

Article

# The Philosophical Essence of Values and Their Role in Social Development

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**Abstract:** This article analyzes the philosophical essence of values, their role in human and social life, and the factors influencing the formation of national values from a scientific and philosophical perspective. The study highlights the axiological meaning of the concept of values and its close connection with social consciousness, historical memory, and spiritual heritage. Furthermore, the article substantiates the harmony between national and universal values, their importance in the upbringing of youth, and the transformations occurring in the system of values under the conditions of globalization.

**Keywords:** Values, Axiology, Philosophy, National Values, Spirituality, Social Consciousness, Historical Memory, Globalization, Youth Education, Spiritual Security, Universal Values, Cultural Heritage

## 1. Introduction

At all stages of social development, values have served as an important spiritual factor in human life. A person's worldview, moral character, attitude toward society, and spiritual maturity are shaped on the basis of the system of values. Therefore, the issue of values is considered one of the most relevant areas of philosophical research.

In today's era of globalization and informatization, preserving national values and harmonizing them with modern development has become increasingly important. This is because the national identity, historical memory, and spiritual maturity of any nation are closely connected with its system of values. National values elevate individuals spiritually and ensure social stability and solidarity within society[1].

Values are not only spiritual phenomena but also important social criteria that regulate human activity. They determine human behavior, goals, and life perspectives. Thus, the philosophical study of values remains one of the urgent scientific issues of our time[2].

## 2. Methodology

In philosophy, the concept of values refers to material and spiritual benefits that are significant for individuals and society. The term "value" originates from the Arabic word meaning "worth," "importance," or "significance." From a philosophical perspective, values are interpreted as social phenomena that serve human needs and interests[3].

The philosophical field that studies values is called axiology. Axiology examines the essence of concepts such as goodness, justice, freedom, beauty, duty, and responsibility in human life. These concepts are regarded as the main criteria of human spirituality.

Values possess both objective and subjective characteristics. Their objective aspect is related to social development, historical experience, and social relations, while their

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subjective aspect is determined by human consciousness, needs, and worldview. Therefore, values express the spiritual connection between individuals and society[4].

Eastern thinkers also paid special attention to the issue of values. Great scholars such as Abu Nasr Farabi, Abu Ali ibn Sina, and Alisher Navoi interpreted humanity, justice, knowledge, and goodness as the highest values. In particular, Alisher Navoi emphasized in his works that the spiritual perfection of human beings is the main factor of social progress.

### 3. Result and Discussion

**Factors in the Formation of National Values.** National values are formed on the basis of a nation's historical development, customs, religion, language, culture, and way of life. Over centuries, they are passed down from generation to generation and become part of the spiritual heritage of a people. The unique values of each nation define its national identity.

The national values of the Uzbek people are also the result of a long historical development. Hospitality, respect for elders, family orientation, tolerance, the mahalla system, and kindness form the foundation of our national spirituality. These values strengthen mutual respect and solidarity among people in society[5-8].

Historical memory plays an important role in the formation of national values. The heritage of ancestors, historical traditions, and spiritual experiences serve as the main sources of national values. A society that loses its historical memory gradually loses its national identity. Therefore, preserving and developing national values is one of the important factors of social progress.

Moreover, national values are closely connected with universal human values. Concepts such as human rights, peace, justice, freedom, and tolerance serve as universal spiritual principles for all nations. The harmony between national and universal values ensures the stable development of society.

**The Importance of Values in Youth Education.** Values play an invaluable role in educating the younger generation as spiritually mature individuals. Human worldview and moral character are shaped from an early age. Family, neighborhood communities, and educational institutions are considered the main social institutions of youth upbringing.

Within the family, children are taught values such as respect for elders, diligence, kindness, and honesty. The mahalla contributes to developing social activity and a sense of community among young people. The educational system, in turn, forms patriotism, enlightenment, and national self-awareness[9-11].

Today, various foreign ideologies and elements of mass culture influence the consciousness of young people. In particular, the rapid development of the internet and information technologies has intensified spiritual threats. Under such conditions, educating youth in the spirit of national and universal values has become an urgent task.

Values cultivate loyalty to the homeland, national pride, and spiritual responsibility among young people. Spiritually mature youth are regarded as the main support of social development.

**Transformation of Values in the Context of Globalization.** The process of globalization is strengthening economic, political, and cultural relations among the peoples of the world. This process also significantly affects the system of values. On the one hand, globalization contributes to the development of science and culture; on the other hand, it can weaken certain national values [12][13].

Phenomena such as mass culture, consumerism, and individualism may negatively influence the consciousness of youth. As a result, attention to national traditions and spiritual values decreases. Therefore, it is necessary to develop national values in harmony with modern progress.

In the information society, the internet and social networks exert a strong influence on human consciousness. This makes the issue of spiritual security even more relevant.

Spiritual security means protecting society's spiritual values from harmful ideas and threats[14].

The preservation of national values requires cooperation among state policy, the education system, mass media, and civil society institutions. In particular, educating youth in the spirit of respect for national values determines the future development of society [15].

#### 4. Conclusion

In conclusion, values represent essential spiritual criteria in both human and social life. They shape an individual's moral character, worldview, behavior, and social activity, serving as guiding principles in everyday life. Through the field of axiology, philosophy examines values scientifically and interprets them as one of the most significant factors in the spiritual and moral development of humanity. Values not only regulate interpersonal relations but also strengthen social harmony, justice, and mutual respect within society.

National values reflect the historical memory, cultural heritage, traditions, customs, and national identity of a people. They preserve the spiritual continuity between generations and contribute to the formation of a strong sense of belonging and patriotism. Preserving and developing these values is therefore an essential condition for ensuring social stability, cultural continuity, and spiritual progress. A society that respects and protects its national values is better able to maintain unity and resist moral and ideological threats.

In the modern era of globalization and rapid technological development, the issue of protecting national values has become increasingly important. The growing influence of mass culture, consumerism, and foreign ideological pressures may weaken traditional moral principles, especially among young people. For this reason, educating the younger generation in the spirit of national and universal values remains one of the most urgent tasks of contemporary society. Family, educational institutions, and social organizations all play an important role in this process.

Furthermore, the harmony between national and universal values is a crucial factor in the development of humanity as a whole. Universal values such as peace, tolerance, justice, freedom, and human dignity unite different nations and cultures despite their diversity. Therefore, achieving a balance between preserving national identity and embracing universal human ideals is essential for sustainable social development.

Ultimately, building a spiritually mature and morally strong society is closely connected with respect for, preservation of, and commitment to values. The future progress of any nation depends not only on economic or technological achievements but also on the strength of its spiritual foundations and moral principles.

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