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NEW CHANGES TO CHAPTER I OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN

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Abstract: This article will discuss the changes made to Section I of the Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan in 2023.

Key words: Constitution, human freedom, national and universal values, democracy, honor, dignity, justice, rule of law.

The Constitution is the fundamental law of the state, which regulates the operation of legal acts that meet the interests and needs of the development of an independent state and society.

The people of Uzbekistan in 1991, who declared their independence to the whole world, chose their own path of development. However, the formation of a new state system was in dire need of legal formalization, approval and regulation.

There was a need for a legal framework that would meet the interests of the people and the state.

In 1992, at the 11th session of the Supreme Council of Uzbekistan, a decree was issued, which adopted the current Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

December 8 - a special law declared the Constitution Day of the Republic of Uzbekistan, a day of national holiday!

More than 30 years have passed since that day, and as people and society grow and develop, so do the laws of the state tend to develop.

This did not bypass the Constitution of Uzbekistan, the content of which has been periodically clarified over the past 30 years. But the time has come for drastic changes.

In this article, I would like to point out the changes that were made to the Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan in 2023 through a national referendum.

Let's start with the Preamble.

Previously, the preamble began with the words "People of Uzbekistan," but in the new edition it reads "We, the united people of Uzbekistan."

It was further stated - "solemnly proclaiming its commitment to human rights and the principles of state sovereignty, recognizing the high responsibility to present and future generations, relying on the historical experience of the development of Uzbek statehood, confirming its loyalty to the ideals of democracy and social justice, recognizing the priority of generally recognized norms of international law, striving to ensure decent life for the citizens of the republic, setting the task of creating a humane democratic legal state, in order to ensure civil peace and national harmony, adopts, in the person of its authorized representatives, the present Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan.", now it sounds "solemnly proclaiming its commitment to human rights and freedoms, national and universal values, principles of state sovereignty, recognizing the priority of generally recognized norms of international law,

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realizing the high responsibility to current and future generations for building and strengthening a humane, democratic, legal, social and secular state that cares about the honor and dignity, well-being and interests of every person, striving for an open, fair and harmonious civil society, based on the historical, more than three thousand years of experience in the development of Uzbek statehood, as well as the cultural heritage of its great ancestors, who made an invaluable contribution to the development of world and Islamic civilization, confirming their loyalty to the ideals of democracy, values such as social justice, freedom and equality, striving to ensure the sustainable development of the country, a decent life for young people, the development of education, science, culture and spirituality for these purposes, determined to increase and protect the natural, cultural, material and spiritual values and wealth that have reached us, a healthy environment, striving to strengthen and enhance harmonious, friendly relations of Uzbekistan with the world community, and above all with neighboring countries, on the basis of mutual support, cooperation and respect, peace and harmony, in order to ensure civil peace, interethnic and interfaith harmony and tolerance, we accept and proclaim this Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan."

One cannot but agree that the words of the preamble sounded in completely different colors.

Now let's look at Section I of the Constitution, "Fundamental Principles." The original version of Chapter I. State Sovereignty stated: "Uzbekistan is a sovereign democratic republic. The names of the state "Republic of Uzbekistan" and "Uzbekistan" are equivalent."

In the new edition, the concept of Uzbekistan is revealed more clearly - "Uzbekistan is a sovereign republic, a legal, social, secular, democratic state. The names of the state "Republic of Uzbekistan" and "Uzbekistan" are equivalent."

Article 13 stated: "Democracy in the Republic of Uzbekistan is based on universal human principles, according to which the highest value is a person, his life, freedom, honor, dignity and other inalienable rights. Democratic rights and freedoms are protected by the Constitution and laws."

After the amendment, Article 13 gives a more expanded meaning to democracy in the country - "Democracy in the Republic of Uzbekistan is based on universal human principles, according to which the highest value is a person, his life, freedom, honor, dignity and other inalienable rights. Respect, observance, protection of the honor and dignity of a person, his rights and freedoms are the responsibility of the state. Human rights and freedoms act directly and determine the meaning, content and application of laws, the activities of government bodies, self-government bodies of citizens and their officials. Measures of legal influence on a person must be sufficient to achieve the legitimate goal pursued by the government body, and least burdensome for interested parties. All irremovable contradictions and ambiguities in the legislation that arise in a person's relationship with government agencies are interpreted in favor of the person.

Democratic rights and freedoms are protected by the Constitution and laws."

Article 14 read: "The state builds its activities on the principles of social justice and legality in the interests of the well-being of individuals and society."

Now, the activities of the state also indicate sustainable development - "The state builds its activities on the principles of social justice and legality in the interests of human well-being and sustainable development of society."

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A clause has been added to Article 15 indicating the supremacy of the Constitution on the territory of the entire state - "The Republic of Uzbekistan recognizes the unconditional supremacy of the Constitution and laws of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

The Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan has supreme legal force, direct effect and is applied throughout the territory of the Republic of Uzbekistan. The state, its bodies, officials, public associations, citizens act in accordance with the Constitution and laws."

A clause has been added to Article 16 that protects human rights and freedoms - "None of the provisions of this Constitution can be interpreted to the detriment of the rights and freedoms of man and citizen, the rights and interests of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the basic principles and provisions provided for in the first section of this Constitution.

No law or other legal act may contradict the norms and principles of the Constitution."

But not only changes were made in the first chapter, changes also affected chapter IV. Foreign policy.

In particular, Article 17 clarified the aspects of the country's foreign policy - "The Republic of Uzbekistan is a full-fledged subject of international relations. Its foreign policy is based on the principles of respect for human rights and freedoms, the sovereign equality of states, the non-use of force or threat of force, the inviolability of borders, the territorial integrity of states, the peaceful settlement of disputes, non-interference in the internal affairs of other states and other generally recognized principles and norms of international law. Uzbekistan pursues a friendly and peaceful foreign policy with all states. The republic can enter into alliances, enter into commonwealths and other interstate formations, and also leave them, based on the highest interests of the state, the people, their well-being and security."

Undoubtedly, all the changes discussed above are necessary for the further development of our country, the spiritual and progressive enrichment of our people, and the words of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Sh.M. Mirziyoyev "The honor and dignity of a person must come first in all spheres" are further confirmation of this.

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