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Theoretical Principles of Formation of Legal Culture in Cultural and Educational Activity

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Abstract: This study examines the role of social and humanitarian sciences in fostering legal consciousness among university students, highlighting legal culture as an essential component of societal culture. Despite growing recognition of its importance, the theoretical and practical integration of legal culture in education remains underexplored. This research aims to address this gap by analyzing the theoretical foundations and educational implications of legal culture development. Using a qualitative approach, the study evaluates how social and humanitarian disciplines contribute to shaping students' legal awareness and societal engagement. The findings reveal that cultivating legal consciousness through targeted educational strategies enhances students' understanding of their social and legal responsibilities. The study underscores the need for integrating legal culture into academic curricula to promote a well-rounded, informed citizenry.

Keywords: Legal culture, Cultural and educational activity, Cultural events, Law, Legal consciousness, Behavioral norms, Culture, Personality, Legal education, Promotion, Thinking

1. Introduction

Currently, several reforms are being implemented in our Republic concerning the establishment of a legal democratic state and the formation of a civil society. Upholding the rule of law, a paramount indicator of a legal democratic state, and cultivating a mature generation with elevated legal awareness and culture is the essence of these reforms. To this end, many legal promotional activities designed to enhance the legal awareness and literacy of people, particularly youth, have been conducted by the legal scholars of our country and representatives of law enforcement agencies in recent years [1].

2. Materials and Methods

Establishing a robust civil society necessitates prioritising the development of legal consciousness and legal culture among its members, particularly in instilling these concepts in the minds of the youth. At this juncture, it is acceptable to depend on the perspectives of legal scholars about "Legal Consciousness". Some legal scholars describe legal consciousness as the comprehension of all rights within society, whilst others characterise it as the respect for and adherence to laws [2].

Legal culture may be seen as a subset of social culture; it is a social phenomenon manifested via knowledge of the law, rigorous compliance with it, and reverence for the rights and freedoms of others.

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"Culture serves as both a product of human activity and a measure of quality." Simultaneously, the individual is ultimately a product of culture. One may assert that an individual is shaped by their cultural environment. Consequently, the legal cultural environment serves as the primary criterion for shaping individuals' legal consciousness and their actions in accordance with the law. Legal culture constitutes a subset of general culture. It comprises ethical and material values in relation to the legal system. In this instance, legal culture encapsulates just the progressive, socially beneficial, and esteemed parts of legal occurrences. It is not only an outcome, but also a method of operation. In this context, legal culture is perceived as a framework of thought, behavioural norms, and obligations [3].

Legal culture is a concept integral to the legal system of society, signifying that law is manifested in individuals' behaviour, their respect for the law, and their intolerance for violations. A. Nikitin, a prominent Russian lawyer, conceptualises legal culture as a structure to elucidate its nature and constituent elements, illustrating that this structure has three levels. It situates legal knowledge and the capacity to apply it on the ground floor of the edifice [4]. The second layer encompasses the attitude towards law, while the third layer pertains to an individual's actions and behaviours in contexts involving legal matters. This house, like any structure, possesses a foundation composed of moral, ideological, political, and legal perspectives and convictions. The author attempts to depict this structure graphically [5]. Legal culture serves as a significant indicator of the spiritual maturity of civil society, the advancement of state-building, and the sophistication of the legal system [6].

We concur with the perspectives of legal scholar and associate professor N. Saburov regarding legal consciousness: it constitutes a variant of social consciousness, wherein individuals' perceptions of law, legislation, and legal order represent a synthesis of emotions and imagination [7]. The current consciousness of any group is a manifestation of social consciousness. For an individual to regard himself as legally mature and knowledgeable, they must primarily adhere to the legal norms established within society. Legal culture encompasses the degree of legal knowledge possessed by individuals, their conscious attitude towards the law, their respect for legal norms, and their adherence to legal compliance [8].

Legal culture is a complex, multifaceted phenomenon characterised primarily by a specific level of legal consciousness, which encompasses the conscious understanding and mastery of legal reality, common cultural foundations, elevated cultural standards, national foundations and sources, historical memory, and traditions. It necessitates customs and traditions, an adequate level of legal knowledge among the populace, a high degree of respect for legal norms and their authority, legal activity, legal creativity, effective law enforcement methods, management, and other institutions, as well as the compliance of citizens and officials with the law.

Legal promotion is an educational and promotional event designed to communicate the legal policies and strategic objectives of society and the state to individuals and the public. The establishment of legal culture relies on the efficacy of legal propaganda and its comprehensibility to the populace. Consequently, legal promotion is contingent upon the findings of disciplines such as the theory of legal society, legal projects, and the sociology of law [9]. On June 25, 1997, the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. PF-1791 "On Improving Legal Education, Raising the Level of Legal Culture of the Population, Enhancing the System of Training Legal Personnel, and Improving the Work of Public Opinion Research" was announced.

The primary objective of this Decree is to establish a legal democratic state, reinforce the rule of law, secure social fairness, delineate the priority areas for spiritual and cultural development, enhance ongoing reforms with novel content, and elevate the legal awareness of the populace. The objective is to enhance the political engagement of societal

members, to refine the training system for legal personnel, and to augment the efficacy of public opinion research [10]. Furthermore, pursuant to the "National Program for Enhancing Legal Culture in Society" ratified by the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan on August 29, 1997, the following were established as the primary priorities of the Program:

Uzbekistan is adopting a robust stance in the global community by establishing a democratic legal state and cultivating a fair civil society. Due to the country's stability, interethnic harmony, and citizen cohesion, Uzbekistan is earning trust and respect throughout the international community. Extensive reforms in the domains of economy, politics, state-building, legal system, and moral transformation of society are being implemented in our country. The legal foundation for the ongoing reforms has been established. The legal foundations of socio-political life are always being reinforced and enhanced [11].

The advancement of our nation and the efficacy of reforms significantly rely on the degree of legal awareness and legal culture among the populace. A person's political engagement, genuine civic disposition, and aspiration for democratic reforms are crucial elements in expediting the attainment of established objectives. A high legal culture is the cornerstone of a democratic society and a manifestation of the legal system's maturity. It is a determinant that actively influences many living processes within society, fosters the cohesion of citizens and all social groups, and secures and fortifies the integrity and stability of the community. Adherence to the law is a fundamental prerequisite for a legal society and the efficient operation of political and legal systems [12].

Legal culture is an essential component of general culture. Individuals should be persuaded that only a person possessing legal knowledge and the ability to use it practically can be deemed cultured and educated. The present condition of societal and governmental development necessitates a thorough enhancement of legal culture and legal literacy among all participants in legal relations. Legal culture, including a body of legal knowledge, beliefs, and consistent practical activities, facilitates the effective resolution of challenges confronting society and the state [13].

Investigating the philosophical, social, economic, psychological, and legal issues pertaining to the nature, content, structural composition, and manifestation of legal culture, as well as identifying the methods for its formation and subsequent enhancement, should be regarded as a priority area of scientific inquiry. To establish the sociological foundation for investigating the issues of legal culture, to conduct surveys to ascertain the accurate state of legal culture within society as a whole and among various demographic segments, and to educate the public regarding law, its societal significance, and the function of regulation. It is essential to employ other methods for ascertaining opinion [14].

Particular attention should be directed towards the investigation of pedagogical issues concerning the development of legal culture. The Ministries of Public Education, Higher Education, and Secondary Special Education should formulate a scientifically grounded methodology for the legal education of youth, with the participation of relevant organisations. Considering the unique characteristics of the Republic of Uzbekistan, it is essential to disseminate the findings of scientific research on enhancing legal culture in foreign nations and to broaden their application, as well as to establish a scientific information exchange in this domain [15].

Organising scientific-practical conferences and seminars, enhancing the publication of scientific and popular literature, fortifying scientific research on the enhancement of the legal culture among the populace, and significantly contributing to the dissemination of scientific knowledge. Library should be included. The provision of human rights and freedoms in our country is intricately linked to its needs and opportunities. Undoubtedly, the acknowledgement of human rights and the establishment of many mechanisms for their protection within the framework of international norms is one of the most significant

accomplishments of our era's spirituality. The "Universal Declaration of Human Rights" can be identified as one of humanity's significant spiritual accomplishments. The creation and dissemination of this historical document significantly influenced the historical trajectory of humanity, the domestic and foreign policies of nations, and the operations of international organisations, political parties, and social entities. The rules, conclusions, and principles articulated within it are a generalised expression of legal norms refined according to their essence and content [16].

In recent years, the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Uzbekistan, along with affiliated institutions, has conducted legal promotion efforts to enhance the legal awareness and culture among citizens in remote villages, particularly targeting youth, students, and the older generation. The primary objective of the current legal advocacy efforts is to ensure that both the mature generation and our youth, who have engaged in specific legal relationships within society, comprehend their rights [17].

For spiritual healing, it was essential to eradicate the circumstances that foster flattery and hypocrisy. This situation rendered them feeling powerless, discontented, and despondent. Furthermore, legal consciousness, as well as moral, religious, and scientific consciousness, must be continuously and rationally cultivated and shaped. Furthermore, the system of measures designed to instill political and legal concepts, norms, and principles that constitute the richness of global and national legal culture into individuals' consciousness would manifest as legal education [18].

Legal education is a goal-oriented endeavour undertaken by the state, public organisations, and individual people to facilitate the exchange of legal knowledge. To comprehend certain positive concepts, perspectives, and values that guarantee adherence to legal standards, their application, and utilisation, or to have a continual impact on human consciousness and behaviour to establish guidelines.

Research methodology.

Legal education is seen as a multifaceted and varied activity system. It is regarded with significant importance in Uzbekistan. The fundamental principles of state and economic reform articulated in the decrees of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the resolutions of the Cabinet of Ministers, and the legislation of the Oliy Majlis establish the essential legal framework for the delineation of democratic norms and social guarantees. However, the objective is not alone to formulate laws appropriate for the present circumstances, but also to guarantee their rigorous enforcement. It is therefore essential to establish a legal framework that fosters a degree of legal culture wherein adherence to the laws is obligatory for everybody, rendering violations utterly impossible [19].

3. Results

Thus, the effective execution of the adopted regulatory legal documents is significantly connected to the development of a new legal consciousness and legal culture. The degree of legal culture is defined not by the quantity of enacted laws or their quality, but by their consistent implementation. Even the most exemplary law is futile if it is not adhered to. S. Montesquieu stated: "When I visit a country, I assess not the quality of its laws, but their implementation, for good laws exist universally."

The market economy framework should continue to serve as a foundation for our legal education. An essential lesson that every individual should acquire is the necessity to live and work in accordance with the law, to learn how to safeguard his rights and freedoms by legal means, and to complete his obligations without deviation. We must learn to honour the rights, freedoms, and interests of others. The rule of law must be universally celebrated [20].

Legal promotion, legal education, legal practice, and self-education are the avenues of legal education. Utilising all the aforementioned tools presents challenges in the provision, reception, modification, and application of information on rights, as well as in the execution of legal awareness. Irrespective of an individual's social status, the issue of a requisite minimum degree of legal knowledge holds particular significance in this context [21].

This necessitates the promotion of legal culture across society. The existing modifications, including our Constitution, are designed for those with a specific level of legal awareness. Nonetheless, neither legal literacy nor legal culture, as previously noted, emerges autonomously. Consequently, it is imperative to establish it at the school level, specifically focussing on the organisation of legal literacy within schools, vocational colleges, lyceums, and other educational institutions. Consequently, it is crucial to educate the emerging generation on pertinent legal principles—fostering a constructive attitude towards law, legal phenomena, and the necessity for continual expansion and deepening of legal knowledge. In this context, it may be asserted that the poets who animated the sacred symbols of the Motherland, as enshrined in our Constitution and the national symbols of Uzbekistan, articulated them succinctly for kindergarten educators and primary school pupils—specifically, the Hero of Uzbekistan and People's Poet Abdulla. The poems of Oripov, People's Poet of Uzbekistan Muhammad Yusuf, are very didactic.

Favourable conditions are now being established in our country to enhance the level of legal culture and elevate the reputation of law among the populace. Only supplementary efforts are necessary to establish the scientific foundations of legal education and legal propaganda. It is essential to establish a scientifically advanced system of rational influence on human will and consciousness to cultivate a mature positive disposition towards the law and other social norms.

As a democratic legal state is being established in our country, we assert that it is essential for every citizen to understand the foundations of law, the principles of its implementation, and the primary legal norms and regulations. This process should be the paramount objective of imparting legal knowledge, particularly inside state educational institutions. It is imperative to address the following intricate challenges in legal education. Firstly, to equip students with the ability to independently apply legal knowledge acquired through practical activities in assessing their own and others' conduct; secondly, to establish guidelines for the execution of legal actions in compliance with the law and other regulatory legal documents; thirdly, it enables the cultivation of a resolute stance towards any offence. The legal knowledge acquired in this manner will establish a system of rigorous habituation to act in accordance with the law under any circumstances and to actively combat crime.

Currently, imparting legal knowledge through specialised legal education at academic institutions, together with the application of certain pedagogical methods, yields favourable outcomes. The students of legal education acquire essential knowledge and skills in supervising and preparing coursework, independently working on normative documents, executing legally significant actions, and participating in the activities of management bodies of educational institutions. they receive

The efficacy of imparting legal knowledge to children and students is contingent not alone upon the quality of education or the proficiency of educators, but also upon the prevailing legal culture within society and the state. Ultimately, the student's experiential engagement with the current legal framework and legislation, together with his capacity to assess the efficacy of law in safeguarding human rights and freedoms, constitutes the most significant legal and educational determinants.

To effectively implement the legal rights of citizens, the state must enhance individual political engagement, establish conducive conditions for participation in governmental affairs, guarantee the genuine adherence to principles of transparency and

democracy, and ensure the involvement of officials and state entities in any capacity necessary to combat violations.

Unawareness of the law is significant. During his era, Ivan Ilin stated: "A populace that is unaware of their nation's laws exists beyond the law or is content with the precarious nature of the law..." It is essential for everyone to be adequately informed about the laws, as this aspect is integral to the legal framework. The sequence in which individuals are stripped of legal knowledge is both irrational and perilous. As a spiritual entity, an individual cannot exist on Earth without according to law [22].

4. Discussion

The distinctive feature of the Constitution of our sovereign nation, in contrast to previous laws, is its prioritisation of the provision of human rights. However, regrettably, several individuals, including several employees in the realm of law and order, lack a profound understanding of this matter. Regrettably, the novel paradigm is being assimilated into their cognition at a sluggish pace, and their perspective is gradually evolving.

Certainly, there are specific objective reasons for this. This situation is genetically linked to the environment of the Shura system, which influenced development and education in social practice. A flawed loop was established, resulting in detrimental phenomena that fostered unhealthy patterns in social consciousness and, ultimately, in culture. They, in turn, complicated the reintegration into reality, which possessed its own conflicts. All of this resulted in diminished practicality, the establishment of negative flexibility, and a postponement in the development of a genuine legal culture [23].

The initial call was made at the sixth session of the Oliy Majlis. Establishing a culture focused on development at the national level is of paramount importance. We must transform individuals' antiquated psychology and cultivate a new legal consciousness inside them. Let all individuals profoundly recognise that human freedoms concurrently include certain duties, obligations, and responsibilities.

At each stage of the historical evolution of law and the state, the notion of a person as a legal subject, along with the associated concepts of rights, obligations, freedom, and liberty, is distinctive. Human rights primarily denote the acknowledgement of an individual's legal capacity within a certain domain of social relations and the recognition of their status as a legal subject [24].

Considering these points, it is essential to allocate time to elucidate the relationship between legal culture and social life, to enhance the mechanisms of political power exercise, cultural and political ideas and values, legal directives, and legal behaviour and activity. necessitates the consistent execution of the "National Program for Elevating the Standard of Legal Culture in Society," aimed at the successful realisation of all facets. In summary, we must consistently address the necessity of enhancing the legal awareness and legal culture among our populace and people. This environment heavily relies on our leaders, those who uphold these laws and rights. The key consideration is that they must serve as a model for others in adhering to and complying with legal obligations [25].

5. Conclusion

In conclusion, it may be asserted that legal culture does not inherently manifest inside an individual. A person, society, and the state must exert considerable effort to cultivate an individual with a profound legal culture. A robust legal culture is the cornerstone of a democratic society and a manifestation of the legal system's maturity. It is a factor that actively influences many living processes within society, fosters the

cohesion of people and all social groups, and maintains and reinforces the integrity and stability of the community. Adherence to the law is a fundamental prerequisite for a legal society and the efficient operation of political and legal systems. Simultaneously, legal culture constitutes a component of universal culture; it is not only a segment of general culture, but rather its essence, foundation, and cornerstone. Consequently, the establishment of legal culture can only be realised via the execution of legal education.

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