

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION IS AN URGENT TASK OF OUR TIME

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**Abstract:** The article is devoted to the actual problem of ecological education of a person and society, with the help of which humanity can achieve the creation of a socially and environmentally prosperous state. It is noted that the main causes of the ecological crisis are the established principles of life that guide modern man. In particular, as a result of the uneven and cruel use of natural resources, excessively active life without taking into account the vital needs of future generations, nature is seriously damaged. Particular attention is paid to educational tasks at all stages of ecological development and the formation of mankind. The environmental situation in different countries largely depends on the level of environmental awareness of the population, environmental culture. Environmental education and training must continue continuously.

**Keywords:** Ecological education, upbringing, thinking, ecological culture, ecological crisis, human society, natural environment, exhaustibility of natural resources, unregulated levels of consumption, system of ecological education.

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**Introduction.** The problem of the relationship between man and nature is not new, it has always been. Currently, the ecological problem of the interaction of man and nature, the impact of human society on the environment has become very acute and has taken on a very large scale. It is possible to save our planet thanks to human activity based on a deep understanding of the laws of nature, taking into account numerous interactions in natural communities, realizing that man is only a part of nature. This means that today the ecological and spiritual problem manifests itself not only as a problem of protecting the environment from pollution and other negative consequences of human economic activity on Earth. It becomes a problem of preventing the spontaneous human impact on nature, conscious, purposeful, systematically developing interaction with it. If everyone has a sufficient level of ecological and moral culture, ecological and moral consciousness, such interaction can be realized, its formation begins in childhood and continues throughout life [1, 3].

**Goal:** Special attention is paid to educational tasks at all stages of ecological development and the formation of humanity. The ecological situation in different countries largely depends on the level of ecological literacy of the population, ecological culture. Environmental education and training should continue continuously.

In modern conditions, environmental education and education of people of any age and profession are of great importance. The scientific basis of nature protection consists of various fields of natural sciences and humanities, among which the main place is occupied by ecology, which in turn is closely related to other biological and geographical sciences. In the 1960s, ecology became a common problem from a purely biological science. In the 1970s, there was a rapid ecologization of natural science. The ecological approach remains universal. In modern conditions, during the transition of society to a market economy, environmental problems cause a moral crisis, because ecology and morality are interrelated. Therefore, environmental issues should be considered together with moral education[1].

**Research methodology.** The analysis of the current state of the environment, global and regional environmental problems, new environmental risks, which are considered an integral part of the socio-economic process of improving the quality of life of the population of the Republic of Uzbekistan, to be an integral part of the concept of environmental protection of the Republic of Uzbekistan for the period up to 2030, is considered. In recent years, in order to ensure environmental safety, improve the environmental situation, prevent the harmful effects of waste on human health, create favorable conditions for improving the level and quality of life of the population of the republic in the field of environmental protection, comprehensive measures have been consistently implemented to introduce new approaches to solving problems caused by processes. The education of a new consciousness in relation to nature is a long process, directly related to the environmental, social and other conditions of society. The deterioration of the environmental situation in the country, the decline in living standards, the lack of stable moral and ethical norms, the dominance of consumer psychology, the limitation of momentary benefits without long-term forecasts in conditions of indifference and softness; it is not easy to remain unpunished for environmental offenses, to form a new understanding of the duty to nature among people, especially young people. And yet, as its constant concern, the educational institution is called upon to resolutely educate a new generation that sees the world differently[1].

Now there are many environmental problems not only in Uzbekistan, but all over the world. The reason for this is that environmental education is not always given enough attention in education. This led to the fact that people began to look at nature only as a source of raw materials, life, etc. It should be noted that one of the main reasons for the lack of ecological awareness of the population is the insufficient effectiveness of the environmental education system of the population. Not everyone has the opportunity to join the understanding of environmental

problems at the level of big science, the idea of these problems is sometimes formed very randomly: under the influence of everyday impressions or media reports. The information disseminated does not allow a person to develop a coherent system of environmental knowledge necessary for a reasonable attitude to nature, without harming it. The task of the society in this regard is to ensure systematic environmental education of the population.

The current environmental situation is such that it is impossible to do without a radical and comprehensive re-education of almost all aspects of society. It is necessary to re-read scientific knowledge from the point of view of eliminating its traditional division and filling the natural sciences with humanitarian content, and the social sciences with natural science. The synthesis of sciences, more organic and complete than before, is a necessary condition for the formation of such a complex field of scientific knowledge as social ecology, which cannot be unconditionally connected with either social or natural sciences. Today, the greening of all aspects of society is of vital importance, first of all, greening is necessary in all spheres of human activity: production, everyday life, education and upbringing. The environmental problem has a number of features, and it is very important to take into account a person in the process of environmental education and enlightenment [5].

The first condition for the success of environmental education and upbringing is a sufficiently high accuracy of information about the entire biosphere and its individual areas or components of the biosphere. Now anyone who knows how to see the real situation will see: nature is threatened by unlimited human reproduction. The need to provide people with a comprehensive system of environmental knowledge both in the field of general issues of socio-ecological theory and in aspects corresponding to a specific profile of professional activity [6, 9].

It should be remembered that if the ecological aspect is "dissolved" in the educational material, especially if it is regularly "dissolved", the effect will be significantly lower than expected, and the ecological and moral beliefs of students, which are the goal, the formation of the work is unlikely. The main problem that needs to be solved is the impact on consciousness, as a result of which there is a transition from a simplified, metaphysical understanding of the problem of interaction between society and nature to a more adequate (modern) understanding.

Ecological consciousness in its developed form is formed on the basis of knowledge of the laws of the integrity of the natural environment and the laws that determine human activity to maintain the habitable state of nature. It is clear that such knowledge cannot become the property of a person, even if he has a high level

of knowledge and culture[16]. It requires special training corresponding to individual characteristics. A particular difficulty lies in the fact that the process of forming ecological consciousness should cover all age groups of students, and in fact they are distinguished by the same possibilities of perception of knowledge. That is why extensive methodological and didactic techniques are needed.

Over the years of independence, a full-fledged regulatory and legal framework in the field of ecology has been created in our country. In particular, the Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the laws "On Nature protection", "On environmental protection", "On education" and the National Training Program, as well as a number of other documents form the legal basis of the environmental education system. Article 4 of the Law "On Nature Protection" establishes the obligation to teach ecology in all types of educational institutions. However, these laws do not give significant results. In this regard, it is important to improve the ecological culture of the younger generation. According to the Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. 434 dated 27.05.2019 . "On improving environmental education in the higher education system" provides for strengthening the content of environmental-related subjects and enriching it with additional topics[10]. Also, topics related to ecology are included in the relevant academic subjects in non-core areas. It was also noted that it will be regularly updated on the basis of scientific achievements, new technologies and research related to ecology.

Environmental education is in the focus of attention of international organizations such as the UN, UNESCO and UNEP. According to experts, more than 60 different international institutions and agencies around the world deal with environmental problems, but they do not act in an organized (dispersed) and inconsistent manner. It is known that the UN is the most influential international organization operating since October 25, 1945 and has set itself the goal of maintaining, strengthening and developing mutual cooperation, peace and security between all countries. In addition, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) is working to prevent and solve environmental problems. UNEP consists of three divisions. They consist of the Board of Governors, the Coordinating Council for Environmental Protection and the Environmental Fund. Crucial issues are considered and implemented by the Board of Governors.

Its agenda covers environmental issues in 8 areas:

- ✓ improvement of the environment and public health;
- ✓ protection of lands and waters, prevention of desertification;
- ✓ ocean protection;
- ✓ protection of nature, wild animals and genetic resources;
- ✓ energy problems;

- ✓ environmental education and training of specialists;
- ✓ trade in natural resources, economics and technology;
- ✓ Codification and unification of international and national legislation.

The Republic of Uzbekistan participates in various events at the level of the world and individual countries in order to develop environmental education and upbringing. A continuous concept of environmental education has been developed in our country. But there are still many shortcomings in this plan. We hope that these problems will be resolved positively in the coming years. Every specialist in this field should be environmentally literate, not harm nature in their work and contribute to the development of environmental education.

For environmental education, it is important to work on the ground to assess the nature of human impact on the environment, provided for by the program. On their basis, students develop the habit of correctly, critically evaluating their behavior in nature, the actions of other people, and choosing a line of behavior that corresponds to the laws of nature and society.

The knowledge and observance by students of the rules of behavior in nature during excursions, tourist and local history hikes indicate the degree of formation of their moral image. Thus, the content of natural science classes contributes to environmental education and has great opportunities for this. In their implementation and preparation of an environmentally literate generation, the main role belongs to the teacher, his creative initiative.

The stages of environmental education and education, the age possibilities of pupils, the real conditions of the social and natural environment - all this determines the nature of the students' emerging relationships to nature [15, 14].

As you know, education in the broad sense of the word is a process and result of personal development under the influence of purposeful training and upbringing. Learning is a process of interaction between a teacher and a student, during which the education of a personality is carried out. As you know, three tasks are solved in the classroom: educational, educational and developmental. Therefore, the lesson provides more opportunities for educating students of a new attitude to nature based on humanism [12, 13].

The disclosure of the connections between man and nature is very important. Moreover, man is considered as a part of nature, he exists within nature and is inseparable from it. The connection between man and nature is manifested, first of all, in the diverse role that nature plays in the material and spiritual life of people. At the same time, they manifest themselves in the reverse human impact on nature, which in turn can be positive (nature protection) and negative (air pollution, water pollution, destruction of plants, animals, etc.). The material on environmental

relations should be a mandatory element of the content of both the lesson devoted to the study of new material and the generalizing lesson.

By receiving a certain system of knowledge in the classes of "Natural Science" and "Natural Science", students can also learn the norms and rules of environmental behavior in nature, since through environmental education a responsible attitude to nature is brought up. But the norms and rules of behavior will be poorly understood if the conditions of environmental education are not taken into account.

**Research results.** The solution of modern environmental problems requires a competent approach, including natural, social and humanitarian sciences, approaching the philosophical level of knowledge. Since all changes in the natural sphere caused by natural and human activities affect the living conditions and health of the population, these relations are considered through a system of knowledge about the importance of nature for human life and life in general. economic activity, rational use of natural resources and the need for restoration. The study of the basics of nature management, consideration of the role of forecasting environmental changes contributes to understanding the importance of taking into account the peculiarities of nature in the process of human labor activity.

The first most important condition is that environmental education should be carried out in a system using local history material, taking into account continuity, gradual complication and deepening of individual elements of the educational material.

The second prerequisite is to actively involve students in practical matters that are feasible for them to protect local natural resources. There are a lot of such things: this is the internal and external landscaping of an educational institution, a public garden, care of flower beds, collecting fruits and seeds of meadow and tree-shrub plants, cleaning of dead wood, protection and feeding of birds, patronage of natural monuments during the study of the native land, and the like. Thus, education based on the disclosure of specific ecological connections will help students to learn the rules and norms of behavior in nature, which will be conscious and meaningful beliefs of each student.

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