

Research Article

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THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SOCIAL WORK ACADEMIC DISCIPLINE-OCCUPATION AND DEMOCRACY

SOSYAL ÇALIŞMA MESLEĞİ DEMOKRASİ İLİŞKİSİ



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ABSTRACT

In this study discussed the relationship of democracy and social work. The indicators of the of democracy are respect for human rights, freedom, equality and justice, pluralism and participation. In our age a better form of government has not yet been found than democracy, which can take the government under the control of the ruled people.

The democratically governance method is based on the idea that rulers are chosen bythose who are governed to represent them as social life style. Democracy, it is appear from the non-governmental organizations. In fact, the development of democracy and civil society in country, the state should truly implement the rule of law. The public services, must continue their activities by equality in fields such as education, health and security. Social work profession and effectiv field studies teh key of the developing democracy.

Keywords: Social Work, Democracy, NGO.

ÖZET

Bu çalışmada, sosyal çalışma demokrasi ilişkisi ele alınmıştır. Demokrasi kültürünün" temel göstergeleri, insan haklarına saygı, özgürlük, eşitlik ve adalet düşüncesi, ço¬ğulculuk ve katılımcılıktır. Günümüz dünyasında iktidarı, "yönetilen halkın denetimine alabilen" demokrasiden daha iyi bir yönetim biçimi de henüz bulunamamıştır. Demokratik yönetim metodu, yöntem, bir toplumsal yaşam biçimi olarak yöneticilerin, kendilerini temsil etmeleri için yönetilenler tarafından seçilmesi düşünce¬sine dayanmaktadır. Demokrasi, güçlü sivil toplumdan neşet etmektedir. Doğrusu, bir ülkede demokrasinin ve sivil toplumun gelişebilmesi için, devletin gerçek anlamda "hukuk devleti" olabilmesi gerekir. Kamunun eğitim, sağlık, güvenlik gibi alanlarda etkinlik¬lerini, eşitlik temelinde sürdürmesi demokrasiyi inşa etmektedir. Sosyal çalışma mesleği ve kapsamlı sosyal çalışma uygulamaları, toplumda demokrasinin geliştirilmesinin anahtarıdır.

Anahtar Kelimeler: Sosyal çalışma, Demokrasi, Sivil Toplum



INTRODUCTION

From terminological, social and philosophical perspectives, this paper clearly lays out the relationship and interaction level between social work discipline and democracy, which has been the most developed regime up to now.

The government; the established institutions and formal process by which a society or organized groupdetermines, implements, administers and evaluates its decisions. Policy, the explicit or implicit standing plan that an country or government uses a guide action. Democracy, in a nation in which citizens have freely elected to have that form of government and political, socioeconomic system.

Policy practice and develop to social policy, in social work, professional effort to influence the development, enacment, implementation, modification, or assessment of all policies, primarily to ensure social justice, human rights and equal access to basic social goods (Barker, 2003).

A Terminological Perspective to Democracy

It is a well-known statement that "Democracy" has Greek roots combining "demos" (public) and "kratos" (power) terms, and democracy means "the power of public and regime". This term refers to a specific type of regime based on "equality" principle and the philosophical point of view supporting that there must not be great financial differences among the citizens of a given country. Indeed, in today's modern world where human civilization reaches the highest level and equipment, democracy still keeps its unique value as being the most legitimate, moral and humanistic form of regime. Even in the last quarter of the 21st century, despite its all risky aspects and drawbacks, a better regime rather than democracy giving control power to people on the government has not been found yet (Aktan, 1996).

Democracy, as a form of social life, is based on the idea that the rulers are elected by the people to represent them. With this striking "equality" emphasis, it is guaranteed that richness-nobility and other innate factors are not a means of superiority, societies are not formed monarchical structures and "people can rule themselves".

In that case, in the sense of the current advanced regime, it is advocated that there must not be further racial or sectarian privileges and the idea of equality, namely the thesis that the system of power in society should be based on similarities rather than differences among people, is regarded as the most significant value of democracy.

Since citizens cannot directly participate in political decision-making processes without intermediary and continuous participation, they make themselves heard through the representatives they choose in society and the country.

Today, modern democracy is now known as "representative democracy" and it is a form of government that citizens use their rights to participate in government, not personally but through representatives who are responsible for them.

Through elections which are held over a period of time, people determine their rulers with their free will in a legal structure in which democratic participation is transparent and open to all people (Arblaster, 1999).

Indeed, the main philosophical meaning of democracy is that all citizens in a country have equal rights in shaping the state policy, and social ruling power together with legitimacy are ensured via this principle. In a given society for democracy's not being only written rules, being really useful for society, compromising for common good deeds and serving for humanitarian development, peace and living in a peaceful way; it is a must to build a "democracy culture and understanding" on the layer of "individual-family-institutions and society". In order to reach these understanding culture for a further democracy level, citizens of a given country must realize the real meaning of democracy, take over citizenship responsibilities by increasing their qualifications, participate all public government processes by founding efficient NGOs and show great effort for effective governing of people.

The constitution, which is the supreme law of all the regulations mentioned above, is the supreme regulation aiming to protect and guarantee the rights of the minorities that think differently from the majority. The people mentioned in the democracy regime must be a group of equal individuals and everyone should have equal share in governance (Erdoğan, 2000).

State and Democracy from a Historical Perspective

After the Industrial Revolution which broke out in the phase following the second half of the 18th century, extreme migration from rural to urban areas, urbanization, production, consumption and the changeover of lifestyles led to different and deep social problems as well as new opportunities. Together with industrialization by solving old social structure and traditional relations, new problems with a new social stratification have caused the necessity of establishing social cooperation mechanisms to replace traditional cooperation. In the elections which were held after the French Revolution, the right to vote was granted only to the citizens who were able to give a certain amount of tax, in the southern States of the USA, after 1960, the black race was able to vote for the first time in their history; the right to vote was first given to women in New Zealand in 1893. In fact, until the 20th century, the right to participate in elections was not given to all citizens in any country. After the years following the development of democracy, people started to participate in regime with direct ways such as referendums and indirect ways or social participation such as public meetings and demonstrations as well as voting that gives them the chance to elect the people who will have the authority to decide for themselves.

When slavery was abolished over time, and the right to vote was gained for all people constituting a society, and the impossibility of disregarding the right to vote by people who are fond of ruling the society and market forces appeared.

As it was understood that democracy had a relationship with the development of human and society apart from securing the rights of property and the freedom of initiative, the virtue and power of democracy in terms of creating a new society was understood in a better way and the attempts to reach at better levels were accelerated. After the 1850s, the working class, which was prone to socialism in Europe, tended to make its power accepted among the others as a significant stakeholder of ruling the society by realizing that some factors such as the right for general voting, demonstration, uprising and reaction could be transformed to political power.

In this new process where power relations in society come to the fore, labor gained power a lot from social and political perspective and the social welfare state system that blends the powerful elements of the liberal-socialist tradition in a capitalist society emerged as a new and valid model. With these striking developments, "social state" and "welfare state" conceptions were successfully added into the fundamental features of nation state in the 21st century (Özdemir, 2009).

Habermas (2000), the German philosopher, emphasized the importance of political participation and democratization rather than being solely formal game, and stressed that they would only be meaningful as a power of making people free and determining their own destiny. At the beginning of the 20th century, with the collapse of the Austro-Hungarian Empire and Ottoman Empire as a result of World War I, many new states emerged. During the Great Depression period that came to the scene in 1929, dictators lived in Europe, Latin America and Asia in many countries - fascist dictatorships have come to power in Spain, Italy, Germany and Portugal - antidemocratic governments ruled in the Baltic and Balkan countries, Cuba, Brazil, Japan and Soviet Russia.

After the World War II, colonialism concept ended and many independent countries appeared again; the democratization movements centered in Western Europe, and dictatorships ended in Germany and Japan. With the above-mentioned



traumatic historical learning, these states realizing that peace was for the benefit of every country focused on the aim of being a "social and welfare state" with the effect of the peace winds in the world instead of concentrating on the policies aiming at spending the resources of the society to get armed. Based on the philosophy of creating a new, developed and modern society after the 1960s, this new state model emerged as a reflection of social power relations and began to institutionalize as a welfare state as a product of democratic political functioning.

Koray (2005) argues that there must be a balance among social powers and working class need to gain importance against capital in terms of "social and political power" in order a given state and politics to get social features; "power relations approach" which takes into account the developments such as labor movement and its politicization, the interaction of this movement with trade unions and class parties and the obtained social/political power, is a very explanatory theory explaining the rise of modern "welfare state" as well.

The point, which needs to be considered here in terms of historical development, is that the state tries to provide social improvements via limited income transfer and public services and that can be seen as a significant advantage of democracy. Flora and Alber (1981) also stress that the most sophisticated social welfare state applications emerged in pluralist democracies in which "there appears a strong and organized working class", general voting right is highly appreciated, individuals are aware of their rights and responsibilities and rulers can be inspected as a principle of "common good".

In the historical journey of the social system, social insurances started with voluntary applications and then become compulsory and were legalized in all European countries and USA in the mid-20th century. However, social policy applications including a limited meaning and practice had to be over a half-century to turn into a modern welfare state. The struggles of the working class, which gained power towards capital, i.e. the major general strike in England in 1926 accelerated socialization and further democratization of the state as being important developments that changed social power relations (Yolcuoğlu, 2017).

While the state's being social in the narrow sense is accepted in almost every democracy as part of the modernization / democratization process; social welfare state conception, which can provide minimum subsistence standards to all individuals in a broad sense, emerged and were largely put into practice in European tradition. Two major powers and opposites called "labor and capital" constitute the backbone of both political and civil society organizations in this model.

In the European welfare state model, a three-legged structure "market economy, pluralist democracy and welfare state" takes place in a process of interaction that supports and enriches each other. In the above-mentioned three-legged structure, effective communication and balance are ensured among the counterparts. In other words, while pluralistic democracy makes decisions and practices for the benefit of all individuals and society; welfare practices create an economic production alternative that can produce technology as the most valid source of wealth of the information society and increase wealth and prosperity by improving the society's human resources, especially children at optimal level and this situation provides a sustainable market economy.

"The model of social welfare state", which is the most valid and highly accepted system of our age", creates a required balance of power between the two fundamental social parties in the framework of socialization and politicization. These fundamental social parties are undoubtedly capital owners who emerged after the rise of industrial society and laborers. In this advanced conception, "politics" is not the sole power holder. Based on the democratic resolution of the conflict between labor and capital as basic interest groups, the state is institutionalized here in the form of a "social consensus" that can take the right decisions by joining all the powerful social partners and citizens.

In a structure that can convey social policies and social risks into an advanced qualification and power; social peace, social justice and social integration are completed and a qualified society structure is reached.

In the social-democratic approach, based on "democratic socialism" and "adopting solidarity", state-citizenship relations are more detailed and citizenship involves many other rights as well as fundamental rights and freedoms. This approach regards an individual as an output of economic-social conditions and accepts that the state can play an important role while improving the aforementioned economic-social conditions, starting from the premise that every human has equal value. Undoubtedly, this situation is the natural reason behind the fact that working class regards political democracy as an instrument. Thus, economic-social conditions are anticipated to improve through democracy by the state missions (Buğra ve Keyder, 2006).

Self-defense of Democracy

The biggest risk in democracies is the attempt of using power and ruling for inconvenient purposes and this negativity necessitates the following principles: "the hindrance of using governorship for bad purposes" as a crucial point of democracy, building an effective and powerful opposition side and institutionalization of transparency, information access, questioning and answering in all steps of governing (Keyman, 1999). Since it is not practical for a large number of people to come together and settle every issue, the delegates, to whom the representation power was given by the majority of society, come to the front. However, the problem of "controlling the delegates" arises at this point. Although the idea that people rule themselves sounds good, it might also bring about a series of problems.

It seems that the following issues are more significant in democracies from a further democratic perspective than who the ruling authority is: the inspection of the ruling side continuously and efficiently, the investigation of how the rulers manage ruling process and the control of the rulers by governmental powers such as justice. In order to achieve these challenging processes successfully, the judiciary must be able to produce sufficient power, full independence, equity and justice to distribute justice, protect the rights and freedoms, and demonstrate its highly skillful power. Indeed, in the case of the advanced democracies, the fact that the judiciary has a very critical importance as a state of law, the real security of human rights and freedoms is actually based on this sensitive situation.

Referring to the use of force in democracies, the French philosopher Montesqieu pointed out these vulnerable points and emphasized that anyone who possesses power tends to abuse it and would go as far as he could go unless there appears an equal power to counterbalance him. This stimulating innovative thought led to the principle of "separation of powers" in which "executive, legislative and judicial powers" inspect, discipline and restrain each other as being qualified structures.

When every individual has the right to speak equally in state ruling, "political democracy" arises, but other deep questions come to the agenda at that point. Is the idea of "political equality" really compatible with the concept of equality in a society framed with people who are at different financial levels? Can those who are financially higher in the upper classes be prevented when they use the advantages of their financial power and have more control in ruling? In fact, the major political crowds are in favor of the idea asserting that they have the right and authority to do whatever they desire-even arbitrary- and the minority has to obey their disposals. The difficulties of protecting the citizens from the oppression and coercion of the majority are clearly visible here. At the milestone of democracy here, a "real advanced democracy" need to solve the above-mentioned vulnerable possible problems in a "reasonable" way by meeting the needs of the individuals at "the minority".



It can be put forward that the most respectable and acceptable side of democracy lies in the creation of mechanisms and methods that can achieve the rights and freedoms of the so called "minorities". The virtues of this ruling style are as follows; the individuals' right to determine their own fate, living together in different lifestyles peacefully, respecting individual freedoms, developing the virtues and abilities of people, providing justice, enabling everyone to express themselves freely and contributing to the solution of the conflicts.

Owing to the fact that a human who thinks, questions and researches can manage to build up a proper democratic lifestyle, libertarian thought must be fully validated in individual and community life in order for the aforementioned lifestyles and understandings to become truly dominant. So as to reach this target, it is of high importance that every person in social life has the ability, power and knowledge to decide and determine his own life and draw his life policy and strategy. For every modern society, it is a must to facilitate the citizens' individual and social strengthening, the development of their conditions, their individualization, their independence and their emancipation. The famous English philosopher Popper focuses on how to hinder inadequate or untalented rulers in order not them to harm the society much and he thinks over possible ways of organizing political institutions in so as to find a proper answer to power paradox. In other words, solving the problem of the institutional control of the ruling side is the most important issue and the vital value of pluralism and constitutional control appears at this point (Şener, 1998).

In the advanced democracies, the laws, rules, institutions, the judiciary, and the people themselves manacled the hands of the executives with extremely powerful laws that prevent abuse in order to prevent the development of dictatorial candidates. In other saying, democracy took all necessary measures by establishing a legal system which is very strong and cannot be violated against those who want to abuse it. Although democracy has notable targets and brilliant ideas, it also has various problematic issues. It needs to be keynoted here that one can mention about "advanced democracy" in a given country on condition that fundamental rights and freedoms are guaranteed there. The term of "advanced democracy" implies that this regime needs to lay out how to protest itself and the rights of people together with their freedoms and how to prevent threats towards democracy. Despite the fact that elections are sometimes held in authoritarian regimes, it can be stated that the fundamental rights and freedoms of citizens are not ensured, they are not guaranteed; therefore, these regimes can be considered as "election-based democracy".

To be a qualified, responsible and well-equipped person together with being interested in the field of science, culture, literature, music, fine arts, aesthetics and sports is the necessity of modern citizenship. In addition, the following issues are essential characteristics of modern democratic states: a- establishing effective communication between people in social life, b- realizing realistic, valid, objective, competitive, constructive, sharing, co-operative and solidarist apprehensions, c- providing opportunities for implementation within social interaction mechanisms and d- improving the conditions (Aksoy, 1994).

The Interaction Between Social Work Discipline and Democracy

There is no doubt that technological developments are the decision makers of our age and civilization has reached the namely peak in terms of science and technology. The rapid and striking developments in the natural sciences did not occur in the social sciences and the development and progress in the social sciences remained low. Also it can be put forward that there has been a considerable amount of progress in the science fields such as humanities, social studies, medicine and education; however, the progress in social field has never caught up with the progress in technology. Traditional problems such as pov-

erty, ignorance, diseases, unemployment, population boom and even hunger are still going on. Apart from these problems, some other problems such as development-driven social loneliness, value confusion, youth crisis, alcoholism and drug habit, family breakdown, the problem of women's rights, aging of the population, displacement, housing shortage, automation, nuclear armament are growingly gaining importance and these problems are threatening humans (Kut, 1988).

The most prominent feature of the twentieth century is the following concepts' gaining importance and development: human rights, living properly, freedom and social justice. In order to create welfare societies in which the aforementioned concepts are brought into practice, the struggles were made at national and international level and "social welfare state" concept was accepted as a state model of the modern world. The complex events that are experienced in today's social life and the social problems that are the consequences of individual and social changing process enhanced the need for scientific knowledge. Similar to other social sciences, social work is an applied field of study and discipline which aims to solve the emerging social problems with unique scientific techniques and methods. Underlining social justice idea and well-being of people, social work discipline tries to ensure that social-economic conditions are organized, all individuals in a given society are supported for a peaceful life and basic needs of people are provided. While trying to solve the problems of individuals and society at micro and macro level, social work discipline aims to enrich social policies and reach the targets of human rights and social justice idea. Social work usually functions in an "institution", generally in state facilities.

A true democracy appears on the surface as every citizen in the country can evaluate it as a subject and can bring it to life. It seems that social work is the ultimate suitable profession to accomplish the mission stated above. Social work can meet the humanitarian needs of the citizens living in risk, build "citizenship" concept efficiently by supporting the people's well-being and structure democracy effectively starting from family at all social layers. Marshall (1963: 259-279) emphasizes that citizenship is a kind of status given to the members of a given society and the people who obtained this status are equal in terms of all rights and missions; they have rights related to individual freedoms in civilian level, political level of citizenship gives right to share the political power in a given society and finally social level of citizenship was institutionalized by the rights guaranteeing to get shares in financial welfare, social security and cultural heritage.

Political action in social work, coordinated efforts so influence legislation, election of candidates, and social causes. Social workers engage in political action by running for elective office, orgnizing campaigns in support of other candidates or isissues, fundraising, and mobilizing voters and public opinion. Political action also includes lobbying, testifying before legislative committeers, and monitoring the work of officeholders and government workers (Barker, 2003).

In almost every country in Western Europe, it is known that the struggle of the working class is very decisive in shaping the political structure (Esping-Andersen, 2002). In the social democratic model in Scandinavian countries and in the corporatist model in Continental Europe, the significant social power of the coalition of the working class with the middle class was able to construct the social system. In the case of the welfare states where the real democracy in Europe has been fully implemented and emerged as a great power that protects and improves all individuals of the state together with providing their basic needs; it is seen that the amount of money given to social expenses increased from 30% to 62% in Germany, from 20% to 47% in England and from 30% to 53% in Sweden in the period between 1990s and 1960 (Flora ve Alber, 1981). The share given to social expenses from GNP in 1980 was as follows in some European countries: 33.1 % in Sweden, 28.7 % in Denmark, 28.8 % in Germany, 25.4 % in France, and 21.5 % in England.

The welfare state is functional in both economic and political terms, not only as a tool, but also for its output. These



social policies have important consequences not only in terms of the material welfare they produce, but also in terms of the functioning of the economy, politics and democracy. Social citizenship also creates added value in terms of increasing the functioning of the economy and market, together with developing political equality. In other words, Social and economic rights and social citizenship mean a real assurance in terms of the development of the meaning and reality of fundamental rights, together with freedoms and the development of democracy. In this way, cruel market economy becomes socialized through political democracy and usually turns into "social market economy" as in the context of Germany. Furthermore, the implemented policies and programs provide a positive exchange or shopping relationship among the economy, politics and society.

On the other hand, states that capitalism has become irregular unless it is under political and democratic control. In addition that capital not only controlled economy but also took all social life under control due to the fact that the power of the capital increased a lot compared to the past. Besides, he underlines that capital downgraded politics by setting up its own sovereignty and "exploited" the other social fields, as well.

Ergil (2012) asserts that the following regulations need to be implemented in order to call an institution or state "democratic": (1) equality of opportunity must be given to the members of a given organization in the process of political decision-making, (2) high participation rate to the organization's activities must be ensured, (3) different views and opinions must be fully discussed, (4) there must be a power balance between the competitors, (5) leadership must be changed periodically; in other words, "the mobility of the elected people" must be ensured, (6) persuasion method must be used as a method of influencing. As it is considered at social level, a "pluralistic society" must be constructed so as to implement democracy.

Regarding the characteristics of a pluralistic society, the following features can be underlined: social classes are required to have reached the level of development that can balance each other's power; various interest groups and social classes, by forming representative organizations through political parties and pressure groups, must reflect their demands to the political system, and there must be various and multi-purpose associations and different organizations among individuals (CIIga, 2004).

On the other hand, social organizations, which are powerful NGOs for the society on the path of an advanced democracy, will give the individuals a sense of belonging and rescue them from loneliness. In this way, social organizations will provide social support while removing social problems and function in a wide range of issues such as expansion of democracy from bottom to up, training of political positions, establishing a social ground for political parties and limiting the giant power of the state. As seen, thanks to the development of civil society, the state is no longer a non-accessible, non-questionable and demigod authority, instead, the state is a technical organization and unit that can be criticized and questioned by civilians when required.

Non-Governmental Organizations put strain on the governments so as to interfere in the widespread problems of underdeveloped countries which are: health, education, disorder in the share of income, protection of children, providing the basic needs of the individuals who are under the poverty threshold, dealing with the unemployment and crime related problems among young people, participating to the management of the country for enabling to get common good decisions, preventing extravagance and wrong public expenditures and interfering fraud. NGOs also keep a close watch on all the aforementioned policies and NGOs can discipline political powers on behalf of the society as being "defender and activist".

Mobility and participation in NGOs function not as a competitor or threat to the state, but as a contribution to its inadequate and official services, as an opening platform for the points blocked, acting in a facilitating and empowering method;

individuals and rulers regard these civil and spontaneous structures as valuable and accept them as an integral part of democracy. In order for democracy to exist in a society, autonomous and powerful intermediate units from each other must exist, and they must be sensitive and accountable, and they need to participate in ruling at the same time.

DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

The propaganda, planned efforts to convince segments of the public about cetain opinions or beliefs. Usually, this is done with powerful slogans, testimonials, attractive images, and promises of better circumstances and the ending of problems. Propaganda is usually an important to part of any political or social movement for social workers (Barker, 2003).

For a real democracy application, the theoretical knowledge presented in this paper lays out that the quality of "human resource" which constitute a society needs to be increased, sense of responsibility must be interiorized by every citizen at "apartment, district, street, town, city and region" level, people are required to take part in social ruling processes through NGOs. From this perspective, although democracy is generally regarded as a form of "public administration" and state governance; families, institutions, universities, workers' and employers' organizations and some other civilian institutions can be better run with efficient participation of their members in a democratic way.

Although democracy includes the idea of common good and ruling country all together, the so-called simple, accurate and feasible situation brings along a series of questions; that is to say, public cannot agree on any issue easily and democracy refers to the ruling of a group of people and these people are naturally "the majority". Then, what is the fate of "the minority"? Nevertheless, democracy is the unique type of ruling that includes the virtue of correcting the mistakes. While the rule and freedom of the people are guaranteed in democracy, the power of the state is delivered to the people. In representative democracies, the rulers base their decisions and power on the consent of the people as they spring into an action. In fact, it is the aforementioned consent that gives the moral superiority to democratic ruling. The most important insurance of this virtuous regime is our power to change those who govern us without difficulty, oppression, with free will, and without resorting to violence.

"Democracy" is not a tool but a "goal"; no one can use it for his/her personal secret agendas and intentions. Since the advanced democracy must create the assurances and insurance system in a very strong way that can protect itself and keep it efficient. In EU countries that can rule their states transparently without raising questions on mind and cooperating with people, one can hardly ever witness fraud. Here it can be deduced that the advanced democracies can protect themselves automatically and the power of these countries is directly related to the power of their democracies which is the assurance of their existence.

There is no doubt that being a person who is qualified, responsible, prudent and interested in science, cultural life, literature, music, fine arts, esthetics and sports is the essential requirement of being a modern citizen. Additionally, the prominence of some insights that are realistic, valid, objective, constructive, sharing and cooperative is the most essential characteristic features of modern democratic countries, together with providing application facilities in social interaction mechanisms and improving the conditions. Due to the fact that the person who thinks, questions, and investigates can develop a true culture of democratic life, "libertarian thought" must be fully validated in human and social life in order for these lifestyles and understandings to become truly dominant. So as to accomplish this mission, it is of great importance that the person in the social life has the ability, power and knowledge to decide his / her own life, the life policy and strategy. For every modern society; the citizens' individual and social empowerment and the development of their conditions are somehow obligatory. In addition, states must pave the way for their citizens' individualization, independence and emancipation.



obligatory. In addition, states must pave the way for their citizens' individualization, independence and emancipation.

For real democracy to be established in a country; all citizens' effective participation in important decisions, keeping communication channels open, calling to account and accounting before the public and establishing an impartial and strong judicial system are imperative. The principles of democracy and republic are the foundations of contemporary social thought. Besides, the democratic society structure, based on human rights, is an advanced organization in which people are focused, social law state is functioning, human life is a basic goal of development in every field, sharing participation and solidarity provide social integration and secularism is protected. This situation reveals the necessity of a functional society in which conscious and responsible citizens are effective and mutual love, respect and tolerance are based on relations among people.

The Industrial Revolution, which was experienced in the process of historical transformation of societies and humanity, French Revolution, Renaissance and reform movements, the developments in natural sciences and social sciences, the rise of nation states instead of empires after democratic revolutions and the development of republican, secular and democratic social law state in parallel with human rights and freedoms helped "social working idea and action" spread all over the world. The idea of social work, which is grounded on the happiness and freedom of the individual and society, gained momentum with the development of critical mind, productive and creative human efforts, scientific attitudes and thoughts. In short, the social work profession gained strength with the birth and development of modern industrial society, the idea of enlightenment; the advances in scientific-technological changes and social sciences, and the improvements in the state structure, democratic society and ruling mentality (Cilga, 2004: 6).

"Social Work as a science" is an "academic discipline" producing scientific knowledge on the dynamics and principles of the change and development related to humans and society, and the improvement of social efficiency of humans and related approaches, methods and applications on the issue with development idea and knowledge. The following concepts emerge as the qualifications of the Social Work field: Laws on the dynamics of change and development of the individual and society; development thought and knowledge; the approaches, methods and practices of improving people's social effectiveness. In democratic societies, "Social Work" is an occupation that enables human beings and society to develop and improves life conditions, basic rights and freedoms, together with social and financial rights in accordance with political and participation rights. Social Work occupation carries out the aforementioned missions with scientific approaches, methods and techniques by mobilizing social interaction mechanisms.

Communication and interaction are fundamental concepts behind the relationship among people that are the smallest and basic unit of social structure. In the internal and external interactions among families, schools, associations, occupational groups, political parties, religious and cultural groups, the origins and solutions of the problems are concentric. It needs to be noted that no society in human history reached "advanced democracy" in short time, democracy is the output of painful historical experiences and spotty trials. Also, "advanced democracy" is the natural output of the determinant struggles of social organizations such as strong NGOs and labor unions, various factors and variables such as socio-cultural structure of society.

In order to achieve the level of advanced democracy, the oppressed and the victimized people must make a request to obtain their rights by "raising their social consciousness" and prevent the authority and the rich from violating their rights via protest and other activities on necessary occasions and follow the developments in society actively.

The mechanism of "separation of powers", a strong law inspection mechanism and guaranteeing the rights and freedoms of an individual towards the state are "prerequisite" for a democratic system. In order for all the above-mentioned prerequisites to be "a value" among the crowds, people must be the defenders of all these insights and even the assurance of them by developing a high social consciousness with strong participation.



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Democracy has developed after long and difficult struggles in the world; if the public does not desire, demand or devalue democracy, it is not possible to bring the regime to a real democracy.

In order the individuals to reach the aforementioned strong structures, the state should redistribute its income; it should offer minimum opportunities for people who are weak, crushed, vulnerable, fragile, orphaned and in need of help. This situation requires the status quo to be replaced by social service practices in favor of the needy crowds.

Social work a applied science of helping people avhive an effective level of psychosocial functioning and effecting societal changes to enhance the well-being all people (Kirst-Ashman, K. ve Hull, G.H. (1999).

As result, at the underdelevoped cuntries, before institution social welfare and allocation sources fairly at society and instruced citizenship, there will be no true democracy.



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