



TRADITIONAL FOLKLORE AND MODERN EDUCATION

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ABSTRACT

This article explores the role of traditional folklore as a pedagogical resource in both historical and contemporary educational settings. It analyzes the effectiveness of folklore in fostering cultural identity, patriotism, and intercultural competence among youth. Using examples from Uzbek folk traditions and educational practices, the study demonstrates how folklore can be integrated into modern curricula to reinforce national values while supporting global cultural understanding. The research also discusses current trends in multicultural education and the revitalization of intangible cultural heritage through educational frameworks.

Folklore represents the collective creativity of a people, encompassing fairy tales, songs, proverbs, riddles, legends, and other forms of traditional folk art. It serves as a fundamental component of cultural heritage. Despite the rapid advancement of science and technology, folklore continues to play a vital role in the education and upbringing of younger generations. It functions as an essential means of conveying life values, behavioral norms, and moral principles.

In the context of modern educational systems, where traditional methods are increasingly being replaced by innovative approaches, folklore remains an effective tool in the educational process, particularly in the development of personal and intercultural competencies. The integration of folklore into education is especially relevant for fostering patriotism among young people, promoting respect for cultural traditions, and enhancing critical thinking skills.

In traditional education, folklore has served not only as a means of instruction but also as a vital instrument of socialization. Songs, fairy tales, and rituals passed down from generation to generation have helped instill in children a sense of respect for elders and responsibility, while also teaching the norms and values essential for life in society. For example, in Uzbek tradition, folklore works such as "Shahrisabz," "The Tale of Tashkent," and "Uzbek Folk Songs" have played a significant role in shaping the worldview of young people. Through these narratives, values such as honor, respect for family, and devotion to the homeland are effectively transmitted.

One of the most essential functions of folklore is the preservation and transmission of language, culture, and moral norms from one generation to the next. Songs and proverbs encapsulate profound lessons drawn from the lived experiences of the people, becoming



integral elements of collective memory. Modern educational systems are increasingly recognizing folklore as a significant component of instruction. In the context of globalization and the diminishing of cultural distinctions, folklore plays a crucial role in preserving the unique features of national cultures. Furthermore, it facilitates the integration of traditional heritage into contemporary educational processes.

For example, in schools across Uzbekistan, elements of folklore are actively utilized to foster interest in the native language and culture. Importantly, folklore is not taught merely as a component of literature, but is also widely integrated into enrichment activities, theatrical performances, and cultural events. Modern educational approaches place particular emphasis on intercultural communication, in which folklore serves as a vital link between different cultures. This is especially valuable for students who speak foreign languages, as it enhances their understanding of the traditions and values of other cultures. Moreover, it contributes to the development of tolerance and respect for diversity.

Folklore as a Means of Fostering Patriotism and Intercultural Understanding
One of the significant aspects of folklore is its potential to cultivate patriotism and a deep sense of love for one's homeland. Folk songs and legends often glorify historical heroism, the bravery of ancestors, the beauty of nature, and the uniqueness of the native land. For young people—especially those belonging to foreign-language learner groups—folklore serves as a bridge connecting them to the history and traditions of their people, thereby reinforcing their sense of national cultural identity and belonging.

In the case of Uzbekistan, the idea of patriotism is closely integrated with folk creativity in national educational programs. Elements of folklore contribute to fostering respect for the nation's history and culture among the younger generation, while also playing a vital role in the development of national identity.

The role of folklore in strengthening intercultural communication is equally significant.

In today's world, where migration and globalization have become common phenomena, folklore serves as a powerful tool for promoting dialogue between different nations and cultures. Through exposure to folk traditions, individuals can gain deeper insight into the values and unique characteristics of other cultures, thereby enhancing mutual understanding and cultivating tolerance.

Conclusion

Folklore remains a vital component in the education and upbringing of the younger generation, both in traditional and modern contexts. Its role in shaping worldview, fostering patriotism, encouraging respect for cultural traditions, and strengthening intercultural relations cannot be overstated. Within the framework of contemporary educational approaches, folklore plays a crucial role in developing both personal and intercultural competencies among youth. It imparts life lessons and reinforces a sense of connection to historical and cultural heritage.

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