

UZBEK WEDDING AND TRADITIONS IN TRANSLATIONS

GO'ZALOY ASQAROVNA SOBIROVA

Lecturer, Tashkent state university of Oriental studies

DILDORA KHAMROKULOVNA YUNUSOVA

Lecturer, Tashkent state university of Oriental studies

Abstract: *Every nation has its own historically formed traditions and customs, among them, the Uzbek people have a unique ethnographic history that has been formed over the years. Among such traditions, the weddings of the Uzbek people are the main rituals that have been practiced since ancient times until now.*

Key words: *wedding, customs, ceremony, religious tradition.*

Introduction

The Uzbek people have a rich history, spiritual values, and national traditions from the ancient past to the present day, and have preserved them in their hearts and spirituality over time, from generation to generation is coming. Along with the formation and development of human life, it serves as the basis for the emergence of the needs for the future, and history undertakes to analyze the past lifestyle of our ancestors in an honest, truthful and critical spirit. After our country gained national independence, there was an opportunity to convey the historical truth to our people in a way free from ideological pressure and influence, objectively and truthfully, from the point of view of justice and historicity. Also, **K. Shoniyozov's** scientific theoretical works contain valuable information on the ethnic history, material and spiritual life of the Uzbek people, in particular, on wedding ceremonies, fatiha (Uzbek national tradition), focuses directly on the wedding rituals and the rituals that take place after the wedding. (1)

Weddings in the Republic of Uzbekistan are colorful, festive, and rich in tradition. Here are some key aspects of Uzbek wedding traditions:

1. **Matchmaking:** Traditionally, marriages in Uzbekistan were arranged by parents or matchmakers. While arranged marriages are less common now, matchmaking is still an important part of the process.

2. **Engagement:** The engagement ceremony, known as "to'y" (Uzbek wedding), is a formal event where the families of the bride and groom come together to exchange gifts and finalize the marriage arrangements.

3. **Wedding attire:** Brides typically wear colorful traditional dresses called "uzbeki" or "khan-atlas" (Uzbek national fabric) which are adorned with intricate embroidery and jewelry. Grooms wear traditional outfits like "chapans" (Uzbek national costumes) or suits.

4. **Wedding celebrations:** Uzbek weddings are multi-day affairs with various rituals and ceremonies. These include the "kelin salom" (Uzbek national tradition) where the bride is welcomed into the groom's family, the "nikokh-tui" (Uzbek national tradition) which is the official wedding ceremony, and the "to'y" which is a festive reception.

5. **Dancing and music:** Music and dance are integral parts of Uzbek weddings. Traditional Uzbek dances like the "lapar" and "khorezm" (Uzbek national dances) are performed by guests to celebrate the union of the couple.

6. **Feasting:** Uzbek weddings are known for their lavish feasts with traditional dishes like plov (rice pilaf), shashlik (grilled meat), and various sweets. Guests are treated to a variety of delicious foods throughout the celebration.

7. **Gift-giving:** It is customary for guests to bring gifts for the newlyweds, usually in the form of money or household items to help them start their new life together.

Overall, Uzbek weddings are a vibrant display of culture, tradition, and community spirit, bringing families and friends together to celebrate love and unity.

Now we will introduce the role of Uzbek national wedding garments in the wedding ceremony. Traditional Uzbek wedding garments play a significant role in the marriage ceremony as they symbolize cultural heritage, family traditions, and the joyous occasion of the union between the bride and groom.

Here are some key aspects of the role of traditional Uzbek wedding garments in the marriage ceremony:

1.Symbol of Cultural Identity: The bride and groom wear traditional Uzbek wedding attire to showcase their cultural identity and heritage. These garments often feature intricate designs, vibrant colors, and traditional motifs that are unique to Uzbekistan.

2.Blessings and Good wishes: The wedding garments are believed to bring blessings and good wishes to the couples as they start their new life together. The elaborate embroidery, rich fabrics, and ornate details symbolize prosperity, happiness, and fertility.

3.Family Traditions: Traditional Uzbek wedding garments are often passed down through generations within families. Wearing these garments connects the couple to their ancestors and upholds family traditions that have been cherished for years.

4.Sign of Respect: Wearing traditional wedding attire is a sign of respect for cultural customs and traditions. It shows reverence for the values and beliefs that are important to the Uzbek community.

5.Symbol of Love and Commitment: The wedding garments symbolize the love and commitment between the bride and groom. By dressing in traditional attire, they express their dedication to each other and to their shared future.

6.Aesthetic Beauty: Traditional Uzbek wedding garments are known for their beauty and craftsmanship. The intricate embroidery, luxurious fabrics, and elegant silhouettes create a stunning visual display that adds to the grandeur of the marriage ceremony.

7.Ceremonial Significance: The act of dressing in traditional wedding attire is a ceremonial tradition that marks the solemnity of the occasion. It signifies the transition from singlehood to married life and marks the beginning of a new chapter in the couple's journey together. (2)

Overall, traditional Uzbek wedding garments play a vital role in the marriage ceremony by symbolizing cultural identity, family traditions, blessings, respect,

love, commitment, aesthetic beauty, and ceremonial significance. They add a touch of elegance and tradition to the celebration and create a memorable and meaningful experience for the couple and their families.

In Uzbekistan, wedding are typically grand and festive affairs that involve a number of traditional customs and rituals. So, here are some common ways Uzbek couples celebrate their wedding day:

1. **Nikah Ceremony:** The wedding ceremony usually begins with the Nikah, which is the official marriage contract signing. This is a religious ceremony conducted by an Imam, where the couple officially becomes husband and wife.

2. **Traditional Attire:** The bride typically wears a colorful and elaborate traditional Uzbek dress called a "Khanatoya" or "Atlas" dress, while the groom wears a traditional Uzbek suit called a "Khalat".

3. **Wedding Procession:** The groom's family and friends gather at his house and then proceed to the bride's house in a festive procession known as the "Tuy" or "wedding escort." They bring gifts, food, and music to the bride's house.

4. **Money Dance:** In Uzbek weddings, there is a tradition called "Qalym," where guests pin money to the bride's dress or place it in her hand as a gift.

5. **Games and Entertainment:** Various games and entertainment activities are organized to keep guests engaged and entertained throughout the wedding celebration. (3)

Overall, Uzbek weddings are joyful occasions that celebrate love, family, and tradition.

How have modern influences impacted traditional Uzbek wedding customs in Uzbekistan?

Modern influences have had a significant impact on traditional Uzbek wedding customs in Uzbekistan, leading to a blend of old and new practices. Some ways in which modern influences have impacted traditional Uzbek wedding customs include:

1. **Fashion and Attire:** Modern fashion trends have influenced the way brides and grooms dress for their weddings. While traditional Uzbek wedding attire such

as the "khan atlas" for women and "chapans" for men are still popular, many couples now incorporate modern elements into their outfits, such as Western-style suits and dresses.

2. Technology: The use of technology has changed the way weddings are planned and celebrated. Social media platforms, online wedding planning tools, and digital invitations have become common in modern Uzbek weddings, making it easier for couples to organize and share their special day with guests.

3. Entertainment: Modern forms of entertainment, such as live music bands, DJs, and dance performances, have become more prevalent at Uzbek weddings. In addition, as mentioned earlier, inflatables and other modern entertainment options are also making their way into wedding celebrations, providing a fun and interactive experience for guests.

4. Food and Catering: While traditional Uzbek cuisine remains a central part of wedding feasts, modern influences have led to the inclusion of international dishes and fusion cuisine in wedding menus. Couples may choose to offer a mix of traditional and contemporary dishes to cater to diverse tastes.

5. Venue and Decor: Modern venue choices, such as hotels, event halls, and outdoor spaces, have become popular for Uzbek weddings, replacing traditional family homes or community centers. Additionally, modern decor elements like floral arrangements, lighting effects, and themed decorations are often incorporated to create a visually appealing ambiance.

6. Personalization: With the influence of modern trends, couples are increasingly personalizing their weddings to reflect their unique style and preferences. From customized wedding favors to creative wedding themes, modern influences have allowed couples to add a personal touch to their special day. (Uzbek Weddings: Sociological and Cultural Aspects. Ganieva Marifat, Latipova Nodira, Alekseeva Victoria, Abdukhalilov Abdulla.) (4)

Overall, while traditional Uzbek wedding customs continue to hold significance in Uzbekistan, the influence of modern trends has brought about changes that reflect the evolving preferences and lifestyles of contemporary couples.

This fusion of tradition and modernity has created a dynamic and diverse landscape for Uzbek wedding celebrations.

So, Uzbekistan is a diverse country with various regions that have their own unique cultural traditions and customs, including wedding rituals. Here are some examples of regional variations in wedding traditions across different parts of Uzbekistan:

1. **Tashkent:** In the capital city of Tashkent, weddings are often grand and elaborate affairs with a focus on modernity and sophistication. The city's cosmopolitan nature has led to a blend of traditional Uzbek customs with contemporary trends, resulting in weddings that feature luxurious venues, designer attire, and high-end entertainment options.

2. **Samarkand:** In the historic city of Samarkand, weddings often incorporate elements of the region's rich cultural heritage. Traditional ceremonies such as the "nikah" (engagement ceremony) and "toy" (wedding celebration) are celebrated with reverence, and the city's iconic architecture serves as a stunning backdrop for wedding photoshoots.

3. **Bukhara:** Known for its well-preserved historic sites and traditional way of life, weddings in Bukhara often reflect the city's conservative values and deep-rooted traditions. Ceremonies are typically held in traditional settings like madrasahs or caravanserais, and customs such as the "henna night" (where the bride's hands are adorned with intricate henna designs) are commonly observed.

4. **Khorezm:** Located in the northwest of Uzbekistan, the Khorezm region has its own distinct wedding customs that set it apart from other parts of the country. Weddings in Khorezm often feature lively music and dance performances, traditional folk songs, and elaborate feasts showcasing local cuisine.

5. **Fergana Valley:** Situated in the eastern part of Uzbekistan, the Fergana Valley is known for its vibrant culture and strong sense of community. Weddings in this region are typically community events where neighbors, friends, and relatives come together to celebrate the union of two families. Traditional dances like "lapar" and "beshik tui" are commonly performed during Fergana Valley weddings.

6:Karakalpakstan: In the autonomous republic of Karakalpakstan, located in western Uzbekistan, weddings often feature unique customs influenced by the region's nomadic heritage. Traditional elements such as horseback riding, camel races, and yurt dwellings may be incorporated into These regional variations in wedding traditions across different parts of Uzbekistan highlight the diverse cultural landscape of the country and showcase the richness of its heritage. While certain customs may be shared across regions, each area has its own unique practices that reflect its history, values, and identity. Karakalpak weddings, adding a distinctive touch to the celebrations. (5)

These regional variations in wedding traditions across different parts of Uzbekistan highlight the diverse cultural landscape of the country and showcase the richness of its heritage. While certain customs may be shared across regions, each area has its own unique practices that reflect its history, values, and identity.

Conclusion: Uzbek people are able to create an unforgettable and meaningful experience that reflects their identity and values while respecting their wedding ceremonies. These traditions not only give depth and authenticity to weddings, but also serve to preserve the Uzbek cultural heritage and pass it on to future generations. So, weddings and family celebrations as important factors reflecting the culture, spiritual level of the people play an important role in public life, are part of traditions of the people of Uzbekistan.

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