

TRADITIONS AND HOLIDAYS IN UZBEKISTAN

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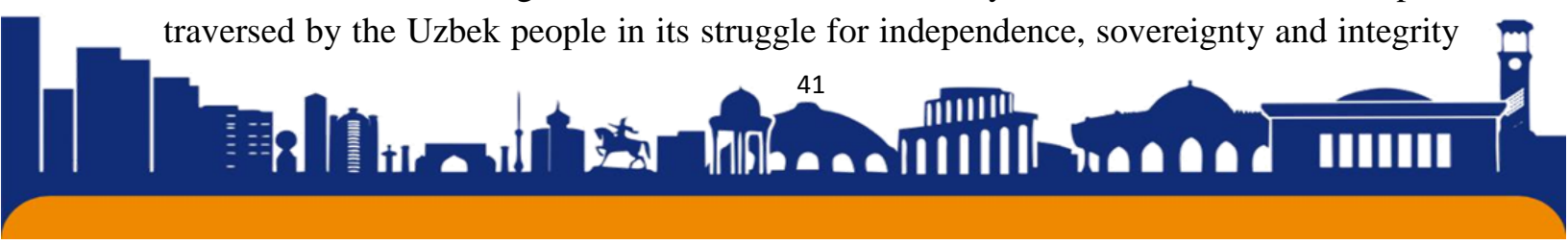
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Abstract: Nestled at the crossroads of ancient civilizations, Uzbekistan boasts a rich cultural tapestry woven from centuries of tradition and vibrant celebrations. Uzbekistan's traditions and holidays are a reflection of its diverse heritage, where influences from Silk Road travelers, nomadic cultures, and Islamic faith intertwine to create a unique and captivating cultural mosaic. These celebrations offer a window into the soul of the Uzbek people, revealing their deep-rooted values of hospitality, respect for elders, and a profound connection to their land and history. From the joyous springtime festivities of Navruz, where families gather to celebrate new beginnings, to the solemn reflections of Ramadan and the feasts of Eid, each occasion carries its own significance and unique traditions. We will witness the vibrant colors and lively music of Navruz celebrations, delve into the spiritual significance of Ramadan and Eid, and discover the unique customs associated with weddings, births, and other life milestones.

Key words: Navruz, Ramadan and Eid, International Women's Day, Christmas tree, Defender's Day, Day of Memory and Honor, Independence Day, "Kurban",

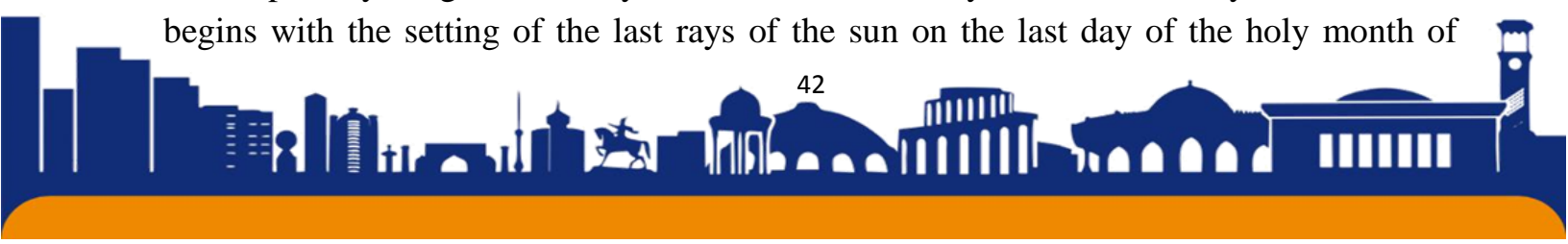
There are holidays in Uzbekistan. Certain holidays are national, other religious, another sub-category of Uzbek holidays refers to those which came to the culture of Uzbekistan and densely settled in it since the Soviet times. Holidays and memorials are established with the aim of preserving centuries-old traditions, observance of folk customs, taking into account their importance in the formation of high morality, and for enriching the spiritual life of citizens. Uzbekistan holidays and memorable dates are celebrated throughout the country. The state supports the initiatives of citizens, authorities and public institutions, commercial and non-profit organizations in terms of arranging and holding celebrations and other significant events. National holidays of Uzbekistan reflect the path traversed by the Uzbek people in its struggle for independence, sovereignty and integrity



of the country. Each Uzbekistan holiday has its separate story and special significance for the people. As an example, such holidays and festivals of Uzbekistan as: Navruz, Ramazan Hayit and Kurban Hayit came from antiquity. The traditions of Zoroastrianism and Islam, from time immemorial have been living in the mode of the Uzbek people. The residents of Uzbekistan pay tribute to the international significant dates: New Year - magical and beloved holiday in the world and the International Women's Day.

List of Uzbekistan holidays and festivals:

In Uzbekistan, there are officially 10 holidays, which are solemnly celebrated and declared to be weekends-non-working days. New Year holiday in Uzbekistan. This great international holiday comes to every family and, of course, is widely and cheerfully celebrated. In the capital and all towns of the country a Christmas tree, the symbol of the New Year, appears. It is sparkling with lights garlands and is decorated with balls. It is the favorite of all the children. Defender's Day is a big national holiday of Uzbekistan, and is solemnized very widely and spectacularly. On this day ranks of servicemen are paraded in full parade to receive congratulations and awards from the country's leadership. International Women's Day came from the Russian people after Uzbekistan entered the USSR. People celebrate this holiday as a day of love, good and beauty. On this day, men solemnly and sincerely give flowers and gifts their mothers, wives, daughters and colleagues at work. On the day of the spring equinox, on March 21, Uzbekistan celebrates a bright and joyful Uzbekistan festival Navruz - a spring new year and one of the oldest holidays on the Earth. Navruz is the most beloved Uzbek national holiday. Navruz for the Uzbek people began to be celebrated even under the Persian kingdom 3000 years ago. Day of Memory and Honor is a particularly significant Uzbekistan national holiday. It is observed in honor of compatriots who heroically defended our Motherland, who stood in the battle for peaceful life and freedom from invaders. September 1, 1991 is the birthday of the new independent republic of Uzbekistan. The whole republic celebrates Independence Day widely, brightly and cheerfully. On the 1st of October Uzbekistan celebrates the Teacher's Day. Pupils of schools and students of universities deeply revere all those who gave them the first life knowledge. On this public holiday of Uzbekistan, the students gratefully give flowers and gifts; make a frank confession for teachers' hard work in life. Constitution Day is a significant day in the life of the Republic of Uzbekistan. It has been celebrated since 1992, after the adoption of the State Constitution, which establishes the fundamental values of democracy. A special place among the holidays of our country is occupied by religious holidays. The Muslim Holiday of Ramazan Hayit - Eid al-Fitr begins with the setting of the last rays of the sun on the last day of the holy month of

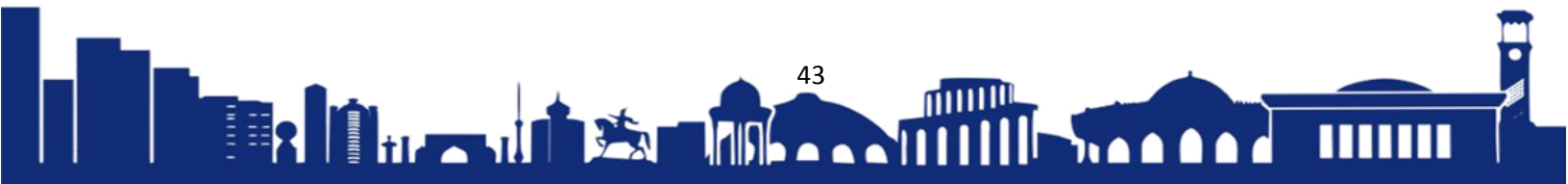


Ramadan, and lasts on the first and second date of the following month. In 70 days after the end of Ramadan the main festival of Muslims in Uzbekistan, Kurban-Hayit, comes. The sources of this feast are the ancient stories that are associated with the prophet Ibrahim. The days of Muslim holidays "Ramazan" and "Kurban" are determined in accordance with the lunar calendar; and are changed in relation to the Gregorian calendar annually moving about 10 days back. Uzbekistan holidays and festivals are different. Some of them are common to different nations and others are observed only by particular nationalities. All holidays are interesting, individual; each holiday has its own unique features, characteristics, history and traditions. If you are interested in Uzbek culture, Uzbek holidays and traditions in particular, welcome to Uzbekistan. Peopletravel Company is pleased to assist in the selection and booking of the tour round Uzbekistan. Guests of Uzbekistan during the holidays can participate in mass festivals of cultural events: concerts, theater performances, various exhibitions (art, folk crafts, and children's art). During these events, one can better learn Uzbek folklore and folk traditions; see products of folk artists, folk costumes, etc. National holidays of the Republic of Uzbekistan are a constant source of benevolence, warmth and hospitality.

As we conclude our journey through the vibrant tapestry of traditions and holidays in Uzbekistan, we find ourselves enriched by the spirit of celebration that permeates this land. From the joyous gatherings of Navruz to the solemn reflections of Ramadan, each occasion has offered a glimpse into the heart and soul of the Uzbek people, revealing their deep-rooted values, rich cultural heritage, and unwavering sense of community. We have witnessed how these traditions serve as threads that connect generations, passing down ancient customs and fostering a sense of belonging and shared identity. The vibrant colors, lively music, and mouthwatering aromas of festive meals create lasting memories and strengthen bonds between families and friends. Moreover, Uzbekistan's traditions and holidays offer a window into the nation's unique cultural blend, where influences from Silk Road travelers, nomadic cultures, and Islamic faith have merged to create a vibrant mosaic of customs and beliefs. This diversity is celebrated through the variety of festivals observed throughout the year, each carrying its own significance and unique traditions.

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