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Transformation Of The Youth Of New Uzbekistan In Social And Innovative Processes: A Sociological Analysis

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ABSTRACT

This article analyzes the role of youth in the sustainable development of the social structure. The existing scientific concepts were given and analyzed the work of young people to develop our society. The author thought about how youth's role in the sustainable development of the social structure is played. Simultaneously, the article revealed reforms, the necessary measures carrying out in Uzbekistan for the formation of young people as an active group of our society.

Keywords:

youth, social group, innovation, unorganized youth, passive youth, active youth, social innovation activity.

Issues related to youth have always been relevant, since it is the youth that is the successor of the nation and potential labor resources, which ensures the present and future of the country, connects the present generation with previous generations. With their qualities as a desire for innovation and a penchant for creativity, they stand out from other social groups and classes. Naturally, these features also affect the growing needs of young people in the material, social, spiritual and educational spheres. Expansion of the scale of needs, in particular, when the vital needs of young people exceed the dynamics of the production of social offers in society, a state of imbalance is created between their needs and the opportunities available in society, which can lead to various conflicts. In this regard, there is a growing need for a consistent and purposeful study of these transformational sociological processes taking place in the life of modern youth.

Youth is one of the most complex groups in the social structure of society, due to the fact

that young people themselves are heterogeneous and they have needs and interests formed at different levels and degrees. From this point of view, the question of its independence as a social stratum or group, or as a unit in the structure of other social groups, is relevant. In addition, in the context of the process of globalization in the world, their consolidation on the basis of common goals and interests, their role in the progress of society and as a force that forms the basis of the social structure of society, appear as factors that ensure the stable development of the country.

In today's rapidly changing world, in the context of the development of market relations, there is a growing need for a fundamental study of youth problems. Today, the realization of the interests of youth is defined as one of the priorities of state policy. "We are making every effort to strengthen the civic position and activity of the younger generation, to teach our children to think independently, to acquire modern knowledge and skills in order to be

ready to compete in the international arena, to become mature professionals." From this point of view, a sociological study of the transformation of the youth of new Uzbekistan in social and innovative processes is of scientific and practical importance.

To begin with, it is necessary to define the concept of youth. Scientists on this issue can be conditionally divided into two groups: those who recognize their existence in society as an independent social group (O.I. Bely, N.B. Gorbacheva, V.V. Davnis, O.A. Donskikh, S. O. Elizhev, A.I. Kovaleva, V.A. Lukov and others), which can be included in the first group, as well as L.L. Shtuden, M.Yu. Nemtsev and others can be included in the second group. According to the latter, youth can only be analyzed in terms of age, and not as an independent social unit. However, they also do not have a common opinion in terms of the age limit. In particular, if N.I. Markova, S.O. Elishev, A.F. Radchenko substantiate the validity of the study of young people by dividing them into persons aged 14 to 30 years, then O.I. Bely, divides them into three groups: from 14 to 18 years old, from 18 to 22–25 years old, from 25 to 30 years old, V.V. Davnis divides them into three groups: minors (15–19 years old), adults (20–24 years old) and adults (25–29 years old).

From the foregoing, it is clear that researchers do not have a common opinion whether young people are a separate social group and what its internal structure is. In addition to age, there is also no consensus on which of the factors, such as place of residence, age, education, marital (social) status, can determine their place in the social structure of society. It is difficult to reveal the whole essence of youth by combining and studying all of the above into one system. In view of the foregoing, in our opinion, without complicating the definition of the concept of youth, it can be divided into the following groups:

1. Preschool age - from 1 to 7 years (children);
2. School age - from 7 to 16 years (teenagers);
3. Youth from 16 to 30 years old (who have reached maturity).

Classifying the age groups in this order makes it easier to define youth: first, in terms of age; secondly, their places and significance in society; thirdly, the demographic status in the structure of the country's population.

In our opinion, the social group of youth can be defined as follows: Youth is an independent entity that has its own interests as a social group of society, a family member, a representative of a nation or people, a citizen, a creator and consumer of material and spiritual values, a holder of a unique status in relation to of one ideology or another, linking different generations and participating in all spheres and activities of society, as well as responsible for the future of the country. This definition generally takes into account the rights, duties and interests of young people. This helps to clearly understand its status, place in the development of society and the country. This definition, unlike others, sets out the idea that young people have an independent status as an independent social group. First of all, it is one of the important groups that form the population of the country, ensuring its natural growth and supplementing the retiring part of it.

Secondly, youth is the main labor resource of the country. Aging and decrease (death) of a part of the population is an objective process; thirdly, youth occupies a special place in society and as an important family member; fourthly, youth plays the role of the guardian and protector of the nation from various threats and hostile forces; Fifthly, youth is the basis of the country's military power. It is also the main force in ensuring national security, protecting it from external and internal enemies; sixth, youth is a force that maintains the continuity of the development of the nation. The main factors that ensure its survival are that they understand and are proud of their achievements, are aware of the interests of their nation, have a sense of selflessness for the sake of progress, and are set to develop in accordance with changes in time and space.

At the same time, as noted above, stratification among young people can occur in the economic, social, political, spiritual, educational and intellectual spheres. This, firstly, depends on the diversity of physical,

intellectual, life, economic, social, spiritual and educational opportunities and lifestyles of people in society, and secondly, on the activities of the state in the economic and socio-political spheres.

The stratification of youth is influenced by: lack of work, justice and equality in the use of material and spiritual wealth; presence of corruption in the system of education and management; in the event that the adopted laws and decisions regarding youth are formal and are not implemented in practice; crises in the economic, social and spiritual spheres; slowness in the implementation of state policy on youth; the "decline" of the desires and aspirations of young people to master science, technology and technology; alienation of youth from the family and the spirit of collectivity.

To eliminate this process or minimize it, it is necessary to increase the social and innovative activity of young people, which plays an important role in the process of its socialization.

An increase in the social and innovative activity of young people means (based on the changes taking place in the social structure of society (development and crises), the formation in their minds and worldview of an orientation and purposefulness towards progressive development, the need to work together as a single force, overcoming common existing problems. This is important the task is a priority direction of the country's youth policy.

The creation of new jobs by the state, measures aimed at "adaptation" of young people to the changing needs of society, in particular, the implementation of structural changes in production, organizational and practical measures, such as improving the skills of young people and the formation of new skills in accordance with new directions, provide an increase their social and innovative activity.

If we compare the portrait of youth in the first years of independence and the youth of New Uzbekistan, then we can distinguish (based on the results of sociological research in 1998-1999 and 2021) the following features:

Characteristics of youth 1998-1999

- the desire for openness;
- propensity to risk;
- following the traditions;

- social passivity;
- lack of a sense of involvement in the reforms;
- propensity to influence "destructive" forces;
- not having the skills to "filter" information on the Internet and social networks.

Characteristics of the youth of New Uzbekistan (2021):

- independence in thinking;
- the desire for innovation;
- possession of modern knowledge and professions;
- the presence of a civil position;
- the ability to compete in the international arena;
- the desire to become mature professionals;
- formed ideological immunity to information on the Internet and social networks.

For more than twenty years there have been dramatic changes in the interests and value orientations of young people. The modern youth of Uzbekistan is more pragmatic, results-oriented, they have a developed desire for knowledge and innovation, they know how to filter information and use it to their advantage. However, a small part of young people are involved in innovation, in scientific research.

The concept of "innovation" has been used in the Uzbek scientific literature not so long ago (researchers have given a number of definitions), this issue has not lost its relevance to this day. This definition may seem simple and easy, but in practice it is multifaceted and complex. This is due to the fact that, on the one hand, it applies to all spheres of human activity, and on the other hand, the scale of its creation, practical implementation and effective results are manifested in real life. Based on the above opinion, we can say that "innovation" is the process of innovations, inventions and their implementation in practice, which did not exist yesterday, today being the practical result of a person's intellectual potential in science, engineering, technology, as well as in socio-economic, in the socio-political and in the spiritual and educational spheres of society.

Without the active participation of young people in innovation processes, it is impossible to achieve progress. In our opinion, we are

currently facing the following issues that need to be addressed: a) the formation of innovative thinking among young people; b) development at the level of modern requirements of their intellectual potential; c) their socialization into society, i.e., strengthening cooperation with various social groups and strata to achieve common goals; d) providing specific material support for innovative ideas; d) practical implementation of innovative ideas.

A sociological survey conducted by us together with colleagues from the Department of Sociology of the National University of Uzbekistan showed how young people understand "innovation" and how much they are involved in these processes, how related processes are developing. A total of 1,605 respondents took part in the survey.¹

In order to determine the attitude of young people to the level of development of innovations in Uzbekistan, the respondents were asked the question "How, in your opinion, are innovations developing in Uzbekistan?". The respondents who participated in the survey answered as follows: 403 respondents (25.1%) "very slowly", 163 (10.2%) - "developing", 890 (55.4%) answered "at an average level", 117 - "are developing very actively" (7.3%), 32 (2)% - "not developing at all".

If we analyze the data obtained and summarize the answers (which include innovations developing "very slowly", "not developing" and "not developing at all"), it turns out that out of the total number, 588 (37.3%) respondents are dissatisfied with the current state of innovation processes in the country. Given that 991 respondents (67.8%) have higher education, it becomes obvious that innovation processes in the country lag behind the needs of a rapidly changing world, as well as the level of progress.

Young people are treated differently and participate in innovative processes. Based on the social and innovative activity of young people, they can be divided into several groups. Of these, unorganized youth occupies a special

place. Uniting unorganized youth into the ranks of an organized social group of youth should be one of the important tasks of state organizations and NGOs. Considering that youth is the backbone of the country's future, it is important to establish social partnerships between the above organizations. Cooperation and direction of youth towards the achievement of a common goal has not only social, but also important political significance. Indeed, unorganized youth, which has been formed in the process of transition to market relations, is one of the most urgent problems that require special attention from society. In fact, this task is connected not only with the needs of the country's development, but also with the elimination of the formation of the most dangerous character traits (psyche) of young people, such as: 1) aggression; 2) alienation from the state and society; 3) alienation from family and relatives; 4) distrust of the state; 5) the emergence of a feeling that it is "superfluous" for society and the family.

If this is not detected in a timely manner, young people will become inclined to commit negative actions, such as: a) violence, cruel treatment of people and perfidy; b) association with "cruel" and negatively minded forces (this will be manifested in the unconditional fulfillment of the tasks determined by them, which are contrary to the interests of the state, society and people); c) build your life on the basis of a sense of cosmopolitanism.

In our opinion, "unorganized youth" does not arise spontaneously, the reasons for their appearance are caused by the following factors: insufficient development of labor skills in children in families, the presence of such views in parents, such as: "still young, he will learn to work himself over time". In this sense, the role of the family in shaping young people's work skills remains significant. It is necessary from childhood to teach children to work, to organize their own lives on their own. Unfortunately, due to the fact that insufficient attention is paid to this in the process of education, some young

¹ The sociological survey was conducted on July 5-25, 2021 among 1605 respondents. To ensure the representativeness of the study, a sample of respondents was selected based on

the territorial and socio-demographic characteristics of the population of Uzbekistan (place of residence, age, gender, nationality, education, employment status, etc.).

people grow up with the "habit" of "living comfortably without working".

Based on the foregoing, we believe that unorganized youth is a group of young people who, during the transition to market relations, are not able to adapt to new structural changes in all spheres of life, who have limited employment opportunities, who do not have a specific and permanent job, who do not study in educational institutions, alienated from the life of society, dissatisfied and unwilling to get used to the income received.

In the above definition of "unorganized youth", we included young people who were not involved in a certain area of production, who did not study at an educational institution and were not provided with a permanent job. Based on this definition, these criteria can also be applied to the "passive youth" group.

But the difference between "passive youth" and "unorganized youth" is that "passive youth" participate in all existing processes in the life of the country, also have a permanent job or receive education in a particular specialty and are at different stages of education. But most of them are young people who, having these opportunities, instead of using them effectively, hold such (passive) views as "my hut is on the edge", "what difference does it make", "the day is over and okay". These are found in all areas of society. The formation of such a psychology is facilitated by the fact that there is no consistency in education in the family, despite the presence of material wealth, there is a frivolous attitude towards them, a lack of self-confidence, on the basis of the principle "this is enough for us", an indifferent attitude to the world around us, to the surrounding reality. All this becomes a way of life.

In the study of important factors contributing to the increase in the activity of "passive" youth, the following conclusion was made. The activation of the "passive youth" is more difficult than that of the "unorganized youth". The reason is that despite the availability of opportunities and conditions, the "passive youth" has a stable psychology. In order to change it, you first need to change consciousness. This is much more difficult than creating conditions and opportunities for the

development of "unorganized youth". For this, first of all, it is necessary to realize economic and social needs, to ensure the growth of internal spiritual potential. This presupposes the existence of a large intellectual potential in society, as well as that all the "mechanisms" associated with education work stably and consistently.

An important part of the youth is the "active youth". "Active youth" is understood as young people who know how to use the existing and created opportunities in all spheres of society, pursue specific goals in their daily life, work, study, profession, strive to turn success into the content and essence of their lives and treat their lives responsibly. activities. This part of the youth does not need to be "activated", they only need to be convinced and directed towards achieving specific goals.

A sociological survey conducted by us together with colleagues from the Department of Sociology of the National University of Uzbekistan showed how young people understand "innovation" and how much they are involved in these processes, how related processes are developing. A total of 1605 respondents took part in the survey.

Respondents were asked the question: "Should anything be changed at your place of study (work)? The answer was: "Yes, we need to change" - 991 respondents (61.7%); "there is no need to change" - 353 respondents (22%); "I don't know" - 261 respondents (16.3%).

To the question "What measures should be taken to activate the social group of young people in society?" (5,242 answers were received, due to the fact that one respondent could choose several options): 962 respondents (18.3%) noted the involvement of young people in the fields of science and education; 724 respondents (13.8%) - strengthening the participation of young people in public administration; 754 respondents (14.4%) - expansion of conditions for young people to receive higher education; 832 respondents (15.8%) - youth employment; 135 respondents (2.6%) - create conditions for young people only in matters of education and work, but limit their participation in public administration; 608 respondents (11.6%) - strengthening the spirit

of initiative among young people; 457 (8.7%) - the creation of conditions for youth for religious worship; 725 respondents (13.8%) - expanding opportunities for young people to master modern information technologies; 45 respondents (1%) - other answers.

In order to activate youth, 18.3% of respondents consider it necessary to involve young people in the fields of science and education. This, of course, testifies to the increased interest of our youth in these areas. We believe that this was certainly influenced by the regulatory legal acts adopted by the state aimed at increasing the role of science and scientists in society, the attention paid to updating the material and technical base of research organizations.

Those who believe that the provision of youth employment (15.8%) will contribute to their activation also make up a significant part. This comes from the processes taking place in society associated with the development of a market economy, competition and the understanding that ensuring youth employment is one of the main social functions of the state and achieving a stable social position.

In recent years, conditions for higher education for young people have been expanding. In particular, new higher educational institutions are opening, enrollment quotas are increasing, and the rights of higher educational institutions are being expanded. This, in turn, further increases the interest of young people in higher education. In particular, 14.4% of respondents consider it necessary to "expand the conditions for obtaining higher education by young people", which indicates that this issue is of paramount importance.

Also, recognizing the growing role of youth in society, their active work in all areas, as well as the expansion of their participation in the management system, 13.8% of respondents expressed the opinion that "increasing youth participation in public administration" and the same number of "expanding opportunities for youth on mastering modern information technologies", are actual problems.

Based on the above, we believe that, firstly, young people are not indifferent to the

modernization processes taking place in the country, and they participate in them. This is obvious from the proposals they made above about the need for positive changes in various spheres of life; secondly, among them there are those who are not sufficiently involved or interested in the processes taking place in society, or it must be admitted that there are those who show indifference towards them.

Respondents were also asked the question: "In what areas should innovations be widely introduced?" (2972 answers were given, taking into account that one participant chose several options). Respondents expressed the following opinions: it is necessary to widely apply innovations: in the economic sphere - 663 (22.3%); in the social sphere - 448 (15.1%); in the information and communication sphere - 473 (16%); in science, education, engineering and technology - 770 (26%); in the spiritual and educational sphere - 87 (3%); in the political sphere - 85 (2.7%); in the educational sphere - 353 (11.8%); in the rest - 93 (3.1%) spheres.

From these data, it can be seen that the majority of respondents emphasized the need to introduce innovations (increasingly) in education, science, engineering and technology, in the economic, social and information and communication spheres. Of course, this is natural, because these areas affect the development of all other industries. Most importantly, the respondents correctly understand the content and essence of the ongoing global processes in the world, as well as the importance of being at a level that allows them to compete with other countries in these industries.

Based on the research work carried out on the ongoing transformational processes in the social and innovative activities of the youth of Uzbekistan, we came to the following conclusions:

1. Youth as an independent social group is fundamentally insufficiently studied from a scientific point of view. Of practical importance will be ensuring the participation of young people in decision-making in accordance with their potential and influencing the development of the country, as well as the search for new mechanisms to further increase their activity, as

well as the direction of changes in the character, worldview, consciousness and thinking of young people in a positive direction.

2. The socialization of youth is of great importance in the development of society. In the process of socialization, the alienation of a part of the youth from society becomes more and more noticeable. Preventing the deepening of this complex process remains one of the most important tasks facing the state, public organizations, families and parents.

3. In the social structure of society, there are groups of youth as unorganized youth, passive youth and active youth, which differ from each other in their status, attitudes towards ongoing processes in all spheres of public life.

4. Based on the fact that young people are an independent social group, the fact that they have their own interests, goals and aspirations cannot be denied. They can be divided into two groups: private and general. The first is related to the specific goals, interests, aspirations and social position of each young person, while the second is related to the general interests of the country and the progress of the nation.

5. In the process of transition to market relations, under the influence of a number of objective and subjective factors, unorganized youth are formed, their share grows, which can lead to instability and conflicts. Active participation in the issues of reducing the number of existing ones and preventing the formation of new ones, along with state institutions, should be taken by NGOs and entrepreneurs, as well as other socially active groups of society, which will contribute to stability and expected positive results in development.

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