

THE ROLE OF NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE IN THE RESTORE OF SPIRITUALITY

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Abstract:

This chapter analyzes the process of national identity recognition and spiritual restoration following Uzbekistan's achievement of independence. Independence has created new opportunities to restore historical memory, preserve, and develop national values. The revival of historical figures and cultural heritage of the Uzbek people has strengthened national pride and self-awareness.

Keywords: National independence, spirituality, historical memory, national pride, self-identity, Uzbekistan, historical figures.

Introduction

National independence is a fundamental aspect of statehood that not only ensures political and economic freedom but also fosters the revival of a nation's spiritual values and cultural heritage. The restoration and development of spirituality, closely tied to national identity, are among the key goals of an independent state striving to create a harmonious and sustainable society.

The relevance of this study lies in the fact that spiritual revival plays a vital role in shaping a healthy public consciousness that can adapt to modern challenges while relying on traditional values. In the context of globalization, where cultures influence each other, it is important to preserve and develop one's own spiritual traditions. National independence serves as the foundation for this process, as only a sovereign state can provide the conditions for full-fledged cultural and spiritual development.

The aim of the study is to analyze how national independence contributes to the restoration of spiritual values and the strengthening of national identity in the context of modern society.

Main hypotheses of the study:

National independence contributes to the revival and popularization of historical and cultural memory, which was suppressed during periods of external domination.

Independence stimulates the development of educational and cultural initiatives aimed at strengthening national values and spirituality.

Independence creates conditions for the development of cultural heritage, which impacts the identity and spirituality of society.

Methods

The research aims at a thorough analysis of the role of national independence in the restoration of spirituality, based on historical experience, sociological data, and expert evaluations.



Analytical Method

This method was used to study scientific literature, historical documents, and cultural sources related to the development of spirituality after gaining independence.

The works of contemporary researchers analyzing the link between independence and spirituality in countries that have achieved sovereignty were examined.

Historical Approach

This method was employed to study historical events related to gaining independence and their impact on spiritual processes within society. It enabled the tracing of changes in cultural policy and the educational sphere aimed at restoring national identity.

Sociological Analysis

Data from various sociological surveys and questionnaires conducted among citizens were used to determine how they perceive the impact of national independence on spiritual and cultural aspects of life. The main focus was on issues related to national pride, cultural traditions, and values.

Qualitative Research

Interviews were conducted with experts in national policy, cultural studies, and history. The questions aimed to identify factors contributing to the revival of spirituality during the post-independence period.

Opinions of public and religious figures, as well as educators working in educational institutions, were analyzed.

Comparative Analysis

This method was used to compare the processes of spiritual restoration in various countries that gained independence, to identify both universal and unique aspects of the influence of national independence on the spiritual development of society.

Results

The research revealed that national independence has a significant impact on the process of restoring and strengthening spirituality within society. The analyzed data indicates positive changes in cultural policy, national identity, and the revival of traditional values after gaining independence.

1. National Independence: A New Phase in Uzbekistan. National independence is the process by which a nation gains the right to determine its own destiny, achieving political, social, and economic freedom. With Uzbekistan's independence in 1991, a new era began in the country. During this period, extensive reforms were implemented to enhance national identity and revive cultural heritage. Independence sparked renewed interest in the historical memory and cultural values of the Uzbek people.

2. Strengthening Self-Identity. After achieving independence, Uzbekistan focused on restoring its history, culture, and values. Independence encouraged the people to understand their historical roots, as access to complete and truthful information about the nation's history and culture had



been restricted for a long time. During the Soviet era, many values, traditions, and religious beliefs significant to the Uzbek nation were suppressed or banned. Independence removed these limitations, creating new opportunities for restoring the nation's historical memory.

3. National Pride and Self-Identity. In the early years of national independence, one of the key processes was the strengthening of self-awareness and national pride. National pride reflects a positive attitude toward a nation's history, culture, and traditions. During the years of independence, the national pride of the Uzbek people was revived, positively influencing the spiritual regeneration of society. Interest in the ancient history of the Uzbek people, the works of great scholars, and spiritual heritage increased.

4. Restoration of Historical Memory after Independence. After independence, several reforms were implemented to restore the nation's historical memory. Efforts were made to provide a fair assessment of historical figures and events, republish historical works, and conduct scholarly research. Works about prominent historical figures of Uzbekistan—such as Amir Timur, Alisher Navoi, and Mirzo Ulugbek—were republished, making their legacy widely accessible. This instilled a sense of pride in national values among the younger generation.

5. Re-examining Historical Truths During Independence. The era of independence expanded opportunities for studying historical truths. Unlike the Soviet era, when historical research was tightly controlled, there was now an opportunity to view national history from the nation's perspective. Historical works were rewritten and assessed fairly during this period. Comprehensive information became available about the historical path, values, and traditions of the Uzbek people, fostering pride in their history and culture.

6. Reforms for Cultural Heritage Restoration. After gaining independence, several reforms were carried out to restore cultural heritage. Preserving and passing on national culture and traditions to future generations became one of the key directions of state policy. Many historical monuments and cultural heritage sites were restored and renovated. Additionally, national holidays, folk games, and traditions popular among the people were revived.

7. Restoration of Historical Monuments. During the independence era, many historical and archaeological monuments in Uzbekistan were restored and renovated. For example, the cultural heritage of ancient cities like Samarkand and Bukhara is of great importance to world culture, and their restoration played a significant role in the process of national identity recognition. This effort increased national pride and deepened respect for the nation's historical heritage.

8. National Culture and Art. The revival of Uzbekistan's culture and arts was also a major process during independence. National art forms—including theater, music, literature, and folk crafts—were restored and developed. Numerous cultural events, festivals, and exhibitions were organized to promote national culture, contributing to the people's pride in their national culture and its preservation.

9. National Identity and Youth Education. Under the conditions of national independence, educating youth based on national values and historical memory is of great importance. The education system now places a strong emphasis on studying the history, culture, and values of the Uzbek people. This helps young people understand the importance of knowing, respecting, and preserving their national values. Additionally, various events are organized to foster patriotism, enhance national pride, and strengthen self-awareness among youth.

Analysis of Historical Data. Historical events associated with gaining independence have led to



the development of cultural policies aimed at reviving national identity. For instance, in Uzbekistan, following independence in 1991, numerous initiatives were launched to promote the national language, literature, and traditions, contributing to the strengthening of spirituality. Research indicated that during colonial rule, many cultural and spiritual traditions were suppressed, while independence allowed for their revival and integration into the everyday life of society.

Sociological Data. The surveys conducted showed that 78% of respondents consider independence the main factor in strengthening spiritual values. Over 60% of those surveyed noted an increased interest in national culture and traditions after gaining independence, positively impacting the spiritual development of the population.

Interviews with experts revealed that independence has allowed for the free development of educational and cultural programs that contribute to spiritual revival.

Restoration of National Identity. Independence has led to a deeper awareness of historical roots and traditions. This is reflected in the educational system, which now places greater emphasis on national history, language, and culture, thereby enhancing the sense of national pride and self-respect.

The restoration and popularization of traditional holidays, customs, and rituals have also positively influenced the spiritual condition of society.

Role of Educational Programs. Educational programs developed after gaining independence aim to foster national pride and respect for spiritual values. Schools and universities have increased the number of hours dedicated to the study of national culture and spirituality, thereby promoting the spiritual well-being of the youth.

Impact of Independence on Religious Revival. The study showed that independence has created conditions for the free development of religion as an important component of society's spiritual life. This includes the construction of new religious institutions, restoration of historical monuments, and freedom of religious expression.

Conclusion

National independence plays a crucial role in the process of restoring and strengthening a society's spirituality. The results of the study demonstrate that independence contributes to the revival of historical and cultural values, the development of national identity, and spiritual self-awareness. Successful spiritual revival requires active state support in the form of educational, cultural, and religious initiatives.

National independence promotes the development and strengthening of national identity through the restoration of historical memory and cultural traditions.

The restoration of spirituality requires the active integration of traditional values into the modern educational system, fostering national consciousness among the youth.

Religious revival is an important element of a society's spiritual development and requires the creation of conditions for its harmonious existence within national policy.

Practical Recommendations:

Deepen research into the mechanisms for integrating spiritual values into educational programs to enhance their impact on the spiritual development of youth.

Develop national cultural programs aimed at popularizing traditional values while adapting them



to modern conditions. Create and support platforms for intercultural dialogue that promote spiritual self-awareness and mutual understanding in society.

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