

Leading Role of Education (0027)

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Constitutions of almost all countries declare the necessity of gradual transformation of the society into a social society. Nowadays there is a task to form not only a civil social society but *an educational society* (1).

An educational society is a society in which the main target for every person turns out to be getting a proper education as the factor that satisfies the fundamental rights of people (as it is declared in the Declaration of Human Rights), which in its turn forms their responsibility for the development of the society and its biosphere on the whole on its way to noosphere (ноосфера) (3, 4). The main thing is the answer to the question what is the role of knowledge in present day social processes. The society that is coming after the modern society is supposed to be rather a *knowledge-based society, or a knowledge society* or a *learning society* than the society based on the extension of industry and knowledge.

The system of education in Russia though it has its own laws is closely connected with all dynamic processes that are happening in economy, social and political life of the present society which is striving for democratic innovations. Education in the modern world is part and parcel of the social reproduction that is why the socio-economic development of the society has its reflection in the system of the education on the whole and the functioning of its institutions in particular. At the same time education being a reflection of social and cultural processes in the society becomes a creative force that is capable of forming “human capital” (5,6). Education not only registers amendments in the society but also governs the evolutionary process, determines the type of the society that is being constructed.

It is but evident the relations between education and existing types of environment when you have a general overview over it. At present due to renovation tempo of techniques and technology, the demands of new labour management, economic challenges, marketisation there appeared the necessity of training new types of specialists who are capable of not only accumulating the experience of previous generations, being academically and professionally biased but also being multifunctionally trained for creative activities. Education as a social institute from being always somewhere behind social and economic processes in the society in Russia is gradually turning into a crucial stimulating factor that is correlated with perspective targets the present day society faces up to and which has an impact on the development and the enrichment of social-cultural traditions in the society. In this case the leading concept of the present day education turns to be a humanitarian concept of the education development, which means that education should be transformed into a new type. This type of education presupposes learning and acquisition of universal values, the latest achievements in science and technology, diversity in experience, which will help to reveal students' creativity on the basis of their self identification as subjects in the cultural and historic process.

Thus, education is a fundamental factor in nurturing a personality, in development of the society and the state and it is a strategic resource in providing national security of the country. Education creates and increases intellectual, spiritual and economic potential of the nation, helps to form a real Russian citizen. Education is a cultural basis of the society that can be regarded as a nonstandard social genetic mechanism of human social experience, which makes possible the realization of inner potential of a personality, of those natural forces in people that are the object of attention and influence.

There is every reason for us to say that the targets formulated above can be achieved upon only one ground – if the education has *a leading role* in the society. *The leading role of education* means first of all orientation of all educating activities and their results onto the perspective demands in economy, in industrial

and non industrial spheres. The leading role of education also means new quality in training specialists in teaching and professional spheres, it also means the formation with students striving for getting knowledge, for acquisition of new knowledge during the whole life, for continuing their activities as long as possible. *The leading role of education* presupposes not the adaptation of education institutes to the market system but rather correlation of their functioning and the market system. The latter is treated as a positive fact in present day Russia which stimulates and makes more dynamic all aspects of educational institutions of higher professional education. All mentioned above demands expansion of educational service, which presupposes vast diversity of training courses. The leading role of education also means the necessity to make a new model of secondary and professional education which answers all demands of present day social and economic relations in the society on the whole and social development.

As it turns out the system of education should be launched onto a creative and innovational level. But there is an unanswered question what are the strategic directions in which one can find the reflection of renovation processes at large. For the elaboration of the educational strategy in the country one must first of all make a system out of that non rejected by the mankind and the Man set of knowledge, faiths, cultures, technology. The demand of the present day situation in the system of education in Russia is that there should be real breakthroughs in the philosophy of education, in the policy of pedagogic and learning development (2).

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