



conference theme:
**EDUCATION
UNLIMITED**

“If you want to destroy a nation, destroy its education”

With these words of wisdom, Abdullo Kurbanov, alumnus of JACAFA scholarship program and founder of Alif Capital, started yet another annual JACAFA conference, gathering brilliant people all around the world and brightest minds of central asian countries.

This year's theme, education, was arguably vital for this conference in particular. Nowadays, living in the era of globalization, education has become more accessible to every one. People of digital generation literally hold the knowledge of thousand libraries between their fingertips and whether to be an educated individual now is not an opportunity, but choice.

This year's conference was special, because we witnessed as people, who years ago were just like us, students, trying to take a shot at this wide world, today made a difference in it. Projects they carried out after the JACAFA program, Hayot kindergarten based on inclusive teaching methods and Alif Capital microfinance company, are bold statements to all central asian countries that even though we make small steps towards the goals, in the long run, it's about keep going until stones become mountains.



alumnus project:
**KINDERGARDEN
HAYOT**

JACAFA REPORT 2018

Dushanbe conference

Kindergarden Hayot opened its doors to all children of pre-school age only recently 5 years ago, but the growth and quality rate of this institution goes far beyond the numbers. And even though the commercial aspects of this project might be an enticing subject for discussion, it all fades away once you step in through the doors of its incredibly warm and hospital atmosphere.

Khurshed Aslonov, an alumnus of JACAFA program and co-founder of the kindergarden, puts a great effort to prioritize the mission of the institution above all other aspects of the work. You might notice an genuine and infinitely kind people working there who puts all their time and effort to nurture the best possible qualities in children. The innovative teaching methods and mission to help children with disabilities comfortably adapt to the next phase of their life, in contrast to stagnating post soviet education system all around central asia, really sets new high standards of how to approach the education future generations. Turns out the trick is the simplest of all. Love. Love for the job and love for children.



alumnus project:

**ALIF CAPITAL
ALIF ACADEMY**

Another project on the spotlight this conference was the Alif Capital, microfinance company founded by Abdullo Kurbanov, alumnus of JACAFA scholarship program. A relatively young, but highly ambitious company, already mountains ahead of its closest competitors in Tajikistan banking sector. Although the economical and technical aspects of the growing success of Alif capital is undeniable, a lot of credit is undoubtedly goes to the way Abdullo managed the most important capital in his company - human capital.

During the visit, Abdullo introduced us to his metaphorical way of “breaking down the wall in order to grow”. In fact, company literally builds new rooms for workers by breaking down the walls in the basement of the company where back office is located. This became as a motto for a company which started as 2 people and now has grown into over 160 staff. Company has a very few offices for clients, but their mission is not merely joining the branch opening race, but to educate people to move to online in their routine financial operations and set the new digital standards for Tajikistan economy and subsequently for the whole central asia.

JACAFA REPORT 2018

Dushanbe conference



Dushanbe conference:
**DIFFERENT OPINIONS
SAME VALUES**

Dushanbe conference truly has been a unique experience, connecting key people government, universities, international organizations, who are so different in how the approach the education problems, but nevertheless united in their belief that education, above all, is the vital key to progress. Thanks to the Nippon Foundation and JACAFA program, this very platform exists where people, be that a fresh graduate from the school or a political figure, has a say in what he or she believes is needed for prosperous growth of education in a country. A platform for non-indifferent, where connections are made, and projects that surely will make a difference are about to begin.

