

AHMAD DONISH ON THE IMPORTANCE OF SCIENCES AND THE STATUS OF TEACHING

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ABSTRACT

This article comprehensively covers the views of the enlightened scholar Ahmad Donish on issues of science, enlightenment, profession, teaching, and statehood. Science is interpreted as the main criterion of human thinking and spirituality, and its role in the development of society is analyzed. Ahmad Donish connects science and craft with human perfection and the interests of the people. He emphasizes the personality of the teacher and his spiritual qualities, encouraging young people to work not only for material benefit, but also for social benefit. The thinker's critical views on the ruler and the political system, the need for knowledgeable advisors to ensure the well-being of the people, are also scientifically analyzed. The article shows Donish's contribution to the field of education and upbringing, the harmony of his activities with today's requirements.

Keywords: Ahmad Donish, enlightenment, science, craft, teacher, education, morality, statehood, spirituality, youth education, social benefit, enlightenment.

АХМАД ДОНИШ О ЗНАЧЕНИИ НАУК И СТАТУСЕ УЧИТЕЛЯ

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АННОТАЦИЯ

В этой статье подробно освещены взгляды просвещенного ученого Ахмада Дониша на вопросы науки, просвещения, профессии, преподавания и государственности. Наука интерпретируется как основной критерий человеческого мышления и духовности, анализируется ее роль в развитии общества. Ахмад Дониш связывает науку и ремесло с человеческим совершенством и интересами народа. Он делает особый акцент на личности учителя и его духовных качествах, призывает молодежь трудиться не только ради материальной выгоды, но и ради общественной пользы. Также научно анализируются критические взгляды мыслителя на правителя и политический строй, его мнения о необходимости знающих советников для обеспечения благосостояния народа. В статье показаны вклад Дониша в

сферу образования и воспитания, а также соответствие его деятельности требованиям сегодняшнего дня.

Ключевые слова: Ахмад Дониш, просвещение, наука, ремесло, учитель, образование, этика, государственность, духовность, воспитание молодежи, социальная польза, просветительство.

Introduction

Knowledge is the light of reason. It encourages people to sense existence, perceive reality, understand the spiritual and material world, and shape their thinking. Knowledge is the lamp of life. It brings happiness to people, beckons them to enlightenment, and distances them from ignorance. Intellectuals are considered leaders of society.

A knowledgeable person's words are fluent, precise, and understandable, while an ignorant person experiences strong doubt and more ambiguity in their speech. Although an ignorant person may pursue knowledge for a specific benefit, after achieving that benefit, they lose loyalty to that knowledge, falsify its pure virtues, and move towards new gains. Everyone considers it necessary to stay away from such people.

According to Ahmad Donish, it is obligatory for every Muslim, first and foremost, to study the sciences necessary for themselves. After that, they need to learn a profession or craft to make a living. Whatever knowledge and skill educates a person's mind and spirit, such knowledge and skill will support its owner both in this world and the next. "If knowledge and craft do not cultivate the human soul, but instead fatten the body, increase desires, and aid the devil's soul, then such knowledge and crafts are the habit of the owner, and the curse of God."

Acquiring knowledge has always been considered one of the most important issues, and the following can be said about this:

It is narrated from Ibn Abbas (may Allah be pleased with him): The Messenger of Allah (peace be upon him) said: "I am the city of knowledge, and Ali is its gate."

Article 50 of the Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan states: "Everyone has the right to education. The state ensures the development of the continuous education system, its various types and forms, and state and non-state educational organizations."

Donish begins his treatise "Testament to Children; On the Benefits of Professions and Crafts" by advising his sons Abdulkarim and Asad on the necessity of acquiring skills and knowledge. Donish counsels his sons, explaining that various obstacles may arise before them, various trials may befall them, and that their secrets are hidden, emphasizing that this is the discipline and law of life itself.

"A human child," he says, "is born from a mother, grows up in her embrace, takes an interest in running and playing. They reach several years of age by falling and getting up, sitting and standing. Day by day, they grow older and spend their childhood. Then they see and engage with worldly ornaments, delicacies, and entertainment. In every endeavor, the desire to advance one's position enters their

heart. Knowing that wealth is needed to acquire these things, that worldly riches cannot be conquered without gold and silver, they begin to take measures to find them..."

By calling young people to acquire knowledge and skills, Ahmad Donish draws their attention to the social significance of labor. Thus, when Donish speaks about the necessity of mastering a profession, he puts the demands of society and the interests of the people first. We can see this in his wills to his children. "Take up a craft that fulfills the needs of the people. Never strive to accumulate wealth and increase worldly possessions. Those who begin to accumulate wealth sink into swamp mud. Intend to fulfill the needs of your compatriots in acquiring knowledge and skills.... If every craftsman performs their craft, but their goal is not to benefit the people, such a craftsman will not be blessed."

Ahmad Donish pays great attention to the moral character of the teacher. He demands that teachers prioritize the interests of the younger generation. He says that it is necessary for teachers to work hard on themselves to impart much knowledge to students and to increase and deepen their own knowledge. From this, it can be seen that Ahmad Donish sets serious requirements for the teaching profession. He considers good morals and deep knowledge to be the most beautiful qualities of a teacher. Donish's dream of seeing an enlightened person spreading knowledge and enlightenment among people, especially young people, in the image of a teacher is of great importance even today, when special attention is being paid to the field of education and upbringing.

We see that Ahmad Donish paid great attention to the issue of morality in his views on the teaching profession. He considers the teacher a person who has a strong influence on students.

Article 52 of the updated Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan states: "In the Republic of Uzbekistan, the work of a teacher is recognized as the foundation for the development of society and the state, the formation and upbringing of a healthy, harmoniously developed generation, and the preservation and enrichment of the spiritual and cultural potential of the people."

"The state takes care of protecting the honor and dignity of teachers, their social and material well-being, and their professional growth."

The adoption of the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On the Status of a Teacher" on February 1, 2024, demonstrates the increased attention given to educators and mentors.

In the fourth direction of the New Uzbekistan Development Strategy for 2022-2026, the 70th goal "Implementing a Just Social Policy, Developing Human Capital," which includes "Improving State Youth Policy," Donish's ideas about work are crucial in helping young people develop spiritually, intellectually, physically, and morally, increasing health literacy, and promoting a healthy lifestyle. He emphasizes that a person who doesn't work and spends their days in idleness won't gain respect in this world or the next, firmly concluding that "It's impossible to find comfort without hardship or blessings without worry in this world."

He considers young people's independent choice of profession an important quality. As proof of the correctness of his opinion on this matter, he gives an example from his own life: "When I first started studying, I had no other books besides five or six that people had lent me. Therefore, I verified the truth of each matter. Where I had doubts, I sought answers from my heart, and these meanings inspired my soul."

According to Ahmad Donish, all crafts arise as a result of human interaction. With this, he encourages artisans to engage with the people. "If," says the thinker, "a person lives in complete isolation, without mixing with the people, then he will not be able to escape this affliction... And without interacting with the people, it is impossible to help them. Once engaged, it's impossible to be without love..."

He demands that people work not only for the present but also for the future, and in the sense that future generations should benefit from the fruits of their labor, he cites the following story: "When Caliph Harun al-Rashid was going on a journey, he met a man planting a sapling along the way; when he asked what it was, the man said it was a walnut sapling. When the Caliph asked when the walnut seedling would bear fruit, he replied that it would bear fruit in about 20 years. The Caliph asked him, 'You've gone senile from old age, and if you can't see the harvest despite all your hard work, what good is it to you?' Then the old man wisely replied, 'We ate the fruits of those who planted before us, now let us plant for others, let them eat even if we can't eat them ourselves.' The Caliph was pleased with these words and gave him a coin as a gift."

Ahmad Donish believed that education reform should begin with the rulers. If the ruler is enlightened and just, the people will live in peace and tranquility. The advisors of rulers should be educated people and wise men who can give the ruler the right advice at any moment and guide him on the right path. In his works, Ahmad Donish comprehensively analyzes the events that took place in the emirate. In general, in all of Donish's works - "Rare Events," "History of Mangit Rulers," and "Measures of Religion," the thinker deeply analyzes the political system of the emirate. In his scholarly works, he very accurately describes the backwardness of the existing system and sharply criticizes the rulers of Bukhara at the end of the 19th century, who brought the country to a catastrophic state.

Analyzing the course of events, he presents his educational views and recommendations for improving the socio-political and economic life of the emirate. He earnestly desired to see his region prosperous and advanced. In the Bukhara Emirate of that time, where most legal norms and codes were not observed, the presentation of educational ideas was a significant step forward, which required certain courage and a strong civic position.

Promoting Donish's philosophical views in society. More effective results in national and universal moral issues can be achieved through wider promotion of Donish's philosophical views in society and practical application of his spiritual values and ethical ideas. This underscores the necessity of applying Donish's values in practice today.

Studying Donish's historical and political ideas. A thorough study of Ahmad Donish's views on political and social issues, and comparing them with modern politics, helps to understand his aspirations for improving the society of his time. This, in turn, updates Donish's political thinking for today and provides valuable guidance in developing modern politics and social justice.

The life and spiritual heritage of Ahmad Donish are significant not only from a scientific perspective but also from spiritual and moral standpoints. A deeper study of his works, their application in educational and scientific systems, as well as the widespread dissemination of Donish's philosophical ideas in society, can contribute to the development of science and spirituality today. This, in turn, will become an important factor in the scientific and spiritual advancement of society.

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