

THE ROLE OF SPIRITUAL EDUCATORS IN DEVELOPING READING CULTURE AMONG YOUNG PEOPLE

Nilufar Boyxanova Ravshanbekovna

*Deputy Director for Youth Affairs of Kosonsoy
District Technical College No. 2*

Abstract: This article examines the activities of spiritual and educational specialists and their role in society in promoting reading among young people, as well as in fostering and developing a culture of reading. The study analyzes the impact of reading culture on the worldview, thinking, and spiritual maturity of youth, and explores modern approaches to increasing interest in reading. Furthermore, the article discusses the significance of spiritual and educational activities, book promotion, and enlightenment initiatives in the upbringing and development of the younger generation.

Key words: reading culture, love of reading, young generation, spiritual and educational activities, spiritual educators.

Introduction

In today's era of technological advancement and globalization, one of the most effective ways to achieve spiritual and intellectual development is through the promotion of a strong reading culture. Books serve as invaluable sources of knowledge, preserving historical experiences and transmitting information from one generation to another. They provide insights into the past while introducing readers to scientific discoveries, cultural achievements, and contemporary developments. By engaging with books, individuals broaden their perspectives, strengthen their critical thinking skills, and develop the qualities necessary to become well-rounded members of society. Reading plays a crucial role in personal growth and self-improvement. It contributes to the intellectual and moral development of young people, helping them make informed decisions and find their rightful place within society. Consequently, fostering a culture of reading among the younger generation is essential for building a knowledgeable and responsible citizenry. The family and society both have a significant influence on the development of reading habits among young people. Just as society begins with the family, a lifelong appreciation for books is first cultivated at home. The family serves as one of the primary environments where reading culture is formed and nurtured. Encouraging children to read, setting a positive example through personal reading habits, and inspiring curiosity about books are among the key responsibilities of parents. When parents regularly engage in reading and emphasize its value, children are more likely to develop a genuine interest in books. Introducing children to reading from an early age, creating a supportive reading environment, recommending age-appropriate literature, and incorporating educational reading activities into daily life can significantly contribute to the formation of lasting reading habits. Furthermore, parents

should dedicate time to reading in their own lives and teach their children to allocate time for reading as an essential part of their personal development.

Method

This study employs a comprehensive methodological approach to examine the contribution of spiritual and educational specialists to the promotion of reading culture among young people. The research is based on qualitative methods, including analytical review, comparative assessment, interpretation, and synthesis of relevant theoretical and practical materials. During the research process, scholarly publications, policy documents, educational resources, and materials related to spiritual and educational activities were examined. Particular attention was given to the influence of reading habits on the intellectual, moral, and cultural development of youth, as well as to the initiatives aimed at encouraging reading and lifelong learning. The collected information was systematically evaluated to identify effective strategies for fostering interest in books among young people. Furthermore, the study explored the role of spiritual and educational professionals in creating a supportive reading environment, promoting literary values, and strengthening the educational potential of the younger generation. Based on the findings, conclusions and recommendations were formulated regarding the further development of reading culture and the enhancement of educational and spiritual outreach activities.

Results

Today, the development of a reading culture among young people has become an issue of great importance. The rapid advancement of information technologies, the widespread use of the Internet, and the growing popularity of social media have, in some cases, reduced interest in traditional reading. As a result, this trend affects the intellectual growth, worldview, and educational development of young people. Therefore, promoting reading habits and enhancing reading culture remain among the most important tasks of modern society. The effective solution to this issue requires close cooperation between families, educational institutions, and the wider community. Establishing modern libraries, introducing innovative technologies into library services, and expanding access to electronic and audiobooks can significantly increase young people's interest in reading. In addition, organizing book fairs, literary meetings, reading competitions, and reading campaigns on a regular basis can contribute to the promotion of reading culture. Within the framework of state policies aimed at supporting reading, significant reforms have been implemented to modernize the library system. Efforts have been made to strengthen the material and technical infrastructure of libraries, expand electronic information resources, and improve the quality of library and information services provided to the public. The primary objective of these reforms is to enhance reading and information literacy throughout society. Developing reading habits from early childhood is particularly important. However, some parents may lack sufficient experience in selecting appropriate books, recommending literature to their children, or effectively organizing reading activities. Therefore, strengthening cooperation among parents, teachers, and library professionals, as well as organizing educational seminars and training

programs for them, is highly beneficial. Furthermore, one of the factors contributing to the decline in reading interest among young people is the insufficient promotion of reading culture. For this reason, mass media outlets, educational institutions, and spiritual and educational organizations should play a more active role in highlighting the importance of books in personal development and expanding initiatives aimed at encouraging reading among the younger generation.

Discussion

Developing a love for books and cultivating reading habits among young people is one of the most important aspects of spiritual and moral education today. Reading broadens an individual's intellectual horizons, enhances critical thinking skills, and contributes to the formation of positive moral and ethical values. From this perspective, promoting reading among youth is closely connected not only with education but also with the overall spiritual and cultural development of society. In this process, spiritual and educational specialists serve as an important social force that encourages young people to read and guides them toward knowledge, enlightenment, and positive values. Various educational projects, literary events, book discussions, and creative meetings organized through their initiatives help increase young people's interest in reading. Such activities not only provide meaningful ways for young people to spend their free time but also foster a genuine desire for learning through books. In an era when digital technologies have become an integral part of everyday life, there is an increasing need to promote reading through innovative approaches. Therefore, the effective use of electronic libraries, online reading projects, and educational platforms on social media by spiritual and educational professionals is of great significance. These tools expand the reach of reading promotion efforts and create opportunities to engage a larger number of young people in reading activities. It is also important to emphasize that the development of reading culture cannot be achieved solely through the efforts of a single institution or organization. Successful promotion of reading requires cooperation among families, educational institutions, libraries, and spiritual and educational organizations. Such collaboration creates favorable conditions for raising a generation that is knowledgeable, broad-minded, intellectually capable, and spiritually mature.

Conclusion

Libraries occupy a significant place in the spiritual and cultural life of society, serving as centers that connect people with sources of knowledge and enlightenment. Today, various initiatives are being implemented in our country to promote reading culture and encourage reading habits among the population, especially among young people. In this process, mass media, internet platforms, and social networks play an important role as effective channels of communication. Through these means, the value of books and their contribution to personal development are widely promoted among the public. In addition, various competitions and projects organized for young people contribute significantly to the development of a reading culture. Such initiatives increase young people's interest in books and motivate them to engage in regular reading. As a result, reading becomes not only a personal activity but also

an important social value. Reading culture encompasses an individual's attitude toward books, the ability to use them effectively, and the skills required to understand and reflect upon what has been read. The family and society play a crucial role in the formation of this culture. It is within the family that children first develop a love of books, a desire for knowledge, and the habit of reading, while society provides the supportive cultural environment necessary for sustaining these values. Books are an essential tool in the personal development of every individual. Reading enriches a person's thinking, broadens their worldview, and enhances their life experience. Therefore, families that cultivate strong reading traditions and societies that value education and enlightenment are more likely to achieve sustainable progress and development. Consequently, promoting a culture of reading is an important factor in fostering both individual growth and the spiritual advancement of society as a whole.

REFERENCES

1. Davlatov Soibnazar Xo'janiyazovich. (2024). OLIY TA'LIM TIZIMI SIFATINI OSHIRISHDA ZAMONAVIY MENEJMENTNING O'RNI VA AHAMIYATI. SAMARALI TA'LIM VA BARQAROR INNOVATSIYALAR JURNALI, 2(9), 135–139. Retrieved from <https://innovativepublication.uz/index.php/jelsi/article/view/1750>
2. Цай И. К., Артемьева Е. Б. Развитие информационно-библиотечной системы Узбекистана в контексте исторических трансформаций // Труды ГПНТБ СО РАН. 2019. № 1. С. 22-25.
3. Lyudmila Nigmatovna Muminkhodjaeva. (2024). INTENSIFICATION OF THE PROCESS OF TRAINING SPECIALISTS IN CULTURAL UNIVERSITIES THROUGH THE USE OF MODERN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES. Zenodo. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.13757191>