

**Ministry of Higher and Secondary Special  
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**Foreign language department**

# **ESSAY**

**Theme: Cities of Uzbekistan**

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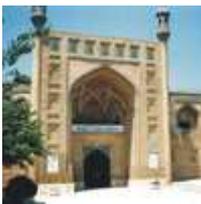
**Cities of Uzbekistan**  
**Popular tourist places in Uzbekistan**  
**History and pictures of every interesting place and city in Uzbekistan.**  
**Uzbekistan Tourism Destinations**

**Tashkent**



Tashkent is the capital of sovereign Uzbekistan. At present, Tashkent is one of the most important business centers of Central Asia. Present-day Tashkent is one of the most attractive Oriental cities. The architecture of Tashkent is unique, and the hospitality and friendliness of Tashkent people is amazing. Tashkent is about 2200 years old. It has evolved from a small ancient settlement into one of the largest Asian cities. Many memorable events of peace and war have taken place during the history of Tashkent, full of...

**Andijan**



Andijan, is a city and administrative center in far eastern Uzbekistan in Andijan province, at the southeastern edge of the Fergana Valley. Andijan is about 475 km east of Tashkent, and about 45 km west of Osh, Kyrgyzstan. Andijan is a center for oil production and has a few oil refineries. Cotton production and processing remain the dominant economic activities. Andijan sits on an ancient riverbed (the Say River) and is known to have existed since the 9<sup>th</sup> century on a trade route into...

**Aral**

**Sea**



Millions of years ago, the northwestern parts of Uzbekistan and southern Kazakhstan were covered by a massive inland sea. When the waters receded, they left a broad plain of highly saline soil. One of the remnants of the ancient sea was the Aral Sea, the fourth largest inland body of water in the world...

**Baisun**



South of Shakhrisabz, in the Surkhandarya province, along the ancient trade route of the Great Silk Road, hidden away in a beautiful valley, lies Baisun, an area on its way to becoming a household name among the culturally aware in Uzbekistan and Central Asia. Recently, Baisun has been included on the Unesco List of world heritage sites. It was in the nearby Baisuntau mountains that early man developed during the Palaeolithic era. Finds from cave sites in the area and...



### [Bukhara](#)

Bukhara is an ancient settlement with a history that goes back to the early centuries A. D. In the 6th century, it became the capital of the early feudal realm of the Bukhara oasis. As the Shakhristan, the centre of a shah's realm, it was formed around an ancient citadel, but with the development of handicrafts and trade, new suburbs (rabads) arose beyond its walls which were included with the Shakhristan in a new fortified wall. Remains of it dating back to the sixteenth century have survived...



### [Chirchiq](#)

Chirchiq is a city in eastern Uzbekistan, about 32 km northeast of Tashkent, along the Chirchiq River. Chirchiq lies among the Chatkal Mountains of the Tian Shan mountain range. It lies in the middle of an intensively cultivated area, producing mainly vegetables and fruits, including melons and grapes. A large electrochemical factory produces nitrogenous fertilizer for the region's collective farms. Chirchiq's industries also include the production of ferroalloys (a group of iron alloys) and machinery for...



### [Denau](#)

The name Denau means "new village". Situated along the Surkhandarya river, on the ancient road to Dushanbe, it is today a small bustling town of 61,000 inhabitants. Centuries ago, then a stronghold of the Gissar/Hissar Khan, it was later named after Denau Beg, the Emir of Bukhara. The valley's subtropical climate makes it an ideal wine growing region; "Novbakhor" "Morastel" and "Uzbekistan" wines are renowned for their fine bouquet. With sugarcane from...



### [Fergana](#)

Fergana is a city in eastern Uzbekistan, at the southern edge of the Fergana Valley. Fergana is about 420 km east of Tashkent, the capital of Uzbekistan, and about 75 km west of Andijan. Fergana has been a center of oil production in the Fergana Valley since the region's first oil refinery was built near the city in 1908. Since then more refineries have been added, and Fergana is one of the most important centers of oil production and refining in Uzbekistan. Natural gas from western Uzbekistan is...

## Ferghana

## Valley



The Ferghana Valley is the most densely populated region of Uzbekistan, with almost a third of the country's population. It has nearly 25,000 sq. km of fertile land, and is a great oasis surrounded by the Kuramin mountain ridge in the North-West, Chatkal mountain range in the North, Fergana mountain range in the East, and Alai and Turkestan ranges in the South. There is scarcely a hectare of uncultivated land, the primary crop being cotton. In ancient times, the exceptional flora of...

## Karakalpakistan



Central Asia covers an essential portion of the Asian part of the planet. Its area makes up more than 1295 thousand square km, which is larger than Germany, France and Great Britain in total area. The Central Asian territory spreads from the Caspian sea on the west to the borders with China on the East and from the Aral-Irtysh watershed on the north to the borders with Iran and Afganistan to the south. Its western and northern regions are represented by vast valleys, deserts and...

## Karshi



Karshi is a city in southern Uzbekistan, in Kashqadaryo province, about 520 km south-southwest of Tashkent, and about 335 km north of Uzbekistan's border with Afghanistan. In the early 1970s, the first section of a major irrigation project was completed to divert water from the Amu Darya River in Turkmenistan eastward into Uzbekistan to irrigate the land surrounding Karshi. The water from the Amu Darya is in addition to water already being diverted from the Zeravshan River near Bukhara, about...

## Khiva

## (Khorezm)



The history of Khorezm dates back so far, to ancient times, that only a few civilizations can equal its age. Many hundreds of years before the opening of the Great Silk Road, ancient Khorezm was already connected by water and land with Europe and the Orient, Siberia and the civilizations of the South. The great world civilizations of the time mingled in Khorezm. Their cultural interaction preceded the opening of the Great Silk Road. Khiva is located to the west of Khorezm region, at the...



### [Kokand](#)

Kokand is a city in eastern Uzbekistan, in the Fergana province at the southwestern edge of the Fergana Valley. Kokand is 228 km southeast of Tashkent, the capital of Uzbekistan, 115 km west of Andijan, and 88 km west of the city of Fergana. Kokand sits at the junction of two main routes into the Fergana Valley, one leading northwest over the mountains to Tashkent, and the other west through Khujand. As a result, Kokand is the main transportation junction in the Fergana Valley. Kokand is a center for...



### [Moynaq](#) (Aral Sea)

Moynaq encapsulates more visibly than anywhere else the absurd tragedy of the receding Aral Sea. Once one of the sea's two major fishing ports, it now stands some 40 km (25 mi) from the water. What remains of Moynaq's redundant fishing fleet lies rusting on the sand, beside depressions marking the town's futile efforts to keep channels open to the receding water. The town's shrunken population of 2000 people now suffers the full force of the Aral Sea disaster, with hotter summers, colder...



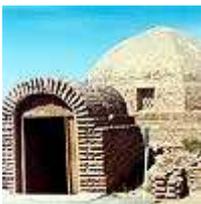
### [Margilan](#)

The city is located 12 kilometers from the regional center and is one of the oldest cities in the Fergana Valley. City area - 50 square meters. and a population of over 165 thousand people. Margilan located at an altitude of 475 meters above sea level. Located 15 km from Fergana and Kokand...



### [Namangan](#)

Namangan is a city in eastern Uzbekistan, on the northern edge of the Fergana Valley, about 430 km east of Tashkent, about 65 km west of Andijan, and about 75 km north of Fergana...



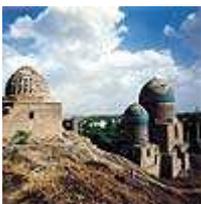
### [Nukus](#)

Nukus is a city in western Uzbekistan, capital of the Karakalpakstan Autonomous Republic, in the delta of the Amu Darya River. Nukus is about 1255 km west of Tashkent, and about 230 km south of Muynaq and the former shoreline of the Aral Sea. An increase in upstream irrigation needs reduced the downstream flow of the Amu Darya, contributing to the shrinking of the Aral and the disappearance of its plentiful fish stocks. Nukus is a center for the growing and processing of...



### Rishtan

Rishtan is 50 km from Fergana, and is the administrative center of the Rishtan district. It is a half Tajik, half Uzbek town. Since ancient times it has been famous for its ceramics. Certainly it is not by mere chance that Rishtan has become famous for its ceramics. The area is rich in the deposits of red clay, natural minerals and mountainous vegetation that are needed for the painting process. Rishtan artisans have become famous all over the world...



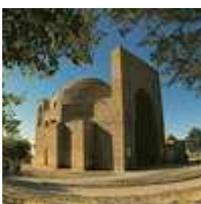
### Samarkand

Samarkand is situated in the Zerafshan Valley, and surrounded by the spurs of the Pamir-Alay ranges. Ancient Samarkand was well-known both in the East and the West. In the 4<sup>th</sup> c. BC, Samarkand, then called Marakanda, was one of the centers of culture and trade in the East. Samarkand equals such cradles of human civilization as Athens, Rome, Memphis, Alexandria...



### Shakhristabz

It has been resolved by UNESCO to place the ancient city of Shakhristabz on the list of world heritage memorials, a city which has left a significant mark on world civilization. The 2700<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the foundation of Shakhristabz has been celebrated, demonstrating to the world the ancient value of this land, its greatness and beauty. Shakhristabz, called "Kesh" in the Middle Ages - also known as ancient "Nautaca" - was nicknamed "Dilkesh" ("Kesh" means heart-pleasing) and...



### Termez

This is a kingdom of trade routes and brave warriors. This is a land famous worldwide for its richness in gold and lazurite. Archeological discoveries have proven that the origin of agricultural civilization on this territory dates to before the 5<sup>th</sup> c. BC.

The earliest signs of culture appeared during the Stone Age...



### Urgut

Situated only 40 kilometers from Samarkand at the foot of Zarafshan Mountains at a height of 1000 metres, the traditional Central Asian handicrafts and market town of Urgut makes for a very interesting excursion for the visitor, particularly on Saturday and Sunday, which are the main market-days...



Tashkent, one of the oldest and the most beautiful cities in the World, is a capital of Uzbekistan. The city is situated in south-eastern part of the country, at 440-480 meters over the sea level. During its 2200 years history Tashkent was a significant cultural, religious and trade center. From the little settlement it turned into one of the largest cities in Central Asia. As an important trading center on the Great Silk Road, Tashkent was a bridge between different civilizations and cultures.

“Star of the East”, “City of thousands fountains”, these are epithets, which celebrated the city. In 2007 the world community recognized the Tashkent as a “Capital of the Muslim Culture”, and this proved the Tashkent’s status as religious center.

The geographical situation of the Tashkent oasis, on the middle of Syrdarya river, and its feeders Chirchik and Ahangaran, became a background for settlements of farmers and stockmen. In ancient time this oasis called Chach. The land development was started by representatives of the well known Burgulyuk culture. One of such towns was found on the Shashtepa settlement, from which the Tashkent’s history began. The settlement is situated in the south of the city. Residents of Shashtepa sowed barley and wheat, ranched small cattle. The weaving was also developed.

In VII-VI bc. settlements of this oasis became deserted by known reasons. Only in III bc. new residents- wanderers appeared here. There are no other remains left, but Necropolis in Shashtepa. Here was found dishes, round bronze mirrors, waist clasp with image of lying Bactrian camel, showing that wanderers came from Preural’e and Povolje regions.

In accordance with archeological finds the settlement had a range of religious buildings and were surrounded by defensive walls. All of these buildings are typical for work of architects in the Ancient East. Tribes came to this region, had skills of town planning and building, and that was a reason of the building of future Tashkent. However, the life became extinct in this town. Only elevation with 20 meters high citadel left from 25 hectares of Shashtepa territory, and the rest area was used for modern building.

For first time the name “Chach” was mentioned in inscription of Shapur I, tsar of the Sassanids, made on Zoroaster Kaaba in Iran in 262 bc. The first information about Tashkent contained in Chinese chronicles of II bc., where was mentioned the Kanka settlement, situated in Akhangaran valley. The Chinese called this place “Yuni”, which later got a name “Shi”.

After some time, when important trade lines of the Great Silk Road were moved to the north, the capital of oasis became Ming Uryuk.

During archeological excavations on the settlement Ming Uryuk (I bc.-VII cc.) was established the existence of the palace with halls, lobbies, fire sanctuary, wall frescos in spirit of traditions of the Sogdian culture. The name ‘Ming Uryuk’ is translated as ‘thousands of apricots’. Origin of this name connected with cultivation of apricot gardens near this settlement in XIX century. Presently, on the place of the settlement remained only a small hill 100x80 meters.

The Chach was captured by the Ephtalites in V century and in VI cc. it was a part of the Turk kaganate.

The city was fully destroyed by Arabian conquerors in VIII century. They broke the system of water-supply, thus people left this place. At this period the city became known as “Shash”, which replaced the name Chach as there is no character “Ch” in Arabic alphabet. After a time the city regenerated in north-western from ancient ruins and got the name Binkent. Presently, in the center of the renewal city located the Eski Juva square- Old arsenal. The Capital rapidly turned into the large trade center, from which caravans with goods tended to different cities of the Great Road.

In the end of X and middle XII cc. Chach was a part of the State of the Karakhanids. Exactly in that time the city got a new name Tashkent. This name can be translated as “stone town”. Refer to Chinese chronicle the oasis Chach mentioned as Shi- “stone”. It was not a building stone, but semi-precious stone, which were riches of the Chatkal Mountains. Thus, the present name of Tashkent can be referred as “The Town of noble stone”.

In the beginning of XIII the oasis were captured by the Khorezmshah Mukhammad. Thereby, by the Mongolian invasion (1220), Tashkent had no political importance in comparison with other cities of the Movaraunnahr.

In XIV- beginning of XV cc. Tashkent became a part of the State of Timur and Timurides. In this time Tashkent became the fort post of the Timur’s Empire in the north.

In the beginning of XVI, after the dissolution of Timur’s state, Tashkent became a part of the Sheybanid’s State. City was newly enwalled. During the Sheybanides’ ruling were erected a big number of buildings, and part of them is preserved till present time. The shining example of the architecture of that time is madrassah Kukeldash.

In the end of XVI till XVIII Tashkent was included in the Kazakh Khanate. Later the oasis became a part of the Kokand Khanate. In view of development of trade relations between Kokand Khanate and Russia, in Tashkent was marked the economical upturn. During the Kokand khans Tashkent was mured with a wall with 12 gates, lengthen for 20 km.

In 1865 Tashkent became a part of the Russian Empire and in 1867 an administrative center of the Turkestan General-governorship. Historically Tashkent divided in to two parts by the canal Ankhor: old city and new city. People in old city dialed in handicraft, and in the new city developed an industry. In 1924 was established the Uzbek Socialist Republic. From 1925 to 1930 the capital of republic was Samarkand, and since 1930 the capital was moved to Tashkent.

On September 1, 1991 Uzbekistan was proclaimed an Independent State. Independent state symbols became the constitution, emblem, flag, and anthem.

During the period of independence Tashkent assumed a new appearance: were created new parks, erected modern administrative buildings and houses, built religious centers, improved bazaars and widened streets.

The sample of the new architectural image became renewed Independent Square, beautified national park of Alisher Navoi, Amir Temur Square, National museum of the Temurides’ history and Gallery of the painting art.

The vision of modern architects incarnated in new religious complexes, such as Khast Imam, Kukcha and others.

The symbol of Tashkent in the past and presently stays the Television tower of 375 meters high, which is the tallest building in Central Asia. The Tashkent metro is also the unique architectural artwork, as it is the only in Central Asia.

Tashkent, the modern city with oriental flavors is a truly “Pearl of the East”



Samarkand is one of the most ancient and most beautiful cities of the world, really a unique treasury of the cultural heritage of the peoples of the East. During all its rich history Samarkand was known under different names; the city was called Sogdiana, Marakanda, Afrosiab. The age of Samarkand in its cultural bottom layers goes back to the 1st millennium B.C. The ruins of Sogdiana, the chief town of the ancient country Sogd, are stored in these layers.

As many other most ancient cities of civilization- Rome, Babylon, Byzantium, Samarkand was also fated to endure a number of historical shocks. During different periods the city was under the control of the Persians, the Greeks, the Chinese, the Arabs and eastern Turks. In the IVth century BC the city was occupied by the army of Alexander the Great and the first written record of the city belongs to this time, as about the city under the name of Marakanda. In the I—III centuries A.D Samarkand reached its flourishing, when the city was part of the Kushan kingdom. The city was located on the main arteries of the Great Silk Road. From Samarkand, like solar beams, trading routes of the Silk road dispersed to the various parties, thereby Samarkand was a link between the main trading cities.

In the VII - VIII centuries Samarkand continued developing as the city with the developed trade and culture and became a big and prospering city. But the Mongolian invasion in the beginning of the XIIIth century interrupted a peace life of Samarkand. Afrasiab, so the city was called at that time, was razed to the ground by the armies of Chingiz-khan: city fortifications were razed; palaces and houses were burnt down, the well-known water pipe system, through the lead pipes of which townspeople of the city had been supplied with crystal-clear water within several centuries, was destroyed. Once blossoming and sweet smelling gardens, turned into sandy barchans.

However, the city again revived from ashes, moreover, at the end of the XIV—XV centuries its new rise and flourishing began. It was connected with the beginning of the reign of great commander Amir Timur who decided to make Afrasiab - Samarkand the capital of his huge empire, stretched from the river Indus to Bosphorus. Timur wished to do the capital fine and grandiose, surpassing with its beauty all other cities of the world. During the period of Amir Timur's board and Timurid descendants (1370-1499) Samarkand was the capital of the world empire, and at the time of his scientist - astronomer grandson Ulugbek the city also became one of the outstanding centers of science, art and culture of the Middle Ages. Unique architectural monuments of the epoch of Amir Timur and Timurids, amazing in their beauty and execution form, have been preserved in Samarkand up to now. These buildings show the original cultural heritage of mankind. Though time and the further historical events which occurred on Samarkand land did not spare majority of magnificent creations of that time, even today many monuments of the Middle Ages will not leave anybody indifferent.

We cannot help but admire the ruins of the magnificent mosque of Amir Timur period- The Bibikhanum mosque, celestial ribbed cupola of Gur-Emir mausoleum evokes real admiration,

and such masterpieces of architectural ideas as ensemble Shakhi-Zinda and Registan Square can be called as pearls of oriental architecture. These and many other buildings occupy the greatest place in the history of world architecture and by their artistic dignity they rank on a par with well-known architectural monuments of Egypt, India and Iran.

Throughout many years the roads of travelers and craftsmen, merchants and poets, pilgrim and diplomats lead them to this “precious pearl of the world” and all the time this brilliant city-Samarkand attracted everyone.



Bukhara, one of the most ancient cities of Central Asia, is located on the left coast of Zerafshan river. Such epithets as “Noble Bukhara”, “Star of Muslims world” and “Paradise of the East” were given to this city by several philosophers of different epochs. And that is true! Bukhara has been a center of science and art, handicraft and trade for a long time. The city had a profitable geographical location on the cross of trade roads. Branches of the Great Silk Road connecting China and India, Persia and Europe, lied through the Bukhara. Its markets were overladen with several spices, jewelry, knives made from precious metals, many-colored silk and cotton fabrics, carpets and etc.

A blessed Bukhara is 2500 years old. Several excavations and finds proved that this city, with its long and rich history, always existed at the same place. Bukhara survived many conquests, damages and continued its development. Archeologists and scientists discovered a lot of valuable things under the many meters of civilizations layers.

According to Chinese chronicles, there was a city appeared in II century B.C., which had a name “Pu Kho” and was a part of Kanguy state. Bukhara belonged to the Eftalites state in V century and was a part of the Western Turk khaganate in VI and beginning of VII centuries. Islam religion spread here and first Muslims buildings appeared in VIII century. The X century is a time of cultural and prosperity rising. Bukhara became a capital of the Samanides Empire as well as one of the biggest cultural centers of Muslim world. The Samanides Mausoleum is still impressing with its shapes, size and decoration.

Bukhara was a victim of Chingiz khan’s devastating damages in XIII century. Conquerors spared neither city nor its citizens. Bukhara newly revived when the ruling of Amir Temur had started. Amir Temur paid a proper attention to development of handicraft and trade and Bukhara recovered its status of important city of the Great Silk Road.

Bukhara was a part of the State of Ulugbek, Temur’s grandson, in XV century. A splendid Madrasa in Bukhara remains about his government. City was a capital of the Sheybanides and Ashtarkhanides dynasties in XVI-XVII centuries. Bukhara was defended with walls that period and a number of mosques and madrasas, caravan serai and bath houses, buildings and mausoleums were constructed inside the fortress. Bukhara became a center of Bukhara Emirate since 1747, which followed with trade and economic prosperity. The city became a vassal of the Russian Empire since 1868. It was a time of industry boom, building of banks and factories. The Emir was dethroned and Bukhara was proclaimed as a Soviet Peoples Republic in 1920. City became a capital of Bukhara province in 1991.

Epochs passed, powers and regimes changed each other, but there are antique monuments in the old city of Bukhara which still restore the picture of the past.

Popular – популярный  
Capital – столица  
Sovereign – суверенный  
Important – важно  
Attractive – привлекательный  
Unique – уникальный  
Hospitality - Гостеприимный  
Amazing – великолепный  
Ancient – древний  
Sea – море  
Valley – долина  
Recently – недавно  
Develop – развивать  
Century – век  
Primary – первичный  
Major – главный  
Surround – окружать  
in addition to – к тому же  
remain – оставаться  
effort – попытка  
famous – известный  
situate – располагаться  
value – цена  
kingdom – царство  
middle – середина