

FACTORS AND FUTURE TASKS IN SHAPING A PROSPEROUS LIFESTYLE IN THE PEACE AND STABILITY OF NEW UZBEKISTAN

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Abstract: *This article analyzes the reforms of New Uzbekistan aimed at peace and stability, state strategies for shaping the prosperous lifestyle of the population, and their outcomes. The impact of peace and stability on socio-economic development and the main directions of modernization processes in the country were studied. Additionally, advanced international experiences in implementing the concept of sustainable development and their applicability in Uzbekistan were examined. Based on scientific and practical analysis, the article identifies strategic tasks and promising directions for further enhancing prosperous lifestyle in New Uzbekistan.*

Keywords: *New Uzbekistan, peace, stability, prosperous lifestyle, modernization, sustainable development, social protection, international cooperation, innovative development, state strategy.*

INTRODUCTION

During the years of independence, the Republic of Uzbekistan has implemented profound reforms in state and society building. Since 2016, within the framework of the rapidly developing concept of New Uzbekistan, ensuring peace and stability in the country and shaping a prosperous lifestyle for the population have become one of the priorities of state policy [Mirziyoyev, 2021: 17]. In the modern world, scientific and practical evidence continues to demonstrate that sustainable development and citizens' well-being are directly linked to the country's peace and security.

In today's global economic, political, and environmental crises, ensuring peace and stability in the country and shaping a prosperous lifestyle for the population have become urgent issues. The leadership of Uzbekistan is implementing consistent reforms in this direction, achieving practical results, and developing strategic development plans. Therefore, analyzing the scientific and theoretical aspects of these processes, evaluating the results achieved, and identifying future tasks are of great importance.

The main purpose of the article is to comprehensively analyze the priority directions, existing problems, and future tasks of shaping a prosperous lifestyle in the conditions of peace and stability in New Uzbekistan. The study examined the role and importance of socio-economic, political-legal, and spiritual-educational reforms in shaping a prosperous lifestyle in the country.

MAIN PART

Methodological Foundations of Ensuring Peace and Stability in New Uzbekistan

The issue of ensuring peace and stability in Uzbekistan is a multifaceted process that requires the harmony of socio-economic, political-legal, and cultural-educational factors. Analyses show that the methodological foundations of ensuring peace and stability in the country are based on the following principles:

- Ensuring national security and applying openness and pragmatic approaches in foreign policy;

- Implementing the principles of social justice and equality;

- Developing civil society and expanding citizens' participation in state governance;

- Ensuring national and religious tolerance, strengthening interfaith cooperation;

- Ensuring the rule of law and improving mechanisms for combating corruption.

Within the framework of the Action Strategy for the Development of the Republic of Uzbekistan for 2017-2021 and the Development Strategy of New Uzbekistan for 2022-2026, a number of important measures were implemented to ensure peace and stability in the country [President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, 2022]. In particular, relations with neighboring countries reached a new level, border issues were resolved, and trade-economic and cultural-humanitarian ties were expanded.

As researchers Abdurakhmanov and Khudoyberdiyev (2023) note, Uzbekistan's proactive role in ensuring peace and stability in the Central Asian region has significantly strengthened. This, in turn, serves to improve the investment climate and ensure economic growth in the country [Abdurakhmanov, Khudoyberdiyev, 2023: 45].

Economic Factors in Shaping a Prosperous Lifestyle

The economic foundations of shaping a prosperous lifestyle in New Uzbekistan are directly related to the economic reforms being implemented in the country. In recent years, economic modernization and diversification processes have accelerated in Uzbekistan, macroeconomic stability has been ensured, and economic growth rates have significantly increased.

According to statistical data, during 2017-2023, the volume of gross domestic product (GDP) in Uzbekistan recorded an average growth rate of 5-6% [State Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan on Statistics, 2023]. This indicator remained relatively stable even during the global pandemic and economic crisis. The following were identified as the main factors of economic development:

- Supporting entrepreneurial activity and increasing the share of the private sector;

- Improving the investment climate and attracting direct foreign investments;

Reforming the banking and financial system and liberalizing the financial services market;

Simplifying the tax system and reducing the tax burden;

Widely implementing public-private partnership mechanisms.

As researcher Ergashev (2024) notes, "As a result of economic reforms in New Uzbekistan, major infrastructure projects have been implemented, modern technologies have been introduced in industry and agriculture, which in turn has had a positive impact on employment and income growth of the population" [Ergashev, 2024: 78].

According to the State Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan on Statistics, in 2018, the income per capita was 9,789.1 thousand soums, while in 2019 this figure increased to 12,551.4 thousand soums (28.2% growth), in 2020 to 14,634.7 thousand soums (16.6% growth), in 2021 to 17,825.2 thousand soums (21.8% growth), in 2022 to 21,432.8 thousand soums (20.2% growth), and in 2023 to 25,746.6 thousand soums (20.1% growth). These indicators show a stable growth trend in population income and the effectiveness of economic reforms being implemented in the country.

Social Factors in Shaping a Prosperous Lifestyle

Social factors play a special role in shaping a prosperous lifestyle. In recent years, systematic work has been carried out in Uzbekistan to improve the social protection system, reform the healthcare and education systems, and improve the housing conditions of the population.

As a result of reforms implemented in the social sphere, the following results were achieved:

The "Unified Register of Social Protection" system was introduced, and mechanisms for providing social benefits and assistance were improved;

Measures of social support were strengthened through the "Mahallabay" working system;

Targeted assistance mechanisms were introduced for socially vulnerable segments of the population;

The primary healthcare system was strengthened in the healthcare system;

Coverage of preschool and higher education institutions was expanded.

Reforms in the social sphere in New Uzbekistan are aimed at shaping a prosperous lifestyle for the population. In particular, mechanisms such as the "Iron Notebook," "Women's Notebook," and "Youth Notebook" have been established to identify and provide targeted assistance to socially vulnerable segments of the population [Khujamkulov, 2022: 123].

In recent years, extensive work has been carried out in the country to improve the housing conditions of the population. Within the framework of the "Obod Qishloq," "Obod Mahalla," and "New Uzbekistan" residential areas programs, modern housing was built for rural and urban populations, and social infrastructure facilities were modernized.

Spiritual and Educational Factors in Shaping a Prosperous Lifestyle

One of the important aspects of shaping a prosperous lifestyle in New Uzbekistan is spiritual and educational factors. Today, systematic work is being carried out in the country to preserve and develop national values and traditions, support culture and art, and strengthen spiritual education and enlightenment.

As Sohaliyeva (2023) notes, "As an important element of a prosperous lifestyle, the satisfaction of spiritual and cultural needs, the improvement of the spiritual environment in society, and the strengthening of national identity processes are of particular importance" [Sohaliyeva, 2023: 56].

Within the framework of reforms in the spiritual and educational sphere, important work has been carried out in the following areas:

- Preserving and restoring national cultural heritage sites;
- Developing modern cultural and artistic institutions;
- Supporting national literature and art;
- Forming a sense of patriotism in young people;
- Strengthening the institution of the family and promoting a healthy lifestyle.

In recent years, special attention has been paid to the sphere of culture and art in Uzbekistan. Many large cultural and educational centers, museums, theaters, and libraries have been built and reconstructed in the country. This serves to satisfy the spiritual needs of the population and ensure their cultural development.

International Cooperation in Ensuring Peace and Stability

International cooperation plays an important role in ensuring the peace and stability of New Uzbekistan. In recent years, significant changes have taken place in Uzbekistan's foreign policy, the country's integration processes with the international community have strengthened, and its participation in resolving regional and global issues has become more active.

According to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan (2023), the country's cooperation with international organizations has reached a new level. In particular, ties have been expanded within the framework of prestigious international organizations such as the United Nations, Shanghai Cooperation Organization, Commonwealth of Independent States, and Organization of Turkic States [Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan, 2023].

Uzbekistan's role in ensuring peace and stability in the Central Asian region has significantly increased. The initiative of President Shavkat Mirziyoyev to organize consultative meetings of Central Asian states' leaders has given a new impetus to regional cooperation. Furthermore, Uzbekistan's constructive position on the Afghanistan issue and efforts to establish peace in the neighboring country are highly appreciated by the international community.

Researcher Karimov (2024) emphasizes the following: "The foreign policy of New Uzbekistan has fundamentally changed, oriented towards openness, pragmatism, and constructive cooperation. This serves to increase the country's international prestige and improve the regional security environment" [Karimov, 2024: 112].

Uzbekistan's active participation in international cooperation serves as an important factor in shaping the prosperous lifestyle of the population by attracting foreign investments, mastering modern technologies and innovations, and expanding opportunities to enter international markets.

Innovative Development and Digital Transformation in New Uzbekistan

One of the important factors in shaping a prosperous lifestyle in New Uzbekistan is the processes of innovative development and digital transformation. In recent years, large-scale reforms have been implemented in the country to develop science, innovation, and digital technologies.

According to the Ministry of Innovative Development of the Republic of Uzbekistan (2023), significant results have been achieved in the country in the following areas of innovative development:

The scale of financing for scientific research and innovative activities has been increased;

Mechanisms to support scientific activities of young people have been introduced;

International scientific cooperation has been expanded;

Innovative infrastructure facilities (technoparks, startup incubators, innovation clusters) have been established;

The number of small and medium innovative enterprises has been increased.

Significant work has been carried out in the field of digital transformation within the framework of the "Digital Uzbekistan - 2030" strategy. E-government services have been expanded, digital services for the population and business entities have been introduced, and telecommunications infrastructure has been modernized [President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, 2020].

As researcher Rakhimov (2023) notes, "Digital transformation processes in Uzbekistan are significantly facilitating the lives of citizens, improving the quality and speed of public services, as well as ensuring the competitiveness of the economy" [Rakhimov, 2023: 89].

Prospects for Prosperous Life and Sustainable Development in New Uzbekistan

Future tasks and development directions for shaping a prosperous lifestyle based on peace and stability in New Uzbekistan include the following:

Ensuring sustainable economic growth and increasing population income;

Ensuring social justice and equality, supporting socially vulnerable segments of the population;

Deepening reforms in the fields of education and healthcare;

Developing infrastructure in rural areas and improving the standard of living of the population;

Ensuring ecological security and implementing the principles of a "green economy";

Expanding regional cooperation and actively participating in resolving global problems.

The Presidential Decree of January 28, 2022, "On the Development Strategy of New Uzbekistan for 2022-2026" has defined the priority directions for the country's development [President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, 2022]. This strategy sets out the following tasks aimed at shaping a prosperous lifestyle for the population:

Increasing GDP by 1.6 times and doubling per capita income;

Reducing poverty by at least 2 times;

Improving the quality and efficiency of healthcare and education systems;

Ensuring a favorable and safe ecological environment;

Strengthening civil society institutions.

World Bank (2023) experts estimate that Uzbekistan's economic growth rates will remain at 5-6% in 2024-2026, creating favorable conditions for shaping a prosperous lifestyle in the country [World Bank, 2023].

CONCLUSION

When analyzing the reforms and strategic plans being implemented in New Uzbekistan to shape a prosperous lifestyle in the conditions of peace and stability, the following conclusions were formed:

Peace and stability are the main conditions for a prosperous lifestyle. In recent years, Uzbekistan has been pursuing a consistent policy to ensure national security, expand regional cooperation, and strengthen its position in the international arena. This creates favorable conditions for sustainable development in the country.

The harmonious development of economic, social, and spiritual-educational factors in shaping a prosperous lifestyle is being ensured. In recent years, macroeconomic stability has been achieved in Uzbekistan, the income of the population has significantly increased, the social protection system has been improved, and fundamental reforms have been implemented in the spiritual and educational spheres.

The processes of innovative development and digital transformation serve to form a modern "knowledge economy" in the country, improve the standard of living of the population, increase the efficiency of public administration, and create a competitive economy.

International cooperation and global integration processes have a positive impact on the sustainable development of Uzbekistan. The country's active participation in international organizations, its initiative to expand regional cooperation in Central Asia, and its contribution to solving global problems serve to increase Uzbekistan's prestige in the international arena.

The consistent implementation of the tasks set out in the Development Strategy of New Uzbekistan for 2022-2026 will make it possible to ensure sustainable economic growth in the country, increase the income of the population, reduce poverty, and shape a prosperous lifestyle.

The following proposals and recommendations have been developed for further improvement of a prosperous lifestyle in the conditions of peace and stability in New Uzbekistan:

Rapidly developing an innovative economic model, improving mechanisms to support science and innovation-based industries;

Introducing effective mechanisms to ensure employment of the population, creating new jobs through the development of small business and private entrepreneurship;

Implementing the principles of social justice, strengthening measures to support the socially vulnerable population;

Accelerating digital transformation processes, taking measures to reduce the "digital divide";

Improving the quality of education, improving the system of training modern personnel, preparing specialists who meet the requirements of the labor market;

Ensuring ecological security, implementing the principles of a "green economy," improving mechanisms for the rational use of natural resources.

The implementation of the above proposals and recommendations will make it possible to further improve the prosperous lifestyle in the conditions of peace and stability in New Uzbekistan, increase the standard and quality of life of the population, and ensure the sustainable development of the country.

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