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STUDENT LIFE: A TRANSLATOR-STUDENT'S VIEW ON CULTURES BETWEEN UZBEKISTAN AND THE UNITED STATES

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ABSTRACT

This article looks at how student life and education are different and similar in Uzbekistan and the United States. It covers living situations, making friends, activities outside of class, money matters, what students study, and family life. The article also shows how translation helps understand these differences, making education better for everyone.

KEYWORDS

Student Life, Education Systems, Uzbekistan, United States, Cultural Differences, Academic Structures, Social Interactions, Financial Support, Family Influence, Comparison, Translation.

INTRODUCTION

Education is different around the world, shaped by culture and traditions. I have studied in both Uzbekistan and the United States, which gives me a unique view of how education works in these countries. This article compares student life in Uzbekistan and the US, looking at living arrangements, social life, activities, money issues, what students study, and family roles. It also explains how translation

helps people understand these differences and improves education for everyone.

Literature Review

This review looks at how student life is affected by cultural differences, focusing on students in Uzbekistan and the United States. It discusses the

work of Cody Perry, Oyeniyi Odunola, and other researchers.

Cody Perry's research shows that international students in the United States have a positive impact. Perry explains that these students help American students become more aware of different cultures and also contribute to the economy [3, 1]. This means having students from other countries can make education more interesting and valuable for everyone by bringing in new ideas and perspectives.

Oyeniyi Odunola's study looks at the challenges international students face, especially during their first year at U.S. colleges. Odunola finds that these students often struggle with adjusting to a new culture and usually stick to interacting with other international students [2, 122]. This suggests that they need extra help to adapt and make friends.

Sasné Grósz Annamária, Xia Dehua, and Lang Letícia Anikó also add to this discussion. They point out that while social networks are important for both local and international students, international students often have trouble communicating due to language barriers. [1, 8] This can make it harder for them to connect with local students and residents.

In summary, the research shows that cultural differences greatly affect student life, including how students interact and deal with academic challenges. The findings from Perry, Odunola, and others help us understand these effects better. This background sets the stage for discussing how translation can help bridge these cultural gaps and improve student experiences.

Main Part

As someone who has been a student in both the United States and Uzbekistan, I have a unique view of how education works in these two places. I got my first Bachelor's degree in Uzbekistan before studying more in the U.S. Therefore, I can clearly see how different and sometimes similar student life can be in both countries. From how classes are set up to how students interact, there are lots of things that stand out when education and student life in these two countries are compared.

In Uzbekistan, students usually live with their families while going to university. This helps them stay close to their family, who support and help them a lot. For example, their parents can provide some emotional support and guidance when education gets difficult, and they get to enjoy home-cooked meals. In the US, students often live by themselves. This teaches them to take care of things on their own, like managing money, cooking, and cleaning, thus becoming more independent and mature.

Making friends is another aspect which is different in both countries. In Uzbekistan, students quickly become friends with their classmates because they study together for 4 years, and groupmates usually do not change till graduation. They celebrate birthdays and share traditions, creating memories that last a long time. In the US, making friends can be harder because students have new classmates every semester. Sometimes, students who sit next to each other for months might not even know each other's names by the end of it.

Activities outside of class are also organized differently. In Uzbekistan, students might not have many school-organized events, so they make their own fun. They might throw parties, visit places like Bukhara,

or celebrate special occasions together. In the US, there are lots of clubs and teams to join, which are organized by the student's union or student body. Most learners can find groups that match their interests, whether it's sports, arts, or anything else.

Money plays a big part in how students in Uzbekistan and the United States experience school. In Uzbekistan, students get some money as a stipend every month from the government to help with school costs. If they do really well on entrance exams, they might not have to pay for school at all. This is great for students who do not have a lot of money because it lets them focus on studying without worrying about how to pay for school. In the US, students have to figure out how to pay for their education. They might use scholarships, take out loans, or work part-time jobs. This can be stressful because they have to think about money a lot, even while they are trying to study and do well in school.

When it comes to what students study, there are also big differences. In Uzbekistan, the government decides what students will learn, and students cannot really choose their subjects. This makes sure everyone learns the same thing, so if some classes are not interesting or are difficult, the student has no choice and still needs to take these classes. In the US, students can pick from many different subjects and majors. They can even change their major if they find something they like more. This lets students study what they are really interested in and can help them find the right job later on.

Moreover, in Uzbekistan, schools have a set plan for what students learn. Teachers lead the classes, and

students follow along. If you are studying a certain subject, like engineering, you do not choose your classes; they are already fixed. In the US, students get to pick many of their classes. Even if they choose a major, they can still take other classes that interest them or change their major if they find something else they like more. This way, students can explore different subjects and find out what they really love to do.

Family life also affects students in both countries. In Uzbekistan, many students are married and have kids while they go to school. This means they have to take care of their families while they study, which can be hard but is normal there. In the US, most students are not married and do not have kids while they are in college. They usually wait until they have finished school and started their careers. This means American students often do not have the same family responsibilities and can focus more on school.

When it comes to exams, Uzbekistan and the US handle them differently as well. In Uzbekistan, a lot depends on the final exams. These exams are really important and can decide a big part of a student's grade. Students spend a lot of time trying to remember everything for these exams. In the US, grades come from different things, not just one big test. Students get grades for homework, projects, and being part of the class. This helps students do a little bit at a time instead of having all the pressure on one final test. It also means teachers look at more than just test scores to see how students are doing.

In addition to my experiences as a student, I have also worked as a translator and guide in Bukhara. I have volunteered at several festivals and conferences, helping visitors and participants understand each

other despite language barriers. This role has deepened my appreciation for how translation can bridge cultural gaps and enhance mutual understanding. My work in translation has shown me firsthand the power of language to connect people from different backgrounds, making it easier for them to share ideas and experiences.

CONCLUSION

In summary, student life in Uzbekistan and the United States has many differences and some similarities. Each country's education system has its own strengths and challenges, from how students live and make friends to how they study and handle money. Translation helps bridge these differences, making it easier for students from different backgrounds to understand each other. My experiences in both countries show how important it is to recognize, respect, and translate these differences to support all students, no matter where they are. By doing so, we can create inclusive and supportive learning environments for everyone.

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