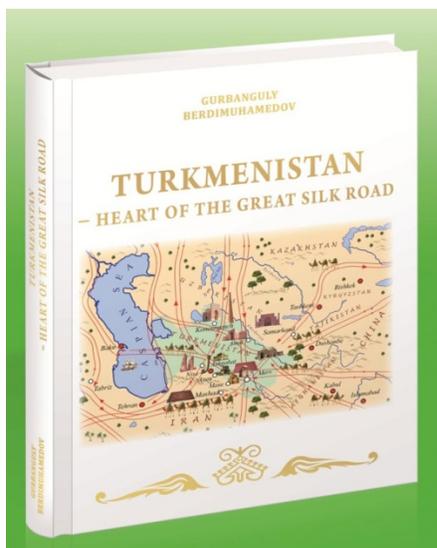


«TURKMENISTAN IS THE HEART OF THE GREAT SILK ROAD» THE NEW BOOK OF PRESIDENT OF TURKMENISTAN



Turkmenistan devotes high importance to transport and transit sectors. The country has been developing transit routes in view of its favorable geographical location. In October 2017, the new book of President of Turkmenistan Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov «**Turkmenistan is the heart of the Great Silk Road**» has been officially launched. According to the Press Center of the Turkmen State Publishing Service, the book has been published in Turkmen, English and Russian languages, and is intended for a wide range of readers.

The book consists of six chapters: «Along Jeyhun», «Ancient Merv», «Between Sarakhs and Anau», «From Nisa to Dehistan», «On the Ancient Land of Dashoguz», «In a Fairy World». This unique survey of the territory of Turkmenistan - from the East to the

West, represents the «geography» of the Great Silk Road, connected with the cities and sign places of Turkmenistan, from ancient times located in the center of trade and cultural routes. Evidence of this are the numerous monuments of different eras and people's memory, which still preserves amazing legends and tales.

The Great Silk Road as a unique phenomenon in world history, which connected dozens of countries with trade, information and cultural contacts, is considered in the book not only in the context of the history and spiritual values of the Turkmen people, but also the future of this country. The unique material, collected under the cover of the new work, allows the author to tie together history and modernity, gradually opening to the reader his idea, his reflections on the past, present and future of his native people. The new work allows objectively assess the historical path of the Turkmen, get acquainted with their national and cultural identity, traditions, customs and life standards, deeply realize the invaluable contribution of the Turkmen people to world scientific, economic and cultural progress.

Page by page, the author reveals the importance of the ancient caravan line in the formation of national and spiritual values. As if traveling along the caravan roads of the Silk Road, the reader along with the narrator slowly goes through the pages of the history and cultural traditions of Turkmen people. This spiritual, lyrical mood is emphasized by magnificent photos and illustrations of works of fine art from the funds of the Union of Artists, the Museum of Fine Arts and the State Academy of Arts of Turkmenistan.

The book allows considering initiative and constructive position of neutral Turkmenistan in international arena, its endeavor for regional and global integration. It is symbolically that the name of the book became the slogan of 2018 in Turkmenistan.

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