

**AMIR TEMUR'S ADVICE ON THE EDUCATION
OF YOUTH**

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Abstract: *This article outlines the teachings and views of the great commander Amir Temur on the education of the younger generation.*

Key words: *commander, decrees of Amir Temur, young generation, teaching, education, science, patriotism, justice.*

Annotatsiya. *Ushbu maqolada buyuk sarkarda Amir Temurning yosh avlodni tarbiyalashga oid o'g'itlari, qarashlari bayon qilinadi.*

Kalit so'zlar: *sarkarda, Amir Temur tuzuklari, yosh avlod, o'g'itlar, tarbiya, ilm-fan, vatanparvarlik, adolat.*

Аннотация. *В данной статье излагаются учения и взгляды великого полководца Амира Темура на воспитание подрастающего поколения.*

Ключевые слова: *полководец, указы Амира Темура, молодое поколение, учение, воспитание, наука, патриотизм, справедливость.*

The upbringing of the younger generation has been an important issue that has concerned our people for centuries, with our nation possessing its own unique values, traditions, and system of education and upbringing. Historically, our people have paid great attention to educating the youth not only in the fields of science and culture but also in moral and spiritual aspects. The advice and guidance related to the upbringing of the younger generation, left to us by our ancestors, scholars, and thinkers, have not lost their relevance even today. Our great thinkers attached great importance to youth education, striving to instill in them the social, moral, and cultural values of their time.

Among them, the advice of our great ancestor Amir Temur — a statesman recognized worldwide as an unparalleled commander, legislator, orator, talented architect, and the founder of a state built upon justice — serves as an invaluable guide for educating the younger generation. He was not only a great military leader of his time but also a thinker who valued intellect, spirituality, science, diligence, and moral excellence. His life and teachings play a crucial role not only in educating young people but also in fostering their social, moral, and spiritual development.

The great commander recognized science and education as among the most important factors in the progress of human civilization, giving great importance to human intellect and inner creative potential [1]. According to his teachings, the pursuit of knowledge and learning is the duty of every person, and it is essential to guide the younger generation toward science and to show respect for knowledge as a means to achieve success in life. After his military campaigns, he brought many scholars, thinkers, and artists from the conquered lands to his homeland — Movarounnahr. This serves as a vivid example of his deep commitment to advancing his state in the fields of science and culture.

Amir Temur began his education at the age of seven, demonstrating remarkable intellectual ability and a strong passion for learning that soon set him apart as one of the most capable students. At the same time, from an early age, he actively participated in military training, gaining public recognition for his bravery, courage, and fearlessness. He mastered the art of warfare, memorized the Holy Qur'an, and studied the science of Hadith. Through the knowledge he acquired, he grew into an honest, pure, intelligent, faithful, and just individual [2].

Amir Temur despised evil, ignorance, and oppression, and exalted justice and humanity. His famous motto, "*Strength is in justice*," became the guiding principle of his state. One of the fundamental pillars of Amir Temur's moral philosophy was justice. He regarded justice as a key criterion in governance and placed great emphasis on ensuring social fairness during his rule. He taught the importance of

being just toward the people, avoiding harm to others, and respecting the rights of every individual. In his *Tuzuklar* (“Code of Temur”), he emphasized the necessity of honest and fair leadership and the moral duty to oppose all forms of injustice.

At the beginning of every statesman’s career, the advice and guidance found in *Temur’s Code* (*Temur Tuzuklari*) hold great significance. This work encompasses not only the art of warfare and the principles of state governance but also moral and ethical norms, as well as ideas that guide the younger generation toward spiritual growth. The renowned scholar Bo‘riboy Ahmedov described *Temur’s Code* as “a treatise that defines the lifestyle, conduct, and moral standards of rulers” [3].

In Amir Temur’s spiritual legacy, such virtues as humanity, justice, diligence, loyalty to the homeland, honesty, friendship, cooperation, compassion, kindness, patience, and contentment are glorified, while betrayal, treachery, deceit, and disloyalty are condemned. Although Amir Temur spent most of his life on the battlefield, he left behind valuable moral and ethical teachings, life principles, and diverse pieces of advice for future generations. Applying these timeless lessons in the process of educating young people provides invaluable support in achieving the goals of moral and spiritual upbringing [4].

One of Amir Temur’s most remarkable qualities was his extraordinary intellect. It is no secret that a person can overcome any difficulty through memory and intelligence. He emphasized the importance of critical thinking and careful verification before trusting or making decisions, stressing that every decision should be approached from multiple perspectives and that one must be able to accurately assess both personal opinions and social realities. The great commander focused not on the anatomical or physiological aspects of intelligence, but on its practical application. As a scholar, he believed that mastering science, developing military strategy, governing the state peacefully, applying innovative ideas and methods in solving life’s challenges, and preventing social unrest were all results of intellectual capability. Amir Temur once said: “What one hundred horsemen cannot achieve, a

single wise man can accomplish with one thoughtful move.” He also stated, “Victory lies not in strength, but in wisdom.” Here, we understand not physical power, but the intellectual capacity that makes human life more meaningful and effective [5].

Amir Temur placed great importance on the quality of education. In the process of teaching the youth, he emphasized the need to explain to them the meaning and essence of the *Holy Qur'an* and the ideas expressed within it. In matters of morality and ethics, he encouraged the study of the *Hadiths* compiled by Muhammad ibn Abdullah and required adherence to the principles of perfect human conduct embodied in them.

Temur valued honesty and integrity as the highest moral virtues. He always aimed to follow the path of truth and righteousness. During his reign, he implemented numerous reforms, among which his foremost goal was to ensure equality and justice among people. He considered honesty and integrity to be essential not only in governance but also in teaching and upbringing. Moreover, he placed great importance on hard work. Throughout his life, Temur faced many challenges and trials, yet he achieved success through perseverance and effort. For him, diligence, determination, and the ability to overcome any obstacles on the way to achieving one's goals were of utmost importance. He constantly encouraged young people to work hard and maintain discipline. Temur also valued patience and understanding as key moral principles. He regarded patience not only as a quality necessary on the battlefield but also as an essential virtue in everyday life — a means to overcome difficulties and maintain peace in all circumstances. Amir Temur viewed science and spirituality as interconnected and inseparable elements. He did not confine his thinking to military campaigns and conquests alone; he also believed in the necessity of advancing knowledge and acquiring new learning. Temur considered science to be a vital instrument for societal progress and constantly encouraged the youth to seek knowledge. He paid great attention to the development

of science and called upon scholars and learned individuals to serve the prosperity of his state.

Along with providing young people with religious education, the great commander, as noted by academician I. Mo‘minov, also paid great attention to teaching other sciences — mathematics, geometry, engineering, architecture, astronomy, literature, history, and music. He personally observed the activities of scholars working in the academy he had established. Moreover, he possessed a deep understanding of pedagogical principles.

In his meetings with scholars, Amir Temur discussed not only religious and legal matters but also the internal and external affairs of the state, moral and educational issues, and the ethics and behavior of the people. This is well illustrated in his conversations with Arab scholars, which were conducted in a spirit of open and free discussion. During these discussions, Temur would pose complex and thought-provoking questions to identify the best solutions to pressing issues. Each scholar, feeling as if in a madrasa setting, was eager to demonstrate his knowledge and answer Temur’s challenging questions. This method of inquiry, used by Amir Temur, became widely applied in schools and madrasas and was considered one of the most advanced pedagogical practices of his era. He clearly understood the crucial role of scholars as teachers and mentors in ensuring the prosperity of the state and the proper upbringing of the younger generation. Based on this understanding, he created favorable conditions for both local and foreign scholars and educators, providing them with generous salaries and support. In addition, he ensured that scholars and craftsmen were employed in state institutions. As Ibn Arabshah wrote: “He highly valued and respected even the simplest form of craftsmanship.” [6]

Indeed, for service in his court, Amir Temur selected wise and experienced individuals who were true masters of their craft and had a broad understanding of the world. He deeply respected intelligent and prudent people in every sphere of life. Amir Temur regarded the scholarly works created by scientists as essential

instruments for the advancement of knowledge and professional skill. He believed that books and written works could guide people toward righteous living for generations to come.

In evaluating books, he considered them as fundamental sources of knowledge and as teachers that play a crucial role in educating people, elevating their intellect, nurturing their morality, and inspiring creativity. Believing that books were the foundation of learning, Amir Temur established a grand and renowned library in Samarkand, the capital of Movarounnahr, which attracted the attention of many scholars and states across the world.

The library housed numerous books and manuscripts created in both Eastern and Western countries. For instance, when Amir Temur conquered Asia Minor, he discovered a rich library in the ancient city of Bursa and ordered that all its valuable books be loaded onto horse-drawn carts and transported to Samarkand.

In conclusion, it can be said that Amir Temur's teachings serve as a relevant and effective guide for educating the younger generation. His principles provide a strong foundation not only in the military sphere but also in moral, social, and spiritual aspects of life. Through Temur's guidance, young people can be encouraged to pursue knowledge, develop diligence, cultivate patriotism and justice, and grow in patience and perseverance. These values remain an important reference for raising today's youth on the right path.

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