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Research Article

# STATUS AND MEASURES TO COMBAT CORRUPTION IN THE FIELD OF **PUBLIC EDUCATION**

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#### **ABSTRACT**

The article analyzes the state and measures to combat corruption in the field of public education, and using the methods of scientific knowledge, the author came to the conclusion that corruption threatens the existence of an integral state. De jure, the authorities have been fighting it for several years, but de facto, a real response to these manifestations occurs in rare cases. In our opinion, in the Republic of Uzbekistan there are a sufficient number of anticorruption departments and organizations at all levels of government.

#### **KEYWORDS**

Corruption, school, education, bribe, state, department, economy, integration, system, Singapore, China, Hong Kong, South Korea.

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#### INTRODUCTION

Such a phenomenon as corruption is present almost everywhere today. It covered most of the world's economies, including developed and developing countries. Corruption has not only been integrated into the economic system of the country, but has served as

one of the weighty reasons for the changes in the prospects for the development of this country. Our country is no exception. To date, experts admit that in view of the rapid growth of this phenomenon, in Uzbekistan this should not be done by individual socio-

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economic institutions, but by the entire state as a whole.

At the moment, corruption is one of the main causes of socio-economic crises in the state. This phenomenon largely undermines the foundations of state power, hinders economic development and the prosperity of society. As a rule, corruption occurs in the sphere of state power, among officials with power who use it for personal enrichment. Their illegal actions bring significant damage to the state. The most well-known forms of corruption are bribery, extortion, abuse of official position, abuse of power, failure to fulfill their official duties, improper influence on implementation of public or private interests, embezzlement and misappropriation of public funds, etc. The spread of this phenomenon among officials, deputies, is doubly dangerous, judges, enforcement officials, police and military personnel.

Of course, it is impossible to talk about the complete eradication of corruption, but it is important to continue developing effective measures to combat it. To do this, it is enough to turn to foreign experience. Asian countries with low levels of corruption (eg Singapore, China, Hong Kong, South Korea) can serve as a particular example. Today, corruption is an international problem and is beginning to threaten the entire world order. Therefore, countries should develop a common anti-corruption policy of struggle, consisting of various preventive measures and repressive measures.

Parents' initiatives (the proposal of a separate group of parents to raise money for a gift to a teacher, director, school, for curtains, for the installation of plastic windows, etc., and elevating it to the rank of voluntarymandatory); tutoring with a student of this school, remuneration to a teacher for assistance in enrolling a child in a prestigious class, group, elective; gratitude

from parents for higher grades, correction of grades when graduating from school, help in passing the state exam, (students at the exam could freely use cheat sheets, cell phones and the Internet.) Due to the tightening of the state exam procedure and the introduction of video surveillance, envelopes are opened and pre-filling them. It is also possible to take examination materials out of the classroom. Moreover, outsiders, including teachers, were freely admitted to the school.

The methodology for investigating bribery includes the following:

- 1) whether there was a fact of giving and receiving money;
- 2) what is the subject of the bribe
- 3) who is the bribe giver, bribe taker; (relationships between parents, representatives of the school administration, other persons should be taken into account)
- 4) what are the circumstances of the crime (time, place, method of transferring the bribe);
- 5) for what purpose (for the performance of what actions) the bribe was given (successful passing of the state exam, admission to an educational institution, contributions);
- 6) whether the relevant actions were performed in the interests of the briber, whether they were legal.

When planning an investigation, the places and methods of finding evidence are determined. So, at the place of work and residence, the subject of a bribe, documents and various records can be found, indicating the interest of the bribe-taker in the performance or non-performance of certain actions.

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The interrogation of witnesses usually allows obtaining information about certain contacts of the participants in the bribery under investigation, about the nature of the behavior of an official aimed at satisfying the interests of the alleged bribe giver, about the fact of extortion of a bribe or an alleged bribe, etc. When interrogating persons from whom a bribe is extorted, it is necessary to find out who the extortionist is, for what the bribe should be transferred, whether there are intermediaries, where, when and under what circumstances the bribe will be transferred, what are the signs of the subject of the bribe (the amount of money, the number of banknotes, their dignity, series number, features of a thing, object, etc.).

Corruption begins with the admission of children to the first classes of big cities, where there is a choice of school. The fact is that in our time, children began to come to school with very different preschool preparation. Many parents understand that the quality of teaching and pedagogical skills of a particular teacher can significantly affect the fate of their children. That is why they strive to enroll their children in the best schools and in the best classes, where the best teachers teach. This is how a competition arises, and, accordingly, there are attempts to influence its results by corruption forms.

It is possible to eliminate such situations by improving the quality of education in every school and in every class. But this is not in the near future. As a temporary solution, weak schools have recently been merged with good schools. Thus, the factor of a weak school seemed to disappear, although not completely, since schools and teachers remain the same. The signboard, the management and something else is changing. The quality of education in such enlarged school complexes is hard to improve.

Many parents want their children to take extra classes with teachers. They collect money and hire a teacher who organizes independent work, during which the children do their homework. Is it possible to see elements of corruption in this practice?

The answer depends on the conditions. If the required amounts are minimal, they are paid into the school account, teachers pay taxes on the additional salary they receive, and if the quality of work meets parental expectations, then there is no corruption. Another thing is if the listed conditions are violated. Corrupt elements can then arise, especially when different parents pay different amounts in cash for the same work.

Corruption and tutoring in the school can be completely eliminated if all schools are transferred to work on a full-time educational cycle. At the same time, this will dramatically improve the quality of mass education in the country. The first half is lessons, the second half is lunch, active recreation (physical education, group work, creative activities) and homework with the help of a teacher. But this will require additional funding, computer labs, free space and additional equipment. That is, what is needed is something that is sorely lacking.

Consequently, the main reason for corruption is the lack of funding for schools. For the complete elimination of corruption in the school, it is necessary to allocate more funds, to transfer the school to a full school day. The whole world is moving towards such training. It is no coincidence that the quality of mass education began to deteriorate sharply. Now, according to some indicators, it has become even lower than it was in the thirties of the last century.

The main reasons are that, given the prevailing salaries, teachers are not sufficiently interested in quality work,

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and many cannot work with quality due to poor professional preparedness. The bureaucracy cannot provide funding in the required amounts, because it proceeds from outdated ideas about the organization of schooling.

If you look at the experience of China, then in China a real and active fight against corruption began when Sin Zin Pin became the leader of the China, proclaiming that he planned to "kill tigers and flies." This unusual slogan implied that the fight against corruption would be carried out at all levels of government, and neither ordinary official - "flies" nor high-ranking "tigers" could escape punishment. During this period, many highranking officials left the PRC, afraid of being held accountable for corruption crimes, while trying to withdraw their family and money. Journalists actively contributed to the fight against corruption during this period. The media exposure has undoubtedly helped the anti-corruption campaign become more successful. If earlier an official was removed from his post without much publicity, now journalists cover in detail the criminal activities of each guilty person.

Ultimately, one of the leading areas in the fight against corruption was the state program SkyNet, which is aimed at identifying and returning to the PRC corrupt officials hiding in other countries, as well as returning the capital they have taken out. This, in our opinion, is a very significant factor in preventing corruption, since if earlier an unscrupulous civil servant quite reasonably counted on a comfortable life abroad, now he does not have such prospects. But there is a real opportunity to become a defendant in a criminal case on a corruption offense and end his life in a Chinese prison.

SkyNet as it is used today is a modification of the previous anti-corruption program "Fox Hunt", which functioned quite successfully in China for several years.

Corrupt behavior in China is largely traditional: the Chinese have always considered it right to "thank" an official and did not see anything wrong with that. In addition, in the China, corruption is exacerbated by the clan system that permeates all spheres of Chinese life. It is pointless and ineffective to fight such views only by bringing to justice and a harsh, even cruel, system of punishments. That is why one of the directions of the fight against corruption in China was the formation of fundamentally new worldview attitudes among the population: views on corruption as a socially dangerous phenomenon.

The success of the anti-corruption policy of the People's Republic of China at the first stage of the fight against corruption was based on the steadfast observance of the principle of the inevitability of punishment. It is thanks to this rule that Chinese civil servants have changed their attitude both to the performance of official duties and to the opportunity to enrich themselves at the expense of the state and individual citizens. The second direction was the introduction of an anti-corruption ideology, which consolidated the success achieved and made it possible to change the centuries-old tradition of offerings to officials.

Thus, the anti-corruption campaign in the China should be recognized as effective, and its methods and results can be taken into account by other countries and used by them in addressing issues of combating corruption, of course, taking into account their own traditions, characteristics and mentality.

On December 1, 2021, Uzbekistan conducted studies on corruption risks when enrolling children in school. The study revealed a number of facts and factors of "unprofessional and corrupt behavior" among three groups of respondents - primary school teachers, parents of first graders and school directors, "that is,

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all those who are directly involved in the school admission process."

Based on the respondents' answers, general trends are identified that are factors of dishonorable or corrupt behavior. These trends affect the admissions process in primary schools and the quality of education in general. They are mainly related to problems with the micro-site quota system, lack of school facilities (overcrowded classrooms), lack of specific criteria for language selection in primary grades, poor quality of education, and shortcomings in the regulation of the admission process.

For example, every fifth parent who participated in the survey could not arrange a child according to the quota of the microdistrict where they live, due to the fact that there were no places in the school. Among the regions with the most comments from teachers about overcrowding are Namangan region (52 percent), Andijan (37.5 percent), Tashkent (29 percent), Khorezm region (26 percent).

Most of the problems are rooted in the lack of budgetary funding, which, in turn, causes off-budget payments from parents, unethical behavior among teachers and principals. Other trends include infrastructural problems, school security, the problem of low wages, a lack of qualified personnel, the problems of psychological immaturity of children when they are admitted to school, as well as the influence and pressure from both parents and higher organizations.

#### **CONCLUSION**

In conclusion, I would like to note that corruption endangers the existence of an integral state. De jure, the authorities have been fighting it for several years, but de facto, a real response to these manifestations

occurs in rare cases. In our opinion, in the Republic of Uzbekistan there are a sufficient number of anticorruption departments and organizations at all levels of government. In addition, public structures and civil society institutions come to the aid of state structures. It would seem that together all of the above departments create a coherent state policy to combat corruption, but the reluctance of government officials to deprive themselves of additional income, the imperfection of our country's legislation and the easy venality of law enforcement agencies and public authorities are a significant obstacle to the fight against corruption.

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