

**Uzbek transcript:**

Q: O'zbekistondagi millatlar to'g'risida nima deb bilasiz?

R: O'zbekistonda yuzdan ortiq millat vakillari yashaydi. Ular har doim bir xil, teng huquqda, manimcha 75 foizi, 70 -75 foizini o'zbeklar tashkil qilsa, qolganlari turli millat vakillari deb o'ylayman. Qoraqalpoqlar ham, qozoqlar ham bor, ham tojiklar ham bor. Samarqand, Buxoro bu yoq tojik-ku endi, tojik tilida gapiradi. Keyin boshqa ruslar, turkmanlar.

Q: Masalan, o'zingiz boshida aytib o'tganingizdek, rus tilini O'zbekistonda ko'pchilik biladi, ikkinchi tilday dedingiz, bu nima sababdan? Ruslar haliyam ko'pmi O'zbekistonda, rus tiliga e'tibor qanday?

R: Ruslar bor hozir ham, lekin oldingidek ko'p emas, manimcha. Nima uchun rus tili bizda xuddi o'zbek tilidek keng tarqalgan, chunki mustaqillikdan oldin, 1991 yil mustaqillik oldin biz SSSR tarkibida edik, shuning uchun bizda rus tili xuddi... asosiy til bo'lgan-da, xuddi birinchi til sifatida, rasmiy til sifatida rus tili qabul qilingan. Shuning uchun O'zbekistonning aholisi rus tilini xuddi o'zining ona tili, o'zbek tili kabi biladi, yaxshi biladi. Lekin hozirgi kunda rus maktablari ham faoliyat yuritayapti, Buxoroni o'zida 3 ta, 4 ta, manimcha, ko'p emas, maktablar qolgan, ruscha.

Q: demak, rus tiliga bo'lgan qiziqish pasayib boryapti?

R: Kop'chilik, endi rus, rus aholi kamroq qolganligi uchunmi, bilmadim.

Q: Tushunarli.

R: Shuning uchun bo'lsa kerak.

**English translation:**

K: What can you say about the nationalities [ethnicities] in Uzbekistan?

R: Uzbekistan has more than a hundred ethnicities. They are always the same, have equal rights, in my opinion, Uzbeks make up 75 percent, 70-75 percent. The rest are of different ethnicities, I think. There are Karakalpaks, Kazakhs, Tajiks. Samarqand, Bukhoro. These places are Tajik, speak Tajik....Then others, Russian, Turkmen....

K: For example, as you said above, most of the people in Uzbekistan know Russian, as their second language. What is the reason? Are there still a lot of Russians in Uzbekistan? What is the attitude towards Russian?

R: We still have Russians, but not as many as before, I think. Why Russian is as widespread as Uzbek, because before the independence, before the independence in 1991, we used to be part of USSR, that's why Russian. We had Russian like...it was the main language, as the first language. Russian was accepted as the official language. That's why the people of Uzbekistan know [speak] Russian as well as their mother tongue, like Uzbek. But nowadays Russian schools are functioning as well. Only in Buhoro there are three or four of them, I think. Not many Russian schools are left.

K: Well, the interest in Russian is decreasing?

R: Majority, well maybe because there are fewer Russian people left.

K: I see.

R: That's why I think.

**About CultureTalk:** CultureTalk is produced by the Five College Center for the Study of World Languages and housed on the LangMedia Website. The project provides students of language and culture with samples of people talking about their lives in the languages they use everyday. The participants in CultureTalk interviews and discussions are of many different ages and walks of life. They are free to express themselves as they wish. The ideas and opinions presented here are those of the participants. Inclusion in CultureTalk does not represent endorsement of these ideas or opinions by the Five College Center for the Study of World Languages, Five Colleges, Incorporated, or any of its member institutions: Amherst College, Hampshire College, Mount Holyoke College, Smith College and the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.

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