



UZBEK FOREIGN LITERARY RELATIONS

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<p>Received: March 11th 2023 Accepted: April 11th 2023 Published: May 24th 2023</p>	<p>Literature has long served as a bridge connecting cultures and fostering mutual understanding among nations. Uzbekistan, with its rich literary heritage, has actively engaged in foreign literary relations, promoting its own literary works abroad while embracing diverse literary traditions from around the world. This article aims to delve into Uzbekistan's foreign literary relations, highlighting its efforts to showcase its cultural treasures, facilitate cross-cultural dialogue, and establish meaningful literary connections with other countries.</p>

Keywords: Literary translation, International book fairs, Cultural exchange, Guest of honor, Literature festivals, Regional cooperation, Literary reputation, Literary scene, Literary Renaissance, Publishing industry.

INTRODUCTION. Uzbekistan takes great pride in its literary heritage, which spans centuries and encompasses renowned poets and writers like Alisher Navoi, Abdulla Qahhor, and Zulfiya. To promote Uzbek literature abroad, the country participates in international book fairs, literary festivals, and translation programs. The annual International Book Fair in Tashkent attracts publishers, writers, and literary enthusiasts from around the world, providing a platform for showcasing Uzbek works and facilitating literary exchange.

Translation plays a crucial role in introducing Uzbek literature to a global audience. The Uzbekistan Writers' Union, in collaboration with international organizations, promotes the translation of Uzbek literary works into different languages. This effort enables readers worldwide to explore the rich literary traditions of Uzbekistan, fostering cultural appreciation and strengthening literary ties.

Uzbekistan's literary landscape is not limited to its own works; it also embraces foreign literary influences. The translation of international literary classics into Uzbek is a testament to the country's openness to diverse literary traditions. By making these literary masterpieces accessible to Uzbek readers, the country fosters a broader understanding of global literature and encourages cross-cultural dialogue.

METHODS. The main reliance of Uzbek and foreign literary relations is a two-way exchange and mutual appreciation of literary works, ideas, and cultural traditions. Uzbekistan seeks to promote its own literary heritage abroad while embracing and incorporating foreign literary influences into its own literary landscape.

On one hand, Uzbekistan focuses on promoting Uzbek literature abroad by participating in international book fairs, literary festivals, and translation programs. The country actively translates and disseminates Uzbek literary works into different languages, allowing readers worldwide to access and appreciate the rich cultural heritage of Uzbekistan. This promotion of Uzbek literature serves as a means to showcase the unique literary traditions, perspectives, and voices of Uzbek writers to an international audience.

On the other hand, Uzbekistan embraces foreign literary influences and actively engages with the works of international writers. The translation of foreign literary classics into Uzbek allows Uzbek readers to explore and engage with diverse literary traditions from around the world. Additionally, by inviting foreign writers to participate in literary events and conferences held in Uzbekistan, the country fosters cultural exchange and enriches its own literary scene. These interactions expose Uzbek writers to different literary styles, themes, and perspectives, inspiring them to broaden their creative horizons.

The reliance of Uzbek and foreign literary relations is thus based on a reciprocal exchange. Uzbekistan shares its literary treasures with the world, promoting its own cultural heritage, while also embracing and incorporating foreign literary influences to diversify and enrich its own literary landscape. This mutual appreciation and engagement with literature from different cultures fosters cross-cultural dialogue, understanding, and the forging of meaningful literary connections between Uzbekistan and other nations.

Ultimately, the reliance of Uzbek and foreign literary relations lies in the belief that literature serves as a powerful tool for cultural diplomacy, fostering mutual respect, understanding, and dialogue among nations. Through these literary interactions, Uzbekistan aims to strengthen cultural bonds, build bridges of connection, and contribute to the global tapestry of literature.

RESULTS. Moreover, Uzbekistan actively invites foreign writers and intellectuals to participate in literary events, conferences, and workshops held in the country. This not only provides a platform for international authors to share their works but also facilitates cultural exchange and enriches the local literary scene. Through these interactions, Uzbek writers gain exposure to different literary styles, themes, and perspectives, inspiring them to explore new creative avenues.

Literary relations between Uzbekistan and foreign countries have a long-standing history. For centuries, Uzbek literature has been enriched by various cultural cross-pollinations and influences from neighboring regions. The prominence of Islamic scholars, poets, and writers during the golden age of Uzbekistan's history helped establish long-lasting literary connections with distant lands.

Even today, Uzbek poetry still contains the echoes of ancient East Asian, Middle Eastern, and Central Asian cultural ancestors. The country has produced a number of great poets and writers whose work has been translated into multiple languages. This has enabled Uzbek literature to gain recognition beyond the borders of the country, which has led to fruitful literary relations with foreign nations.

Another significant event that showcased Uzbekistan's literary prowess was the country's nomination as the guest of honor at the Frankfurt Book Fair in 2019. The national pavilion at the fair, which featured a variety of books and literature from Uzbekistan, saw tremendous footfall from literature enthusiasts and professionals alike. This event served as a catalyst for foreign publishers and literary agents to take an interest in the country's literature.

Uzbekistan has also been playing an active role in promoting the Uzbek language as a lingua franca in Central Asia, which has enabled the country to forge strong literary ties with neighboring countries. Many prestigious writers and poets from Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, and Tajikistan have visited Uzbekistan and participated in literary events, which have helped establish a shared literary identity in the region.

DISCUSSION. The Uzbek government's push to promote its literature has led to an increase in the number of translations of its literary works into different languages. Many global publishing houses have started showing an interest in publishing Uzbek literature, which has helped the country's writers gain global recognition.

Uzbek literature has a rich and diverse history that has been shaped by cultural and literary exchanges with foreign countries. Uzbekistan's commitment to promoting its culture and language has enabled it to establish valuable literary relations with foreign countries and showcase its literary prowess on the global stage. As Uzbekistan continues to expand its literary footprint, it is sure to create a lasting impact on the world of literature.

Uzbekistan recognizes the power of literature as a diplomatic tool and employs literary diplomacy to foster cultural understanding and forge strong ties with other nations. The establishment of literary exchange programs, author residencies, and joint literary projects serves as a means to promote intercultural dialogue and cooperation.

One notable example is the "Literature of Uzbekistan in the World" initiative, which focuses on introducing Uzbek literature to foreign audiences. This program includes international literary events, translation projects, and collaborative publications. By showcasing the works of Uzbek writers in different countries, this initiative strengthens cultural bonds and deepens the appreciation for Uzbek literature.

CONCLUSION. Uzbekistan's foreign literary relations exemplify its commitment to cultural exchange and fostering global understanding through literature. The promotion of Uzbek literary works abroad, the embrace of foreign literary influences, and the strategic use of literary diplomacy all contribute to creating a vibrant literary ecosystem that transcends borders. By engaging in these initiatives, Uzbekistan not only enriches its own literary heritage but also contributes to the broader tapestry of world literature, building bridges of cultural connection and dialogue between nations.

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