

PROVISION OF FAMILY STABILITY AS A PRIORITY OF STATE POLICY

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Abstract: The article gives an emphasis to the family policy which is an integral part of state social policy, and provides valuable scientific data about ensuring women's rights and interests and creating all necessary conditions for them by creating normal working and living conditions at the state policy level, protecting motherhood and childhood, supporting family institutions, helping women to overcome problems, increasing their prestige and status in public and protecting women's socio-economic interests.

Keywords: Women, family policy, concept, family institution, state, society, social protection, motherhood, childhood, priority, reform.

Family policy is considered to be an vital part of the state social policy, aiming at steady increase of employment and real incomes, ensuring a prosperous life for citizens and improving the system of social protection and health care.

The important conditions for attaining these goals are as follows: well-functioning mechanism of cooperation between government agencies and institutions of civil society, the implementation of adopted regulations and state programs without any reserve, as well as the timely identification and effective resolution of problems intervening family stability.

It is common knowledge that the process of democratization of an oriental society is largely determined by family relations. An old Sanskrit proverb says, "A woman is a family, and the family is the foundation of any society."¹ According to family traditions, aged people in the family have a greater influence on the problems connected with family relationships, and they are more effective than litigation in solving family difficulties. In Navoi region, people of makhallas with many years of experience in working with troubled families have been attached to families with unhealthy spiritual environment. This, in turn, serves to reduce the number of such

¹ Indira Gandhi: "Women's education is more important than men's". www.ziyouz.uz

unstable families. In 2018, 878 families were reconciled as a result of huge systematic work done by the non-governmental organisation on the prevention of family divorces².

The family and its economic stability is a set of powerful factors that can affect the city, district governor, deputies, political parties and subordinate organizations of public associations. That is why the role of the family in the socio-political life of the republic is of high importance. The current system of social support includes financial provision for low-income families with a number of children, especially those in need of social protection, and also it is targeted on maintaining a healthy motherhood in the republic.

It is known that from 2020, there has been done huge targeted work on dealing with unemployed, single breadwinners, single mothers and women of each makhalla and their registration in special women's book. In 136 makhallas with high levels of poverty and unemployment, a number of educational establishments providing vocational training have been set up in within the makhallas and vacant places. There have been developed the lists of about 37,000 women in makhallas (3 to 5 women from each makhalla) who have been revived, motivated and trained in specially organized intensive courses. Based on the statistics of those lists, by the present time 3,716 women have been trained in short-term courses in various fields³.

The Ministry for Support of Makhalla and Family of the Republic of Uzbekistan has identified the best projects for women and allocated small grants for them from the State Fund for Women and Family Support.

In Bukhara region, effective work has been done to ensure women's employment, improve their working conditions, direct women living in rural areas to private entrepreneurship and provide housing for women living in difficult life conditions. There has been compiled a list of 193 women experiencing severe living conditions, and more than 3.888 billion soums have been transferred from the public fund to 100 of them to solve their housing problems. The remaining 93 people received 982 million soums from the "Makhalla" Public Charitable Foundation. Also, governmental financial assistance in the amount of 6.798 billion soums was provided to the families who were in real need. In addition, they were provided with wheelchairs, hearing aids and other equipment. At the regular reporting and elective conference of the Women's Committee of Bukhara region, the deputy governor of the region, chairwoman of the regional Women's Committee F. Ibragimova tried to draw the government's attention to the existing problems that need to be addressed in the region. In her report she emphasized that

² Report of N. Sadikova at the reporting and elective conference of Navoi regional Women's Committee // Current archive of Navoi regional Women's Committee, data of 2018

³ Current archive of the Ministry for support of makhalla and family of the Republic of Uzbekistan, data of 2021

although the level of infant mortality has declined sharply over the past five years, reproductive health standards have not been met. Also she mentioned about the existence of some screening problems and maternal mortality in some districts as well as the high level of premature births in such regions as Bukhara, Gijduvan, Bukhara, and Jondor. It was noted that the number of family divorces is relatively high in districts such as Karakul, Kagan, there are also a number of problems with human trafficking and suicides among women, for example, 10 of the perpetrators in 2018 in the region were girls under 18 years old⁴.

It is common knowledge that in many educational institutions of Uzbekistan special clubs for girls have been established with the purpose to prevent underage marriage among girls, give a broad understanding of the sacredness of the family among girls close to marriage, form the rules of personal hygiene and improve their medical culture. In order to improve the legal culture among women, to take effective measures for the prevention of delinquency and crime among them, the health workers, the chairmen of the trade union committees of the primary organization in the trade union system in collaboration with makhalla experts carried out a number of activities at different community meetings. Also a number of meetings, seminars and events were organized with the participation of imam-khatibs and public. Ongoing monitoring of the activities of young people prone to crime was carried out in various places as well⁵.

As a result of preventive efforts carried out by the Women's Committee and law enforcement agencies, women's crime in the country decreased by 5% in 2016, 11% in 2017, 35.7% in 2018, 32.7% compared to the same period in 2019. Moreover, to protect the rights and interests of women, there was introduced a new system of participation of court representatives in court proceedings, as a result, in 10 months period of 2019, 763 women participated in court proceedings, 263 of which committed crimes and offenses were released on bail⁶.

In Navoi region in 2017, 448 crimes and offenses were committed by women. According to statistics, the number of crimes has reasonably increased in Navoi and Zarafshan cities as well as Karmana, Khatirchi and Uchkuduk districts. The main factors and reasons of the emergence of women crime and delinquency are, first of all, the unhealthy family environment, economic deprivation, unemployment, and the pursuit of

⁴ Report of the deputy governor of the region, chairwoman of the regional Women's Committee F. Ibragimova // [uza.uz/oz/society/viloyat-khotin-izlar-mitasining-isobot-saylov-konferentsiyas-11-11-2018?ELEMENT_CODE = \viloyat-khotin-izlar-mitasining-isobot](https://uza.uz/oz/society/viloyat-khotin-izlar-mitasining-isobot-saylov-konferentsiyas-11-11-2018?ELEMENT_CODE=\viloyat-khotin-izlar-mitasining-isobot)

⁵ Letter from the responsible organizer of Navoi branch of the Republican Council of the Trade Union of Healthcare Workers of Uzbekistan .F.I Rakhimova dated September 13, 2018, № 07 / 02-135 // Current archive of Navoi regional Women's Committee, data of 2018

⁶ Current archive of Navoi regional Women's Committee, data of 2019

wealth through illegal activities in their own interests. To prevent such negative consequences, the Regional Women's Committee held loads of propaganda events and meetings in all districts and cities such as "Let's turn our neighborhood into a crime-free zone", "Women and the law" etc. Consequently, in 2017, 429 women were provided with stable jobs. 267 troubled families were identified by makhallas and community proctorial councils. The causes of unrest in such families were systematically studied and existing problems were resolved, as a result, 164 family divorces were prevented⁷.

In 2019, a total of 119 women who had committed a crime or had a previous conviction were employed, 128 women received medical care and 135 of them were provided with financial assistance. A total of 283 troubled families were identified and 247 of them were reconciled with the involvement of the public local organisations. 104 women with a predisposition to crime were attached to activist and leader women in districts and cities, as well as the deputies of local councils. 5291 propaganda events on the prevention of women's delinquency and crime were organized in the different makhallas of the region, and broadcasted 81 times on television. The chairmen of the women's committees participated in 44 trials, assisted in mitigating the sentences of 14 women, and provided full medical examinations and employment to 23 women returned from state department prisons. To improve the socio-spiritual environment among women, 11 community-based spirituality groups were established in the region and 250 of them in the districts and cities. 2436 families were studied by the special working groups consisting of 30 people recommended by the women's committees and makhalla specialists, 1441 families were carefully studied and resolved by the working group, 370 by the self-governing bodies of makhallas, 553 by the district khokimiyats, and 72 of them were included in the agenda of the makhalla citizens' councils. 11,347 households were visited by state bodies, and huge advocacy work was carried out by them to promote a healthy lifestyle, improve their socio-spiritual environment, solve their family problems and provide them with practical assistance⁸.

During the visits of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan to Bukhara region on March 28-29, 2019, many important anticipatory measures aimed at early prevention of crime among women were implemented in the region and determined by the state bodies⁹. The head of state claimed that we need to make Bukhara the most exemplary region for women¹⁰.

⁷ O. Mustafojev. 448 crimes and offences were committed by women in the current year. (sensorika.uz)

⁸ Current archive of Navoi regional Women's Committee, data of 2019

⁹ Decree №495 dated 14.06.2019 "On approval of the program of measures for transformation of the Bukhara area in the field of work with women" (lex.uz)

¹⁰ Shavkat Mirziyoyev. "We need to make Bukhara the most exemplary region for women" (president.uz)

A number of various measures have been taken to return women to a healthy lifestyle through the study of the problems of 28,210 women accounted for by law enforcement agencies, health and other agencies, to provide them with social support, and solve their problems in cooperation with the relevant agencies and organizations. In order to coordinate, monitor and make appropriate decisions on the results of the systematic work on dealing with women on the basis of the "Bukhara experience", several operational headquarters and working groups were established in the Department of Internal Affairs and all district and city police departments. During such social events, the marital status of 20,807 out of 28,210 women was studied and electronic personal files (card files) were filled out for them. Starting from January 1, 2020, an electronic program has been introduced to provide social support to women, study their problems and ensure their consistent interdepartmental cooperation, and to present date, the staff of the local makhalla and family support department, in cooperation with the senior inspectors for prevention of women issues, 11,704 problems of 11,703 problematic women registered with law enforcement agencies, health and other agencies were identified, and 11,577 of their problems were resolved positively. 826 of women of the total number were provided with job positions, 42 were provided with quality medical care, 61 of them were provided with land plots, 102 were provided with soft loans by banks, children of 13 women were involved in various science clubs, and children of 40 women were engaged in sports clubs, 86 of them were provided with houses, 72 women were supported in repairing their houses, 7 houses were connected to natural gas supply, 1 house was connected to electricity supply, 159 women were provided with financial assistance, 226 were helped to get vocational training, 6 were involved in agriculture, children of 9 women were placed at preschool education, 11 were engaged in domestic tourism, 325 received psychological assistance, 154 women were helped to reconcile in cooperation with the Reconciliation Commission, 42 of them were placed in medical institutions, 386 were assigned coaches, 6 women were directed to crafts, 291 were received medical equipment, 18 of women were provided with guardians, 34 women were provided with lighter sentences, 603 were provided with legal assistance, 16 were provided with practical assistance in obtaining their passports, and 31 women were provided with assistance in obtaining benefits. Besides, 128 women were involved in entrepreneurship and 176 women in home-based work. 478 women subjected to oppression and violence got their issued protection orders to protect their rights, and as a result of preventive measures carried out with these families, 69 families were reconciled¹¹.

¹¹ Work on early prevention of crimes and offenses among women in Bukhara region (bviib.uz)

During the COVID-2019 campaign gotten its start in 2020, 863 women, including women registered in the lists of the police, health and other agencies, without a stable source of income and hard social life were provided with food staffs from the "Kindness and Support" Fund and 241 people were provided with one-time cash transfers. In addition, some measures were taken to involve 5,761 women in seasonal work at the initiative of sector leaders. 327 women in need of social protection were provided with debit cards worth 1 million and 400,000 soums from Max-Media and Zamin Funds. Within the framework of the regional month called "Family happiness is in my hands" lasting from September 29 to October 29, 2020, several joint preventive measures were strengthened for preventing early crimes and delinquencies among women¹². In recent years, the top issue of the government has been to support women in difficult life conditions, eliminate their unemployment and improve the living conditions of such women by providing them with housing and instilling in them a sense of satisfaction from present life. It also should be noted that the commission boards answerable for the study of documents for housing under the district and city khokimiyats should thoroughly study the social status of each citizen and give them a full understanding of the necessary payments.

In short, on the basis of legal and normative acts adopted for the purpose of comprehensive support and social protection of women, the legal guarantees of systematic work on the targeted solution of social problems and women's social protection have been further strengthened in all spheres of public life to increase women's social activity, provide comprehensive assistance in ensuring their social protection and employment etc.

¹² The same source