NATIONAL AND UNIVERSAL MORAL CULTURE IN FAMILY UPBRINGING

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Abstract. This article examines the pedagogical and social significance of developing national and universal moral culture in family upbringing. It analyzes the role of the family in raising children, the interrelationship between national values and universal moral principles, the importance of parental role models, and the influence of the family environment on the spiritual development of the younger generation. The article also presents pedagogical recommendations for developing such qualities in children as good manners, respect for elders, care for younger people, kindness, honesty, responsibility, and patriotism.

Keywords: family upbringing, national values, universal values, moral culture, spirituality, ethics, parental responsibility, child upbringing, spiritual development.

Introduction

The family is the fundamental unit of society and the first and most important environment for human development and upbringing. An individual's worldview, moral principles, communication culture, attitude toward others, and adaptation to social life are primarily shaped within the family. Therefore, creating a healthy spiritual environment at home and raising children in accordance with national and universal values are among the important pedagogical tasks of today.

National moral culture is reflected in a people's historical experience, customs, traditions, language, spiritual heritage, and way of life. Respect for elders, consideration for younger people, hospitality, kindness, and harmonious relationships with neighbors and relatives are among the spiritual values of the Uzbek people that have been passed down from generation to generation. These values play an important role in shaping children's moral views and behavior.

Universal moral culture encompasses principles that are important to all peoples, including respect for human dignity, justice, honesty, peace, tolerance, mutual respect, responsibility, and humanism. The harmony between national and universal values creates a foundation for raising well-rounded individuals who can think independently and understand their responsibilities to society.

From this perspective, studying the process of developing moral culture within the family from a scientific and pedagogical standpoint and developing effective approaches to it are of considerable importance.

Family upbringing is the continuous process through which parents and other family members contribute to a child's physical, intellectual, spiritual, and moral development. This process is not limited to advice or instructions. Everyday relationships within the family, communication, ways of resolving problems, attitudes toward work, and adults' behavior also serve as important educational tools. Children acquire their first moral concepts within the family. Their initial understanding of good and evil, honesty and dishonesty, kindness and indifference, justice and injustice develops through their relationships with parents and other close family members. Consequently, the quality of the family environment directly influences children's future personal and social development. Moral culture is demonstrated not only by knowing the rules of good conduct but also by applying them consciously in everyday life. For example, teaching children to respect adults should be accompanied by listening to their opinions, answering their

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questions patiently, and demonstrating relationships based on mutual respect. Through such experiences, children develop a deeper understanding of what respect means.

The effectiveness of family upbringing depends on parents' pedagogical competence, their consideration of children's age and individual characteristics, and a reasonable balance between affection and discipline. Excessive strictness may hinder children's independent thinking, while unrestricted freedom may prevent them from developing a sufficient sense of responsibility. Therefore, kindness, consistency, explanation, and personal example are essential in the upbringing process. National values embody a people's centuries-old life experience and spiritual heritage. They help preserve a society's historical memory, national identity, and spiritual connection between generations. The family is one of the most natural and effective environments for passing these values on to children. Uzbek families traditionally value respect for elders, care for younger people, hospitality, peaceful coexistence with neighbors, maintaining contact with relatives, diligence, and generosity. These traditions help children develop sincere relationships with others, show concern for other people's needs, and consider the interests of the community.

Oral folk traditions, proverbs, sayings, fairy tales, legends, and the moral teachings of great thinkers are also important means of national upbringing. For example, the Uzbek proverb “Yaxshilik qil, dengizga sol,” which encourages people to do good without expecting a reward, helps develop the idea of selfless kindness. Fairy tales and stories can be used to explain the importance of honesty, patience, courage, justice, and diligence. Teaching national values should not be limited to repeating customs and traditions. It is important to understand their meaning, connect them with contemporary life, and preserve them in ways that respect human dignity. For example, respect for elders should not deprive children of their right to express their opinions, while family traditions should ensure fair treatment of all family members.

Thus, national values provide a strong foundation for moral education within the family. They help young people develop national identity, respect their people's culture, and understand their responsibility to preserve their spiritual heritage. Universal values represent humanistic principles that unite people from different nations, religions, cultures, and social groups. These include human dignity, justice, peace, honesty, mutual respect, tolerance, and responsibility.

Developing universal moral culture within the family teaches children to understand people with different opinions, respect the rights of others, and resolve conflicts peacefully. These qualities are particularly important in the context of globalization and the growing exchange of information.

When children experience fair treatment within the family, they are more likely to treat others fairly. Parents who acknowledge their mistakes, keep their promises, help others, and take responsibility for their actions provide powerful moral examples for their children.

Simply controlling children through commands and prohibitions is insufficient for developing universal moral values. Parents should explain the reasons behind particular behaviors, teach children to evaluate situations from different perspectives, and give them opportunities to draw independent conclusions.

For example, when a child experiences a disagreement with a peer, parents can avoid immediately blaming or punishing the child. Instead, they can encourage both sides to express their views, analyze the situation, and find a fair solution. This approach helps develop empathy, compromise, and responsibility.

It is also important to teach children through everyday activities to respect different people, reject discrimination and violence, care for nature, and protect public property. In this way, moral education becomes reinforced through children's personal experiences. National and universal values are not

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opposing concepts. On the contrary, they complement one another and enrich an individual's spiritual world. National values strengthen a person's sense of belonging to their people, while universal values encourage equal and respectful relationships with others. For example, hospitality is a national value characteristic of the Uzbek people, while the sincerity, respect for human beings, and care underlying this tradition have universal significance. Similarly, the tradition of living in harmony with neighbors and the local community is closely connected with cooperation, mutual assistance, and social responsibility. To harmonize these values within the family, parents should explain the meaning of national traditions, foster respect for other cultures, and promote fair treatment of all people.

The following pedagogical approaches are particularly important:

- Preserving family traditions and explaining their educational significance.
- Raising children in the spirit of honesty, justice, and responsibility.
- Teaching children to respect the opinions and rights of others.
- Introducing children to national history, literature, and spiritual heritage.
- Resolving family problems through communication and cooperation.
- Developing children's sense of responsibility toward society and nature.

Thus, the harmony of national and universal values contributes to the development of spiritually mature, tolerant, responsible, and socially active individuals.

Parents' personal example is one of the most powerful educational tools in family upbringing. Children not only listen to adults but also observe their everyday behavior and often adopt it as a model. Therefore, parents' communication with one another, their attitudes toward others, diligence, and sense of responsibility directly influence children's upbringing.

If honesty is valued within the family, adults should also strive to tell the truth. If children are expected to keep their promises, parents should make every effort to fulfill their own commitments. Such consistency helps children understand the meaning of moral principles more deeply.

A healthy family environment is based on mutual respect, trust, sincere communication, and responsibility. Listening to children, answering their questions, explaining their mistakes without humiliating them, and encouraging positive behavior create favorable conditions for moral development. Activities such as reading books together, holding family discussions, sharing household responsibilities, helping people in need, and celebrating national holidays meaningfully also provide valuable educational opportunities. Through these activities, children learn cooperation, care, diligence, and consideration for the interests of the community. In contemporary society, developing responsible habits in the use of digital devices and the internet has also become an important aspect of family upbringing. Parents should teach children to evaluate online information critically, protect personal data, follow appropriate standards of online communication, and avoid harmful content. Therefore, the family environment should not be limited to teaching traditional moral rules; it should also help children develop responsible behavior that meets the demands of modern life.

Conclusion

Developing national and universal moral culture through family upbringing is essential for the spiritual development of the younger generation and the progress of society. As the first environment of human upbringing, the family helps develop qualities such as honesty, justice, kindness, respect for elders, care for younger people, diligence, and responsibility. National values foster respect for one's people's history, culture, and spiritual heritage, while universal values promote respect for the rights and dignity of others, tolerance, and humanism. The harmony of these values enriches the spiritual world of the younger generation and creates the conditions for their active participation in society.

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Parents' personal example, a healthy family environment, sincere communication, shared work, and the use of national heritage are important means of developing moral culture within the family. At the same time, special attention should be given to developing children's digital literacy and responsible behavior in the modern information environment. In conclusion, consistently raising children on the basis of national and universal moral values is an important condition for nurturing a spiritually mature, independent-thinking, humane, and responsible generation.

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