

# The role of youth and adolescents in the sustainable development of the environment

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## ABSTRACT

*Effective environmental protection requires compatriots who are scientifically aware of the true value of the environment and have the skills to apply their environmental knowledge in their citizenship and family life.*

*This issue, together with their dynamism and ecological processes, forms the basis of human life, their well-being and comfort. In this scientific article, I have tried to study the role of youth and adolescents in maintaining a healthy environment free of any pollution, to introduce the factors affecting the role of youth to study this scientific dissertation of each member of this community, especially The young people who are the rising force of this land and the future managers of Afghanistan should feel responsible in how to maintain a hygienic, safe and pollution-free environment and play a constructive role in protecting a healthy and clean environment.*

**Keywords:** Youth, Environment, Education, Sustainable Development, Citizen.

## Introduction

Humans need and need a healthy, clean and pollution-free environment after food and clothing. The need to have it is one of the basic human needs. Before becoming a wise and intelligent animal, man has taken the necessary measures to preserve and survive his life. Among them, the preparation and construction of a house, housing and a safe environment is one of his most important vital actions. Since then, thousands of years have passed since this long and historic time. And has adopted a variety of forms.

One of the methods of environmental protection is to raise the level of awareness of children, adolescents and young people about environmental issues through scientific, cultural and social activities. To inform the people and the youth of the country about the environmental issues and its negative effects, so that we have a clean and pollution-free environment.

## The concept of youth

There is no general agreement on the concept of youth, neither in slang nor in the specific language of sociology, psychology, and education. From the sociological point of view in contemporary society, the following themes can be used to define the concept of youth:

- Youth is a period in the life of every person that begins with physical maturity around the age of 13. Adolescence comes after childhood. After youth comes middle age and then old age. This is the division that has been common since ancient times;
- Youth is 13 to 25 years old. From a sociological point of view, this course is important because it is associated with a particular style of behavior and attitude;
- Youth is a biological concept, but it is also a social and cultural period. The period in which a person acquires the necessary conditions for independent action in all areas of life;
- Youth is a subculture or part of social culture;
- Youth is an "ideal value concept" that is considered synonymous with "good" among many peoples and cultures of the world and refers to novelty (Schaffers, 2009: 23-24).

### **The role of education in promoting environmental culture**

The education of children, youth and adolescents plays a constructive role in the sustainable development of the environment. Therefore, the ability of present and future generations to institutionalize the needs of today and tomorrow to do fundamental work. Paying attention to the young and growing class as a central commitment and recognizing them as future managers of the country. This topic becomes a key component of the sustainable development debate in studies and research, as well as in strengthening the view of the future.

Children, adolescents and young people today are tomorrow's decision makers. The realization of the ideas and plans that are undertaken in the hope of the future all depends on the conscious connection that the present generation establishes with them. Therefore, understanding the risks and transferring values, concepts and collaborations to them will be the most important factor in the continuation and reflection of sustainable development. Sustainability and development for children, youth and adolescents is an objective and real issue in a society. Especially in relation to the environment and its education for future generations, investment should be made (Modawazeh, 1998: 12).

If we have a clean environment free from any pollution, the next generation will think and grow and make the society and the people happy. Therefore, the effort to acquaint young people with the concepts of environment and sustainable development, and in principle, the conscious transmission of insurance and hopes for dangers and developments in the world to come, is an undeniable necessity.

According to this logic, the most important and effective causes in the conscious path, motivating and empowering children, adolescents and young people in the face of future challenges; Education plays a key role. For this reason, the main attention of international institutions, especially UNESCO, in the framework of encouraging and guiding the country's facilities, is focused on this area. The mobilization of the resources of all countries to develop the rule along with the term effective, educational systems to achieve methods has been the most effective goal defined by these efforts that the International Commission on Education in various fields, especially the environment has received much attention (Shokoi, 2006: 54-56).

In the debate on sustainable development, it is accepted that which generation survives on the planet depends on a comprehensive understanding of the problems that have endangered the existence of the human race. This understanding, however, has become very prominent and important in this generation, especially in recent years. But it will undoubtedly be vital for the future. The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) is the most important international body for children in the field of tasks or analysis of the current environmental situation (resulting from poverty, natural disasters and unsustainable exploitation methods or sustainable principles in the world). Because of the threat that this condition poses to the health and well-being of children and adolescents, it is called "silent anxiety" and has called on the world. To protect children from the negative consequences of this phenomenon. The vision of children and adolescents against discrimination and exploitation, especially adopted by the "Convention on the Rights of the Child" in 1989 by the leaders of 186 countries, has objectively become a global determination (Environmental Report, 2012: 8).

Paying attention to the issues of children and future generations and reviewing the regulations, in the light of changing conditions, today and every day is one of the most important necessities in the world. The sustainability and cleanliness of the environment, water, soil, forest against the volume and the increase of pollution, desertification and the like should be praised. Justice and equality of human beings must be defended against discrimination and inequality. Better methods of exploiting and managing resources against past consumer abuses should be used. Peace must be protected from war, inevitably these principles must be taught scientifically from the beginning to the new generation. In other words, in the medium and long term, not only will understanding the acceptance and persuasion of children, adolescents and young people to achieve sustainable development in various forms be inevitable. Therefore, the equation of understanding and persuasion about tomorrow's decision makers will be the most effective component of future sustainability (Department of Environment, 2013: 25-26)

To institutionalize education and the role of children, adolescents and young people in protecting a healthy environment for today and tomorrow in Afghanistan, invest more in the following points under the leadership of the Government of Afghanistan:

- For the knowledge of professionals and the general public in the field of environment requires that in addition to the theme of public health and patriotism, the theme of the environment in the curriculum of schools and universities and educational centers of public and private institutions.
- The theme of the environment should be included in the school curriculum in high school.

- Awareness of the people of the principles and regulations of the environment Effective practices such as through propaganda in the pulpits, holding conferences, scientific seminars and workshops for adolescents and young people at the national and international levels.
- Publish articles, news, newspapers, and books, launch radio and television programs, and raise awareness through the mass media (National Environmental Protection Agency, 2013).

### **The role of girls in environmental protection**

God Almighty has created nature "J" Zabia and has put it in the service of man so that they can use it properly.

The roaring seas never consume water for themselves. No tree can be found to consume its own fruit. The sun-shining sun, with its magnificence, does not use its golden rays for the energy of light and heat. In the same way, the moon never shines its light on the earth and the earthlings because of its beauty. Forests never produce oxygen for themselves. Rather, it is a precious gift in the service of human beings and for us human beings, which are available to us and used for free. The diversity of life has never forgotten us. They share with us what they find or produce. In short, nature and the environment God has never asked us for anything but attention and protection, but He has asked us to respect the law of nature, which demands life for others and the protection of the rights of generations before us. Unfortunately, in the face of all this respect for nature and the precious gifts of God, instead of thanking God for His blessings, we have nothing but destruction and ingratitude for His blessings.

Afghanistan's environment was known as the most beautiful and attractive environment in the world. And it was once called the masterpiece of nature. The invasions of the warlords and rulers of the world wars did not only affect Afghanistan's critical strategic position and they fought to the death to conquer it, but today, except for the mountains without vegetation, and wildlife, arid deserts, semi-roaring seas, polluted air and After all, there is nothing left in the arid deserts. These are all alarm bells that alert us to our religious and patriotic responsibilities. Humans have a key role to play in destroying and improving their environment and environmental pollution, and we have an equal responsibility to improve and preserve it, because environmental pollution does not recognize geographical boundaries. Today, if we do not have a better and better environment, the same polluted environment will affect our neighbors. In the same way, human societies will affect the countries of the region and the rest of the world.

My sister! Your role in protecting the environment and preventing pollution is very important and vital. Just as you are the founder of community development, you are also the founder of the environment. By removing a piece of sulfur from the ground and placing it in a designated area to reduce the use of unhealthy or polluted fuels, educating children and reminding family members about the values of the environment, the natural system and the diversity of life Which is my and your natural heritage, performs a very great or glorious duty in which goodness lies. As they say, a woman moves the cradle with one hand and the world with the other. Because, everything we observe and use in the earth and nature is a blessing that God Almighty has bestowed on us to be thankful for the divine blessings. God Almighty has said in the Holy Qur'an: If you give thanks for a blessing, God will make His blessings cheaper, and if you disbelieve in the blessings of God, you will be severely punished by God Almighty.

All men and women have a responsibility to the environment. Collective responsibilities require that we all work together to protect the environment. Women are always in close contact with the environment and have played a direct and effective role in its destruction and improvement. Therefore, it is appropriate to pay special attention to environmental activities. Women and girls can change the course of many high-risk behaviors against the environment. If women become aware of environmental problems and ways to deal with them, they will have a great impact on children, family members and those around them.

In addition to caring for children, working indoors and outdoors can also be a guardian of a healthy environment, but the most important role of women in the environment is: Women are the main factor in transmitting environmental culture to future generations. Since the education of children is the responsibility of women, children learn the way of life, ways and customs, communication with the environment from mothers from the beginning. If the environmental culture is generalized among mothers and our women know the law and effectiveness of the environment, then they can pass on this spiritual heritage to their children. In this way, we find that the transmission of culture appropriate to the environment, in addition to the nature and personal instinct of women, which also requires a tool that should be provided to them. Women are effective in reducing the consumption and better use of chemical fertilizers in preserving the environment due to their important role in agriculture. Women are their husband's main partner in agricultural work, even if they are not the head of the unit. From this, they can be well involved in family decisions regarding the amount and method of chemical fertilizer use.

Women are the transmitters of spiritual heritage and traditional environmental knowledge that must be rediscovered and exploited. Women are the main factor in reforming consumer culture due to the important role that women play in managing the home and educating children. Consumer culture, which has a special role in improving environmental behavior, is formed by women at home and among family members (Islam and Natural Resources Protection, 2012: 14-15).

If women have a good culture of water consumption, they can save water by passing this culture on to family members. Women can teach adolescents to avoid unnecessary personal car traffic and to reduce pollution by encouraging and promoting the use of public transportation; Dissemination of electricity consumption and encouraging the family to use detergents rationally and reduce their consumption will reduce groundwater pollution (Motavaze, 1998: 19).

The role of women is very effective in preserving and preventing deforestation. Less use of plastic and disposable containers, which are mostly used by families today in circles of joy and sorrow, will help to protect the environment if it is not used on a large scale. If women have a good environmental program for cleaning the house, washing their cars, separating the waste at the source and reusing the waste and dozens of other things. A large part of the environmental problems will be solved, but in achieving these goals and with the abilities of women, no doubt various environmental problems will be solved with your own hands (Afghanistan Environment, 2008: 22-23).

The most important problems that women face or play a pivotal role in the environment are:

- Currently, most women in underdeveloped countries have a smaller share in environmental development decisions and plans.
- The access of women in our country to formal and informal education is limited due to many jobs and long hours of work at home and at work; He has taken the time to use public education from them.
- The share of public education in the environmental debate is insufficient and inappropriate, and the mass media, especially television, do not have the necessary funding for this.
- Although it is always difficult to reach home. However, such problems must be combated in order to preserve and protect the environment (Department of Environment, 2013: 26-28).
- Effective environmental protection requires compatriots who are aware of the true value of the environment. This issue, together with their dynamism and ecological processes, forms the basis of human life and their welfare and comfort (Group of Authors, 2010: 14).

#### **Guarantee the implementation of environmental responsibilities.**

Every society has a kind of reward and punishment system in order to force the members to comply with the existing norms. Rewards or positive guarantees are the answers given to a person when he adapts to the standards.

Negative responses are the punishments that every person receives when he fails to comply with the standards. Rewards and punishments cover a wide range of formal (formal) and informal responses, enabling social oversight. Many sociologists believe that informal rewards and punishments are often more effective than formal guarantees, and certainly much more so.

Example: Admission to a group, promotion of a flame, increase of salary and benefits, getting an official incentive or obtaining a scholarship are some of the positive social rewards. Negative punishment includes imprisonment, loss of job and position, etc. (Coen, 2016: 258-259).

If the officials in Kabul Municipality can use a kind of reward and punishment system in a more extensive way on the citizens and municipal service staff, our country will undoubtedly see a clean city and a healthy environment in the not too distant future.

#### **Argument**

Shokoui, Hossein In 2006, in his book *New Perspectives on Urban Geography*, you write: Based on this logic, the most important and effective causes in the conscious path are to motivate and empower children, adolescents and young people against future environmental challenges and ways to prevent it; Education plays a key role.

For this reason, the main attention of international institutions, especially UNESCO, in the framework of encouraging and guiding the country's facilities, is focused on this area.

Motavaze, Engineer Gholam Hazrat wrote in 1998 in a book entitled Environment in Afghanistan: If women have a good culture in the field of water consumption, by transmitting this culture to family members, they can save water consumption. Women can teach adolescents to avoid unnecessary personal vehicle traffic and to reduce pollution by encouraging and promoting the use of public transportation; reducing the use of electricity and encouraging families to use detergents wisely and reduce their consumption will reduce groundwater pollution, and this will have a tremendous impact on a healthy environment.

In my opinion, before learning agriculture and discovering various techniques and tools, the human servant did not live to meet the needs of his life. He provided suitable food and natural resources (pasture, water, Animals) migrated. But since man learned agriculture and was able to make the tools he needs to live, he has become a successor, and since the villages were born, in fact, villages or hamlets are the first social centers of modern human life, so humans play a key role in keeping the environment healthy. Through dynamic education, they have an important and vital responsibility, and in this regard, women in the first place (because Renan prefers chastity and purity more than men), followed by men, girls and boys, each with their own constructive role, Have.

### Conclusion

This is the conclusion drawn from the topics covered in this scientific article. Urban centers are growing rapidly, Afghanistan is consuming increasing amounts of agricultural and energy goods. Due to increasing population in cities and high concentration of polluting sources such as: old vehicles, use of poor quality and unrefined fuels in winter and severe air pollution, incomplete regulation of waste collection, lack of sanitation (sewage disposal) and lack of access To clean drinking water, It hurts the citizens. Overall, in a country where more than 90 percent of the population relies directly on natural resources to provide for their daily needs, it is natural that the widespread environmental degradation of livelihoods poses a serious threat. More than three decades of war have severely damaged military activities, the relocation of refugees and the collapse of local, provincial and national governments, the lack of regulatory capacity, and the overuse of the Afghanistan Natural Resources Foundation. Poor people are more vulnerable to these environmental challenges due to lack of options, and they have to adjust to overcome this problem. Sustainable use and access to resources to achieve and maintain social stability and sustainable development in Afghanistan are still key factors. Finally, in order to have a healthy environment free from any pollution, it is an urgent need of the Afghan people, especially the citizens of Kabul. Which causes many diseases and the spread of Sari diseases, let us liberate both ourselves and our people.

### Proposal

1. Prevent population dispersal in large cities;
2. The environment should be included in the educational curriculum of the Ministry of Education in high school;
3. Prevent the movement of smoky cars in cities;
4. Roads and sidewalks should be paved to prevent dust in cities;
5. To prevent the cutting of fruitful and non-fruitful stones in cities, towns and cities;
6. Garbage dumps should be considered at the city level with the population of cities;
7. Less use of plastic and disposable containers in circles;
8. After using soft drinks and other food items, citizens throw the remaining materials in the garbage cans;
9. Awareness of the harms of the polluted environment through media such as: radio and television and print media;
10. Brochures and banners should be installed in cities and villages for the awareness of the people about the harms of the polluted environment.

### چکیده

حفظ مؤثر محیط زیست نیازمند هم میهنانی است که به ارزش واقعی محیط زیست آشنایی علمی داشته و مهارت عملی کردن دانش زیست محیطی خویش را در زندگی شهروندی و خانوادگی خود داشته باشند. این مسأله با مجموعه دینامیزم و فرایندهای اکولوژیکی شان زیربنای زندگی انسانها، رفاه و آسایش شان را تشکیل می دهد. در این مقاله علمی کوشش شده است تا نقش جوانان و نوجوانان را در حفظ محیط زیست سالم و عاری از هر گونه آلودگی به بررسی، فوکتورهای تأثیر گذار بر نقش جوانان را به معرفی بگیریم تا با مطالعه این رساله علمی هر فرد از افراد این جامعه، مخصوصاً جوانان که نیروی بالنده این سرزمین و مدیران آینده افغانستان هستند در چگونگی حفظ الصحة، محیط زیست مطمئن و عاری از هر گونه آلودگی احساس مسولیت نموده نقش سازندهای در حفاظت از محیط زیست سالم و پاک داشته باشند.

واژگان کلیدی: جوانان، محیط زیست، تعلیم و تربیه، توسعه پایدار، شهروند.

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