



THE ROLE OF REFORMS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE READING CULTURE OF YOUTH IN UZBEKISTAN

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Annotation

In the article, the authors analyzed the impact of reforms on the development of reading culture in Uzbekistan from the perspective of social philosophy. The results of the influence of reading culture on the spirituality and morality of young people have been studied. The sequence of reforms being carried out in Uzbekistan and their significance in the development of a reading culture for young people are considered.

Keywords: phenomenon of reading culture, spirituality and morality of youth, fundamental reforms, support for reading culture, book culture, youth policy.

Introduction

In the formation of the spiritual image of young people, the phenomenon of reading culture plays a special role. Through reading and retelling what has been read, the experience of previous generations is passed on, life values and beliefs are developed, a moral position is affirmed, selfhood and the uniqueness of being are realized, individuality is honed, and the personality is socialized.

The culture of reading is not only a formative factor in increasing the spirituality of youth, but also the main instrument of the transition from an industrial society to a post-industrial, information society. Reading culture plays a huge role in the ongoing changes in our society. Young people, representing a special social group, have their own spiritual culture, which, in turn, depends on the spiritual parameters of the society in which they live. It also affects the prospects for spiritual development and society itself.

The evolutionary, progressive path of formation and development of the state is closely connected with the well-being and well-being of the inhabitants of this country, which, in turn, depend on the degree of attention, care and respect paid by





the country's leadership to its population, especially young people. In this regard, a particularly important direction in the policy of our state is the issue of youth.

In Uzbekistan, all necessary conditions have been created for the improvement of youth, for their comprehensive development, the realization of their goals and plans. In particular, regarding youth alone, the parliament adopted about 40 legislative acts and approved over 30 international legal documents. Taking into account that the world is currently home to the largest number of young people in the history of mankind, the proposal of the President of Uzbekistan Sh. Mirziyoyev to adopt a Convention on the Rights of Youth, expressed in his speech at the seventy-second session of the UN Assembly, was received very warmly by the world community. [1] It is also very symbolic that the first legislative act signed by Sh. Mirziyoyev on September 14, 2016 as the President of the country was the Law "On State Youth Policy." This suggests that the government of the country and the leadership of the state are well aware of the importance of our youth taking a truly worthy place among the youth of other progressive and civilized countries of the world, and deservedly integrating into the world community.

At the present stage, in order to continue the fundamental reforms in the field of economics and education initiated by the President of the country, the spiritual, moral and intellectual preparedness of young people, as continuers of the relay race started by the country's leadership, is very important. And a key role in these transformations is played by a person's culture, his broad outlook, large-scale thinking, high intelligence, openness to the world and, of course, a high reading culture. It is the level of reading culture and the proper state of book culture that determine the spiritual and socio-political potential of the state. The reading culture at the state level is a sensitive, reliable and even universal indicator of the state of the economy and society.

Based on the shortcomings that existed at that time and the low level of reading culture, on January 12, 2017, the President of the state signed a Resolution "On the creation of a commission for the development of the system of publishing and distributing book products, enhancing and promoting the reading culture." [2] According to this Resolution, within one month, members of the commission were required to carefully analyze and study the need of the population, especially young people, for highly artistic book products. Objectively analyze the system of production and distribution of books, pay special attention to the translation of the best literary works of the world into the Uzbek language and, in turn, the need to translate the best works of Uzbek literature into foreign languages.





Financially stimulate modern writers, whose works are in great readership, and the authors themselves have earned the well-deserved respect of the people.

The main task of all adopted laws is to keep a young person busy with useful activities and to develop his reading culture.

As F. Kanoatova writes, young people are distracted from reading books for several reasons: the level of content of some works is superficial, some books are simply copied from foreign films, even book covers are copied. Some young authors not only do not put their soul into it, but also do not follow the rules of writing poetry and prose. [3]

G. Rakhmatullaeva believes that the main motive due to which teenagers and young men turn to books, and will continue to turn to them in the future, is the school curriculum and assignments in literature. Despite the fact that it is at this age that a love for books is formed, genre preferences appear, non-standard and independent thinking develops, for the most part, young people choose the easy, surrogate path – they find a short retelling of the literary original on the Internet, and when writing essays they resort to searching for similar ones. Why waste time when you have a phone, tablet or computer nearby that will quickly find the necessary information. Only a small number of students turn to the original work itself.[4]

Scientific literature, continues G.Rakhmatullaeva, promotes correct perception and understanding of the world around us, develops thinking, intuition, imagination, reveals the hidden, creative potential of the individual, makes a person educated, and is a source of deep knowledge. Thanks to books, a person gets to know himself, his inner world, comprehends the divine, the sacred, sets the right life goals, and achieves them. Fiction teaches competent writing, develops speech, eloquence, figurative perception, spiritually and morally elevates the reader, and educates a person. Books accumulate the achievements of a thousand-year-old culture of human existence, are a source of deep knowledge, an accessible means of education and diversified development.

Main part

People who read are very different from people who don't read. Book lovers think in terms of problems, are able to embrace the whole, sometimes identifying even paradoxical and contradictory connections between phenomena, they are able to realistically and adequately assess the situation that has created them, quickly come to the right solution, are sociable, self-critical, more socially adapted, they have a well-developed sense of empathy and compassion.





In the age of rapid development of science, technology and information and communication technologies, human relationships, experiences, and feelings fade into the background. For the average person, the main thing is cheap information, “fried” and unsubstantiated express news from the yellow press and fast-growing news sites. But the human brain is designed in such a way that the information received is more quickly absorbed in artistic images than in dry, flat, insensitive scientific calculations. Works of art, with their living consistency and logical chain of plot development, have a tremendous impact on the consciousness, behavior and feelings of a person, prompting and inspiring him to new actions, and even changing his worldview. A literary work is capable of completely mastering the consciousness of the reader. Yuri Bondarev, a famous prose writer in the past, described literature as “a great migration from the external world to the internal world. <...> Wars, hatred, enmity, nationalism began with a word, entire cultures were destroyed, but with a word both love and repentance increased, great revolutions, new eras, beautiful books, the blessed silence of the world began.”[5]

The phenomenon of reading culture is a sociocultural phenomenon. And a significant role in its development is played by the level of culture of the society itself – in a society with a high and developed economy, people’s consciousness, spirituality, interesting and great past, there must be and is a high reading culture. The culture of reading and the level of development of society are closely related.

Value orientations that have divided generations and broken the chain of continuity in the transmission of social experience, the rapid development of electronic media have profoundly changed the usual ideas about the role of the reading process in the development of culture and personality as a whole. Young people have turned into “computer and telephone people”, accustomed to quickly obtaining any information, which, in principle, has also significantly reduced interest in reading and books, becoming a huge obstacle in the development and formation of an independent, active civic position.

Radical, large-scale and consistent reforms introduced by the leadership of our country have begun to change the thinking, consciousness and behavior of our youth in a positive direction.

In all his trips around the country, in frequent meetings with residents of regions and regions, when communicating with government officials, the President of our state always reminds of the importance of the role of reading culture, constantly supports the initiative for the development of reading culture in Uzbekistan, believing that constant self-education, increasing intelligence, the broad outlook of young people, reading books, will only play a positive role in the prosperity of our people.





Traditions of supporting the culture of reading in Uzbekistan are rooted in ancient times. The appearance of the first writing, handwritten, and then paper books, as an external stimulus, by its very presence, encouraged a person to read. Starting from the sacred texts of the Avesta, residents living on the territory of modern Uzbekistan were already familiar with the rudiments of reading culture in those distant times. Hospitality, hard work, diplomacy, gentle character, entrepreneurial qualities due to the location of Ancient Uzbekistan at the crossroads of the Great Silk Road – only contributed to the rapid development of reading culture as a means of communication among themselves.

The very concept of “supporting a reading culture” has two aspects: socio-moral and material. Social and moral support for the culture of reading is formed by public, popular opinion about the usefulness, necessity and importance of reading in an individual’s life. The material aspect contains the organization of any active actions and operations, which, as a rule, require material costs that promote production, distribution and accessibility of reading. The political course of the President of Uzbekistan combined these two aspects – social and moral (promotion of a reading culture) and material (financial and material support)

In particular, on June 2, 2020, during a visit to the new library in the Ecopark of Culture and Education in the city of Buke, the President of the country said:

“Delivery of books to the regions is good, but the level of promotion of reading is insufficient. It is necessary to introduce our children to reading from kindergarten and primary school, to cultivate in them a love of books. Only then will a reading culture be established in our society and people will return to books.”[6] He also drew attention to the importance of developing, together with the National Library of Uzbekistan, a scientifically based methodology for promoting reading for teachers, parents and young readers. These techniques will further attract unemployed and currently unemployed youth to reading, change their attitude towards the outside world, broaden their horizons and help them adapt to society.

On November 13, 2020, on his trip to Kashkadarya, while visiting the Youth Center in the city of Karshi, the head of state expressed his main motto in governing the state – “If you ask me what my biggest goal is, why I will be happy, then I will answer: this is to form a modern worldview among young people, provide them with work, strengthen pride and self-confidence, and see their family happiness.” [7]

Shavkat Mirziyoyev, at the inauguration ceremony of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, especially noted that the primary task facing society and him as the future leader of the state is to increase the level of education in the country, protect



the rights and interests of young people, directly work in all existing areas with future the builders of our society – the youth. [8]

These tasks are reflected in two global government projects proposed by the head of state. The first project, “Action Strategy for five priority areas of development of the Republic of Uzbekistan in 2017-2021”, adhering to the principle “From Action Strategy to Development Strategy”, continued in the second project “Development Strategy of New Uzbekistan for 2022-2026”. It must be said that over the past period from 2017 to 2022, about 300 laws were adopted, over 4 thousand decisions of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, aimed at radically reforming all spheres of life of the state and society, including the future of youth.

At the proposal of the head of the country, radical reforms began to be implemented in the educational system, as the main factor determining the future of each state. A state program of continuous education was introduced: preschool, general secondary, vocational, academic lyceums, bachelor's, master's, postgraduate, advanced training, and extracurricular. Family education plays an important and special role in the upbringing of children and youth. [9]

The main goal of the continuing education system is to strengthen the ability of young people to adapt to reforms in the economy, culture and professional life. And in this process, the attitude of boys and girls to books and reading plays a huge role. The more a young person studies, reads, and works on himself, the greater the likelihood of rapid adaptation and socialization into society.

In this regard, the Ministry of Preschool Education was created in Uzbekistan, the structure of school education was reorganized, 11-grade general secondary education was reintroduced, forms of evening and correspondence education were restored in higher educational institutions, and branches of 15 well-known foreign universities were opened in the country.

Deputy of the Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis A. Saidov said: “... if we increase the status and authority of teachers, we will take an important step towards the education and upbringing of the younger generation. Thanks to the widespread promotion of knowledge and love of books, we will educate new personnel of the new Uzbekistan, whose hearts and consciousness are permeated with feelings of devotion to the Motherland, love for the nation, kindness and mercy, generosity, possessing entrepreneurship skills, ideological immunity, high responsibility, and innovative thinking.” [10]

On July 6, 2020, the Agency for Youth Affairs was established, an agency that implements state youth policy, protects the rights of youth, and creates the necessary conditions for developing the intellectual potential of youth. creative and business





areas, carrying out educational and educational work among young people, assisting in obtaining foreign education, employment and doing business.

Another significant step in the development of reading culture among young people was the nomination by the head of state of five priority Initiatives aimed at creating additional conditions for the upbringing and education of young people. [11]

Conclusion

Among the five Initiatives, which include increasing the interest of young people in culture and art, in sports, and in computer technology (Internet), a special place was occupied by the Initiative for the Development of Reading Culture and the Promotion of Reading. In order for primary and high school students, teenagers, boys and girls to strengthen their reading skills, within the framework of five Initiatives, at least one million copies of books were delivered to all regions of the republic, as well as to the Republic of Karakalpakstan. At least one exemplary store was built in the center of every city and regional center with the most widespread world-class literary works in many foreign languages. Special “Library Buses” began to deliver books and provide library services to the population of the most distant villages and villages.

In order to raise the state youth policy in Uzbekistan to a higher level, to develop effective solutions to problems associated with the youth of the republic, it was decided to declare June 30 as Youth Day. Also, to encourage active, creative and selfless youth striving to achieve the highest achievements and results, the State Prize “Mard Yugon” and the Medal “Kelajak Bunyodkori” were established.

Promoting reading books does not in any way diminish the importance and necessity of reading e-books. Quite the contrary. Adopting advanced international experience in protecting young people from the negative and harmful effects of the Internet, training centers on the latest information technologies are being created to train boys and girls in the correct and effective use of electronic media. In these centers, young people can study e-commerce, the basics of programming for free, gain modern business skills, and study a curriculum aimed at broadening their horizons and worldview. The Internet is present in every school, in all educational institutions, libraries, in the most remote villages and villages. The Internet in Uzbekistan is no longer a luxury – it is a normal phenomenon, a necessary necessity that meets the demands of the time. In short, Uzbekistan is using all its strengths and capabilities to ensure that young people are cultured, educated, competent and capable of independently solving all the problems that come their way. The integral duty of the older generation, as a continuity, is to create for young people all favorable conditions for spiritual, physical and intellectual development. Smart, creative,





courageous, highly educated, modern-minded youth are the most active layer of our society, a spiritual reserve, a huge force, a strategic resource on which the future of our Motherland depends.

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