

## SHAPING AN INDIVIDUAL THROUGH CULTURE: THE ROLE OF SCHOOL AND FAMILY

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**Summary:** This article explores the pivotal role of culture in shaping an individual's character, focusing on the contributions of family and school. It examines how cultural heritage, encompassing material and spiritual values, has evolved through historical stages and continues to influence personal development. The family is highlighted as the primary institution for transmitting traditions and moral values, while schools reinforce this through structured education, fostering national identity and critical thinking. The article also addresses modern challenges, such as ideological influences from social media and globalization, emphasizing the need for collaboration between family and school to preserve cultural heritage and prepare individuals for active participation in a globalized society.

**Key words:** collaboration, culture, globalization, generation, upbringing.

The future of any society is determined by the human values embedded in its culture. The upbringing of an individual, plays a central role in transmitting this culture from one generation to the next. Here, culture is not limited to art, traditions or language alone; rather, it is viewed as a set of moral norms, worldviews, and patterns of social behavior ingrained in the human mind.

The two main sources of upbringing – the family and the school – serve as fundamental pillars in shaping an individual. Only when these two institutions work in harmony can qualities such as cultural awareness, social responsibility, and conscious behavior be nurtured. The family's emotionally grounded upbringing combined with the school's structured knowledge and focus on social interaction provides a solid foundation for the individual's cultural worldview.

Culture is not merely a historical heritage or an aesthetic expression of a society; it is a fundamental factor in shaping an individual's moral and spiritual development. In the process of upbringing, the role of culture manifests in two main directions: first, it forms a person's inner world — their beliefs, behavior, and system of values; second, it sets the norms for social conduct, adapting the individual to their community. The educational power of culture lies in its ability to penetrate the subconscious — a person may not even be aware of it, yet they make decisions, form attitudes and perceive life through its lens. For example, when a child is told that lying is wrong, but simultaneously sees their parents consistently model honesty, this moral-cultural standard becomes deeply internalized. This is the nonverbal, yet powerful influence of culture in the upbringing process.

In today's era of globalization, the collision of diverse cultures complicates the upbringing of individuals. Each culture carries its own ethical codes. In such a context, there is a growing need to consciously instill local (national) cultural values from an early age.

Otherwise, a child may fail to develop a clear sense of identity and merely adapt to external influences, leading to the emergence of individuals without cultural roots.

Therefore, cultural education should not be limited to singing songs or performing dances during school celebrations. Culture must be understood, above all, as a powerful internal system that shapes a person's worldview, goals, and relationships with others.

In the process of cultural development, culture has continuously evolved and improved through different eras. Initially, humans developed various means of livelihood such as hunting, nomadism, animal husbandry, agriculture, and craftsmanship, gradually giving rise to urban and rural lifestyles. Subsequent generations adapted and utilized the tools and resources created by their ancestors for daily needs according to their capabilities.<sup>1</sup> The family has always been the primary institution for passing down cultural heritage to generations. In early societies, the family taught individuals essential life skills: hunting and farming techniques, family traditions, and moral norms were transmitted to children through parents. With the development of a sedentary lifestyle, the educational process within the family became more structured. For example, craftsmanship, passed down from generation to generation as a family trade, gained not only economic but also cultural significance. In the modern era, the family continues to play a crucial role in preserving and transmitting cultural heritage. Parents instill a sense of cultural identity in children through national traditions, folk oral literature, holidays, and customs. This process fosters a sense of connection to the values of their people and serves as a vital factor in countering the influence of global culture.

Culture is always connected to an individual's activity and their creative endeavors. As the great German philosopher Hegel emphasized in his work *Philosophy of Right*, a cultured person is, above all, someone who can do what others have done and create like others.<sup>2</sup> Culture cannot develop without the active participation of the individual. As Hegel emphasizes, a cultured person is one who can assimilate the experiences of others and apply them in their own creative activities. This process requires not only acquiring knowledge but also realizing one's potential and contributing to society. For example, in fields such as art, literature, or craftsmanship, an individual enriches culture through their creative activity and shapes themselves as a cultured person. The school plays a crucial role in this process by unlocking the individual's creative potential and connecting it with cultural values. The educational process in school should aim not only at imparting knowledge but also at encouraging self-expression, creative thinking, and social engagement.

The concept of "heritage" is a broad notion that encompasses both cultural and spiritual heritage. Heritage is the collective sum of material and cultural wealth created throughout various periods of human historical development and passed down to subsequent generations. Cultural heritage refers to the material and spiritual riches inherited from past ancestors, which have endured through centuries, turbulent times, and challenging periods, contributing to the progress of humanity in the present and future. Spiritual heritage, on the other hand, is the collective sum of past ancestors' life experiences, worldviews, ethics, beliefs, artistic-aesthetic, scientific, philosophical, political-legal perspectives, and national-spiritual values.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> M.Abdurahmanov, N.Rahmonov. "Madaniyatshunoslik" Toshkent-2015 B-55

<sup>2</sup> M.Abdullayev, E.Umarov, A.Ochildiyev, A.Yo'ldoshev, A.Abdullayev "Madaniyatshunoslik asoslari" Toshkent – 2006 B-54

<sup>3</sup> U.Qoraboyev, G.Soatov "Ozbekiston madaniyati" Toshkent- 2011. B-19

The school plays a crucial role in instilling this heritage into the upbringing of individuals. Through the educational process, students become acquainted with cultural heritage via history, literature, art, and national traditions, which strengthens their sense of identity and connection to national values. For instance, studying folk oral literature, national holidays, or historical monuments fosters patriotism and spiritual values in students. Additionally, the school teaches how to apply spiritual heritage in modern contexts, preparing students to actively participate in a global environment while preserving their cultural identity.

In conclusion, the process of shaping an individual's character through culture is a multifaceted endeavor that relies heavily on the synergistic roles of family and school. Culture, as a dynamic force, evolves through historical stages—hunting, nomadism, agriculture, craftsmanship, and urban-rural lifestyles—while continuously shaping personal and societal values. The family serves as the initial conduit for cultural and spiritual heritage, instilling traditions, moral norms, and national identity in children. Schools, on the other hand, systematize this process by integrating cultural heritage into education through subjects like history, literature, and art, fostering patriotism and critical engagement with global influences. In the modern era, ideological challenges posed by social media and globalization necessitate a strengthened collaboration between family and school to preserve cultural identity and counter manipulative influences. By promoting creative participation, critical thinking, and cultural awareness, both institutions ensure that individuals not only inherit but also actively contribute to the enrichment of their cultural heritage, preparing them to navigate a globalized world while remaining rooted in their national values.

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