



DEMOCRATIC SOCIETY AND RESPONSIBILITY OF LEADERS IN NEW UZBEKISTAN

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Article history:	Abstract:
<p>Received: February 11th 2023 Accepted: March 11th 2023 Published: April 17th 2023</p>	<p>This article is devoted to the political activity of Sh.Mirziyoyev. In a short period of time, Shavkat Mirziyoyev was able to consolidate power in the republic, gained high authority among the population, and this together created the necessary conditions for accelerating economic and political transformations that will eventually form "President Shavkat Mirziyoyev's own legacy." In conclusion, it is pointed out that the President of Uzbekistan initiated a large-scale series of reforms, which can already be called a "thaw". It includes meaningful measures to open up to the outside world. In foreign policy, Uzbekistan has managed to seriously improve relations with all its neighbors in the region, as well as with Western countries. The authors have formulated three scenarios for the further development of the situation in the country: the curtailment of reforms without serious socio-economic changes, successful reforms while maintaining stability, and the exit of reforms out of control.</p>

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In 2016, our country entered into the new era of development. A unique path has been chosen for the administrative apparatus and for conducting reforms. The main criteria were the acceleration of democratic reforms and the enhancement of human dignity.

Today, significant changes are observed in all spheres of public life. They say that "Uzbekistan is the locomotive of Central Asia", and we are confidently moving towards joining the ranks of developed countries. This is recognized by both our people and the international community.

According to data available, the volume of gross domestic product (GDP) in Uzbekistan in 2022 amounted to 888,341.7 billion soums. This figure shows an increase of 5.7 percent compared to 2021. In 2022, the total income of the population reached 634.8 trillion soums.

It would be absolutely correct to say that the policy of President Shavkat Mirziyoyev, his philanthropy, selflessness and purposefulness are at the heart of such successes.

It is gratifying that the leader of our country began to establish contact with the people from the first days of taking office as President and called on leaders of all levels to this. He urged to be interested in the pain, thoughts and hopes of the people, as well as to solve their problems as soon as possible. In this process, he became an example for many. Thanks to such a pro-people policy, today our citizens freely express their opinions, and their political, legal, economic and spiritual literacy has increased. The fact that the head of our state calls on everyone to live in such a spirit inspires our people even more. The President's trips to the regions, visits to neighborhoods and houses, sincere communication with ordinary people, listening to their pain, taking quick measures to eliminate existing problems create the basis for our people to enjoy their lives. This situation is directly related to the efforts and enthusiasm of Shavkat Mirziyoyev.

But it is difficult for a leader to achieve victory alone. This is the rule of law. The highest idea of our development lies in the fact that as we move from **national revival to national upsurge**, the head of state will have a strong backbone - capable, selfless, patriotic and worthy personnel who will carry out the assigned tasks in every sector and work with every link in society, as indicated in the Roadmap.

However, our main goal is **to change the living conditions of our people, educate the younger generation with mature and high-quality personnel, achieve a healthy lifestyle and moral perfection, economic stability and the well-being of our lives.**

So, are all leaders, especially middle-level leaders, able to be like-minded and worthy associates of our President in carrying out such large-scale reforms? Are the laws, decrees and resolutions, tasks defined in the Development Strategy being implemented in a timely manner? In general, all leaders carelessly implement the tasks of accelerating their reforms, they make mistakes, and sometimes demonstrate irresponsibility. The head of our state very often expresses dissatisfaction about this.

Here the question arises: **what qualities should the leaders of today's New Uzbekistan have?**

The answer to this question is quite simple. According to the President, leaders today should not simplify their lives. Because the task of ensuring the safety of society is the responsibility of all leaders. Therefore, this idea applies not only to the heads of regional administrations, but also to the heads of all departments and enterprises, because they work directly with citizens. Whether this person is the head of a small farm, the head of an enterprise, or a high-ranking official, he/she should not be limited to his/her departmental duties. A modern leader must have full information about the situation of his/her team, socio-political moods, worldview and aspirations of employees. All this together ensures the effectiveness of reforms.

There is another consideration here that makes one wonder. Are we jumping to conclusions? Is it really so difficult to learn from the past in order to make the best use of the opportunity and conditions created? Those who worked in the local self-government system know that the gasoline limit for the official car of the khakim and his/her deputies was once measured. When the khakim of the region wanted to go to the region, he/she first of all thought about gasoline. Let's provide other examples.

How about today? There has never been such a situation and such opportunities in the energy system. For example, in the "mahalla" (neighborhood) system, financial assistance provided to one microdistrict was not previously distributed to the entire district. Today, large sums of money, state-of-the-art company vehicles and other necessary facilities are allocated to local leaders. In other words, there are all conditions for it to be pleasant to take the initiative, have top performance and work with enthusiasm.

Not to appreciate such support, not to work towards the realization of the dreams and goals of our people, is nothing but ingratitude.

Since we are talking about a culture of leadership and responsibility, let's be honest. It is no secret that the spiritual world of some of our leaders needs enlightenment today. Some leaders are rude to citizens, subordinates and the public. It makes us all to think about this.

Another important question. Leaders are directly responsible for raising the political and legal horizons of citizens, that is, they must support the healthy political positions of the people, be able to demonstrate this in their work, and encourage the development of society in all areas. It is at this moment that the level of competence of the leader is revealed. After all, our ancestor Abu Nasr Farabi writes that a person who becomes a ruler in the "City of Virtuous People" must combine twelve qualities. These are **health, prudence, strong memory, intelligence, eloquence, striving for enlightenment, abstinence, love of truth, piety, lack of pursuit of wealth, justice, fortitude and courage.**

We need to understand another important aspect. What era are we living in today? What are its features? It can be seen how difficult it is today to maintain peace and stability in society in a complex, dangerous conflict of interests, ideas and ideologies, when uncertainty reigns, the information technology struggle becomes a global problem. In such a situation, citizens' awareness of their rights and obligations, albeit at a certain level, increases the need to bring people's power to the surface in public administration, step by step, to carry out the process of self-government, which serves to ensure the political activity of citizens. This is a great help for public administration. For this reason, we can observe that the social groups are growing upwards, and the number of intellectuals is increasing.

In such a situation, every leader is required to be vigilant, extremely vigilant, objectively assess the morale of the population, starting with the standard of living, and take appropriate measures to improve and strengthen their health. We must never forget that this is the most important condition for ensuring sustainable development and national security.

In his speech at an extended session of the Cabinet of Ministers, dedicated to the main results of the socio-economic development of our country in 2016 and the most important priorities of the economic program for 2017, the head of the state said: "**Now for each of us, first of all, for the heads of government bodies, the main duty of critical analysis of the state of affairs in the areas and industries for which we are responsible is to ensure that the tasks assigned to us are carried out responsibly and they are based on assessment. That time has come,**" he said.

Indeed, the greatest responsibility incumbent on the modern leader is to conscientiously fulfill his/her duties in building a democratic society. Today, let's analyze what serious problems we face in this process.

First, the problems of building a civil society. That is, the skills of self-government, legal knowledge and literacy in this regard among citizens, a value attitude to human labor, and a lack of desire to create human capital. Therefore, the fact that some local leaders do not directly and indirectly work with the people, look down on them, look indifferently at problems, can form the position and uncertainty in fulfilling their active civic duty in governance among citizens.

Second, the need for democratic government. The practical manifestation of this is expressed in the growing need to promote the rights of citizens, the desire for the predominance of human rights over all other rights, the growing demand for such reforms as labor protection (especially in the field of healthcare and education), insurance, but the practical result is almost invisible.

Third, the problem of the legitimacy of local authorities, khakims. Legitimacy means recognition of leaders by the people, and the fact that most local governments are unable to achieve such an indicator in practice is the cause of legitimate objections from the population. It is a sad situation that some khakims look at the rules of professional ethics and their duties in quotation marks, which causes negative moods among the people.

Fourth, the activities of leaders must meet the requirements of the times. As far as the leaders understand democratic principles, recognize that democracy is the power of the people, protect the interests of the people, place

themselves among the people, do not realize that if there is no people, then there is no ruler, the question of the impossibility of getting out of the use of authoritarian elements of control has not left the agenda, misunderstanding of the need to manage society on the basis of a system of self-government, and not a single administration.

Fifth, power and management culture. Although these concepts should be embodied in every employee in a managing position at the same time, in fact, the management culture is formed in the leader, first of all, through personal spirituality. A leader who does not have spiritual maturity cannot form a management culture. The spiritual maturity of a leader means his/her maturity as a person, his/her human qualities, the embodiment of education in the family, ideological competence, the level of knowledge, the breadth of the worldview, the ability to correctly analyze socio-political threats, the economic complex processes of the present, and based on this - an understanding of the value of a person.

Also, the spiritual development of a leader is assessed by his/her fair, impartial, open, responsible, business management, the ability to make the right and quick decisions, the ability to unite and move people towards the goal, a comprehensive readiness to implement political reforms of the modern era, experience and leadership qualities.

When analyzing these aspects, it becomes clear that leaders must have democratic management skills, concepts and experience. Only then the effectiveness of building a civil society and mechanisms of self-government, which we want, will be manifested. Otherwise, the rights and interests of citizens will remain unprotected, their work will not be manifested, and a feeling of discontent will arise in society, trust in such a leader may be lost and the public will not see him/her.

Here another problem arises. **This is the development of an effective mechanism for the selection, training and appointment of leaders.** The leader is a position with great responsibility, which determines the future of humanity and society as part of public administration. Therefore, one of the most urgent tasks facing us is the training of personnel capable of deeply analyzing the changes and reforms in the society of New Uzbekistan.

Undoubtedly, an effective mechanism of civil society – public control – is extremely important in this process. In essence, public oversight is a great pillar to ensure that every system and sector carries out its impartial activities, ensures the interests of citizens and represents the power of the people. Its existence only in words can lead to people's distrust of democracy and to obstacles in the realization of their civic position.

According to President Shavkat Mirziyoyev, **"the people should not serve government agencies, rather, government agencies should serve our people,"** so many deeply thought-out truths lie at the heart of his words. Therefore, state bodies, first of all, the heads of these bodies should be among the people, not in indirect reports and papers, but should openly communicate with them, give them medicine for their pain, give them hope and confidence, be a leader towards good goals.

If people see the fulfillment of their dreams today and believe in tomorrow, such a society will develop, then both national ideology and state policy fade into the background. The role of the leader in the development of national ideology and the protection of national interests is extremely important, and the trust of the people increases after the effectiveness of the leader.

Thus, first of all, it is necessary to form an ideological and ideological conviction in the leader - immunity. The ideological competence of the leader must be the same as the knowledge required by the market economy. In the mind of the leader, they should be reflected as the main factors of positive results in their harmonious formation and activity.

Being a leader today is a difficult, but at the same time an honorable responsibility. As long as the people do not support the leaders, and the leaders do not support the people in public administration in a democratic society, the real goal, peace in the country, the well-being of the people, in order to live with confidence in the future, remains problematic.

At a time when we are witnessing complex and turbulent situations in neighboring countries, the issue of rational and skillful leadership remains highly relevant. From this point of view, the requirement of the time is that the staff, imbued with the power of the national idea, must introduce this idea into society.

Only then will we become a great power. It is in our power to rally society around a national idea that serves the interests of our people, to show loyalty to the Motherland, humanity, originality, faith in the future, aspiration, to protect it against various ideological encroachments. This is a huge achievement.

We are the descendants of great ancestors, the blood of our great-grandfathers flows in our veins. Let's think how we can be a worthy generation for them today. If we do not do what our great ancestors, the founders of the First and Second Renaissance, are worthy of, then how will we create the ground for the Third Renaissance?

In conclusion, we should note that leadership is also a blessing. Someone today can say that he or she is a person with leadership qualities. But we have not been able to understand the essence of this blessing yet. In fact, leadership qualities are manifested in people with innate abilities dating back to childhood. If a child has this ability, one should not treat him/her indifferently, it is necessary to pay great attention to his/her upbringing. Because not everyone will have the ability to lead people, the ability to be the cure for many people's problems, and the ability to properly manage a team. A real leader will be obtained only if these qualities are harmoniously combined with human qualities, strong spiritual maturity, purity of faith, high intellect and character.

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