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## THE MISSIONARY MOVEMENT'S THREAT TO INTERFAITH TOLERANCE

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### ABSTRACT

In this article we are talking about the traits of religious tolerance, which is an inherent part of social life in democracies. Also, specific examples are considered uses of the missionary as an effective means of manipulating the spiritual life of various segments of society.

### KEYWORDS

Tolerance, missionary, a security threat, a destructive sect, manipulation.

### INTRODUCTION

An important principle of democracy, a necessary condition for the freedom of society and individual, a high manifestation of universal human values is interreligious tolerance. The concept of "tolerant" was first used in medicine, and it means the resistance of the organism, the ability to tolerate external things that have entered its environment. By the new era, this concept began to be used in the sense of tolerance towards different opinions, beliefs, and religions.

From the second half of the 20th century, in official documents, "tolerance" was translated into Uzbek as tolerance. This concept began to mean that people of different religions live in the same area peacefully and with mutual respect. Tolerance is the principle of being tolerant of the worship and faith of others without retreating from one's own faith, and treating it with respect even if one does not accept another faith. The priority of the philosophy of consensus (reconciliation) instead of the philosophy of conflict (conflict),

confrontation (opposition) is one of the important features of tolerance. The main issue is not allowing others to encroach on the values we hold sacred, while living without the inconvenience of others.

In Uzbekistan, the idea of interreligious tolerance is recognized as an important principle and an integral part of national spiritual development[1]. Unfortunately, the missionary efforts of destructive sects, along with harmful currents of various directions, which try to falsify religions based on the ideals of goodness, using the right to freedom of belief, are hindering religious tolerance. The existence of different sects in Christianity, which is one of the world religions, has become a big problem in countries where this religion is widespread. According to information, in the seventies of the last century, there were 1,500 to 5,000 different branches of this religion in developed countries. But most of them have disappeared now because the population did not accept them. According to the information provided for France, there are currently about 170 sects and their eight hundred affiliates in this country[2].

The missionary movement creates religious, ideological, ideological division and opposition among people, favoring one religion over another, different attitude towards one's "religionists", different attitude towards "non-believers", and this attitude has a serious negative impact on the unity of the society. As a result, those who fall under the sphere of influence

become subordinates of the missionaries, as a result of their unconditional obedience to their orders and instructions, they also engage in evil deeds. In general, this method is considered to be one of the best means of disintegrating the state and society, causing it to decline, making it impoverished, preoccupied with its own problems, and distracting from other important tasks of the country. These factors alone are sufficient evidence that such sects and missionary movements pose a great danger to the society and the state. At the same time, we cannot forget that the forces striving to achieve such results are always supporting their advocates, which will cause the struggle against them to drag on for a long time.

Distinctive features of missionaries and the destructive sects they belong to include:

- To alienate the masses from traditional religion. As a result of this, cases of alienation from family, loved ones, and society arise. "Missionaries" seek to create a negative attitude towards the environment and create such an environment in others by exposing some shortcomings and "sinful deeds" in people, society, and the country;
- To consider themselves "those on the right path". Members consider every action in the sect as their rule, and their comrades as "brothers" and deny everything else;

– Admission to the membership of the sect gradually and individually. At first, the person who wants to be seduced is talked to about various issues, for example, religion, about the Creator. Then they are taken to their group activities and talks. Only when he is convinced will he be told more serious matters. A person who passes the specified stages is accepted as a member. There is never a public conversion;

– Strict discipline. It is mandatory for all members to follow the procedures set forth in the Sect. The secret will not be revealed. Violators of the rules are subject to various sanctions, such as temporary or total exclusion from the team;

– Centralized management. According to the organizational structure of sects, members of a small community obey the leader of that community, who in turn obeys the larger leader. Ultimately all leaders are subordinate to a central boss;

"Holy work" that is necessary for everyone. The members of the community are encouraged to actively spread the ideas of the sect, to prioritize the work related to the sect above everything else, and if necessary, to leave or oppose the family, parents, children, loved ones, society. It is also a requirement that "promoters" "lead" new members to God.

In order to attract a person, missionaries say sweet and gentle words to people, if necessary, they do not hesitate to praise him that his external aspects are

pleasant, that his clothes suit him well, that his face is bright, and so on. They are not trying to use the fact that women are more influential and the outlook of young people is not sufficiently formed for malicious purposes. In turn, young people are always needed as a new force.

P. Johnstone, a famous theoretician of missionary work, considers student youth as the main object of missionary activity, and in his book "World Operation" he writes: "37 million students study in universities and colleges all over the world. "Many of them will occupy major positions after 20 years"[3, 112p]. These thoughts make it possible to realize that the missionaries are working to gain control over the minds of the generation that will determine the future of the society.

The information provided by Russian scientists about some sects is noteworthy. It was found that among the members of the sect, single women make up 45 percent, widows over forty make up 54 percent, and untouchables make up 14 percent among the 30-40-year-olds. At the same time, among those affected by the sect, 39.2 percent are pensioners, 5.2 percent are disabled, 12.4 percent are housewives, 24 percent are temporarily unemployed, and 69 percent are those who do not work at all. This situation, in turn, shows that among the members there are many people who are lonely, who need communication, who have a low level of work experience and education, and more

attention is paid to those who are worn out in social life[4]. Because it is relatively easier for such people to get caught in the missionaries' net.

A better understanding and perception of the threat of missionary activities belonging to destructive sects is important in determining ways to combat it. In the fight against missionary work, it is appropriate to pay special attention to the following tasks:

- to educate the right attitude to the right of religious belief and freedom of conscience in every citizen;
- formation of religious tolerance in every person;
- to respect every religion as one's own religion;
- not to put one's religion above other religions;
- proper formation of religious culture in the family;
- organizing conversations among the population about the consequences of missionary work and proselytism;
- creating a healthy environment to combat missionary and proselytizing between religious and ethnic groups.

Only with such enlightened ways, it will be possible to prevent the threat of missionary activities to interreligious tolerance, to cut off various evil political games, and to ensure that believers of different religions can live freely in the same place according to their beliefs.

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