



THEORETICAL ANALYSIS OF THE CONCEPT OF A POLITICAL PARTY

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ABOUT ARTICLE

Key words: political party, political process, civil society, party system, democracy, legal regulation, electorate, suffrage, political competition and parliamentary groups.

Abstract: In this article, the author analyzes the concept of a political party, the definitions expressed by many scientists regarding this concept, as well as researches the importance of a political party in society, its functions and historical formation.

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SIYOSIY PARTIYA TUSHUNCHASINI NAZARIY TAHLILI

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MAQOLA HAQIDA

Kalit so'zlar: siyosiy partiya, siyosiy jarayon, fuqarolik jamiyati, partiyaviy tizim, demokratiya, huquqiy tartibga solish, elektorat, saylov huquqi, siyosiy raqobat va parlamentdagi guruhlar.

Annotatsiya: Muallif ushbu maqolada siyosiy partiya tushunchasini, ushbu tushunchaga oid ko'plab olimlar tomonidan berilgan ta'riflarni tahlil qiladi, shuningdek, siyosiy partiyaning jamiyatdagi ahamiyati, vazifalari va tarixiy shakllanishini o'rganadi.

ТЕОРЕТИЧЕСКИЙ АНАЛИЗ ПОНЯТИЯ ПОЛИТИЧЕСКОЙ ПАРТИИ

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О СТАТЬЕ

<p>Ключевые слова: политическая партия, политический процесс, гражданское общество, партийная система, демократия, правовое регулирование, электорат, избирательное право, политическая конкуренция и парламентские группы.</p>	<p>Аннотация: В данной статье автор анализирует понятие политической партии, определения, высказываемые многими учеными относительно этого понятия, а также исследует значение политической партии в обществе, ее функции и историческое становление.</p>
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INTRODUCTION

Political parties are a fundamental social institution that participates in the exercise of government power in the country and is an indicator of its democratic development. Political parties are one of the main elements of the social system. Regardless of where a political party appears, it performs some common functions in different political systems at different stages of social, political and economic development. The President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev emphasizes the following points about the importance of political parties: “I think it is appropriate to say one thing again and again: the success of our reforms is directly dependent, first of all, on the level of maturity of the political parties, on how ready they are to take responsibility for our beloved Motherland”. Over the past centuries, political parties have become stronger not only as an institution to represent the interests of social groups in society but also as an institution for the formation of government bodies.

THE MAIN RESULTS AND FINDINGS

Subject to the functioning of a truly democratic political regime in the country, political parties are formed through the self-organization of active layers of society, as a rule, with the aim of participating in election campaigns. For example, the US Constitution, adopted on September 16, 1787, did not mention political parties at all, which, at that historical period, did not exist in America. Moreover, the founding fathers of the young republic opposed the division of society into parties. At the same time, the democratic mechanisms for holding elections in the country contributed to their formation, in the absence of constitutional and legal regulation. Thus, the Federalist Party of the USA arose back in 1792, and its representative J. Adams became the first party president of the USA. A similar situation developed in Great Britain, where the Conservative Party was founded in 1834, and the Labor Party in 1900 as the Labor Representation Committee. These examples indicate the formation of political parties without regulatory participation and influence of the state in this process.

If we talk about special laws adopted on the basis of democratic constitutional norms and regulating the status of political parties, then, as a rule, in states with developed democratic traditions, there are no such laws. Using the examples of the countries considered, we see that in

the USA there is still no law on political parties at the federal level; in the UK it was adopted only in 2000. In this case, the activities of political parties are carried out on the basis of general democratic principles and long-standing state traditions, and from the point of view of legal functional regulation and the norms of electoral legislation.

The opposite situation occurs in states with recent democratic traditions, which include Russia. In such countries, examples of the formation of political parties with the support of the state or with its direct participation cannot be ruled out. Consequently, there is a need for clear legal reinforcement of the elements of their legal status, including organizational and functional requirements. From the point of view of foreign experience, similar laws were adopted, for example, in Germany (1967), Portugal (1974), Austria (1975), Spain (1978), Brazil (1979), Bulgaria (1990, 2004). It can be seen that laws on political parties have been adopted at different times in developed and developing democracies.

In this article, many definitions of the political party by scientists were studied and analyzed, and by summarizing them, a lot of personal opinions related to the political party were given. I think that a political party is a social organization that unites people who create the interests of the society, who not only participate in the legislative system, but are also able to draft laws based on the interests of the people, and at the same time, they are progressive thinkers and serve the development of the state.

Creating parties was a continuous process. Nevertheless, the conditions under which parties first appear in a developing political system, along with their initial tone and configuration, have important implications for the types of parties that emerge later. In the West, it is customary to associate the development of parties with the rise of parliaments and the subsequent gradual expansion of suffrage. A broad historical description of this step-by-step process is Max Weber's division of party evolution into the stages of aristocratic groups, elite subgroups, and plebiscitary democracy.

Duverger argues that parties are linked to the evolution of national parliaments and the growth of the electorate. He argued that parties arose out of political assemblies because their members felt that a group should act together. After the extension of the voting period, these commissions began to organize voters. Thus, Duverger's theory defines the stages of party development. **First**, the organization of the parliamentary groups, **then** the election commissions, and **finally**, the establishment of permanent relations between these two elements.

Both Weber and Duverger show that political clubs, although often the foundations of modern parties, are not political parties as we use the term. The famous "Breton Club", which met in pre-revolutionary France and later became the nucleus of the Jacobins, was nothing more

than a legislative group based on a specific geographical region; similarly, the political clubs and aristocratic groups that existed in England until the 19th century were mostly groups of like-minded people who elected prominent figures to parliament.

Therefore, it was too early to talk about political parties with real political power in Europe until the middle of the 19th century. It wasn't until suffrage was extended and prominent individuals felt the need for some kind of party organization at the local level that we find the first significant examples of what we know today as a mass party. Moreover, the term political party began to be used by Western European and North American politicians and scientists at late 19th-early 20th centuries. But the concept of a party has a long history. In different periods, scholars have given different definitions to the term party. The emergence of modern parties is related to the expression of group priorities at the political level, so the first definitions clearly reflect the ideological function of combining and expressing interests. Thus, E. Burke, who lived in the 18th century, defined “a party as a group of people who have mutually agreed on the national interests based on a certain principle and united to implement joint efforts”.

In the first quarter of the 19th century, B. Konstan called party associations “communities of individuals who publicly profess the same doctrine”. But, L. Trotsky puts forward the following opinion about political parties: “The party which does not want the power, is unworthy to be called as party”. Furthermore, Alexis de Tocqueville described the stages of their formation, “At first, people are united by common views, a common worldview, and pure spiritual ties appear between them. Then, in the second stage, the same people form small associations representing the party faction. And finally, at the third stage, they will try to establish a separate people within the whole nation, their own government within the state power”.

It should be noted that well-known scientists of world political science gave their definitions to the party within this approach. Thus, D. Sartori defined a party as “any political group that participates in elections and is able to fill public positions with its candidates”.

Other researchers have proposed an interpretation of a political party that emphasizes its organizational or structuring function. The works of D. Brice, M. Ostrogorsky, R. Michels, M. Duverger became classic in this understanding of this phenomenon. As the latter noted, “in the nature of the organization of modern political parties, their essence is revealed much more fully than in programs or class composition: a party is a community based on a certain specific structure”.

Thus, at the beginning of the 20th century, L. Martov stated that “a party is an association of like-minded people who have set themselves the same goals and agreed to join forces for

coordinated activities in the life of society, and it is formed when citizens have the opportunity to engage in open political activity”. The party is formed in order to influence the life of the society. It is an active part of the people, a formalized organization of a class (classes) or stratum (strata), which in most cases aims to carry out political struggle and seize political power.

Another well-known researcher of parties and party systems K. Janda proposed the broadest definition of a party, which includes all groups officially fighting for power: “A party is an organization that aims to fill public positions with its recognized representatives”.

The political scientist J. La Palombara believes that each 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.

In this sense, it is natural and logical that, in legal science, their approaches to identifying the attributes of political parties took shape. So, the Russian lawyer Yu.A.Yudin identifies the following attribute attributes of an organization, the absence of one of which does not allow us to speak of it as a party:

- 1) orientation to participation in the political process in order to gain power;
- 2) party members have common political views and values articulated in a program document;
- 3) institutionalization (the presence of a permanent formal structural organization).

Based on the above definitions, it is worth noting that political parties are the only entities in society that may legally elevate the interests, objectives, and aspirations of a particular population or group to the level of national policy. In this sense, political parties are different from other public groups in that they express their interests by actively engaging in politics. Therefore, it is impossible to imagine the lives of the fastest-growing societies in the world without political parties.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, political parties play a crucial role in the functioning of democratic societies by providing a platform for citizens to participate in the political process, express their views, and hold elected officials accountable. They serve as a bridge between the government and the people, helping to shape public policy, mobilize support for candidates, and promote political participation. Political parties are essential institutions in modern democracies, serving as a key mechanism for organizing political competition, representing diverse interests, and promoting

democratic values. By studying the definitions and theories of political parties, we can gain a deeper understanding of their role in shaping the political landscape and influencing policy outcomes.

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