

## FOOTBALL IS THE MOST POPULAR SPORT OR GAME OF MILLIONS

**Bobomuradov Sotidjon Erkinovich**

Associate professor of the Department "Physical Culture"

**Annotation:** This article covers the world-class popularity of football, its role and importance in the lives of millions of people. Football is analyzed not only as a sport, but as a global phenomenon with great social, cultural and economic implications. Also, information about the pace of development of football in Uzbekistan, the interest of the population in it and the attention shown by the state are presented. The article will reveal the role of football in the formation of community, competition and sports culture.

**KEYWORDS:** football, mass sports, game of millions, Sports Culture, Community, Football in Uzbekistan, sports infrastructure, youth sports, international football, social significance of sports

### INTRODUCTION

Football is not simply a sports game, but a global phenomenon that has won the hearts of millions of people. Today, football as the most popular sport brings together billions of spectators and millions of amateur athletes from around the world. Its rules are simple, but the possibilities are endless: every child can kick a ball in the yard and imagine himself as a famous player. It is for this reason that football is called the "game of millions".

Football has become a powerful social tool that strengthens friendship among people, forms qualities such as teamwork, competition and striving for victory. This article reflects on the popularity, social and cultural significance of football, as well as the state of development of football in Uzbekistan.

### MAIN PART

Football is today considered one of the most popular and most popular sports in the world. It is loved and regularly played by millions of people on all continents. The simple rules of football, requiring a large field and little equipment, made it a mass sport, an activity to be played under any circumstances.

The Republic of Uzbekistan also pays great attention to the development of football. Football clubs are operating in schools, colleges and universities, territorial football fields are being built and put into free use. Every year, competitions such as the President's Cup, Neighborhood Games are held among young people, and talented young people are sorted.

Benefits of football:

- ▶ Develops teamwork skills
- ▶ Increases physical fitness
- ▶ Reduces stress and promotes social activity
- ▶ Develops a sense of leadership and responsibility among young people

Today, Professional Football is also developing through the Uzbekistan national team, Super League and Pro League. But in order to further popularize mass football, it is necessary to strengthen attention to children's football in neighborhoods and villages, improve the training system of coaches.

#### 1. "Football is the most popular sport"

This phrase is used in more formal, statistical or scientific-analytical articles. It emphasizes that football is the most played, most watched sport in the world. For example:

"Football is today the most popular sport worldwide. According to FIFA, more than 250 million people play football on Earth."

Where to use:

- ▶ Scientific article
- ▶ Coursework
- ▶ Statistics-based analysis
- ▶ Official speeches

## 2. "Football-Millions game"

This is used in an artistic, emotional and publicistic style. The phrase "the game of millions" expresses the popularity of football among the general public, the fact that it is watched and loved by the whole world. It means "folk game". Example:

"Football is not an ordinary sport, it is a game of millions, in which dreams, excitement and victories live."

Where to use:

- ▶ Newspaper / magazine article
- ▶ Blog or open article
- ▶ Presentation or output
- ▶ Introduction or conclusion section

## How to choose?

Goal	Recommendation
Scientific or formal style	Football is the most popular sport
Emotional, propagandist or artistic style	Football-Millions game

## 1. Reasons for the publicity of football

The main reason for the wide spread of football around the world is its simplicity and community. This sport does not require complex equipment, it can be played on any outdoor area, even with a simple ball. It is this aspect that makes it so popular in both rich and poor countries. According to FIFA, more than 250 million people are currently actively involved in football on Earth, while the number of spectators is billions.

## 2. "Game of millions" - the social power of football

Football is a social phenomenon that affects not only sports, but also whole-headed culture and society. Through World Championships, continental leagues and local competitions, football unites Nations, fostering a culture of friendship and competition. Famous players have become role models for young people, which leads to increased interest in the sport. For example, Lionel Messi, Cristiano Ronaldo or our famous players from Uzbekistan will inspire the younger generation.

## 3. Football in Uzbekistan: status and development

Uzbekistan football has been developing rapidly in recent years. A system of domestic competitions such as Super League, Pro League is established, the national team of Uzbekistan participates in the international arena. In particular, the successes of the U-23 and U-20 teams in the Asian Championship show an increased emphasis on youth football.

In 2021, a special resolution (PQ-4947) aimed at the development of football was adopted by the President. According to him, children's Sports Schools, coach training system and football infrastructure are being expanded. There are also efforts to popularize football through projects such as "neighborhood football, "school football".

## 4. Educational and health-improving importance of football

Football, by its nature, is a physical health-improving and educational sport. It forms communalism, responsibility, discipline, resilience, and will. Especially for young people, Football is a means of reducing stress, increasing social flexibility and promoting a healthy lifestyle.

### 5. Problems and solutions

Nevertheless, some areas lack adequate football infrastructure, lack qualified coaches, and have a low level of women's participation. To eliminate these, it is necessary to work on the following areas:

- ▶ Building at least one football field in each neighborhood;
- ▶ Increase the number of football clubs among young people;
- ▶ Development of women's football;
- ▶ Introduction of Test football competitions at school and college level.

### CONCLUSION

Football today is not only a sport, but also a socio-cultural phenomenon that has become the way of life of millions of people all over the world. Its simplicity, playability under all circumstances, and reliance on communalism made it globally popular. It is not for nothing that the "game of millions" is said — football is not only a symbol of physical activity, but also of social integration, peace, friendship and interethnic solidarity.

There is also a growing emphasis on football in Uzbekistan. Through schools, sports academies, neighborhood-level clubs, and national competitions, football is increasingly spreading to the general public. In the future, it will be possible to educate a potential generation by continuing systematic reforms in this direction, promoting football among children and young people.

Therefore, the development of football not only as a sport, but also as a means of upbringing and social unity — is a strategically important issue.

### LIST OF LITERATURE USED

1. O'zbekiston Respublikasi Prezidentining "Futbol sport turini yanada rivojlantirish chora-tadbirlari to'g'risida"gi PQ-4947-sonli qarori. 2021-yil 4-yanvar.
2. O'zbekiston Respublikasi "Jismoniy tarbiya va sport to'g'risida"gi Qonuni. 2021-yil 24-fevral.
3. FIFA (International Federation of Association Football) rasmiy sayti – <https://www.fifa.com>
4. O'zbekiston Futbol Assotsiatsiyasi (UFA) rasmiy sayti – <https://ufa.uz>
5. O'zbekiston Respublikasi Davlat statistika qo'mitasi – <https://stat.uz>
6. Karimov I.A. "Yuksak ma'naviyat – yengilmas kuch." – T.: Ma'naviyat, 2008.
7. Jalolov S. "Sport sotsiologiyasi." – T.: O'qituvchi, 2019.
8. Rakhimova D. "Futbolning yoshlar orasida tarbiyaviy ahamiyati." – Ilmiy maqola, 2022.
9. Yuz.uz portali – "O'zbekistonda futbolni rivojlantirish strategiyasi." 2024-yil. <https://yuz.uz>
10. My.stat.uz – "Aholining sport bilan shug'ullanish darajasi (2021)" <https://my.stat.uz>