

The Development of National Archival Management System in Republic of Uzbekistan

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Abstract

The article covers the importance of the archives to the state and society, its formation, and the compatibility of its goals and functions with the organizational structure of governance in national archival affairs. The article also determines the strategic objects in accordance with governance structure of national archive affairs. Moreover, it is analysed the advanced the experiences of archival affairs in developed countries. Based on the result of research and analysis, a new governance system has been recommended in order to get fruitfully archival affairs.

Key words: Archive, National archive, Governance, Decentralization of governance, Planning, Strategic Planning.

Historical Review

Nowadays the purpose of the archival intuitions is to preserve archival documents of organizations, enterprises, institutions as well as individuals' [1].

In this purpose, there are 103 governmental, 7 non-governmental, 110 self-archival institutions, and more than 9000 departmental archives in Republic of Uzbekistan [2].

In our country, "Uzarchive" agency under the Cabinet of Ministers of Republic of Uzbekistan and it is controlled by unique governmental policy in the field of archival governance policy, and affairs [3]. In the next page is given the organizational structure of "Uzarchive" agency based on the appendix 1 of decision no 49 as of February 2004 of the Cabinet of Ministers of Republic of Uzbekistan (Figure 1) [3].

According to the Figure 1, there are three Central governmental archives obey to directly to "Uzarchive" agency, the district and city public archive sectors are run through the regional administrations of "Uzarchive" agency. At the same time, in every regional administrations and state archives serve its functions. In our opinion, the governance should be simplified and overthrowing similar functions might to lead to the further developments.

In other words, it means that the local archive administrations should be controlled by regional administrations to simplify the management system and overthrow the doubling functions as consequences of it increasing the efficiency.

In general, the life cycle of documents can be divided into two. The first cycle of document is stored in the organization that is created. In this period, the district level is five years, region is ten years, and for republic is fifteen years. Since period of storing in the organization and until reaching to the state archive, the document might be destructed or physical damaged within above-mentioned years. Based on the many developed countries experience, there are various controller inspectors

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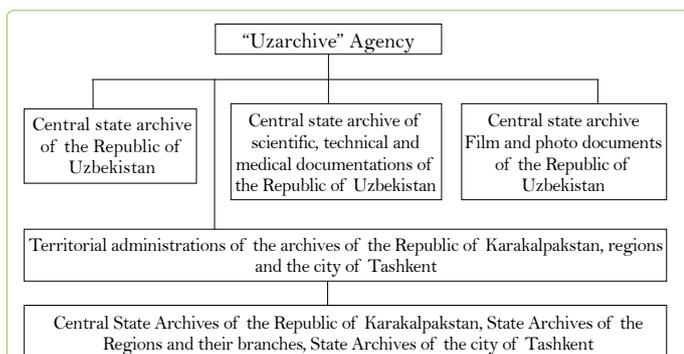


Figure 1: Organizational structure of "Uzarchive" agency.

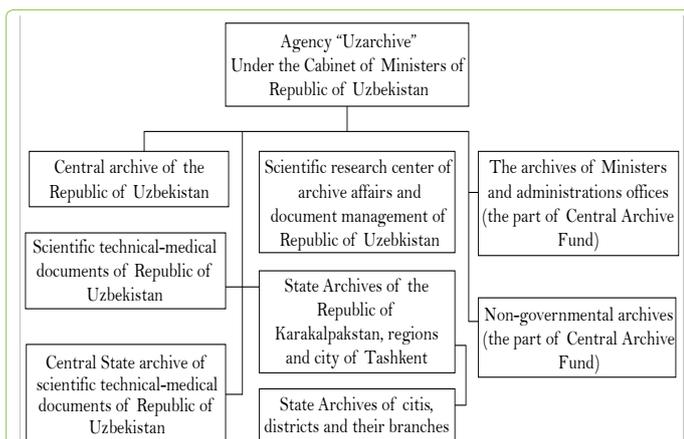


Figure 2: The proposal organizational structure of "Uzarchive" agency.

(USA "National Archives Office of Inspector General (OIG)" [4], Russian Federation "Arxnadzor" [5], Australia "Archival Control Systems") [4], but different by the name but conducting the same functions as taking care for documents. They usually conduct state controls on the conditions of the archival materials such as keeping, preserving, and losing. They conduct their functions based on the identified shortages, fines for breaking law and other measures.

According to our opinions based on above-mentioned factors, the Central Agency of "Uzarchive" needs to have such kind of department that implements archival affairs and controls of archival materials conditions, as consequences it would ensure the activities of archives and preserving quality of materials.

As the main functions of "Uzarchive" agency is archiving and providing the materials for scientific researches and using for needs [6]. In this context, it is required to provide conditions for using and utilizing the materials for the individuals and legal persons. Moreover, it is necessary to organize scientific seminars and popularizing advanced experiences in field of archival science [7]. In addition,

there are scientific research centres that function above-mentioned affairs in the development countries [8]. According our conception, the agency should also have scientific research centres that run-in order to solve out deficiencies and operate scientific affairs. In this case, the centres would provide for access to the rich historical materials that beneficial for young generation and every single citizen.

According to the current legislation of Republic of Uzbekistan, the archive affairs are allowed to conduct by governmental and non-governmental organizations [9]. The archival documents that are not preserved by National Archive Fund are stored in nongovernmental organizations. Increasing the number non-governmental organizations allow to economy the state expenses. Therefore, according to our conception, it is necessary to increase the number of non-governmental organizations, support them in district and local areas, and present them in organizational structure of "Uzarchive" agency. On basis of analyses, reviewing the developed countries experiences, and examine the mission of system "Uzarchive" agency, we offer the proposal concept of organizational structure of agency (Figure 2).

This organizational structure of "Uzarchive" agency provides good opportunities for fulfilment its functions in the regard of national legislation. Implementing the foreign experience and establishing the scientific research centres would benefit the National Archive Fund in order to preserve and reach the historical materials for future generation.

Moreover, it expands the conditions for conservation and utilization the historical materials. As said "preserving and reconstructing historical monuments, exploring more about works of arts of as national wealth of nation and people, and the main part of program of spirituality is bringing back them to Uzbekistan. Ancestors inherited this national wealth. Therefore, we are also meant for conservation in order to inherit to upcoming generation" [10].

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