

THE UNITY OF NATIONALISM AND UNIVERSALISM IN UZBEK MENTALITY

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Abstract

This article scientifically analyzes the unity of nationalism and universalism in Uzbek mentality, focusing on the social perceptions, mood, behavioral norms, experiences, knowledge, needs, values, and ideals of the Uzbek people. It explores how all these elements integrate both national and universal aspects. The article examines the influence of national and universal values on social progress, the formation of a new lifestyle, relations with other nations and peoples, social mood, national behavior norms, national experiences, needs, values, and ideals.

Keywords: Uzbek national mentality, nationalism, universalism, social progress, new lifestyle, relations with other nations and peoples, social mood, national behavior norms, national experiences, national needs, national values, and ideals.

Introduction

The Uzbek national mentality has historically been shaped by a harmonious blending of both national and universal human values. Every nation is valuable not only for its unique history, culture, and traditions but also for its ability to evolve and progress by adhering to universal principles that transcend national borders. The Uzbek people, while staying true to their national identity, have embraced these universal values and continue to make efforts to live in harmony with the rest of the world.

At the heart of this integration lies the concept of nationality. Nationality can be understood as the preservation of a people's unique characteristics—traits that make them distinct from other nations. These traits are most clearly expressed through the language, culture, traditions, and way of life of the people. For the Uzbek people, their nationality manifests itself in several important ways. The Uzbek language is central to defining national identity. It is not merely a means of

communication but also a symbol of cultural heritage and national pride. The language carries the history, traditions, and worldview of the people, and it plays an essential role in maintaining the unique character of the Uzbek nation.

Uzbek culture is rich in traditions of art, music, and craftsmanship. National art forms, including Uzbek music, handicrafts, and theater, are an integral part of the people's collective identity. These forms of expression not only celebrate national heritage but also create a sense of belonging and unity among the people. One of the most cherished aspects of Uzbek nationality is the deep-rooted respect for customs and traditions. The values of hospitality, respect for elders, and a strong emphasis on family life are pivotal in the formation of a cohesive and supportive society. National traditions, such as weddings, the celebration of Navruz (the Persian New Year), communal work (khashar), and the preparation and sharing of national cuisine, serve as living embodiments of these social values.

Universalism, on the other hand, refers to a set of values and principles that apply to all human beings, regardless of national or cultural differences. Universalism is not confined by borders or ethnic groups; it is rooted in the idea that certain fundamental human rights and values should be upheld globally. These values include humanity and tolerance, which respect human rights, regardless of nationality, religion, or race. It promotes an inclusive society where every individual is treated with dignity and respect. Progress through knowledge, learning, and enlightenment—science and education—drives social and economic development on a global scale. Justice and peace focus on creating peaceful, just societies for all nations and peoples. This calls for fairness, equality, and the protection of human rights on a global scale. Cooperation and development emphasize the importance of working together to solve common challenges such as climate change, poverty, and conflict.

In Uzbekistan, the fusion of national and universal values has been a significant driving force in the country's development. This integration is reflected in several key aspects of Uzbek society. The Uzbek national family structure is both a cornerstone of national identity and a reflection of universal human values. The emphasis on respect for parents and the commitment to providing children with a good education align with universal values found across all cultures. Similarly, the focus on gender equality, women's rights, and equality within family relationships is a direct expression of universalism in modern Uzbek society.

One of the main factors in harmonizing national and universal values in Uzbekistan is the unity of religion and spirituality. Uzbekistan is a multi-ethnic and multi-confessional society, where representatives of different religions live together in peace and mutual respect. This interfaith tolerance and the respect for human rights are crucial expressions of universal values. Furthermore, the principles of humanitarianism in Islam share commonalities with other world religions, fostering a spirit of compassion, respect, and unity.

The development of science and technology also plays a vital role in the synthesis of national and universal values in Uzbekistan. The country places a significant emphasis on the advancement of science and innovation, integrating modern technologies into every aspect of life. Uzbek scholars, such as Abu Rayhan Biruni, Mirzo Ulugbek, and Ibn Sina, have made groundbreaking contributions to the development of human knowledge, leaving an indelible mark on world civilization. Today, Uzbekistan continues to prioritize science and technology, with modern educational methods and international collaboration shaping the future of the country. The integration of national culture with universal art is another example of how Uzbekistan balances its unique heritage with global trends. Uzbek music, dance, and arts have earned recognition in the global cultural scene, with Uzbek national music and the architecture of Bukhara and Samarkand being listed as UNESCO World Heritage sites. The performance of traditional Uzbek music and theater at international cultural festivals exemplifies the fusion of national identity with the broader global culture.

Historically, Uzbekistan has been a melting pot of cultures, ideas, and traditions due to its strategic location along the ancient Silk Road. This exchange between different peoples has allowed Uzbekistan to maintain its national identity while being influenced by external cultures and religions. Notably, figures such as Amir Timur and his descendants contributed significantly to world culture and science. The scientific and cultural centers in Samarkand and Bukhara became hubs for intellectual exchange, shaping the course of world history.

In the post-independence period, Uzbekistan has placed a strong emphasis on the integration of national and universal values. The restoration of national identity, the promotion of national culture, and the development of international cooperation have become key objectives of state policy. Modern education, the adoption of international innovations, and the application of universal values are fundamental

in ensuring that Uzbekistan remains connected to global progress while preserving its cultural heritage.

Looking to the future, Uzbekistan aims to strike a balance between preserving its national identity and embracing the opportunities of global development. The country is focused on preserving and developing national traditions and cultural heritage, strengthening international cooperation and building relationships with other nations, mastering scientific and technological advancements to drive progress, promoting human rights, tolerance, and peaceful coexistence, and educating future generations in the spirit of both national and universal values.

In conclusion, the Uzbek national mentality is a unique blend of national identity and universalism, where each element complements and enriches the other. Nationality allows the people of Uzbekistan to preserve their distinct cultural identity and heritage, while universalism ensures their integration into the global community. By harmonizing these two forces, Uzbekistan strives to maintain its cultural uniqueness while actively participating in the progress and development of the world.

Nationality allows a person to preserve their identity and protect their cultural heritage, while universalism ensures that they are in harmony with global progress. Uzbekistan is striving to maintain its national identity while taking a rightful place in the global community.

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