



THE ROLE OF LEGAL CONSCIOUSNESS AND LEGAL CULTURE IN SOLVING ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS

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ABSTRACT

This article describes one of the most important issues, which is the establishment of in-depth environmental legal education, improvement of the system of environmental education, promotion and upbringing in line with modern requirements, the formation of a truly environmental legal consciousness. Therefore, today the study of theoretical and legal aspects of issues related to raising the legal awareness of society, including environmental legal awareness and culture, has not only scientific but also practical significance.

KEY WORDS: *legal, study, education, environment, nature, responsibility*

Legitimacy in the relationship between the three subjects, the state, society and citizens, is the basis for stability in the country in the system and harmony of "nature-society-man". Therefore, the rights of citizens to a favorable natural environment will be realized and environmental security will be ensured only if the relations between these entities are harmonious and their interests are balanced. Awareness and respect for the powers of each of them is a necessary condition and an important factor of stability in the relations of nature and society.

Ecologically sustainable development of the Republic of Uzbekistan, maintenance of balanced quality of the environment, rational use of natural resources, as well as "improvement of the state of affairs in the field of ecology"[1] is one of the important tasks of today. In this regard, this issue is directly related to the further improvement of environmental legislation, and, accordingly, there is an objective need to further improve the work on the formation of environmental legal awareness of young people.

It is known from the centuries-old history of mankind that the issue of raising the consciousness of people is the most delicate and difficult area of renewal of society. Along with radical socio-economic, political and spiritual changes in society, it is a very difficult process to shape people's consciousness in a similar way.

In this regard, it should be noted that during the years of independence in our country, significant work is being done to raise the legal awareness and

culture of society. In particular, the adoption and implementation of a special national program on this issue serves as an important factor in expanding the consciousness of our people in line with the radical democratic changes taking place in all spheres of life in our country.

In this regard, the First President of the Republic of Uzbekistan I.A. Karimov rightly said: "High moral qualities and democratic values are being strengthened in our country, and most importantly, the people's sense of involvement in the ongoing large-scale reforms and confidence in the future of our country is growing." [2] At the same time, this complex process is not easy and smooth, because "... a complete renewal of public opinion is not a one- or two-year process, it is a long and continuous process." [3]

During the years of independence, significant work has been done to ensure human rights, including environmental rights, and to introduce international standards in this area into our social reality. "In the years of independence the country's 60 main documents on human rights in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights ...inherent in the political, economic, social and cultural rights and freedoms are reflected in national legislation to ensure the protection of" [4]. At the same time, as the country's prestige in the world community grows, the need to raise the environmental awareness of citizens, including young people, is becoming a necessity.

In this regard, today it is necessary to provide the population, especially young people, with in-depth environmental legal knowledge, to improve



the system of environmental education, advocacy and upbringing in accordance with modern requirements, to achieve environmental legal awareness and culture, in other words.

Chapter XXI of the Basic Law defines the legal status of local public authorities. Article 100 recognizes that one of the main areas of authority of local public authorities is the protection of the natural environment, which defines the responsibility of regional, municipal and district authorities for the rational use and protection of natural resources.

Hence, the rules and requirements in the constitution reinforce the basic principles in the system of legal relations on the environment. This is based on the constitutional principles of environmental protection, natural resource management benefits - nutrition and environmental security of the population and improve citizens' awareness of environmental law and culture, such as laws, decrees, decisions, regulations and normative documents.

In the first years of our independence to establish the legal, economic and organizational framework for the preservation of natural conditions, rational use of natural resources and to ensure the harmonious development of human-nature relations, protection of ecosystems, natural complexes and individual objects. The adopted Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On Nature Protection" has a special place.

Article 4 of this law stipulates that in order to achieve the goals of nature protection, local authorities, ministries and departments, enterprises, institutions, organizations, farms and cooperatives, as well as individuals must comply with the following legal provisions in the implementation of economic, management and other activities:

- maintaining the sustainability of the biosphere and ecological systems, which are the habitat of man, care for the ecological safety of people, the genetic fund of man and his future generations;

- ensuring the right of citizens to a natural environment conducive to life, the obligation of environmental education in all types of educational institutions;

- harmonization of ecological, economic and social interests of society on a scientific basis;

- payment for special use of nature and non-payment for use on general grounds;

- compulsory ecological expertise;

- encourage the rational use of nature and the protection of nature;

- the need to restore natural resources, to prevent irreversible consequences for the natural environment and human health;

- transparency in solving nature protection tasks;

- harmonization of national, regional and international interests in the field of nature protection;

- to be liable for violation of the requirements of nature protection laws[10].

In addition, Article 12 of the law sets out the rules for the right of man to have a natural environment suitable for living and the duty to maintain this environment. According to it, the people of the Republic of Uzbekistan have the right to live in a natural environment conducive to their health and the health of future generations, to protect their health from the harmful effects of the environment. To this end, the population of the Republic of Uzbekistan has the right to join public organizations for nature protection, to request and receive information on the state of the natural environment and measures taken to protect it. The population of the Republic of Uzbekistan must use natural resources wisely, treat natural resources with care, and comply with environmental requirements.[11].

Issues related to the decision-making and raising of environmental awareness of the population in the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On Education" adopted on August 29, 1997 [12], as well as in the Law "On the National Training Program"[13], it is noteworthy that it occupies one of the central themes.

The Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On the Comprehensive Program for Improving the Legal Education of Youth" of June 13, 1994 emphasizes that increasing the legal literacy of youth is a necessary condition for building civil society and the rule of law.[14] The resolution puts on the agenda the issue of creating a perfect system of legal education for young people in the country.

Legitimacy in the relationship between the three subjects, the state, society and citizens, is the basis for stability in the system and harmony of "nature-society-man" in the country. Therefore, the rights of citizens to a favorable natural environment will be realized and environmental security will be ensured only if the relations between these entities are harmonious and their interests are balanced. They know one of the powers, rights and respect for nature and an essential condition for stability in the relations between the community and an important factor.

Our country is taking a wide range of targeted measures based on cooperation to bring up a healthy and harmoniously developed generation, to create the necessary conditions and opportunities for young people to realize their creative and intellectual potential, to grow into full-fledged adults who fully meet modern requirements. In this regard, the



President of Uzbekistan Sh.M.Mirziyoev said at the 72nd session of the UN from the rostrum:

“Our main task is to create the necessary conditions for young people to show their potential, to prevent the spread of the “virus” of violence. To do this, it is necessary to develop multilateral cooperation in the field of social support of the younger generation, protection of their rights and interests.” [16].

It should be noted that, today, young people's environmental rights and freedoms, the formation of legal awareness of their environmental and public policy in the development of primary importance, the constitution and the rule of law, legal and education, and the consistency of the scientific, environmental and legal information are based on basic principles such as environmental legal education and a specific approach to literacy.

Adoption and implementation of normative legal acts on raising the legal awareness and culture of citizens, on the one hand, is a clear indication of the growing enlightenment, growth and legal level of our society, on the other hand, these documents raise the environmental awareness and legal education of the population, especially youth. It means that a reliable and solid legal framework has been created for the effective implementation of public policy on improvement.

It should be noted that our national legislation reflects certain legal norms governing the activities of advocacy, upbringing and education in the formation of environmental legal awareness of citizens. In particular, the above-mentioned Article 4 of the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On Nature Protection" stipulates the achievement of nature protection goals, ensuring the right of citizens to a favorable natural environment for life, compulsory environmental education in all types of educational institutions [21].

At the same time, it should be noted that today, when the problems of environmental safety are becoming increasingly important, legal mechanisms related to the implementation of citizens' rights to a favorable natural environment and raising their environmental legal awareness and culture are insufficiently developed. This situation is causing a certain gap in the relevant legislative system.

In this regard, there is a need to further improve the existing legal framework for the establishment of the legal framework of mechanisms that serve to raise environmental awareness of citizens. Because the existing normative and legal documents in this area are to some extent definitive-declarative in nature, they do not reflect a system of logical coherence, which strengthens the activities of advocacy, education and training in the formation of environmental legal awareness of citizens.

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