THEORETICAL INTERPRETATION OF THE HARMONY BETWEEN HISTORY AND CULTURE

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Abstract: The article explains the concept of history and its role in the development of society. It analyzes the processes of acquiring priority factors through teaching history as a science in order to instill it in people's minds. Opinions are discussed regarding how history serves as a tool for overcoming life's trials at various levels.

Keywords: history, principle, objectivity, self-interest, social process, phenomenon, culture, cultural city, understanding, history and culture

The term "history" is generally understood as a concept that studies, analyzes, and draws scientific conclusions regarding diverse changes in nature and society, the transition from one socio-economic stage to another, and processes such as the formation, development, crisis, and restoration of society. Furthermore, history represents a complex of vital sources that inform us about humanity and its life, the succession of generations, the emergence of various civilizations, and their past.

The fundamental principle of historical science is objectivity. When objectivity is lost, the true essence of the discipline is distorted. Analyzing events through the lens of various political, ideological, or self-serving interests inevitably leads to bias and injustice in evaluating historical issues. Similarly, extreme caution is required when conducting historical research in a descriptive or journalistic style. Why, then, do we need the science of history? Addressing this, President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev notes: "We must all deeply comprehend a single truth: national history must be conveyed to our people, especially the youth, imbued with a national spirit, and deeply rooted in their hearts and minds. Otherwise, it will lack any educational impact". As is well known, throughout its ancient past, our nation has experienced countless unforgettable events, various trials and hardships, alongside both glorious eras and tragic days. Nevertheless, one truth must be emphasized: every system of statehood and every social process that has existed on the territory of our Homeland – whether a victory or a defeat, an ascent or a decline constitutes an organic and inseparable part of the complex historical path traversed by our people. Therefore, we must embrace all stages of our history holistically and study them thoroughly from every perspective.

A nation that draws strength from past achievements and victories, while deriving conclusions and lessons from its mistakes and defeats, is capable of accurately charting its path of development and its future.

Indeed, history is not merely our past; it is also a vital factor in shaping the bright future of our nation. There are numerous threads that link the chains of history together. However, among them lies such a phenomenal entity as culture, the significance of which can by no means be underestimated. It is not without reason that the head of state emphasized that culture unites us and serves as the foundation of human progress.

Indeed, culture is a phenomenal entity that signifies human existence and links the chain of ancestors and descendants. Culture is a tangible reality that manifests the uniqueness of each nation, ethnic group, and civilization, while simultaneously demonstrating their interconnection and harmony within the continuum of historical processes. In this sense, culture and history cannot be comprehended or understood in complete isolation from one another. The generality and specificity

of culture and history are reflected across space and time. From this perspective, if any nation wishes to study and comprehend its history objectively, it can undoubtedly achieve a true understanding of this process only by turning to its national culture.

Studying the phenomenon of culture is no simple task, as it is invariably intertwined with the political, economic, and, above all, ideological processes present in a given country or society. History offers numerous examples of this, not least within the history of Uzbekistan from antiquity to the present day.

To avoid misleading students, enthusiasts of the field, and specialists alike, it is essential to study history particularly cultural history with strict objectivity. In this regard, Abu Rayhan Beruni notes: “Beginning to write this work, I state that the most vital means leading to the object of my inquiry is the legacy of ancient nations, along with their customs, traditions, and regulations. Such information cannot be attained merely through rational demonstration or by drawing analogies from observed phenomena. This can only be known by reaching out to the “People of the Book’ and various religious figures, to adherents of diverse doctrines and beliefs who practice these convictions, and after cleansing oneself from base morals that degrade human nature and from factors that prevent one from seeing the truth by comparing their evidentiary statements and beliefs with one another. The method I have mentioned is the best path leading to the true goal and the strongest aid in washing away any doubts that stain it. Even if we strive hard and endure great hardship, we cannot reach our goal through any other path”.

Indeed, in any society and state, there is nothing more complex than the study of cultural processes. If we define the essence of human existence through the attainment of happiness and true freedom, then culture is the sole force and factor capable of elevating humanity to that level. Therefore, looking back at our national history, we can see that our thinker-scholars consistently strove to build an enlightened society and shape the cultural universe of the people.

Consequently, Abu Nasr al-Farabi consistently placed paramount importance on culture, spirituality, and morality throughout his teachings. “A civilized society and a civilized city (or country), “notes the scholar, “is one in which every individual belonging to the population of that country enjoys freedom in their profession, everyone is completely equal, and there are no distinctions among people; everyone engages in the profession of their choice or preference. People are genuinely free. No one acts as a master over another. There is no ruler who obstructs the peace and liberties of the people. Various virtuous customs and wholesome pleasures emerge among them”. This is precisely why, in the process of building New Uzbekistan today, we have set ourselves the objective of establishing an “Enlightened State”. To draw lessons from history and analyze all goals and aspirations both realized and unrealized we need an objective history.

Chingiz Aitmatov, a prominent modern writer and thinker-scholar, likens a nation without a history to an orphan child left without parents. He states: “There is profound truth in the assertion that a nation deprived of its historical memory is akin to a delicate twig whichever way you bend it, it will continue to grow in that direction. Unfortunately, during the period of totalitarian rule, we voluntarily accepted subjection; although our wounds were bleeding, we paid not the slightest attention to them, failing to study our history thoroughly. Instead, we studied the history of other countries and came to know foreign history better than our own. After all, was not our history, originating in antiquity, distorted and rewritten by modern scholar-butchers who took pens in hand?!”.

Historical science is far from offering speculative or tentative information regarding specific issues or processes. Friedrich Schiller (1759–1805), one of the prominent figures of the German Enlightenment, asserted that a single, unbroken chain of progress exists from the inception of humankind to the present day. Only history is capable of teaching us how to properly appreciate the

blessings we enjoy. We often fail to express gratitude for these benefits simply because we have grown accustomed to them, taking their presence and attainment for granted. In reality, however, these achievements were secured at the cost of the blood of the finest and most noble individuals, and their acquisition required the arduous labor of countless generations.

History encompasses the entirety of the moral world; it renders judgment upon individuals and nations alike. With utmost conviction, Schiller developed moral standards for the study of the past, as well as the concept of every individual's responsibility toward all of humanity. Calling upon his listeners to study history, Schiller stated: "The study of history enlightens our intellect and inflames our hearts with noble devotion. It protects our spirit from approaching moral issues with meanness and triviality".

A strikingly similar view was also articulated by Georg Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel, a German thinker of Swiss origin. He asserted that reason governs world history, and that world history is the realization of freedom as recognized necessity.

History necessitates historical memory. In turn, historical memory transforms the concept of culture something sacred and unique to humanity into a dynamic force and a driving process that awakens the nation. In this sense, the concepts of history and culture can be described as vital factors that empower and revitalize a nation. An individual cannot fully possess moral virtues without a profound understanding of history. Furthermore, historical memory is indispensable for comprehending culture, drawing upon its practical and traditional values, and enabling an individual to hold their head high with pride. Hence, the consequences of lacking historical knowledge are manifold:

First, ignorance of history signifies the total loss of historical memory.

Second, it entails the oblivion of the rich and unique national-cultural heritage forged by one's ancestors.

Third, it deprives the nation of the overarching goals and ideas that historically guided it toward achievements and progress.

Fourth, it impairs the nation's capacity to draw meaningful lessons from both its accomplishments and its darkest periods of distress, thereby diminishing its spiritual, political, and ideological vigilance.

Fifth, it renders a nation incapable of envisioning its future, ultimately leading to a loss of identity amidst global development. Just as history and historical memory are essential to comprehending culture, the principle of historicity is equally indispensable.

In conclusion, studying history and living in light of its lessons while considering the past and historical events across all levels of society and family alongside respecting and exploring our national culture, constitute fundamental pillars of the principle of historicity.

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