



## THE ROLE OF THE JUDICIAL PROFESSION IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIETY

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It is well known that the administration of justice is carried out exclusively by the judicial branch. Therefore, a judge must possess not only specialized knowledge and professional skills, but also high moral and ethical qualities from a professional standpoint. This is because the judicial profession is considered one of the most responsible fields, dealing with matters of justice and truth. It represents a sphere of professional activity of great importance, in which specialists frequently encounter complex processes while performing their functions. The Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan “On Courts” states: “In the Republic of Uzbekistan, the judiciary operates independently of the legislative and executive branches of government, political parties, and other institutions of civil society”<sup>1</sup>.

The judicial profession is not only a field that requires legal knowledge, but also one that embodies high moral virtues such as justice, conscience, integrity, and humanity. A judge, as an important component of state authority, is a person who ensures the supremacy of law, protects human rights and freedoms, and maintains justice and stability within society. Therefore, the judicial profession holds an incomparable role in the development of society, the advancement of legal culture, and the formation of civic consciousness.

First of all, the fundamental characteristics of any democratic society are the rule of law and the independence of the judicial system. The professional activities of judges are carried out on the basis of these principles. Their decisive role lies in the fact that every decision made by a judge directly affects the fate of citizens and,

<sup>1</sup> O‘zbekiston Respublikasining “Sudlar to‘g‘risida”gi Qonuni. Qonunchilik ma‘lumotlari milliy bazasi, 10.06.2025-y., 03/25/1067/0498-son; 15.08.2025-y., 03/25/1081/0738-son; 30.12.2025-y., 03/25/1109/1241-son



consequently, determines the level of public trust in the state. For this reason, judges are required to possess a high level of legal culture, firm conviction, intolerance toward injustice, and strong adherence to principles..

As emphasized in the scholarly research entitled “Professional Legal Consciousness of Judges: Concept, Characteristics, and Directions of Development” by Sanjar Nishanov, judicial activity is not limited merely to knowledge of legal texts. Rather, it represents a complex moral phenomenon that reflects an individual’s inner conscience, sense of justice, and responsibility toward society. In making decisions, a judge must take into consideration not only the provisions of the law but also the moral principles of society<sup>2</sup>.

In societies where the judicial system is strong, independent, and transparent, citizens have confidence in the protection of their rights. This, in turn, serves as a guarantee of economic and political stability. In contrast, in places where a fair judicial system does not exist, corruption, social injustice, and distrust tend to increase. Therefore, the judicial profession is an important factor not only in legal development but also in socio-economic progress.

Improving the professional qualifications of judges, as well as the processes of their selection and training, has become an integral part of the state’s development policy. In the Republic of Uzbekistan, a number of measures aimed at reforming the judicial system and ensuring the independence of the judiciary are being implemented. In this regard, the Presidential Decree “On Measures to Further Strengthen the Independence of the Judiciary”<sup>3</sup> serves as a fundamental legal basis.

Furthermore, the introduction of information technologies in judicial activities—such as the electronic judicial system and the open electronic document database—enhances the transparency of court decisions in society. This strengthens public trust and increases respect for the legal system.

The judicial profession is, by its very nature, a responsible service that determines the fate of individuals. When each judge regards human rights as a

<sup>2</sup> Nishanov S. Sudyalarining kasbiy huquqiy ongi: tushunchasi, xususiyatlari va rivojlanish yo‘nalishlari. zenodo.org

<sup>3</sup> O‘zbekiston Respublikasi Prezidenti Farmoni, 2020 yil 30 iyun, PF-6017-son.



supreme value in their work, it contributes to the consolidation of justice and peace in society. Therefore, developing judges' legal consciousness and providing them with moral, ethical, and psychological support is a crucial factor for societal development.

Beyond operating within the framework of the law, a judge, as a decision-making authority, must hold a respected and exemplary position in society. From a professional perspective, a judge who fully adheres to the norms of professional ethics is regarded with high esteem. As is well understood, while ethics represents a set of moral rules, professional ethics constitutes the collection of specific moral qualities characteristic of specialists in a particular profession..

**“Judicial Ethics** – Based on the professional activity of a judge, it refers to adherence to procedural norms that regulate relations between participants in the judicial process and other persons.

**Judicial Professional Ethics** – These are the moral rules governing a judge's official duties as well as their conduct outside of official duties”<sup>4</sup>.

It follows that a judge must adhere to judicial ethical standards both while performing official duties and in circumstances outside of work.

Although the famous Greek philosopher Epictetus once said, “Do not judge others until your heart acknowledges that you are worthy of the judicial seat,” this idea remains highly relevant today. The reason is that the judiciary, due to its distinct status and importance, is governed by special principles.

To support this view, from the perspective of the judicial profession, a judge—before possessing the authority to issue rulings—is equal to others as a human being. Therefore, before judging anyone, the specialist must first recognize and feel that they are worthy and fit for this role. A judge must be suitable for the judicial position in order to consider the human factor when resolving matters that affect people's lives.

<sup>4</sup> Ismailov B.I. Yuristning kasbiy etikasi. – T.: O'zbekiston Respublikasi Bosh prokuratura Akademiyasi, 2019.27-65 b.



A judge's conduct, behavior, and character should be positive, and their dignity and reputation should remain intact. A judge must personally understand their own worthiness for the judicial office and act accordingly. Judicial conduct (morality) refers to a judge's practical actions and interactions with others.

Despite processes of modernization, a judge's professional etiquette, behavior, and moral qualities must meet specific standards. When a judge considers both legal and human factors in performing their duties, it naturally enhances the judge's authority.

It should be emphasized that, before passing judgment on others, a judge must also be able to assess and regulate their own behavior and professional conduct. The main reason is that a person entrusted with making decisions that can affect an individual's entire life must possess correct and just moral qualities, knowledge, skills, and life principles.

For a judge to be fair, they must act honestly in all relationships, maintain constant communication with the public to understand their problems and needs, keep positive relations with colleagues and subordinates, be competent in their work, manage internal emotions, remain free from conflicts of interest, and meet all professional requirements. When a judge performs their duties conscientiously, they are honest and upright. A judge must continuously avoid improper actions and maintain an impeccable reputation.

Any pressure or interference in a judge's activities related to fair adjudication, or any offers of rewards for actions taken or not taken, must be reported, according to established procedures, to the Supreme Council of Judges of the Republic of Uzbekistan and/or the Judicial Qualification Board.

A judge must fulfill their duties justly, promptly, conscientiously, and at a high professional standard.

“A judge must thoroughly prepare for organizing and conducting court sessions, provide all participants in the judicial process with equal opportunities to freely express their opinions, consider cases within the procedural timeframes established by law, prevent unjustified or prolonged delays in case consideration,



issue lawful and fair decisions, and ensure that these decisions are delivered to the relevant parties in a timely manner”<sup>5</sup>.

**In conclusion, it should be emphasized that,** regardless of time and place, a judge must always meet ethical and aesthetic standards. To uphold the dignity of the judicial office, it is appropriate for a judge to cultivate moral norms within themselves and advance the principles of fair and humanistic justice.

At the same time, the judiciary is a profession with a high purpose: it strengthens the legal foundation of society, increases citizens’ trust in the state, and implements justice in practice. In a society with a fair judicial system, the rule of law, public peace, and sustainable development prevail. Therefore, a judge is not only an enforcer of the law but also an embodiment of humanity’s conscience.

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5. <https://qashqadaryo.sud.uz/судьялар-одоб-ахлоқ-кодекси/>

<sup>5</sup> <https://qashqadaryo.sud.uz/судьялар-одоб-ахлоқ-кодекси/>