



## **THE ROLE OF LEGAL CONSCIOUSNESS AND LEGAL CULTURE IN A DEMOCRATIC SOCIETY**

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### **Abstract**

This thesis highlights the role and importance of legal awareness and legal culture in a democratic society. If legal consciousness expresses the attitude of individuals to the law and legal norms, then legal culture determines the degree of manifestation of these knowledge and views in practical activity. The thesis analyzes the role of legal awareness and culture in increasing the legal literacy of citizens, forming a spirit of respect for the law, and preventing offenses. Also, the interrelationship of these factors in the development of a democratic society and ways to improve them are shown.

**Keywords:** Democratic society, legal consciousness, legal culture, legal literacy, laws.

### **Introduction**

**Annotaciya:** Mazkur tezisda demokratik jamiyatda huquqiy ong va huquqiy madaniyatning tutgan o'rnini hamda ahamiyati yoritiladi. Huquqiy ong shaxslarning qonun va huquqiy normalarga bo'lgan munosabatini ifodalasa, huquqiy madaniyat esa ushbu bilim va qarashlarning amaliy faoliyatda namoyon bo'lish darajasini belgilaydi. Tezisda fuqarolarning huquqiy savodxonligini oshirish, qonunlarga hurmat ruhini shakllantirish hamda huquqbuzarliklarning oldini olishda huquqiy ong va madaniyatning o'rnini tahlil etiladi. Shuningdek, demokratik jamiyatni



rivojlantirishda ushbu omillarning o‘zaro bog‘liqligi va ularni takomillashtirish yo‘llari ko‘rsatib beriladi.

**Kalit so‘zlar:** Demokratik jamiyat, huquqiy ong, huquqiy madaniyat, huquqiy savodxonlik, qonunlar.

In building and developing a democratic state, the role of legal awareness and legal culture in society is very significant. The first steps in society are to begin with raising the legal literacy of people, explaining their rights, as well as raising legal awareness and legal culture, which is one of the largest and most concrete steps in building a democratic state.

Legal consciousness is understood not as a simple mental reflection, but as the highest form of mental reflection of reality by a socially developed person. Consciousness is also the totality of a person's spiritual, political, philosophical, religious, and artistic views. This is what is meant by social consciousness. There is also the concept of legal culture, which is the level of legal knowledge of people, their conscious attitude towards law, respect for and observance of law. Thus, we know that many legal problems in our society are caused by a weak level of legal awareness and legal culture [1].

Types of legal culture are distinguished depending on its bearer:

- 1) Legal culture of society;
- 2) Legal culture of the group;
- 3) Legal culture of the individual;

The legal culture of society is a certain part of the general culture, expressing the level of legal activity and consciousness of society as a whole.

The legal culture of a social group is the state of the level of legal consciousness and legal behavior of a certain social group.

Legal culture of the individual is the culture of the individual [2].

Legal awareness, knowledge, and culture are of paramount importance for every citizen of Uzbekistan, regardless of gender, language, age, race, nationality, beliefs, origin, type of service, or social status. After all, first of all, a person's understanding, feeling, and attitude towards social life occurs in their consciousness. Legal consciousness can be defined as a system of legal feelings, ideas, assessments, and perceptions that express the attitude of citizens of the country to both the current law,



legal practice, the rights, freedoms, and obligations of citizens, as well as the desired law and other legal phenomena [3].

Various social institutions - family, educational institutions, state bodies, law enforcement agencies, public organizations, and cultural institutions - must participate in shaping the legal awareness of young people. Their efforts should be coordinated and systematic, their actions and work should be regulated by law. It should be noted that the state of the legal culture of society is largely determined by the degree of participation of legal specialists in the work on the formation of the legal consciousness of citizens, as well as their specific level of culture. Legal education and promotion should become an integral part of the professional activities of lawyers, the profession is based on the perfect mastery of legal means. Much has been done in our country to inform citizens about laws and improve their legal culture: active reporting and publishing work is still being carried out with the involvement of legal scholars, practitioners of law enforcement agencies, and legal consultants. Today, the participation of lawyers in legal education and legal advocacy is practically not considered their official duty. It is also possible to explain current legislation to the public, provide consultations with the direct participation of lawyers, deliver lectures, speak in the press, on television and radio, and conduct legal advocacy and legal education [4].

Legal consciousness and legal culture are important categories that complement each other and ensure the social stability of society. Until legal consciousness is formed in a person, they do not understand the content of laws, do not accept them as an integral part of their life activity.

Therefore, raising legal awareness is the main condition for the development of legal culture. This process is carried out through the system of continuous education, the media, state policy, and the activities of civil society institutions. Legal culture manifests itself not only in individual consciousness, but also in the social environment, in the activities of institutions, and even in the spiritual foundations of the public administration system. In societies with a developed legal culture, laws are viewed in the minds of citizens not as a source of fear, but as a guarantee of order and justice. In such an environment, legal norms are harmonized with moral values, and social immunity against lawlessness is formed.

Since independence, the development of legal consciousness and culture based on the principles of a "legal state" and "civil society" has become a priority of state policy.



In particular, systematic work has been carried out to raise the legal awareness of the general public through the "Legal Information Centers," "Legal Expert" competitions, special pages of the "Adolat" newspaper, and mass "Legal Literacy Weeks" [5].

In conclusion, the foundation of a democratic, legal state arises and develops on the basis of the development of legal consciousness and legal culture. Raising the legal awareness and culture of society is the main duty of every member of society.

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