

High Legal Culture and Education - The Basis of Democratic Update in Uzbekistan

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Abstract - This article deals with topical issues of raising the right culture and continuing education of all age categories of society. The issues of education of the population in the spirit of ideas, values and orientations of the developed legal culture of modernity are analyzed. The essence of a high legal culture as the basis of a democratic society in Uzbekistan is also revealed.

Keywords - Legal Culture, Progress, Self-Realization, Consolidation Of Citizens, Legal Education, Legal Literacy, Rule Of Law, Civil Society.

As is known, progress in human culture is determined by spiritual and material achievements, the success of people in improving their lives, in improving the forms of their existence.

In the general cultural process, the sphere of legal culture includes successes and achievements in the development of law and the state, in improving the legal and state-legal organization of the life of free people. A high level of legal culture is one of the hallmarks of a legal state.

Legal culture is an achieved level of development in the legal organization of people's life, conditioned by social, spiritual, political and economic systems, expressed in the achieved level of development of legal activities, legal acts, legal consciousness and legal development of a subject, as well as the degree of guarantee by the state and civil society and human rights.

The structure of legal culture consists of certain parts and elements: the level of development of the legal consciousness of the population, the level of development of legal activity, the level of development of the entire system of legal acts.

Thus, a high legal culture is the basis of a democratic society and an indicator of the maturity of the legal system. It is a factor that has an active influence on the regulation of the whole diversity of life processes in society, contributing to the consolidation of citizens, all social groups, maintaining and strengthening the integrity of society, and order in it. Respect for the law is one of the basic requirements of the legal society, the effective functioning of the political and legal systems. [1]

The current state of development of society and the state requires an all-round increase in legal culture and legal literacy of all participants in legal relations. Legal culture as a fusion of legal knowledge, legal persuasion and vigorous

practical activity is intended to ensure the successful solution of the tasks facing society and the state.

Today, the fact that the opportunities provided and provided by the state give people a wide range of actions and vast spaces for the implementation of various ideas, freedom of choice in its various manifestations and types is indisputable, where it is simultaneously important that every person freely expressing his thoughts I felt responsibility for the consequences of the implementation of my ideas and observed the universal norms of dialogue.

Against this background, education is closely intertwined with the legal culture, which, acting as a kind of torch, illuminates the path of education: the higher the torch - the more space is opened up for the formation of those rights and freedoms that can be used and successfully implemented.

After all, the knowledge gained and imparted since childhood, understanding and awareness of oneself, involvement in one's national identity, education of a national community — all this forms a powerful layer in the human mind and develops strong immunity against various ideas that propagate completely different ideas that undermine one way or another our national values, the richest history, our national heritage, collected throughout our millennia of history.

Therefore, in the years of independence in Uzbekistan, one of the most important tasks facing the state was, on the applied side, providing legal guarantees for obtaining knowledge and access to education, on the other hand, the informative side, the disclosure of all facets of opportunities provided by the state for all.

One of the main directions of the policy of our state identified issues of increasing the legal culture of the population and further improving legal education. In this direction, consistent work is being carried out in the country. For a high level of legal culture and legal literacy serves to ensure the rule of law and the principles of justice in society.

It should be noted the enormous role and importance of the Constitution in raising the legal consciousness and legal culture, political activity of citizens. In this context, the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On Education", "The National Program for Personnel Training" and other legal and subordinate acts allowed laying the foundation for an effective model of legal education.

How high the legal consciousness and culture in society will be, the sense of respect for the law by citizens will be so

strong. In this regard, the "National Program for Improving Legal Culture in Society", which was approved by the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan on August 29, 1997, and the resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated May 29, 1998, "On measures to implement the National programs to improve the legal culture in society" and a number of other legal acts.

Separately, I would like to highlight the National Program to improve the legal culture in society. In fact, this document in a long period was a kind of indicator of continuing education for all age categories.

After all, a high legal culture, according to the program, is an indicator of the maturity of the legal system, which has an active influence in a society that promotes the consolidation of citizens, all social groups, and supports and strengthens the integrity of society and order in it. [2]

Due to the deepening of democratic reforms in the field of the judicial and legal system in the country, a natural need has arisen to develop a new version of the National Program to improve the legal culture in society, which will undoubtedly become an important basis for enhancing and understanding all the reforms that are underway in our country.

The main goal of the new edition of the national program is to improve the system of legal education and upbringing, ensure respectful treatment by all state bodies, officials, business entities, public associations and citizens of the country's laws and the norms defined in them, as well as improve the legal literacy of the population, public legal activity of citizens.

Large-scale measures are being held in the country to improve the legal culture of the population, expand the scope and effectiveness of the work on legal propaganda. In educational institutions, gatherings of citizens of makhallas and through the mass media, large-scale explanatory work is carried out on the issues of increasing the legal knowledge and culture of the population, especially the youth, strengthening the rule of law.

In order to consolidate the legal culture, knowledge of the Constitution and laws among students of secondary schools, academic lyceums and vocational colleges, contests were held on the theme "The Constitution is the basis of our happiness", "Human rights are the highest value", "You know your rights and obligations" and so on.

In the process of successive reforms in Uzbekistan, continued under the leadership of President Shavkat Mirziyoyev, the protection of the rights and interests of the

individual and family, and the further improvement of the legal culture of the population are identified as a priority for improving state-building and the judicial and legal system.

The Strategy for Action in the five priority areas of development of the Republic of Uzbekistan for 2017–2021 clearly defines the urgent tasks of raising the legal culture and legal awareness of the population, organizing effective interaction of state structures with civil society institutions, and the media in this area. [3]

As the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Sh.M. Mirziyoyev emphasized in this regard: "... in enhancing the rule of law, it is important to increase the legal culture in society, to educate citizens in a spirit of respect for the law.

From this point of view, the requirement of time is the revision and updating of the National Program in this area, adopted 20 years ago." [4]

For many years, issues of legal education and upbringing were perceived as a task only for law enforcement and other individual state bodies. Families, mahallas and other civil society institutions were weakly involved in this process. This was one of the shortcomings that hindered the improvement of legal awareness and the legal culture of the population, the level of legal literacy of citizens in society.

In order to further improve the effectiveness of state policy to improve legal awareness and the legal culture of the population, on January 9, 2019, the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan was adopted "On the fundamental improvement of the system of raising legal awareness and legal culture in society".

The document defines the following main tasks of raising legal awareness and legal culture in society:

- formation of a system of consistently bringing to the population the essence and significance of socio-economic reforms implemented in the country, adopted acts of legislation and state programs, strengthening in the minds of citizens the vital idea "Affirmation in society of a spirit of respect for laws is the key to building a democratic rule of law!";

- raising legal awareness and legal culture in society with particular attention, above all, to the implementation of systematic and interrelated educational and educational work, a deep affirmation of legal awareness and legal culture in all segments of the population, starting with the pre-school education system, widely promoting the idea of maintaining the balance of personal and public interests;

- profound affirmation in the minds of the young generation of the concepts of rights and duties, honesty and integrity, ethical standards, training in important provisions of the Constitution from an early age;

- organizing legal awareness-raising activities among the population to form a legal culture in harmonious combination with the study of the history, religion, and national values of our people, as well as strengthening patriotism in every citizen's participation in the fate of the country through creating a sense of pride in state symbols;

- strengthening the interaction of public authorities and administration, including law enforcement agencies, as well as civil society institutions in the implementation of targeted legal propaganda;

- improvement of legal education, as well as the development of a system of training, retraining and advanced training of legal personnel, and others. [5].

According to the decree, the increase of legal awareness and legal culture in society is systematically and systematically organized according to the principle "personality - family - makhallia - educational institution - organization - society".

In addition, the Decree of the President of Uzbekistan approved the Concept of raising the legal culture in society, within the framework of which it is planned to create a special legal portal for children. It will present materials and primary concepts on teaching the Constitution, basic knowledge for use in everyday life, as well as methodological manuals on legal games, classes and programs.

Among the important innovations is the introduction of special educational courses "Study of the Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan" and "Study of Human Rights" by type of education. It provides for the development and free distribution of legal manuals on vital issues aimed at improving legal literacy in the family, and teaching basic legal knowledge. In addition, a "Day of Legal Information" will be organized in the communities.

It should be noted that access to education is also an important factor for achieving the maximum result in the matter of hanging legal literacy in the country.

As shown by the results of a sociological survey conducted in 2017 by the Izhtimoiy Fikr Center for the Study of Public Opinion on the theme "Youth of Uzbekistan: values of life, morality, social guidelines", education is one of the main priorities in the system of youth

values. This is expressed in the desire of young Uzbeks to constantly raise the level of education. This is indicated by the overwhelming majority of students in schools, colleges and lyceums, every second young man and girl with a higher education, with secondary and specialized secondary education, university students.

During the years of independence, the social value of higher education among the youth of the country is constantly growing. If in 2010 and 2011 only a third of young people would like to get a higher education, then in 2015 this figure reached 57.3 percent, in 2016 - 56.8, in 2017 - 62.7 percent. Young people give preferences in higher education to the professions of a teacher and a physician, as well as specialties related to finance, information technology, and law. [6]

Uzbekistan provides wide and equal opportunities for higher education. But how many young people remain "overboard" after the announcement of the results of the test entrance examinations.

The realities of modern life show that it is vital to expand access to higher education. In those countries where young people are given a high level of accessibility in obtaining higher education, respectively, there is also a high level of development.

In developed countries, much attention is paid to investing in the full cycle of education, that is, funds are allocated to educate a child from the age of three to 22 years. Such investments in the future pay off in the 15-17-fold amount. In our country - so far only in 4-fold. Consequently, in the country it is necessary to increase attention to human development, to use every opportunity to realize the potential of our young people.

In this regard, the head of our state, Sh. M. Mirziyoyev, in his message to the Oliy Majlis in 2018, called for strengthening measures to ensure equal access to higher education for all.

As he stressed: "In the recent past in Uzbekistan, the enrollment rate of graduates of secondary and secondary special educational institutions by higher education was only 9-10 percent. Thanks to measures taken in the past two years, this figure exceeded 15 percent. However, this is not enough. Indeed, in developed countries, it is 60-70 percent. Therefore, bringing this indicator to 20 percent in 2019 and consistent growth in the future is an urgent task." [7]

The intellectual potential of new generations today is included in developed countries among the most significant resources of social and cultural development. Everything is

connected together: education and progress, education and employment, education and decent living conditions, education and development, education and well-being of life. This list of interactions and complementarities can be enumerated indefinitely.

Thus, the state of the modern education system ultimately predetermines the development of the country in the coming years. Therefore, it is logical to say that education is the leading branch of human development, the foundation of the future well-being of the whole society.

It can be definitely said that the effective implementation of the innovative potential of young people in society in modern social conditions is connected mainly to the concepts of the state youth policy. [8]

Summarizing, it can be noted that legal culture is the basis of a democratic society and an indicator of the maturity of legal relations between society and the state, which influences the regulation of social relations and processes. Legal education is one of the most important factors in the development of a person's legal consciousness and the legal culture of society as a whole.

Formation of the rule of law and civil society is impossible without the mass participation of citizens in this process, their active position in defending their rights. In this situation, involving the general public in legal literacy processes can play an important role in the implementation of the principle "from a strong state to a strong civil society".

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