

The Dialectics Of Optimizing The Practice Of Axiology Laws And Deepening Democratic Reforms

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Abstract. The article analyzes the dialectics of implementing axiological laws and principles in our country in accordance with global experience, optimizing the practice of applying axiological laws, and deepening democratic reforms.

Basic concepts: Transformation of the field of values, foundations of national statehood, cost area update, changes in the sphere of values, national-ethnic values, universal human values, field of values, globalization.

Since the early years of independence, our country has sought to introduce the laws and principles of axiology into practice in accordance with global experience, first of all by thoroughly studying them and fostering their positive aspects. On this basis, special attention was paid to creating modern criteria in the process of gradual reforms in the sphere of values connected with social, economic, political, and cultural fields. The aim was to achieve results that would demonstrate opportunities for independent development in the field of axiology, moving from empty slogans and one-sided approaches toward practical work.

It is well known that in past years, the spiritual-educational and ideological processes that ensured changes in the field of values were linked to the principle “High spirituality is an invincible force!” In this regard, past experience clearly shows that the path of independent development in our country has been the main factor driving the dynamics of changes in the sphere of values.

The second stage of value transformation began in the 2000s of independence, entering history as a distinct period when the principle of gradual development of social stability and progress was actively at work. In this stage, reforms conducted in all spheres also found reflection in the sphere of values. Moreover, in the process of changes and renewals in state policy, particular attention was paid to strengthening the role of legislative and executive powers in law-making and oversight, limiting centralization in governance, transferring some powers from the republic level to the provinces, districts, and cities, forming a bicameral parliament, introducing and consolidating a multiparty system. These efforts determined the scale and effectiveness of the reforms of that period.

In a historically short time, a legal foundation was created to replace the old Soviet system of administrative command with the principles of national statehood. In pursuit of this goal, directions influencing the sphere of values were defined, and the creation of a new judiciary system with new content and form, turning it into a people-oriented social protection institution, became an urgent task. [1]

Among the reforms of the first decade of independence were: reforming the information dissemination system that directly affects people’s consciousness and thinking; establishing legal foundations based on universal democratic standards ensuring citizens’ rights and freedoms.

A comprehensive reform process was also launched in restoring voting rights, which had been a dream during the Soviet era, and in forming an electoral system suited to our national interests along with creating a solid electoral legislation framework.

In the early years of independence, efforts were also directed toward organizing social structures representing the interests of all layers of the population to better understand the strategy of independent development of Uzbekistan, while creating corresponding organizational and legal frameworks. In this process, the focus was not limited to creating these civil institutions, but also to increasing their effectiveness and strengthening their oversight over state authority.

All of this helped direct the main focus toward improving the effectiveness of economic reforms in the country and implementing democratic market principles. This, in turn, required decisive measures to end the

administrative-command system inherited as a legacy and to establish foundations for our own market economy.

The “Concept for Further Deepening Democratic Reforms and Developing Civil Society in the Country” [2] marked the beginning of a new stage of transformation in the sphere of values. This document not only served as a program to consistently continue the broad-scale reforms launched in society but also defined the main directions of development in the field of values for the coming years.

With the adoption of this document, a new stage began for society as a whole and for the development of values in particular. Before highlighting the goals achieved at this stage, it is necessary to recall the nearly twenty years of constructive activity that laid a strong foundation for the development of independence. This foundation manifested itself as follows:

- the development of legal criteria for the renewal of the sphere of values;
- wide-scale economic reforms ensuring changes in the sphere of values;
- opportunities to comprehensively study, restore, and preserve the rich values inherited from our ancestors;
- ensuring the dialectic of national and universal values in the sphere of values, as in other areas of life;
- restoration of national-ethnic values and freedom of conscience, wide promotion of the works of our great ancestors who contributed greatly to world civilization;
- increased attention to the development of the scientific and technical potential of the population;
- emphasis on enhancing intellectual capacity and innovative ideas in the development of values.

In these directions, special importance was attached to deepening reforms for continuous development in the field of values and ensuring their consistency.

In the second and third decades of independence, particular attention was paid to renewing the sphere of society’s priority values. In doing so, the path chosen was to form a democratic legal state and civil society by widely using the experience of developed countries. The main features of the country’s modernization were: ensuring stability in state and social life, providing broad social protection in the transition period, and gradually preparing the population for democracy and civil society.

At the same time, it was evident that while foreign experience could be used, simply copying their path would not bring the expected results. The development of the country on a democratic basis, with all the features of a legal state and civil society, depended on existing conditions. The reforms carried out on this foundation were characterized by the following:

- universal values—human rights, public participation in governance, democracy—were inseparably linked;
- preserving our people’s centuries-old spiritual and cultural outlook and national characteristics while harmonizing them with democratic changes;
- ensuring that every individual in society could freely express their potential while maintaining security as a basis for democracy, fostering patriotism, and raising people ready to struggle for the country’s peace and progress.

By the 2010s, the main achievements of the country included:

1. Ensuring socio-political stability, peace, and interethnic harmony, creating conditions for a multiethnic society.
2. Introducing the principle of separation of powers as a foundation of democracy, securing by law the powers and responsibilities of each authority, restoring the role of mahalla as a key community institution of self-governance, creating new democratic and legal foundations for state life, adopting a new Constitution based on democratic principles, forming and strengthening the electoral system.
3. Creating a strong foundation for building a legal state, establishing a broad legal system based on internationally recognized principles of human rights and freedoms.
4. Forming multiparty competition as a lawful and necessary element of democracy, thereby laying the foundation for political renewal in society.

Overall, the foundations of a new democratic system were established, and citizens’ participation in state and social governance was ensured. The strategic tasks of development were defined as: enriching the activities of democratic institutions with new content, further improving the system of protecting human

rights, increasing the political activity of the population, enhancing the role of public and non-governmental organizations in state and social life, expanding the activity of mass media, forming a constructive opposition within the legal framework, improving legislative mechanisms and the quality of adopted laws, deepening judicial reforms, and consistently implementing decentralization in state and social governance.

In these processes, special attention was given to decentralization. The democratization of society emphasized the real development and consolidation of the role of public organizations, political institutions, political parties, and NGOs. Modernization, the ultimate goal of democratic progress, became an integral part of reforms.

In the years of independence, the future of value renewal in society largely depended on the education of a well-rounded younger generation. It has long been proven that the fate of a new generation is closely tied to the fate of the country. Demographically, Uzbekistan ranks among the leading countries in terms of population growth, with the majority of its population under thirty years old. This, of course, has influenced the dynamics of development in the sphere of values, as in all areas of society.

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The construction of numerous magnificent buildings across the country also symbolized changes in the sphere of values. The new houses, schools, higher education institutions, hospitals, cultural centers, theaters, and mosques reflected the growth of the people's material well-being, their cultural and spiritual needs, and their religious values.

It is not by chance that over the years of independence, great importance has been attached to preserving historical monuments and sites as well as restoring the names and heritage of great ancestors. The immortal works of our thinkers, scholars, poets, and artists have been studied, republished, and widely promoted not only in Uzbekistan but also in many countries around the world. This process has become one of the most important factors in restoring our historical memory and consolidating the values of national self-awareness. [2]

The reforms in the educational system have also played a key role in renewing the sphere of values. The establishment of new lyceums, colleges, higher educational institutions, and private universities created opportunities for educating the younger generation in the spirit of patriotism, devotion to the homeland, and respect for universal human values. In this regard, the National Program for Personnel Training was one of the strategic documents that laid the foundation for forming a modern educational system. [3]

Particular attention was paid to the role of the family in shaping values. The family, regarded as the nucleus of society, has been at the center of state policy. [4] Legal, social, and economic foundations have been created to strengthen the family, ensure the equal rights of women and men, and establish guarantees for the upbringing of children. [5]

Religious values also occupy a significant place in the process of renewal. Freedom of conscience, which was oppressed during the Soviet era, was restored; conditions were created for the free activity of religious organizations. [6] At the same time, great importance was given to preventing extremism and fanaticism, ensuring that religious values harmonize with national and universal values.

The reforms carried out in the sphere of values were closely linked to the processes of globalization. [7] On the one hand, Uzbekistan sought to preserve its national identity, traditions, and customs, while on the other, it opened itself to global values, scientific and technological achievements, and modern forms of communication and information. This dialectic of "national" and "universal" became the main principle of the renewal of values. [8]

At the current stage, the optimization of the practice of axiology laws and the deepening of democratic reforms are inseparably linked with the modernization of society. Ensuring the rule of law, strengthening civil society institutions, developing freedom of speech and information, raising legal culture, and educating the younger generation in the spirit of patriotism and tolerance are among the priority tasks.

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