



THE ROLE AND SIGNIFICANCE OF THE CONSTITUTION IN BUILDING A RULE OF LAW STATE

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Abstract:

The paper extensively covers the concept of the rule of law state, its fundamental principles, and the role of the Constitution in state and society life. The significance of the Constitution in guaranteeing human rights and freedoms, its role in establishing the principle of separation of powers, and its functions in ensuring the rule of law are examined. Additionally, the national experience in building a rule of law state is reviewed using the example of the Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan. The Constitution is the foundation of the rule of law state, the most important guarantee of social stability and justice.

Keywords: rule of law state, Constitution, human rights, separation of powers, rule of law, social stability.

Introduction:

A rule of law state is not merely a state where laws exist, but rather a governance system that operates on the principle of the rule of law, guarantees citizens' rights and freedoms, and ensures the mutual balance and accountability of state authority bodies. In a rule of law state, the law has binding force not only for citizens but also for the state itself, all its bodies and officials. Therefore, building a rule of law state is considered one of the highest stages of social development.

The most fundamental supporting document in establishing such a state is the Constitution. It emerges not only as a legal document regulating relations between the state and society, but also as the supreme normative source embodying the people's political will and values. The Constitution establishes the state structure, the principle of separation of powers, fundamental rights and freedoms of individuals and citizens, and their duties before society and the state.



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The Constitution also plays an important role in the spiritual and educational life of society. It reflects the people's historical traditions, national values, universal principles, and democratic foundations. In this sense, the Constitution is not just a legal document, but a socio-political program that determines the main direction of society's political and spiritual life.

The experience of Uzbekistan demonstrates that during the years of independence, the process of building a rule of law state has always been carried out based on the Constitution. In particular, human rights and freedoms have been recognized as supreme values, mechanisms for protecting them have been strengthened, and all branches of state authority have been required to operate in accordance with the norms established in the Constitution. The new version of the Constitution adopted in 2023 marked a new stage in building a rule of law state and opened wide opportunities for developing civil society institutions.

Thus, the Constitution is a document of special significance not only as the main foundation of the rule of law state, but also as a guarantee of social stability, justice, and progress.

Main Part:

The Constitution is a document with supreme legal force that establishes the legal foundation of state and society life. It serves as the primary source for all laws and normative documents, and their content cannot contradict the Constitution. Therefore, the Constitution is the foundation of the entire legal system in the country and the main guarantee of building a rule of law state.

The Constitution clearly establishes the state structure, the principle of separation of powers, the form of state governance, citizens' fundamental rights and freedoms, as well as their duties before society and the state. In this regard, it holds special significance not only as a programmatic document providing direction for the activities of state bodies, but also as a source defining every citizen's legal status. Moreover, the Constitution directly influences the political and spiritual life of society. Because it reflects the people's historical values, national customs, democratic principles, and approaches based on universal human principles. For this reason, the Constitution is viewed not only as a document establishing legal norms,



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but also as the supreme socio-political document defining society's development strategy.

For example, the new version of the Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan adopted in 2023 stands out for its focus on providing broader guarantees for human rights and freedoms, developing civil society institutions, and strengthening democratic principles. This further elevates the role and significance of the Constitution in building a rule of law state.

The most important characteristic of a rule of law state is its recognition of human rights and freedoms as supreme values and their reliable guarantee. It is precisely the Constitution that consolidates human rights and freedoms as the heritage of all people and establishes the state's obligation to ensure them.

The Constitution recognizes an individual's right to life, freedom, dignity, and honor as supreme values. Additionally, rights such as freedom of speech and press, freedom of conscience, the right to education, work, and property ownership are consolidated, and state responsibility for violating them is established.

In the Republic of Uzbekistan, independent institutions for protecting human rights operate based on the Constitution, particularly the Human Rights Ombudsman, the Constitutional Court, the Supreme Court, and other bodies. This clearly demonstrates the Constitution's role in guaranteeing human rights. Therefore, the Constitution not only proclaims rights but also establishes the legal and institutional mechanisms for their practical implementation.

An important condition for building a rule of law state is adherence to the principle of separation of powers. The Constitution clearly establishes the mechanisms of mutual balance and cooperation between legislative, executive, and judicial powers. Legislative power is entrusted to parliament, which adopts laws in accordance with the Constitution. Executive power is implemented by the government and local governance bodies. Judicial power is independent and performs the function of ensuring justice, establishing the rule of law, and protecting human rights.

Through constitutional norms, the powers, responsibilities, and mutual relations of state bodies are regulated. This ensures proportionality among the powers and prevents one from dominating the others. Thus, the Constitution is the main guarantee ensuring balance and transparency in state governance.



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The rule of law is one of the fundamental principles of a rule of law state. The Constitution serves as the main source for implementing this principle. It strictly establishes the obligation of all citizens, state bodies, and officials to comply with the Constitution and laws.

The norms in the Constitution ensure the supremacy of legal order in society. If there is no rule of law, citizens' rights are violated, the activities of state bodies become ineffective, and instability emerges in society. Therefore, the Constitution is a guarantee of social stability and justice.

The experience of Uzbekistan shows that during the years of independence, ensuring the rule of law in all spheres of social development was carried out based precisely on the principles established in the Constitution. In the new version of the Constitution adopted in 2023, this principle was further strengthened and wide opportunities were opened for raising legal culture in society.

Conclusion:

The Constitution holds an incomparable place in the process of building a rule of law state. Because it is not only the most important document that establishes the legal foundation of state and society life, but also guarantees human rights and freedoms, ensures the balance of state power, and establishes the rule of law.

First, the Constitution, as the supreme legal document, determines the content of all laws and normative-legal documents and serves as their unified source. In this regard, it performs the function of a supporting foundation in building a rule of law state.

Second, the Constitution recognizes human rights and freedoms as supreme values and establishes legal and institutional mechanisms for protecting them. Therefore, in a rule of law state, an individual's dignity, honor, freedom, and prosperous life are always guaranteed by the Constitution.

Third, through the consolidation of the principle of separation of powers in the Constitution, proportionality and balance are created in state governance. This prevents the concentration of power in one hand, abuse of power, and violation of human rights.



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Fourth, the Constitution ensures political and social stability by establishing the rule of law and legal order in society. Since every citizen and state bodies must comply with the Constitution, a guarantee of justice and stability is created in the rule of law state. The experience of Uzbekistan also shows that the Constitution has been serving as a foundation in shaping a rule of law state and civil society on the path of independent development. In particular, the new version of the Constitution adopted in 2023 serves to expand human rights, strengthen democratic principles, and harmonize with national values. Thus, the role and significance of the Constitution in the process of building a rule of law state is immensely great. It is considered not only a legal document establishing the state structure, but also the main guarantee of social stability, justice, and progress.

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