

The importance of political parties in shaping public governance

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Abstract: Since the emergence of humanity, governance relations have taken different forms in different eras and have been formed in different ways. As the world community became more modern, the ways of forming the administration became more democratized. Today, people's participation in the formation of state administration is carried out through free, democratic and transparent elections. We can observe that the characteristics of the electoral system are manifested in different ways in different countries of the world. Studying the importance of the political party institution in the formation of state administration through elections is one of the urgent tasks of modern political science.

In our country, in recent years, the importance of civil society institutions, in particular political parties, has been increasing in shaping the system of public administration. As a result of reforms, political parties have become the main institutions that form the government, along with the presidential and parliamentary institutions, which has further increased its influence.

Keywords: Political party, state governance, parliament, government, presidential institution, civil society, democracy, elections, faction.

Introduction: As democracy develops around the world, the participation of political parties in state and society-building is also growing. Ensuring the participation of citizens in the formation of state administration is carried out through certain institutions in the society, and civil society institutions in the conditions of modern democracy. In particular, political parties are institutional organizations that stand at the centre of these civil society institutions from the point of view of their participation in the formation of power and state administration. In management relations, along with the diversity of opinions, ideas, and ideologies, unanimity and unity in decision-making are required. In a democratic society, the formation of a multi-party system of government ensures that the interests of the majority of social strata in society are represented in it.

In recent years, Uzbekistan has also been implementing numerous reforms aimed at building a people-oriented state serving a free civil society based on democracy. In particular, these include new constitutional reforms, reform of the electoral system, and acceleration of

parliamentary reforms. The participation of political parties in the formation of state governance is enshrined in the Constitution and laws of the Republic of Uzbekistan. In particular, Article 37 of the Election Code of the Republic of Uzbekistan, adopted in 2019, stipulates that "political parties have the right to nominate candidates for the presidency of the Republic of Uzbekistan, candidates for deputies of the Legislative Chamber, and candidates for deputies of local Councils"[2].

It should also be noted that Article 118 of the Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan stipulates that "Candidacy of the Prime Minister of the Republic of Uzbekistan for consideration and approval by the Legislative Chamber shall be submitted by the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan following consultations with all factions of political parties within a month after the election of officials and the formation of the bodies of the chambers of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan or within a month after the release from office or resignation of the Prime Minister and the current composition of the Cabinet of

Ministers” [1], which we can see as one of the factors indicating the important role of political parties in the formation of governance.

Materials

Political parties are the most powerful institutions of civil society, which shape state governance and aims to achieve power. Political parties are one of the most complex and at the same time most studied objects in political science. The definition, distinctive features, functions and role of political parties in the development of society are interpreted differently by different political scientists. We can conditionally divide the political scientists who studied the importance of political parties in the formation of state administration into three groups. The first is the group of Western scholars, including N. Machiavelli, M. Duverger, M. Weber, T. Parsons, J. Sartori, La Palombara, T. Hobbes, K. Zhanda, the second is the group of Russian scholars, including M. Ostrogorsky, B. Isayev, S. Lansov, V. Malsev, V. Pugachev, A. Solovyov, and the third is the group of Uzbek scholars, including Q. Nazarov, M. Kirgizboyev, A. Otamurodov, Sh. Pakhrutdinov, I. Ergashev, S. Zhuraev, V. Kochkarov, Kh. Odilqoriyev, B. Yakubov, Kh. Akhmedov, K. Mirzaakhmedov.

According to the famous political scientist La Palombara, political parties appear wherever the tasks of the political system reach a certain level of complexity or where political power concludes that the population should participate in the life of the state and society. A political party, organizing the people, participates in the rotation of power[3].

Analyzing the above points of La Palombara, the political party institution plays an important role in ensuring the exchange of power. We should also emphasize that for a political party to gain power, its ideology must be able to follow the society, and its electorate must be numerous and support it.

According to Uzbek political scientist B. Yakubov, “The place and importance of political parties in the life of society are manifested through the functions they perform. Because political parties, which occupy a special place in the life of society, perform several tasks (functions) [4. –B. 352]. In particular, the scientist cited many functions, such as the political function, the representative function, the electoral function, the social integration function, the political socialization function, the function of attracting, selecting and educating political leaders, the function of aggregating political interests, the function of legitimizing power, the control function, and the function of forming state governance mechanisms, which form the basis of our research topic.

According to B. Yakubov, the function of forming mechanisms of state governance is one of the most important functions for society, and is directly related to the direct involvement of political parties in the formation of a system of state and social governance that will stably fulfil its functions after each election. Political parties undoubtedly play a leading role in these processes [4. –B. 355].

As we have seen above, political parties have been researched by many foreign and local political scientists as institutions that shape state administration. Generally speaking, political parties are essentially institutional, functional organizations aiming at power and striving for governance.

METHODS

This study used institutional, functional, systemic-structural, objective, and integrated approach methodologies.

RESULTS

In political science, many scholars have given non-repeating, yet similar definitions of political parties. In general, there is no single, universally accepted definition of political parties in modern political science. However, most of the definitions given are related to power, governance, parliament, and electorate.

A political party is a group of persons organized to acquire and exercise political power[6].

A political party basically, is a group of people. These people come together to contest elections to hold power in the government. It is a way to mobilize voters to support common sets of interests, concerns, and goals. The primary role of the political party is to fix the political agenda and policies[7].

In democratic societies, political parties shape public governance through fair and transparent elections. The presence of multi-stakeholders provides an opportunity to control management. That is, if a certain political party is seen as the main political force in the formation of the government, the fact that another failed to enter the government through its unsuccessful participation in the elections creates an environment of mutual competition and ensures control. Therefore, it can be concluded that there is a strong connection between the party system and the electoral system. The party system and the electoral system are components of the political system.

The definition of the party as a subject participating in the elections and the accentuation of the electoral function as the most significant are some of the central methodological trends of the functional approach. Thus, its supporters virtually completely connect the

political life of the party exclusively with the electoral process and the process of legitimate and legal participation in power through elected bodies. So, the political scientist J. La Palombara believes that each.

The party has the following characteristics:

- represents an organization, i.e., a long-term association of people;
- sets the goal of conquering and maintaining power;
- is the bearer of ideology;
- trying to secure the support of the people[5].

Based on the above characteristics, a political party seeks or holds power to exercise state governance. The attractiveness of political party ideologies is one of the most important means to achieve its goal.

DISCUSSION

Elections play an important role in the entry of political parties into and shaping government. In most democratic societies, elections are based on transparency and fairness. Therefore, a multi-party system is considered one of the main criteria of democracy. Political parties are institutions that create and promote certain ideologies in society, and the formation of state administration takes place based on ideological struggles through them. In our country, in recent years, the participation of political parties in determining the priority areas of socio-political and economic development, and their participation in solving the strategic tasks of modernization and reform of the country, has significantly increased. Today, five political parties in Uzbekistan are actively participating in the formation of state governance through free, democratic, and transparent elections. All political parties in Uzbekistan have their representatives, structures, and factions in parliament. The increased role of political parties in the formation of the head of government, the post of prime minister, and the fact that this is enshrined in the constitution and laws is of great importance. We have examined the political and legal foundations of this process above. At the same time, it is noteworthy that the practice of hearing the annual reports of the heads of ministries in the parliament and sending them parliamentary questions based on the interests of the electorate has been introduced.

CONCLUSION

Based on the above, political parties are an important and at the same time the most ideologically and institutionally powerful structure of civil society that shapes state governance. Our study of political parties as the main institution shaping state administration is one of the urgent problems of today's political science. There is a growing need to use new approaches to

studying political parties as institutions that shape public governance.

Acknowledgement

Based on the research, we can put forward the following proposals;

- increase scientific research on the importance of political parties in the formation of public administration;
- Study the importance of political parties in shaping public administration based on advanced foreign experience and adopt aspects relevant to Uzbekistan.

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