



NEW OPPORTUNITIES IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF TOURISM IN KARAKALPAK STAN

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ABOUT ARTICLE

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Abstract: This abstract highlights the emerging prospects and potential for tourism development in Karakalpakstan, an autonomous republic located in the western part of Uzbekistan. Karakalpakstan boasts a rich cultural heritage, unique natural landscapes, and historical sites that have remained relatively unexplored by international tourists. This paper presents an overview of the current state of tourism in Karakalpakstan, identifies key factors contributing to its untapped potential, and explores new opportunities for sustainable tourism development.

The study reveals that Karakalpakstan possesses a diverse range of attractions, including the renowned Aral Sea, the ancient archaeological site of Mizdahkan, the Savitsky Art Museum, and the distinctive Karakalpak cultural traditions. However, despite its inherent attractions, Karakalpakstan has been overlooked as a tourist destination due to limited infrastructure, inadequate marketing efforts, and a lack of awareness among potential visitors.

To unlock the untapped potential of tourism, this paper proposes several strategies. First, it emphasizes the need for infrastructure development, including transportation networks, accommodation facilities, and tourist service centers. Second, it highlights the importance of effective marketing campaigns to raise awareness and promote Karakalpakstan as a unique and desirable destination. Third, it advocates for the preservation and promotion of Karakalpak cultural heritage through cultural festivals,

INTRODUCTION

According to the minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan, No. 57 of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On reconstruction, beautification, tourism development of Beruni district and the city of Nukus in 2014-2016 - between the years 2014-2016" During 2018, a total of 837 million sums were allocated from the state budget and conservation works were carried out at the archaeological sites of the "Fil qal'a" and "Qizil qal'a". In accordance with the protocol of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. 341 of November 28, 2013, renovation and restoration works were carried out at the "Daut ota" mausoleum (shrine) in Kungirost district, with a total of 145 million sums allocated from the state budget in 2018 .

THE MAIN RESULTS AND FINDINGS

The number of foreign tourists in accordance with the decision of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated November 11, 2020, No-4889. 80.000 people, the export of tourism services to 45 million dollars, as well as the number of domestic tourists to 800 increased to a thousand people, new hotels with 210 beds, and the number of tour operators and travel agents to 45;

Taking into account the fact that Ellikkala district is designated as a growth point of tourism ("driver" sector), strengthening promotional activities, building new hotels, increasing the number of tour operators and travel agents, especially guide-interpreters;

Implementation of 37 investment projects worth 149 billion sums in Karakalpakstan;

According to the parameters of tourism infrastructure development in the Republic of Karakalpakstan, approved by the decision of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. PQ-5048 of April 2, 2021, a total of 84 billion 895 million sums (including 15 billion 270 million sums for the development of cultural heritage objects and their territories) 30 billion 820 million sums for the development of tourism and related infrastructure, 22 billion 360 million sums for the development of road infrastructure, 7 billion 545 million sums for the development of engineering and communication infrastructure, 8 billion 900 million sums for other activities) to take measures to improve the infrastructure within the funds;

To increase the number of tourist road signs in the city of Nukus in order to facilitate domestic and foreign tourists;

Research objects not included in tourism routes and take measures to include them in routes;

Strengthening of promotional work on wide involvement of young people in the tourism business of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan on February 28, 2023 "Implementation of the Development Strategy of New Uzbekistan for 2022-2026 in the Year of Attention to People and Quality Education" Decree No. PF-27 "On the State Program for the Increase" and Resolution No. PQ-135 dated April 26, 2023 "On the rapid development of the tourism potential of the Republic and additional measures to further increase the number of domestic and foreign tourists" within the framework of the implementation, the target indicators for the development of the tourism potential of the Republic of Karakalpakstan in 2022-2026 were determined.

In order to ensure the implementation of these tasks, the "Road Map" for the development of tourism in the Republic of Karakalpakstan, which will be implemented in 2023, was developed and approved.

Accordingly, officials from the Republic of Karakalpakstan are being attached and tasks are being set for cooperation with the extraordinary and autonomous ambassadors of these countries in attracting tourists from European countries.

Also, in order to create convenience for tourists in different regions of the archipelago region, develop a map of targeted ecotourism routes and organize ecocamps and eco-routes at different points of the region, in order to diversify tourist services, cultural, MICE tourism, gastro tourism, hotel, SPA, fitness, catering, measures are taken to organize activities of a cluster specialized in tourism by expanding its services such as the sale of tourist products.

One of the main reasons for the increase in the flow of tourists to Uzbekistan, including the regions, is the regular simplification of the visa regime for entering the country (Cabinet of Ministers Resolution No. 1050 of December 30, 2019). Starting from 2018, the number of countries where entry visas for citizens of foreign countries are invalid has increased to 86 by 2022.

45% of foreign tourists who visited the Republic of Karakalpakstan are from CIS countries, 40% are from European countries,

10 percent is accounted for by Asian countries, 5 percent by America and other countries .

In 2022, the "Sudoche-Akpetki" state order reserve in the form of a state nature protection institution with a total area of 280 thousand 507 hectares was established in Moynaq district. In order to attract tourists to the territory of the reserve, and to familiarize them with the flora and fauna of the area, in August 2022, the tourist complex "Tour to Sudoche Lake" was established at the expense of grant funds. Currently, more than 10,000 foreign tourists can visit the "Sudoche-Akpetki" state reserve.

Ellikkala district on the shore of the lake "Aqchakol" worth 10 billion. Soum Tourism recreation zone was established. This complex includes a theme park, an outdoor area based on landscape design, a hotel with 120 beds, a hostel with 80 beds, 6 villas and 1 sauna for 10 people, and indoor amphitheaters with 1000 seats for meaningful recreation of young people.

In addition, the "Dosliq" recreation center was established on the banks of the "Dosliq" canal in the city of Nukus. A total of about 50 billion sums was spent on construction improvement works from the budget, sponsors, and initiators, The shores of the "Dosliq" channel were completely beautified, fountains and footpaths, and more than 10 service facilities were established.

In the Chimboy district, an Ethno tourism center was established, reflecting the national traditions and programs, as well as the preservation of workshops of artisans making otov (black house), which are operating in the Kokshikal'a neighborhood of Chimboy district .

In addition, thematic restaurants such as "Safram", "Istanbul", "Karavan", "Ata Makan", "Besh Barmak" are opened in the city and district centers of Nukus and regularly serve local and foreign tourists.

According to the decision of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated October 4, 2019 No. 846 "On approval of the national list of immovable property objects of tangible cultural heritage", 288 cultural heritage objects located on the territory of the Republic of Karakalpakstan were re-approved. Of these, 131 archaeological monuments, 24 architectural monuments, 88 monumental art monuments, and 45 attractions are considered.

Based on the laws in force during 2016-2019

Cadastre documents of 287 tangible cultural heritage objects were issued and information related to the unified system of state cadastres (DKYaT) has been posted.

In 2017-2022, at the expense of the state budget of the Republic of Uzbekistan, 12 cultural heritage sites located in the Republic of Karakalpakstan were carried out for a total of 16 billion 644 million sums.

CONCLUSION

Including President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Sh.M. Mirziyoev during his visit to the Republic of Karakalpakstan on December 15-16, 2017, according to paragraph 71 of the minutes of the extended meeting, a total of 171 million sums were allocated from the state budget for 2018-2019 at the archaeological site "Toproqkala" in Ellikkala district, and conservation works were carried out.

A total of 1 billion 434 million sums are allocated from the state budget for 2018-2020 in the archaeological site "Katta Guldursin Qala" in Ellikkala district according to the plan of renovation work of the General Directorate for Scientific Production of Cultural Heritage Protection and Use (now the Cultural Heritage Agency) Funds were allocated and conservation works were carried out.

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