

**HUMAN CAPITAL, EDUCATION AND UPBRINGING IN INNOVATIVE
DEVELOPMENT**

Rakhimova Shakhnoza Khamzayevna
Assistant Lecturer, Department of Economics

Annotation: This article analyzes the role and significance of human capital in the process of innovative development, as well as issues of enhancing society's innovative potential through modernization of the education and upbringing system. The article highlights modern approaches to the development of human capital, the role of innovative methods in improving the quality of education, and the urgent aspects of preparing the younger generation as competitive specialists.

Keywords: innovative development, human capital, education, upbringing, competitiveness, intellectual potential, modernization.

Introduction

In today's environment of globalization and the digital economy, the sustainable development of countries is becoming increasingly dependent on the level of human capital. Human capital is a combination of an individual's knowledge, skills, abilities, and creative thinking capacities and is considered one of the main drivers of social progress. From this perspective, the high-quality development of the education and upbringing system plays an important role in the formation of an innovative economy.

As noted by the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Sh.M. Mirziyoyev, "In building a New Uzbekistan, the human factor — especially the task of educating the younger generation to become well-rounded, competitive personnel — is of utmost importance." This idea demonstrates that the development of human capital has become a priority direction of state policy in our country.

Human capital is recognized as the most important factor and driving force of an innovative economy. A country's sustainable economic growth, competitiveness, and social development primarily depend on the level of human potential. Today, the main source of economic growth is not natural resources or material assets, but rather human knowledge and skills, thinking, and creative abilities. Therefore, investing in human capital is regarded as the most effective investment in modern society.

In recent years, special attention has been paid to human capital development in Uzbekistan. Reforms carried out under the principle of "For the value of the human being" are aimed at fundamentally renewing the education system, developing science, and unlocking the potential of young people. The current educational policy aims to cultivate individuals who are capable of independent thinking, making informed decisions, and generating innovative ideas. For this reason, improving the quality of education, enhancing teachers' qualifications, and introducing innovative approaches into the learning process determine the future development of the country. Innovative development is implemented primarily through the education system. Integrating modern technologies into the educational process, creating a digital learning environment, and expanding opportunities for distance learning have become vital needs of the present day. The use of interactive methods plays an important role in increasing student engagement and preparing them for practical activities. In addition, the development of teachers' innovative competencies and their training based on new pedagogical approaches contribute to improving the intellectual quality of human capital.

The upbringing system also plays an important role in the process of innovative development. Education and upbringing are inseparable concepts. In shaping human capital, not only knowledge but also moral values, national identity, and patriotism hold great importance. A person's integrity, responsibility, honesty, and aspiration for innovation are all formed during the upbringing process. Therefore, in educating the younger generation, it is important to harmonize national values with a modern worldview.

Human capital development is defined as a strategic direction of national policy. The "Concept for the Development of the Education System until 2030" and the "Digital Uzbekistan – 2030" programs aim to improve the quality of education, create innovative infrastructure, and strengthen the focus on scientific research. As a result of these reforms, students' knowledge levels, teachers' professional competencies, and the overall competitiveness of the education system are gradually increasing.

The success of innovative development primarily depends on the quality of human capital. Improving the education and upbringing system in line with modern requirements, fostering innovative thinking among young people, and preparing them for practical activities enhance society's intellectual potential. Therefore, policies aimed at developing human capital will remain a decisive factor in ensuring the sustainable and innovative development of Uzbekistan.

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