

## STRENGTHENING FAMILY UPBRINGING THROUGH VALUES

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Respecting our national values, preserving them, and passing them on to the younger generation is the duty of every family. Uzbek traditions such as hospitality, greeting elders, and continuing sacred family customs form the foundation of family upbringing. These values positively influence each person's life and help cultivate high moral character.<sup>1</sup>

National and religious values play an important role in family upbringing. These values make the family stronger and more enduring. For example, qualities such as mutual respect, unity, and patience among family members contribute to the stability of the family. Through these values, children learn high morals, humanity, honesty, and patriotism. In traditional Eastern culture, especially in Uzbek families based on ethics, maintaining the family's honor above personal interests, showing care for relatives, close friends, and neighbors are considered supreme values. These values connect the family with the external environment and help ensure its stability and harmony.

Family ethics is the mutual understanding among family members based on their spiritual and moral character. It serves as a measure that reflects the family's honor, dignity, and sense of duty and responsibility. The feeling of pride in one's pure lineage and ancestry ultimately fosters patriotism and devotion to the nation.

There seems to be a divine connection between the words *nasl* (lineage) and *nasiba* (fate). Indeed, every person's sustenance is granted by Allah, yet for one's destiny to be complete and blessed, a person must also sincerely strive for it and raise their descendants in a healthy moral environment.<sup>2</sup> The richer and deeper the family's ethics and spirituality, the wealthier the society becomes. The uniqueness of a nation as a people is embodied in its spiritual values. Family ethics is a mirror that reflects all the signs of national identity—it forms the very foundation of national life. A child's respect for their parents directly influences how they will treat others in the future. A child who learns to honor their parents will also communicate with sincerity and respect in society. Therefore, respect within the family is one of the most important aspects of upbringing.

Parents play a vital role in strengthening family values. They should serve as examples for their children in enduring life's challenges, being fair and just, and becoming useful members of society. Parents must teach national values to their children not merely through words, but through their own life practices. For instance, the joint labor of parents, their honesty, and their patience serve as a true lesson in life for their children.<sup>3</sup>

In addition, activities such as reading books, having family discussions, and celebrating national traditions and customs play an important role in shaping values. These activities not only strengthen family unity but also help raise children to become individuals with true spiritual and moral wealth.

<sup>1</sup> Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan. (2023). *Articles 76–78: Protection of family, motherhood, and childhood*. Retrieved from <https://lex.uz>

<sup>2</sup> *Qur'an al-Karim. Surah Al-Isra (17:23–24): "Be kind to your parents..."*

<sup>3</sup> Abdullayeva, D. (2021). *Oila qadriyatlari va tarbiya omillari* [Family values and factors of upbringing]. *Ma'naviyat va Ma'rifat Journal*, 4(2), 45–52.

The family is the fundamental building block of society. The stability and strength of the family ensure the social stability of the community. The condition of any society depends on the state of its families. When family relationships are well established, a positive social environment develops within the community. The primary responsibility of the family is not only to provide material support for children but also to give them proper moral upbringing. The values formed within the family play an essential role in the development of children as well-rounded individuals. For example, if qualities such as diligence, honesty, and solidarity are nurtured in the family, these traits will be carried into society through the children.<sup>4</sup>

The role of the family in society is also closely connected with the preservation and continuation of national and religious traditions. Through their children, each family safeguards and develops the spiritual heritage of the nation. The family serves as an unbroken chain that transmits national identity, traditions, and customs to future generations. Therefore, the responsibility of every family is not only to ensure the well-being of its members but also to raise individuals who contribute positively to society. In a community where family values are strong, justice, compassion, and unity are strengthened.

One of the most important principles in the family is respect and reverence. Showing respect to parents is not only a part of family upbringing but also a fundamental measure of our national values. The main goal of parents' lives is to raise their children into well-rounded and virtuous individuals. In turn, children should appreciate their parents' hard work and dedication and treat them with respect. The Qur'an also repeatedly emphasizes the importance of doing good to one's parents and showing them kindness and honor.

In family life, mutual respect between parents and children fosters kindness and compassion among all family members. For parents to provide exemplary upbringing, they must offer their children not only material but also spiritual support. In turn, children should strive to earn their parents' blessings and bring them joy. When the principle of respect is strong within a family, conflicts and misunderstandings occur less frequently. Every person has the right to be happy, to dream of happiness, and to strive for it. When individuals are happy, families become happy — and when families are happy, society becomes stronger and more stable.

The essence of the comprehensive social reforms being implemented in our country lies in protecting the interests of the family, strengthening it as an important social institution and a cradle for raising a well-rounded generation, supporting its socio-economic and cultural-educational foundations, and promoting family upbringing and reproductive health through systematic efforts in these areas.

The family is a social space that ensures the continuity of social life, the succession of generations, and the sustainability of upbringing, while also influencing future generations and the system of values.

The family is a primary social group founded on the formal marriage between a man and a woman, consisting of the relationships between parents and children, supported by the moral norms and rules of society. It serves to transmit human culture to future generations and to contribute to its further development.

Indeed, the acceleration of globalization processes has brought the protection of family values to the forefront. In society, modern trends — such as economic integration, the advancement of information and communication technologies, and the widespread reach of the global Internet

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<sup>4</sup> Family Code of the Republic of Uzbekistan. (1998, amended 2024). Law No. 561-I. Retrieved from <https://lex.uz/docs/104723>

network — are influencing the decline of family relationship culture and fostering new attitudes among family members toward traditional values.<sup>5</sup>

This, in turn, makes it a primary task to further strengthen efforts aimed at consolidating family values in our society and to instill in the minds of young people the understanding of the sanctity of the family.

Regrettably, there have emerged certain opinions and calls within society that cast doubt on the sanctity of the family and the importance of warm and sincere relationships between spouses as a fundamental value. This situation necessitates expressing firm and well-grounded views on the matter.

The family is a sacred place that holds an incomparable role in every person's life. Harmony and mutual affection within the family serve not only the well-being of its members but also the prosperity of society as a whole. Therefore, each of us must cherish and preserve family values, show respect to our parents, and approach the upbringing of our children with responsibility. The strength of the family ensures the stability of society. When every individual contributes to the unity and harmony of their family, our society will continue to develop and become even happier and more prosperous.

### References

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<sup>5</sup> Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. PF-6262 “On Measures to Strengthen the Institution of the Family and Support Women and Youth” (2021, Feb 2). Retrieved from <https://lex.uz/docs/5266439>