

Article

Theoretical and Methodological Foundations for the Study of the Public Order Maintenance System in Military History

Xudoyberdi Khaknazarov¹

1. Head of Special Faculty University of Public Safety of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Doctor of Historical Sciences

Abstract: This article examines the theoretical and methodological foundations of studying public order maintenance within military history. It analyzes the concepts of “public order” and “public safety,” their interpretation in legal and historical scholarship, and their significance for national security. The study also considers Uzbekistan’s measures to preserve and promote national military heritage, develop military-historical research, and strengthen international cooperation. Particular attention is given to archival research, specialist training, and the application of modern digital technologies. Based on the identified challenges, relevant recommendations for further developing military-historical research are proposed.

Keywords: military history, public order, public safety, national security, military heritage, military art, archival sources, historical research, methodology, international cooperation.

1. Introduction

As a result of the systematic reforms being implemented in the military sphere in Uzbekistan in recent years, the country’s defense capabilities and the strength and combat readiness of its national armed forces have been steadily increasing. In this regard, studying the rich history of our ancestors’ military art, through an in-depth analysis of the history and activities of state bodies that contributed to ensuring national and state security, public peace and tranquility, as well as the role and contribution of prominent individuals, helps to foster historical thinking among broad segments of the population, particularly military personnel and employees [1].

Based on the proposals and initiatives of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan and Supreme Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, Shavkat Mirziyoyev, the in-depth study of the history of military art and the use of this heritage in educating young people, especially military personnel, in the spirit of patriotism, humanity, heroism, courage, and humanitarian values are of great importance [2]. As the President of Uzbekistan emphasized at an expanded meeting of the Security Council under the President, strengthening the national spirit, love and devotion to the Motherland, and the sense of justice among young people, especially young military personnel, in every possible way, as well as making extensive use of the rich military art of our great ancestors, including commanders such as Jalaliddin Manguberdi, Amir Temur, Mirzo Ulughbek, and Zahiriddin Muhammad Babur, is one of the pressing issues of the present day [3].

Alongside other areas of military history, the issue of maintaining public order and ensuring public safety has emerged as one of the most pressing areas of reform in recent years. Therefore, particular attention is being paid to ensuring a peaceful and tranquil life

Citation: Khaknazarov X. Theoretical and Methodological Foundations for the Study of the Public Order Maintenance System in Military History. Web of Synergy: International Interdisciplinary Research Journal 2026, 5(3), 18-25.

Received: 10th Aug 2026

Revised: 11th Aug 2026

Accepted: 29th Aug 2026

Published: 03th Sep 2026



Copyright: © 2026 by the authors. Submitted for possible open access publication under the terms and conditions of the Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY) license

(<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>)

for the population and fostering a culture of law-abiding behavior and public safety within society [4].

Although the concepts of “public order” and “public safety” are closely related, they also have distinct characteristics. The concept of “public safety” has not yet been formally established in the legislation of many countries around the world and is associated with the ability to select the most effective course of action when performing tasks assigned to police officers and gendarmerie-type structures in a particular situation [5].

The term “public order” is used in political, sociological, legal, historical, and military literature. It refers to a social phenomenon representing the established order of relations among participants in social life within a particular society, as well as their patterns of conduct based on legal and moral norms, customs, and traditions. It also denotes the reality consisting of criteria that regulate such relations when necessary. Although public order is established, protected, and maintained by the state, particularly through law, it is also an inherent attribute of society. Within its framework, law and order and a system of relations regulated by legal norms are established [6].

2. Materials and Methods

A proper understanding of the content, characteristics, and features of public order makes it possible to address a wide range of social issues, including improving criminal legislation and other legal norms, ensuring compliance with legislation, strengthening the efforts of state bodies, public organizations, and citizens to combat violations of public order, and improving the quality of investigative and judicial practice.

According to researchers, the following characteristics of public order can be distinguished:

First, public order, taken as an integral whole, is determined by the mode of production, in other words, by the objective economic laws governing the rules of social life and development;

Second, in terms of its content, it represents an order of social relations that are progressive in nature under the conditions of a particular social system;

Third, from the perspective of its social role and function, public order should eliminate all forms of disorder, including anarchy, oppression, arbitrariness, and similar manifestations.

In this regard, Russian scholars S.S. Yassenko, S.M. Zabelov, I.N. Danshin, Y.A. Sokolov, I.I. Veremeyenko, and others have expressed their views [2, pp. 6–21].

The concepts of “public order” and “public safety” differ in terms of the ambiguity of their interpretation. These factors negatively affect law-enforcement practice and hinder the precise legal regulation of the powers and responsibilities of state structures and local self-government bodies in the field of protection, as well as the forms and methods of their activities aimed at ensuring the rights and legitimate interests of individuals, society, and the state.

In this regard, the systematization of theoretical and empirical materials accumulated through relevant research may be regarded as an attempt to interpret them from the perspectives of administrative law and military history. Within this framework, the formation and activities, structural transformations, and various challenges of structures responsible for maintaining public order and ensuring public safety in the administrative and political spheres are traditionally studied.

The development of the international legal foundations of state security is naturally influenced by two directions in the positions of states: the aspiration for mutual cooperation and the protection of their sovereignty and political and economic independence against external threats. In this regard, trends in the socio-political and legal spheres are

observed within the international legal order, which, in turn, constitutes the theoretical and methodological basis for developing and strengthening a new model of international legal order that corresponds to the interests of all states and, essentially, to their national and domestic security interests. For legal scholars, the concepts of “security” and “order” occupy a central place within the category of “international legal order.” They are generally interpreted as the order and rules according to which relations concerning public interactions are conducted.

3. Results and Discussion

The concept of “security” should correspond to universal ideas embodied in international law and presuppose certain relations among states established and regulated by international legal norms. As M.I. Lazarev noted, “...this is not a part of public order, but rather the entirety of public order, which must comply with international law, its fundamental principles, the UN Charter, and the principles and norms coordinating them. Concepts and rules that do not comply with the law can no longer be considered public order” [7].

The general theory of law also confirms the need to take into account the socio-political dimension of states’ actions in implementing their relations within the international legal order. Within legal theory, the category of “national security” can be considered in socio-political and legal contexts. The essence of the concept of “security” lies in the fact that it reflects both “social objectives” and the specific outcome of legal regulation. As A.M. Vasilev noted, “The legislator always seeks to influence public relations, shape them in accordance with its interests, and ensure an order favorable to itself. As a result, this leads to the regulation of public relations through all available legal means” [8]. Based on these positions, legal systems existing in different states differ from one another. Each of them possesses its own specific socio-political and legal characteristics.

At the same time, according to the authors, the concept of “public safety” should be applied not only as a theoretical component, reflected in the norms of international law, but also in practical life and international relations. In this regard, N.A. Ushakov emphasized that “...compliance by states with their international obligations constitutes the foundation of the international legal order” [9].

In the modern world, issues related to ensuring public safety have become particularly urgent and significant. Events and various factors emerging within a changing system of social relations necessitate the search for new forms and methods of organizing public safety. In this regard, it is appropriate to examine the experience of foreign countries in addressing these issues. First and foremost, however, it is necessary to determine the conceptual foundations of the relevant concept. For example, according to French legal scholars, the term “security” refers to “indeterminate legal concepts” that have not been defined by the legislature and therefore leave room for discretion in the actions of law-enforcement officials, including police officers and gendarmes. German legal scholar R. Zamper considers “public safety” to be an undefined legal concept. This means that it should be understood as the condition or conduct protected by the police that ensures public safety and order in a particular situation, at a particular place and time [10]

The category of public safety is also reflected in the legislation of foreign countries concerning mass media. For example, the Swedish Freedom of the Press Act establishes procedures for controlling unlawful statements or publications. These include information constituting a state secret, treason, incitement to aggression and military actions, rebellion, calls for criminal activity, dissemination of rumors threatening state security, and other similar acts [11].

On December 1, 2021, the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan adopted the Resolution “On Measures to Develop Military Science within the System of the Armed Forces

of the Republic of Uzbekistan.” The Resolution identified tasks related to studying and popularizing the rich military heritage of our great ancestors, their leadership and command skills, and the history of national military art as a whole; systematically analyzing threats and risks to international, regional, and national security in the military sphere; developing military art through research into the characteristics of modern armed conflicts; and conducting fundamental and applied research into the psychological environment within military units [12].

At the same time, on November 17, 2021, the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan adopted the Resolution “On Measures to Increase the Effectiveness of Work on the Study of Military History.” The Resolution provides for strengthening the effectiveness of efforts to preserve, on the basis of historical evidence, the achievements and glory attained in the military sphere during the emergence and development of our national statehood in the consciousness and memory of contemporaries and to convey them as widely as possible to the public, particularly to the younger generation. It also aims to strengthen in young people a worldview based on national values, a sense of belonging to the civilization of their nation, love and devotion to the Motherland, and a sense of justice; to study the rich secrets of the art of warfare inherited from our great commanders; and to further improve the effectiveness of efforts to prepare popular-scientific, literary, educational, and methodological publications, including materials developed using multimedia technologies [13].

On the basis of the above-mentioned Resolution, the “In the Footsteps of Ancestors” (“Ajddodlar izidan”) Military-Historical Society was established as a non-governmental non-profit organization in the form of an institution. Its principal areas of activity were defined as follows:

- organizing and conducting the collection of descriptions and accounts of historical documents and events of military-historical significance that took place in ancient times, the Middle Ages, and recent history within the territory of Uzbekistan and beyond its borders through specially established search groups and expeditions;

- studying the activities of military commanders, leaders, tribal and popular leaders, and other prominent figures who lived in these territories and demonstrated heroism in the struggle for the freedom and independence of their people against invaders [14];

- conducting research and archival searches, in accordance with established procedures, in museums, libraries, and archives in Uzbekistan, as well as in similar institutions abroad;

- systematizing collected information with the involvement of prominent scholars, historians, archaeologists, and other specialists;

- creating a map of military-historical events that took place in the history of Uzbekistan, reflecting in textual and graphic form the strategies and methods of warfare used by participants and leaders of military campaigns and national liberation struggles;

- organizing the study of military-historical cultural heritage sites in different regions on the basis of the map of military-historical events in Uzbekistan, involving state and non-governmental organizations and volunteers, as well as assisting in the development of monuments and museum complexes depicting historical events for the purpose of organizing excursions for foreign visitors, local residents, especially school pupils and university students [15].

In general, a number of measures are being implemented in Uzbekistan to conduct in-depth studies of the national military heritage. In this regard, the consistent study of the experience of foreign countries and international organizations, together with further deepening reforms on the basis of modern approaches, can contribute to incorporating the rich heritage of our ancestors into the consciousness of present generations and, through

this, enhancing the military-patriotic education of broad segments of the population, particularly young people.

There are a number of international organizations and associations operating in the field of studying military heritage and military history around the world. In particular, the International Commission of Military History, a non-governmental and non-profit international organization, operates within the International Committee of Historical Sciences. Its principal objective is to promote and coordinate research and scholarly work in the field of military history in the broadest sense and in the spirit of international friendship, while creating conditions for scholars to become better acquainted with one another, cooperate, and exchange experience and research findings.

The organization promotes military-historical research, publications, and education at the international level and coordinates research in such major areas of military history as the history of wars, armed forces, diplomatic aspects of military conflicts, the causes and consequences of wars, defense economics, civil-military relations, military technologies, military leadership, and the demographics of armed forces. Its organizational structure is based on governing bodies, national commissions, and specialized committees dealing with archives, bibliography, and education. Each national commission operates autonomously and organizes military-historical activities in its respective country. In some countries, national commissions are affiliated with ministries of defense, while in others they operate under private scholarly organizations. In both cases, the principal task of national commissions is to promote cooperation between civilians and military personnel.

The organization's permanent activities include annual international congresses and publication of their proceedings; publication of the journal "International Journal of Military History and Historiography" since 1978; publication of the "International Review of Military History" since 1939; awarding the "André Corvisier Prize" for doctoral dissertations specializing in military history since 2017; and publication of an "Information Bulletin" twice a year since 2003. At present, national commissions from 41 countries across four continents are members of the organization's council. The organization's activities are regulated by its Statutes, which consist of nine sections and 40 articles.

In order to expand international cooperation in the development of military history in Uzbekistan, actively utilize foreign experience and methodologies in the study of military history, establish cooperation with foreign military historians and scholars, translate their works, obtain copies of sources and literature on Uzbekistan's military history preserved in foreign archives and libraries, and integrate research in the field of military history into the global scientific community, it would be appropriate to establish a National Commission for Military History in Uzbekistan and seek its inclusion in the International Commission of Military History. In this regard, in accordance with Article 6 of Section III of the organization's Statutes, only one national commission from each country may be admitted to the organization. In addition, the following requirements must be fulfilled:

- have an executive office, as well as a President and Secretary-General of the National Commission;

- coordinate military-historical research conducted by civilian and military institutions, including ministries, defense organizations, universities, research centers, archives, libraries, museums, and other relevant institutions;

- pay the membership fee to the international organization and fulfill other requirements established by its Statutes.

Based on an analysis of existing problems in the development of military history, scholarly considerations regarding their resolution, and modern approaches to further developing the study of the national military heritage, the following proposals and recommendations are considered appropriate:

First, targeted training of specialists in the study of national military heritage should be established, with particular emphasis on increasing the number of academically qualified specialists and staffing higher military educational institutions, especially the Institute of Military Heritage and Contemporary Research of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Uzbekistan, with such professionals. Priority should be given to specialists possessing analytical and critical thinking skills, the ability to work with archival documents and primary sources, and foreign-language proficiency.

Second, strengthening international cooperation in the study and popularization of military history is an imperative of the present day. In this regard, it would be appropriate to allocate a separate quota within the "El-Yurt Umidi" Foundation for scholars conducting research in military history to undertake internships and professional development programs abroad; invite compatriots living abroad; create appropriate conditions for attracting specialists of Uzbek origin with advanced international experience in the field to positions within the Armed Forces; conduct targeted research on participants and heroes of the Second World War and the Afghan War with the support of international committees and foundations; and establish active cooperation with UNESCO with a view to including military heritage sites in international heritage lists, incorporating national military heritage traditions into the "World Nomad Games," and proposing military commanders and heroes for inclusion in the "Memory of the World" register.

Third, there is a need to integrate and simplify research in the field of military history. In this regard, it is necessary to establish the functioning of permanent Scientific Councils specializing in military history, where both open and classified scholarly works can be defended; broadly involve distinguished scholars and professors who have authorization to work with classified documents; systematically prepare Doctor of Philosophy and Doctor of Science dissertations in this field; and, after thoroughly studying international experience, create a bank of dissertation topics on military heritage and military history.

Fourth, it is necessary to compile an initial list of national commanders and heroes who have left a profound mark on the military history of Uzbekistan and assign the study of their activities and legacy to educational institutions. This should include the preparation and regular updating of a chronological list of commanders and heroes from the earliest periods to the present day and the continuation of the practice of assigning individual historical figures to specific higher and higher military educational institutions for systematic study.

Fifth, efforts to implement research projects should be strengthened, particularly by increasing the quantity and quality of domestic and international grant-funded projects. At the same time, information technologies and digitalization should be widely introduced into the field. In particular, the creation of a "Military Heritage" digital platform, the development of electronic versions of national military encyclopedias and dictionaries within the framework of relevant projects, their commercialization, and their wider dissemination would contribute significantly to the development of the field.

There are a number of problems in conducting military-historical research in Uzbekistan and increasing its theoretical and methodological significance. These problems can be explained by the following factors:

4. Conclusion

In existing research and scholarly works, including textbooks, teaching manuals, methodological manuals, guidelines, and other publications, the issue of public safety has not been studied as a fundamental research area. In most cases, relevant information has to be extracted from the chronological narration of events within the broader framework of military history. For example, during descriptions of events related to the Second World War, relatively limited information concerning public safety can be found in accounts of

rear-area security, the fight against banditry, and the protection and escorting of prisoners of war (convoy operations). This is because the administration of public safety in the territory of Uzbekistan was associated with the activities of the NKVD bodies from 1917 onward, with a reorganization taking place in 1934, and most of the information relating to the NKVD was classified. Today, documents from the period of 1917–1960 have been declassified, creating new opportunities to improve research on these topics. There are also certain inconsistencies in studying the history of institutions responsible for ensuring public safety. More precisely, frequent structural changes in the military sphere have created difficulties in obtaining and analyzing substantiated information concerning their activities. Most materials related to the subject are archival documents, while other literature suitable for comparative analysis is limited. At the same time, it is impossible to fully cover the topic solely on the basis of archival materials held in Uzbekistan; therefore, it is advisable to study relevant materials preserved in foreign archives as well. This is because the National Archive of Uzbekistan and the archives of the Armed Forces and law-enforcement agencies mainly preserve documents dating from after 1960. Documents from earlier periods are held in archives of foreign countries, particularly in a number of archives of the Russian Federation, as well as in archives in Belarus and Ukraine. Accordingly, in studying this topic, relevant documents were examined in the State Archive of the Russian Federation, the Russian State Military Archive, the Russian State Documentary Film and Photo Archive, and the Central Archive of the Ministry of Defense of the Russian Federation. The studies conducted by domestic and foreign scholars on public order, internal security, as well as the history of internal troops and their activities during different historical periods, served as the methodological foundation for the dissertation.

REFERENCES

- [1] President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, “Speech at the expanded meeting of the Security Council of the Republic of Uzbekistan,” Jan. 12, 2021. [Online]. Available: [President of Uzbekistan](#)
- [2] T. U. Umurov, *Public Order and Legislation [Jamoat tartibi va qonunchilik]*. Tashkent, USSR: Uzbekistan, 1984, pp. 6–21.
- [3] M. I. Lazarev, “Collective security as a guarantee of peaceful existence” [*Kollektivnaya bezopasnost — garantiya mirnogo sushchestvovaniya*], *Pravovedenie*, no. 1, pp. 181–182, 1964.
- [4] A. M. Vasiliev, *Legal Categories: Methodological Aspects of Developing a System of Categories of the Theory of Law [Pravovye kategorii: Metodologicheskie aspekty razrabotki sistemy kategoriy teorii prava]*. Moscow, USSR: Yuridicheskaya Literatura, 1976, p. 99.
- [5] N. A. Ushakov, *The State in the System of International Legal Regulation [Gosudarstvo v sisteme mezhdunarodno-pravovogo regulirovaniya]*. Moscow, Russia, 1997, p. 29.
- [6] R. Samper, *Kommentar zum Bayerischen Polizeiaufgabengesetz [Commentary on the Bavarian Police Duties Act]*. Munich, Germany, 1965, p. 23.
- [7] Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan, “On measures to improve the effectiveness of work on the study of military history,” Resolution No. 692, Nov. 17, 2021. [Online]. Available: [LexUZ](#)

-
- [8] International Committee of Historical Sciences (CISH/ICHS), "International Committee of Historical Sciences." [Online]. Available: [CISH official website](#)
 - [9] International Commission of Military History (ICMH/CIHM), "History of the International Commission of Military History." [Online]. Available: [ICMH history](#)
 - [10] International Commission of Military History (ICMH/CIHM), "Statutes of the International Commission of Military History." [Online]. Available: ICMH statutes
 - [11] J. Black, *Rethinking Military History*. London, UK: Routledge, 2004.
 - [12] S. Morillo and M. F. Pavkovic, *What Is Military History?*, 3rd ed. Cambridge, UK: Polity Press, 2018.
 - [13] W. Murray and R. H. Sinnreich, Eds., *The Past as Prologue: The Importance of History to the Military Profession*. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press, 2006.
 - [14] A. Gat, *A History of Military Thought: From the Enlightenment to the Cold War*. Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press, 2001.
 - [15] M. Howard, "Military history and the history of war," in *The Past as Prologue: The Importance of History to the Military Profession*, W. Murray and R. H. Sinnreich, Eds. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press, 2006, pp. 12–22.