

"New Uzbekistan: Social State And The Dignity Of Humanity"

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ABSTRACT

The article reflects the formation of the New Uzbekistan as a social state and approaches aimed at prioritizing human interests. It analyzes state policy aimed at improving the well-being of human life through social protection, economic development, and education and healthcare systems.

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In New Uzbekistan, the principle of a social state plays a significant role in improving the well-being of people. This principle is primarily implemented through effective state policies in education, healthcare, social protection, and other sectors. Through legislation and economic policies, the state supports citizens, ensures social equality, and provides quality services to the population. Thus, the principle of a social state fundamentally serves as the basis for enhancing the quality of life for individuals and the overall development of society.

It would be appropriate to categorize the key aspects of this principle in Uzbekistan as follows:

1. **Social Protection:** In New Uzbekistan, the system of social assistance and services is being expanded. This system supports low-income families, persons with disabilities, pensioners, and other vulnerable groups. State-provided allowances and assistance play an important role in ensuring social protection for the population. According to analyses by qualified experts, in previous years, this sector remained stagnant and outdated, operating on a system dating back 30 years. Responsible authorities merely distributed the funds allocated by the state, which, in turn, led some citizens to rely on assistance rather than strive for self-sufficiency. For example, even able-bodied individuals received social allowances. Insufficient focus was placed on the social and medical rehabilitation of persons with disabilities and their vocational training to find their place in life. The President has initiated thorough reforms in this system, emphasizing the targeted and effective distribution of social assistance.

The leader of the state stated: "It is not possible to work generically in this sector. A professional approach is required for each family and individual's situation. When social services are correctly organized, vulnerable citizens will find their place.[1]" Furthermore, the President pays special attention to organizing social services and assistance at the neighborhood level. Recently, systemic and fair evaluations of low-income families have led to some households with regular income being excluded from this category. Additionally, over 2,000 individuals living alone and needing assistance have received support. According to statistics, although the current system of social protection provides 250 services, most people are unaware of these

services. Therefore, a decree was issued on June 1, 2023, to improve the provision of quality social services and assistance to the population, and the National Social Protection Agency was established under the President of Uzbekistan.

The agency develops criteria for identifying vulnerable families and determines the specific type of assistance they require. As a result, individualized social services are provided to each person in need. Moreover, representatives of the "neighborhood seven" visit households to identify issues, assess conditions, and draw a "social portrait" of the household. The underlying goal of this effort is not to reduce expenditures but to direct funds to genuine beneficiaries and integrate them into society.

Uzbekistan's accession to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in 2021 marked a significant step towards ensuring human rights and advancing social justice. Through its membership in this convention, the state aims to protect the rights of persons with disabilities and create opportunities for their full and equal participation in social life. The nation's leader emphasized, "To create a barrier-free environment for persons with disabilities to work and acquire skills, the practice of assessing 'capacity for work' is being abolished. Disability is determined not by illness but by the individual's ability to move independently, communicate, and participate in social life." Furthermore, a system has been implemented to provide referrals for treatment at preventive health centers for citizens with disabilities and those of pension age[2]. These measures certainly promote equality and ensure human rights within society. Such approaches align with the principles of a social state in New Uzbekistan and aim to enhance human well-being.

2. **Economic Development:** Improving the overall economic situation is crucial for enhancing individual well-being. Uzbekistan continues to pursue consistent market reforms aimed at promoting economic growth, attracting foreign investment, and creating new jobs. The economic and social functions of the developing democratic state are reaching new heights. During the transition to a market economy, the political guarantees of social and economic rights and freedoms are being strengthened. These guarantees include:

- **Constitutional and legal foundation for free economic activity:** All basic social and economic rights and freedoms are entrenched at the constitutional level.
- **State control over economic rights:** Ensuring compliance with legal norms in economic relations.
- **Supporting individual initiative in the economic sphere:** Creating political, material, and organizational conditions to encourage personal initiatives.
- **State protection of economic rights:** The protection of economic rights specified in legislation is guaranteed by the state[3].

Economic development is recognized as one of the essential factors for improving personal well-being in Uzbekistan. Comprehensive market reforms, attracting foreign investments, and creating job opportunities serve as the foundation for stable economic growth. It is important to note that economic development plays a crucial role in enhancing the overall economic situation and personal well-being for several reasons:

- Economic development boosts employment by creating new job opportunities. Employed individuals can increase their income and thereby improve their quality of life.
- Economic growth leads to higher incomes, which enhance purchasing power and improve living standards. With greater financial resources, people can meet their needs more fully and achieve greater well-being.
- Economic development enables the state to allocate significant investments in education and healthcare. These investments help raise the level of knowledge and ensure a healthy lifestyle for the population, contributing to overall well-being.

In summary, economic development is essential for improving the overall economic situation and personal prosperity. Through this process, new jobs are created, incomes are increased, investments in education and healthcare are amplified, infrastructure is developed, and the social protection system is strengthened. This ensures a prosperous lifestyle for the population and guarantees social stability in society.

3. **Education:** The quality of education is a crucial factor for enhancing the enjoyment of life and expanding opportunities for all citizens. Investing in this area not only improves the quality of life but also increases efficiency and contributes to the overall development of society.

The role and significance of the education system in ensuring well-being can be analyzed as follows:

- **Enhancing knowledge and skills:** The education system plays a vital role in improving knowledge and skills. Quality education enables citizens to acquire new knowledge and skills, which improves their quality of life, expands job opportunities, and supports economic stability. Societies with higher levels of education experience faster innovation and technological development.
- **Ensuring social equality:** The education system plays a major role in achieving social equality. Quality education provides equal opportunities for all citizens and ensures social justice. Through the education system, disadvantaged groups, including the poor and persons with disabilities, are also able to access quality education, which strengthens social equality in society.
- **Ensuring social stability:** Education contributes to social stability. Through quality education, citizens understand their rights and responsibilities and feel a sense of social accountability, which creates the foundation for social stability. Furthermore, the education system fosters cooperation and mutual respect among citizens, reducing social issues.
- **Healthcare:** The healthcare system is essential for improving overall health, preventing diseases, and creating quality living conditions, thereby ensuring human well-being. A healthy society lays the groundwork for economic development, social stability, and enhanced cooperation and mutual respect among citizens.

The healthcare system can be analyzed as follows:

1. **Improving health and life quality:** The healthcare system plays a key role in maintaining health and improving life quality. Quality healthcare services provide citizens with the opportunity to adopt a healthy lifestyle and access healthcare services. This improves the overall health of society and increases life expectancy.
2. **Educating citizens about healthcare:** The healthcare system provides citizens with knowledge and skills related to health, enhancing the efficiency of healthcare services. In Uzbekistan, establishing a quality healthcare system that supports public health and provides conditions for raising a healthy generation is considered a priority of state policy. Efforts have led to increased efficiency, quality, and accessibility of healthcare services. International communities have positively evaluated the achievements in the healthcare sector during the years of independence. For example, life expectancy has increased by 4.6 years—from 69.1 years in 1995 to 73.7 years in 2017. According to the indicators for the efficiency of the 2019–2025 Concept for the Development of Uzbekistan's Healthcare System, life expectancy is projected to reach 75 years by 2025[4].
3. **Supporting economic development:** Quality healthcare services ensure the well-being of the workforce, increasing productivity and driving economic growth. The healthcare system creates new jobs and expands economic activities, contributing to the economic stability of the state. To elevate the scope of healthcare to a new level, the President issued Resolution PQ-197 in 2023, "Measures for Effective State Management of Healthcare within the Framework of Administrative Reforms," and work is underway.
4. **Ensuring social stability:** The healthcare system plays a vital role in ensuring social stability. Quality healthcare services allow citizens to protect and maintain their health, contributing to social stability. The healthcare system fosters mutual respect and cooperation among citizens, reducing social issues. Uzbekistan joined the United Nations' 2021–2025 project "Promoting Efficient, Sustainable, and Inclusive Development Through Healthcare Governance Systems," which aims to create an effective system for supplying medicines and medical items to all segments of the population, including socially vulnerable groups. The project also focuses on improving access to preventive services for diagnosing and treating HIV infections, utilizing quality medicines and medical materials, and addressing COVID-19, tuberculosis, non-communicable diseases, and other socially significant illnesses[5].

In a nutshell, education and healthcare systems play a crucial role in ensuring well-being in a social state. Quality education and healthcare services enhance citizens' knowledge and skills, ensure social equality, and guarantee social stability.

In conclusion, the social state principles of New Uzbekistan are aimed at improving human well-being. These principles are implemented through effective policies in education, healthcare, social protection, and economic development. The state contributes to the overall development of society by supporting citizens,

ensuring social equality, and providing quality services. These approaches align with the values of honoring human dignity and building a just society.

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