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Abstract: This article provides information on the role and importance of environmental education and training in preventing environmental problems that arise today.

Key words. Environmental education, environmental problems, lifelong education, environment, environmental safety, technological development, integration.

The Increasingly severe environmental issues on a global scale demand a shift in humanity's approach to the natural environment. In this process, the continuous development of environmental education plays a critical role. Without regulating human impact on the environment, humanity could face an ecological catastrophe more threatening than nuclear war.

Environmental education is a systematic and continuous educational process aimed at developing theoretical and practical knowledge, worldviews, norms, and rules of behavior, including attitudes toward the environment, the use of natural resources, and ecology in general.

Particularly, the legislation of the Republic of Uzbekistan places special emphasis on the development of environmental education. Article 4 of the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On Environmental Protection" stipulates the mandatory nature of environmental education in all types of educational institutions. According to this law, the primary goal of environmental education is to cultivate a conscious attitude toward environmental protection issues among all segments of the population, including students of general education schools, vocational colleges, and higher education institutions.

It is evident that today's environmental problems are broad and complex. Simple statements like "We must protect the environment" are no longer sufficient. Instead, we must apply our theoretical knowledge of ecology in practice. So, what exactly are the main tasks of environmental education?

The primary tasks of environmental education are as follows:

- To accurately and comprehensively understand the economic, social, political, and ecological interconnectedness of cities and villages, strengthening a sense of involvement.
- To enable every individual to acquire and continuously improve knowledge and skills related to nature conservation and environmental enhancement, fostering respect for nature, a sense of responsibility, and awareness of one's duties.
- To shape new attitudes and behaviors in society toward the environment and ecology.

Humanity inevitably impacts the environment. This impact continues to intensify due to technological progress, population growth, and increased production volumes. Unsustainable use of natural resources, insufficient conservation and restoration efforts, and severe environmental pollution lead to irreversible and catastrophic climate changes. Therefore, ensuring environmental security is both a socially and politically strategic priority for humanity. It is crucial for the current generation to maintain harmony between humans and nature.

To address these issues, it is necessary to transform values and attitudes toward nature, developing a new way of thinking and ideology based on the joint development of humanity and the natural world. This cannot be achieved without quality environmental education and upbringing.

In our opinion, to develop environmental education and prevent environmental problems, attention should be focused on the following:

- Incorporating subjects focused on environmental safety and conservation into educational curricula.
- Creating favorable conditions for research in the field of environmental education.
- Promoting collaboration and exchanging best practices in this field.
- Integrating environmental education into international cooperation as a fundamental tool for fostering mutual understanding and peace.

In conclusion, environmental education plays a vital role in ensuring the interconnectedness of nature and society. It not only encourages the younger generation to use natural resources responsibly but also instills love and care for nature in their hearts while teaching them to use nature's gifts wisely and sustainably.

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