

Specific Aspects of the Formation of National-Spiritual and Modern Values in the Family

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Abstract: *This study aims to examine the specific aspects of the formation of national-spiritual and modern values within the family as a fundamental social institution across different cultural contexts. The research focuses on how traditional values interact with modern social changes in shaping family structures, roles, and value transmission. A qualitative descriptive method was employed through a literature-based approach, analyzing recent sociological, cultural, and educational studies related to family values in Western, Latin American, East Asian, and African societies. The findings indicate that despite globalization and modernization, the family continues to function as a key medium for preserving national-spiritual values, while simultaneously adapting to modern principles such as gender equality, individual autonomy, and shared responsibility. The study concludes that the integration of traditional and modern values within the family contributes significantly to social stability, cultural continuity, and the moral development of future generations.*

Keywords: *Family Values, National-Spiritual Values, Modernity, Culture, Globalization*

Introduction

The family is considered the oldest and most important social institution of human society. It plays a key role in the formation, upbringing of each individual and finding their place in society. Although family relations, traditions, and values manifest themselves in different forms in different countries, a common feature that unites them all is the incomparable importance of the family in the stability and development of society. The culture, religion, economic and political system of each state influence the formation of the institution of the family. Therefore, the study of the family issue on the example of different countries is relevant not only from a socio-scientific point of view, but also from a cultural and spiritual point of view.

The President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev emphasized the need to "implement measures aimed at eradicating such vices as disregard for family values and irresponsible attitude towards the upbringing of youth" [1].

Methodology

As a result of globalization processes, migration, and the expansion of cultural ties, the traditional forms of the family institution are undergoing certain changes in the countries of the world. At the same time, in each state, the national characteristics and

traditions of the family institution are preserved. Therefore, one of the urgent tasks of sociology is to study the institution of the family on the example of different countries, to determine its place and significance in the social system, and to analyze the influence of modern trends.

Family values are the most important part of the people's spiritual heritage. Through sincere relationships between parents, children, and relatives, a person develops feelings of love, loyalty, and patriotism[2].

Below we will analyze the specific trends in the development of family, family relations, traditions, and values in Western (developed countries of North America and Europe), Latin American, Middle Eastern, and East Asian, as well as African societies.

The family is a center of national values. The process of preparing young people for family is one of the cultural and spiritual values of every nation, in particular, preparing young people for family life has been one of the greatest and highest directions of the spiritual development of the people in the history of mankind. Family culture, conscious entry into family life, preparation for fulfilling family responsibilities, high appreciation of the role of the family in life, a responsible attitude towards the family, and the harmonious development of family values in the spiritual heritage of the people with the requirements of the time have always been recognized as one of the most important criteria of human life and urgent tasks facing society[4].

The legal and legal orientation of family and marital relations, moral and aesthetic, family and religion, the problem of protecting public health, the number, composition and structure of families, the material and economic well-being of the family, the standard of living, the place and role of spouses in the family, the psychological environment in the family, family conflicts and divorces, and the causes that give rise to them are important objects of sociological research [5].

Family culture in the West. Nuclear family. A nuclear family, usually consisting of two parents and their children, has been a traditional family structure in Western societies since the Industrial Revolution. Prior to this, large families, including grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins, often lived together or nearby, especially in agrarian societies where family labor was necessary.

The Industrial Revolution, which began at the end of the 18th century, changed family dynamics as people moved from rural areas to urban centers to work. Such mobility and the need for economic self-sufficiency led to smaller, closer family units.

By the 19th century, the nuclear family was idealized as the foundation of Western society. In the period after the Second World War, especially in the 50s of the 20th century, this idea was further strengthened. In the United States, for example, the image of a nuclear family with a father who provides for the family, a caring mother who is a housewife, and well-mannered children has become a cultural symbol of prosperity and stability.

Modern values. In recent decades, family culture has developed in Europe and North America, reflecting broad social changes. Although the nuclear family remains the main model, the acceptance of various family structures, including unisexual and incomplete families, is increasing. The West's approach to marriage and parenting is often

considered the most advanced in the world. These relationships are characterized by a strong emphasis on personal choice, equality, and modernity.

Let's take a closer look at how these values influence Western marriage and parenting:

As romantic love and personal choice Unlike some cultures in which marriage may depend on family and social obligations, Western societies prioritize the individual's right to choose their partner. Love, mutual respect, and compatibility are the foundation of a successful marriage.

Marriage as Partnership of Equals Gender equality is a fundamental value in Western marriages. Both partners are typically expected to contribute equally to the relationship in terms of financial support, household responsibilities, or decision-making. This equality approach is a significant change from traditional models where gender roles are strictly defined.

Acceptance of alternative family structures is becoming increasingly ideal. The West's attitude towards marriage is becoming increasingly flexible, and the acceptance of various forms of relationships is growing. This includes cohabitation before marriage, same-sex marriage, and remarriage after divorce. The traditional hope that marriage was a lifelong obligation was also rejected, and divorce was more socially accepted as a solution to unhappy or improper marriages.

By promoting independence, parents often emphasize the importance of raising children to be independent and self-sufficient. From an early age, children are encouraged to express their opinions, make their own decisions, and take responsibility for their actions. Modern Western parenting is also characterized by a child-centered approach, in which great importance is attached to the needs, interests, and well-being of the child. Parents often strive to create an educational environment that ensures the emotional, intellectual, and social development of their children.

Equality and shared responsibility Gender equality is emphasized in parental responsibilities, just as it is in marriage. In many Western families, both parents are expected to share responsibility for childcare, regardless of whether they work outside the home. This is a departure from the traditional model where mothers are mainly involved in raising children, and fathers are the breadwinners.

Below are some of the most important family values and traditions in Western culture:

Individualism. Western cultures tend to emphasize the importance of individual rights and personal freedom. This value is often reflected in family relationships, where children are encouraged to develop a strong sense of self and realize their interests.

Equality. Gender equality and equal roles in the family are highly valued in the West. This is reflected in the shared responsibility of parents for raising children and managing the household.

Education. Education is considered a core value in Western families. Parents usually pay great attention to education and intellectual development as a means of ensuring their children's future success.

<1]Independence. Western families often encourage children to be independent at an early age. This may include moving from family home to university or work and making independent decisions.

Privacy. The concept of privacy is deeply ingrained in Western family life. Personal space and boundaries are respected, and family members are often given freedom to manage their time and activities.

Celebrating holidays. Family gatherings for holidays such as Christmas, Thanksgiving (in the USA), and Easter are important traditions in the West. These occasions are often celebrated with family reunions, festive meals, and exchanges of gifts.

Result and Discussion

Family Culture in Latin American Countries. In Spanish-speaking and Latin-speaking countries such as Spain, Portugal, Argentina, and Brazil, as well as in Italy and the countries of South and Central America, the large family plays a central role, often going beyond the immediate boundaries of the household, including grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, and even close family friends. This harmonious family structure has deep roots in the cultural and historical conditions of the region, where family ties take precedence, and the concept of family loyalty is highly valued.

Unlike Western societies where the nuclear family has become a dominant model, Latin American families have traditionally focused heavily on the large family. Multigenerational households are widespread, with several generations living "under one roof" or close to each other.

Such a procedure ensures strong ties between generations and provides support for family members throughout their entire lives, from childhood to old age.

Although Western culture is gradually penetrating, the attitude towards marriage and parenthood of people from Spanish and Latin-speaking countries still has a profound impact on cultural traditions, religious beliefs, and societal expectations. Although these attitudes have changed over time, they still reflect strong emphasis on family unity, respect for elders, and clearly defined gender roles.

Marriage as a social and religious institution In Latin American countries, marriage is often viewed as both a social and religious institution, a deeply rooted Catholic heritage. The wedding ceremony is highly revered, and weddings are important family events, often involving large celebrations with large families and friends.

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Marriage is often viewed as both a social and a religious institution, a deeply rooted Catholic heritage. The wedding ceremony is highly revered, and weddings are important

family events, often involving large celebrations with large families and friends. Marriage is viewed as a partnership that strengthens family unity. Spouses are expected to work together to maintain harmony in the family, often prioritizing family needs over personal desires. This collective approach is the opposite of the individualistic view of marriage in the West.

Although gender roles in marriages are developing in Latin American countries, traditional expectations still persist in many areas. Men are often seen as breadwinners, while women are usually responsible for managing the household and raising children. However, as women's roles in the workforce continue to grow, this dynamic is gradually changing, with some Latin countries being more progressive than others.

Parental upbringing is often characterized by a strong emphasis on respecting elders, especially parents. Children are taught to show respect to their parents and other adults, which reflects the broad cultural values of respect and obedience.

In these countries, child-rearing is often collective, and older family members play an active role in raising children. Grandparents, aunts, and uncles often take care of children, which increases the importance of family support networks.

There is a strong cultural hope that parents will make great sacrifices for the well-being of their children. This often involves financial sacrifices, as well as placing children's needs above personal ambitions. Education is highly valued, and parents strive to give their children better opportunities than they have.

Familyism means deep loyalty to the family and prioritizing family relationships over personal needs. This is a core value in Spanish and Latin culture, emphasizing loyalty, unity, and mutual support within the family.

Elderly people are often seen as symbols of family traditions and wisdom, and their opinions are highly valued in family decision-making. Catholicism plays an important role in the families of many Spanish and Latin countries, influencing values, traditions, and everyday life. Religious rites, for example, participation in mass, celebration of religious holidays, are often at the center of family life. Family gatherings are considered the cornerstone of the culture of Latin countries. Holidays like baptism, weddings, and Christmas are celebrated with a grand, festive atmosphere that strengthens family ties.

Strong team connections. The family extends beyond the household and includes close friends and neighbors, often viewed as part of a larger family. Such strong team ties foster a sense of belonging and mutual support.

Parental authority. Parents are often seen as the top managers in the family. Their decisions and instructions are expected to be respected by children raised with a sense of family duty.

Culture and Family in East Asia. In East Asia, the concept of family is deeply rooted in Confucian ideas, emphasizing the importance of respect for elders, filial duty, and maintaining harmony in the family. A large family, encompassing several generations, has traditionally been the cornerstone of social structure in countries such as China, Japan, Korea, the Philippines, and Vietnam. Since ancient times, large families often lived together

in large households, where grandparents, parents, children, and elderly relatives lived in the same place. Such a multigenerational lifestyle formed close family relationships and ensured that younger generations took care of the elderly. Although urbanization and modernization have led to a decrease in the number of households in recent decades, the extended family remains an important part of life in East Asia, with frequent interactions and strong emotional ties continuing to play a central role.

In East Asia, marriage and parenting are formed under the complex interaction of traditions, modernity, and the demands of society. Although these relationships have changed, they continue to be influenced by cultural values that prioritize family cohesion, respect for authority, and fulfillment of social obligations. In East Asia, marriage is often viewed as a social obligation between two families rather than between two individuals. The continuation of family lineage is considered as a means of fulfilling one's duty to ancestors. As a result, sometimes marriage is influenced not by individual choice, but by such factors as family compatibility, social status, and parental consent.

The emphasis on harmony and duty In East Asia, harmony and duty occupy a central place in the concept of marriage. Spouses should prioritize family needs over personal desires and work together to maintain harmony in the home.

Changes in gender roles are also important, as traditional gender roles have long been common in East Asia where men are expected to be the primary breadwinners and women the caretakers. However, these roles are gradually evolving, especially in cities, where more women are seeking careers and sharing financial responsibilities. Nevertheless, expectations regarding marital and family roles remain traditional in rural areas.

Childhood duty, respect, and care for parents and ancestors are considered fundamental values in parenting in East Asia. Children are raised with a sense of duty to their parents, which often includes financial support, cohabitation, or care in old age. This value is deeply ingrained in culture and affects all aspects of family life, including the expectation that children will support their parents in old age.

Also, education is highly valued in East Asia, and parents often place great importance on their children's academic achievements. Such attention to education is seen as a way to ensure a prosperous future and bring honor to the family.

Community In East Asian cultures, it is more important than individualism. The needs and goals of a family or group are often prioritized over personal desires.

Respect for ancestors and historical traditions is instilled in the family. Many East Asian families maintain traditions reflecting deep respect for past generations. This often includes ceremonies such as sacrifices at ancestral graves or house altars, especially during holidays such as the Lunar New Year or Obon (in Japan). At the same time, family gatherings and holidays occupy a central place in the life of East Asia, especially during major holidays such as the Lunar New Year, the Mid-Autumn Festival, and the Chuseok (Korean Harvest Festival). These events include large family gatherings, traditional meals, and ceremonies commemorating the living and the deceased, which are widely celebrated among families and the public.

Family Culture and Traditions in Africa. In Africa, traditional family structures are often centered around large families, which include grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, and sometimes distant relatives. These extended families form the basis of the social organization and are closely linked to beliefs and community life.

In many African societies, the family functions as a collective unit, in which roles and responsibilities are distributed among its members. These Elders have great authority and are highly respected for their wisdom and experience. They often play a key role in making important decisions, resolving conflicts, and passing down cultural traditions and values. Children are considered a blessing and are raised collectively by a large family, ensuring their integration into society and its traditions.

In African society, family culture emphasizes respect for collective values, traditions, and the fulfillment of social roles. Let's examine in more detail how these principles influence attitudes toward marriage and parenting across the continent.

In almost all African countries, marriage is often viewed not as a union between two individuals, but as an important collective phenomenon. Marriage includes aspects such as social status, lineage, and cultural compatibility, and consensual marriages where families play a decisive role in choosing a partner are still common. Although less common today, polygamy has traditionally been used in some African societies, where men can have multiple wives, and this practice is often associated with high social status and the ability to care for a large family. Traditional gender roles, in which men are usually seen as providers and women as caretakers, have been widespread for a long time. However, these roles are changing, especially in urban conditions. Because it is observed that more women acquire professions and receive education here.

It is known that from the emergence of the family to the present day, its types and socio-demographic composition have constantly changed. The study of changes occurring in the types and structure of the family and the factors influencing them, separately for each stage of the development of society, is also one of the important tasks of family sociology. One of the main directions of family sociology is the study of the essence and activity of the family[3].

In many African cultures, parenting is viewed not as the sole responsibility of biological parents but as a collective responsibility. This collective approach ensures that children receive better care and adapt to the values and traditions of society. It also strengthens family bonds and provides a broad network of support, which is especially important during difficult times or when parents are unable to fulfill their duties. From an early age, children are taught to respect and obey not only their parents but all adults in the area. Discipline is essential for instilling good behavior and moral values. Although the methods of discipline vary in different cultures, its essence is that discipline is a form of love and care designed to guide children to become responsible and respectful adults.

In traditional African society, parents pay great attention to both formal education and teaching practical life skills. Although academic achievements are valued, great attention is also paid to learning farming, cooking, and other crafts necessary for daily life,

depending on the lifestyle of the community. Education is often seen as a collective action in which society supports children's learning and development both at school and outside of school.

Deep respect for elders is considered a fundamental value. Elders are seen as guardians of wisdom, tradition, and history, and their guidance is highly valued in family and community affairs.

Family ties play an important role in creating a sense of identity, belonging, and mutual support in African families. Family members are expected to support each other emotionally, socially, and economically. The strength of these ties is often strengthened through regular meetings, ceremonies, and common tasks.

In many African cultures, *the concept of "ubuntu"*, emphasizing communal living and mutual support, is a core value. Families and communities often operate as a community, in which resources and responsibilities are shared to ensure the well-being of all members.

Important stages such as birth, puberty, marriage, and death are of great importance to African families and are usually marked by ceremonies celebrating individuals who have transitioned from one stage of life to another. These ceremonies often involve complex rituals and a feast with the whole community.

In African culture, deceased ancestors are honored and remembered as protectors and leaders of the living. Families may hold regular ceremonies or rituals to honor their ancestors, receive their blessings, and maintain spiritual connection. Such reverence for ancestors strengthens the family's sense of continuity and succession, connecting past, present, and future generations[6].

Conclusion

In conclusion, it can be said that, despite regional and geographical peculiarities, the family has its own significance as a social institution in different parts of the world. Even in the context of globalization, where individualism is widespread, the family remains a source of collectivism and mutual support.

In traditional societies, the family serves as the basis of mutual bonds of kindness, kinship ties of members, mutual respect, education, upbringing, and the basis of hierarchical relations between parents and children. Despite various traditions, religious and cultural differences, the institution of the family is an ideal environment for communication of members (in kinship relations) for all societies

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