

**THEORETICAL AND PRACTICAL ASPECTS OF MORAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE INDIVIDUAL AT DIFFERENT AGE STAGES****Umaraliyev Muzaffarjon Muhammadjon O'g'li**

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**Abstract**

This article analyzes the characteristics of moral development of the individual at different stages of ontogenesis. It highlights the role of biological, social, and psychological factors in shaping moral views, values, and behavior. The study examines the specific features of moral consciousness formation, understanding, and adherence to moral norms during childhood, adolescence, and adulthood. Furthermore, the role of key educational factors and the social environment influencing moral development is scientifically substantiated. The findings emphasize the importance of pedagogical and psychological approaches in ensuring moral maturity and personal development.

**Keywords**

ontogenesis, personality development, moral development, moral consciousness, moral values, socialization, upbringing, psychological development, personal growth, moral norms

**Introduction.** In psychology, moral development of the individual is understood as a complex process in which moral concepts play a central role within the personality structure. This process involves the comprehension of moral norms, their emotional and rational acceptance, the development of moral self-confidence, and the formation of moral qualities that become internal regulators of behavior.

However, moral development is not limited to the mechanical reproduction of predefined models. Moral norms cannot fully predict the diversity of life situations an individual encounters. What is crucial is the subject's ability to act morally in situations not explicitly governed by established rules.

Lev Vygotsky emphasized that moral behavior is always associated with the free choice of social relations. He argued that moral education should not be based on fear of punishment, as avoiding wrongdoing solely due to fear is itself morally insufficient.

**Moral Development Across Ontogenetic Stages**

**Preschool Age.** Moral development begins in early childhood, where initial moral representations emerge. At this stage, children's adherence to moral norms is largely motivated by the approval of significant adults. Since children cannot fully participate in adult activities, they imitate adult behavior and use role-play to understand concepts of good and bad.

Moral motivation at this stage is simple and emotionally driven. According to Lidia Bozhovich, early moral structures include basic knowledge, emotions, habits, and emerging motives.

**Primary School Age.** The primary school period is a crucial stage in moral development. Educational activity fosters voluntary regulation of behavior, cognitive interests, and a sense of duty and responsibility.

However, research indicates that even at the end of this stage, some children may exhibit low motivation or weak responsibility. Therefore, targeted moral education remains essential. Anna Prikhozhan emphasized the importance of both voluntary and involuntary moral self-regulation in this period.

Empathy becomes a key factor in moral development, encouraging altruistic behavior and sensitivity to others' needs.

**Adolescence.** Adolescence is characterized by the emergence of moral ideals and the re-evaluation of previously formed values. Teenagers become more sensitive to social influences, particularly peer interactions.

Although adolescents may challenge authority and norms, they also demonstrate increased social engagement and moral sensitivity. Moral development at this stage involves constructing a system of values and integrating personal motives with social expectations.

As noted by Sergey Rubinstein, adolescents face complex moral dilemmas related to their life path and social context.

**Student Age (Young Adulthood).** Student age represents a critical stage for the formation of moral consciousness. According to Boris Ananyev, this period involves the stabilization of character, development of social roles, and formation of moral beliefs.

Students possess high cognitive motivation and are actively engaged in cultural and intellectual activities. Their moral development is shaped by real-life experiences, critical thinking, and reflection.

**Key Psychological Patterns of Moral Development.** The analysis identifies several fundamental patterns:

- At each developmental stage, new moral structures emerge, combining knowledge, emotions, motives, and habits;
- Moral behavior is determined by moral motivation and internalized values;
- Practical engagement in morally significant situations is essential for internalizing moral norms;
- Moral development is an integral part of overall personality development and is influenced by social, cultural, and familial contexts.

**Conclusion.** Moral development is a dynamic and multifaceted process that unfolds throughout ontogenesis. Each age stage contributes uniquely to the formation of moral consciousness, values, and behavior.

The findings highlight that effective moral education requires consideration of psychological закономерности (regularities), developmental stages, and social influences. Integrating pedagogical and psychological approaches is essential for fostering morally mature, socially responsible individuals.

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