



## **YOUTH EDUCATION IS THE FOUNDATION OF OUR FUTURE**

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### **Abstract**

This article provides information about the attention given to the education of modern youth, the creation of favourable conditions for their development, and the view of youth as the foundation of our future. It also highlights activities aimed at raising a mature, healthy, and well-rounded generation.

**Keywords:** Social protection, youth, education and upbringing, future generation, greatness and wisdom, will of the people, strong family, modern information and technologies.

### **Introduction**

As our great-grandfather A. Avloni once said, “Education is a matter of life, death, salvation, destruction, happiness, or disaster for us.” It would not be an exaggeration to say that these words, which deeply provoke thought and are as precious as pure gold, embody an understanding of education that few have expressed so powerfully. Clearly, this is no coincidence. All scholars, thinkers, and intellectuals of our nation have linked the development of society, the prosperity of the country, and the presence of peace and stability to the education of the youth—and rightly so. Wherever efforts have been made to integrate education with upbringing, national values, traditions, and cultural mentality, progress and development have followed. Conversely, where the education and upbringing of the younger generation have been neglected, crises and national conflicts have emerged. At times, if we make even a small mistake in raising a child—or if we belittle them or involve them in family disputes—they may become mentally fragile and lose self-confidence. As they grow, they may begin to see themselves as outsiders, easily manipulated by others, and their sense of identity may gradually fade. To avoid such outcomes, parents must first understand themselves well and learn to manage their emotions. They must realize that what seems like a minor issue to an adult can have a major impact on a child's entire future. Of course, this

is only part of the problem. In such situations, many parents need at least basic psychological literacy to identify the root of the issue.

## MAIN PART

Educators play a crucial role in partnership with families in the formation of a child's education. Therefore, a child's development is shaped through the combined influences of preschool education, family, and society. The family is often referred to as "a small state within a state." Within this small state, a new individual—a new representative of society—is born. The family becomes this person's first source of nourishment for life. As such, parents are the child's first teachers and educators. To raise a well-rounded and spiritually mature child, parents must first possess high moral standards. They should not view child-rearing as a private matter alone. In fact, raising a child is a civic duty—an obligation to society, a responsibility to the state, and a commitment to their extended family and heritage. This is why the moral standing and reputation of parents serve as a spiritual foundation in a child's upbringing. This spiritual nourishment lays a strong foundation for guiding children toward a brighter future. Parents who take an active interest in their children's lives, lead them with fairness and wisdom, and balance work, social activities, and family responsibilities, serve as positive role models—they are reputable parents. Such individuals are wise and attentive, ensuring the proper upbringing of their children both at home and in preschool settings. They are members of exemplary families. According to scientific research, human personality is shaped by three main factors: the influence of the external social environment in which a person is born and raised, the impact of systematic social education over time, and lastly, the effect of hereditary traits passed down through generations.

Abdurauf Fitrat, one of the prominent figures of independence literature, once said: "If you love your religion, your homeland, animals, the soul, and future generations—if you desire the liberation of religion, the development of Sharia, the prosperity of the homeland, peace for future generations, and a lasting good name—then your first priority must be education. Send those who are capable to pursue knowledge through education."

This quote clearly reflects how deeply the great scholar valued the future of the nation and the Motherland, placing the education of the youth at the heart of progress and preservation.



Indeed, our young people are being raised differently today. At this point, we find it appropriate to share some thoughts on the evolutionary changes and advancements in youth education during the years of independence, as well as the tasks that still lie ahead. In particular, as we all know, during the Soviet authoritarian regime, our national customs, traditions, and values—essentially, the traditional Uzbek elements of education—suffered greatly. While the form remained Uzbek, we began to drift away from Uzbek culture in terms of content. This was especially noticeable in our national culture, way of thinking, consciousness, and behavior.

In the relatively short period since gaining national independence, we have realized the aspirations once dreamed of by great thinkers and scholars, and our country has embarked on a completely new path of development. Speaking on this matter, the former President of Uzbekistan, Islam Karimov, once said: "People give their lives for justice, fight for justice, and make great sacrifices for it. Today, such brave individuals are growing up in Uzbekistan. When I look at our youth today, I think: 'Hey, you are being raised differently—completely differently! We did not have such opportunities and conditions when we were young. We lived in a different era; we were the product of a different ideology.'"

As long as our youth lack specific knowledge and skills in areas such as the democratization of state power and governance, the formation and development of civil society institutions, the deepening of democratic market reforms and economic liberalization, the judicial system, voting rights, and freedom of speech, it is difficult to expect their active participation in these processes.

What matters most is that young men and women understand their goals and responsibilities in accordance with the ideals of national independence. In other words, if our youth are not socially active, politically and legally aware, and spiritually mature, their actions will lack meaning.

Significant attention is being devoted to the development of young people and their preparation for the workforce. Teachers are doing their utmost to educate the younger generation in the spirit of democratic ideals and internationalism. They strive to instill good manners and high moral standards in students. The government of Uzbekistan also places great emphasis on the education and training of youth, ensuring they have access to all necessary opportunities for learning. The unified public education system in our country enables a smooth transition from lower to

higher levels of education. Graduates can go on to attend various types of secondary and higher education institutions.

The future of every nation is closely tied to its educated and capable youth, and the development and nurturing of their talents. Uzbekistan is a country of youth, and for this reason, special attention is given to education and youth development. Educating the next generation of men and women—who represent the future of our country—as well-rounded, knowledgeable, and capable individuals has always been a top priority. One example of this is the "Youth Month" initiative, celebrated with great enthusiasm nationwide, which unites young men and women around shared goals and aspirations.

Italian painter, sculptor, and scientist Leonardo da Vinci, speaking about the swift passage of time, said: “If iron is not used, it will rust. If water doesn’t move, it becomes stagnant. If a person does not think, the same thing happens to the mind.” Indeed, the seconds that fly by like the wind demand activity and passion from us, prompting us to choose the simplest and most direct path to our goals. Our most important task is to educate selfless, patriotic young people with high moral character, a strong sense of purpose, and a broad worldview. At the same time, it is crucial to strengthen the system of the five important initiatives presented to the public under the leadership of the President of the Institute.

As the saying goes, “Even five hands may not be enough.” In every era and society, alongside enterprising young people, there are always those who, for one reason or another, cannot study or work like their peers and struggle to find their way. It is therefore necessary to guide young people toward knowledge and professions and to find appropriate solutions to their challenges. This is not only a family duty but also a matter of national importance. When speaking about communicating with the youth of our country, it is essential to highlight the importance of information technology and language skills in shaping them into educated and modern individuals. Taking this into account, our country places great emphasis on the development of these areas.

Across the world, the leadership qualities, creativity, energy, and enthusiasm of young people are seen as critical factors in the ongoing development and progress of the global community. Throughout the historical development of any nation, rapid advancement and the achievement of progress and prosperity are directly linked to the attention paid to the education and upbringing of its youth. In this



regard, it is no coincidence that youth is considered one of the top priorities of state policy in Uzbekistan. Youth are the future of every nation. This means we must place serious importance on supporting and nurturing young people. A person's identity begins to form in youth, and the qualities developed during this time accompany them throughout their life. That is why society strives to raise young people to be polite, intelligent, honest, and well-educated.

Currently, the process of globalization is rapidly and deeply influencing our lives. Globalization is, above all, characterized by the unprecedented acceleration of life, increased integration and cooperation between countries, the rapid spread of modern information technologies and scientific achievements, the evolution of communication between peoples, and the emergence of new opportunities for mutual collaboration. These are the positive aspects of globalization. However, another side of this process is that it has also become a tool for ideological influence on youth and a platform for various political and ideological struggles.

It is important to emphasize the role of community elders and wise parents in helping young men and women enter independent life, find their place in young families, and foster friendship and brotherhood among people. Parental responsibility holds a special place in the spiritual education of youth. The purest human feelings, concepts of life, worldview, goodness, nobility, kindness, honor, and dignity are first formed within the family and then extend into the wider community.

It is noteworthy that in our country, special attention, love, and care are being given to children who are deprived of parental love and upbringing, as well as those with limited opportunities. Measures have been defined for the gradual strengthening of the material and technical base of orphanages, boarding schools, and preschool education institutions, along with a fundamental improvement of the educational process. The role of the local community and the general public is significant in the upbringing of young people, who are the creators of a new society. A key factor in shaping the spirituality of youth is the education system. Knowledge and education must be regarded as essential conditions for human perfection and the development of the nation. For this reason, our Constitution stipulates that school and youth education remain under the control of the state.

In the 21st century, known as the age of information technology, the development of science and the creation of innovations have become vital necessities for

ensuring significant progress in all areas of life—industry, construction, chemistry, agriculture, textiles, mechanical engineering, and more. This trend is recognized in all developed countries around the world. In our republic, special attention is also being paid to this process.

On the initiative of the President, granting academic, organizational, and financial independence to higher education institutions, as well as expanding the powers of university councils, will support the implementation of state education policy, the provision of high-quality educational services, and the fulfillment of tasks assigned by the government. This initiative creates ample opportunities for training highly qualified personnel who will drive the country's development.

In Uzbekistan, everyone is guaranteed equal rights to education, regardless of gender, race, nationality, language, religion, social origin, belief, or personal and social status. Education is compulsory, and the system is designed to be uniform and continuous. It includes:

- Preschool education and upbringing;
- General secondary and secondary specialized education;
- Vocational education;
- Higher education;
- Post-secondary education;
- Retraining and professional development of personnel;
- Extracurricular education.

General secondary and secondary specialized education aim to provide students with essential academic programs, knowledge, skills, and competencies.

Preschool education focuses on the upbringing and early development of children—intellectually, morally, ethically, aesthetically, and physically—while preparing them for general secondary education.

One of the most significant innovations in the education system is the transfer of 65 academic lyceums to higher educational institutions, along with 187 technical schools, to strengthen the integration between universities and lower levels of education. These institutions have been attached to relevant universities and affiliated enterprises.



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