

PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT — THE DUTY OF HUMANITY

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Annotation. This article, written from the perspective of a 6th grade student from Uzbekistan, explores the vital importance of protecting the natural environment in our daily lives. It examines how human activities such as deforestation, industrial pollution, and littering are causing irreversible harm to nature and, by extension, to human health. Drawing on the wisdom of great historical figures — Ibn Sino, Amir Temur, and the teachings of President Shavkat Mirziyoyev — the article argues that caring for the environment is not merely a civic duty but a deeply personal and moral responsibility. Through reflection and practical suggestions, the article calls on every individual to take small but meaningful steps toward protecting our shared planet.

Key words: environment, protection, nature, pollution, deforestation, health, responsibility, cleanliness, trees, ecology, Ibn Sino, Amir Temur, Mirziyoyev, Yashil Makon, future.

“ATROF-MUHITNI ASRASH — INSONIYAT BURCHI”

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Izoh. O'zbekistonlik 6-sinf o'quvchisi nuqtai nazaridan yozilgan ushbu maqola atrof-muhitni asrashning hayotimizdagi chuqur ahamiyatini o'rganadi. Unda daraxtlarni kesish, sanoat chiqindilari va axlat tashlash kabi insoniy faoliyatlar tabiatga va inson salomatligiga qanday zarar keltirishi muhokama qilinadi.

Kalit so'zlar: atrof-muhit, muhofaza, tabiat, ifloslanish, daraxt kesish, salomatlik, mas'uliyat, tozalik, ekologiya, Ibn Sino, Amir Temur, Mirziyoyev, Yashil Makon, kelajak.

The environment is one of the most important foundations of human life. Everything around us — the air we breathe, the water we drink, the soil that grows our food — is part of the natural world that sustains us. Without a clean and healthy environment, human beings cannot live healthy, productive, or meaningful lives. Yet today, all around the world, people are treating the environment with carelessness and indifference, as though it were an unlimited resource that will never run out.

In many parts of the world, people are cutting down forests at an alarming rate. Trees are the lungs of our planet — they absorb carbon dioxide and release the oxygen that every living being depends upon. When forests are destroyed, not only do countless species of animals lose their homes, but the very air quality that humans rely upon begins to deteriorate. In addition to deforestation, the rapid growth of factories and industries has led to increasing levels of air, water, and soil pollution. Year by year, the number of industrial plants grows, and with it, the volume of harmful gases and toxic waste released into the environment. If we remain indifferent to these problems, the consequences will not only affect Uzbekistan, but the entire population of the Earth.

One of the most visible signs of environmental neglect is the careless disposal of rubbish. Every day, people throw waste onto streets, into rivers, and across fields, polluting the places where they themselves live and walk. This is not only unpleasant to see — it is genuinely dangerous. Decomposing waste releases harmful substances into the soil and groundwater, contaminating the very resources that communities depend upon for drinking, cooking, and farming.

However, it does not require extraordinary effort to begin changing this situation. The most powerful environmental movements in history have always started with small, individual actions taken by ordinary people who cared. We can begin by planting flowers and trees in our courtyards, parks, and schools. We can make a habit of throwing our rubbish only into designated bins. When we see someone littering, we can politely and kindly explain why this behaviour is harmful and what damage it causes to our shared environment. These small acts, multiplied across thousands and millions of people, can bring about profound and lasting change.

The great Islamic scholar and physician Abu Ali Ibn Sino, who lived over a thousand years ago, understood the profound connection between the natural environment and human health. He once said: “If there were no dust and pollution in the air, a human being could live for a thousand years.” Through these words, Ibn Sino emphasised that clean air is not merely a comfort — it is a fundamental requirement for a long and healthy life. If one of history’s greatest minds recognised the importance of environmental cleanliness so many centuries ago, then surely we, in the modern age, have an even greater responsibility to protect the world around us.

Another great figure from Uzbekistan’s history who understood the value of the natural world was the great statesman and military commander Amir Temur. Throughout his reign, Amir Temur devoted significant attention to the creation of gardens and orchards, the digging of irrigation canals, and the cultivation and beautification of the lands under his care. His legacy reminds us that a truly great leader is not only one who builds armies and empires — but one who nurtures the land and ensures that it flourishes for generations to come. If our ancestors showed such deep respect for nature, how can we, their descendants, afford to do any less?

Today, the President of Uzbekistan, Shavkat Mirziyoyev, continues this great tradition of environmental stewardship. Under his leadership, numerous initiatives have been launched to improve the ecological situation across the country. Most notably, the nationwide “Yashil Makon” (“Green Space”) project has resulted in the planting of millions of trees and seedlings across Uzbekistan. This programme stands as a powerful example that protecting the environment is not only the duty of individual citizens, but also a priority of the state at the highest level. The actions of our president should inspire each and every one of us to contribute to this vital cause.

I do not wish to suggest that everywhere around us is dirty or beyond repair. On the contrary, I believe that if even a small number of people begin to care for the little corner of the world around them — their street, their school, their neighbourhood — the cumulative effect will be enormous. A single tree planted today may shade and cool a street for a hundred years to come. A single piece of rubbish placed in a bin rather than thrown onto the ground may prevent a river from being polluted. These may seem like tiny gestures, but they carry within them the seeds of a better world.

Conclusion

Protecting the environment is one of the most important duties of every human being on this Earth. By caring for nature, we are ultimately caring for ourselves — for our health, our happiness, and our future. The great thinkers and leaders of our past, from Ibn Sino to Amir Temur, understood this truth deeply, and they left us an example worth following. Today, under the guidance of President Shavkat Mirziyoyev, Uzbekistan is taking meaningful steps toward a greener, cleaner, and more beautiful future. But the responsibility does not end with governments and great leaders. It rests with each one of us — in the choices we make every day, in the habits we form, and in the values we pass on to the next generation. To protect nature is to protect the future. And the future begins today, with each of us.

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