

Philosophical Research in the Early Years of Uzbekistan's Independence (1990-1994): an Analytical Overview

Otabek Ortikov¹

¹ PhD. Kokand state pedagogical institute

Sevinch Nozimjon kizi Aliyeva²

² 1st year student of Kokand state pedagogical institute

Abstract:

The early years of Uzbekistan's independence, from 1990 to 1994, marked a period of profound philosophical exploration and redefinition. As the nation emerged from Soviet rule, scholars embarked on a quest to articulate a distinct Uzbek philosophical identity that reconciled traditional values with modern statehood imperatives. This analytical overview examines the evolution of philosophical research during this transformative era, exploring key themes, influential figures, and intellectual contributions. The study highlights the synthesis of indigenous philosophical traditions with contemporary ideologies, addressing challenges in nation-building and identity formation. By analyzing seminal works and intellectual currents of the time, this paper provides insights into how philosophical discourse in Uzbekistan laid the groundwork for shaping cultural and ideological frameworks in the post-Soviet era.

Keywords: Philosophical research, Uzbekistan, independence, identity, nation-building, intellectual history, Soviet legacy, cultural heritage, modernization.

Introduction

The early years of Uzbekistan's independence, spanning from 1990 to 1994, were a period of significant transformation and intellectual reawakening. As the nation transitioned from Soviet rule to sovereignty, there was a profound need to redefine its cultural, social, and philosophical identity.

This era prompted a renaissance in philosophical inquiry as scholars sought to explore and establish the foundational principles that would guide the newly independent state.

Philosophical research during this period was characterized by a quest to reconcile traditional Uzbek values with the contemporary demands of a modern nation-state. This involved revisiting and reinterpreting the rich philosophical heritage of Uzbekistan, including its Islamic, pre-Islamic, and Soviet influences, to forge a cohesive national ideology. The interplay between indigenous philosophical traditions and the need for modernization created a fertile ground for academic discourse and debate.

This analytical overview aims to examine the key themes, figures, and contributions of philosophical research conducted in Uzbekistan from 1990 to 1994. By delving into the works of prominent philosophers and the intellectual currents of the time, this study seeks to provide a comprehensive understanding of how philosophical thought evolved during this pivotal period. The analysis will highlight the challenges and opportunities faced by Uzbek philosophers as they navigated the complexities of nation-building and identity formation in the early years of independence.

Through this exploration, the paper will shed light on the broader implications of philosophical research in shaping the ideological and cultural landscape of post-Soviet Uzbekistan. It will also underscore the enduring relevance of these early intellectual efforts in informing contemporary philosophical discourse and policy-making in the country.

Literature Review. The early years of Uzbekistan's independence from 1990 to 1994 witnessed a resurgence of philosophical inquiry aimed at defining and shaping the cultural, social, and ideological landscape of the newly sovereign nation. This literature review examines the seminal philosophical research conducted during this transformative period, exploring the key themes, methodologies, and contributions of Uzbek scholars.

Revisiting Philosophical Heritage

Uzbekistan's philosophical landscape in the early 1990s was characterized by a revival of interest in its rich historical and cultural heritage. Scholars revisited and reinterpreted indigenous philosophical traditions rooted in Islamic thought, Sufism, and pre-Islamic philosophical ideas such as Zoroastrianism. This exploration aimed to reclaim and integrate traditional Uzbek values into the contemporary discourse of nation-building and identity formation.

Synthesis of Modern and Traditional Philosophies

One of the notable features of philosophical research during this period was the synthesis of modern Western philosophies with Uzbek traditional thought. Scholars sought to reconcile universal philosophical principles with the specific socio-cultural context of Uzbekistan, addressing issues of modernization, globalization, and cultural authenticity. This synthesis reflected a broader intellectual endeavor to establish a cohesive national ideology that resonated with both historical continuity and contemporary aspirations.

Intellectual Debates and Discourses

The early years of independence sparked vibrant intellectual debates among Uzbek philosophers. Discussions ranged from epistemological inquiries into the nature of knowledge and truth, to ethical considerations concerning societal values and norms. These debates were influenced by global philosophical trends as well as local socio-political developments, contributing to a dynamic and diverse philosophical discourse.

Philosophical Contributions to Nation-Building

Philosophical research in Uzbekistan from 1990 to 1994 played a crucial role in shaping the ideological foundations of the nascent state. Scholars engaged in critical reflections on governance, democracy, secularism, and cultural identity, offering theoretical frameworks that informed policy-making and societal reforms. The philosophical insights gained during this period continue to influence Uzbekistan's intellectual and cultural landscape, providing enduring perspectives on the complexities of nationhood and societal development.

Challenges and Future Directions

Despite its intellectual vigor, philosophical research in early independent Uzbekistan faced challenges such as limited resources, institutional restructuring, and the legacy of Soviet ideological dominance. Moving forward, scholars emphasized the need for interdisciplinary approaches, international collaboration, and the integration of philosophical inquiry into broader educational curricula to sustain and expand philosophical discourse in Uzbekistan.

Research methodology. While national ideology and the national democratic development concept do not predominate in these studies, they contain analyzes, opinions aimed at preserving the unique traditions of our people, our nation, Social way of life, historical heritage, understanding positive features in Islamic values. Doctoral dissertation cannot follow the demands of social life that change the day, it is formed as a product of theoretical and empirical research carried out over many years. Therefore, it is natural that the influence of old ideology and philosophy is preserved in the dissertations and published monographs defended in 1990-1994. 1994 year I.M.Mominov's books "From the history of socio-philosophical thought of Uzbekistan" and it was published in 1995. True, I.M.Mominov was alive (he died in 1974) he would have written the above works in a completely different spirit and style. Analysis and results. In them, the history of socio-philosophical thought is covered from the point of view of the new era, based on the goal of forming a new socio-philosophical thought in independent Uzbekistan. But these works prompted the study of socio-philosophical thought in independent Uzbekistan from the point of view of the new era and from the interests of national development. Therefore, we propose to start the period of formation of new socio-philosophical thoughts in connection with Real life, social being, national interests from 1994-1995. But it does not deny that these socio-philosophical thoughts were studied earlier, even in the days of the saloans, in this regard, attentive studies were carried out.

Conclusion. The new socio-philosophical thought is also a new gnoseological search for the expression of the Indigenous interests of the Uzbek people, the nation, the strategic goal of the Republic of Uzbekistan - the creation of a democratic legal state, a free civil society and the formation of a highly spiritual, harmonious generation. The philosophical research conducted during the early years of Uzbekistan's independence (1990-1994) represented a pivotal moment in the nation's intellectual history. It reflected a concerted effort to redefine Uzbek identity, integrate traditional philosophical values with modern ideologies, and contribute to the broader discourse of global philosophical thought. By examining the themes, methodologies, and contributions of this period, this literature review underscores the enduring relevance of philosophical inquiry in shaping cultural and ideological frameworks in post-Soviet Uzbekistan.

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