internet.

A similar situation is developing in Uzbekistan. The state is allocating large financial resources to the rapid provision of educational institutions with information technologies. Great attention is paid to providing schools with the necessary equipment, textbooks and sports equipment. New interactive teaching methods are being used, buildings are being built that meet the requirements of the new era, and some are being renovated. However, despite this, the need for the time is to

¹¹ Shermuhamedov B. O'zbekiston - Koreya Respublikasi: mustahkam hamkorlik ta'lim ravnaqi uchun qanotdir. Xalq so'zi, 2021-yil, 24-dekabr, – B. 3.

¹² A'loxonov M. O'zbekiston va Janubiy Koreya davlatlari o'rtasida ta'lim sohasidagi hamkorlik rivojlanishining tarixiy tahlili // № 2019 (22) 5. – B. 39-41.

introduce foreign experience in solving some problems, developing strategic plans for the reconstruction of the school system, and in financing issues. For example, in South Korea, the salary of a young teacher is 2000-2500 US dollars, which is one and a half times higher than the average salary in the country¹³.

Modernizing the education system largely means informatization. And implementing innovations such as distance learning is impossible without the introduction of information technologies. One of the pressing problems in this area is the lack of highly qualified personnel for the effective use of high technologies. If we talk about using the experience of South Korea, then this country trains 5 thousand engineers every year, and their total number in information technologies currently exceeds 500 thousand. South Korea's work in the direction of integrating education and science is also commendable. This creates the basis for implementing a unified scientific, technical and educational policy in the country. Of course, the Republic of Korea is not a leader in this area, but it can be taken as an example. Another important thing in Korea is that the country widely uses foreign experience and tries to attract foreign scientists¹⁴.

It was agreed to further strengthen strategic partnership relations in order to expand cooperation between the two countries and friendly relations between our peoples. Uzbekistan and South Korea have been effectively cooperating in the fields of information technologies, digital medicine, education, and culture. The experience of South Korea is being widely introduced into the preschool education system of our country. The worldview and traditions of the Uzbek and Korean peoples are similar. Our countries have supported each other in the most difficult times. Today, more than 180 thousand Korean diaspora living in Uzbekistan has become an integral part of our multinational society. The Association of Korean Cultural Centers and its branches in the regions are operating. The Association is actively working to preserve and develop the Korean language, culture, customs and traditions in our country and abroad¹⁵.

In 2017, a memorial monument was opened in the "Friendship" park in our capital on the occasion of the 80th anniversary of the residence of representatives of the Korean nation in Uzbekistan. One of the central streets of our capital was named after Seoul. In order to preserve and develop the spiritual and cultural heritage of the Korean people, the government of the Republic of Korea completed the construction of the House of Korean Culture in Tashkent. This facility will be another bright symbol of the eternal friendship of our peoples. Higher educational institutions of our country have established cooperation with more than 45 scientific and research institutions in South Korea. Four branches of universities of the Republic of Korea have opened in our capital¹⁶.

Cooperation between Uzbekistan and South Korea in the educational system is also developing. Tashkent State University of Oriental Studies has established extensive cooperation relations with a number of prestigious higher educational institutions of the Republic of Korea. Officials of Tashkent University of Oriental Studies were on an official visit to the Republic of Korea and managed to conclude a number of agreements aimed at the development of education and science. In particular, an agreement was reached with Kyungdong University to further expand the currently existing 2+2 joint program in Korean studies, and to establish a 1+3 joint program in Korean economy and tourism, in addition to the Korean language, within the framework of the program from the 2024-2025 academic year. The signing of a cooperation program with the Korea

¹³ Jumaev T.X. O'zbekiston va Janubiy Koreya davlatlari o'rtasidagi ijtimoiy-madaniy sohalarda xamkorlikning rivojlanish tendensiyalari. – Toshkent. 2020. – B. 18.

¹⁴ Abdulleyeva Z. Koica tashkiloti va uning O'zbekistondagi faoliyati. Yosh olimlarilmiy-amaliy konferensiyasi. 2022. – B. 137-139.

¹⁵ Jumaev T.X. O'zbekiston va Janubiy Koreya davlatlari o'rtasidagi ijtimoiy-madaniy sohalarda xamkorlikning rivojlanish tendensiyalari. – Toshkent. 2020. – B. 17.

¹⁶ Shermuhamedov B. O'zbekiston - Koreya Respublikasi: mustahkam hamkorlik ta'lim ravnaqi uchun qanotdir. Xalq so'zi, 2021-yil, 24-dekabr, – B. 3.

International Cooperation Agency for 2022-2024, a cooperation program between the Ministries of Foreign Affairs for 2022-2024, as well as memorandums on establishing dialogue in the energy sector, developing "smart cities", financing through the Economic Development Assistance Fund, and rare metals, copper and their alloys clearly demonstrates the essence and importance of the visit¹⁷.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, it is advisable to use not only the experience of the Republic of Korea, but also the experience of other advanced countries of the world in the field of education. Today, education should be transformed not into a spending sector, but into the most important productive force of society. That is, education should be competitive, able to attract serious financial resources. Starting from the first stage of primary school, education should be directed towards the development of the economy and the state as a whole. It is necessary not to be limited only to obtaining knowledge, but also to apply the knowledge gained in practice and try to bring benefits to society. In order to develop cooperation in the field of training qualified personnel, cooperation documents have been signed with Tashkent Information Technologies and 4 leading higher educational institutions in South Korea in the field of information technologies - Inha University, Seoul National University of Science and Technology, Yongam University and Kyung-hee University. These cooperation agreements are the basis for the exchange of theoretical and practical experiences in education and ICT, strengthening teachers' modern knowledge in the field, effective use of necessary materials and manuals in the educational process, and the implementation of a number of educational activities.

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¹⁷ Asfandiyorovich, N. F. (2022, May). History in education of Uzbekistan 20-30 years of the XX century. In International Conference on Research Identity, Value and Ethics (pp. 419-422).