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# **ASSALOMU ALAYKUM!**

### Jared and Emily's Fulbright Experience in Uzbekistan

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## **Arrival**

On January 25th, we arrived in the capital city, Tashkent, Uzbekistan to a group of cheering Embassy staff, surely smiling behind their double masks. We started quarantining in a hotel while participating in a virtual orientation with English teaching, language learning, safety, culture, and logistics sessions.

# Released from Quarantine

We were set free and began exploring the city, testing out our few new words and phrases.
Stumbling through the - "Yaxshimisiz?" How are you?, "Qayerdansiz?" Where are you from?, "Bolalaringiz bormi?" Do you have kids? - yielded both of us some smiling faces and free fruits and nuts from the market.



#### ESN Coaches and Fulbright ETAs have arrived







Our quarantine group consisted of Fulbright Grantees and English Speaking Nation Coaches.
Together, with decades of combined experience living abroad, we gained new perspectives, strong relationships, and assorted new vocabulary from over 10 languages! We will all be living and working in the Ferghana Valley of Eastern Uzbekistan. This week we will travel from Tashkent to the Valley as we prepare to arrive in our host cities.





## The Market

Yangibozor—the best place to be if you need radiator calrods, a live chicken, or an old kitchen sink! That is just a brief taste of the flea market experience we had this week in Tashkent. Pictured here are some of the most notable treasures. While the items are fun, one of our favorite parts of the bozor is the language learning exercise of speaking practice, new vocabulary, and negotiating.

### Uzbek Tili and Русский язык

We began our language learning journey through a crash-course by our Uzbek instructor, Zukhriddin and our Russian instructor, Jamiliya. Uzbek is the primary language, and Russian is the secondary language. Tili means language in Uzbek! Here, we are providing you some Tili Tidbits!

Tili = Language (Uzbek)

O'qituvchi = Teacher (Uzbek)

Хорошо = Good (Russian)