

A PERIOD OF CHANGE CREATES HUGE OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH

O'ZDJTU, 1 faculty

Adilova F.M

Today, Uzbekistan is in the process of laying the foundation for a new Renaissance, and the higher education system is undergoing a phase of modernization and reform. The rapid improvement in the quality and effectiveness of the system has started to reflect in the worldview and results of young people who have grasped the true essence of higher education. Continuous efforts have been made for the development of higher education, and monumental changes have been implemented. Over the years, the legislation in the sector has significantly transformed in favor of young people's interests. A wide range of benefits and opportunities has been created for them, and today, the coverage of higher education has increased from 9% to 42%. The number of higher educational institutions has also increased to over 200. Thus, a significant leap has taken place in the system.

Today, the younger generation is the rightful owner of these fortunate days. In this youth-oriented country, there is no door that remains unopened or an impossible task. Every act of attention, support, and benefits is for the children of this nation. The country has undergone unprecedented reforms over recent years aimed at ensuring the prosperous life and bright future of young people. For those who have chosen the path of knowledge and are eager to learn, changes have occurred that the people have been waiting for a long time, making it even more desirable to become a student.

Reforms, Conditions, and Rights

No matter how much is said and discussed about the reforms, they are certainly significant. Let's analyze one of them. The presidential decree dated December 24, 2021, "Additional Measures for Ensuring the Academic and Organizational Independence of State Higher Education Institutions" was an important document that put the higher education system on a path of substantial

development. Introducing innovations into the system is essential to ensure competitiveness in both domestic and international labor markets. This transformation aimed at enhancing the intellectual image of the youth has created a powerful wave of change across all areas of the sector, and the dream of young people is being realized through successive new developments.

During the reform process, public-private partnerships in higher education began to thrive. The development of state and non-state higher education institutions in different regions increased the overall coverage of higher education. Many universities have raised their status and occupied positions in prestigious international rankings. The academic independence granted to universities has opened the opportunity to turn Uzbekistan's higher education system into a "hub" for international education programs in Central Asia, boosting the sector's investment attractiveness and inviting foreign education and research technologies. These kinds of changes have gained momentum over the past five years, and opportunities have emerged for all citizens of the country to obtain higher education in full-time, evening, and part-time formats. Today, universities are in a state of healthy competition, striving to place their highly qualified graduates in the labor market.

Honest Education – Transparent System and National Education

From the moment students apply to higher education institutions, a perfect and transparent system has been established that enables them to manage the entire process, from test examinations to assessment and public disclosure, in an impartial manner through special platforms. Thanks to modern technology, parents can now follow their children's examination process through online broadcasts and take full advantage of the conditions created in the universities. To ensure the open implementation of all stages of transferring and reinstating students, a special automated online system has been introduced for the acceptance, review, and decision-making processes of applications. Especially for the postgraduate admission process, the introduction of the average score of the bachelor's degree

and the relevant national or international language certification as a basis for admission has significantly reduced corrupt practices.

In line with the 2030 Development Concept for Uzbekistan's Higher Education System, the introduction of a credit-module system has increased young people's ability to manage themselves. This system has also contributed to improving the quality of education, ensuring transparency, eliminating corruption, and allowing students to demonstrate their real knowledge, creating an environment for self-study and self-improvement. Following the implementation of the "Digital Uzbekistan – 2030" strategy approved on October 5, 2020, the introduction of the "HEMIS" information system for managing higher education processes has significantly improved the effectiveness and transparency of the education process. With digitalization, paperwork has decreased, giving professors and teachers more time to focus on teaching and research. As a result, the quality of education and productivity have noticeably increased. The practice of providing electronic education services has also improved for both professors and students, and student attendance has improved.

Thus, it can rightfully be said that the days young people have been dreaming of have come. The higher education system in Uzbekistan has become a driver of progress, showcasing the fruits of the reforms being implemented in the country to both the youth and the international community.

When Women Are Happy, Society Will Be Happy

The noble idea "When a woman is happy, society is happy" has become a state policy, and unprecedented changes have been initiated to improve the lives and educational opportunities of women in Uzbekistan.

As part of the presidential decree dated March 7, 2022, "Further Intensifying Systematic Support for Families and Women," a number of initiatives were introduced to provide interest-free loans for the payment of contract fees for women studying in state higher education institutions. Additionally, the full payment of contract fees for women studying in postgraduate programs at state

universities is being covered by the state budget, making this one of the most humanitarian reforms implemented in Uzbekistan.

The need for women to receive education, engage in science, and be socially active for the development of the nation and society was great. This need has been met, and not only in education, but also in work, in the family, and in every aspect of life, women have been valued, and favorable conditions have been created for them to gain knowledge and take their rightful place in society. Indeed, the attention and respect shown to women today will lay the foundation for the progress of the country and the growth of an educated generation tomorrow.

As the famous poet Gafur Gulom said, “If you want to take the sky, why not hold my shoulder?”

Another significant reality for young people was the introduction of inclusive education in accordance with the law “On Education” passed on September 23, 2020, and the “New Uzbekistan Development Strategy for 2022-2026,” adopted on January 28, 2022. At Fergana State University, significant work was done to develop inclusive education, which resulted in the number of disabled students rising from 15 in 2016 to 230 in 2024, an increase of 15 times.

Since the 2020/2021 academic year, students in higher education institutions have been granted the right to pay their tuition fees in four installments during the academic year, which has alleviated anxiety and embarrassment among students and created a bridge of trust between universities and youth.

Moreover, a number of privileges have been introduced in the admission process to higher education institutions. These privileges have significantly changed young people's perspectives on the education system.

On May 24, 2024, another important document was adopted. According to the presidential decree on improving the system of admission to higher education institutions and placing state orders, the practice of distributing state orders across higher education institutions has been abolished, and a new system for approving full-time education programs has been introduced, with a focus on engineering, medicine, and natural sciences.

Opportunities for Students

After admission, the opportunities for students continue. The newly introduced privileges are designed to inspire them to obtain quality education and become highly skilled professionals in their fields. Beginning from the 2024/2025 academic year, the online application system for student dormitories has been introduced, with priority given to students. Furthermore, students with visual impairments, orphans, children of one deceased parent, and children from orphanages, as well as those in need of social protection, will be exempt from dormitory fees.

According to the decision of the Cabinet of Ministers, students living in rented housing will be provided with half of the minimum wage amount for rent. By understanding the essence of these opportunities, it should be said that the care shown to young people – from their education to where and how they live – should be answered by them with a commitment to study, research, and grow into individuals who care for their country and nation.

Today, regardless of which sector the changes are taking place in education, the indicators in the system clearly show that the Renaissance period for education and science has begun in Uzbekistan, and in the future, young people will face even greater opportunities.

REFERENCES

- 1.Хакимова Н. К., Низомов А. Б., Мажидов К. Х. ОЦЕНКА КОНКУРЕНТОСПОСОБНОСТИ ПРЕДПРИЯТИЙ МАСЛО-ЖИРОВОЙ ОТРАСЛИ ПРИ ТЕХНОЛОГИЧЕСКОЙ МОДЕРНИЗАЦИИ //ББК 36.81 я43 Т38 Редакционная коллегия: д. т. н., профессор Акулич АВ (отв. редактор) к. т. н., доцент Машкова ИА (отв. секретарь). – 2022. – С. 294.
- 2.Хакимова Н. К. и др. Оптимизация мощности очистительных отделений маслоэкстракционных предприятий //Universum: технические науки. – 2020. – №. 7-2 (76). – С. 32-35.
- 3.Mamatkarimov O. et al. Overview of the IX International Conference on Advanced Agritechnologies, Environmental Engineering and Sustainable

Development–AGRITECH-IX–2023 //E3S Web of Conferences. – EDP Sciences, 2024. – T. 486. – C. 00001.

4.Nazarov S., Khakimova N. Features of integration of information technologies in teaching the subject of physics //Интернаука. – 2020. – №. 17-3. – С. 41-43.