

**EDUCATING ACTIVE YOUTH PASSIONATE ABOUT CULTURE AND ART AS A
GOAL OF STATE POLICY ON YOUTH*****Qudaybergenova Tumaris****Student of the Nukus branch of the Uzbekistan State Institute of Art and Culture**Scientific supervisor: **Qaipbergenova Sarbinaz****Teacher of the Nukus branch the Uzbekistan State Institute of Art and Culture*

Abstract: This article discusses the importance of culture and art in the upbringing of youth and their role in personal and social development. It provides detailed information on the key objectives of state policy on youth, focusing on initiatives aimed at instilling high moral and ethical values in young people through culture and art, as well as developing their creativity and artistic skills. Additionally, the article examines how engaging youth in cultural and artistic fields contributes to their self-realization, social activism, and becoming beneficial members of society.

Keywords: youth, culture, art, upbringing, state policy, social development, moral values, creativity, artistic skills, spirituality.

A wide range of activities are being carried out in our country in the field of state policy on youth. Over time, a special system has been created to support youth in all aspects, protect their rights and legal interests, and foster initiative-driven, determined, and responsible young people who can take on the responsibility for the future of our country. The Agency for Youth Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Youth Parliaments under the chambers of the Oliy Majlis, and the Youth Academy under the Ministry of Innovative Development of the Republic of Uzbekistan have been established. In the regions, the "Project Factory" has been launched. Effective work is being carried out to ensure the healthy growth, quality education, and well-rounded development of the younger generation, as well as to support their interest in culture, art, sports, information technology, and reading through the introduction of the "five important initiatives." New state and non-state preschool education institutions, general education schools, higher educational institutions, branches of prestigious foreign universities, modern IT parks, cultural institutions, and sports facilities being established in our country, as well as entirely new educational institutions such as the "Presidential Schools," "Temurbek Schools," and "Creative Schools," are serving to nurture a new generation of highly skilled professionals capable of competing in the conditions of today's globalization.

In our country, significant efforts are being made at the state policy level to support the scientific and innovative activities of youth, reform the personnel training system, enhance the scientific, creative, and intellectual potential of young people, and implement their innovative projects and ideas into production.

In the new neighborhoods of Uzbekistan, cultural and educational activities are being formed based on a new worldview, strengthening the foundation of the Third Renaissance. In this regard, our President Sh. Mirziyoyev emphasized: "The ideology of the new Uzbekistan we are creating will be based on the ideas of goodness, humanity, and humanism."

Extensive work is being carried out to raise the cultural level of the population, especially the youth, provide them with access to the best examples of national and universal culture, nurture morally mature and well-rounded individuals, and realize the talents and potential of

young gifted individuals. At this stage of renewing and modernizing our country, increasing the role and importance of culture and art in our lives, and educating the younger generation in the spirit of national and universal values, love for the motherland, and loyalty are our main objectives. The formation and prosperity of society depend on the upbringing of future generations nurtured in this society. When we talk about the spiritual development of a person, it is impossible to achieve this goal without culture and art.

Effective solutions to the problems of youth and the tasks related to bringing the state policy on youth to a new stage, as outlined in the December 2020 Youth Forum of Uzbekistan and in the Address of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan to the Oliy Majlis and our people on December 29, 2020, are being developed.

The main goal of the concept for the development of state policy on youth in Uzbekistan until 2025 is:

- Improving the legal framework aimed at protecting the legal rights and interests of young people;
- Increasing the role of youth in ensuring security, environmental sustainability, justice, and equal rights in the country;
- Improving the conditions for young people to access quality healthcare, increasing medical literacy among them, and promoting a healthy lifestyle;
- Ensuring that young people receive quality education at all levels and creating conditions for the development of inclusive education in regions;
- Educating youth in the spirit of love and loyalty to the motherland, family, and the ideas of independence, as well as respect for national and universal values;
- Expanding economic rights and opportunities for young people by creating decent working conditions and protecting their labor rights;
- Engaging young people in culture, art, physical education, and sports, shaping their skills in using information technologies, promoting reading among them, and implementing the "five important initiatives" aimed at ensuring women's employment;
- Supporting young people in need of social protection, those with disabilities, children raised in orphanages, orphans, and children deprived of parental care;
- Supporting promising young professionals and preparing them for civil service, ensuring their competitiveness in the labor market;
- Expanding the rights and opportunities of young women and implementing systematic measures to increase their position in society;
- Supporting youth public organizations and volunteers in realizing the ideas, proposals, and initiatives of young people;
- Improving the system of cooperation with compatriots abroad, collaborating with international youth organizations, and exchanging experiences at the international level.

In particular, various events held across all segments of the population are serving to elevate the spiritual world of our people through their creativity and artistic-aesthetic essence. A prime example is the widely popular "Mahallada duv-duv gap" project, along with a number of youth forums, festivals, contests, and events, which undoubtedly contribute to increasing the activity of our youth and strengthening their sense of unity.

As we embark on the creation of a new spiritual space in the New Uzbekistan, it is undoubtedly important to foster a spiritual need among our citizens to build such a space. To achieve this, first and foremost, we need to study the current state and level of the spiritual profile of our citizens. The principles such as "One intellectual—spiritual guardian for one

neighborhood,” “Every elder—a mentor for five young people,” undoubtedly reflect bright examples of our eternal national values. Indeed, such noble initiatives play a significant role in the establishment of a high spiritual space. As we strive to build this new spiritual space, it is crucial to shape a spiritual need in our citizens to create such a space. For this, we must first understand the current spiritual state of our population, especially our youth. Specifically, we need to know whether our young people have a desire to elevate their spiritual world, and if so (there can be no doubt about this), what they want to read, which films or stage performances they wish to watch, and in which genres of culture and art they wish to try their hand? To be more precise, we must shape the spiritual portrait of our citizens today.

Creating the spiritual portrait and providing conditions for youth to spend their free time meaningfully is one of our essential tasks in ensuring they have a place in life. In this regard, it is crucial to enrich the spiritual and moral world of young people by shaping social and cultural activities in neighborhoods. Systematically, ensuring that children are taught national folk games and that their recreational time is spent meaningfully is of great importance.

Currently, the Ministry is paying special attention to improving the activities of cultural centers. This is because almost 80% of these centers are located in remote regions and rural areas of the country. Therefore, organizing meaningful leisure activities for youth living in these areas, such as establishing various amateur artistic circles, “Iftixor” creative teams consisting of talented youth, conducting surveys among youth, and implementing promising ideas and projects proposed by them through the “Youth Club,” is actively being pursued. Additionally, concert programs featuring renowned singers and popular artists, as well as regular tours of national theater groups to towns and cities across the republic, are being organized.

To raise the spiritual level of youth, cultural centers traditionally organize national competitions such as "Folk Instrumental Performers," the Mukarrama Turgunboyeva "National Dance Performers" competition, and the Yunus Rajabi "Young Maqom Performers" competition, as well as the annual "Theater Performance Week" held from March 21-27.

Alongside the positive efforts of cultural centers in organizing meaningful leisure and enhancing the spirituality of youth, some cultural centers face challenges such as a lack of sufficient facilities, outdated equipment, inexperienced young specialists, and neglect from local organization leaders, which result in shortcomings and problems in working with youth. In the future, it would be beneficial for cultural centers to focus on the following important tasks in organizing meaningful leisure activities and enhancing the spirituality of youth:

- Conducting live interactions with experienced specialists and political scientists to explain and communicate the essence of ongoing socio-economic reforms in the country to youth during cultural and educational events;
- Using mass media to further strengthen respect for our national values, traditions, customs, and identity in the minds and thinking of youth;
- Effectively utilizing the opportunities of music and other forms of art in educating youth in the spirit of national identity and loyalty to the homeland;
- Opening up more opportunities for youth to promote national culture and art, encouraging talented youth by organizing creative trips abroad;
- Developing a "road map" for collaboration between cultural departments in cities and districts and the Youth Union departments in organizing meaningful leisure and enhancing the spirituality of youth, and systematically implementing it.

The President of the Republic of Uzbekistan introduced the "Five Important Initiatives" aimed at broadening the involvement of youth in culture, art, physical education, and sports,

developing their skills in using information technologies, promoting reading among them, and ensuring women's employment. Over the past years, this initiative has been successfully implemented in 168 remote and disadvantaged neighborhoods across 42 districts (cities). In the regions, 72 Digital Technology Training Centers have been established, and as part of the "Enlightenment Caravan" events, over 3 million books have been distributed to youth. Additionally, large-scale projects such as the "Young Book Reader" contest and "One Million Programmers" initiative are being implemented.

Significant changes are taking place in the education system, which plays a decisive role in youth upbringing. In the last four years, the number of higher education institutions in the country has increased by 50% (43 new institutions), bringing the total to 121. The enrollment rate of youth in higher education institutions has risen from 9% to 25%.

The "Mard O'glon" State Award and the "Future Builder" medal have been established to honor youth who are active and initiative-driven in the country's socio-political life, setting an example for their peers, and achieving significant accomplishments in their studies and professional activities. These awards are presented to youth aged 14 to 30. Over the last three years, Uzbek youth have won 5,299 prize-winning positions in prestigious international competitions, including 446 in culture and art, 4,838 in sports, and 15 in science and education. However, despite these advancements, there is still an insufficient number of theaters, cinemas, museums, libraries, parks, and other cultural institutions to enhance the cultural level of youth and organize meaningful leisure activities.

The culture and art of every nation serve as a means to introduce that nation to the world. This provides creators with the opportunity to speak on behalf of their people on the global stage. Knowledge and creativity are superior to any weapon, natural resource, or force. An enlightened, deep-thinking nation heralds the future. The support of any initiative aimed at preparing our children to represent New Uzbekistan on the world stage is a clear demonstration of this commitment.

Throughout history, our people have demonstrated resilience, unity, and strength in the face of invasions, oppression, and tyranny. This brave and steadfast nation has passed down its unwavering will, endurance, and cultural heritage, including its architectural monuments, customs, and traditions, to future generations.

In fact, these legacies are now contributing to the great independence of New Uzbekistan. The demand of the Third Renaissance era in New Uzbekistan is to cultivate youth who are in step with the times, competitive in intellectual and creative endeavors with global youth, able to think independently, and well-versed in foreign languages—youth who are well-rounded, cultured, and capable of global engagement. This is an urgent task of our time.

In this regard, intellectuals who have become symbols of the nation—devotees of culture and art—play a special role. The most important thing is to awaken the creative potential in the minds and souls of intellectuals and direct this energy towards serving the nation's progress.

The transformation processes in the fields of culture and art play a significant role in the development and progress of the country. Unique works of art that uplift people's spirits and moods contribute not only to the prosperity of society but also have a positive effect on the success of future tasks.

Culture and art are an inseparable part of our lives. In truth, a person familiar with art will never generate negativity. Maqoms, epics, performances, museum exhibits, and circus shows serve to instill in all of us values such as nobility, kindness, friendship, wisdom, patriotism, courage, bravery, and loyalty to our homeland.

In recent years, the number of youth regularly involved in culture and art has increased by 30%, and their participation in international competitions and festivals has reached 40%. To improve the cultural level of youth, the number of libraries, theaters, cinemas, museums, parks, and other cultural institutions has been steadily increasing. As a result of reforms carried out in recent years, a comprehensive system for supporting youth has been created in our country. Training knowledgeable, broad-minded, and patriotic young people has become one of the top priorities of state policy. Youth are now seen not as a problem, but as the main drivers of development, active participants in socio-economic progress, bold innovators of new ideas, and the backbone and support of our nation.

To advance the state policy on youth, find solutions to sectoral challenges, and ensure the effective functioning and coordination of relevant bodies, the Youth Affairs Agency was established in 2020. To address the issues in the field of youth development and to implement programs aimed at resolving them, a comprehensive infrastructure has been established. For instance, the Youth, Culture, and Sports Committee was formed in the Senate of the Oliy Majlis, while the Youth Issues Commission began its work in the Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis.

An important step was the establishment of the Youth Academy under the Ministry of Innovative Development, which plays a vital role in shaping the future of the nation's youth. Additionally, the first-ever Uzbekistan Volunteers Association was founded, uniting more than 70 volunteer groups across the country, thus promoting a spirit of social responsibility among young people.

In line with this, extensive efforts have been made to ensure that the younger generation is equipped with the necessary knowledge, skills, and opportunities to achieve personal and professional success. The country's experience in working with youth has become unique and has earned the recognition of youth organizations and experts from foreign countries.

Uzbekistan is increasingly emerging as a nation focused on its youth, showcasing its commitment to fostering an environment conducive to growth and development. It is crucial for all of us to value and effectively utilize these opportunities, contributing to our country's development through our knowledge, hard work, and dedication. This is a collective responsibility we must embrace to support the future of our nation.

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