



PHILOSOPHICAL AND METHODOLOGICAL FOUNDATIONS OF SPIRITUAL GROWTH AT A NEW STAGE OF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Lola Maratovna Babakhodjaeva

Associate Professor, Doctor of Science in History (DSc),
Uzbekistan National Pedagogical University named after Nizami
e-mail: babaxodjayeva_lola@uznpu.uz

Abstract. This article analyzes the specific features of national development and spiritual growth. The significance of spiritual growth in the ongoing reforms aimed at developing civil society is examined, and these processes are subjected to philosophical analysis. Furthermore, the attention paid by the government to the development of spirituality and religious-moral processes is comprehensively studied.

Keywords: spiritual growth, culture, religion, national development, historical and cultural heritage, spiritual culture, universal values.

INTRODUCTION. In the process of developing civil society in our country, spiritual growth is an integral component of the internal systems of national development in a broad sense. From the perspective of strategic goals, the development of the individual and society is measured by spirituality. Therefore, the process of spiritual growth is not only a sign but also a goal of national development. Hence, it is necessary to consider the processes of spiritual growth and national development in harmony with the overall goal of development, as a social phenomenon. As noted above, the processes of spiritual growth and national development serve the strategic goals of society, and the determination of their characteristics and functional tasks derives from these goals. This also applies to the processes of spiritual growth and national development.

LITERATURE REVIEW AND METHODS. The article widely employs generally accepted methods — problem-oriented and functional approaches, dialectical analysis, comparative-logical analysis, and philosophical reflection — to describe the dialectical interrelation between the ongoing reforms in our country and spiritual growth.

During the period of independence, this topic has also been addressed in the research of scholars such as K. Nazarov, U. Idirrov, M. Kuranov, E. Bobamuradov, and D. Pulatova.

DISCUSSION AND RESULTS. In his address to the Oliy Majlis (Supreme Assembly), our esteemed President Shavkat Mirziyoev emphasized the importance of the idea of spiritual growth, stating: "Continuously raising the spiritual and educational level of the population, especially young men and women in our society, is of primary importance. Therefore, based on the programmatic idea 'From national revival to national ascent,' educating young people in a spirit of loyalty to the Motherland, fostering initiative, self-sacrifice, and moral virtues in them is a highly honorable task" [1].

The process of spiritual growth and national development is the realization by the subject (individual, nation, people) of their possession of historical-cultural, socio-moral, religious-spiritual, artistic-aesthetic values, and gnoseological experiences in understanding existence [2, 3].



During the period of democratization of social life, the process of spiritual growth and national development also manifests its character through symbols, signs, traditions, and values specific to the people and the nation. There is no people or nation in the world that lacks its own specific state symbols. Symbols accelerate the mutual closeness of people and vividly express their commonality. Indeed, each national emblem and symbol serves to elevate our national pride. Each of them is a great textbook and a powerful means of education [4, p. 303].

The process of spiritual growth and national development, firstly, encourages the assimilation of the spiritual-moral values and heritage created by our people into the national development process; secondly, it encourages the individual to demonstrate human virtues and strengthen humanism in society. In this way, the process of spiritual growth and national development itself manifests itself as spiritual-moral virtues and humanism [5, 6]. This leads to the harmonization of the process of spiritual growth and national development with universal values.

One of the specific features of national development and spiritual growth is education. Since independence was gained, the consciousness and thinking of young people in our country have been considered an important factor in understanding our national identity, and today this has been elevated to the level of state policy.

The Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated October 8, 2019 "On Approval of the Concept for the Development of the Higher Education System of the Republic of Uzbekistan until 2030" and the Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated December 31, 2019 "On Approval of the Concept of Continuous Spiritual Education and Measures for Its Implementation" were adopted.

The process of national-spiritual growth historically emerges at an earlier stage; this process becomes a reality with the formation of the people and the nation: without this, a nation does not have full status. It should be noted that the establishment of a people or nation on the stage of history as a stable socio-ethnic unit depends on the manifestation of its spiritual identity in historical and cultural processes. The process of spiritual growth emerges as a result of the spiritual, creative, and gnoseological quests of generations over a long period of historical development. As a nation takes shape, it acquires a clear form, transforms into specific principles, norms, models, and values, and becomes a stable, enduring, essential part of national culture. For example, it is not in vain that the Uzbek people seek their spiritual identity in the humanistic heritage of our ancestors and the universal values of Islam. For these contain the hopes, dreams, morals, etiquette, goodness, justice, love, compassion, and advanced ideas about a prosperous life of our people. These components are currently being studied as the basis of the historical-cultural heritage and spiritual culture of the Uzbek people in the context of building a civil society.

The process of spiritual growth is an important part of understanding the essence of national development. The study of the history of development of nations and peoples shows that without understanding spiritual identity, a nation or people cannot achieve or maintain its independence. The processes of national development and spiritual growth are dialectically interconnected; in this sense, the political strategic goal of a nation or people and, after achieving this goal, the aim of creating means, mechanisms, and institutions for its socio-political strengthening, are harmonized. Understanding the interrelated and mutually influencing characteristics of the processes of national development and spiritual growth allows



a nation or people to manifest themselves in existential existence with equal rights alongside other nations and peoples [7].

The adoption of the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev dated February 7, 2017 "On the Strategy for Further Development of the Republic of Uzbekistan" also set priority directions for the socio-economic development of our country. At the same time, this path is undoubtedly a strategy for building a new life and a new society in our country, and for bringing our country to the rank of modern developed states. The gradualism and phasing of changes, their foundation on the harmony of national and universal values, the consideration of the people's mentality and existing conditions, and the service of reforms to the interests and rights of the individual, his physical and spiritual growth, the needs of all strata of society, and the idea of people's well-being — all this shows that this doctrine is a comprehensive system of concepts, principles, and views [8].

Therefore, the dialectic of universal and national values in the process of spiritual growth is not a socio-philosophical phenomenon that occurs spontaneously, but requires, first and foremost, strengthening the sense of appreciation for universal values in people and increasing their sense of responsibility.

CONCLUSION. In conclusion, the processes of national development and spiritual growth are inextricably linked; in this sense, the political strategic goal of a nation or people and, after achieving this goal, the aim of creating means and mechanisms for its socio-economic strengthening, are harmonized. Understanding the interrelated characteristics of the processes of national development and spiritual growth allows a nation or people to manifest themselves in existential existence with equal rights alongside other nations and peoples. Often, spiritual growth can also be understood as a means or instrument relative to understanding the essence of the national development process.

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