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# HISTORICAL ANALYSIS OF THE ROLE OF UZBEKISTAN IN THE SECOND WORLD WAR

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#### Abstract

The article analyzes the role and place of Uzbekistan in the Second World War. Uzbekistan, as part of the Soviet Union, played a significant role in this conflict, contributing both on the front and on the home front. The article covers the historical context of the war, the mobilization efforts of the republic, the participation of the Uzbek population in hostilities, as well as the economic and production contribution of Uzbekistan to the overall victory. Particular attention is paid to Uzbek diplomats and politicians who actively participated in the formation of the international coalition against fascism. The consequences of Uzbekistan's participation in the war for its economy, culture and society are also analyzed, emphasizing the importance and contribution of the republic to the overall victory over Nazism.

**Keywords**: Uzbekistan, World War II, victory, participation, mobilization, economic contribution, cultural heritage, social changes, Uzbek population, Uzbek diplomats, Tehran Conference, Yalta Conference, Potsdam Conference, front, diplomatic activity, international relations, history, Great Patriotic War.

#### Introduction

The Second World War, one of the most tragic events in human history, left an indelible mark on the fate of many countries around the world. Uzbekistan, at that time part of the Soviet Union, made a significant contribution to the overall victory over Nazism. Despite the fact that there were no military operations on the territory of Uzbekistan, the republic played an important role in supporting the fronts and mobilization efforts on the rear. The preparation and dispatch of military equipment, food, medical equipment and soldiers to the front, as well as the mobilization of labor resources for the needs of the front, became an integral part of the life of the Uzbek population in those years.

Uzbekistan also provided significant economic and industrial support to the war, which contributed to the successful conduct of hostilities on the fronts. Uzbekistan became the center of the organization of the military-industrial complex, producing important military equipment and materials. Uzbek diplomats and politicians played an important role,

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actively participating in the formation of the anti-Hitler coalition and strengthening international cooperation.

The purpose of this article is to analyze and highlight the contribution and role of Uzbekistan to the victory of the Allies in World War II, to identify its main aspects and assess their significance for the general history and fate of the people of Uzbekistan.

The description of the events preceding Uzbekistan's participation in World War II includes a number of key stages and factors that influenced the development of events:

- **1. Signing of the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact (August 23, 1939):** This pact between the Soviet Union and Nazi Germany contained secret protocols dividing the two countries' spheres of influence in Eastern Europe. This allowed Germany to go to war with Poland without the danger of attack from the Soviet Union [1].
- **2. Beginning of the War in Europe (September 1, 1939):** The German attack on Poland marked the beginning of World War II in Europe. In response, France and Great Britain declared war on Germany, but active hostilities at the beginning of the war did not attract Soviet troops.
- **3. Negotiations between the USSR and Finland (1939-1940):** The Soviet Union negotiated with Finland to create a counterbalance to the influence of Nazi Germany in Scandinavia. However, without achieving satisfactory results, the USSR started a war with Finland at the end of 1939.
- **4. Conquest of Western Ukraine and Western Belarus (September 1939):** After the partition of Poland between Germany and the Soviet Union, the latter proceeded to annex Western Ukraine and Western Belarus, which drew condemnation from the West but did not lead to direct military action.
- **5. Beginning of hostilities on the Western Front (May 1940):** In May 1940, the Nazi German offensive began on the Western Front, leading to the collapse of French and British forces and the surrender of France in June 1940.

These events preceded the active participation of the Soviet Union, including Uzbekistan, in World War II and determined the further course of events on the Eastern Front.

**Uzbekistan's participation in World War II involved extensive mobilization of resources and manpower.** The republic became an important center for the production of military products and equipment for the front. New defense enterprises were created on the territory of Uzbekistan, and existing production was reoriented for wartime needs. The production of military equipment, ammunition, medical equipment and other materials was successfully established and functioned throughout the war. [2].

An important aspect of mobilization was also the participation of the Uzbek population in front-line and rear work. More than 1.5 million Uzbeks were called up to the front or sent to work in the rear, which made up a significant part of the republic's population. In addition,

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women actively participated in labor mobilization, replacing men in production and agriculture.

Agriculture of Uzbekistan has made a huge contribution to meeting the food needs of the army and population. Most of the agricultural products were sent to the front, which required significant efforts to increase production and organize supplies. Thus, the mobilization of Uzbekistan's resources and labor became an important factor in its participation in World War II and made a significant contribution to the overall victory over Nazism.

The Uzbek population took an active part in the fighting of World War II, making a significant contribution to the overall victory of the Allies. More than 1.5 million Uzbeks were drafted to the front, where they fought in various areas of the war, from defending their native land in the Caucasus and Central Asia to fighting for the liberation of European countries [3].

The names of Uzbek soldiers who distinguished themselves during the war became symbols of courage and dedication. For example, Mazhid Oltinbekov, commander of a section of the 18th Infantry Regiment, distinguished himself in the battles for Kyiv, where his unit liberated a populated area and destroyed up to 60 fascists. Abdulla Khudoiberdiev, commander of a section of the 18th Guards Rifle Regiment, participated in the liberation of Odessa, Kyiv and Warsaw.

An important part of the Uzbeks' participation in the war was their participation in the defense of Stalingrad. Soldiers from Uzbekistan fought on various fronts, defending every street and every house. Despite difficulties and hardships, they continued to fight until the last [4].

Uzbek women also contributed to the war. They worked in medical institutions, helped the wounded and sick, participated in partisan detachments and underground organizations, and performed various labor tasks on the home front.

Thus, the participation of the Uzbek population in the hostilities of World War II was an expression of their high patriotism and willingness to give their lives for their Motherland. The names of Uzbek soldiers and officers who distinguished themselves in battle remain in the memory of descendants as heroes who defended peace and freedom.

Uzbekistan's contribution to the victory in World War II was significant not only at the military, but also at the production and economic level. The republic became an important center for the production of military products and equipment for the front, as well as the internal needs of the country. Below are the main aspects of Uzbekistan's production and economic contribution to the victory [5]:

**1. Production of military products:** Uzbekistan actively participated in the production of military equipment, ammunition, medical equipment and other materials for the front. New defense enterprises were created on the territory of the republic, and existing production was reoriented to wartime needs. This made it possible to provide the front with the necessary weapons and equipment [7].

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**2. Supporting military production in other regions:** Uzbekistan also played an important role in supporting military production in other regions of the Soviet Union. The Republic supplied not only its own products to the front, but also transported and stored important materials and resources from other parts of the country [9].

- **3. Ensuring the food needs of the front and the population:** Agriculture of Uzbekistan has made a huge contribution to meeting the food needs of the army and the population. Most of the agricultural products were sent to the front, which required significant efforts to increase production and organize supplies. Uzbekistan also exported food to maintain the combat effectiveness of the army and the country's economy [10].
- **4. Labor mobilization and support for rear work:** Uzbekistan has actively mobilized labor resources to support the front and the needs of the economy. All segments of the republic's population took part in labor efforts, from women and youth to the elderly and disabled. Rear work was organized and carried out at a high level, which ensured the stable functioning of the economy and the maintenance of the front [11].

Thus, Uzbekistan's industrial and economic contribution to the victory in World War II was significant and played an important role in the overall Allied success over fascism.

**Uzbek diplomats played a significant role in key international events during the Second World War.** For example, Narzullakhan Abdurakhmanov, who at that time was an employee of the Soviet Union Embassy in Iran, participated in the Tehran Conference in 1943. His participation in the conference was important in the context of discussing the strategy for further military action against Nazi Germany [2].

The Yalta Conference in 1945 was attended by Abdurakhman Avtorkhanov, who at that time was a member of the USSR diplomatic group in the USA. His role at the conference was significant, since issues related to the post-war structure of Europe and the world as a whole were discussed at Yalta. Uzbek diplomats also played an important role in the preparation and holding of the Potsdam Conference. One of them was Abdullakhan Mukushev, who at that time served as an employee of the USSR Embassy in Great Britain. His participation in the conference was associated with a discussion of questions about the division of Germany and the structure of Europe after the war. [6].

Thus, Uzbek diplomats made a significant contribution to international relations during the Second World War, actively participating in key events and contributing to the formation of international politics in the post-war period.

Uzbekistan's participation in World War II had a significant impact on the economy, culture and society of the republic.

**Economic consequences:** - During the war, the Uzbek economy switched to military production, which led to an increase in the production of military equipment, ammunition and other materials for the front. The war also required the mobilization of all the country's resources, which led to an increase in agricultural production for the needs of the front and

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the population. Participation in the war ensured the development of the republic's infrastructure, as roads, railways and other facilities necessary to support the front were built [11].

**Cultural consequences:** The war had a significant impact on the culture of Uzbekistan, as many people went to the front, which led to changes in the socio-cultural life of the country. Participation in the war also contributed to the formation of patriotic feelings among the population and the strengthening of national identity [12-14].

**Social consequences:** Participation in the war led to large human losses for Uzbekistan, both military personnel and civilians. The war also stimulated the development of education and science in the republic, since it was necessary to train specialists for the needs of the front and provide for the economy [15].

Thus, Uzbekistan's participation in World War II had a complex impact on the economy, culture and society of the republic, leading to changes in all spheres of the country's life and leaving a mark on the history of the nation.

Uzbekistan made an important contribution to the victory in World War II, which manifested itself in many aspects. The mobilization of more than 1.5 million Uzbeks at the front underlines the scale of the republic's participation in the war effort. The production of military products and provision of the front with the necessary resources testifies to the important economic role of Uzbekistan in that period. The participation of the Uzbek population in hostilities on various fronts of military conflicts emphasizes their military spirit and readiness to defend their country. The active participation of Uzbek diplomats and political figures in international relations at conferences in Tehran, Yalta and Potsdam emphasized the importance of the republic in shaping the post-war world order. Supporting allies and participating in international organizations shows Uzbekistan's willingness to work with other countries for a common goal. In general, Uzbekistan's contribution to the victory in World War II turned out to be invaluable and left a bright mark on the history of not only the republic, but also the entire world community.

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