

**REFLECTION OF NATIONAL VALUES IN UZBEK CHILDREN'S LITERATURE**

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**ANNOTATION**

**En:** The article highlights the critical role of Uzbek children's literature in fostering national identity, patriotism, and moral values among the younger generation in the era of globalization. It explores how traditional tales, prose, and poetry for children reflect values such as honesty, diligence, respect for parents, and love for the homeland. The works of both classic and contemporary authors are analyzed, showing how they effectively combine national traditions with modern themes. The conclusion emphasizes the responsibility of writers and educators to ensure children's literature continues to preserve and promote national values.

**Ru:** В статье рассматривается важность воспитания подрастающего поколения в духе национальных ценностей в условиях глобализации, а также значительная роль детской литературы в этом процессе. Особое внимание уделено отображению таких понятий, как честность, трудолюбие, уважение к родителям, любовь к Родине в узбекских народных сказках, прозе и поэзии для детей. Отмечается, что современные писатели удачно сочетают традиционные ценности с актуальными темами. В заключение подчёркивается необходимость дальнейшего углублённого раскрытия национальных ценностей в детской литературе.

**O'z:** Maqolada globallashuv davrida yosh avlodni milliy ruhda tarbiyalash, ularning qalbiga Vatanga sadoqat, ona tiliga hurmat va qadriyatlarga sodiqlikni singdirishda o'zbek bolalar adabiyotining o'zni tahlil etiladi. Xalq ertaklari, bolalar nasriy asarlari, she'riyat va zamonaviy adabiyot namunalarida milliy qadriyatlarning badiiy ifodasi ko'rsatib o'tilgan. Asosiy e'tibor halollik, mehnatsevarlik, ota-onaga hurmat, Vatanga muhabbat kabi insoniy fazilatlarni bolalar ongiga singdirish jarayoniga qaratilgan. Maqola xulosasida bolalar adabiyotida milliy ruhni saqlab qolish muhim vazifa ekanligi ta'kidlanadi.

**Keywords:** Uzbek children's literature, National identity, Patriotism, Moral values Traditional tales, Children's prose and poetry, Honesty, Diligence, Respect for parents, Love for homeland, Classic and contemporary authors, National traditions, Modern themes, Preservation of national values, Role of educators and writers.

In today's age of globalization, nurturing the younger generation in the spirit of national identity has become a pressing and vital mission. Instilling love for the homeland, respect for the native language, loyalty to traditions and cultural values into the hearts of children is more important than ever. In this endeavor, the role of children's literature is truly unparalleled. A single fairy tale, poem, or story read in childhood can leave a lasting mark on a child's consciousness — one that endures for a lifetime. That is why Uzbek children's literature places national values, customs, and traditions at the very core of its creative message.

If we imagine our spiritual heritage as a vast and majestic ocean, then our current understanding is but a mere drop within it. One of the greatest achievements of our independence is the revival of this rich spiritual and cultural legacy inherited from our noble ancestors. In recent years, many researchers and professionals have delved into the study of this heritage, exploring its profound influence on the moral compass of our people. Indeed, for thousands of years, our national values have been cultivated as the highest moral benchmarks within the hearts and minds of our forebears.

Today, the primary aim of the socio-spiritual reforms in our country is to lay the foundation for a morally enlightened society — a community of compassionate, patriotic, and culturally aware individuals who remain loyal to both national and universal human values. As President Shavkat Mirziyoyev aptly noted: *"We are deeply aware of our glorious past and the great ancestors who shaped it, and we take pride in this noble legacy."*

National values encompass more than just abstract ideals. They include time-honored customs, moral codes, cultural norms, religious understanding, the reverence for one's mother tongue, family relationships, and the virtue of respecting one's elders — all of which are powerfully reflected through the artistic expression of children's literature.

### **National Values in Folk Tales**

Uzbek folk tales stand as ancient and rich sources of national thought and ethical worldview. Stories like *"Zumrad and Qimmat," "The Rich Man and the Poor Man,"* and *"The Tortoise and the Fox"* eloquently portray values such as honesty, diligence, patience, justice, and respect for elders. The triumph of virtuous characters and the punishment of evil forces reinforce these ethical norms, rooting them deeply in the minds of young readers.

### **Values in Children's Prose**

Works like Khudoyberdi Tokhtaboyev's *"Riding the Yellow Giant"* and Nosir Fazilov's *"Cancer Season"* portray the moral fabric of Uzbek families — the dynamic between parents and children, the local environment, the importance of community respect, and the cherished value of hospitality. Through simple yet profound language suited to young minds, these authors successfully convey moral teachings rooted in national traditions.

### **The National Spirit in Poetry**

Uzbek children's poetry also gives prominence to national values. In the poems of Tursunboy Adashboyev, Gafur Gulom, Dilshod Rajab, and Anvar Obidjon, we find recurring themes of love for the mother tongue, devotion to the homeland, kindness, honesty, and compassion. These works speak not only to the intellect of children but also to their hearts, shaping their character from a young age.

### **Modern Approach in Today's Children's Literature**

Contemporary writers such as Kavsar Turdiyeva, Abdurahmon Akbar, and Hamza Imonberdiyev skillfully merge national identity with modernity. By weaving values into narratives involving

technology, the internet, and virtual realities, they open a window into the inner world of today's children — helping them find moral grounding in a rapidly changing world.

Uzbek children's literature serves as a powerful instrument in nurturing a national spirit in the hearts of the young. Every tale, poem, or story instills noble virtues — patriotism, honesty, courtesy, and reverence for parents. For this reason, educators, literary scholars, and writers carry the noble responsibility of ensuring that every work crafted for children reflects the rich essence of national values with depth and clarity

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