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### SECTION 34. Sociological research

## THE SOCIAL-CULTURAL PECULIARITIES OF SOCIAL WORK (IN THE MODEL OF SERVICING OLDER PEOPLE)

**Abstract:** This article illustrates social work with the help of ageing process, ageing issues and its pleasures. It also analyses the gist of the governmental protocol “The year of respecting older people”, respecting older persons as a state policy and studies the issues of social work for older people with examples of international and national experiences.

**Key words:** ageing, older generation, physically ageing, the issues of ageing, social work, social guarantee, social satisfaction, social aid.

**Language:** English

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### Introduction

Since the past, respecting older people, taking care of them as a part of education has been continued in the Central Asia. Sex, age, professional and social-cultural factors are considered as marked. This aforementioned peculiarity has its own spiritual base and it is explained by the factors of doing farming and working as a community in the lifestyle of the Central Asian. This state is connected with spiritual unity sense and it may be apparent as the component element of national morality. Thus showing love, being helpful, caring of them differ with such tasks in national education system. A human should have the qualities of being together in good and bad time with his family not only helping them financially and spiritually. These features have been expressed in the models of our folklore such as folktales and fairy tales, legends and proverbs that came until our period. Furthermore, they are also expressed in our religious sources and rare manuscripts that were written by our ancestors such as “Avesta”, “Koran”. For instance, the pleasure of ageing and the edifying lifestyle of older people are reflected in the proverbs that are considered as the masterpieces of our folklore. In “Aphorisms: The interpretative dictionary of Uzbek sayings” published by Sh.Shamaksudov and Sh.Sharahmedov there is a proverb such “Ageing is a bridge” (Anything passes from the bridge but it undergoes. Furthermore, old people experience kindness and badness during their

lives, they are used to them and become patient. Thus, ageing is contrasted with a bridge; some proverbs teach us not to laugh at old people’s weakness, disability but envy them and use their experiences in a good way such as: “Don’t ask the old person’s power but his work”, “Give a way to an old man as one day you will become old”. He has done many works, has come across various situations and becomes old with labour, life attempts during his life. Each nation creates their own proverbs and sayings, which express their lifestyle, daily activities and their observations in a short way, relied on their own experiences [2].

### Materials and Methods

“The house that has gold is the one that has an old man”, “The house that has an angel is the one that has an old man”, “An angel doesn’t know all what an old man knows”, “If you respect an old man, Allah will respect all”, “The one gets happy when he respects an old man” [3] and other sayings illustrate great human feelings such to be kind, compassionate with old people and to value them.

According to the statistics, today’s world there are 225 thousand people who are over than 80 years old, 44 thousand who are 90 ages and over, 8700 who are over than 100 in Uzbekistan. [4]. This numbers show us that we should pay attention to the old generation and take care of them. In Uzbekistan



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2015 year was announced as “The year of respecting old people” and Governmental platform was adopted.

Old people embodied cultural traditions for a long time, received their respect in the society and became model for young generation. These relations have become legality among descendent. They fulfilled the task of teacher – master and passed their knowledge and experiences to the youth. In this way, old people are used to carry out social work while the youth master knowledge and experiences which are necessary in a life. Kaykovus states the human life as ageing and youth in his “Kabusnoma”: “Don’t have a talk with only young men always. Talk with old men also. Have a meeting with young and old men. Because old men know many more than young men do. Young men’s habit is that they make fun of old men and they think that old men need young ones. They aren’t good habits. Old men dream of being young men as young men dream of being old men. However old men’s dreams have come true already, but young men still don’t know whether they will get old or not. Think that ageing and youth connect with each other” [5].

In fact, ageing is the period of the life that has philosophical meaning and content. If we follow their admonitions, life troubles and issues that make us difficult and disturb will seem nothing if we compare them with a human’s life. It’s appropriate to remember the following states of Dagestan poet Rasul Hamzatov: “There is nothing greater than the name and more valuable than life. Get their value!” [6]. It’s said: “If you want to be an example, and then learn from older people” [7]. It’s essential to study the stem of the attitude old people from the first side connecting with long past and phases of historical development, from the second side as the unique part of social relations, and from the third side exploring from the point of view of time and place. The reason is that social problems related with ageing started appearing at the same time of the society’s development.

There are plenty of explanations about the conception of “ageing” in the sources. For instance, in the encyclopedia: “Ageing is the period that comes after the maturity of organism. It represents the accumulation of changes in a person over time. These bring some restrictions for adaption to the life. 75-90 ages are considered human’s old age period (more than 90 years old people are long-lived people” [8].

We can find this explanation in the dictionary of social issues: “Old people are retired men or women”. The term “Old people” may be changed differently, such as “older man”, “old person”, “third age” and “old citizens”. Some problems may occur while specifying this term. Certain researches show that there is no any exact chronological age for being old, maybe it looks like stereotype or each old man has his unique

homogenies that have various states. When the respondents in Great Britain were asked for which terms they support, they chose the term “old citizens” as the word “old” is related with honour while the word “citizen” means their participation in the society. The ideas about becoming older dependent on social compositions and they may be different in different period and cultures [9].

Ageing isn’t the same chronological unity but rare experience of growing process in each human’s life. The period of passing from middle age to old age isn’t clear and different also. Each human’s life is changeable and his being old dependent on his life history and the way he treats with his family and society. A human’s growing up lasts from his birth till his whole life and it is up to the genetic component. A human differs from others physically and some people may get older earlier than the rest. Ageing is the period of becoming older physically even though it may connect with biological getting old but not always. It refers to a multidimensional process of physical, psychological, and social change.

In short, the issues on getting old knit very closely with the terms of time and development. Although getting old dependents on physiological movements, it may connect with the place that people live, social conditions and relations. Therefore, even if people are old according to their age, but they may be full of power and active or because of general problems in their life, they may become older sooner. This issue should be investigated in gerontology.

According to the recent researches which were held in order to improve the system of getting social help, there are the following problems for old people: decreasing the health’s degree, financial life’s degree, danger of being lonely and others. Getting old is the physically end which we cannot afford. It’s the last period without potential and intellectual ability, weakening conceptual ability and progress. Thus, it’s very essential to treat them carefully, to respect and value them, to get to know their needs, to take care of them socially, to support, and to improve the medical and social services. During the independence years of Uzbekistan, many legal documents on supporting old people have been adopted. They are the Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Labour codex, Citizenship codex, Family codex and the Law “About retired guarantee of citizens” (3 September,1993), the Law “About saving the citizens’ health” (29 August,1996), the President’s law and orders and resolutions adopted by Senate.

To respect our old people is considered the ancient peculiarity of our spirituality. The quality

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that is specific to our mentality gets one tendency of our governmental policy.

Each social specialty has its own functions such as supporting, helping people. They rely on limited-legal bases and their laws. In general, complex technology may be made and used. For example: privileges that are guaranteed by the government and home services. They consist of:

- ❖ Organizing nourishment and delivering products to home;
- ❖ Helping get medicines, necessary products;
- ❖ To observe the system of medical aid and medical organizations;
- ❖ Keeping hygienic conditions;
- ❖ Forming various social daily actions such as: repairing houses, to provide with fuel, to help households, to bring water and etc.;
- ❖ Helping provide guardianship, exchange houses, defend inhabitants;
- ❖ Helping held funeral of single old people [10].

For today's world, one of the peak issues is the issue of getting old. According to the hypotheses of UN, the proportion of people aged 60 and over is expected to double; reaching more than one billion by 2025 year and this is the equal to 15 percent of populations in the universe [11]. This shows that we should pay more attention to the issues on old age.

Their lifestyle, their dream and needs should be taken into consideration. Professor N.S.Aliqoriev emphasises: "social work activities clarify that in many countries old people are interested in religious works, ceremonies and public worships. For instance, according to the researches which were taken in Russia old people are interested in works that connect with life after death. It's natural that people who believe in religion think about happiness of this life and life after death. However, they may be busy with the profession which they got their experience and retired guarantee especially financial guarantee is also interesting for them" [12].

According to economists and sociologists' opinions, getting old has the peculiarities of many plans and many factors and it may affect a lot to the social development of the society.

Therefore, the issues on social services to older people have become more active for last decades. These issues are from UN to various governments, non-governmental and social organizations' attention.

To begin addressing these issues, the general assembly convened the first World Assembly on Ageing in 1982, which produced a 62-point "Vienna International Plan of Action on Ageing". It called for specific action on such issues as health and nutrition, protecting elderly consumers, housing and environment, family, social welfare, income security

and employment, education, and the collection and analysis of research data [13].

Following the conference's recommendation, the UN General Assembly declared the 1<sup>st</sup> October the International day of Older Persons in 1990 and declared 1999 the International year of Older Persons [14]. These actions of the UN give priority to older persons and development, advancing health and well-being into old age, and ensuring enabling and supportive environments.

Today's world, 2 million 873 thousand are aged 60 or older in our country. During our independence years' medium age is 73.5 and among women it is 75.8 while it was 67 in 1990. Early independence years 7.2% consisted of retired and older people and this number has reached to 9.3% [15]. This percentage demands from us to improve social service to older people.

The following works on social service to older people are being carried out:

- Forming social-daily services to older people and the disabled with the participation of provinces, regions, districts and city governmental institutions;
- To strengthen financial-social support to the older people who are living in social guarantee organizations ("Muruvvat", "Sahovat" houses, sanatoriums);
- To cooperate with non-governmental organizations in order to get financial support;
- To control over the works of non-governmental organizations and support them to service single old people, retired and the disabled [16].

## Conclusion

To summarize, increasing the number of old ages makes medical and social services improve. The Uzbek nation has suffered from natural disasters, years full of troubles, confusions not only happy and merry time during their long history. Despite of them, they have valued this great human feeling such as to respect old people. Nevertheless, first, ageing is the period that connects with time. Time is transitory. As time passes, a human also gets older. As ageing is a natural process, we should form social services in our families first;

Secondly, we should strengthen the relation of "family + neighborhood + government", the retired guarantee, social and medical services in order to prevent ageing:

Third, we can observe easily that death rate has decreased while birth and longer life expectancy have increased considerably from the second half of XX century. In the XXI century, one of the most significant population trends is ageing. Ageing is making nutrition, sanitation, health care develops;

Fourth, it's very essential to organize some meetings with older people in schools and colleges in

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order to educate young generation with the feeling of respect them, to improve their value in families and societies.

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