



THEORETICAL BASIS AND MODERN ANALYSIS OF POLITICAL LEADERSHIP

<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.19201539>

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Summary: *This article covers the theoretical foundations of political leadership, its types, and its significance in a democratic society. In the research process, the political views and theories of scholars from ancient times to the modern era were widely used, and the views of classical political scientists - from Machiavelli, Weber, and Plato to modern theorists - were analyzed. The result shows that political leadership occupies an important place not only for a democratic society, but also in the life of states with different governance systems.*

Keywords: *political leadership, leader, political decision-making, charisma, globalization, democratic principles, political trust, political thinking, political system*

One of the pressing issues in political science is the question of political leadership. Political leadership is the activity of a person or group of people who play an important role in the process of exercising political power, making political decisions, and directing society towards a certain goal. The word "leader" comes from the English term "leader," meaning "manager," "guide," "leader." A political leader usually stands at the center of a political organization or system of state power; their main task is to unite the people, inspire trust, and ensure stability.

Political leaders revitalize political processes in society, put forward programs and ideas that determine the historical development of society.

A political leader is an authoritative person of a certain social group of society, an organization, who plays an important role in the development of the country and can influence political processes and situations.

There are many theories about the phenomenon of political leadership in such sciences as sociology, psychology, history, philosophy, and political science. Interest in this phenomenon and the desire to analyze it can be traced back to ancient times. The authors of antiquity, Herodotus and Plutarch, also expressed many opinions about political leadership. We can consider Alexander the Great, who lived in antiquity, as a famous political leader. The reason is that Alexander was one of the great



commanders who managed to lead his troops in a unique way and unite all military forces through his political will.

A political leader must first and foremost possess the ability to persuade and unite the people. A political leader can convince people of themselves through their charisma. When a leading state is governed by the principles of justice, honesty, and morality, citizens' trust in the political system increases. The great poet of the East, Alisher Navoi, emphasizes that for a society to exist, it must be a state, that various interests separate people from each other and at the same time unite them, that this is the law of society, and to control this law is the task of a just ruler and a system of governance. From this, it can be seen that in public administration, not only justice, but also the ability to exercise strong control, occupy an important place.

In general, in the Eastern analysis of political leadership, a didactic approach to the leader prevails. According to him, the policy of a statesman should not contradict moral principles in any situation: honesty, integrity, goodwill towards people, etc. These principles are manifested not only in Eastern approaches, but also in modern democratic societies.

In the study of political leadership, the Italian humanist N. Machiavelli made a great contribution to the development of political knowledge in the West. In his opinion, a political leader is a person who consolidates society and uses all means to maintain social order and power. That is,

his approach, the leader must be able to skillfully use cunning and power to keep people under control and form self-confidence, and if during revolutions or political crises in society, he must use his personal charisma to lift people's spirits, that is, through his speeches, positive political decisions, and courage. The practical advice developed by Machiavelli, reflecting a Western mentality that demanded the skillful combination of cunning and power, was highly appreciated by Cromwell, Napoleon, and many other European politicians.

The work of Gabriel Tarde (1843-1904) had a great influence on modern theories of leaders. He was one of the founders of the theory of socialization and tried to substantiate the idea that one of the fundamental laws of life is the imitation of leaders by followers.

One of the scientists who made a great contribution to the formation of the theory of political leadership is Max Weber. He proposed dividing political leadership into three types: traditional leadership, charismatic leadership, and rational-legal leadership.

Traditional leadership is based on such mechanisms as trust in traditions, rituals, customs, and political programs. Customs and traditions ensure not only a guiding role in society, but also intergenerational continuity and the continuity of historical development. This type of leadership is often encountered among heads of state with a predominantly monarchical system of



government. In general, this type of leadership is characteristic of the rule of leaders, elders, and kings.

Charismatic leadership is based on the people's unwavering belief in the leader's power. That is, for leadership, charismatic leaders with special qualities, great qualities, and extraordinary abilities are understood. This type of leadership is mainly based on the leader's personal power, which is based on the ability to attract people, strengthen people's trust, and rely on individual charisma. For example, such great historical figures as Lenin, Stalin, Hitler, Mao Zedong, Nelson Mandela, Mahatma Gandhi are described as charismatic leaders.

Rational-legal leadership is a type of political leader formed on the basis of the legitimacy of power and recognition by society, laws, the Constitution, official regulations, and democratic principles. This leadership is subordinate not to the individual, but to a system based on law. This type of leadership is the basis of modern state governance, in which the procedure for electing a leader is determined by law, and his powers are also limited within the framework of the law. As an example, one can cite the heads of state, that is, presidents, who have the current democratic system of government.

In today's era of globalization and digital technologies, the form and content of political leadership have changed significantly. Now the political leader has become not only a person who makes political decisions, but also a person who

communicates with the people, has a place in the information space, and implements open and democratic governance. In today's democratic systems, the political leader feels more responsibility and accountability, because the leader demands accountability for their decisions and accountability to the people. A leader's personal qualities, honesty, fairness, and humanity are important factors that determine their prestige.

In the example of Uzbekistan, a new model of political leadership has been formed in recent years. Such concepts as "dialogue with the people," "for human dignity" under the leadership of President Shavkat Mirziyoyev strengthened the principles of democratic governance. This, in turn, formed a culture of leadership based on the trust and active participation of the people.

The results of the study show that political leadership is not only the acquisition and management of power by an individual, but also the art of representing the interests of society and leading to positive changes. The study revealed that theoretical views on political leadership have significantly evolved throughout history. In "The Prince," Machiavelli saw political leadership as the art of preserving power. He demanded that the leader analyze the real political situation, use force when necessary, and show determination in pursuit of political goals.

Analysis shows that modern political leadership cannot be explained



within the framework of a single theory. Because in today's world, leadership manifests itself in the harmonious combination of political, economic, informational, and cultural factors. Now the leader will communicate with the public through online platforms.

In general, as a result of the analysis, the following important conclusion is made.

Political leadership is the main factor of social stability and development in society;

Each period has its own model of political leadership, which depends on historical conditions, the political system, and cultural values;

A modern leader is a person who is in constant communication with the people, a reformer, devoted to democratic values, morally perfect;

Based on the above analysis, it can be said that political leadership is not only a central element of political governance, but also a decisive factor in the development of the state and society. The essence of leadership is determined by a person's political thinking, ability to make strategic decisions, the art of communication with the people, and the promotion of national interests. The scientific study of political leadership, especially the formation of a leadership culture among young people, is of great importance. Because the leadership potential of active, educated, patriotic, and independent-thinking youth in political processes has laid the foundation for new qualitative changes in public administration in the future.

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Rezyume: Ushbu maqolada siyosiy yetakchilikning nazariy asoslari, uning turlari va demokratik jamiyatdagi ahamiyati yoritilgan.

Резюме: В данной статье освещены теоретические основы политического лидерства, его виды и значение в демократическом обществе.