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RESEARCH ARTICLE

CURRENT STAGE OF INTERACTION OF STATE AUTHORIZATION BODIES AND BODIES OF SELF-GOVERNANCE OF CITIZENS IN CONDITIONS OF DEVELOPMENT OF CIVIL SOCIETY IN UZBEKISTAN.

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The urgency of the research topic is determined by a huge role played by citizens' self-governance in the state administration as well as in political-legal life of society along with development of institutions democratic and jurat state in Uzbekistan. The implementation of principles of self-governance within the mechanisms of the state becomes effective only when if it is based on objectively urgent economic, political and social preconditions and conditions, and expresses the requirements of the society's progress. In Uzbekistan, self-governance is raised to the level of one of the foundations of the constitutional system. Its institutions cover almost all aspects of democratic organization of local life. Therefore, citizens' self-governance allows rationally decentralize and de-concentrate many functions of the state power, and transfer the decision-making on all issues of local life into mahallas (territorial units of self-governance bodies), thus stimulating the activity of citizens and providing them with a real sense of ownership to such decisions.

Optimization of the organization of activity of local government bodies and bodies of self-governance remain to be one of the main directions in development of the modern state. It is no exaggeration to say that the efficiency of their activities is an important prerequisite for the stability of society as a whole. The Law of Uzbekistan empower self-government institutions as the main tool for solving important problems of an economic, social, cultural, and political nature nationwide.

After gaining the independence, the country experienced an acute and difficult period. The situation was seriously complicated by a number of negative trends that emerged in the economy. The deficiency of consumer goods increased significantly. Inflation has risen. The deficit of the state budget has slowly decreased. Production and labor discipline have markedly decreased. All of it led to increased social tensions¹.

¹ Karimov I.A. Uzbekistan at the threshold of gaining independence. Tashkent. "Uzbekistan", 2011. P.27.

In Uzbekistan, the self-governance at local levels is secured by administrative-territorial units (villages, villages, towns) and regional units (mahallas). The word mahalla (from Arabic makhallun, makhallatun) translated from Uzbek means a territory. In the modern management the concept of Mahalla stands for an association of residents of a certain area, who have permanent residence within the village, township, village or town. Mahalla solves various issues of everyday life of its residence in a complex way. Today it deals with not only spiritual and moral, but also political and economic issues. In fact, the main burden on implementation of self-governance of citizens has being laid on mahalla.

The evolution of views on the role of local government led to reassessment of the principles that should govern the interaction of the government and self-government. The self-government, being the political and legal category, represents such a form of organization in which the laws that are inherent to every social management processes in general and to public administration in particular are implemented.

State power can influence the local government only with the help of the general regulation, and that is enough to ensure the unity of the government. Self-government is neither a subsystem nor a structural element of the government.

In the 1990s, the objective scientific analysis of citizens' self-government, as well as its legal nature was carried out and strengthened by the sequence of reforms, which were chosen by constitutional and legal model of citizens' self-government. Conducting an effective legal policy depends on the correlation of the chosen model of self-government with the forms and traditions of our country, as well the system of the government and the general principles of its organization, social and cultural characteristics, the mentality of the population, the unfolding global processes and other objective and subjective conditions and factors of development of the state and society.

The nature of **the Uzbek model of self-government**, which, in general, is an institution of public authority, contains a number of public features. The presence of these features, as well as existence of the particular level of government, along with special sphere of social relations related to solving the local issues, precisely allows separating the self-government of citizens from the state, to allocate it in a separate entity with unique nature, which is mainly governmental, but has elements of the public governance.

For the effective functioning, the state needs to balance national and local interests, i.e. the common interests of the residents of each individual urban or rural settlement. The citizens' self-governance plays this very role of a spokesman for the interests of localities.

Regulation of the system of citizens' self-governance is one of the most important priorities of the state policy of the Republic of Uzbekistan. Current national policy on the development of citizens' self-government is based on the Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan (Article 105) and is reflected in the law on citizens' self-government bodies from 1993, as well as other legal and normative documents.

The current legislation imposes the solution of many problems of social importance on mahalla, the citizens' self-government body. In addition, mahalla's self-government bodies provide targeted and effective use of funds allocated under the state social support for families, address issues related to provision financial assistance to needy families and the appointment of benefits to needy families with children, the appointment and payment of allowances to families with underage children. They provide the addressed allocation and payment of benefits to families in need. This is primarily justified by the fact that in mahallas all residents know each other well. Targeting in this matter is a fundamental factor and the parasitism among the adult working population shall not be allowed. Mahalla councils are aware of the social situation of each resident, which is why it can actually assess the necessity for the issuance of benefits for a particular family.

Mahalla's self-government bodies also contribute to the implementation of patronage over lonely elderly citizens in need of constant care, through the funds, provided by the state budget. They also supply essential goods free of charge in cooperation with the district (city) branches of social security.

Nowadays, citizens' self-government bodies (mahallas) imposed a series of authorities in the area of saving the marriages and reconciling the conflicting parties in it. Thanks to the Conciliation Commissions (there are more than 9,000 of those nationwide) that are being established within the citizens' self-government bodies, a significant number of families is being saved from going apart. Today, citizens' self-government institutions, as the power of

the local population, solve various issues related to socio-economic and cultural development of their territories. They can effectively smooth out the social implications of some conflicts; provide social assistance to the most vulnerable segments of the population; improve the general conditions and quality of life. Therefore, if we consider on the nationwide scale, the citizen's self-governance bodies solve some issues that are of the national importance.

The reforms carried out in Uzbekistan in recent years, have radically changed all aspects of state and society, and allowed to once more realize the known events and concepts that form the mutual cooperation of all social sectors in the country.

It should be emphasized that in the national level some international experience in the area of the modern mechanisms of the state activities were mastered, while some approaches were especially developed based on the specifics of the national statehood.

In many developed countries the governance is assessed as a democratic institution with experience of decentralization. However, for Uzbekistan, decentralization is an issue that should be studied, analyzed, and understood in order to develop "informed decentralized governance", having formed a concept, which in turn will contribute to organization of a more effective, economic, and legal public administration system in a democratic state that goes in line with modern views.

Decentralization is one of the areas of administrative reforms, in the process of implementation of which it is necessary to adhere to the principles of "gradualism, the preparation of non-governmental organizations to carry out government functions, securing the functions of control and coordination with the government in carrying out reforms based on the traditions of national statehood."²

Citizens' self-governance and the government are closely interlinked by the common source, which is the **power of the people**. The public power, being exercised by citizens' self-government, is a unique form of power, which is different from the state power and the power of the society. The decisions of the self-government bodies are binding within the limits of their territories. In many cases, this power can be carried out directly by the population. These tasks are usually associated with the daily needs of people. This power, just like a public power, is based on the principles of self-organization and self-regulation. The self-governance bodies do not possess the apparatus of coercion. By its very nature citizens' self-government bodies are not completely non-state actors, unlike community, religious groups and other civil society institutions. Self-governance is an indispensable element of the state structure. Self-governance is one of the foundations of civil society for it to start at home, neighborhood, and a city.

Nowadays, such tasks as further improvement of the organizational principles of functioning of citizens' self-governance institution (mahalla), expanding its functions and ensuring its close interaction with the bodies of state power and administration are gaining ever-increasing importance.³

Recently, the issues of social partnership in the area of improving the activities of the state power and citizens' self-governance are becoming topics of many discussions. By concept, the activities of citizen's self-governance bodies serve the interests of the state. At least, sophisticated functional tasks of citizens' self-governance are based on the integrity of local affairs. They express the vital interests of the population, which is under the constant attention of the state. Therefore, citizen's self-governance can't be reviewed separately from the state policy.⁴

In Uzbekistan, the very purpose of building of a welfare state as a social institution and social process promotes the principle of social partnership. This is a social principle, in which all the parties are interested in dialogue. Thus, a

² Azizhujayev A.A. Erkinlashtirish – davr talabi (Liberalization – a requirement of time). Jamiyat va Boshqaruv (Journal). # 1. 2000. Pp. 6-8.

³ Karimov I.A. Concept of further deepening democratic reforms and formation of civil society in the country. Speech of Islam Karimov, the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan at the Joing Meeting of the Legislative Chamber and Senate of Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan. Narodnoe Slovo (newspaper). November 13, 2010.

⁴ Malikova G.R. Fuqarolarning uzini uzi boshqarish institutini takomillashtirish muammolari (The problems of improvement of citizens' self government institution). Monograph. Tashkent. TSIL Publishings. 2009. Pp.165-166

system of interrelations is being formed. Social partnership is particularly useful in various sectors of the economy, at the levels of provinces and regions.

For the effective functioning of the state it is necessary to ensure balance of national and local interests, i.e., the common interests of the residents of each individual urban or rural settlement. The role of spokesman for local interests is played by citizens' self-governance bodies.

The system of citizens' self-governance differs from the system of state administration by certain characteristics. But, apparently, many of the features are common for both systems. It serves to emphasize the differences between these forms of social administration and at the same time to identify their common purpose and coordinated functions, based on the principle of close cooperation.

The ultimate goal of the relations between public authorities and citizens' self-governance shall be to ensure the development of democratic principles of organization and implementation of citizens' self-governance in the interests of both the state and localities.

Thus, the creation of an effective mechanism of interaction between the state and citizens' self-governance under the proclaimed principle of independence is still one of the key and the most pressing issues of today.