

**Russian transcript:**

- Какие у Туркменистана отношения с государствами которые граничат с Туркменистаном?

- В 94 году Туркменистан получил статус нейтралитета, это единственная признанная ООН страна, поэтому Туркменистан нейтральная страна. У нее со всеми соседями очень хорошие отношения. Это, я как говорю, единственная признанная ООН страна. Это Австрия и Швейцария, они тоже нейтральные, когда их признавали ООН не было. Так что мы первые, единственная страна ООН признанная, нейтральная...и...Ашхабад сейчас используется для многих решенных политических проблем Афганистана, Иранские встречи производятся...а так пограничных споров ни с кем нету. С Казахстаном, с Узбекистаном все договора решены, хотя граница прошла по таким участкам где один посёлок разделён на две...один ушёл в сторону Узбекистана, другой в сторону Туркменистана. Один посёлок через дорогу граница...такая и в Афганистане так...и в Иране, ну хотя в Иране, я уже раньше говорил, около восьми миллионов туркмен живёт...тоже самое.

- А вообще не возникали никакие проблемы...вот между вот этими национальностями которые живут в Туркменистане?

- Нет,

- Между туркменами и русскими или...

- Нет, нет, такого...национальных расприй там нету, на счёт чего, это единственная из бывших союзных республик Туркмения где не было национальных расприй или...не было такого. В этом может заслуга самая главная Сапармурада Ниязова, а остальные республики все прошли через это. Нет, по моему и Казахстан...Казахстан нет...нет, в Казахстане было тоже.

**English translation:**

- What kind of relationship does Turkmenistan have with the bordering countries?

- In '94 Turkmenistan received the status of neutrality; it is the only country recognized [as neutral] by the UN -- that's why Turkmenistan is a neutral country. It is on good terms with all the neighboring countries. It is, as I am saying, the only country recognized by the UN. Austria and Switzerland, they are neutral too; when they were recognized, there was no UN. So we are the first, the only country recognized by the UN as neutral...and...Ashkhabad is used for solving many political problems, like Afghanistan ... Iranian meetings are held...there are no border

issues with anybody. All the agreements are done with Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan, though the borderline went through such areas where one village was divided into two; one [part] went to Uzbekistan, and the other is on the Turkmen side. [In] one village, the border is on the other side of the road...the same is with Afghanistan...and Iran, well, though in Iran, as I already said, about eight million Turkmens live there...the same thing.

- In general, have there been any problems....among these ethnic groups that live in Turkmenistan?

- No.

- Between Turkmens and Russians or....

- No, no such...there are no ethnic tensions in this case; it is the only one among the former soviet republics, Turkmenistan, where there were no ethnic problems...there were such things. This is, probably, Saparmurad Niyazov's most important service; all the other republics went through it. No, I think Kazakhstan also [did not]...Kazakhstan, no...no, Kazakhstan has had ... as well.

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