



THE NEED AND CONDITIONS FOR THE ORGANIZATION OF THE SYSTEM OF SPIRITUAL AND EDUCATIONAL WORK IN THE LAW ENFORCEMENT STRUCTURES OF THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN

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Annotation. The article is devoted to the problem, which is aggravated today in Uzbekistan - the relationship between law enforcement agencies and citizens. The author analyzed the problems of personnel training in the system of internal affairs structures, their impact on society, the need and conditions for improving their moral and spiritual state in the course of personnel training.

Keywords: law enforcement agency, internal affairs structures, public order, legal relations, professional and ethical culture, spirituality, ethics, cooperation, public control.

Аннотация. Статья посвящена проблеме, которая сегодня обостряется в Узбекистане - взаимоотношениям правоохранительных органов и граждан. Автор проанализировал проблемы подготовки кадров в системе органов внутренних дел, их влияние на общество, необходимость и условия повышения их нравственно-духовного состояния при подготовке кадров.

Ключевые слова: правоохранительный орган, органы внутренних дел, общественный порядок, правоотношения, профессионально-этическая культура, духовность, этика, сотрудничество, общественный контроль.

In mind of our people, the word “law enforcement officer” evokes an image of people who love their Motherland, who are ready to sacrifice their own interests



for the sake of the peace of the people and the nation, whose moral rules are regulated by legal norms, and who are in uniform. According to the normative documents, the minimum requirements for the external and moral appearance of the law enforcement employees are the same. In the Law on Internal Affairs Structures adopted on August 12, 2016, it is emphasized that the main tasks of internal affairs are to protect property of individuals and legal entities rights, freedom, legal interests of citizens, the constitutional system, the rule of law, the security of the individual, society and the state, as well as stopping of offenses and their prevention. [1]

It should be emphasized that no employee of any law enforcement agency of the state is observed to be integrated in social and legal relations intensively with citizens like the employees of the internal affairs (the police). We can see this in maintaining public order, ensuring the safety of important social and transport objects, preventing crimes and maintaining of relations of internal affairs with citizens in cases of any minor offenses. During the performance of their duties, the employees of the internal affairs must fulfill the requirements of the service based on the needs and requirements of the society and the state. This, in turn, is one of the most important factors that ensure the level of confidence of citizens in the internal affairs and each of its employees in their personal and financial integrity.

In their daily activities, the employees of the internal affairs are faced with the problems of investigating the causes and their elimination in order to effectively solve the problems of crime prevention. Of course, since crimes are committed in the course of relationships between members of society and with varying degrees of participation by members of society, police officers cannot ensure that crimes occur or are prevented without outside assistance. Therefore, in order to solve this most complex task, as a condition for public peace, the need for cooperation with citizens and public organizations, and the need to combine forces and capabilities against the common enemy, increases dramatically. In the first place, high level of mutual trust



and a sense of cooperation between the public and internal affairs is essential in obtaining the information necessary to prevent, detect and investigate crimes. Secondly, trust-based interaction between citizens and department employees increases public trust in internal affairs employees.

In addition, due to such interactions, citizens begin to feel responsibility for ensuring law and order and public safety in their territory, solving social problems.

There is no doubt that the public's trust in the internal affairs is closely related to the behavior of the internal affairs officers towards the citizens, the observance of the rules of professional etiquette both during the performance of official duties and in private life, in everyday situations. In the process, all structural elements - appearance, formal service uniform, communication style, respect for the dignity and freedom of a person and his rights, indifference to other people's problems, etc. help to establish mutual trustful relations.

Unfortunately, for many years, law enforcement agencies have been operating under the influence of totalitarian and autocracy-based political systems, which tried to justify their inviolability with words such as «purging» free thinkers in society, «preventing» social crises, and «protecting» state policy. The professional etiquette that emerged as a result of the policy of «great subordination» established between the state administrations, law enforcement agencies and society after independence, formed negative relations between the employees of the internal affairs and the citizens, the old management and organizational forms, and the political consciousness formed under the influence of these factors are an obstacle to the acceptance of the internal affairs as guardians of modern peaceful social and legal relations. Unfortunately, for many years, law enforcement agencies have been operating under the influence of totalitarian and autocracy-based political systems, which tried to justify their inviolability with words such as «purging» free thinkers in society, «preventing» social crises, and «protecting» state policy. After the



independence in 1991th, professional etiquette, the negative relations between the employees and citizens, old management and organizational forms, and finally, the political consciousness formed under the influence of above factors, which arose as a result of the policy of «great subordination» established between the state administration , law enforcement agencies and society are servicing as an obstacle to the acceptance of law enforcement agencies as guardians of modern peaceful social and legal relations in Uzbekistan.

If the problems in the relationship between the population and law enforcement agencies are analyzed from internal affairs officers side, then the following group of reasons can be seen:

- During the transition period, relation between internal affairs, public organizations and the population will remain tense in various directions;

- The level of legal awareness of the population remains low, and legal nihilism is increasing;

- When the mutual relations between law enforcement agencies and the population are coordinated from above, the support of the higher levels of state power towards law enforcements disappears;

- Internal affairs employees who have received certain rights and new responsibilities are obliged to reconsider and establish their relationship with representatives of society.

- Many areas of relations between the people and internal affairs still need bilateral legal regulation.

It should be noted that justifying the employees' assessment of the situation as above is right only in some cases. But this cannot be a sufficient basis to justify the violations and crimes involving the employees of business affairs that have



reached open sources in recent years. For example, according to the information provided by the Minister of Internal Affairs P.R. Bobojanov, in 2018, 174 employees who served in the system were held accountable for various crimes committed. [2] In 2019, the activities of 346 executives who have been serving in leadership positions for more than five years were critically analyzed, 172 were released from their positions, 81 were assigned to lower positions, and 59 were dismissed from the ranks of internal affairs. In addition, the press secretary of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, Shahrukh Giyasov, emphasized the existence of employees with wrong attitude and worldview among the employees of the sector, and informed that in 2019, a total of 7,039 employees were disciplined, 1,223 employees were fined for violating traffic rules, and criminal liability was applied to 133 employees. In 2020, 2,350 employees were found to have violated service discipline, 529 violated traffic rules, and 45 employees were prosecuted. [3]

The Republic of Uzbekistan ratified the UN Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment on August 31, 1995. [4] Despite the new changes and the established discipline in the law, there are no long breaks between the reports of the deaths of civilians being taken to internal affairs for investigation. Especially at the time when all kinds of information quickly reaches the public and resonates, such crimes committed by the officers of the agency cause a sharp increase in public distrust and hatred towards the officers of the law enforcement agencies.

Unfortunately, the illegal actions of the law enforcements employees do not only damage the necessary positive signs of relations between the state and society within the country, mutual trust and readiness for cooperation, but also have a sharp negative impact on international relations, the external political and economic attractiveness of the state, and the reputation in international community.



For example, according to reports published by the U.S. Embassy in Uzbekistan in 2020, officers of the internal affairs and administration of places of deprivation of liberty committed offenses, physical and psychological abuse against detainees by law enforcement agencies, including information about violations that led to the death of detainees, arbitrary detentions and lengthy prison terms, restrictions on freedom of speech, the press, and the Internet, harassment and arrests of journalists and other citizens who criticize the internal affairs, widespread impunity for crimes, occasional malnutrition in prisons, overcrowding, physical abuse, poor sanitation, and lack of medical care and medicines expose lives prisoners at risk, and there are credible reports that prisoners released for two to three years have been beaten and subjected to other forms of torture, including prison stress. [5]

Apart from these, the results of the indexing of Uzbekistan's law enforcement indicators among 140 countries in 2022 in international ratings cannot be considered satisfactory.

- 66th place according to indicators of low level of corruption; [6]
- 122nd place according to indicators of openness of government and agencies to society and ability to provide information; [7]
- 107th place in terms of indicators of fundamental rights; [8]
- 99th place in the index of regulation and support of civil actions;
- 75th place in terms of indicators of social justice;
- 65th place according to indicators of ensuring legal treatment toward prisoners; [9]
- According to the results of the general indexing of the above and other indicators of ensuring legal and political freedom, the rule of law, the Republic of Uzbekistan ranked 78th. [10]

From our above analysis, it became clear that the role of internal affairs employees in the formation of state and society relations, in ensuring the



effectiveness of the state's foreign and internal policy, legal and economic attractiveness is of great importance. Before the views that the employees of law enforcements should have the level of moral and educational rules of etiquette, they should meet the requirements of having qualities such as simplicity, professionalism, legal knowledge, resistance to psychological pressures in the relations with citizens and during the performance of official duties, we should also take into account that the diversity and complexity of the forms of social and legal interaction of employees in accordance with their duties sometimes makes it impossible for them to work effectively with colleagues, subordinates, and the population in difficult and extreme situations due to various factors.

Such factors include:

- Loss of family stability of employees;
- Physical and mental weakening due to health and age;
- Working environment based on unfaithful competition and legal system;
- Inability to maintain workability for a long time under physical and mental pressure such as working hours, duty, increased security;
- Constantly communicating with the law-breaking, crime-prone layer of the society;
- Sharp reduction of communication with social groups (friends, loved ones, relatives, neighbors...) close to the service according to the requirements of the service;
- Maintenance of long-term relationship with service weapon and service environment, etc.

The professional activity of the employees of the internal affairs is regulated by means of certain ethical norms and sets of normative documents. Professional ethics is a combination of the following structural qualities: professional education arising from service requirements, morals and values and moral norms formed in the



family before the service period, adequate attitude to one's personality, assigned task and other people.

According to the conclusions of researchers who have conducted research in the field, law enforcement officers should also have knowledge of social problems of society, democratic freedoms, human and civil rights, ethical standards of behavior, and meet the requirements of professional ethics. [11] These norms and requirements are regulated by more than dozens of decrees, decisions and many regulatory documents affecting the activities of law enforcement agencies of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

An analysis of the normative documents on the professional and ethical culture of employees of internal affairs structures is enough for anyone to come to the conclusion that the rules of professional etiquette, external and internal ethics of internal affairs employees are legally regulated to the necessary extent. In accordance with the Code of Internal Affairs, an employee of the internal affairs must be friendly and open, considerate of the citizens, and must inspire respect for internal affairs. It is necessary for them to control their actions, to be able to restrain his feelings and psychology, not to allow sympathy or antipathy, personal enmity, bad mood or friendly feelings to influence decisions about the service, to be able to analyze in advance the consequences of his actions or inactions. It is necessary for the employee to have the following characteristics: a character based on self-discipline, professional competence, loyalty, accuracy, thoroughness, carefulness, business behavior based on valuing one's own and other people's time, adequate manner to citizens, regardless of their official or social status. During communication with colleagues, it is important for employees to follow the signs of modesty, sincerely rejoice at the success of their colleagues and to have the ability to successfully cooperate with colleagues in the successful completion of service tasks, to be able to form the character of intolerance to arrogance, envy and hostility.



At this point, it is appropriate to quote the words of professor T.G.Mukhina Doctor of Pedagogical Sciences: "... professional ethics is a set of certain moral norms that determine the attitude of a person to his professional duty. The field of professional ethics of employees of internal affairs includes the following: relations between individuals that arise in the course of service activities, moral qualities of each employee, specific signs of professional education, specific ethical and legal standards of professional activity." [12]

Of course, law enforcement officers engage in social or family relationships off-duty as family members or family leaders. After both mentally and physically tiring working day, employees need to be able to find the strength to give the attention expected of them in their family as a righteous son, a loving father, a friend, a loving brother or sister, a devoted spouse. Including, the employee should be an exemplary head of the family, create an atmosphere of kindness, sincerity, and trust in the family, take care of raising children, forming high moral qualities in them.

Spiritual and educational work in the internal affairs structures has been raised to the level of the main priority direction against the background of the tension between the population and the internal affairs officers. Today, the main efforts in this regard are aimed at ensuring that spiritual education becomes an integral part not only of the work of personnel and educational departments, but also of the daily management of all levels of management. It is possible to have a positive effect on the efficiency of performing operational duties, strengthening the rule of law and service discipline, and improving the morale of employees only through the implementation of decisions and other normative documents related to the field. Only through the implementation of the decisions and other regulatory documents related to the field, it is possible to have a positive effect on the effectiveness of the performance of operational tasks, strengthening the rule of law and service discipline, and improving the moral and spiritual condition of employees.



In order to ensure the development trend of the positive results achieved, the educational work carried out with personnel should be considered as the most important component of the state personnel policy aimed at forming a person who is mature in all respects, has professional training, and the ability to maintain moral and psychological balance. The process of professional education of the internal affairs includes psychological and social education. One of the most effective means of maintaining moral status of internal affairs employees is constant monitoring of public opinion. No social organization can effectively organize its activities in a vacuum. Such organizations always feel a great need to establish relations with the external environment, where they exchange information, resources and energy. One of the most important components of the external environment for internal affairs is public opinion. One of the most important components of the external environment for internal affairs is public opinion. Public opinion serves as a unique means of feedback, which is important and vital for internal affairs, both as a management system and as a system of social control. At the same time, despite the extensive reforms in the field, which have become necessary for many years, in recent years, the level of confidence of the population in internal affairs has a tendency to decrease. This can be seen in the reduction of positive elements in the public opinion expressed by the population, the decrease in the authority and reputation of the structure's employees in front of the population, the decrease in the number of supporters who are ready to cooperate with the body's employees, and other social signs. The positive attitude of the population to internal affairs system is important not only as a feedback, but also their participation in public order protection, support and assistance is a source of obtaining information necessary for internal affairs structures and filling the ranks of employees with suitable candidates. [13]

Every member of today's society should fully understand that morals and spiritual values passed down from generation to generation will become a guarantee of preservation and further development of an enlightened society and a prosperous



state only if it is protected from immorality and propensity to use force. It is impossible to modernize the economy and renew social life without spiritual and moral foundations. It is a moral basis, which is a strategic direction in the development of any state. The issue of ideological foundations of personnel training will always remain relevant. From the point of view of traditional approaches for Uzbekistan, spiritual and moral education in the internal affairs structures can be considered as a purposeful activity aimed at creating conditions for the development of spirituality, morality, patriotism based on universal and everyday values, as well as for the self-awareness and self-improvement of the individual. All this shows that in modern conditions, the spiritual and moral education of employees of internal affairs remains a particularly topical issue, it is necessary to focus on the formation and development of their moral feelings (duty, faith, responsibility, citizenship, patriotism, patience, etc.), moral position (the ability to distinguish between good and bad, manifestation of a sense of selflessness, readiness to overcome life's trials), moral behavior (always being committed to the service of the people and the Motherland). Moral education of the employees of the internal affairs structures is one of the main factors that can provide a high level of moral and psychological preparation for operational activities. This process is aimed at mastering knowledge, moral and etiquette standards by employees, and it helps in the formation and development of a person established by the state and society, in his acquisition of civil, moral, spiritual, psychological and other important professional qualities.

Together, the police and citizens should achieve that every representative of people feels safe, sees the internal affairs as defenders who can reliably protect their lives, health, honor and dignity from criminal attacks, can be an example for the new generation, and treat each other with mutual respect. The employees of the internal affairs should deeply understand that they have wide rights and powers granted by law, and when exercising these power and rights, they should observe high moral and ethical standards, show restraint and high moral maturity, and use them



professionally. At the same time, internal affairs officers must be firm in preventing violations, and at the same time, their actions must be legally flawless, exclude illegal actions, violations, be understandable and reasonable for everyone.

Employees of the internal affairs should not forget that they are always in the public eye during their service, their behavior determines the reputation of the entire internal affairs system, the trust in each employee and the support of the citizens. From socio-political processes, it is becoming clear that the public first of all requires the professional skills, behavioral culture and intellectual abilities of an internal affairs employee, the ability to perform their duties efficiently and with high competence, the pursuit of social justice, equality and strict adherence to the rule of law.

In conclusion, it can be said that ethics and spirituality have been viewed as practical philosophy since ancient times. Ethical and spiritual norms are being studied not only for the purpose of analyzing how a mature person should be, but first of all, to be moral person and to raise a spiritual healthy generation. The purpose of studying ethics is not knowledge, but practical action. You can't hide behind ethics, you can only rely on it. Spirituality, ethics and morality can help only those who ask for its help, those who want to eliminate their inappropriate behavior and help others in doing so, to improve themselves and the world. Spirituality and morality are not addressed only in social relations, but are relied on throughout life.

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