

YOUTH ARE THE NATION'S FUTURE: ESSENTIAL STEPS TOWARD SPIRITUAL MATURITY AND PERSONAL PERFECTION

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Abstract

Ideological immunity consists of a system of ideological views and values that serve to protect an individual, social group, nation, society from various harmful ideological influences. Ideological immunity originates from the most delicate aspects of the life of our society, from the feelings, goals and aspirations of our citizens, from their spiritual-educational and spiritual-moral level. If the ideology is directly related to the honor of humanity, only if it originates from the feelings of a person, it will have the ability to control a person and people and will be able to mobilize people in the way of building a Great Uzbekistan in our country.

Keywords: Digitalization, Central Asian languages, artificial intelligence, language policy, internet, e-learning, linguistic technologies, national culture.

Introduction

After gaining independence, the need to strengthen Uzbekistan economically, politically, legally, and spiritually became even more urgent. This, in turn, increased the demand in society for well-rounded, knowledgeable, and spiritually mature individuals. Because the development of the state, the formation of a civil society, and the successful transition to a market economy primarily depend on the human factor, namely the upbringing of a morally and intellectually complete person.

Therefore, from the very early years of independence, reforming the education system, equipping the younger generation with modern knowledge and professional skills, and educating them in the spirit of national and universal values became a priority of state policy. Reforms in the education sector, the

activities of youth organizations, and state programs aimed at developing a healthy generation have all served these very goals.

A “perfect human being” refers to a person who possesses deep knowledge, is capable of independent thinking, has a strong sense of national identity, is loyal to the Motherland, actively participates in social life, and is spiritually and morally mature. Such an individual values the heritage of their ancestors, relies on modern thinking, and deeply feels responsibility for the progress of society.

Moreover, human happiness is closely connected with one’s inner world and beliefs. A person who lives in accordance with their conscience and spiritual values, and is able to find contentment in life, can be regarded as truly happy. This is because all human activity, thinking, and worldview are ultimately shaped and reflected through the ideas and values formed in the mind.

Today, the most important task is to educate the younger generation in the spirit of high spirituality, broad thinking, and strong belief, while strengthening in them a sense of love for the Motherland, national pride, and civic responsibility. Only in this way can a well-rounded generation be formed in society, ensuring the stable and continuous development of the country.

Indeed, all human activity—from the simplest actions to the pursuit of high social goals—is first formed in the mind and only then takes on practical expression accordingly. Therefore, the ideas, beliefs, and worldview shaped in a person’s thinking directly determine their character, behavior, and overall way of life.

Today, the most urgent task is the comprehensive development of all members of society, especially the younger generation coming of age. It is important to strengthen in their hearts respect for national ideology and values, a sense of love and loyalty to the Motherland, self-awareness, and upbringing in the spirit of national and universal values. Because the stable development of any society primarily depends on a spiritually mature generation.

At the same time, modern development shows that the main driving force behind changes in society is the renewal of human thinking. People’s attitude toward their environment, their sense of involvement in social processes, their political activity, and the growth of their civic position have become important indicators of societal development.

Reforms implemented in the field of education and upbringing also serve this very purpose. Through the modernization of the personnel training system, the development of school education, and the formation of a new generation

education system, efforts are being made to raise knowledgeable, independently thinking, and spiritually mature young people in society. This, in turn, lays a strong foundation for the future development of the country.

As a result, we have succeeded in forming a generation that thinks independently, in a new way, and is capable of meeting the demands of the modern era. “Today, our children who are able to take into their own hands the future and destiny of our Motherland are stepping onto the podium,” emphasizes the First President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Islom Karimov¹.

The upbringing of a well-rounded generation has been one of the highest aspirations of humanity throughout history. However, this idea has not always held equal importance in all societies. It was primarily in countries where enlightenment and culture were highly developed that scholars and intellectuals paid special attention to this issue.

In the land of Uzbekistan, such views have been formed since ancient times and have been passed down from generation to generation through a rich spiritual heritage. This clearly demonstrates that the pursuit of enlightenment is an age-old and inherent virtue of our people.

The great thinker Abu Nasr al-Farabi, in his work “*The Virtuous City*,” describes the ideal model of society as a community of highly moral and spiritually mature individuals. According to him, a truly virtuous person deeply understands and follows the laws and rules of society, excels in their profession, and is ready to sacrifice themselves for the Motherland when necessary.

In such a society, people live in mutual respect and harmony, where love, honor, and ethical values prevail between parents and children, teachers and students. These ideas clearly demonstrate the high level of spiritual and intellectual thought of our ancestors.

Looking at history, we can see that during the era of Amir Temur, great attention was also paid to the development of science and culture. Historical sources note that he relied on the advice of scholars in governance and showed great respect for people of knowledge. The architectural monuments built during that period are still recognized today as masterpieces of world civilization.

¹ The main task, as stated by I. A. Karimov, is to reform and democratize our society and to elevate the processes of modernizing our country to a new stage. Speech delivered at the solemn ceremony dedicated to the 23rd anniversary of the adoption of the Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan. *Adolat* newspaper, December 6, 2015, No. 50 (1061).

However, history also shows that when societies drift away from spiritual values and when ignorance and negligence increase, any civilization begins to decline. Therefore, even today, the upbringing of a well-rounded generation and the promotion of spirituality and enlightenment remain among the most important tasks.

The strength of a state depends not on its foundation alone, but on the quality of every “brick” placed upon that foundation—namely, the level of knowledge, spirituality, and responsibility of its citizens. History shows that the loss of independence of Turkestan in the second half of the 19th century was primarily caused by ignorance, distancing from science, and internal weakness.

Ignorance never accepts science and progress. In an environment dominated by ignorance, narrow thinking and limited “rules” begin to form, which gradually hinder social development. In such conditions, it becomes difficult not only to develop new knowledge, but also to preserve the rich scientific and spiritual heritage inherited from our ancestors. As a result, the statehood of Amir Temur, the ideas of a virtuous society by Abu Nasr al-Farabi, the medical legacy of Ibn Sina, the scientific discoveries of Muhammad al-Khwarizmi, the encyclopedic contributions of Abu Rayhan Beruni, and the astronomical achievements of Mirzo Ulugbek were forgotten and remained only in the pages of history. Where there is no dream or purpose, development comes to a halt.

For this reason, at the end of the 19th century, ideas of national awakening once again emerged in Turkestan. Deeply analyzing the consequences of colonialism and ignorance, the Jadid enlightenment movement saw the solution in the development of education and science. Among them, Mahmudkhoja Behbudi played a particularly important role. With his famous idea that “To live in this world, secular science and knowledge are necessary,” he emphasized that the foundation of societal progress lies in science and education. In his view, a nation deprived of modern knowledge inevitably lags behind more developed countries. During this period, reform-minded educators such as Munavvarqori Abdurashidxonov, Abdulla Avloni, Abdurauf Fitrat, Ashurali Zohiri, and Abdukadir Shakuriy made significant contributions to educational reform. They established new-method schools, created modern textbooks, and worked to educate the younger generation, thereby striving to lead the nation onto the path of progress through knowledge and enlightenment.

Here is a polished, coherent English version suitable for academic use:

Historical processes clearly show that during different stages of the colonial period, the most important task facing national intellectuals was the reform of the education system and the widespread promotion of enlightenment. This is because the independence and stable development of society can only be ensured through the harmony of science and spirituality.

In the next stage—the period of the collapse of the so-called “Red Empire”—issues of education and personnel training also became central to social development. Analytical sources and the press of that time clearly indicate that special attention was paid to reforming the education system and training qualified specialists. This is because sustainable development in any field cannot be achieved without sufficient professional capacity. Therefore, proper training of personnel, valuing their work, trusting them, and providing continuous support were recognized as essential conditions for progress.

The idea of reforming the education system had been put forward much earlier, with an emphasis on increasing the general and professional knowledge of the population, improving literacy, and establishing a system of continuous education as key priorities of societal development. Historical experience has proven that progress is impossible without deep knowledge and strong professional skills.

History also shows that in every period of crisis or transformation, special attention is again directed toward human resources. This is because the future of a state, as well as its ability to preserve independence and ensure development, directly depends on the potential of knowledgeable, devoted, and responsible professionals.

The idea of freedom and independence is valued not only for achieving it, but also for preserving and strengthening it. This, in turn, creates the need to educate a generation that is enlightened, knowledgeable, and spiritually mature. Therefore, issues of education and upbringing have always remained at the center of societal development.

In the post-1989 period, a more comprehensive and systematic approach to personnel training became evident. During this time, the need to prepare a skilled workforce was emphasized as a key factor of development, and the future of the republic was directly linked to training qualified personnel for industry and the economy.

Despite this, the existing vocational and technical education system was not sufficiently effective in training specialists for modern industrial professions, and many educational institutions were not fully equipped with up-to-date technology and production facilities. As a result, some major industrial sectors experienced a shortage of labor force, leaving numerous job positions unfilled. The main causes of this situation were identified as inadequate labor market planning, shortcomings in the personnel training system, and deficiencies in career guidance for young people. At the same time, certain approaches included stereotypical views that limited the opportunities of the local population to work in industrial sectors, and such views were strongly criticized. It was emphasized that these ideas lacked scientific basis and, on the contrary, seriously hindered personnel policy and social development.

In general, the need for a fundamental renewal of the system for training workers and engineering-technical personnel became clearly evident. This requires strengthening the integration between education and production, developing modern vocational education, and preparing young people based on real economic needs. From this perspective, if society aims to overcome poverty and backwardness, it must first and foremost give serious attention to equipping the younger generation with modern knowledge and professions. The resources and efforts invested in this direction are considered the most important investment in future development.

The issue of training highly qualified national specialists has always been regarded as one of the key directions of state development. For this purpose, the importance of sending young people to advanced educational centers in developed countries and establishing a system for acquiring modern knowledge and experience was specially emphasized. This is because the future of a country on the path of independent development primarily depends on the knowledge level, professional skills, and moral maturity of today's youth. Therefore, educating the younger generation as fully developed individuals has become a priority of state policy.

Education and upbringing are the main factors shaping human consciousness and at the same time determine the intellectual level of society. That is why without fundamental reform of the education system, it is impossible to renew societal thinking and achieve development. In the process of building a legal democratic state based on a market economy and a free civil society, large-scale reforms are

being implemented in the field of education. The adoption and implementation of laws such as the “Law on Education” and the “National Program for Personnel Training” are clear evidence of this.

Prioritizing education is not accidental. Education is the driving force of social development, as it:

- ensures the socio-economic and spiritual development of the country;
- contributes to the formation of civil society and strengthening of the rule of law;
- enables the training of competitive and highly qualified professionals.

As a result, the development of the education system creates a solid foundation for Uzbekistan to gain a worthy place in the fields of science, culture, art, economy, and industry within the global community. In the context of independent Uzbekistan, special attention is being paid to reforming the education system and developing it on the basis of modern standards. This is because education and upbringing are the main pillars of social progress, and general secondary schools, in particular, play a decisive role in this process.

The school teaching and educational process is complex, multifaceted, and continuous, and its effectiveness directly depends on the professional competence of teachers and educators. Raising a healthy and well-rounded generation is closely linked to the knowledge level, professional training, pedagogical ability, and skills of educators working within the continuous education system. Therefore, teachers’ scientific worldview, pedagogical and psychological knowledge, and mastery of modern methodological approaches are among the key factors determining the quality of education.

One of the important aspects of the pedagogical process is the teacher’s ability to correctly assess educational situations, make prompt decisions, and effectively organize the learning process. At the same time, education is not only about transferring knowledge but also about creating an atmosphere of mutual respect, sincere communication, and cooperation between teacher and student.

The effectiveness of education and upbringing is directly connected to the teacher’s scientific potential, professional reputation, research activities, and teaching experience. Therefore, a teacher must continuously work on themselves, update their knowledge, and improve their professional skills. Pedagogical mastery is not innate; rather, it is the result of continuous study, hard work, and creative activity. Studying the experience of advanced educators, applying it in

practice, and creatively developing it are also important in improving the quality of education, contributing to the widespread introduction of innovative approaches in the education system.

Today, one of the most pressing tasks facing our country is the upbringing of a comprehensively developed, spiritually mature, and independently thinking younger generation. Today's pupils and students are the main force that will determine the development of tomorrow's society. At the same time, the development of the education system also plays an important role in increasing economic efficiency, modernizing production, and training a skilled workforce.

The close interconnection between education and the economy is one of the main conditions of social development. The adoption of the Law "On Education" and the "National Program for Personnel Training" in our country marked an important step toward fundamentally renewing the education system and aligning it with international standards. These reforms contribute to enhancing the legal awareness, spiritual culture, and professional potential of young people.

In conclusion, the future of independent Uzbekistan, its development, and the prosperity of its people directly depend on the quality of the education system, the knowledge level of the younger generation, and their spiritual maturity. Therefore, the development of education remains one of the highest priorities of state policy.

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