

THE IMPACT OF RELIGIOUS UPBRINGING ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF A CHILD'S PERSONALITY

Bakhriddin Umarov

International Islamic Academy of Uzbekistan, Professor of the Department of
“Psychology of Religion and Pedagogy”, Doctor of Psychological Sciences

Annotation

This thesis analyzes the impact of religious upbringing on the development of a child's personality from a psychological perspective. Religious upbringing is considered an important factor that forms such qualities in a child as moral consciousness, responsibility, empathy, patience, forgiveness, self-control, and social adaptation. At the same time, it is emphasized that religious upbringing should be organized not through coercion, but on the basis of explanation, personal example, and affection, taking into account the child's age, individual characteristics, and family environment.

Keywords

religious upbringing, child's personality, moral development, family, values, empathy, psychological stability.

Main Text

The family, educational environment, peer group, cultural values, and religious-spiritual upbringing play an important role in the formation of a child's personality. Religious upbringing helps a child understand moral concepts such as good and evil, honesty and responsibility, kindness and forgiveness, patience and gratitude. This process influences not only the child's behavior, but also his or her inner world, self-esteem, and relationships with others.

From a psychological point of view, the positive influence of religious upbringing is manifested through several mechanisms. First, it helps the child internalize moral norms. At the beginning, the child acts on the basis of the requirements of parents and

adults; later, these requirements become part of the child's internal values. Second, religious upbringing strengthens the child's sense of responsibility. The child begins to understand not only the personal consequences of his or her actions, but also their family and social consequences. Third, religious upbringing develops empathy and kindness, since many religious and spiritual teachings place special emphasis on doing good to others, helping the vulnerable, respecting parents, and honoring human dignity.

Studies note that the religious and spiritual environment in the family is associated with a child's psychological adjustment, social competence, and moral behavior. However, if religious upbringing involves conflict, excessive pressure, or coercion, it may intensify fear, feelings of guilt, or inner resistance in the child. Therefore, religious upbringing should correspond to the child's age characteristics, emotional needs, and level of individual development.

The positive influence of religious upbringing on the development of a child's personality is strengthened primarily through the personal example of parents. If parents demonstrate affection, justice, patience, honesty, and responsibility through their own behavior, the child naturally accepts these values. Conversely, if there is a contradiction between words and actions, hesitation, mistrust, and spiritual indifference may develop in the child.

According to Bronfenbrenner's ecological approach, child development is not limited to the family alone; school, peers, the neighborhood, culture, and the broader social environment also influence personality formation. Therefore, for religious upbringing to be effective, family upbringing must be harmonized with universal human values present in the school, community, and wider social environment.

Conclusion

Religious upbringing is an important psychological factor in the development of a child's personality. It serves to form moral consciousness, responsibility, empathy,

patience, self-control, and social adaptation in the child. However, its positive influence depends on the style of upbringing: religious upbringing is effective when it is organized on the basis of affection, explanation, personal example, tolerance, and consideration of the child's age characteristics. Therefore, it is important to present religious upbringing to the child not as fear or obligation, but as spiritual support, moral guidance, and a culture of making the right choices in life.

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