

## VIEWS ON FORMING PATRIOTISM AMONG INTERNAL AFFAIRS OFFICERS

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### Annotation

This article discusses the theoretical foundations, legal-regulatory framework, practical directions and modern approaches to developing patriotism among officers of internal affairs bodies. The study analyzes the essence of patriotism through the lenses of philosophy, psychology, pedagogy, and legal sciences.

### Keywords

Homeland, patriotism, profession, internal affairs bodies, professional skills, competence.

### Introduction

Patriotism is one of the moral pillars of any society's development and reflects qualities such as love for the homeland, loyalty to it, and readiness to defend national interests. In the context of deepening globalization, preserving national identity, shaping a healthy worldview among the youth, and cultivating a strong civic position have become among the priority directions of state policy.

Particularly, patriotism is an integral component of the professional responsibility of officers serving in internal affairs bodies, who play a crucial role in ensuring national security and stability. Indeed, the duty of an internal affairs officer is to protect state and social interests, maintain public order, and ensure the rights and freedoms of citizens. Fulfilling these functions effectively requires moral maturity, national pride, and deep loyalty to the homeland.

The sense of patriotism does not arise spontaneously; it is formed under the influence of upbringing, education, socio-cultural environment, historical memory, family values, and personal life experience. Therefore, developing this quality among the younger generation – especially among those working in law enforcement – requires systematic scientific, pedagogical, and moral-educational approaches. The adoption of a number of normative-legal documents aimed at strengthening patriotic education, enhancing national pride, fostering respect for state symbols, and instilling devotion to historical heritage in the Republic of Uzbekistan demonstrates the increasing relevance of this issue.

From this point of view, studying patriotism from theoretical and practical perspectives, revealing its essence, and identifying mechanisms for its development among internal affairs officers constitute significant scientific and practical tasks.

Internal affairs officers, as the primary force ensuring national internal security, are required to demonstrate a high level of responsibility and loyalty. Therefore, patriotism holds a special place among their professional qualities. In recent years, numerous decrees and decisions aimed at strengthening patriotic education have been adopted in Uzbekistan, and special attention has been given to improving the moral and ethical preparedness of internal affairs personnel [1].

### **Theoretical Foundations of Patriotism**

Patriotism is a complex socio-psychological category representing an individual's loyalty to the homeland, readiness to defend it, and prioritization of national interests. According to specialists, patriotism is formed through personal values, family upbringing, social environment, and the educational process [2; 3].

In psychology, patriotism is closely associated with the process of "social identification", meaning that the stronger a person identifies with their nation and state, the stronger their patriotic behavior becomes [4].

### **The Importance of Patriotism for Internal Affairs Officers**

Patriotism plays an invaluable role in the activities of internal affairs bodies. Officers must demonstrate determination in ensuring state and public security, maintaining public order, and protecting the rights and freedoms of citizens. Therefore, patriotic education is one of the primary components of their moral-psychological preparedness [5].

Additionally, an internal affairs officer must possess not only physical readiness but also strong moral immunity. An officer capable of resisting ideological threats and faithfully fulfilling professional duty contributes to the enhancement of society's legal culture [6].

### **Legal and Regulatory Framework**

In Uzbekistan, patriotic education has risen to the level of state policy. In particular:

- The *"Concept for the Development of Patriotic Education"* outlines the priority tasks of this direction [7].
- Centers of Spirituality and Enlightenment and special training programs have been established within internal affairs bodies.
- Special subjects related to patriotic education are taught at the academies of the Ministry of Internal Affairs [8].

These legal foundations create opportunities for forming patriotism in a systematic and scientifically grounded manner.

## The Role of Education and Upbringing in Forming Patriotism

In the professional preparation of internal affairs officers, moral-educational sessions, historical-ideological topics, and training based on national values play an important role. National heroes of Uzbekistan, independence ideas, and traditions of statehood help shape a strong civic position among officers [9].

Alongside material and technical support, the strengthening of moral-ethical propaganda contributes to deeply instilling patriotism in the consciousness of officers.

### Conclusion

Developing patriotism among internal affairs officers is a complex, multifaceted pedagogical, ideological, and psychological process and is one of the key factors of state security and societal development. In the context of modern global threats, strengthening the moral readiness of officers and enhancing their sense of national pride and loyalty to the homeland remains an urgent task.

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