



FURTHER ENHANCEMENT OF NATIONAL IDENTITY OF YOUTH: PROBLEMS AND SOLUTIONS

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ABSTRACT

This article provides problems on the importance of enhancing the national identity of youth and their solutions. Moreover, criteria of national self-awareness, suggestions and recommendations further increasing youth national identity were given. The idea that awareness of national identity is the perception that a nation and the representatives of each nation belong to a common cultural basis, language, culture, historical heritage, psyche, customs and traditions, and their place were substantiated.

KEY WORDS: *national identity, problem, solution, self-awareness, culture, historical heritage*

One of the important conditions for strengthening independence is to improve ideological education. That is why our national ideology is in need of active participation of young people in the development of today's civil society. On this basis, it will allow young people to think freely, create the foundations of the rule of law, form in our compatriots a sense of loyalty to their people and homeland, educate them in the spirit of patriotism, create practical and spiritual means of building our statehood. In this regard, there is an understanding of the identity of the nation through the study of the historical experiences of our ancestors, lessons learned from their exemplary work, the formation of a worldview based on universal values.

At the present time, the conflict of different ideologies is becoming more acute, in which case the internal and external spiritual and ideological threats may intensify and undermine the understanding of national identity [1]. How are the ideological threats against the development of our country and the understanding of the national identity of our people manifested today? In our opinion,

-First, the existence of efforts to restore the Islamic caliphate and unite the Muslim peoples under its banner into a new empire;

-Secondly, the absence of forces that seek to reunite the states that have gained independence, strengthened it and embarked on the path of development, into the former union;

-Thirdly, those who try to falsify our history, our national values and the essence of religion;

-Fourth, attempts to spread filth and corrupt the people spiritually;

-Fifth, efforts to provoke regional and interstate conflicts through various ideological means.

As President Sh.M. Mirziyoyev noted, the most widespread threat in the world today is the protection of our youth from various threats, such as drug addiction, religious extremism, missionary work, and we must never forget that we are responsible for these [2].

A legitimate question arises: What to do for this at this point? In our opinion, the answer to this question is to achieve an understanding of the national identity of our people and the formation of ideological immunity. Where the level of national identity is weak, it is difficult for the representatives of a nation to unite in the pursuit of certain common goals. The tendency of the nation to separate is growing. Within the nation, such vices as racism, gangsterism, and localism are on the rise. The weakness of the understanding of national identity stems from the low level of national consciousness and pride, the inability of the representatives of the nation to realize that they belong to an ethnic unit with the same history and destiny.

The development and improvement of national identity is an objective process. It is an important factor in determining the nation's 'I' and



...serving to ensure its identity. There will be no future for a nation deprived of it. Its representatives will eventually become spiritually poor, mangled. There are many examples in history of this tragedy that confirm this terrible historical fact. Doctor of Political Sciences V.Kuchkarov analyzes the meaning of the concept of "national identity" with the concept of "self-awareness" and explains as follows: "Self-awareness is the knowledge of one's place in existence, one's "I" in social relations and other "I" and perception of their individual aspects, which are manifested in their relationship with life goals". A certain level of self-awareness is the understanding of national identity.

Awareness of national identity is the perception that a nation and the representatives of each nation belong to a common cultural basis, language, culture, historical heritage, psyche, customs and traditions, and their place. There are its own criteria of national self-awareness, which are mainly:

- a) Understanding of the unity of the land, country, homeland in which the individual was born and raised;
- b) Deep knowledge and respect for their mother tongue;
- c) Comprehensive assimilation and preservation of their national culture and spiritual heritage;
- d) Regular study of their history [3].

In our opinion, the formation of ideological immunity is a phenomenon consistent with the criteria listed above. As a result of the understanding of national identity, the nationality and national characteristics of the people are revived and strengthened, their concern for the fate and future of the nation increases, and living with the pain of the whole nation becomes the meaning of their lives. The issue of the formation of ideological immunity is considered in close connection with the understanding of national identity. They are a legitimate phenomenon that operates in a dialectical unity, mutually reinforcing. Ideological immunity can never be formed without an understanding of national identity.

Understanding of national identity is an expression of generalized theoretical views and practical actions aimed at protecting and developing the material and spiritual values and interests of the nation, ensuring national unity and solidarity, understanding the belonging to a particular ethnic unit, the nation-state, its duties and responsibilities. "The main force that drives this process is the understanding of the nation's identity [4], while the main source that provides it with energy is national spirituality" [5].

While national spirituality is seen as a source of energy for the realization of national

identity, ideological immunity serves as a mechanism that protects it from various harmful and alien influences. The encyclopedic dictionary of philosophy states that "ideological immunity is useful in educating the spiritually mature, strong-willed, faith-loving whole person, in educating young people who can withstand any reactionary, destructive ideological initiatives" [6]. When a baby is born, he does not know how to protect himself from heat, cold, external mechanical influences. Conditioned reflexes of self-defense appear gradually, during growth. As a result, by adolescence, the adolescent will have all the skills of self-defense. The dangers that threaten a person's spirituality and the ability to consciously protect themselves from them are formed through education, parental advice, seeing and knowing good and evil, and learning from reality, creating a healthy, confident, strong sense of national identity in every nation. That is why, in the words of our first President, "we must bring up a healthy generation. When we say a healthy person, we mean not only physical health, but also a person who has matured in the spirit of oriental morality and universal ideas." [7] A person who has matured in the spirit of Eastern morality and universal ideas makes it his life's goal to "stray" from the right path, to go astray, and then to regret, to be unhappy, and to save the nation from disintegration, division, class, local or other divisions. In a word, this is the ideological immunity to reality.

Ideological immunity is the spiritual unity of the state and the nation, it serves as an ideological shield that protects the spiritual health. So what makes ideological immunity? First and foremost, it is decided by knowledge and the people's understanding of national identity. According to Ahmad Yugnaki, an intelligent person is inseparable from knowledge, and knowledge is inseparable from an intelligent person. It is necessary to look for the cause of all ignorance in the human being, of all the inconveniences in his daily practical activity, from ignorance.

Ideological immunity does not manifest itself spontaneously. For it to manifest, there must be an internal, external ideological, intellectual influence. When a person is faced with a new, unfamiliar idea, proposal, or has to choose one of two ways, he "examines" them in his own interests. In this situation, the right choice of young people will depend on their knowledge and worldview. To do this, it is important to promote reading among young people, to instill in them a love for books. In this regard, the head of our state said, "We talk a lot about changing people's minds, worldviews, raising their spiritual level. But isn't the book the simplest and at the same time the most influential tool in this regard? I am convinced that without books, progress



and high spirituality cannot be achieved. There is no future for anyone who has not read a book, nor for a nation.” [8]

In conclusion, it should be noted that the current socio-political, spiritual and cultural potential of our country, its economic situation, the intelligence and will of our people, its ability to bring up a healthy, harmoniously developed generation create a free, prosperous and happy future. Therefore, today it is necessary to work actively to bring up a harmoniously developed generation worthy of a great state, to cultivate them as spiritually mature, physically strong, enlightened, highly qualified personnel and, most importantly, as individuals with ideological immunity who understand national identity.

The following suggestions are recommended for further increasing youth national identity:

- Development of differential pedagogical and psychological programs in educational institutions that help young people and students to realize their identity by assimilating national and moral qualities in accordance with their age;

- Effective use of sources in textbooks, manuals that reflect the national and moral qualities, values, heritage of our ancestors;

- Raising the level of spiritual and moral education in educational institutions to the level of today's requirements, the organization of various cultural, political and social events that affect the worldview of young people;

- Deepening the spiritual and moral knowledge of teachers, the use of historical sources that form national pride in conveying the secrets of their science to young people;

- Conducting roundtables and meetings with young people with leading, exemplary, ie modern heroes of various fields;

- Taking into account their age and psychological characteristics for the development of spiritual and moral qualities;

- Being able to choose the means and methods of education appropriate for the young age, the methods of psychological influence;

- In the formation of national self-consciousness of young people, it is very important to visit the holy shrines, organize trips to historical sites, to get acquainted with the folklore.

The goals and objectives of the system of issues of developing students' understanding of national identity, deep respect and reverence for national values and traditions, universal values, the manifestation of youth national identity and a sense of responsibility for the fate and future of our country, strengthening ideological immunity against foreign ideas, are as follows:

- formation of a future professional who is loyal to his profession, highly cultured, intelligent, socially active, patriotic and civic;
- facilitate the spiritual, intellectual and ideological development of young people;
- educate them in the spirit of patriotism, citizenship, tolerance, respect for the law, national and universal values, strong beliefs and views on life;
- raising the level of legal awareness and legal culture of young people and the formation of competitiveness in their field;
- support of gifted and talented young people and their moral support based on universal values;
- support of promising projects, strengthening the role of the family in educating young people;
- to make full use of the opportunities of such a time and place in the national history, to embody them in the memory of future generations as people who lived and gained such an opportunity;
- full understanding of the content of peace and prosperity in the future;
- spiritual education, understanding and careful preservation of the essence of our sacred religion and its essence.

Areas of organization of the development of young people's understanding of national identity, deep respect and reverence for national values and traditions, as well as universal values:

1. In-depth analysis and promotion of the works and speeches of President Mirziyoyev to develop in young people a sense of national identity, deep respect and reverence for national values and traditions and universal values.

2. National and universal values, explanation of their essence, restoration of national values during the years of independence and understanding of the role of national and universal values in building a humane, just democratic society.

3. To widely promote the fact that traditions are an invaluable spiritual wealth created in the process of historical formation and development of the nation and passed down from ancestors to generations as a sacred heritage.

4. Explain that the preservation and development of the cultural heritage, which has become one of the main symbols of the nation, is a sacred duty for every generation.

5. To form in young people an understanding of national identity, a deeper vision of language, culture, history and the future, the idea of putting human rights and freedoms above all else.

6. To teach young people new ideas, new ways of thinking, to develop a sense of national



identity, deep respect and reverence for national values and traditions and universal values.

7. Respect for our great ancestors, increasing interest in the study of their rich scientific heritage.

8. Acquaintance with scientific and artistic works published in different countries of the world about their life and activity, monuments erected in memory of our great ancestors.

9. To study the life, work and activities of outstanding poets and writers, philosophers, scientists and statesmen of Uzbekistan as objects of national pride.

10. To consider the family institution in Uzbekistan, the relationship between parents and children as a unique value, hospitality, generosity, empathy for others as an important spiritual factor in the sustainable development of our society, their careful preservation and transmission from generation to generation.

11. To study, appreciate and preserve the unique nature of our homeland, to decide on the emotional and psychological relationship based on the view that nature is not only a source of raw materials, but also the basis of social and cultural development of mankind.

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