

UZBEK— ENGLISH DICTIONARY

COMPILED BY

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The following are the major works consulted:

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Özbek sovet entsiklopediyasi, I. M. Muminov, chief editor. Tashkent, 1971-77, 9 vols. so far.

In recent years there has been a steadily growing interest in the Turkic languages of Central Asia, especially in Uzbek which is one of the major languages of the USSR and has a long literary tradition. The appearance of this Uzbek-English dictionary, the first of its kind, is thus an important contribution for the advancement of Uzbek studies in the English-speaking world.

A great deal of illustrative material is provided in the dictionary all of which is translated, the translations being kept as close as possible to the original. For this reason, the dictionary will be useful both for English users and for Uzbek learners of English.

The dictionary was planned to cover the essential vocabulary of modern spoken Uzbek; thus it is neither historical nor etymological but illustrates current usage. In addition, it contains a number of literary and technical terms as well as words that have entered the language through Russian. Abbreviations in common use are also included. The grammatical category of each head-word is marked.

There are between 9,000 and 10,000 head-words but the number of words covered is considerably more: this is because the head-words are in unsuffixed form, and suffixes and prefixes are given as separate entries, making it possible to find the meaning of a large number of suffixed forms for which there are no entries.

The writing system of Uzbek has changed several times in the past fifty years but, although this dictionary is in the currently used Cyrillic script, it can be used with texts published before the adoption of this script because a table of equivalents in the different alphabets is provided.

The Uzbek spelling does not represent the pronunciation unambiguously and the user of the dictionary is given a helpful guide to the pronunciation in relation to the spelling, in a separate section.

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