

## HISTORICAL DYNAMICS OF CRIME AMONG WOMEN IN UZBEKISTAN AND ITS SOCIAL FACTORS

Haqberdiyeva S. Sh.  
Independent Researcher  
Karshi State University

### Abstract

This study examines the historical dynamics of crimes and offenses committed by women in Uzbekistan. The research draws on archival materials, statistical data, and academic literature to explore changes in female criminal activity during the years of independence. Particular attention is given to the socio-economic factors influencing women's involvement in crime and the role of state policy in preventing such offenses. The findings suggest that the proportion of crimes committed by women has gradually decreased in recent years.

**Keywords:** Women, crime dynamics, offenses, social factors, state policy, Uzbekistan.

### Introduction

Crime is one of the key social problems affecting the development of any society. Its various forms, including offenses committed by women, are closely linked to social, economic, and cultural processes within society. Therefore, studying this phenomenon from historical and analytical perspectives has significant scientific importance.

During the years of independence, a number of state programs have been implemented in Uzbekistan aimed at ensuring women's rights, increasing their social activity, and strengthening their legal protection. However, in certain periods, economic transformations, social problems, and family conflicts have contributed to the emergence of offenses among women.

From this perspective, analyzing the history and dynamics of crimes committed by women provides not only a deeper understanding of social processes but also a scientific basis for improving preventive measures.

The main objective of this article is to analyze the history, dynamic changes, and social factors influencing crimes and offenses committed by women in Uzbekistan.

### Methodology

The study employed historical, systematic, and comparative analysis methods. The dynamics of women's crime were analyzed based on archival documents, statistical data, and scientific literature.

The research extensively used materials from the National Archive of Uzbekistan, particularly documents from the M-76 and M-170 фондс. In addition, data from the Information and Analytical Center of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the State Statistics Committee were analyzed.

Statistical analysis, comparative analysis, and content analysis methods were applied, allowing for a comprehensive study of crime dynamics among women across different periods.



### Literature Review

Issues related to women in Uzbekistan, including their social activity and legal protection, have been studied in various academic works. In particular, research by M. Kh. Shamsieva analyzes the role of state and non-governmental organizations in protecting women during the years of independence, providing a scientific foundation for the development of support mechanisms. Similarly, O. Rahmonkulova's studies examine women's participation in socio-political, economic, and cultural reforms, particularly in the southern regions of Uzbekistan. Archival documents preserved in the National Archive of Uzbekistan also serve as important sources, providing valuable information on offenses, preventive measures, and state activities related to women.

### Analysis and Results

In the mid-1990s, the dynamics of crimes committed by women in Uzbekistan demonstrated a certain upward trend. According to statistical data, in 1996 the number of crimes committed by women in the republic reached 6,343, accounting for a 5.5% increase in the overall crime structure. This situation was even more pronounced in certain regions, where offenses among women began to require attention as a significant social issue [1].

In the second half of the 1990s, an intensification of socio-psychological problems among youth, especially minors, was also observed. In some cases, this led to severe consequences. For instance, statistical data indicate that in 1997, 261 minors, and in 1998, 294 minors committed suicide. Of these, 168 and 209 individuals respectively died. These figures demonstrate the worsening of social and psychological problems among minors during this period and indicate a 12.6% increase in such cases nationwide [2].

At the same time, the number of crimes committed by underage girls also increased to a certain extent during 1997–1998. For example, in Bukhara region, such cases rose from 2 to 8 (a 300% increase). In Andijan region, the number increased from 6 to 12 (100%), while in Tashkent region it rose from 17 to 20 (17%). These data reflect a weakening of social control among underage girls, shortcomings in the functioning of educational and upbringing institutions, as well as growing problems within the family environment [3].

In order to address these issues, the implementation of legal-educational activities among underage girls and young women became a priority at the level of state policy. In particular, the Women's Committee of the Republic developed and disseminated a program titled "Measures to Improve Legal Knowledge and Culture among Women and Youth" to regional authorities. Based on this program, special action plans were developed in the regions and preventive measures were carried out. However, in some cases, due to insufficient legal awareness among young women and girls, instances of offenses and crimes continued to occur.

This situation is also confirmed by the report of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan for the first half of 1998, titled "On the State of Offenses among Underage Girls and Young Women." According to the report, cases of robbery committed by women increased from 16 to 31, while cases of assault rose from 10 to 14. Additionally, incidents related to vehicle theft were recorded. Although drug-related crimes slightly decreased nationwide from 94 to 93 cases, an increase of 13 cases was observed in Bukhara region [4].

By the late 1990s, studying the causes of suicide and suicide attempts among women and minors



became one of the important areas of activity for state authorities. In particular, in accordance with Clause 1 of Section 2 of the approved work plan of the Prosecutor's Office of the Republic for the second half of 1999, research was conducted in cooperation with Department 15 to examine the causes and contributing conditions of suicides and suicide attempts among women and minors. Inspections were carried out in the regions of Kashkadarya, Surkhandarya, and Samarkand, and the state of preventive measures, investigative practices, and prosecutorial supervision were analyzed. The results of the study were discussed at meetings of the regional prosecutor's offices and at a session of the Republican Interagency Coordination Council, where appropriate measures were determined [5].

At the same time, it was observed that efforts to study and prevent suicide cases were not sufficiently organized. For example, in 1999, although 62 women committed suicide, only 11 cases were investigated on-site by local inspectors [6]. This situation indicates the need to strengthen preventive measures and control mechanisms.

State policy also paid special attention to preventing crime among women, as well as facilitating the reintegration of women released from places of deprivation of liberty into society. In this regard, measures were implemented to liberalize and humanize criminal policy. In particular, on December 8, 2004, the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Islam Karimov, signed a decree "On Amnesty" on the occasion of the 12th anniversary of the adoption of the Constitution. According to this decree, women convicted for the first time of crimes that did not pose significant social danger were released from punishment [7].

However, in subsequent years, crime rates among women in some cases continued to show an upward trend. For example, during the first six months of 2006, the number of crimes committed by women in the republic increased from 3,832 to 4,239. Regionally, this increase was particularly observed in Tashkent city (from 1,119 to 1,317), Fergana region (from 249 to 341), Samarkand region (from 361 to 366), Syrdarya region (from 180 to 182), Bukhara region (from 265 to 298), Navoi region (from 208 to 219), Andijan region (from 206 to 226), Namangan region (from 244 to 245), and Kashkadarya region (from 112 to 140) [8].

The issue was also specifically discussed at meetings of women's committees held in 2010. According to the data presented by the Chairperson of the Women's Committee of Fergana region, the number of crimes committed by minors increased from 267 to 292 in 2008–2009. At the same time, the number of crimes committed by women rose from 918 to 1,050 during this period [9].

Similar trends were observed in Khorezm region, where the number of crimes committed by minors increased from 44 to 75, while crimes committed by women rose from 463 to 564 in 2008–2009 [10].

Analyses indicate that the measures implemented to prevent various negative phenomena among women, ensure a healthy socio-spiritual environment within families, and enhance the effectiveness of preventive work have, in some cases, not produced sufficient results. For example, during the first nine months of 2009, the number of crimes committed by women reached 10,422, which is an increase of 140 cases, or 9.8%, compared to 10,282 cases recorded in 2008 [11].

An increase in crime rates was also observed across regions. Specifically, crimes committed by women increased by 132 cases in Fergana region, 99 cases in Khorezm region, 59 cases in



Namangan region, 53 cases in Tashkent region, 19 cases each in Syrdarya and Kashkadarya regions, 13 cases in Jizzakh region, 6 cases in Bukhara region, and 11 cases in Samarkand region [12].

These developments indicate the necessity of further strengthening preventive measures, improving legal awareness among women, and reinforcing social control through family and community (mahalla) institutions. According to statistical analysis, the increase in crimes committed by women during the first nine months of 2009 was directly linked to issues related to the socio-spiritual environment, preventive work, and legal education [13].

In recent years, certain positive changes have been observed in the dynamics of administrative offenses and crimes committed by women in Uzbekistan. In particular, an analysis of statistical data for 2018–2022 demonstrates a gradual downward trend in these indicators. For example, in 2018, crimes committed by women in Tashkent city accounted for 12.2% of the total number of crimes, whereas in 2019 this figure decreased to 12.1%. Similarly, in Tashkent region the indicator declined from 12.8% to 11.8%, in Samarkand region from 14.0% to 11.0%, in Namangan region from 13.0% to 10.2%, and in Fergana region from 14.5% to 12.8%. In Syrdarya region, however, a slight increase was observed, with the figure rising from 9.5% to 9.8%. Overall, at the national level, the share of crimes committed by women decreased from 13.6% in 2018 to 11.8% in 2019. These statistical data demonstrate the effectiveness of ongoing socio-legal reforms and state policies aimed at protecting the rights and interests of women [14]. Ensuring the rights and interests of women has been given special attention at the level of state policy, and this direction was identified as one of the key priorities in the Action Strategy for 2017–2021. Within the framework of this strategy, nearly 20 normative-legal acts related to women's issues were adopted, contributing to strengthening legal protection, increasing social activity, and preventing crime among women [15].

According to the analysis of statistical data, by 2022 a steady decline in crimes committed by women has been observed over the years. In particular, the share of serious crimes has significantly decreased. For instance, the proportion of crimes related to intentional homicide and attempted homicide decreased from 0.7% in 2020 to 0.6% in 2021, and further to 0.3% in 2022. Similarly, cases of intentional infliction of serious bodily harm accounted for 1.4% in 2019, slightly increased to 1.5% in 2020, but declined again to 1.0% in 2021–2022 [16].

When examined over a longer chronological period, certain dynamic changes can also be observed in the share of women's crime. In particular, during 2010–2024, the proportion of women among individuals who committed crimes demonstrated a multi-stage dynamic pattern. In 2010, this figure was 16.3%, reaching its peak in 2012–2013 at 17.0% and 17.2%, respectively. In subsequent years, the indicator gradually declined: to 14.8% in 2016, 13.7% in 2018, and approximately 11.7–11.8% in 2019–2020. In 2021–2023, the figure remained relatively stable at around 12%, while in 2024 it stood at 11.9%. Overall, these data indicate a gradual decrease in the share of women within the overall crime structure in recent years [17].

At the same time, despite the positive dynamics observed during 2020–2025, certain social factors contributing to women's crime still persist. Among these are economic difficulties, labor migration, family conflicts, domestic violence, and psychological pressure, all of which are identified as significant factors influencing criminal behavior among women. Therefore, addressing these issues, strengthening social protection for women, improving their legal



awareness, and reinforcing the family institution are of crucial importance for crime prevention.

#### Conclusion

The results of the study indicate that the dynamics of crime among women in Uzbekistan have varied across different periods. In the 1990s, due to socio-economic transformations, crime rates in some cases increased, whereas in subsequent years, as a result of state policy and social reforms, these indicators have gradually declined.

In recent years, measures aimed at protecting women's rights, increasing their social activity, and strengthening preventive mechanisms have contributed to the reduction of women's crime. However, factors such as economic challenges, family conflicts, and social pressures still occasionally lead to the emergence of offenses among women.

Therefore, in the future, further improvement of social protection mechanisms, enhancement of legal culture, and strengthening of the family institution are essential for preventing crime among women.

#### References:

1. Ўзбекистон Миллий архиви (Ўз МА), М-76-фонд, 1-рўйхат, 999-иш, 142-варақ.
2. Ўзбекистон Миллий архиви (Ўз МА), М-76-фонд, 1-рўйхат, 1288-иш, 13-варақ.
3. Ўзбекистон Миллий архиви (Ўз МА), М-76-фонд, 1-рўйхат, 1288-иш, 19-варақ.
4. Шамсиева М.Х. Ўзбекистонда хотин-қизларни ижтимоий ҳимоя қилишда давлат ва нодавлат ноижорат ташкилотларнинг ўрни (1991–2010 йй.): Тарих фанлари бўйича фалсафа доктори (PhD) диссертацияси. – Тошкент, 2020. – Б.88.
5. Ўзбекистон Миллий архиви (Ўз МА), М-76-фонд, 1-рўйхат, 1506-иш, 4-варақ.
6. Ўзбекистон Миллий архиви (Ўз МА), М-76-фонд, 1-рўйхат, 1251-иш, 26-варақ.
7. Ўзбекистон хотин-қизлари: кеча ва бугун (илмий-амалий конференция маърузалари, 23 декабрь 2004 й.) / Ўзбекистон Республикаси Фанлар академияси Тарих институти; Тошкент шаҳар хотин-қизлар кўмитаси; Тошкент шаҳар «Аёллар ресурс маркази». – Тошкент, 2005. – Б.63.
8. Шамсиева М.Х. Ўзбекистонда хотин-қизларни ижтимоий ҳимоя қилишда давлат ва нодавлат ноижорат ташкилотларнинг ўрни (1991–2010 йй.): Тарих фанлари бўйича фалсафа доктори (PhD) диссертацияси. – Тошкент, 2020. – Б.89.
9. Ўзбекистон Миллий архиви (Ўз МА), М-170-фонд, 1-рўйхат, 60-иш, 13-варақ.
10. Ўзбекистон Миллий архиви (Ўз МА), М-170-фонд, 1-рўйхат, 60-иш, 14-варақ.
11. Ўзбекистон Миллий архиви (Ўз МА), М-170-фонд, 1-рўйхат, 60-иш, 23-варақ.
12. Ўзбекистон Миллий архиви (Ўз МА), М-170-фонд, 1-рўйхат, 60-иш, 23-варақ.
13. Ўзбекистон Миллий архиви (Ўз МА), М-170-фонд, 1-рўйхат, 60-иш, 26-варақ.
14. Ўзбекистон Республикаси Ички ишлар вазирлиги Ахборот-таҳлилий маркази ахборотномаси. – 2020–2021 йиллар.
15. Раҳмонқулова О. Ўзбекистонда ижтимоий-сиёсий, иқтисодий ва маданий соҳадаги ислохотларда хотин-қизларнинг ўрни (жанубий вилоятлар мисолида, 1991–2020 йй.): Тарих фанлари бўйича фалсафа доктори (PhD) диссертацияси. – Қарши, 2022. – Б.25.
16. Ўзбекистон Республикаси Ички ишлар вазирлиги Ахборот-таҳлилий маркази ахборотномаси. – 2020–2021 йиллар.
17. Ўзбекистон Республикаси Давлат статистика кўмитаси. Жами жиноят содир этган шахслардан аёлларнинг улуши // SIAT статистик маълумотлар базаси. – URL: [https://api.siat.stat.uz/media/uploads/sdmx/sdmx\\_data\\_831.pdf](https://api.siat.stat.uz/media/uploads/sdmx/sdmx_data_831.pdf)

