

THE ROLE AND IMPORTANCE OF RELIGION IN SOCIETY.

Uzbekistan National Pedagogical University
Department of "Fundamentals of Spirituality and Legal Education"
Acting Associate Professor (PhD)
Rasulova Aziza Mirbakhramovna

Annotation: This article highlights the role of religion in society and its influence on human spirituality. It emphasizes that the main function of religion is to encourage people towards goodness, tolerance, and moral purity. Moreover, religion is seen as an important factor in strengthening social stability and unity. The article substantiates the importance of preserving religious values and their relevance in modern society.

Keywords: Islam, spirituality, enlightenment, moral education, ethical values, youth upbringing, justice, patience, development of science, social justice, family values, social stability, honesty, compassion.

The spiritual foundation of every society is closely connected with its beliefs, values, and moral principles. Looking back at the history of humanity, we can see that every civilization has developed under the influence of religious ideas. The role of religion in society is determined not only by religious rituals, but also by its influence on human thought, behavior, and social relations. Religion is a spiritual power that encourages people toward goodness, patience, justice, and honesty. Therefore, religion occupies an inseparable place in the spiritual life of every nation.

Spirituality is the aspiration of the human soul toward elevation, and religion is the most important moral guide along this path. The influence of religion on spirituality is manifested mainly through teaching people self-awareness, peaceful coexistence with others, and a sense of social responsibility. Islam calls upon people not only to worship but also to seek knowledge, to work diligently, and to act honestly. In the Qur'an, it is stated that "those who have knowledge are not equal to those who do not," which demonstrates the harmony between faith and the development of science.

Furthermore, religion plays a central role in the formation of moral values. Moral norms are instilled in human consciousness through religious teachings, which in turn strengthen peace, tolerance, and compassion within society. If a person preserves faith, kindness, and honesty in their heart, it strengthens justice and trust in the community.

Social stability in every society is based on peaceful coexistence, mutual respect, and solidarity among citizens. Religion plays an important role in this process because it unites people around shared goals, values, and moral standards. For instance, collective prayer, charity, and acts of kindness strengthen social solidarity among members of society.

Religion is also of great significance in establishing social justice. It reduces the gap between the rich and the poor and strengthens equality by encouraging compassion and mutual assistance. Islamic practices such as zakat (almsgiving), fitya, and sadaqah serve precisely this purpose.

Moreover, religion contributes greatly to the stability of the family institution. Religious teachings emphasize respect for parents, the upbringing of children, loyalty, and compassion as sacred values. A healthy family, in turn, is the foundation of a healthy society.

In the era of globalization, many traditional values, including religious ones, are being tested. Technological advancement, mass culture, and consumerist attitudes are influencing

people's spiritual lives. In these circumstances, religion remains a vital force in educating the younger generation in the spirit of national identity and moral integrity.

Islam encourages young people to be knowledgeable, patient, just, and honest. These qualities are essential factors for the stable development of modern society. Through religious and educational systems, young people are shaped not only as believers but also as intellectually capable and socially responsible individuals.

Today, the spiritual mission of religion is manifested not only within mosques and madrasas but also across wider social life — in families, workplaces, the education system, and culture. Religion teaches people to respect themselves and others, to be patient, and to forgive. In this way, peace, tolerance, and stability are strengthened within society. Islam, which has deep historical roots, has played a significant role in shaping spiritual and educational values. It is not only a system of faith but also a force that influences various aspects of social life, including moral standards, family relations, education, justice, and peace. The role of Islam in the moral and spiritual life of the people is truly invaluable. It shapes people's worldview and encourages them toward goodness, honesty, patience, and tolerance. Especially in the upbringing of the younger generation, Islamic values serve as an essential educational tool.

In today's process of globalization, relying on religious and spiritual heritage is of great importance in resisting ideological threats, fostering national identity, patriotism, and a sense of civic responsibility. In our country, Islam plays a crucial role in strengthening peace and harmony, as well as ensuring mutual respect and unity among members of society.

In conclusion, religion is an inseparable part of social life and a pillar of moral and ethical stability. It purifies the human soul, strengthens social justice, and ensures national unity. In every era, religion remains the most important spiritual source that calls humanity to goodness and fills life with meaning. Understanding the role and importance of religion in society is the moral.

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