

PREVENTION OF OFFENSES AMONG WOMEN IN UZBEKISTAN: THE ROLE OF PREVENTION INSPECTORS AND COMMUNITY-BASED MECHANISMS

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Abstract:

This article analyzes the system for preventing potential offenses among women in Uzbekistan, focusing on the activities of prevention inspectors and the social control mechanisms of the Mahalla institution. The study examines the social, economic, and psychological factors that contribute to women's involvement in offenses and provides practical recommendations for reducing these risks. It also highlights the importance of cooperation between the Mahalla institution and state bodies as a key factor in improving the effectiveness of the preventive system.

Keywords: Women's offenses, prevention inspector, Mahalla system, social prevention, family environment.

Introduction

The protection of human rights occupies an important place in both international and national legal systems. Only a society in which human interests are fully ensured and human rights and freedoms are effectively protected can be recognized as a legal and democratic state¹. In the process of building such a state, it is also necessary to take into account the nation's traditions, historical experience, and cultural values.

In this regard, the First President stated: "The democratic state we are building must conduct its activities by fully taking into account the spiritual and moral world of our people as much as possible. A high sense of spirituality, sensitivity to social justice, and aspiration to be enlightened and educated are among the characteristics of our people. These qualities have been largely formed under the influence of Eastern philosophy and Islamic philosophy, and everyone recognizes that the Uzbek people have made an invaluable contribution to their development."

¹ Xudoyberganova, N. (2026). HUQUQ TUSHUNCHASI: NAZARIY-METODOLOGIK TAHLIL. In CENTRAL ASIAN JOURNAL OF ACADEMIC RESEARCH (Vol. 4, Number 4, pp. 24-27). Zenodo. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.19659593>

These ideas are also legally reflected in the Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan, which states: “In the Republic of Uzbekistan, democracy is based on universal principles, according to which human beings, their life, freedom, honor, dignity, and other rights are considered the highest value.”²

In contemporary conditions, as an integral part of human rights protection, ensuring women’s rights, as well as achieving social and legal equality between men and women, has become an increasingly relevant issue.

In recent years, Uzbekistan has been implementing large-scale reforms in the field of ensuring public safety and preventing crime. In particular, the protection of women’s rights, the enhancement of their social activity, and the prevention of offenses are among the priority directions of state policy.

The emergence of offenses among women is often associated with socio-economic problems, family conflicts, psychological pressure, and a low level of legal literacy. Therefore, the role of prevention inspectors and the Mahalla institution is of particular importance in this regard. In international practice, the “community policing”³ model is widely used in preventing offenses among women. In this model, law enforcement agencies and local communities work in close cooperation.

In the practice of Uzbekistan, the Mahalla system serves as one of the key institutions performing social control and preventive functions. Prevention inspectors, in turn, are directly engaged in working with the population, early identification of problems, and their prevention.

The analysis shows that the emergence of offenses among women is influenced by the following factors:

- ❖ family problems and divorces;
- ❖ economic difficulties;
- ❖ psychological violence;
- ❖ unemployment and social insecurity;
- ❖ lack of legal knowledge;
- ❖ negative influence of the internet and social networks.

Functions of Prevention Inspectors:

Prevention inspectors are specialists who have undergone special education and training and carry out activities aimed at maintaining public order, particularly preventing offenses and reducing crime rates. They directly communicate with citizens in public places, conduct preventive measures against violations of the law, combat crime, and promote a culture of legal compliance, especially among young people⁴.

The Role of Prevention Inspectors in Maintaining Public Order

² O‘zbekiston Respublikasining Konstitutsiyasi. - T.: O‘zbekiston. 2017.

³ <https://www.everbridge.com/blog/what-is-community-policing/>

⁴ Bozorova Munisa Abdusalom Qizi, & G‘Aniyev Farrux Taxirjanovich (2025). PROFILAKTIKA INSPEKTORLARINING JAMOAT TARTIBINI SAQLASH VA FUQAROLAR XAVFSIZLIGINI TA‘MINLASHDAGI ISHTIROKI. Central Asian Journal of Multidisciplinary Research and Management Studies, 2 (1), 86-90. doi: 10.5281/zenodo.14607880

1. Prevention of offenses. Prevention inspectors contribute to maintaining public order by identifying violations in public spaces and responding to them promptly. They also conduct awareness-raising activities to prevent offenses and encourage compliance with the law in society.

2. Work with the community. Inspectors work closely with various segments of society. Their main task is to inform citizens about their rights and responsibilities and to assist them in avoiding legal violations.

3. Work with youth. Prevention inspectors carry out educational and awareness-raising activities among young people to prevent juvenile delinquency. They aim to increase youth understanding of the importance of law compliance and the consequences of criminal behavior.

The activity of a prevention inspector is based on the principle of **“not responding after a problem arises, but preventing it before it occurs.”**

In the context of Uzbekistan, the Mahalla institution functions not only as an administrative-territorial unit but also as a unique civil society institution that has historically developed its own mechanisms of social control and upbringing. This institution plays an important role in ensuring social stability, strengthening mutual cooperation and social cohesion among citizens, as well as preventing various antisocial behaviors.

In the Republic of Uzbekistan, the system of crime prevention and combating offenses has been formed on the basis of national historical experience, cultural heritage, and spiritual values. In this process, the role of the Mahalla institution is of particular importance. In particular, the Mahalla serves as an effective social mechanism for improving citizens' legal awareness and legal culture, guiding young people toward a healthy lifestyle, stabilizing the criminogenic situation, and ensuring early prevention of offenses.

From this perspective, the Mahalla institution can be regarded as an effective preventive subject within the civil society system, which contributes to the formation of a kind of “social immunity” in society⁵, preventing offenses and strengthening social order.

The relevance of this study lies in the fact that in the current period of rapidly intensifying globalization processes and increasing modern threats and risks, it has become evident that relying solely on punitive approaches in combating crime is insufficient. Therefore, there is a growing need to widely implement social prevention mechanisms aimed at eliminating the root causes of offenses. In this regard, the introduction of the “Mahalla Seven” system and the improvement of the activities of prevention inspectors based on new approaches are considered important institutional reforms in the state governance system.

Furthermore, the historical stages of development of the public order maintenance and crime prevention system were also analyzed. In particular, the evolution from the traditions of mirshab and posbon institutions during the time of Amir Temur⁶, to the establishment of the “Mahalla

⁵ Eshimbetov Rustam Kamilyevich (2026). MAHALLA INSTITUTINING HUQUQBUZARLIKLAR PROFILAKTİKASIDAGI O‘RNI VA HUQUQIY MAQOMI. Central Asian Journal of Academic Research, 4 (4), 54-58. doi: 10.5281/zenodo.19706234

⁶ Amir Temur – Buyuk Sarkarda va Davlat Arbobi - Scienceweb, (Murojaat qilingan sana: 28- yanvar, 2026-yil). Manba havolasi

Posboni” public structures in 1999 during the independence period⁷, the introduction of the “Mahalla Law and Order Centers” concept in 2021⁸, and the formation of the integrated “Mahalla Seven” system in 2023–2024 was examined⁹. In addition, the normative-legal documents adopted at each stage, their practical effectiveness, and their role in ensuring public safety were comprehensively studied.

The Mahalla system in Uzbekistan represents a unique form of social governance and performs the following functions:

- ❖ providing social support to citizens;
- ❖ early identification of family-related problems;
- ❖ implementation of social control;
- ❖ cooperation with prevention inspectors.

Through the Mahalla system, offenses are often identified and eliminated at an early stage.

In practice, the system of crime prevention faces several significant challenges that limit its overall effectiveness. Among the most important issues are the excessively high workload of prevention inspectors, which reduces the quality and efficiency of preventive activities. In addition, in some regions, the level of public trust in preventive institutions remains relatively low, which negatively affects cooperation between citizens and law enforcement bodies.

Another serious problem is the insufficient development of psychological support services for individuals at risk, particularly women experiencing social or family difficulties. Furthermore, shortcomings in information exchange between relevant institutions hinder timely and coordinated preventive measures. The limited use of modern digital technologies in monitoring and analysis processes also reduces the effectiveness of early detection of potential offenses.

In order to enhance the effectiveness of the preventive system, several strategic measures are proposed. First, the introduction of digital monitoring systems would allow for more efficient identification and assessment of risk groups. Second, strengthening psychological support services is essential for providing timely assistance to vulnerable individuals¹⁰.

It is also important to improve the professional training and retraining of prevention inspectors in accordance with modern requirements. Strengthening the integration and cooperation between Mahalla institutions and internal affairs bodies can significantly improve coordination in preventive activities. Moreover, expanding legal awareness and education programs for women would contribute to reducing the risk of offenses and increasing their social and legal knowledge.

⁷ O‘zbekiston Respublikasi Vazirlar Mahkamasining 1999-yil 19-apreldagi "Fuqarolarning o‘zini o‘zi boshqarish organlarini qo‘llab-quvvatlash haqida"gi 180-son qarori. (lex.uz)

⁸ O‘zbekiston Respublikasi Prezidentining 2021-yil 26-martdagi "Jamoat xavfsizligini ta‘minlash va jinoyatchilikka qarshi kurashish sohasida ichki ishlar organlari faoliyatini sifat jihatidan yangi bosqichga ko‘tarish to‘g‘risida"gi PF–6196-son Farmoni. (lex.uz)

⁹ O‘zbekiston Respublikasi Prezidentining 2023-yil 21-dekabrda "Mahalla institutining jamiyatdagi rolini tubdan oshirish va uning aholi muammolarini hal etishda birinchi bo‘g‘in sifatida ishlashini ta‘minlashga qaratilgan chora-tadbirlar to‘g‘risida"gi PF-209-son Farmoni. (lex.uz)

¹⁰ Xudoyberganova, N. (2026). XOTIN-QIZLAR O‘RTASIDA HUQUQBUZARLIKLARNI KAMAYTIRISHDA IJTIMOY-HUQUQIY CHORALAR. B CENTRAL ASIAN JOURNAL OF ACADEMIC RESEARCH (T. 4, Выпуск 3, cc. 161–164). Zenodo. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.19180178>

The system of preventing offenses among women in Uzbekistan is based on effective cooperation between prevention inspectors and the Mahalla institution. The success of this system depends not only on law enforcement agencies but also on the active participation of society as a whole.

Improving preventive work through institutional reforms, modern technologies, and social engagement can significantly contribute to the prevention of women's offenses, increase their social activity, and create a safer and more stable social environment.

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