Uqamistan

Uqamistan is the name of a fictional country on the fictional continent of Equatorial Cyberspace located between here and there. There isn't really a country called Uqamistan.

Geography

Uqamistan is a country 250,210 square kilometers, located in Equatorial Cyberspace. The country is divided into northern and southern regions by the Bouchard mountains. A small section of Uqamistan's northern territory along the border with Ruritania is fertile plains. Dense forests cover much of the country's physical terrain south of the Bouchard mountain range.

During the winter months, rainfall is moderately heavy in the southern region of Uqamistan while the northern regions of the country enjoy slightly more moderate weather conditions.

Demography

The total population of Uqamistan was estimated by the UN in 2018 to be 10.6 million. The population of Uqamistan is largely homogenous, with 84% of its inhabitants being ethnic Uqami. There are also small pockets of Zaharians, including some refugees, constituting 8% of the population situated principally in the northern region of the country. The remaining 8% are composed of various other minorities.

A large majority of Uqamistan's population, 81%, is situated in rural areas. The vast remainder of the population is located in Uqamistan's three major cities: **Berri**(c800,000) in the south, **Rexingrad** in the south-east (c600,000) and **Degoba** (c450,000) to the far north near the Ruritanian border.

Economy

Uqamistan's economy is based primarily on the export of its natural resources, particularly wheat and lumber, which account for 25% and 30% of the country's annual exports respectively. Uqamistan's wheat is produced almost exclusively in its northern prairie regions, while the lumber industry is centered in the southern part of the country. The World Bank has estimated the GNP/capita of Uqamistan at $650 ($2,742 per capita PPPP adjusted), and an external debt of $1.5 billion. Negotiations with the IMF on structural adjustment have thus far achieved no agreement, and the government is faced with a large current account deficit, a growing budgetary deficit, and mounting economic challenges.

Welcome to Cyberpedia,
A guide to Equatorial Cyberspace.
4,294,639 articles in English

Uqamistan

Map of Equatorial Cyberspace

Area
250,210 km²

Population
10,600,000

Capital City
- Berri

Major Cities
- Berri
- Degoba
- Rexingrad

Languages
Uqami

Flag of Uqamistan

In recent years Uqamistan's economy has been under pressure due to sagging global timber prices. As a result of this downturn, there has been certain efforts at diversification particularly in the areas of small-scale industrial manufacturing and chemical production. The success of these efforts, has thus far, been somewhat limited, in part due to the suspicion with which many foreign investors view Uqamistan's revolutionary government. One notable exception is Uqamistan's arms production facilities, which produce various small arms and ammunition.

GNP (2018)
$7,950 million

Transportation

Due to its rugged terrain and limited resources the transportation network of Uqamistan is relatively underdeveloped. The paved Krycek-expressway links the cities of Berri and Rexingrad. A paved road also links Rexingrad to Concordia's capital, Port Royal. Plans to build a paved link with neighbouring Ruritania have failed to materialize. The southern region of Uqamistan is connected to the north only through a railway, which passes through the Bouchard mountain range linking Berri with Degoba. The Berri-Degoba rail line cannot, however, operate in heavy rain due to the high risk of mudslides, and as a result land links between north and south Uqamistan are frequently cut off.

Uqamistan's only airport equipped with a paved airstrip is located in Berri. The capital is also the location of the country's only large seaport.

History

For centuries the area currently known as Uqamistan was inhabited by nomadic hunting tribes linked together only through their fervent worship of a triad of deities--Kurri, Esa and Moog--known as the Heavenly Dynasty who were said to have brought about the creation of the Uqami people. Around the turn of the 14th century a local chieftain, **N. R. Berri** supposedly acting upon a message from the Heavenly Dynasty, embarked upon a mission in which he endeavoured to unite the Uqami people. Through conquest and proselytization, Berri succeeded in uniting the Uqami population and in 1506 the Uqami Kingdom was established.

For the next 300 years, the Uqami Kingdom was ruled as an absolute hereditary monarchy. There were many great cultural and artistic achievements but little in the way of modern development. In the 19th century, imperialism appeared in Equatorial Cyberspace and before long British colonial expansion ran into the Uqami Kingdom. Initial efforts to repulse British encroachments met with disaster and placed the Uqami Monarchy under considerable pressure. It was under these circumstances that the ruling King Berri VII abdicated in favour of his cousin and military advisor, **C.M. Degoba**, who immediately launched a programme of military reforms.

In the wake of his reforms, Degoba undertook a series of selective defensive military campaigns, which aimed to prevent imperial subjugation. Following several years of armed clashes with the British, Degoba managed to secure Uqami independence and prevented the British colonial domination of all of southern Equatorial Cyberspace.

Monarchical rule continued until the early 1980s, when it was challenged by a small group of revolutionaries who claimed that the monarchy had become corrupt. These were led by **Hao Ke Hung**, who had been heavily influenced by the ideas of French radical leftists while studying in Paris. "Chairman Hao" had returned to Uqamistan in 1981 to expound his revolutionary philosophy of "Haoism". Together with his faithful right-hand man, Hoitch, his chief military strategist Mike Hershfield, and his diplomatic expert, Shai "Guevara" Korman, they together founded the Uqamistan People's Revolutionary Army. The decisive battle that marked the turning point in the struggle against the King occurred at Rexingrad on 25 November 1982, and--at high cost--saw the complete rout of the Royalist army. Hao assumed leadership of the country, and set it on a new and revolutionary course.

Hao and his initial cofounders of the movement were killed in a bomb blast in 2000, variously blamed on

counterrevolutionaries and Ruritanian agents. Since then, Uqamistan has been ruled by a revolutionary council committed to Hao's doctrines of "Uqami socialism."

Foreign Relations

The monarchical government of the Uqami Kingdom maintained a position of relative isolation. Its relations with its colonial British neighbours were hostile up until Ruritania and Concordia gained their independence in the 1960's. Prior to 1982 the country attempted to maintain a position of non-alignment, although it lent somewhat towards the Western camp for the purpose of arms acquisitions. Notwithstanding its Western sympathies, relations with Great Britain were and remain strained as bitter memories of Britain's attempts at colonization run deep amongst the Uqami people.

Following the revolution of 1982, Uqamistan moved away from the West, and became a vigorous proponent of anti-imperialism and Cyberian self-reliance. While the deepening of relations with the USSR were sidelined by the eventual collapse of the latter, relations with China remain strong. Uqamistan joined the United Nations in 1984 and the Organization of Cyberian Nations in 1988 to which it currently contributes forces for a joint peacekeeping unit.

Currently Uqamistan has somewhat strained relations with many states in Equatorial Cyberspace, several of which are suspicious of its revolutionary character. Relations with Brynania and Udem are particularly poor, with the Uqami government often critical of the later for continuing to host French military bases on its soil. The ruling revolutionary council of Uqamistan has also shown some signs of sympathy to the insurgent PFLZ in Brynania and has been accused of providing them with small arms and mines. Although Uqamistan is critical of the US-UK-Concordia Friendship Treaty, relations with neighbouring Concordia have generally been cordial, reflecting shared concern at their powerful common neighbour, Ruritania.

Armed Forces

The military strength of Uqamistan Armed Forces (UAF) has been measured at just over 20,000 active personnel, the majority of which are part of the Uqamistan People's Revolutionary Army (UPRA). The core of the UPRA is built around six regular infantry battalions and eight elite Revolutionary guard units. The army is currently equipped with 12 M60 and 22 T-62 MBTs (assigned to Revolutionary Guard units), 40 M113 and BMP-1 APCs, 12 M110 artillery pieces, and an unknown number of BM-14 and BM-21 MRLs. The serviceability of many Western-supplied items is unknown since the 1982 revolution. Uqamistan claims up to 100,000 additional reserve military personnel, equipped with small arms and organized in community "revolutionary local defence battalions."

The Uqami Revolutionary Air Force (500) is limited to 1 small squadron of aging F-4 fighters (6) and a few Bell UH-1H Iroquois helicopters of limited range, one of which is reserved for the transportation of government officials.

The Uqami Revolutionary Navy (800) consists of a half dozen small patrol boats of local construction.

China has recently offered to supply some military equipment—reportedly, up to 30 surplus Jian-7 fighters and Qiang-5 strike aircraft, 100 WZ551 armoured personnel carriers, two Type 053 frigates, plus spare parts and training for these systems—in exchange for oil exploration and production rights.

Disclaimer: Brynania is not a real country and exists as part of a fictional conflict simulation.