

CONSTITUTIVE FEATURES OF THE MORAL IDEAL AND THE IMAGE OF A PATRIOT IN THE MINDS OF STUDENTS IN UZBEKISTAN

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Abstract: *This article identifies and systematizes the constitutive features of the moral ideal and image of a patriot in the minds of students in Uzbekistan. In the image of heroes - patriots and moral ideals - society sees its future, its social and spiritual development, and prospects. Among students, a different trend has emerged - the inclusion of literary and film characters, as well as writers, poets and other figures, among ideal patriots.*

Key words: *ideal, moral ideal, patriot, hero, image of a patriot, patriotic education, social ideal, passionarity, self-actualization of personality*

Considering that patriotism is primarily a social phenomenon, an adequate understanding of it is impossible without studying the range of ideas and images that respondents consider patriotic. One of the most interesting methods of such study, in our opinion, may be the construction of a generalized “image of a patriot”. Patriotic is not always an exceptional, extraordinary phenomenon; it can be a manifestation of selfless labor, creative search, selfless service and love for one’s people, for one’s Motherland. Only such a broad understanding of the patriotic and heroic corresponds to modern recognition, the highest title of “Hero of Uzbekistan”, and the veneration of order bearers and honored individuals. Therefore, patriotism is a person’s desire to serve his homeland, to multiply its material and spiritual values through his labor, and to defend the independence of his homeland. Such a broad understanding of the heroic and patriotic allows us to consider them in dialectical unity, as complementary and interpenetrating social and moral phenomena, as an ideal worthy of imitation.

As Sh. Mirziyoyev noted in his speech, “Youth are our hope, our future. Therefore, the focus of the state and society will continue to be on providing young people with ample opportunities, ensuring their needs and interests, realizing their abilities and talents, helping them find their place in life, and promoting them to responsible positions” [1]. The adopted Law “On State Youth Policy” in the new edition is a clear evidence of attention to youth - it is a scientifically based concept in relation to the younger generation, a system of socio-economic, organizational and legal measures carried out by the state and creating conditions for the socialization of youth, their effective preparation to an active independent life, the realization of creative intellectual and physical potential”[2]. This legislative act clearly defines the concepts of “youth”, “young family”, “young specialist”, “youth entrepreneurship”, as well as mechanisms aimed at improving state youth policy, and establishes guarantees for young people.

The forms and methods of patriotic education of youth are analyzed, and the answers to a sociological survey conducted among students are given. The answers help to identify shortcomings in the field of patriotic education and determine ways to further improve it, develop scientifically based, most effective forms and methods of pedagogical influence, and identify self-actualizing individual motives for a culture of patriotism.

Society needs heroes, patriots and moral ideals so that people feel their unity and cohesion as a society, a people, a nation, so that everyone can determine their place in them and can realize their creative potential. In the image of heroes - patriots and moral ideals - society sees its future, its social and spiritual development, and prospects. Therefore, every society creates its own heroes, patriots and ideals.

It is the moral ideal that gives patriotism humanistic meaning; it connects it with the problems of specific people, a specific nation, a specific people. A person identifies himself with his people, defending their interests, defending his homeland. A feat always contains elements of personal identification with one's people, with one's Motherland. Patriotism is one of the aspects, qualities of a perfect person, but such a person must be a patriot. We have many patriots, but a perfect personality is extremely rare. Very, very rare.

As noted by Doctor of Philosophy S. Agzamkhodjaeva, the individual strives for a social ideal in order to find the right path in the labyrinth of a complex life and ways of self-realization [3; B.32]. Based on this concept, it can be argued that a patriot, becoming an ideal of moral behavior, helps an individual find his life path in the labyrinth of life and thus realize his creative potential.

A patriot, having become a moral ideal, serves as a model of behavior and contributes to understanding the meaning of life. "It's impossible to say," writes Candidate of Philosophy O.V. Lantsev – that man is a mechanical product of the social environment. Different people come from the same environment. Lomonosov, for example, became what he became in spite of the environment, in spite of it. There is some kind of internal force that the environment is not able to overcome. Some people have it, others don't" [4; P.35]. The author, referring to the famous Russian historian L.N. Gumileva writes that this "inner strength" can be explained through the hypothesis of "passionarity." "Passionarity is the body's ability to absorb energy from the external environment and produce it in the form of work. In people, this ability fluctuates so much that sometimes impulses break the instinct of self-preservation, both individual and species, as a result of which some people, passionaries, commit and cannot help but commit actions leading to changes in their environment. These changes affect both the natural environment and social relations. At the same time, the question arises: what to do with the moral ideal that guides the behavior and actions of an individual? Are there any facts of the influence of space on the choice of a moral ideal, on moral actions? Is it really that the individual himself, consciously and purposefully,

is not capable of changing the social environment and life? If its activity depends on the influence of cosmic forces, then why do they influence behavior differently? In our opinion, the activity of a person, first of all, depends on his creativeness, on his life position, and the influence of the ideal.

The influence of a moral ideal gradually accumulates in the subconscious of the individual, in his soul. It becomes his nature, nature, day and night it monitors her behavior and thought. Of course, it cannot be said that the personality is passive and is only an executor of the will and desire of the ideal; no, it resists, tries to create its own world, its own way of life. In the process of this self-actualization, she forms her own ideal, her own social attitudes.

Thus, the personality adapts to the social environment, its social attitudes and ideals are combined with the norms and requirements of real life and the environment.

In connection with this problem, scientists, social scientists, and teachers face questions: "Who can be the moral ideal for the modern youth of Uzbekistan? Who are patriots, and what are their social qualities? After all, it is known that an ideal person does not exist. A harmoniously comprehensively developed person is a utopia. In real life, you don't meet a fully developed person. And patriotism is only one of the social qualities, and not the entire harmonious development of the individual. Therefore, a patriot cannot be a model, an example of a harmonious, developed person.

These questions concern every thinking person, and he tries to find answers from the real world. Fictional images, heroes of myths, fairy tales do not suit him, he tries to find examples from real life. If he cannot find them, then he becomes despondent, pessimistic, for him life has no meaning. This is why every young person who wants to find meaning in life needs an ideal.

The attitude of student youth towards historical figures who embody the ideas of patriotism has not undergone significant changes. Noteworthy is the fact that almost all the figures who have maintained their positions in the list of ideal patriots over such a significant period of time belong to one of two social groups: military leaders and major statesmen. In our opinion, the relatively small number of images symbolizing "peaceful" patriotism in the minds of student youth is a significant social problem. In the minds of young people, a patriot is always a fighter against a certain crisis, which gives him a touch of originality, even heroic.

It is interesting that for the most part, not specific names were named, but representatives of certain professions: scientists, doctors, firefighters, farmers, farmers, industrial workers, builders, artists, teachers and writers. Noteworthy is the fact that our respondents are to some extent more inclined to include writers, poets and characters invented by them among their ideal patriots.

All this allows us to conclude that, despite the continued dominance of the military-state model of the image of a patriot, at least among student youth, a different trend has emerged - the inclusion of literary and film characters, as well as writers, poets

and other figures, among the ideal patriots, whose achievements are not associated with war or large-scale transformation of the state. At the moment, a huge number of non-military images of true patriotism, which have a pronounced individual character, are circulating among students. With some degree of convention, it can be argued that each student has his own, personal and not identical with others, image of a true non-military patriot, on the basis of which an individual non-military patriotic identity is formed. Nevertheless, we have the right to assume that, under favorable conditions, it is non-military patriotism that can become the main personal identity of the patriotic type. Especially if its formation is supported by the state system of patriotic education. As a value guideline for student youth, patriotism is represented primarily by those specific public and historical figures who are perceived as carriers of the ideas of patriotism, as well as by actions motivated by values, committed by these figures and serving as role models.

Our respondents give interesting examples when answering the question “What is more valuable to you in the behavior of a patriot: unconscious risk, self-sacrifice or conscious caution, preserving your health?” Many respondents (61%) said that conscious caution is the most valuable. In their opinion, there is nothing more valuable than life. A person who has lost his health may remain crippled, disabled, and unfit for full life activities for the rest of his life. The “unconscious feat” is of little benefit not only to him, but also to those around him and society. Society needs healthy individuals who actively participate in solving social and material problems. 32% of respondents support “noble risk” and “noble self-sacrifice.” Thanks to these people, such moral concepts as “goodness”, “altruism”, “philanthropy”, “mutual assistance”, “brotherhood”, “friendship”, “love”, etc. exist in society.

Among the events that evoke a feeling of pride, our respondents named: victories of Uzbek athletes in Brazil at the Olympic Games, teachers who received the highest award of our Motherland - the title of Hero of Uzbekistan, the names of famous poets and writers who received state awards. It is noteworthy that 98% believe that there is something to be proud of their Motherland and were able to name historical events that would evoke a feeling of immense pride, while 2% found it difficult to answer. It can be assumed that the “image of a patriot”, which consists of examples of specific acts committed by certain individuals, plays not only an orienting, but also a normalizing role. As our research has shown, the list of persons whose individual traits and actions form the “image of a patriot” in the minds of a modern young student is quite extensive and, to a certain extent, internally contradictory. This significantly weakens its (image's) normative impact on the consciousness and behavior of student youth and gives rise to a number of difficulties in studying it. The “image of a patriot” is self-sufficient and is only one of the elements of the patriotic value-orientation complex (more precisely, part of the figurative and conceptual construct “patriot”), but does not reflect all its complexity and depth. The study of patriotism by the method of

constructing “images of a patriot,” although of some interest, is not able to explain how exactly patriotic orientations influence the behavior and assessments of their bearers in specific life situations; they reveal (and even then not completely) only the cognitive component of patriotic activity.

In our opinion, in addition to constructing “images of a patriot,” modeling of patriotism should be based on a certain rather limited set of universal elements through which it (patriotism) manifests itself in the activities of social agents and which can be transformed into indicators recorded in the course of empirical research.

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