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## Uzbekistan-Malaysia: Strengthening Economic and Cultural Ties



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TASHKENT, February 4. /Dunyo IA/ – At the invitation of Malaysian Prime Minister Anwar

Ibrahim, Uzbekistan's President Shavkat Mirziyoyev is set to embark on an official visit to

Malaysia on February 4-5. The visit underscores the deepening bilateral ties, established since

Malaysia recognized Uzbekistan's independence in 1992.

High-level engagements between both nations have bolstered cooperation across multiple

sectors. Notably, Malaysian Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim's visit to Uzbekistan in May 2024

resulted in a Joint Statement on deepening cooperation and 19 investment agreements worth over \$3 billion. These initiatives focus on trade, investment, and cultural exchanges.

Economic collaboration is growing, with bilateral trade surpassing \$102 million in 2024. Over 40 Malaysian-invested enterprises operate in Uzbekistan, and six major projects worth \$12 million have been implemented. The first-ever trade fair showcasing Uzbek agricultural products in Malaysia in December 2024 highlighted the increasing market potential.

Strategic alignment between Uzbekistan's "Uzbekistan-2030" and Malaysia's "Malaysia Madani" visions facilitates collaboration in sustainable growth, technological innovation, and human capital development. Joint initiatives include infrastructure projects, the development of Islamic banking, and educational partnerships, with over 500 Uzbek students currently studying in Malaysia.

Cultural exchanges remain strong, exemplified by Uzbek contributions to Malaysian architecture, joint academic conferences, and media collaborations. Tourism is flourishing, with nearly 10,000 Malaysians visiting Uzbekistan in 2024.

The visit aims to further solidify the comprehensive partnership, fostering economic growth, educational collaboration, and cultural ties between Uzbekistan and Malaysia.