

**RAISING LEGAL AWARENESS AND LEGAL CULTURE - AN  
IMPORTANT CONDITION FOR ENSURING THE RULE OF LAW.**

***Shoimov Norkobil Bobomurodovich***

*Senior teacher of the Higher Education Institute of the Ministry of Internal  
Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan, candidate of legal sciences, docent*

***Abstract.*** *The article discusses the measures being taken in the Republic of Uzbekistan to improve the legal awareness and legal culture of the population, to increase the level of legal literacy of citizens in society, and the significance of the Decree of our President "On radically improving the system for improving legal awareness and legal culture in society" in this regard.*

***Keywords:*** *Law, justice, legal education, legal upbringing, legal awareness, legal culture, legal literacy, rule of law, legal propaganda.*

*We must form such a legal culture in our society that compliance with the Constitution and laws, respect for the rights and freedoms, honor and dignity of others is not an obligation, but must become a daily rule and habit.*

***Shavkat MIRZIYOEV.***

In the Republic of Uzbekistan, comprehensive reforms are being consistently implemented to ensure the rule of law and strengthen legality, and to raise them to modern levels. In this regard, a number of legislative acts have been adopted, and a system of consistently communicating to the population the content and essence of the socio-economic reforms being carried out in our country, the adopted legislative acts and state programs, strengthening in the minds of citizens the vital idea that "The establishment of a spirit of respect for laws in society is a guarantee of building a democratic legal state!", Raising the legal awareness and legal culture of young



people, and forming legal immunity to factors that negatively affect their legal education are being carried out.

Therefore, in a number of reports and speeches of our President Shavkat Mirziyoyev, in particular, in his report entitled "Our people expect us to practically ensure the rule of law and justice" at a meeting with prosecutor's office employees and veterans on January 7, 2017, in his report entitled "To ensure human interests, first of all, it is necessary to reliably protect their rights and freedoms" at a meeting on February 9, 2017, dedicated to the activities of internal affairs bodies, problems and shortcomings in the system, and future tasks, and in his speech entitled "Ensuring the rule of law and justice is the most important condition for achieving all our noble goals" at a meeting with judicial officials on June 13, 2017, and in a number of other reports, the most important and relevant ideas on improving the rule of law and strengthening legality were emphasized.

President Shavkat Mirziyoyev, while addressing the issue of ensuring the rule of law, says: "In ensuring the rule of law, it is important to improve legal culture, educate citizens in a spirit of respect for the law, timely convey the content and essence of laws to our people and executors, and properly organize their implementation." <sup>1</sup>

In recent years, significant work has been carried out to ensure the rule of law, radically reform the national legal system, form a legal culture in society, and train qualified legal personnel.

At the same time, a number of unresolved problems and shortcomings remain that hinder the formation of a respectful attitude towards human rights and freedoms, the improvement of the legal awareness and legal culture of the population, and the increase in the level of legal literacy of citizens in society. For example, in improving legal culture, first of all, work on legal education and upbringing is not being carried

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<sup>1</sup> Sh.M. Mirziyoyev. Our people expect us to ensure the rule of law and justice in practice (Report at a meeting with employees and veterans of the Prosecutor's Office. January 7, 2017.). // We will continue our path of national development with determination and take it to a new level. Volume 1. – Tashkent: "Uzbekistan" National Institute of Higher Education, 2017. - p. 209.



out systematically and organically; for many years, this issue has been considered as the work of law enforcement agencies and certain state bodies, with insufficient participation of the family, neighborhood and other institutions of civil society; there is no comprehensive approach to the formation of legal immunity to factors that negatively affect the legal education of young people, to instill in each person a sense of respect for laws and morals, loyalty to national values, and intolerance towards law violations; tasks for improving the legal knowledge of the population are generally defined and there is no clear effective mechanism for their implementation; and work on improving legal culture in society is being carried out ineffectively.

The Decree of our President No. PF-5618 of January 9, 2019 "On radical improvement of the system for raising legal awareness and legal culture in society"<sup>1</sup> aims at precisely this goal. According to the Decree, the following were identified as the main tasks for raising legal awareness and legal culture in society. In particular:

- to form a system of consistently conveying to the population the content and essence of socio-economic reforms, adopted laws and state programs, and to "Establish the spirit of respect for laws in the society is the guarantee of building a democratic legal state!" to strengthen the idea of life;

- in raising legal awareness and legal culture in society, first of all, to pay special attention to the systematic and coherent implementation of education and upbringing, to deeply instill legal awareness and legal culture in all segments of the population, starting from the preschool education system, and to widely promote the ideas of maintaining a balance between personal interests and the interests of society;

- to deeply instill in the minds of the younger generation the concepts of rights and duties, honesty and integrity, as well as norms of etiquette and morality, to teach them the important aspects of the Constitution from childhood;

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<sup>1</sup> National database of legal documents, 10.01.2019, No. 06/19/5618/2452, 11.12.2019, No. 06/19/5892/4134; 09.10.2020, No. 07/20/4857/1357; 03/17/2021, No. 06/21/6188/0216, National Legislative Information Base, 11/30/2021, No. 06/21/26/1111; 07/04/2023, No. 06/23/107/0441.



- organizing legal and educational activities to form a legal culture among the population in accordance with the teaching of the history, religion, and national values of our people, as well as strengthening the sense of belonging to the country and patriotism by forming a sense of pride in state symbols in every citizen;

- improving the legal awareness and legal culture of civil servants, forming in them an attitude of intolerance towards corruption and other violations of the law;

- strengthening the mutual cooperation of state authorities and management bodies, including law enforcement bodies and civil society institutions in the implementation of targeted legal advocacy;

- to establish wide and effective use of the principles of social partnership on a systematic basis in the organization of activities to increase legal awareness and legal culture in the society;

- increasing the role of the media in providing legal information, wide use of innovative methods of legal propaganda, including expanding the use of web technologies;

- improving legal education, as well as developing a system for training, retraining and advanced training of legal personnel;

- in-depth study of the scientific foundations of raising legal awareness and legal culture in society.

It is worth emphasizing that in order for all segments of the population to achieve legal literacy, have a high level of legal awareness, and be able to apply their legal knowledge in everyday life, the Decree approved the "Concept for Raising Legal Culture in Society" and the "Roadmap for the Effective Implementation of the Concept for Raising Legal Culture in Society in 2019."

The main goal of the concept of raising legal culture in society is to achieve legal literacy of all layers of the population, to create a comprehensive systematic system of educating citizens who are strong-willed, who know their rights and respect the laws, who can apply their legal knowledge in everyday life, who have an active civil position and who have an intolerant attitude towards crime.



Also, in the Decree, the main directions of the concept are, in particular, "Raising the legal culture of the population in the interaction between the individual, the state and society", "Introduction of innovative methods of legal promotion in the promotion of legal culture in the society", "Strengthening the role of mass media in the promotion of the legal culture of the population", "Development of legal education, as well as the system of training, retraining and upgrading of legal personnel", "Raising legal culture" each of the issues such as researching the scientific foundations" is mentioned in separate chapters.

The "Roadmap" defines the measures to be implemented in the main areas of the concept, the form of implementation of the measures, the deadlines for implementation, and the responsible executors.

The main area of the concept, entitled "Improving the legal culture of the population in the relations between the individual, the state, and society," provides for the implementation of the following measures:

- Formation of legal education in the family and improvement of legal culture;
- To strengthen the role of the neighborhood institution in improving the legal culture of the population;
- Increasing legal literacy in educational institutions;
- Improving the legal culture of employees of state bodies and organizations;
- Improving the legal culture of all levels of the population.

If the responsible executors implementing the measures set out in the "Roadmap" to ensure the rule of law and to responsibly approach and conscientiously fulfill the tasks assigned to them, the expected results from the adoption of the concept will be achieved, namely: increasing the legal culture and social activity of the population in the relations between citizens, the state and society, ensuring the preservation of a balance between personal needs and the needs of society; systematically instilling the first legal concepts and rules of etiquette in the minds of children and young people, achieving an organic and systematic conduct of legal education; creating and introducing innovative methods of legal propaganda, strengthening the role of the media in promoting legal knowledge; strengthening the



sense of respect for the law and the law among officials and citizens, and ensuring the effectiveness of crime prevention.

In short, the issuance of the Decree became a solid legal basis for creating a new system in the field of ensuring the rule of law, improving legal culture, and educating citizens in the spirit of respect for the law.

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