

## COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF THE EDUCATION SYSTEM OF UZBEKISTAN AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (USA)

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**Abstract:** This article presents a comparative analysis of the education systems of Uzbekistan and the United States. The study examines statistical indicators of educational financing models, higher education enrollment rates, and teaching methodologies in both countries. It highlights the differences and similarities between recent educational reforms in Uzbekistan and the decentralized education system of the USA.

**Keywords:** education system, comparative analysis, higher education enrollment, financing, academic freedom, innovative education, Uzbekistan, USA.

The economic and social development of each society, its cultural potential and scientific potential are determined primarily by the level of development of the education system. It is not new that in today's globalization conditions, competition between countries is mainly determined by the level of human capital, that is, the level of training of knowledgeable, capable and scientifically minded specialists. In this regard, it is important to identify the opportunities for self-improvement of each system through a comparative analysis of the education systems of countries.

In recent years, large-scale reforms have been implemented in the education sector in Uzbekistan. In particular, the content of education is brought closer to global standards, Effective work is being carried out in such areas as the introduction of modern pedagogical technologies, the improvement of the two- and multi-level education system, and the strengthening of cooperation with foreign educational institutions. At the same time, the US education system is considered one of the most developed in the world. The philosophy of education in this country, the level of academic freedom, the focus on scientific research, and innovative approaches are considered a model for many countries.

A comparative study of the educational systems of Uzbekistan and the United States allows for a thorough analysis of the achievements, problems and prospects of the two countries in the field of education. Through this analysis, practical conclusions can be drawn on improving the national education model and developing a competitive personnel training system that is in line with international trends. This article examines the structure of the educational systems of Uzbekistan and the United States, their stages of education, educational content and management system, pedagogical approaches and personnel training.

The main aspects of the education system are analyzed comparatively. Social, economic and cultural factors affecting the effectiveness of education in both countries are also considered. The purpose of the study is to identify the strengths and weaknesses of the education system of Uzbekistan based on the experience of developed countries, in particular the US model, and to develop scientific and practical proposals for the further development of the national education system.

The education systems of Uzbekistan and the United States of America (USA) were formed in different historical, political and cultural conditions. Education in Uzbekistan is centralized at the level of state policy and is implemented on the basis of unified educational standards. The country has preschool, general secondary, secondary specialized, vocational and

higher education stages, which are organized on the basis of continuity and consistency. In the USA, the education system is decentralised, with each state having its own education policies and standards. However, there are also federal regulations to ensure the quality of education at the national level. In the USA, the elementary school, middle school, high school and college/university levels constitute the main system.

Education in Uzbekistan is financed by the state mainly from the budget. Admission to higher education institutions is carried out centrally, through the Unified National Testing System. In the financing process, a system of state grants, material assistance and benefits is widely used to ensure social equality.

In the USA, education is financed from various sources - local, state and federal budgets, the private sector and personal funds of students. Tuition fees in higher education institutions are very high, but at the same time, a system of grants, scholarships and student loans for students is developed.

The content and teaching methods of education in Uzbekistan pay great attention to ideological and spiritual education, national values and the spirit of patriotism in teaching subjects. Specialists are trained in scientific and practical areas in higher education. In recent years, the credit-module system has been introduced and the use of interactive methods has been expanding.

In the USA, the content of education is more focused on developing the student's scientific and creative thinking, conducting independent research and applying practical knowledge. Methods such as problem-based learning, critical thinking, case study, project work are widely used in the teaching process.

Teacher training and advanced training in Uzbekistan is carried out through pedagogical universities and institutes. Special advanced training centers and online platforms operate to improve their skills. State educational standards are being adapted to the international requirements for teacher competencies.

In the USA, each state has introduced a licensing system for its teachers. The appropriate level of education and certified experience are the main criteria for the teaching profession. Professional development processes are closely related to practice, innovative methods and research activities. In both countries, the role of information technologies in the educational process is an important direction, the introduction of digital technologies. In Uzbekistan, online platforms, electronic journals and textbooks have been introduced on the basis of the "Digital Education" program. In the USA, this process is much more advanced, and interactive education has been fully established through platforms such as Google Classroom, Blackboard, Canvas. The education system in the Republic of Uzbekistan is organized on the basis of the Law "On Education" and the "National Program for Personnel Training". The main stages of the system are as follows:

- Preschool education

- General secondary education (11 years)

- Secondary specialized and vocational education

- Higher education (bachelor's, master's)

- Scientific research and postgraduate stages

In recent years, the education system has been digitized, the credit-module system is being introduced, and educational standards have been updated based on foreign experience.

Education in the USA is managed independently by each state, but general principles are set at the federal level. The system consists of the following stages:

- Elementary School (grades 1–5)

Middle School (grades 6–8)

High School (grades 9–12)

Higher Education (colleges and universities)

In the USA, the educational process emphasizes creativity, independent thinking, and practice focused teaching is the main thing. The testing system, grant and scholarship programs in educational institutions are widely developed.

In Uzbekistan, fundamental changes have been made in the education sector over the past 8 years. The US education system is leading the world with its flexibility and high technological base. While school education in Uzbekistan has centralized management, in the US this sector is managed more by states and local districts. Indicator (2024/2025) Uzbekistan US Number of schools 10,943 - 98,000 (public and private) Share of private schools 4.2% (455) - 25-30% Education system 11 years (standard) K-12 (12-13 years) The fact that the number of private schools in Uzbekistan has increased by 4.5 times compared to 2020 indicates liberalization in the sector.

In the United States, according to 2024 data, student attendance and mental health in public schools remain one of the main problems (19% of students use the help of a school psychologist). In the higher education system, the biggest difference between the two countries is in coverage and funding. Number of higher education institutions: increased to 222 by the beginning of the 2024/2025 academic year (from 69 in 2016). The rate of enrollment in higher education has increased from 9% to 43%. 50.6% of students are girls and 49.4% are boys. The US spends 5.8% of its GDP on education (compared to the OECD average of 4.7%). The average annual contract at public universities is \$9,596, while at private universities it is \$34,041. A man with a higher education degree in the US earns an average of \$726,100 more over his lifetime, while a woman earns an average of \$511,400 more. Differences in teaching methodology The Uzbek education system is still more lecture- and theory-based (fixed curriculum). In the US, the main emphasis is on: Student participation in discussions is an important part of the assessment. Critical thinking: Critical thinking is emphasized, not memorization.

Academic freedom: Students have the opportunity to choose the subjects they want (Course flexibility). According to the 2023 Open Doors report, the number of Uzbek students studying in the United States has increased by a record 1,089 (an increase of 72.6%).

The Uzbek education system is experiencing a period of rapid growth in terms of quantity (number of universities and schools). The US system, on the other hand, maintains high standards in terms of quality and financial efficiency. It is advisable for Uzbekistan to use the US experience in individualizing education and developing independent research skills in students.

Uzbekistan: The number of universities increased from 65 in 2017 to 222 by the end of 2024. Branches of foreign universities (31) and private universities (67) play an important role in this. The increase in coverage from 9% to 43% is acting as a social elevator.

USA: There are about 4,000 higher education institutions, of which "Community Colleges" (2-year colleges) are the world leaders in the rapid preparation of the labor market. The greatest difference between the two countries in terms of scientific potential and innovative activity is seen in the commercialization of scientific research.

In conclusion, there are similarities and differences between the educational systems of Uzbekistan and the United States of America, which are closely related to the historical development, socio-economic conditions and national values of both countries. While the Uzbek education system is characterized by centralized state management, uniform educational

standards and a strong emphasis on the educational aspect, the US education system prioritizes decentralization, independence of educational institutions, freedom of choice and innovative approaches. This At the same time, one of the main goals in both systems is to improve the quality of education, train competitive personnel, and introduce modern technologies. The results of the comparative analysis show the possibilities of introducing some advanced aspects of the US experience in improving the education system of Uzbekistan in accordance with national conditions. This will serve to increase the effectiveness of education in the future and take a worthy place in the world education space.

#### Recommendations:

Commercialization of scientific research activities: Expanding the activities of startup accelerators and technoparks at universities (based on the US "Research Triangle" model).

Development of the elective subject system: Increasing the opportunity for students to freely choose not only specialized subjects, but also subjects that develop "Soft skills" (communication, critical thinking, leadership) skills from 30% to 50%.

Integration into global rankings: Encouraging the system of publishing articles in high-impact factor journals in collaboration with foreign scientists to improve the position of national universities in international rankings such as QS and THE (Times Higher Education).

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