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YOUTH LEADERSHIP: AS A FACTOR IN INCREASING SOCIAL ACTIVITY

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Abstract. This article covers the role and importance of leadership skills to improve young people's social activity in today's globalization era. In this article leadership concept, its social, intellectual, and moral role in the lives of youth and the necessity of developing leadership qualities among youth were analyzed. Competencies such as an individual's civic position, initiative, and social responsibility are presented as important factors in the development of leadership. Furthermore, the role of educational institutions and family, and social programs which are aimed to support youth have also been given special consideration. The article promotes the ideas of creating strong communities and strengthening democratic values by means of urging young people to be active.

Keywords: leadership skills, social activism, civic position, initiative, societal development.

ЛИДЕРСТВО МОЛОДЕЖИ: КАК ФАКТОР ПОВЫШЕНИЯ СОЦИАЛЬНОЙ АКТИВНОСТИ

Аннотация. В статье рассматривается роль и значение лидерских навыков для повышения социальной активности молодежи в эпоху глобализации. В статье анализируется концепция лидерства, ее социальная, интеллектуальная и моральная роль в жизни молодежи, а также необходимость развития лидерских качеств у молодежи. Такие компетенции, как гражданская позиция, инициативность и социальная ответственность личности, представлены как важные факторы развития лидерства. Кроме того, особое внимание уделено роли образовательных учреждений и семьи, а также социальным программам, направленным на поддержку молодежи. В статье продвигаются идеи создания сильных сообществ и укрепления демократических ценностей путем побуждения молодежи к активности.

Ключевые слова: лидерские навыки, социальный активизм, гражданская позиция, инициативность, общественное развитие.

Introduction

In the 21st century we live in, the development of society is closely related to the social activity of youth, namely their entrepreneurial initiative, their engagement with societal issues, and their participation in collective work. In this regard, the acquisition of leadership skills by young people is of significant importance, as leaders address societal problems through successful projects, inspire others, and find solutions via innovative thinking, which clearly reflects their social activities. The primary goal of this research is to study and provide information on the role and significance of leadership skills in enhancing the social activity of young people.

Main body

In the current era, renewal and development processes are actively taking place in almost

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all sectors of society. Special attention is being paid to preparing responsible and proactive personnel with modern views in our country. In the speeches and works of the state leader regarding youth, issues such as education and training, enhancing the intellectual potential of young people, developing leadership abilities, fostering patriotism, and forming an active civic stance are of primary importance. These approaches are rooted in the rich scientific and spiritual heritage of Eastern thinkers. Great scholars such as Abu Nasr Farabi, Ibn Sina, and Alisher Navoi emphasize the necessity of ensuring human perfection through intellect, ethics, science, and social consciousness in their works. Specifically, Alisher Navoi in his work Mahbub ulqulub emphasizes that the prosperity of society depends on just, knowledgeable leaders who consider the interests of the people.

Today, young people are recognized as one of the most active and decisive layers of society. The development of any state is primarily dependent on the education level, social activity, and initiative of its youth. Therefore, one of the urgent tasks is to actively involve young people in public life and increase their social activity [3,2]. Achieving this goal is significantly supported by the development of young people's leadership qualities.

Social activity is the conscious and voluntary effort of an individual to participate actively in the life of society and influence social processes through their thoughts, initiatives, and actions [3,3]. To develop it, competencies such as civic stance, initiative, social responsibility, volunteering, leadership, information activity, and public engagement are required.

Leadership is a set of thoughts and behaviors that unites people in a common direction, encourages them to work together and achieve common goals, and helps adapt to a changing environment [1,1]. Ralph M. Stogdill, an American psychologist and scholar of leadership theory, states that there are several definitions of the term "leadership" because many people have attempted to define it. This is similar to the terms democracy, love, and peace, which, although we may understand them based on our own emotions, can carry different meanings for different people [2,27].

The process of developing leadership qualities among youth begins from the early stages of human life. Specifically, the family environment, parents' educational approaches, pre-school education, general secondary education institutions, and other social influences play an important role in developing each individual's leadership potential and shaping their leadership abilities.

The development of leadership abilities in young people is important for several reasons:

- 1. Empowering future leaders: Developing leadership skills in young people prepares them to take on roles where they can inspire and influence others. This ensures the formation of a generation of mature leaders who can effectively act in complex situations in the future.
- 2. Promoting innovation and creativity: Young people often bring new perspectives and innovative ideas. By developing their leadership potential, we encourage creative thinking and provide opportunities for them to develop solutions that lead to progress in various fields.
- 3. Building strong communities: Young leaders play a vital role in forming strong and united communities. By solving local problems, mobilizing their peers, and fighting for social change, they contribute to the well-being of their communities.
- 4. Developing civic engagement: Promoting youth leadership increases their sense of civic responsibility. Young leaders are inclined to serve society, participate in political processes,

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and be active on issues that matter to them. This contributes to strengthening democratic values [4].

Conclusion

The role of leadership skills in enhancing the social activity of young people is invaluable. Leadership qualities, such as initiative, responsibility, and active participation in collective work, encourage young people to take an active position in society. In today's globalized context, the development of any country's progress is dependent on the education of a knowledgeable, socially conscious, and leadership-capable youth generation. By developing the leadership skills of young people, not only will future leaders emerge, but also the opportunities to foster innovative approaches, creative ideas, and social cohesion will expand. Therefore, shaping leadership competencies among youth not only contributes to their personal success but also serves the overall development of society.

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