

Another Wave of Raids Against Quran Study

News:

In the capital of Uzbekistan, Tashkent, special services officers and special forces fighters stormed a house where children were being taught to read the Quran. During the raid, security forces detained a married couple who had organized the religious lessons. This was reported by the portal “Altruist News.”

Local Uzbek media immediately tried to criminalize the situation as much as possible, calling the place of instruction a “clandestine cell” in order to present ordinary religion lessons as the activity of an underground group.

Comment:

The fight against unregistered Quran study schools resumed several years after the new president Mirziyoyev came to power and has already practically returned to the level of the times of Karimov’s rule.

Let us recall that after coming to power in 2016, Shavkat Mirziyoyev announced large-scale reforms, including in the religious sphere. Notably, as part of the reforms, Quran reciter competitions were established, for which thousands of underground madrasas gladly registered — madrasas that had survived both Soviet rule and almost 30 years of the rule of the tyrant Karimov. As soon as the necessary information had been collected, all these madrasas were closed by the new authorities.

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