

Problems Of Social Protection of Old Men in New Uzbekistan

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Annotation:The article studies the problems of social gerontology of New Uzbekistan. Various social groups and communities of elderly and old people are being investigated. It was found that the process of demographic aging in Uzbekistan is more typical for women than for men. And also, on the basis of socio-demographic facts, the issues of social protection of the elderly are disclosed. In the conclusion, scientific recommendations for improving the work of the state form of management of social protection of the elderly and old people are presented.

Key words: New Uzbekistan, demographic truth, the process of demographic aging, social protection, population, ratio of elderly people, elderly and old people, people of the older generation, social gerontology.

New Uzbekistan is a state whose main goal is to ensure a free, comfortable and prosperous life for our multinational people. The demographic truth should be openly declared. During the years of independence, that is, over the past 30 years, the population of Uzbekistan increased by 15 million, which is comparable to the population of one average country [1]. This is a state developing in strict accordance with generally recognized norms in the field of democracy, human rights and freedoms, based on the principles of social protection of the population, friendship and cooperation with the international community.

Over the years of independence, the population of the Republic of Uzbekistan has increased by 1.8 times and today on an area of 448.97 thousand square meters/kilometers is home to 35.2 million people (23.10/2021) [2]. Currently, 2 million 873 thousand residents, of the total population of the Republic of Uzbekistan, are over 60 years old, 225 thousand residents are over 80 years old, 44 thousand residents are over 90 years old and 8,700 people are over 100 years old (2018) [3]. That is, in the constituent part of the population of Uzbekistan, the ratio of the elderly is 10.6% [4]. Domestic demographers also highlight the problem of older women [5, 55 b.]. The process of demographic aging in Uzbekistan is more typical for women than for men [6]. Large-scale work is being carried out in the Republic to improve the literacy and vocational training of women, realize their abilities, create decent working conditions for them, provide them with affordable housing, as well as various measures to protect motherhood and childhood, and ensure gender equality in the country.

Further development of trends in the decline in the birth rate will undoubtedly intensify the aging processes of the republic's population, which will result in a more rapid shift in the demographic structure of the population towards older ages. Women have a higher life expectancy than men. This is a worldwide pattern, but the overall level of differences in this indicator between men and women in countries with economies in transition differs significantly from developed countries. Uzbekistan is no exception in this regard, although the gender gap is smaller here than in many countries and tends to decrease. [7, c. 131].

Since ancient times, respect, attention and care for the elderly are a kind of moral and cultural trait of society in the republic. In accordance with this, respect for elders, providing them with attention and care has become a kind of spiritual and cultural standard.

In this regard, the study of socio-demographic processes shows that the scientific community of New Uzbekistan needs the development of social gerontology. Social gerontology is a social discipline designed to address the demographic and socio-economic problems of an aging population [8, 41 b.]¹.

Over the past 50 years (late XX-early XXI-century) of our century, the aging process of the population on a global scale has been developing with such rapidity and consistency that any ignorance of

¹Abdurahmonov K.Kh., Abdurakhmanov Kh.Kh. Demography. – T.: “NOSHIR”, 2011, - 280 pages.

its significance is associated with negative consequences for the social policy of any state. At present, the elderly and old people have become the third most important category of the population, which has given rise to very serious economic, social, and medical problems, the possibility of which in the past humanity could not even imagine.

By the end of the 40s of the 20th century, the health and social security authorities of many industrialized countries faced many problems, which they were unprepared to face and which demanded an immediate solution. However, the first place was taken by the economic problems of population aging, which contributed to a large extent to the separation and formation of an independent academic discipline - social gerontology - with special training for scientific and practical work in countries such as the USA, Japan, England and Western European countries, as well as in Russia. [9,222 c.]. The term “social gerontology” was first used by the American scientist E. Stiglitz in the late 1940s. [10].

Socio-demographic problems of modern New Uzbekistan also require special attention. Consider the demographic indicators of the aging of the population of modern Uzbekistan. According to domestic demographers, the aging of Uzbekistan began to be felt from the late 10s - early 20s of the XXI century.

As of October 1, 2021, the total number of pensioners in the country amounted to 3,548,093 people (out of the total population of 10.9%). Of these, by age (including pensions for length of service) 2,568.3 thousand people (7.9%), by disability 368.5 thousand people (1.1%), by loss of breadwinner 247.7 thousand people (0.7 %), as well as 304.4 thousand people (0.9%) receiving social benefits [11].

As you know, a decrease in the birth rate is inevitably accompanied by an aging population. At present, in Uzbekistan, these processes are taking place almost imperceptibly. The processes of “aging from above” are not yet typical for Uzbekistan. But the consequences of “aging from below” are already visible, manifested in a relative structural decrease in children and adolescents. In accordance with the international classification, the modern age and sex structure and the value of the average age of the population makes it possible to classify Uzbekistan as a country with a young population. [7, c. 32–38,71]. In Uzbekistan, given the rapid development of the trend of declining birth rates, depopulation can be reached even faster.

This situation requires the state to pursue a more effective policy of support and preservation of the average birth rate, capable of ensuring a moderately expanded reproduction of the population.

By order of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev, the Concept of the National Strategy for Social Protection of the Population for 2021-2030 was approved. According to this concept, by 2025, on the basis of the agency of medical and social services under the Ministry of Health, Centers for social support of the population will be created at the level of districts (cities). Most importantly, state budget spending on social protection of the population will grow from 1 percent in 2019 to 1.5 percent in 2030 in relation to gross domestic product [12]. Thus, today, New Uzbekistan has entered the path of development, having achieved success in all spheres of life. In particular, social work is an activity aimed at solving relationships between people, providing material and moral support.

Employees of the Ministry of Employment and Labor Relations of Uzbekistan are conducting research on the created plan for the social protection of the elderly. In particular, the improvement of systematic pension provision by state and non-governmental organizations, control over the implementation of the tasks of the right to work at retirement age for older people [13, 35-49, 78, 97 6.].

The tasks of social protection of the population, in particular the elderly, the elderly and centenarians, are entrusted together with social security and the Ministry of Employment and Labor Relations, the Ministry of Finance, Health, Pension Fund, public organizations, the society of the blind, dumb-deaf, disabled people, the Red Crescent Society, the charitable foundation “Mahalla”, “Soglom avlod uchun”, as well as the Ministry for support of the mahalla and family” [14, 184-198 b.].

The Ministry for Support of Mahalla and Family of the Republic of Uzbekistan was established in accordance with the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. PP-4602 dated February 18, 2020 “On organizing the activities of the Ministry for Support of Mahalla and Family of the Republic of Uzbekistan” and by the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. UP-5938 dated February 18, 2020 “On measures to improve the social and spiritual atmosphere in society, further support the institution of makhalla, as well as raising the system of work with families and women to a new level” [15].

The year 2021 has been declared by the President of the country as the “Year of Supporting Youth and Strengthening the Health of the Population”, the name of the year has a deep meaning. This year, in order to implement the tasks established by the state program “The Year of Supporting Youth and Strengthening the Health of the Population”, close attention will be paid to the development of the social sphere, strengthening of social protection of the population and further improvement of the wage system, which made it possible to increase the real income of the population by 12 percent compared to 2017. Starting in 2019, all retirees have the right to receive full pensions and work.

Socio-demographic analysis reveals that the transition of a person from working age to retirement age becomes the cause of widespread social changes in his life, that is, the transition of a person from one social group to another. In this regard, it should be noted that in accordance with the Decrees of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan for 1991-2021, the size of pensions was increased by 67 times [16]. As of January 1, 2016, the average monthly pension amounted to 421 629 soums, in September 2021 - 924 780 soums [16]. It is known that 96-98% of the labor force in Uzbekistan is the age of the working-age population. The labor of pensioners and adolescents does not exceed 4% of the labor force. Of these, mainly retirees make up 3.5% [16]. In this proportion, the composition of the labor force of Uzbekistan is determined. As a result of objective and subjective factors, the qualitative and quantitative indicators of labor resources, distribution and their use are formed. This process, in turn, is associated with natural, territorial and social conditions. [17, 82-84 c.].

It should be noted that work has been carried out in Uzbekistan to eliminate problems related to the registration of pensions and benefits, their timely payment, and access to various social services.

By the Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers “On measures to further improve the system of social protection of the population and the widespread introduction of modern information and communication technologies into the field” dated March 5, 2021, the information system “Unified Register of Social Protection of Low-Income Families” was created [18]. Only in the Samarkand region of the republic from November 1, 2020 to February 2021, about 158 thousand applications for the appointment of social benefits or material assistance were received. Of these, 49.6 percent, that is, 78 408 citizens, received a positive permit. In March of this year, 155,038 recipients of benefits and material assistance were paid 60.2 million soums of social benefits and 7.7 million soums of compensation. It also financed the payment of 29.6 million soums to 68,288 recipients of benefits under the age of 2 years and 16.9 million soums to 68,488 recipients of benefits under the age of 14 [19].

In conclusion, we note, based on all this, a social worker needs to form the following main problems inherent in older people:

1. The active vital activity inherent in people, as a result of aging, gradually decreases. Decrease in activity and performance is a sign of aging. With increasing age in the elderly, there are various diseases associated with age and disability. This state, in turn, limits the relationship of the older generation with others. The life of the elderly is limited.
2. Decreased work skills, decreased activity in social life, predisposes the emergence of various types of attitudes towards the elderly. Relationships of society are formed that are characteristic only of the elderly.
3. In connection with aging, their emotional, psychological and physiological states are disturbed. The decline in social activity has a negative impact on the elderly themselves.
4. There is a problem of excess free time among the elderly. Many of them who have worked well and have raised enough funds, physically healthy people, after retirement, are faced with two types of cases. In the first case, relatives say: “We worked so hard. Now rest, we will provide you ourselves”. As a result, fear arises in them, i.e. feeling that they are not able to work. In another case, the fear of “servants” arises, they are told “you are free from work, now do the housework, look after your grandchildren, etc”

Thus, at present, the task of improving and developing as a system of state organizations and institutions working with the elderly is urgent for society and the state. The state program for the protection of the elderly is not just a word, but the policy of New Uzbekistan, based on philanthropy and justice. The

social protection system is improving and, most importantly, the protection of the elderly, the elderly and long-livers is developing.

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