

**Notice:** Undefined index: et\_header\_layout in /home/hrwfe90/domains/hrwf.eu/public\_html/wp-content/plugins/pdf-print/pdf-print.php on line 1214

**Notice:** Trying to access array offset on value of type null in /home/hrwfe90/domains/hrwf.eu/public\_html/wp-content/plugins/pdf-print/pdf-print.php on line 1214

**Notice:** Undefined index: et\_header\_layout in /home/hrwfe90/domains/hrwf.eu/public\_html/wp-content/plugins/pdf-print/pdf-print.php on line 1215

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**Notice:** Undefined index: et\_template in /home/hrwfe90/domains/hrwf.eu/public\_html/wp-content/plugins/pdf-print/pdf-print.php on line 1216

## **Uzbekistan lifts ‘ban’ on minors attending prayers in mosques**

*Interior ministry says Muslim minors accompanied by ‘close relatives’ can attend mosques, ending a de facto ban.*

Al Jazeera (03.08.2020) – <https://bit.ly/3k9uspz> – Uzbekistan has allowed children to attend Muslim prayers again, ending a de facto ban first enforced under the country’s late first president, Islam Karimov.

The country’s interior ministry said during the weekend that

minors will be able to attend mosques “accompanied by fathers, brothers and close relatives” after restrictions on general worship imposed as a result of the coronavirus outbreak are lifted.

While the video statement posted on the ministry’s Telegram channel stressed there were no laws banning minors from attending mosques, a de facto ban was enforced under hardliner Karimov and persisted after his death in 2016.

According to a 2019 United States State Department report on religious freedom, police last year detained two bloggers who called for authorities to allow children to attend mosques, girls to wear hijabs and men to grow beards.

Religion is a sensitive topic for Uzbekistan’s government, which remains strongly secular nearly three decades after the country gained independence from the Soviet Union.

President Shavkat Mirziyoyev has introduced several political and economic reforms while keeping the authoritarian government intact.

Mirziyoyev served as prime minister under Karimov for more than 13 years and has continued to honour him in public despite reversing some of his most repressive policies.

**Notice:** Undefined index: et\_footer\_layout in /home/hrwfe90/domains/hrwf.eu/public\_html/wp-content/plugins/pdf-print/pdf-print.php on line 1266

**Notice:** Trying to access array offset on value of type null in `/home/hrwfe90/domains/hrwf.eu/public_html/wp-content/plugins/pdf-print/pdf-print.php` on line **1266**

**Notice:** Undefined index: `et_footer_layout` in `/home/hrwfe90/domains/hrwf.eu/public_html/wp-content/plugins/pdf-print/pdf-print.php` on line **1267**

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**Notice:** Undefined index: `et_template` in `/home/hrwfe90/domains/hrwf.eu/public_html/wp-content/plugins/pdf-print/pdf-print.php` on line **1268**