

**SOCIAL THEMES IN JADID LITERATURE (ON THE EXAMPLE OF ABDURAUUF FITRAT'S WORK "FAMILY OR THE RULES OF FAMILY MANAGEMENT")**

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**Abstract**

This article examines the role of social issues in Jadid literature. In particular, based on the work "*Family or the Rules of Family Management*" by Abdurauf Fitrat, the importance of the family institution in the development of society, family upbringing, the position of women in social life, as well as other main ideas of the work are analyzed. In addition, the article demonstrates the close connection between the views of Jadid enlighteners and the social life of the present day.

**Keywords**

Jadid literature, social theme, family institution, family upbringing, enlightenment, Abdurauf Fitrat, Jadidism.

In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, it is well known that the Jadid movement in Turkestan strived toward great goals such as liberation from colonial rule, achieving freedom, and advancing school and educational reforms. It should be emphasized that these efforts of the Jadids were carried out under extremely complex socio-political conditions. Although the pressure of the colonial regime, the persistence of outdated views, and the general social environment made the activities of the Jadids difficult, they continued to struggle resolutely for the progress of the nation. As a result, the Jadid movement created the basis for the formation of a new worldview in the social consciousness of Turkestan and gave a strong impetus to the process of national awakening.

At the same time, Jadid enlighteners did not associate social development solely with the education system, but also paid special attention to the issue of the family, which is considered its fundamental unit. The issue of the family and upbringing within it was one of the most pressing problems of social life at that time. According to the Jadids, forming a healthy society begins first of all with a healthy and enlightened family. The words of Abdurauf Fitrat, "Where family relations are based on strong discipline and upbringing, the country and nation will be equally strong and well-educated," serve to support this idea.

Therefore, issues such as family management, child upbringing, and the role of women in society were widely covered as important themes in Jadid literature and journalism. In this regard, while Mahmudxo'ja Behbudiy's article "Hifzi sihati oila" ("Protection of Family Health") provided partial solutions and guidance, Abdurauf Fitrat's work "Family or the Rules of Family Management" offers an in-depth analysis of the formation of the family environment, family relations, child upbringing, and the social status of women. In our view, it would not be mistaken to consider this work as a guidebook on family matters for those who have just started a family, those preparing to do so, and, in general, for everyone.

As mentioned above, in his work "Family or the Rules of Family Management," Fitrat discusses the family, the duties of each member within it, and the characteristics of family upbringing. The work was written at the suggestion of the author's friend Abdulvohid Afandi Munzim. The author himself mentions this in the preface. Initially, Fitrat intended to write the work in Uzbek, but upon his friend's advice, he wrote it in Persian-Tajik. Later, it was translated into Uzbek by Doctor of Historical Sciences and Professor Shodmon Vohidov. According to available information, the work was written in 1914 and published in 1915. The publication process was led by Abdulvohid Afandi Munzim. Even at that time, the book spread widely across Central Asia and other regions. This indicates how important the work was as a source.

While writing the book, the author used verses from the Qur'an, which is considered sacred in Islam, to support his ideas. In addition, he also cited hadiths after each verse. Through this, the author aimed to ensure that readers deeply understand the relevance and importance of the issues being discussed. The work consists of two parts. The first part addresses questions such as: what kind of person one should marry, what should be considered when getting married, issues related to dowry and wedding ceremonies, as well as other matters related to marriage. The second part focuses on child upbringing. Along with this, it provides valuable information about girls' education and the rights of parents, servants, and orphans.

Literary scholar Begali Qosimov commented on the work as follows: "In the work 'Family,' the author emphasized that the family constitutes the foundation of society and the nation, and discussed its connections with the state, law, education, and medicine" [1.247].

The work begins with a preface in which the author explains the reasons for writing the book, its content, and his views: "The main subject of this treatise is the family" [2.8]. The initial part is devoted to the essence of the family institution and its importance in society. The author explains the role of the family in human development and the importance of building a healthy family. According to Fitrat, a human being cannot live alone in society. Every individual feels the need to form a family in order to continue life, preserve lineage, and maintain stability and position in social life. Therefore, the family is one of the most important foundations of society. Thus, the author interprets the family not only as a relationship between two individuals but as a social institution that affects the development of the entire society.

Taking these considerations into account, Fitrat emphasizes that the issue of marriage should be approached seriously. Naturally, this raises the question: what should be considered when forming a family? In Chapter 4 of the book, titled "What should future spouses primarily pay attention to?", we find clear answers to such questions. It begins with the following introduction: "For marriage, attention should be paid to four things: wealth, lineage, beauty, and faith" [2.23]. However, Fitrat does not treat these factors equally. According to him, although wealth, lineage, and external beauty have a certain importance, they cannot serve as the main criteria for a strong family. The most important factor is a person's faith, morality, and spiritual qualities. Because the stability of the family and mutual respect between spouses depend on these qualities.

The author further explains why attention should be given to moral and educational aspects: "Child upbringing—that is, raising a child intellectually, morally, and physically—falls upon the parents. Educating the next generation is a service to humanity. Only when we raise a morally sound child do we fulfill this duty" [2.23–24]. From this, we understand that only morally mature parents can raise their children in the same way. Similar ideas can also be found in other examples of Jadid literature. In particular, Abdulla Avloniy in his book "Turkiy Guliston yoxud axloq" writes: "A human being is capable by nature. If he is raised with good upbringing, protected from bad habits, and accustomed to good behavior, he will become a respected and happy person" [3.7].

It is evident that issues such as child upbringing and family formation constitute one of the central themes of Jadid literature.

The second part of the work, consisting of 9 chapters, focuses on child upbringing. The author divides upbringing into three types:

- Physical upbringing;
- Intellectual upbringing;
- Moral upbringing;

All three types of upbringing develop in close interconnection. According to the author, human perfection is achieved not through a single type of upbringing, but through the harmonious development of physical, intellectual, and moral aspects. Therefore, the author emphasizes the importance of paying attention first to the physical health of the child. The work

notes that physical upbringing should begin from early childhood, with attention to fresh air, movement, proper nutrition, and hygiene.

Turning to intellectual upbringing, the author notes that intellectual development is formed through acquiring knowledge, thinking, and independent reasoning. He emphasizes the importance of developing perception, attention, memory, and thinking in children. Instilling a love of learning and research is one of the key responsibilities of parents.

Moral upbringing is considered the most important aspect of a child's development. A person's character, behavior, and social position are shaped through moral upbringing. Therefore, it is necessary to instill qualities such as honesty, truthfulness, kindness, respect, and responsibility from an early age.

The author also criticizes the upbringing practices of his time: "If their upbringing had been good, we would not have fallen into such weakness and decline... Today's methods of upbringing are no different from those of a hundred years ago. Such methods cannot prepare us for the difficulties of life" [2.61].

Another important issue discussed in the work is the necessity of girls' education. Abdurauf Fitrat approaches this issue very seriously and connects social progress with women's education. Since mothers play a key role in raising future generations, they must be educated. He strongly criticizes the idea that girls do not need education, arguing that such views hinder societal development. According to him, educated women contribute not only to the family but also to the progress of the nation.

From the analysis above, it is clear that Jadid enlighteners considered the family as one of the most important factors of social development. In particular, Abdurauf Fitrat in his work deeply analyzes the role of the family, the responsibility of child upbringing, and the importance of women's education.

Today, strengthening the family institution remains a priority of state policy. Islom Karimov emphasized: "A humane and just society is our main goal. A compassionate and cultured family forms the foundation of society" [4.7].

At the same time, the reforms initiated by Shavkat Mirziyoyev also highlight the importance of the family: "The greatest happiness is peace in the family... The family is a small homeland; if the family is peaceful, the homeland will also be peaceful" [5]. Thus, the ideas put forward by Fitrat regarding family, upbringing, and enlightenment remain relevant not only for his time but also for today, serving as an important theoretical foundation for social development.

## References:

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