



# Alisher Navoi's Ideas In The Education Of A Perfect Generation: The Experience Of New Uzbekistan

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**Abstract:** This essay examines Alisher Navoi's socio-ethical beliefs and his contribution to the development of a well-rounded person. Universal values like justice, truth, honesty, and humanism are artistically portrayed in Navoi's works, underscoring their applicability in contemporary society. The article also explores the importance of Navoi's legacy in youth education, emphasising his humanistic concepts and ethical teachings. The study focuses on how the philosopher's theories can be incorporated into contemporary educational procedures to support the growth of morally and intellectually sophisticated people. In today's globalised world, Navoi's philosophy is still an essential resource for moral perfection and personal development, transcending his time. The article also looks at how these concepts fit into the systems of education and parenting that are in place today.

**Keywords:** Ethics, Justice, Truth, Honesty, Humanism, Values, Education, Spirituality, Thinking, Society

## Introduction

The future, progress, and prosperity of Uzbekistan are directly linked to the spiritual and moral perfection of our youth, as well as their intellectual maturity. This underscores the importance of studying the spiritual heritage of great thinkers and scholars who have made significant contributions to the development of Eastern social-philosophical and moral thought and instilling their ethical ideas in the minds of young people. One such thinker is Alisher Navoiy, the founder of Uzbek literature, a philosopher, and an ethicist. For this reason, the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Shavkat Mirziyoyev, emphasizes the necessity of "showing respect for the memory of our great ancestor Alisher Navoiy, studying his sacred legacy, and passing it on to future generations".

Nowadays, the term "perfection" (barkamollik) is frequently mentioned in our daily lives, often in phrases such as "a perfect person" (barkamol inson), "a perfect society" (barkamol jamiyat), "a perfect family" (barkamol oila), and "a perfect child" (barkamol farzand). When applied to an individual, perfection is perceived as a combination of both spiritual and physical maturity, embodying high moral and aesthetic qualities, as well as possessing modern knowledge and skills.

## Methodology

Our research was methodologically grounded in historical, philosophical, social, and ethical approaches. We used methodical analysis and comparative techniques to examine the moral and spiritual lessons found in Alisher Navoi's writings. We examined records, historical sources, and scientific literature to uncover the importance of Navoiy's legacy in the evolution of society.

*First*, we looked at the socio-political climate of the 15<sup>th</sup> century using the historical approach. In Navoiy's writings, the prevailing social concerns of the era – such as injustice, inequality, and the erosion of moral principles – were emphasised as major themes. *Second*, we investigated the humanistic facets of Navoiy's concepts using the philosophical method. His ethical ideas are strongly related to interpersonal and social interactions, encouraging justice, honesty, and truthfulness in the formation of a good person.

*Third*, using the social approach, we examined the difficulties in raising the next generation morally and ethically, the impact of popular culture, and the applicability of Navoiy's theories in the modern era. Scientific research has confirmed the importance of literary heritage in fostering moral principles and a sense of patriotism in the next generation. *Fourth*, we examined the virtues portrayed in Navoiy's writings using the ethical approach. Through the use of comparative analysis, we were able to show how important ideas like humanity, devotion, friendship, peace, and justice are in his writings.

The study's conclusions show how relevant Navoiy's writings are even now. His focus on virtue, justice, and humanism can act as a basis for the next generation's spiritual growth. Furthermore, a deeper comprehension of different facets of Navoiy's legacy is offered by the applied research methodologies. As a result, these methodological underpinnings strengthen the study's scientific and applied significance.

## Result and Discussion

Today, we witness a new approach being introduced in the upbringing of youth and the development of a well-rounded individual. This lies in the harmony of the education and upbringing system, as well as their intrinsic connection with each other. At the same time, spiritual maturity is emerging as a key factor in addressing numerous issues. This can also be understood through an in-depth study of our historical, philosophical, ethical, and religious heritage. In most of our historical literature, the progress of society is depicted as being determined by well-rounded individuals. The practical and theoretical significance of Navoi's philosophy, which is a source of pride for the Uzbek people, lies in its aim to nurture a morally upright individual based on ethical principles. Navoi's works are characterized by a particular focus on moral issues. The reason for this is that in the 15<sup>th</sup> century, the socio-political situation of the country, injustice, the violation of human values, and social inequality were issues that deeply concerned the philosopher.

Alisher Navoi's works, which hold great significance in the history of world culture, vividly depict universal human values such as humanism, justice, friendship, peace, love, and enlightenment in a highly artistic form. In global scholarship, research is being conducted to study the legacy of great thinkers from a scientific and theoretical perspective. In particular, Navoi's works have gained immense prestige in world cultural history due to

their masterful depiction of these universal ideals, including patriotism, justice, friendship, peace, love, and enlightenment.

On May 31, 2021, the President of Uzbekistan paid special attention to the project for the restoration and renovation of the mausoleum of our great poet and thinker, Alisher Navoi, as well as the improvement of its surroundings. The task of studying the possibilities for carrying out construction and landscaping work at the Alisher Navoi mausoleum complex in Herat, Afghanistan, was outlined in the President's decree dated October 19, 2020, titled "On the Wide Celebration of the 580<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Great Poet and Thinker Alisher Navoi". As part of the implementation of this decree, specialists from Uzbekistan, in collaboration with their Afghan counterparts, conducted an on-site study of the mausoleum. Based on their findings, a restoration and reconstruction project was developed using traditional architectural, artistic, and decorative elements.

In today's rapidly developing globalized society, instilling Navoi's humanistic ideas and his views on moral and ethical values in the minds of young people is an effective way to protect them from various ideological influences and the negative effects of mass culture. The thinker's system of ethical views is valuable not only for his time but also for its theoretical and practical significance in the present day. According to Navoi, a person must first and foremost be honest and truthful. Truthfulness is a moral virtue inherent in human nature. Furthermore, regardless of a person's status or background, their life should be based on honesty and integrity.

The thinker's practical activities were, in one way or another, aimed at implementing his ethical teachings in real life. In his works, Navoi presented the intrinsic connection between individuals and society as an integral link in the continuous chain of world development. His vision of human progress was based on the prevailing views of his time regarding individuals and society. In Navoi's concept, the idea of inevitable spiritual perfection is central – achieved through an individual's constant struggle with their inner nature and overcoming worldly temptations. In the relationship between individuals and society, the priority was given to the rational and creative development of a person. He believed that cultivating true human virtues in individuals required fostering their inner self and spiritual world, which in turn would contribute to improving the social environment. Throughout the process of development, individuals and society go through various stages – transitioning from lower to higher forms, moving from ignorance to enlightenment, rejecting evil as a vice, and striving for goodness. This dialectical struggle between contradictions defines the essence of human life and social progress, determining an individual's path to self-awareness as a being of reason.

Alisher Navoi's socio-ethical views encompass almost his entire spiritual legacy. His practical activities were, in one way or another, aimed at implementing his ethical teachings in real life. In his works, Navoi depicted the intrinsic connection between individuals and society as a fundamental link in the continuous chain of world development. His vision of human progress was shaped by the prevailing views of his time regarding individuals and society. In Navoi's concept of the relationship between individuals and society, the rational and creative development of a person was of utmost importance. He believed that fostering

true human virtues required nurturing an individual's inner self and spiritual world, as this would ultimately contribute to improving the social environment. Throughout the process of development, individuals and society go through various stages – transitioning from lower to higher forms, moving from ignorance to enlightenment, rejecting evil as a vice, and striving for goodness. This dialectical struggle between contradictions defines the essence of human life and social progress, shaping an individual's journey toward self-awareness as a rational being. This approach, which may be considered idealistic, emerged during Navoi's time. Today, we fully recognize that without the development of moral qualities in individuals, societal progress is impossible, and without them, society faces decline and even self-destruction.

In his works, Navoi develops the concept of humanism, elevating the individual and advocating for respect for human individuality. He perceives this as a divine principle, often softening religious moral doctrines and encouraging individuals toward self-perfection.

Navoi's views are based on the principles of moral perfection, seeing the relationship between the Creator and humanity through the lens of pantheistic ideas. His understanding of God fundamentally differs from the prevailing Islamic theological interpretations of his time. Instead, Navoi leans toward Sufi teachings, prioritizing ethical principles over rituals and giving a deeply personal and individual character to the religious aspects of Muslim life. In the concept of "tawhid" (the oneness of God), Navoi envisions a unique path for individuals to achieve moral perfection.

In his works, Navoi places special emphasis on spirituality and intelligence as the fundamental conditions for an individual's socialization. He likens a person devoid of spiritual values to the animal world. Navoi writes that ethics and morality are crucial factors in a person's self-awareness. According to him, only someone with pure thoughts and a clear perspective on the surrounding world can truly be considered a person.

Educating our youth based on the principles of honesty and truthfulness is of great importance in the modern era. The process of instilling these qualities in young minds and making them a way of life requires continuity and consistency.

There are also opinions that moral upbringing is linked to genetics. However, while acknowledging this, it is essential not to overlook the importance of a systematic approach to moral education. Achieving cooperation and harmony among all social institutions – society, family, kindergartens, neighborhoods, and educational institutions – is a crucial factor in shaping the moral upbringing of young people.

Navoi believed that honesty and sincerity should not only be in words but also in the heart. This implies that a person's outward appearance should correspond to their inner spiritual world. According to the ethics scholar Y.J. Jumaboev, "Two key conclusions can be drawn from the poet's ideas: first, Navoi's concept of the unity of thought, word, and deed has deep historical roots. It seems that the thinker was well acquainted with the ethical teachings of the "Avesta", which also emphasized this triad. Second, Navoi insisted that even in times when falsehood prevailed, a person should always speak the truth, believing that ultimately, truth would triumph". It is important to emphasize that Navoi actively opposed the social injustices of his time through both his poetry and practical actions. He

was not only a great thinker and poet but also a true patriot who deeply loved his people. This is why studying his spiritual legacy remains relevant today.

The idea of the perfect human (komil inson) has been an eternal aspiration of all nations and an inseparable element of universal spirituality. These ideals reflect the highest moral values inherent in humanity. Throughout all stages of historical development, such ideas have guided humankind along the path of progress and prosperity, inspiring people to spiritual courage in the name of human dignity and collective well-being. A society that does not care about raising well-rounded and morally upright individuals has no future. Alisher Navoi, in advocating for the concept of a just society, considered the development of a komil inson – a person with all the essential virtues – as the key to building a truly just and harmonious civilization.

## Conclusion

Studying, analyzing, and promoting Alisher Navoi's philosophical and ethical ideas from a modern perspective is crucial for shaping the spiritual identity of the younger generation. These ideas serve to develop an intellectual immune system against various ideological threats and concepts aimed at disrupting social progress and human life. Notably, in Navoi's worldview, along with discussions on "Sharia, Tariqa", and the pursuit of "Haqiqat" (truth), as well as religious-mystical perspectives and esoteric matters, strong emphasis was placed on secularism. As a great representative of the Renaissance era, he advocated for justice, patriotism, environmental protection, self-restraint, intellectual pursuit, mastery of science and craftsmanship, kindness, virtue, happiness, and the ways to achieve it. He also valued education, conscientiousness, loyalty to duty, courage, bravery, devotion, love, faith, eloquence, sincerity, humility, social responsibility, and helping those in need. His ideas reflect both humanistic and universal values while preserving a strong sense of national identity.

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