



## PROBLEMS RELATED TO WATER IN MODERN LIFE

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### ABSTRACT

*In this article, global problems related to water in the world today, in particular, the problem of drinking water in Uzbekistan and the Khorezm oasis, the problem of land salinity, the disappearance of national and cultural values related to water were researched through sources and literature.*

**KEY WORDS:** *water management, fresh water, drinking water, water shortage, UN, Khorezm oasis, ecological problem, law.*

### INTRODUCTION

The role of water resources in nature and social relations in the system of society is incomparable. Because, as an integral part of nature, water resources are closely related to the earth, underground resources, flora and fauna, and are important for the sustainable evolutionary development of the ecological system based on natural laws.

Water resources occupy a unique important place in society, first of all, they are a source of life necessary for human life, and their importance is unlimited as the main natural resource in the economic, social, political, cultural and educational spheres to meet the various needs of the population in the life of society.

### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

It is well known that one-third of the world's population lacks clean drinking water. According to UN data, four out of ten people of the world live in an area with a shortage of clean drinking water. Every year, 10 million people die from drinking contaminated water. At the beginning of the 20th century, 1 billion people lived on earth, at the end of the 20th century, there are 6.2 billion people, and at the beginning of the 21st century, there are 7 billion people. In 2025, the population of the earth may reach 8-9 billion. Everyone living on the planet Earth has the right to receive "their contribution" from the gifts of clean air, clean water, quality soil, quality nature.<sup>1</sup> According to the UN classification, Uzbekistan is one of the countries with water shortage. According to the information published by the World Resource Institute in 2020, Uzbekistan ranked 25th among 164 countries in need of water.<sup>2</sup>

In addition, it is an important strategic natural resource for all sectors of the economy of the Republic of Uzbekistan, including the agro-industrial system. Uzbekistan has 1.3 million irrigated lands, where the main agricultural products are grown. 60 percent of the drinking water needs of the population of Uzbekistan are met by underground water. Central Asia is one of the regions with limited water volume, the main source of water is Amudarya, Syrdarya and other rivers and reservoirs. Today's increase in the demand and need for water requires its rational use based on scientific and practical aspects, as well as protection measures.

According to the 2021 report of the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) experts, the level of use of water resources in Uzbekistan has reached a critical point. In particular, 69 percent more water than the country's reserves was consumed in Uzbekistan.<sup>3</sup>

According to information, the volume of water resources in the 2023 vegetation period was 10-15% less than the long-term norm in the Syrdarya basin and 15-20% less in the Amudarya basin.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Адиллов З. Ю. Диний манбаларда экологик муаммоларнинг ечими. – Бухоро "Дурдона", 2023. 7-бет.

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.wri.org/applications/aqueduct/country-rankings>

<sup>3</sup> <https://news.un.org/ru/story/2021/08/1408882>

<sup>4</sup> <https://lex.uz/docs/-6420836>



The President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Shavkat Mirziyoyev, in his Address to the Oliy Majlis, stated that “Environmental safety, rational use of water and natural resources should be in the center of our attention”.

For the solution of this problem, every person living on the planet Earth, regardless of their religious beliefs, nationality, language, gender, is responsible for the existence of nature and its quality indicators. Water can create world peace or cause conflict. Tensions can increase when water is scarce or polluted, or when people do not have equal access or access to it. Access to drinking water is a human right. There is a need to work together to protect and preserve our most precious resource. Cooperation on water resources paves the way for cooperation on all common problems. We must use water as a tool to create a peaceful and prosperous world for all.

Climate change and a growing world population are placing greater demands on limited resources. In many countries, people have limited access to clean drinking water. The lack of transboundary cooperation among countries on shared water resources poses a great threat to the quality and quantity of water resources and therefore threatens social and international stability.

Currently, there are several problems related to water in the Khorezm oasis. With the increasing need for water, the problems associated with it in the oasis are becoming more complex every year. In particular, in the Khorezm oasis, we can list the increasing needs of the population for water, the salinity of cultivated fields, the problem of drinking water, the state of water bodies and a number of other problems.

A person can live without food for a week or two, but he cannot live without water for three days. According to experts, 70-75 percent of the human body consists of water, and if the water in the human body decreases by fifteen percent, it will die.<sup>5</sup>

According to the predictions of UNEP (United Nations Environment Programme), by 2050, 30% of the world's population may face the problem of drinking water shortage.<sup>6</sup> Today, this process has become much faster. The problems of water scarcity and water quality have become a problem for the people of the world.

In fact, the equivalent natural-ecological norm of water per person for one year is 13,000 cubic meters. (One cubic meter of water is equal to 1000 liters). So, 13 million liters of water per person per year is a natural and ecological norm. Today, drinking water is the most unique and valuable natural resource in the world. According to the information of the State Geological Committee, there are 97 underground mines in Uzbekistan, which have 64 million cubic meters of total water reserves. These water reserves are mainly distributed in Tashkent, Samarkand, Surkhandarya, Namangan, Andijan and Fergana regions. But there is almost no fresh water in the Khorezm region and the Republic of Karakalpakstan. There are average water reserves in Bukhara and Navoi regions. Due to the uneven distribution of water resources in the country, the issue of effective use of water and not wasting it is urgent today.<sup>7</sup>

In a sociological survey conducted among students of Khorezm and Bukhara universities, the question “Today is one of Uzbekistan's natural resources: do you consider drinking water sufficient?” to the question, 8.3% of students answered that it was enough, 71.8% was not enough, and 19.8% were not interested in it. So 72% of students knew about the shortage of clean drinking water. These answers call for saving drinking water, not polluting it and preserving it.<sup>8</sup>

In our country, systematic measures are being implemented to ensure the effective use of water resources, to widely introduce water-saving technologies in the cultivation of agricultural crops and to support them by the state, as well as to improve the reclamation of irrigated lands.

In the first period of Uzbekistan's independence, on May 6, 1993, the Law “On Water and Water Use”<sup>9</sup> was adopted. The purpose of this law is to “ensure rational use of water for the needs of the population and economic sectors, protect water from pollution and depletion, prevent and eliminate the harmful effects of water, improve

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<sup>5</sup> Аширов А.А. Ўзбек маданиятида сув. – Тошкент: “Akademnashr”, 2020. 7-бет.

<sup>6</sup> <https://unepdhi.org/unep-released-new-freshwater-strategic-priorities-document/>

<sup>7</sup> Адиллов З. Ю. Диний манбаларда экологик муаммоларнинг ечилими. – Бухоро “Дурдона”, 2023. 99-бет.

<sup>8</sup> this is the source.

<sup>9</sup> Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan “On Water and Water Use” No. 837-XII. // <https://lex.uz/docs/-12328>



the condition of water bodies, and also in the field of relations, it is to protect the rights and legal interests of enterprises, institutions, organizations, farmers, peasant farms and citizens”.

In recent years, the “Uzbekistan – 2030” Strategy was adopted in our country, in which the goals to be achieved by 2030 in the field of water resources conservation and environmental protection were defined. For these purposes, reforms on saving water resources, that is, increasing the culture of rational use of water and the efficiency of water use in the Republic, ensuring the rational use of water resources in the agricultural sector, developing the irrigation system and water-saving technologies have been described.<sup>10</sup>

In 2023-2024, in order to increase the efficiency of water resources use, to abandon the concept of “water is free” formed in the minds of the population, and to continue the introduction of water-saving irrigation technologies in an expanded manner, the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan announced many decisions were made.<sup>11</sup>

### CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

In conclusion, it should be said that in order to preserve water, which is an invaluable resource, it is necessary to strengthen responsibility for violations of water legislation, to plan the use of water and its protection, to increase the obligations of water users, and Uzbekistan’s water is scarce. breeding of low-water-demanding plant and tree species in the regions, as well as the cultivation of low-water-demanding plant varieties in scientific research institutes and the acceleration of these activities, raising the culture of water use among young people, using modern irrigation technologies in agriculture use is of great importance.

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<sup>10</sup> Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan on the Strategy “Uzbekistan-2030” No. PF-158. // <https://lex.uz/docs/-6600413>

<sup>11</sup> Decision PQ-5 of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan “On measures to improve the water resources management system in the lower reaches and increase the efficiency of water resources use”. January 5, 2024; Decision PQ-107 of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan “On urgent measures to increase the efficiency of water resources use”. April 1, 2023. <https://lex.uz/docs/-6420836>