

**NORMATIVE AND LEGAL BASES FOR THE FORMATION OF A UNICAMERAL
PARLIAMENT IN UZBEKISTAN**

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Abstracts: This article analyzes the legal documents that laid the foundation for the formation of the country's unicameral parliament. In particular, it reveals the essence and significance of the Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the laws "On Elections to the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan" and "On the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan".

Key words: unicameral parliament, law, Konstitution, elections, deputy.

In a state governed by the rule of law, one of the main elements is the system of separation of powers. Thanks to this principle, state authorities restrain and control each other and do not allow the concentration of power in the hands of one body or person. In most modern states, power is divided into legislative, executive and judicial. The principle of separation of powers is of great importance in the development of society, and if this principle is not observed in the state, a crisis of both the state and society begins, which is what the Soviet system ultimately came to, built on the omnipotence of one party, and not on the separation of powers of the authorities and mutual restraint of power. As a result of the self-destructive policy of the Soviet state, in the conditions of the political, economic and social crisis of the country, Uzbekistan left the USSR.

At the 6th extraordinary session of the Supreme Council of the twelfth convocation in Tashkent, the Resolution "On the proclamation of state independence of the Republic of Uzbekistan", the Statement on state independence and the Law "On the principles of state independence of the Republic of Uzbekistan" were adopted. It should also be noted that by the Decree the Uzbek SSR was renamed the Republic of Uzbekistan[1].

According to the law "On the Fundamentals of State Independence of the Republic of Uzbekistan", the people of the Republic of Uzbekistan are sovereign and are the only source of state power in the country. The people exercise power both directly and through their representatives. It was declared that the system of state bodies of the Republic of Uzbekistan is based on the principle of separation of powers, such as legislative, executive and judicial.

With the proclamation of state independence by the Republic of Uzbekistan in 1991, the country took a course towards democratization of all spheres of life, recognition of the priority of the rights and interests of the individual, development of market relations, separation of powers of the branches of government, inviolability of borders between sovereign states and sovereign foreign policy.

One of the important steps in the reform of the political system was the election of a unicameral national parliament of the country - a legislative and representative body formed on a multi-party basis in single-mandate constituencies. The predecessor of the country's new parliament was the Supreme Council of the Republic of Uzbekistan, which operated from 1938 to 1994 and performed legislative functions until the elections to the new unicameral parliament of Uzbekistan. The last twelfth convocation of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Uzbekistan worked from 1990 to 1994 and consisted of 500 people's deputies, who were elected from all regions of the republic in several stages[2].

The formation of the country's unicameral parliament was preceded by the development of a number of regulatory documents adopted at sessions of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Uzbekistan. These documents became the legal basis for the creation of a new system of state system and management. In total, during the period of work of the country's parliament from 1991 to 1994, 79 laws were adopted and 3 international documents were ratified.[3].

The first step towards the creation of a new parliament of the country was the adoption of the Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan on December 8, 1992 at the eleventh session of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Uzbekistan. According to the preamble of the Basic Law, the people of Uzbekistan proclaimed their commitment to human rights and the principles of state sovereignty, confirmed their loyalty to the ideals of democracy and social justice and adopted, in the person of their authorized representatives, the Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Article 7 of the Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan established the provision that the people are the only source of state power. This power is exercised in the interests of the people and exclusively by bodies authorized to do so by the Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan and laws adopted on its basis.

Article 10 of the Constitution of the country declared that only the Oliy Majlis and the President of the Republic elected by the people could speak on behalf of the people. Article 11 of the Basic Law affirmed that the system of state power is based on the principle of separation of powers into legislative, executive and judicial. Section five of Chapter 18, Article 76-88 of the Basic Law of the country defined the constitutional and legal status of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan[4]. According to the Basic Law, the Oliy Majlis was endowed with 24 powers.

The next important legal document was the Law "On Elections to the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan", adopted on December 28, 1993 at the session of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Uzbekistan of the twelfth convocation». [5] According to the Law, the Oliy Majlis consists of two hundred and fifty deputies elected from territorial single-mandate constituencies on a multi-party basis for a term of five years. The election of deputies is based on universal, equal and direct suffrage by secret ballot. For the elections to the Oliy Majlis, it was assumed that 250 territorial electoral districts would be formed, from each of which one deputy would be elected, that is, the elections were held on a majoritarian basis.

Elections of deputies to the Oliy Majlis were appointed by the Oliy Majlis no later than three months before the expiration of the term of office of the deputies of the parliament of the previous convocation. According to the Law "On Elections to the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan", political parties, the Jokargy Kenes of the Republic of Karakalpakstan, regional and Tashkent city Councils of People's Deputies, as well as an initiative group of voters had the right to nominate candidates for deputies of the Oliy Majlis.

On September 22, 1994, the Constitutional Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan" was adopted» [6]. According to Article 1 of this Law, the legal status of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan was determined as the highest state representative body exercising legislative power in the country. The Oliy Majlis was endowed with the right to accept for consideration any issue related to its powers in accordance with the Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan. The organizational form of work of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan is a session, which must be convened at least twice a year. Also, at the initiative of the Chairman of the Oliy Majlis, it was possible to convene an extraordinary session of parliament.

By the Resolution of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated May 5, 1995 No. 49-I "On approval of the regulations of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan" the

Regulations of the Oliy Majlis were approved, according to which the activities of the parliament are organized. According to the Regulations, the activities of the Oliy Majlis are based on collective, free discussion and resolution of issues, transparency, responsibility and accountability to the Oliy Majlis, the bodies it creates, elected and appointed officials, and constant consideration of public opinion.

The Regulations, along with general provisions, spell out the organizational form of work of the Oliy Majlis, the powers of the Kengash, Committees and Commissions. The Regulations also approve the procedure for considering draft laws by the Oliy Majlis and its bodies. It should be noted that this Regulation lost its legal force on January 27, 2005, after the transformation of the unicameral parliament into a bicameral body.

Based on the Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the Law "On Elections to the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan", the Law "On the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan", elections to the Oliy Majlis were held for the first time on December 25, 1994. Also on January 8 and January 22, 1995, the second round of elections was held. Candidates from two political parties were nominated for the elections: the People's Democratic Party and the Vatan Tarakkiyoti (Progress of the Fatherland) Party, and candidates from local Councils also ran. A total of 643 candidates were nominated, of which 250 candidates were nominated by local councils, 243 candidates were members of the People's Democratic Party, 141 candidates were members of the Vatan Tarakkiyoti Party[7].

As a result of the elections to the Oliy Majlis of the first convocation, the formed parliament was represented by 250 deputies, including 167 deputies from local Councils, 69 deputies from the NDPU and 14 deputies from Vatan Tarakkiyoti.

It should be emphasized that the Oliy Majlis was unicameral from 1994 to 2004, elections to the unicameral parliament were held in 1994 and 1999. This indicates that the unicameral parliament operated for only two convocations, that is, ten years. Following a nationwide constitutional referendum on January 27, 2002, the unicameral parliament was transformed into a bicameral legislative body.

Based on the above facts, it should be noted that the Parliament of Uzbekistan has undergone an evolution that has led to significant changes not only in the structure of the country's legislative body, but has also led to the reform of the parliament in accordance with the principles of parliamentary democracy, and the increased participation of deputies and political parties in the legislative process.

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