

Turkic Weekly

2017/86





Turkic Weekly 2017 35 (86)(23 – 29 October)

TurkicWeekly presents the weekly review of the most significant developments in the Turkic world. **TurkicWeekly** provides timely information and an objective assessment on relevant issues in the agenda of Turkic countries.

TurkicWeekly is a weekly information and analytical digest, published by the International Turkic Academy.



DECREE ON TRANSITION TO THE LATIN ALPHABET IS SIGNED IN KAZAKHSTAN

On October 27, President of Kazakhstan Nursultan Nazarbayev signed a Decree on transition of the Kazakh alphabet into the Latin alphabet by 2025. As the Akorda press-service informs, in accordance with the new Decree, the government of Kazakhstan is entrusted to form the National Commission and provide a transition step by step.

It is important to note that the control over the execution of the Decree is entrusted to the Administration of the President.

It should be emphasized that the approved version is new. Previously, it was proposed to adopt another version of the Latin alphabet.

Recall that the idea of Nursultan Nazarbayev was voiced at the 12th session of the Assembly of the People of Kazakhstan in 2006. Six years later, in the "Kazakhstan-2050" Strategy, the President instructed to begin transition of the alphabet into Latin alphabet from 2025 onwards. In April this year the article of the Head of State on "Course towards the future: modernization of Kazakhstan's identity" was published, where the need for changes was explained.

Nursultan Nazarbayev noted that the transition to the Latin alphabet did not mean a rejection of the Russian language, or the Cyrillic alphabet. The Latin alphabet will concern the Kazakh language; the Russian-speaking citizens will use Russian. The transition will be very reasonable, rational, and in those cases where it is necessary. After active public discussions and parliamentary hearings in the Majilis, experts came to the conclusion that the transition to the Latin alphabet will accelerate the process of Kazakhstan's integration into the world community. The main task was to choose such variant of the alphabet, which will preserve the originality of the language and the features of pronunciation.

Commenting on the new version of the Latin alphabet, Mukhtar Mankeyev, chairman of the Council of the National Movement "Kazakhstan-2050", said: "It is clear that it is the age of new technologies, and we spend 90% of documents, materials, and communications through smartphones, ipads, and other devices. So we need to understand correctly that universally recognized qwerty-keyboard will be the most convenient for us. Nevertheless, experts note that although the alphabet has already been adopted, the work is just beginning. The National Commission has 8 years in reserve to make the transition to a new standard smooth, step-by-step and most comfortable for the Kazakhstan's society.



RESULTS OF SH.MIRZIYOYEV'S STATE VISIT TO TURKEY

On October 25-26, the President of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev paid a state visit to the Republic of Turkey. Observers called this visit historic, as it was the first visit of the Uzbek leader in recent decades.

As Turkish and Uzbek media report, negotiations between Recep Tayyip Erdogan and Shavkat Mirziyoyev took place in Ankara on October 25. During the meetings in a narrow and expanded format, the sides discussed issues of cooperation between Uzbekistan and Turkey in the political, trade-economic, investment spheres, transport, logistics, in the field of tourism, cultural and humanitarian fields and others.

"The visit of the President of Uzbekistan for the first time in almost 20 years is of particular importance. Now our turnover is 1.2 billion dollars, this is not enough, and we will soon increase it. We provide full support to our businessmen, and Uzbekistan encourages serious investments. As the world's second country in a number of construction contracts, we want to share our experience with Uzbekistan," R.T. Erdogan said.

Following the talks, heads of two states signed the Joint Statement, which became the basic document that facilitates the rise of cooperation between the two countries at the strategic level.

It is also reported that more than 20 documents on the development of mutual relations in the field of economy, trade, industry, banking and finance, investment, tourism, transport and logistics, health, training, defense and others have been adopted.

Moreover, discussing the visa regime, Sh. Mirziyoyev said: "The day will come when there will be no visa between our friendly and fraternal peoples. We will definitely strive for this."

On October 26, Shavkat Mirziyoyev visited the Grand National Assembly of Turkey, where he held talks with Speaker Ismail Kahraman.

The Speaker of the Grand National Assembly highly appreciated the reforms being carried out to strengthen democracy in Uzbekistan, to enhance the role of parliament in the life of the state and society.

A Memorandum of Cooperation was signed between the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Grand National Assembly of the Republic of Turkey.

Also Sh. Mirziyoyev met with the Turkish Prime Minister Binali Yildirim. The meeting gave an objective assessment of the current state of bilateral cooperation, outlined the priority areas for its development.

A business forum of business circles of two countries, during which agreements were signed on the implementation of more than 30 joint projects worth 3.5 billion dollars in the construction of large energy facilities and road infrastructure, the production of textiles, electrical equipment, building materials, the organization of modern productions in food and agro-industry, logistics centers, was held in Istanbul on October 26. By the way, noting that in the first nine months of the year the trade between two countries grew by almost 30%, the Uzbek president said: "This is very small. We must set high levels," he said, adding that it should not be about 2-3 billion dollars (in 2016 the volume of mutual trade amounted to 1.2 billion dollars), but about 5-6 billion dollars.

Already at the final press conference, it became known that Turkish Airlines will run flights from Istanbul to Samarkand from March 16. The national airline Uzbekiston Havo Yullari opens a regular flight in this direction from October 30. An agreement between airline companies on strategic partnership was signed in Ankara.



TWESCO HELD SEVERAL MEETINGS IN JAPAN

During the reporting period, a delegation of the International Turkic Academy led by its President Darkhan Kydyrali visited Japan. During the visit, a number of scientific and practical events and meetings were held.

On October 23 in Tokyo, the grand opening of the meeting of the General Assembly of the International Union of Academies (UAI) took place.

The main session of the forum was opened by the President of the Union Mr. Oivind Andersen, who delivered a welcoming speech. In addition, during the meeting, secretariats prepared special reports on scientific research projects. A ceremony of representing candidate organizations for membership in the Union was also held, it was followed by voting.

The work of the Assembly, which brought together the heads of authoritative organizations and well-known scientists, will last three days. One of the main sessions is on "Religion, Trade and International Relations in Modern East Asia". In accordance with the program, participants will be able to get acquainted with scientific research organizations of Japan, as well as listen to academic lectures on various topics. In addition, new scientific projects of the Union of Academies will be presented to them.

It should be noted that TWESCO was admitted to the International Union of Academies in March 2015, at a meeting of the General Assembly in Brussels. The headquarters of the UAI established in 1919 is located in Brussels, it influences the coordination of the work of organizations of the world scientific community, as well as strengthening cooperation between them. Today, more than 100 scientific institutions from 63 countries are members of the International Union of Academies.

In addition, in the city of Tokyo, the International Turkic Academy (TWESCO) held an event dedicated to the program of the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan Nursultan Nazarbayev on "Modernization of Kazakhstan's Identity".

At the meeting held at the Tokyo University of International Studies, the head of the Academy Darkhan Kydyrali made an informative report explaining the essence of the "Modernization of Kazakhstan's Identity" program. Then he answered questions of applicants and university students.

Famous Japanese experts on Central Asia Kimura Satoru, Komatsu Hisao, Saky Hiroki, Tetsu Akiyama and Shimada Shizuo also expressed valuable ideas on the relevance of the program of N. Nazarbayev. According to experts, the tasks set in the program will contribute to raising the level of achievements in the scientific and cultural spheres of Kazakhstan to a higher level.

Separate meetings with the Special Representative of the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan for Asia and the Caucasus, Mr. Taguchi Seichiro and the Deputy Director General of the Division of Europe of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, Mr. Toshihiro Aiki were held. During bilateral meetings, D. Kydyrali spoke in details about the activities, international contacts, and major scientific projects of the Academy. In addition, the parties discussed prospects for establishing links between the Turkic Academy and the scientific society of Japan.

The diplomats showed great interest in the work of the Academy, and expressed their readiness for further cooperation and full support in the implementation of future projects.

In addition, Darkhan Kydyrali met with the Charge d'Affaires of Kazakhstan in Japan, Yergalim Nursalimuly, in Tokyo. During the bilateral meeting, D. Kydyrali gave a detailed information about the work of the Academy, and also introduced plans for the future. Also, the head of the TWESCO met with the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Turkey in Japan, Mr. Ahmet Bulent Meric.



Established in 2010 by the leaders of Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Turkey, the International Turkic Academy is an international organization that conducts and coordinates a comprehensive study of languages, culture and history of the Turkic world from ancient times to the present day. The Turkic Academy promotes cooperation between research and development and education centers, studying Turkish world.

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