



**THREATS OF MISSIONARY ACTIVITIES TO OUR NATIONAL SPIRITUALITY
AND NATIONAL VALUES**

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Abstract: This article provides a scientific analysis of the essence of missionary activity, its impact on the spiritual life of society, and the potential threats it poses to national values. The study examines the intensification of missionary activities in the context of globalization, their influence on the minds of young people, and factors affecting spiritual security. Furthermore, ways to preserve national values and ensure spiritual stability are discussed.

Keywords: missionary activity, spirituality, national values, globalization, spiritual security, youth education.

Introduction

In the era of globalization, various ideological trends and influences are becoming increasingly widespread. In this context, missionary activity emerges as a significant social phenomenon. Missionary activity refers to the dissemination of specific religious or ideological beliefs to other societies, which in some cases may negatively affect national values and traditions.

Uzbekistan, as a country with a rich spiritual heritage, pays special attention to preserving and developing national values. Therefore, studying the impact of missionary activity on the spiritual life of society is a pressing issue.

The purpose of this study is to scientifically analyze the impact of missionary activity on national spirituality and values and to develop recommendations for preventing its negative consequences.

Research objectives:

- To study the concept of missionary activity
- To analyze its mechanisms of influence on society
- To assess its impact on the consciousness of youth
- To develop measures for protecting national values

Methods

The following methods were used in the research:

- **Theoretical analysis method** — to study the concept of missionary activity
- **Sociological approach** — to assess its social impact
- **Comparative method** — to compare international experiences
- **Systemic approach** — to analyze the issue comprehensively

In addition, analyses were conducted based on scientific literature, normative legal documents, and media sources.

Results

The essence of missionary activity



Missionary activity is aimed at promoting certain religious or ideological ideas and is carried out through various methods. In modern conditions, such activities are widely spread through the internet, social networks, and social projects.

Today, the ideas of missionary activity and proselytism are increasingly becoming among the dangerous ideologies that directly threaten peace and stability, interethnic harmony, and interreligious tolerance. Religion and belief have always held an important place in human life. However, the problem lies in the fact that religious propagation can be directed toward both positive and negative purposes, and missionaries may play a special role in spreading a particular religion and influencing people's consciousness.

Therefore, it is important to first focus on the lexical, scientific, and philosophical essence of missionary activity, understand what kind of activity it represents, and comprehend the true meaning of this concept.

The term "missionary" originates from the Latin verb *missio*, meaning "to send" or "to assign a task." A "missionary" is one who performs such a task, while "missionary activity" refers to a set of theoretical and practical activities aimed at accomplishing assigned objectives.

Missionary activity is also referred to by terms such as "tabshir" (giving glad tidings) and "tansir" (Christianization). These terms are often used to mask their actual activities with attractive names. Individuals who join their ranks are often told, "You are someone who stands out from others," and are attributed with various divine qualities such as "children of God" or "those who communicate with the Holy Spirit," thereby ensuring their continued loyalty.

The concept of "proselytism," which is directly related to missionary activity, originates from the Greek word *proselitos*, meaning a person who has adopted a new faith. In practice, it refers to efforts aimed at converting individuals of other religions—primarily Muslims—to Christianity, representing a form of ideological expansion.

The main goal of proselytism is to spread Christianity throughout the world through missionary methods (from the Latin *missio* — "mission") and convert people to it. In this process, Christianity is promoted as the sole path to salvation for all humanity. To achieve this, the most modern informational and technological tools and methods are employed. Special attention is given to influencing human psychology and consciousness through psychological and neurolinguistic techniques.

Based on the above considerations, it can be concluded that definitions provided in various sources and literature are very similar. In general, "missionary activity" can be defined as a dangerous political activity aimed at promoting and instilling one religion among peoples, ethnic groups, and nations that follow another faith, using various social means and factors. Its hidden nature throughout history demonstrates that it has often led to political instability in a number of countries.

Today, missionary movements can lead to the intensification of social tensions among citizens. In establishing their organizational structures, they often operate under the guise of publishing houses, charitable organizations, medical assistance services, and non-governmental, non-profit organizations. Some even function under the cover of medical associations. Typically, within missionary centers, there may be churches, small temples or mosques, and accommodations for missionary monks.

The goals pursued by missionaries are often political in nature. What may appear today as simple democratic activities may, in fact, conceal large-scale political strategies aimed at the future. These strategies may include the following objectives:



First, to divide and weaken the unity of a nation whose traditional beliefs, customs, and spiritual-historical roots are shared (which is, in fact, the source of its strength), and to prevent it from developing independently through various political and economic pressures.

Second, to turn a country into a permanent zone of conflict and make it dependent on external forces for resolving these conflicts.

Third, to focus on specific regions, increase the number of followers there, and in the future provoke separatist movements under the guise of reflecting their will and sentiments, ultimately leading to the fragmentation of the country.

Fourth, under seemingly noble slogans such as “protection of human rights” and “ensuring freedom of conscience,” to interfere in the internal affairs of the state—from judicial institutions to the highest levels of leadership—and hinder independent governance.

Fifth, to create a constant state of social tension, generate instability in governance, use media and non-governmental organizations for propaganda, present themselves as defenders of the people, incite public dissatisfaction against the state, and force the government to take strict measures, thereby fostering mistrust between the people and the state.

As can be seen, the activities carried out by missionaries are not genuinely related to religion or religious preaching. Rather, they are strategic methods designed to bring a country under political influence.

The issue is dangerous not only because of its religious dimension but also because it aims at political weakening. The consequences directly affect national security, and therefore such activities must be assessed from this perspective, with appropriate measures taken accordingly.

Otherwise, instead of leaving a strong, free, and prosperous homeland to future generations, there is a risk of creating a fragmented society—one in which people are spiritually alienated from each other, plagued by numerous problems, marked by disunity, moral conflicts, and ultimately reduced to a weak and dependent state.

Impact on spiritual values

In some cases, missionary activity may affect national values in the following ways:

- Weakening of national traditions and customs
- Formation of foreign ideas in the minds of youth
- Transformation of spiritual views

Influence on youth consciousness

Young people are the most impressionable group in society. Missionary activity may:

- Attract youth through social networks
- Influence them through psychological methods
- Attempt to reshape their spiritual outlook

The issue of spiritual security

Spiritual security is an important factor of social stability. If missionary activity develops without control:

- Ideological divisions may arise in society
- Social stability may be negatively affected

Ways to protect national values

The following measures are considered effective:

- Strengthening spiritual education in the education system
- Improving youth engagement strategies
- Promoting national values through mass media
- Enhancing legal regulation and oversight



Discussion

The results of the study show that missionary activity is closely linked with global processes and has varying degrees of influence on societal spirituality.

However, it is not entirely correct to evaluate this phenomenon only negatively. The main issue lies in uncontrolled and targeted ideological influence.

Therefore, the following approaches are important:

- Developing critical thinking
- Strengthening spiritual immunity
- Providing youth with accurate and reliable information

Conclusion

In conclusion, missionary activity is a complex social phenomenon in modern society that may pose certain threats to national spirituality and values. Therefore, preserving national values, properly educating youth, and ensuring spiritual security are of great importance.

In the future, it is necessary to deepen scientific research in this area and develop comprehensive measures.

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