



International Journal of Innovative Technologies in Social Science

e-ISSN: 2544-9435

Scholarly Publisher
RS Global Sp. z O.O.
ISNI: 0000 0004 8495 2390

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Poland 00-773
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editorial_office@rsglobal.pl

ARTICLE TITLE

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NATIONAL EDUCATION, CULTURE AND ARTS WORK AMONG
CITIZENS OF MONGOLIA

ARTICLE INFO

Ichinnorov Oyun, Jalbajav Nanzad. (2025) Some Methodological Approaches to Patriotic National Education, Culture and Arts Work Among Citizens of Mongolia. *International Journal of Innovative Technologies in Social Science*. 2(46). doi: 10.31435/ijitss.2(46).2025.3305

DOI

[https://doi.org/10.31435/ijitss.2\(46\).2025.3305](https://doi.org/10.31435/ijitss.2(46).2025.3305)

RECEIVED

28 April 2025

ACCEPTED

10 June 2025

PUBLISHED

16 June 2025

LICENSE



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SOME METHODOLOGICAL APPROACHES TO PATRIOTIC NATIONAL EDUCATION, CULTURE AND ARTS WORK AMONG CITIZENS OF MONGOLIA

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ABSTRACT

Mongolian patriotism is a complex idea that is shaped by the country's history, nomadic roots, and interactions with the global community. It is demonstrated through cultural preservation, artistic endeavors, and a deep sense of national pride, often showcased through traditional practices and customs. This blend of tradition and modernity creates a unique patriotic spirit in Mongolian society.

This study explores the complex nature of patriotic ideology among Mongolian citizens and its manifestation through cultural and artistic endeavors. Patriotism in Mongolia is defined as a strong attachment to one's homeland, influenced by traditional values and historical and contemporary social factors. The research investigates how patriotic education functions as a means of safeguarding national security and cultural heritage in the face of globalization and socio-economic changes.

Various strategies for promoting patriotic values are examined, including reforms in governance, education, and financial support systems. The study emphasizes the important roles of families, schools, cultural institutions, media, and the Armed Forces in nurturing patriotic sentiment. It also addresses the challenges posed by market forces, declining morals, and external influences that threaten national identity.

The study suggests that effective patriotic education should blend traditional Mongolian values with modern democratic principles, drawing on the country's unique cultural heritage and nomadic traditions. It concludes that enhancing patriotic ideology requires collaborative efforts across society, guided by strong leadership and a commitment to justice, to safeguard Mongolia's independence, security, and cultural richness.

KEYWORDS

Homeland, Patriotic Education, Values, National Values, Consciousness, Culture, Cultural Activities, Mindset, Rule of Law, Justice, Exemplary Leadership Management

CITATION

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Introduction.

The importance of patriotic education in safeguarding a country's independence and security is emphasized through various concepts and discussions. Scholars and researchers have explored the values of patriotism and the role of culture, art, and educational institutions in promoting patriotic ideals. The need for reform in management and financial systems to support patriotic education is also highlighted. Additionally, the involvement of families, schools, and civil society organizations is crucial in fostering a sense of patriotism among citizens. The role of the Armed Forces and military service in instilling patriotic values is recognized, along with the importance of innovative approaches to patriotism and education.

In Ya. Tseveli's "Brief Dictionary of the Mongolian Language," patriotism is described as a deep connection to one's place of birth, country, or homeland, where one has been raised and inherited a particular

nation, ethnic group, culture, education, or tradition. It also includes the idea of loving one's homeland and people and being willing to make sacrifices for their sake. A patriot is someone who holds their homeland in their heart, loves it wholeheartedly, and is willing to fight and defend it, even at the risk of their own life and limb. There are numerous interpretations of patriotism, with more than 460 formulations mentioned in the book "Transitional Society: Problems of Reform and Civilization" by Russian and Mongolian scholars.

In Western democracies and developed civil society countries (such as the United States), individuals who pay legal taxes on their income earned through honest labor and talent are often considered "patriots." The concept of "Homeland" is viewed as a reality that exists beyond human consciousness and thought. "Patriotism" is seen as the reflection and representation of this reality in human consciousness, shaping a person's attitude towards their homeland. In psychology, being a patriot involves various aspects such as understanding, feeling, opinion, action, and internal motivation, all of which are influenced by factors like education, upbringing, courage, and attitude. Patriotism and upbringing encompass a person's intellectual and physical attributes, including worldview, beliefs, aspirations, courage, physical and mental strength, and the environment in which they develop. This highlights the importance of education in instilling values such as integrity, morality, human conscience, and physical and mental resilience in individuals.

The "Program for Developing Patriotic Nationalism and Education of Mongolian Citizens" defines patriotism and education as the genuine desire, initiative, and willingness of Mongolian citizens to dedicate their lives, bodies, talents, education, and strength to safeguard and enhance the independence, security, and progress of the state, rooted in love for their homeland and pride in historical and cultural values.

Depending on the process and outcomes of social reform, it is natural for an individual's life goals, orientations, actions, ideals, or spiritual aspirations to evolve and adapt to the surrounding society and political environment, and even change their worldviews. It is often said that the nature of society reflects the nature of its citizens. For instance, in the past, the core of Mongolian citizens' consciousness and thinking revolved around spiritual elements such as religion and ideology.

Furthermore, the desire of Mongolian people to lead a fulfilling life free from want or need, though constrained by ideology, held significance in their lives. With the acquisition of property rights by Mongolian citizens, basic material necessities such as food, clothing, shelter, and transportation have become essential, leading to a prevailing emphasis on property ownership and wealth accumulation in their value system. Additionally, in advanced industrialized nations, the primary motivation for workers is meeting their material needs, with non-material interests driving human actions and behaviors only in post-industrial societies, as confirmed by scientists and researchers.

In this age of democracy and market relations, a new social structure and stratification have emerged in society, leading to increased conflicts of interest between social groups and a widening gap between the rich and the poor. The philosophy of "If God wills, then fate will be sought" has become prevalent in social thinking, leading to a rise in selfishness and the worship of money, while awareness of common values and goals has diminished. In general, if economic market relations, private property, business freedom, and various biased perspectives are left unchecked, they can become a destabilizing force that threatens national unity and societal cohesion.

Ultimately, the concept of patriotism is inevitably influenced by the socio-economic progress of the nation. Despite any revolutionary changes that may occur, the deep-rooted sense of "water that washed the fallen land" and the unwavering feelings of independence, prosperity, and pride for their homeland remain ingrained in the hearts of the Mongolian people. It is crucial to preserve and nurture this pure and crystal-clear soul, as it serves as a cornerstone for the strength and resilience of both the state and its citizens.

It is not a coincidence that society is currently facing a moral decline in certain aspects. Factors such as corruption, the pursuit of easy wealth, a political and social environment that limits individual expression, the politicization of even the family unit, high levels of unemployment and poverty all contribute to the erosion of social morality. This decline not only diminishes people's motivation to achieve success through honest means and lead a virtuous life, but also undermines social responsibility and the influence of government and societal leaders. It poses a threat to the peace of mind and well-being of individuals and society as a whole. Furthermore, the challenges in providing essential public services like education, upbringing, enlightenment, and healthcare can have repercussions on national security.

Therefore, it is crucial in the current era to focus on educating the populace and fostering patriotism, education, and a sense of pride in national heritage. These elements serve as the intellectual defense mechanism for the nation's survival, progress, and cultural advancement.

In modern times, it is widely believed that patriotic nationalism and the education of Mongolian citizens should be seen as a shared sentiment, awareness, and intellectual inner strength characterized by selfless

dedication to the defense and development of the homeland, as well as an active role in society. This sentiment has been passed down through generations in the Mongolian cultural heritage. Philosopher B. Dash-Yondon references the poem "The feeling for Mongolia is tied to our hearts" by the great Natsagdorj to illustrate the deep emotions of Mongolians towards their country. He emphasizes the importance of strengthening this bond rather than weakening it, highlighting the idea that as children of the Motherland, it is our duty to love and protect our homeland as we would our own children. Those who fail to connect with their Motherland are at risk of exploitation by outsiders or may even collaborate with them, leading to unjust enrichment. These words underscore the significance of patriotic values in guiding individuals towards honorable behavior and active engagement in society.

Recently, numerous researchers have provided interpretations and explanations regarding the significance and objectives of patriotic education as the endeavor to uphold and reinforce the cherished values of Mongolia and its people. These values serve as the essence and foundation of the homeland, symbolizing:

- The independence and sovereignty of Mongolia, safeguarded by its citizens, along with the assurance of their rights and liberties,
- The bountiful homeland bestowed upon Mongolians by the eternal heavens,
- The unparalleled Mongolian civilization, national heritage, rooted in nomadic animal husbandry, traditional Mongolian lifestyle, and customs,
- The unique Mongolian state and military organization methods,
- The social structure of Mongolia, reflecting the will and choice of its people, embodied in the constitutional democratic state system,
- The rich intellectual culture and heritage of the Mongolian people, encompassing language, literature, poetry, music, science, and educational practices,
- The authentic national history of Mongolia, as chronicled in historical texts like the Secret History of Mongolia, the Golden History, the White History of the Ten Virtuous Books, and the Crystal Epic, as well as scholarly works,
- The global reputation and standing of Mongolia and its citizens.

There is a noticeable increase in the tendency to associate national values with the Mongolian family, seen as the foundation of the Mongolian people and citizens of Mongolia. Among these, patriotism and education are considered the most precious ideals that every Mongolian citizen should hold dear, representing the utmost symbol of loyalty.

Note: The concept of values refers to the socially and generally accepted significance of an object (such as things or phenomena being evaluated) for the evaluator. In philosophical and cultural terms, values do not pertain to specific tangible items that hold value, but rather to the importance and worth of those items or phenomena (e.g., history, pride, patriotic education, etc.) from an abstract perspective. Values are those things that are widely accepted in society and within a particular nation, shaping their beliefs, behaviors,

President of Mongolia and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces U.Khurelsukh:

The pride and value of Mongolia should be its people, intelligence, history, heritage, art, customs, and traditions. Educating Mongolians with a strong sense of national identity is crucial for maintaining the country's independence. Patriotic nationalism education should focus on instilling national values that are cherished by all citizens of Mongolia. Adapting educational activities to the current social environment is essential for strengthening internal resources and harnessing patriotic nationalism as a positive force.

Throughout history, various entities like the Great Mongol Empire, the Bogd Khanate of Mongolia, and the Mongolian People's Republic have utilized religion and ideology to influence social consciousness. They enforced a "state ideology" through state power and legal systems to ensure compliance and obedience. Today, as human consciousness evolves, civil rights, freedoms, and dignity play a crucial role in society. These rights include private property protection, socio-economic and political assurances, and access to quality state services. To promote sustainable socio-economic development, enhance individual growth, ensure security,

raise living standards, and establish justice, fostering patriotic nationalism should align closely with state policies. It is imperative for the State to promote patriotic ideals, educate citizens, and create a conducive environment for a fulfilling life in their homeland. Citizen engagement and public involvement should form the foundation of educational efforts.

There is much discussion, writing, and debate surrounding the system and approaches to promoting patriotic education. In our view, two key issues are at play here.

Management and leadership reform; The state's "ideology" work and actions are characterized by abstraction, theorization, and shaping, which can be overwhelming for ordinary people and may not serve as a motivating factor for their actions and activities. State and civil society organizations and officials are recognizing the need for more effective measures. It is essential to provide continuous education and influence from birth to instill the values of living rightly, thinking rightly, and learning rightly. The key components of this influential environment are believed to be the family, educational institutions, and work colleagues. Progress is being made in this regard, as it is understood that human upbringing and development should be guided by specific goals at every stage of life, from home to various educational and work settings, all aimed at developing Mongolian citizens. Scientific and professional leadership, accurate information, research, sincere efforts, and responsibility are crucial in achieving this unified goal.

Financial management, also known as the skill of acquiring funds, is essential in a society with established market relationships. It is crucial for the successful execution of any worthwhile endeavor. In Mongolia, there are numerous philanthropists who support noble causes, making it important to understand their goals and utilize this opportunity effectively. Each citizen, regardless of their social status or profession, will have their own distinct approach to fostering patriotism and nationalism in order to achieve their objective.

It is crucial to focus on the eternal existence and development of the Mongolian people, their homeland, and the state. Justice and moral leadership play a vital role in strengthening citizens' faith in themselves, their creative abilities, and their government. The impact of over 200 years of Manchu rule, foreign power worship, suppression of Mongolian faith, and globalization still lingers. Dr. and Professor S. Odkhui highlights the challenges faced by Mongols due to foreign influences, emphasizing the need to preserve their original characteristics and national identity.

If we doubt the immense creative abilities of our people, we open ourselves up to external influences. Mongolians hold a strong belief in the continuous growth of life, which involves honoring the eternal sky and earth, taking pride in their distinct culture, following the law, showing respect to their ancestors, parents, and nation. Scholars like L. Tudev, Dr. Ch. Dalai, and D. Lhaashid have emphasized that this belief is deeply rooted in the essence of every Mongolian.

It is important to highlight that patriotism always carries a national essence and hue. Its purpose is to safeguard and uphold the values, interests, and identity of the nation, which are ingrained in the distinct characteristics of the country and its people (including their mindset, cultural uniqueness, historical roots, etc.). Scholars argue that the statement by French writer Francois Mauriac, "Every nation has its own distinct characteristics," encapsulates this idea. Some researchers, like Dr. M. Bum-Ochir, assert that Mongolian people are inherently nomadic, pastoralists, and closely connected to nature. Both foreign and domestic scholars have observed that Mongolians possess positive traits such as adaptability, sharp intellect, and resilience, as well as negative traits like stubbornness and a tendency to procrastinate in problem-solving. These qualities shape the unique intellectual worldview of nomadic Mongols and play a crucial role in their upbringing. In patriotism, the focus is on preserving the unique aspects of national culture and civilization, safeguarding its values, enhancing the independent existence and development potential of the Mongolian people, and nurturing their wisdom, culture, art, talents, and heritage. These objectives determine the essence and approaches of patriotic endeavors, giving them a distinctly "national" character.

It is emphasized that patriotic education is a shared responsibility that requires talent, expertise, and resources from both the state and the public. All levels of government, government organizations, and officials play a crucial role in fostering patriotic nationalism in every citizen of Mongolia, strengthening the preservation of national heritage and culture. They will develop and implement state policies, uphold social justice, and organize measures to ensure the security of the state, society, and citizens. Leading the masses in respecting the rule of law and promoting honesty and talent is essential for enhancing the capacity, prestige, and influence of society and state management, which is vital for instilling patriotism.

All levels of education, including families, schools, and kindergartens, should take a leading role in the patriotic education of citizens. Each family should maintain a family history, honor its ancestors, parents, and elders, and pass down the valuable traditions of national customs such as "loving and protecting the land where they fell and the water where they washed" to their children. They should respect their customs and, in a way, enhance national pride. The current era requires significant changes to be made to the school curricula at all levels, focusing on studying the history and cultural heritage of the country. It is essential to consistently organize active methods of work, such as field trips and clubs dedicated to patriotic education, within the framework of cultural, artistic, and educational activities for the younger generation. Our youth lack information about their peers in foreign countries and about talented young individuals who are advancing their education and careers while bringing honor to their nation. It is important to address this issue.

The education system for the younger generation should embrace new information technologies and scientific advancements. Today, young people have access to a wealth of information through the Internet and modern communication tools, allowing them to connect with peers globally. Mongolian youth who have studied and worked in developed countries have firsthand experience with democracy and freedom, as well as a deeper understanding of their own culture and heritage. This exposure to different cultures provides valuable insights that can help shape a more inclusive and democratic education system.

The extensive life experience and invaluable values of the elderly are crucial in promoting patriotism and education. It is important to highlight that the elderly play a significant role in instilling patriotism in the younger generation, fulfilling a social need and demand.

It is believed that establishing a mechanism to promote their involvement in patriotic education, enhancing social care and attention to their daily lives, broadening the scope of social protection and welfare, and offering comprehensive assistance and support for maintaining their health are not only the legal responsibilities of all government organizations and their leaders, but also a fundamental approach to enhancing social morality. This is a crucial factor in strengthening the connection between the elderly and the younger generation and fostering a healthy moral environment in society that genuinely respects the elderly, their accomplishments, and their contributions.

The traditional national culture and art of any country not only reflect the unique essence of the nation and its people's way of life but also have a broader impact on the national security of that country and its people. The heritage, culture, traditions, national songs, dances, music, paintings, sculptures, family structure, religion, language, literature, and wisdom of the Mongolian people represent the distinctive culture and art of the Mongolian nation.

We, as a people, cherish and uphold valuable traditions that are the foundation of world civilization. These include the ancient vertical Uyghur Mongolian script, the versatile horse fiddle capable of playing diverse music, melodious songs echoing across the vast steppes, and meaningful music that resonates deeply.

Mongolians hold a deep love for their homeland, reverence for their state, adherence to laws, respect for elders and parents, warm hospitality, commitment to peace, justice, and unwavering loyalty to friendship. These admirable qualities are beautifully expressed in songs like "Ertniy nanke," poems such as "Minyi thath" and "Bi khaana turuo ve," the enchanting music of "Tsogt taij" and "Sersen tal," and the artistry of Mongolian films, leaving a lasting impression on Mongolian culture.

The role of national cultural and artistic professional organizations and artists, such as cultural and artistic professional workers, writers, painters, composers, architects, and theater actors, is crucial in preserving and passing down the valuable aspects of national culture, art, consciousness, thought, and behavior across generations. These individuals and organizations serve as powerful tools in fostering patriotic nationalism. Inheriting and transmitting the precious values of intellect and thought through art and culture is unmatched in its effectiveness. However, there is a noticeable absence of new works with military-patriotic themes that can rival classics like "Genghis", "Mongol language", "Mongol boy", "Hot elgen thara", "Our military glory", and "Ekh oron" in today's cultural landscape.

All media organizations have a significant role to play in revitalizing and nurturing national patriotism among Mongolians. They should be at the forefront of efforts to promote patriotism.

As long as Mongolia has existed as an independent state and has needed to ensure its national security and defense, it is believed that military, patriotism, and education should be the cornerstone of citizens' patriotism and education. Since the military is a hot weapon of the homeland, it is the shield, eyes, and ears of the homeland, and patriotism is more sensitive than that of others. The military's strict discipline, order, and official relations governed by laws and regulations, dangerous and risky work requiring physical and mental strength, courage, intelligence, and ingenuity, and the special responsibility of protecting the homeland as

stipulated in the Constitution are a solid foundation for the education, maturity, and toughness of military and patriotic consciousness.

For example, military and police officers who have served in a foreign land and in a dangerous and risky environment love their homeland, are proud of it, and their sense of responsibility is balanced, and they become patriots with the physical and mental strength and courage to take on any responsibility. It is said that the blue helmeted warrior who fulfilled his duty saw the clear blue sky, vast land, and peaceful people of his homeland and was filled with indescribable pride in his destiny to be born as a Mongolian and to be the owner of this beautiful country. Now, a whole army of blue helmets has been formed in Mongolia, and it is a powerful reserve force of patriotic consciousness and education. I believe that making full use of this great resource is one way to activate the patriotic education and enlightenment of citizens.

Throughout Mongolia's history as an independent nation, the importance of military, patriotism, and education in safeguarding national security has been emphasized. The military is seen as a vital tool for protecting the homeland, serving as its shield, eyes, and ears. Patriotism is considered a key aspect of citizenship, with military service instilling discipline, order, and a strong sense of responsibility. Those who serve in the military or police force in challenging environments often develop a deep love for their homeland and a strong sense of duty. The blue helmeted warriors who have served abroad return with a renewed appreciation for Mongolia's beauty and a sense of pride in their heritage. The formation of a dedicated force of blue helmets in Mongolia serves as a valuable resource for promoting patriotic education and fostering a sense of national pride among citizens. Leveraging this resource can help to enhance patriotic consciousness and education in the country.

Enhancing the involvement of military personnel in disaster relief, peacekeeping, and peacekeeping missions, such as training civil servants in national defense knowledge and skills, delivering humanitarian aid to the population, and promoting and upholding peace, is a crucial service that the military should offer to foster patriotism among the people.

In today's world, military service and life are constantly evolving to align with societal advancements. The key aspects of this evolution include:

1. Changes in the perspectives, beliefs, and values of Mongolian citizens who serve in the Armed Forces, reflecting a diverse range of interests, opinions, and social backgrounds. This has led to a shift in the social makeup of state military organizations.

2. The adaptation of military service laws and regulations to meet international standards and the demands of civil society. This involves ensuring inclusivity, minimizing restrictions on human rights and freedoms during military service, promoting a safe environment, upholding human dignity, and fostering a transparent and humane military culture within legal boundaries.

3. Mongolians have always viewed military service as a valuable educational and training opportunity for young people. Those who complete their military service emerge with physical and mental strength, improved communication skills, and the ability to take on various roles within their community. The Armed Forces and state military organizations have undergone reforms, allowing the Mongolian military to not only protect the country but also participate in international peacekeeping missions and contribute to national development. This evolution reinforces the idea that military service is a vital institution for fostering patriotism, civic responsibility, and resilience among Mongolian youth.

The leadership of the Defense and Armed Forces has successfully positioned military service as an appealing and lifelong career option for young individuals, aiding in their personal development as responsible citizens, active members of society, and planners of their future. It is evident that there is a current deficiency in high-quality, articulate, persuasive, confident, and insightful articles and programs regarding the nation, its historical development, ongoing reforms, and the values of Mongolian patriotism and military heroism. It is essential to acknowledge our shortcomings in effectively communicating the importance of enhancing efforts to educate our citizens on defense objectives and the role of the Armed Forces, emphasizing the need for fresh and engaging content.

The leadership of the Defense and Armed Forces has successfully positioned military service as an appealing and lifelong opportunity for young individuals, aiding in their personal growth as responsible citizens, societal contributors, and future planners.

It is evident that there is a current deficiency in high-quality, articulate, persuasive, confident, and impactful articles and programs that highlight the nation's progress, historical values, reform efforts, and Mongolian patriotism and military valor. It is essential to acknowledge our shortcomings in effectively

communicating the importance of enhancing public awareness and understanding of defense objectives and the Armed Forces through innovative and engaging content.

Our nation is currently facing challenging times. Conflict between power centers and nations is escalating in various regions of the world, leading to the sound of weapons and the looming threat of war. Global warming is causing the ice sheets to melt, damaging the ozone layer that shields life from harm, depleting the soil, drying up numerous lakes and rivers, and resulting in the thinning of forests and declining wildlife populations.

During such times, it is the noble duty of state military organizations to support the initiative of the President of Mongolia and the Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces in enlightening the people, fostering patriotic nationalism, promoting national unity, advocating for love of mother nature, tree planting, and promoting a healthy lifestyle. This initiative is a key objective in the efforts to educate soldiers and citizens, instill patriotic values, and promote national unity. It plays a crucial role in laying the spiritual groundwork for the implementation of the "National Resilience Strategy" put forth by the Mongolian State and Administration, including President U. Khurelsukh, the Government, and the National Defense Leadership under Minister S. Byambatsogt. Building national unity through a shared sense of responsibility for the independence, security, development, and progress of the country is essential for achieving the goal of "preventing potential threats and disasters, mitigating their impact, and ensuring the capacity and readiness for recovery."

Conclusions

The examination of patriotic ideology among Mongolian citizens reveals critical insights for the nation's future. In an era of global challenges, patriotism serves as an intellectual framework essential for national security and cultural preservation, beyond just emotional attachment to the homeland.

The research shows that patriotic education in Mongolia requires a comprehensive approach involving various stakeholders. The state, educational institutions, cultural organizations, families, media, and the Armed Forces all play crucial roles in fostering patriotic consciousness. However, reforms in management and financial support are needed for these efforts to be effective in today's social environment.

Patriotism in Mongolia reflects the country's unique nomadic heritage, historical experiences, and cultural values. Challenges such as market economics, moral decline, and external influences call for strategies to preserve national identity while embracing global engagement positively. The erosion of traditional values through corruption, materialism, and socioeconomic disparities poses a threat to patriotic sentiment.

Culture and art play a significant role in transmitting patriotic values across generations. Traditional Mongolian music, literature, script, and customs are powerful in expressing and reinforcing national identity. However, there is a lack of contemporary creative works addressing patriotic themes with the same impact as historical classics, highlighting the need for renewed support for cultural production aligned with national values.

Military service remains essential in patriotic education, adapting to modern requirements while developing responsible citizens committed to national defense. Mongolian forces' participation in international peacekeeping missions contributes to promoting patriotic consciousness among the population.

In conclusion, as Mongolia faces challenges like geopolitical tensions and environmental degradation, strengthening patriotic ideology is crucial. The National Resilience Strategy initiated by President U. Khurelsukh provides a framework for unifying these efforts. By fostering genuine patriotism rooted in traditional values and contemporary realities, Mongolia can enhance its capacity for independence, security, and sustainable development. Exemplary leadership, social justice, and active citizen engagement are essential for preserving and advancing Mongolia's unique civilization.

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