

## Tajikistan's Mufti Supports Hijab Ban

### News:

Saidmukarram Abdukodirzoda, Chairman of the Council of Ulema of Tajikistan, supported the draft law banning “foreign clothing” and stated that national clothing should also comply with Islamic norms. He explained the Islamic norms of this issue on air of TV “Tajikistan” after discussions on the ban on import, sale and wearing of **“clothes alien to national culture”**. He said that Sharia defines clothing norms for men and women, and in accordance with them we can wear national clothing.

***“The Tajik people have their own special clothes. The Arab people also have their own special clothes. Each nation has its own special clothes, and at the same time, Sharia norms are observed. This is important, the rest is not important. It is not necessary to follow and blindly imitate someone else's clothes”***, - said the chairman of the Ulema Council.

### Comment:

Today, the people of Tajikistan are experiencing exactly the same thing that our ancestors experienced 100 years ago, when the Soviet authorities in the 20-30s of the last century, as part of the **“Khuchum”** campaign, began to forcibly undress Muslim women. The Rahmon regime, which has been fighting religious revival for two decades and carrying out forced secularization of the Tajik people, banned the wearing of Islamic clothing for women under the pretext of non-compliance with the national traditions of our people. Immediately after the adoption of the new version of the law **“On the regulation of traditions and rituals”**, without even waiting for the amendments to come into force, they began mass raids to identify women in hijabs.

This is not the first time that Saidmukarram Abdukodirzoda has justified any anti-Islamic decision by the authorities. Thus, he previously justified the ban on the Hajj for people under 40, the ban on some traditions associated with Eid al-Fitr, the ban on teaching children the Koran, and the imposition of New Year celebrations.

Let us recall that this is not the first time that the Tajik regime has tried to pass a law banning Islamic attire altogether. In 2018, the government already tried to pass a similar law, when an interdepartmental working group was created in accordance with the order of the presidential administration based on the proposal of the Women's Affairs Committee to ban women and girls with *satr* and *hijab* from entering all institutions, organizations and enterprises, regardless of ownership. Then, under public pressure, the regime was forced to abandon its idea. This time, it seems, the Rahmon regime is seriously determined to see things through, involving, as usual, its pocket mufti.

**Written for the Central Media Office of Hizb ut Tahrir by  
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