

The Family as an Integral Foundation of Society

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Annotation: This article discusses the socio-political nature of the family. It highlights the significance of the reforms implemented in our country, as well as the importance of the adopted decrees and resolutions. Additionally, the "Family Code" and its normative-legal principles are analyzed.

Keywords: family, socio-political processes, code, decree, law, attention to women.



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Introduction

Society depends on the family foundation because it creates essential foundations for social organization as well as moral and economic systems. The Uzbek government launched comprehensive initiatives to defend family values combined with worldwide standards while maximizing family institution power in the country. Through both the Family Code and diverse government decrees the state demonstrates a dedicated commitment to family support as well as gender equality promotion. This text examines the social and political importance of familial units along with legal family relationships in Uzbekistan and it analyzes programs that work to enhance household stability as well as female empowerment.

After our country gained independence, extensive efforts were undertaken to restore, preserve, and remain faithful to national values. As a testament to the high level of attention given to the formation of the family institution, various years have been designated with names such as "Family," "Mother and Child," "Healthy Generation," "Women," "Youth," "Harmoniously Developed Generation," "Healthy Mother and Child," and "Year of Honoring the Elderly." Accordingly, recognizing that the family is the most cherished place for an individual, it is essential to fundamentally change attitudes towards it, ensure its social protection by society, cherish and support it, and acknowledge its significance for both the present and the future.

Since the family is a place where values are nurtured, this issue has been given attention at the level of state policy. One clear proof of this is the decrees and resolutions adopted by our government and their implementation. In particular, the Presidential Decree No. 81 of the Republic of Uzbekistan, dated March 1, 2022, "On Measures to Improve the System of Working with Families and Women, as well as Supporting Mahallas and the Elderly", the Presidential Resolution No. PQ-401, dated December 21, 2023, "On Additional Measures to Strengthen Families and Increase Women's Activity", the Cabinet of Ministers Resolution No. 183, dated April 3, 2024, "On Amendments and Additions to Certain Government Decisions of the Republic

of Uzbekistan in Connection with the Determination of Additional Measures for Strengthening Families and Increasing Women's Activity", and the Cabinet of Ministers Resolution No. 437, dated September 2, 2023, "On the Approval of the Regulation on the 'Exemplary Family' Badge" were adopted, and relevant laws and regulations regarding the formation and strengthening of the family institution were established.

The Presidential Resolution No. PQ-401, "On Additional Measures to Strengthen Families and Increase Women's Activity," includes provisions aimed at enhancing the role of women in society. It sets forth a requirement for the Republican Commission on Gender Equality and Family Affairs and the Cabinet of Ministers to ensure that by 2030, the proportion of women in managerial positions across all levels of state agencies, organizations, and enterprises—including local executive authorities, the judiciary, and law enforcement agencies—reaches 30%. Furthermore, these regulations mandate the application of this requirement in the formation of executive bodies of state enterprises, including boards of directors and supervisory boards.¹

As women's role in society becomes more active, their status and dignity also increase. A society that honors women prospers. In accordance with this, the resolution also outlines provisions that support families in need, including those who have lost a breadwinner, families with multiple children, and socially vulnerable women, by granting them various benefits. As a result, these measures contribute to strengthening families.

It should be specifically noted that on September 1, 1998, the "Family Code" of the Republic of Uzbekistan was adopted. This code consists of 30 chapters and 238 articles. The first article defines the significance and purpose of the code. Accordingly, the objectives of family legislation are as follows: strengthening the family, building family relations based on mutual love, trust, respect, unity, mutual assistance, and a sense of responsibility among all family members, preventing unauthorized interference by any individual in family matters, ensuring that family members freely exercise their rights and that these rights are protected (Article 1).

In the Family Code, special attention is given to women's issues. In particular, Article 2 establishes the equality of rights between men and women in family relations as follows: "Regulation of family relations is based on the principles of a voluntary union formed by marriage between a man and a woman, the equality of personal and property rights of spouses, the resolution of internal family matters through mutual agreement, care for the upbringing, well-being, and development of children within the family, and the protection of the rights and interests of minor and incapacitated family members."²

The Code is comprehensively structured and includes regulations on parental and child rights, privileges, property and non-property personal relations, the application of local customs and traditions in family relations, the procedure for marriage, the personal and property rights and obligations of spouses, the dissolution of marriage, kinship relations, determination of children's lineage, the rights and obligations of minors, alimony obligations, the placement of children deprived of parental care, guardianship, trusteeship, adoption procedures, guidelines for registering marriage, childbirth, divorce, and death, as well as provisions governing family relations involving foreign citizens and stateless persons.

In addition to the above, considering the **important role of the family in societal development** and in raising a **morally mature and physically healthy generation**, the **Cabinet of Ministers**

¹ Presidential Resolution of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. PQ-401, dated December 21, 2023, "On Additional Measures to Strengthen Families and Increase Women's Activity" // Official website Lex.uz. [Electronic resource]. URL: PQ-401-son 21.12.2023. On Additional Measures to Strengthen Families and Increase Women's Activity (lex.uz) / (Accessed on: 02.02.2024).

² Family Code of the Republic of Uzbekistan // Official website Lex.uz. [Electronic resource]. URL: 30.04.1998. Family Code of the Republic of Uzbekistan (lex.uz) / (Accessed on: 02.02.2024).

of the Republic of Uzbekistan, on February 2, 1998, adopted a resolution to establish the "Oila" Republican Scientific and Practical Center. The purpose of this decision was to preserve and protect the nation's rich and meaningful family-related traditions, integrate them with universal values, instill the sacredness of family and marriage in the consciousness of the younger generation, ensure the strengthening of families, enhance the legal literacy of family members, conduct scientific research on family-related issues, and coordinate practical assistance to citizens in these matters.³ The center was established under the Women's Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan, based on the family research laboratories of Tashkent State University and Tashkent State Pedagogical University. The "Oila" Center, throughout its activities, has been aimed at preserving and promoting national traditions, defining values as the foundation of family education, studying and addressing psychological, social, ethnopedagogical, and ethnopsychological issues encountered in families, family planning, preparing youth for married life, organizing training courses in this field, enhancing legal literacy, protecting family rights, as well as publishing educational-methodological manuals, brochures, and booklets related to the aforementioned issues, and implementing many other objectives.

Methodology

The study implements qualitative research methods with document analysis as its core element to understand the laws along with governmental policies that define family dynamics and gender equality in Uzbekistan. State interventions receive analysis through a systematic review of decrees and laws and regulatory policies that demonstrates their role in strengthening families while empowering women. The main point of this study includes analyzing the content within Uzbekistan's "Family Code" to understand its legal marriage rules alongside parental rights and children protection standards and gender equality provisions. Through this evaluation researchers can detect fundamental legal aspects of family preservation whereas they can also identify protective mechanisms for female rights inside familial structures. The research evaluates presidential decrees together with Cabinet of Ministers resolutions and official state programs for family development as tools to assess government intervention. Scholarly articles and research papers together with reports from international organizations supply information in this study to assess family policy effectiveness and global standards for comparison. The research evaluates family legislation history in Uzbekistan by analyzing secondary studies about gender equality policies and institutional programs supporting families. This research design enables scholars to create an extensive overview about family stability combined with women's rights and society development in Uzbekistan under their existing legal and policy structure.

Results

This research exposes the important place that state policies together with legal frameworks hold in enhancing family institutions and achieving gender equality within Uzbekistan. As a core legal instrument The Family Code of Uzbekistan contains 30 chapters and 238 articles to defend family liberties and establish gender equality among family members together with guideline provisions for marriage relationships and maternal duties and child protection measures. Through its provisions the code establishes both spouses' respective duties while protecting children and at-risk household members and defining proper procedures to settle household matters by legal and professional standards. The evaluation of official government decrees together with resolutions shows Uzbekistan keeps family support at the forefront of its national priorities. Through Presidential Decree No. 81 (2022) the government initiated family assistance plans that benefit women along with senior citizens along with the elderly. Moreover Presidential Resolution No.

³ Resolution No. 54 of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan, dated February 2, 1998, "On the Establishment of the Republican 'Oila' Scientific and Practical Center" // Official website Lex.uz. [Electronic resource]. URL: 54-son 02.02.1998. On the Establishment of the Republican 'Oila' Scientific and Practical Center (lex.uz) / (Accessed on: 03.02.2024).

PQ-401 (2023) established ambitious targets for female representation at 30% in managerial roles by 2030. Cabinet of Ministers through Resolution No. 183 (2024) together with Resolution No. 437 (2023) implemented more strategies to strengthen family stability and promote inclusivity for both genders. The "Oila" Republican Scientific and Practical Center established in 1998 played an essential part in preserving traditional family culture while delivering legal education and handling both social and psychological demands inside families. The center maintains active operations through educational programming and research-based support functions which work to enhance family welfare. The findings show that Uzbekistan's legal framework and policy actions have successfully promoted family institutions and raised women's social position and delivered protection services for disadvantaged groups. Additional research needs to investigate the enduring effects of these strategies because more knowledge about lasting results and alternative family retaining frameworks that enhance gender equity is necessary.

Discussion

The government of Uzbekistan successfully advanced both family institution development and gender equality by passing new legislation and policy regulations. Through the Family Code Uzbekistan establishes marriage and family relation equal rights while Presidential Resolution No. PQ-401 (2023) strives to boost female leadership participation to reach 30% by 2030. Since 1998 the "Oila" Center has managed to lead crucial family education programs and social support services and legal information initiatives. The nation faces ongoing obstacles which stem from domestic threats along with financial difficulties and traditional male-female relationship ideas. The impact of social development programs will increase through the enhancement of public education together with the expansion of social protection measures as well as legal assistance programs. Long-term social stability requires Uzbekistan to maintain constant monitoring that involves policy adaptation for maintaining their present solid base.

Conclusion

Uzbekistan develops a powerful set of laws alongside policies which work to build stronger families and establish gender equality. Through the Family Code and government resolutions Uzbekistan provides essential support which strengthens family stability as well as women's empowerment. The "Oila" Center functions as a vital institution to provide education to families and handle social matters. Ongoing reforms remain necessary to address both domestic issues and economic hardships because progress has been made toward family development. The enhancement of legal guidance and social assistance and public education systems will produce better outcomes for family welfare. The maintenance of constructive change in family and gender equality work necessitates continuous policy monitoring along with adjustments.

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