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MATCHMAKERS IN MODERN UZBEK CULTURE

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#### ABOUT ARTICLE

**Key words:** Matchmaking, matchmakers, sovchi.uz, Tashkent matchmakers, messenger, social networks, traditions, wedding.

**Received:** 14.07.2023 **Accepted:** 19.07.2023 **Published:** 24.07.2023 Abstract: The development of the internet and social networks, on one hand, makes people's lives easier, but on the other hand, has a negative impact on traditions and customs that have been going on since time immemorial. The creation of "sovchilar.uz" and "sovchi.uz" websites, along with the creation of more than 10 "sovchilar" and "sovchi.uz" channels and groups in one of the social networks, with a subscriber count of over a thousand, is a clear example of this.

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### **INTRODUCTION**

One of the first steps in building a strong family is matchmaking. Matchmaking is considered one of the values of the Uzbek people that have been formed since time immemorial, and its origins go back to the distant past. According to scientists, the first information about matchmaking is found in the Orhun-Enasoy inscriptions of the VII-VIII centuries, as well as in the inscription of the great statesman Tunyukuk, where the word "sov" is used in the sense of "sab" - word, sentence. It is mentioned that "sab" is used in the meaning of "sab" - word, "sabchi" - messenger, bringer of words. Mahmud Kashgari, who lived in the Middle Ages and compiled the dictionary of the Turkish language, in his work "Devonu lug'atut turk" the word "sav" is a conveyer of news, and savchi or matchmaker is a match between the bride and the groom, a messenger who conveys messages. From this we can see that the term matchmaker itself has a long history.

### THE MAIN RESULTS AND FINDINGS

In general, compliance with national, ethnic, traditional customs, and requirements of courtship is one of the important conditions for the stability of marriage. That is why special attention was paid to matchmaking issues in the past, and the most experienced and thoughtful people were chosen for matchmaking . One of the most important aspects of matchmaking is to inform the blood relatives of two young people who want to marry each other, to inquire about their family in every way, and through this, to carefully study how well they are compatible with each other. According to matchmaking, close relatives of the groom's side or persons who know the groom's family well went and chose the suitable

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one for this family. The marriage of young people who are worthy in every way created the foundation for the creation of a strong family in the future. Even a few years ago, the bride-to-be performed "home visitation" customs to find out the economic and social status of the groom, and this was also one of the steps to a strong family.

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However, to date, we are witnessing that the development of the Internet and social networks is having its effect on the customs and traditions of courtship, which have been an integral part of wedding customs of the Uzbek people since time immemorial. As a result of the development of social networks, websites named "Sovchilar.uz", "Sovchi.uz" have appeared in the Internet world, and only one Telegram messenger, which is one of the social networks, has more than 10 "Sovchilar". "Sovchi.uz" the establishment of channels and groups. In addition, the existence of telegram channels and groups of individual regions such as "Tashkent sovchilar", "Kashkadarya sovchilar", "Khorazm sovchilar", having from 200 thousand to 600 thousand subscribers of these groups and channels, in addition to the service of special "sovchilar", is evidence of our word. At a time when family institutions are facing a crisis in the developed countries of the world, two parties who are in love with each other, as well as future brides and grooms, let alone getting to know each other closely, through the mediation of people who do not know them at all, for a certain amount of money. It is a sad situation that blood relations are being established between two alien families through fraudulent means. It is not unlikely that the ties formed by not knowing each other well or through fraudulent means will later become fragile or even severed. As a result, a family that could produce young generations that will benefit society will fail.

## **CONCLUSION**

If we pay attention to some statistics, in the first half of 2020, the fate of 12 thousand 810 families in our republic ended with divorce . By 2022, the total number of divorces increased by 23%, and only from January 1, 2022 until June of this year, in just 6 months, 20,798 families were officially divorced . If we look at the regions, we can see that Tashkent is the "leader" in this regard . With such information, we do not want to say that the main reason for family divorces is the emergence of various "matchmaking services". We want to say that just as the strength of a house depends on the strength of its first foundation, so the strength of a family begins with the first steps in its construction. If we look at history, we can see that special importance was given to courtship even on behalf of the rulers of the whole country, intelligent, wise and respected people were chosen for courtship . Therefore, not being indifferent to courtship traditions, which is one of the first important steps in building a family, will not only prevent family disputes in the future, but also lead to the development of young generations who can contribute to the country and society in the future.

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