
Interview of Aydin Ahmadov, Head of Preschool and Common Education Department of The Ministry of Education to Lent.az information agency.

Patriotism education is very important for formation of love to Homeland and feeling of love, citizen responsibility, readiness for defence of Homeland and nation. In this regard, correct organization of training-education work in educational establishments, has vital importance. We talked with **Aydin Ahmadov, Head of Preschool and Common Education Department of The Ministry of Education** regarding with envisaged issues and the actions that are performed in relevant sphere.

Mr. Aydin, how do you think can we consider organization condition of patriotism education of the students in current war condition of our country satisfactory?

- Purposeful and systematic actions are implemented on the direction of provision of patriotism education of young generation as one of most important directions of state youth policy in our country. Mass actions, enlightenment and agitation work implemented on this sphere, are aimed to ensure moral, physical psychological training of youth, also increase their love feeling to Homeland.

Correct organization of youth' patriotism education in the period of occupation of 20 percent of Azerbaijan Republic territory by Armenia, has great actuality. As well as, importance of protection of national- moral values in globalizing world, is always explained to the pupils.

The Ministry of Education implements wide actions for development of teaching of "Pre-conscription training of youth" explanation of military-patriotism feelings, increase of popularity of military-sport games in the secondary schools. Also, there is comprehensive support in organization of pre-conscription readiness of youth under level of modern requirements, also performance of the meetings, conferences, "Round tables", cultural-mass and other actions under actual issues of youth' patriotism education.

Subject of "Pre-conscription training" which is taught in X-XI classes of the secondary schools implies explanation of the details on Military Forces of Azerbaijan, military statute rules to the pupils, acquaintance with military life, physical and psychological readiness to military service, creation of belief on military service as duty and honourable work in pupils' minds, development of moral qualities as patriotism, faithfulness, endurance, boldness, discipline and personal responsibility, formation of civil defence and first medical aid capabilities.

It should be noted that, sometimes the opinions on possibility of teaching of "Pre-conscription readiness of youth" subject under lower grades in the secondary schools, are sounded. Actually, this is pedagogically substantiated opinion. So, the pupils should first of all know some topics of physics, chemistry, geometry and other relevant subjects in order to possess "Pre-conscription training of youth" subject. Secondly, determination of teaching of "Pre-conscription training of youth" subject for X-XI grades, at the same time optimal distribution of lesson burden of the pupils, are connected with children' physical readiness and moral-psychological maturity.

Can we consider that, we have fulfilled most important obligation as patriotism education of youth with teaching of "Pre-conscription training of youth" subject only at the schools?

- Undoubtly, teaching of this subject plays important role in patriotism education of youth. Besides, to confine patriotism education of youth with teaching of only one subject is out of reality. So, there is enough opportunities in order to explain patriotism education in teaching of all subjects, especially in humanitarian public subjects. Personal samples of the persons who demonstrated heroism in the battles for our motherland and lands, sports who raised our flag in international contests, public figures, scientist, writer and art figures are one patterns for the pupils.

Certainly, teaching of "Pre-conscription readiness of youth" subject, has significant position in possession of primary knowledges, patriotism education. But there still several problems. This is connected with staff and material teaching base. Systematic settlement of these problems, is

considered as one of core objectives regarding with improvement of teaching level of mentioned subject.

Learning of exemplary lessons on pre-conscription training of youth in the secondary schools, also stimulate increase of pupils' patriotism spirit. Organization of the same lessons will be continued in the next academic year.

Attestation of the teachers who teach "Pre-conscription training of youth" is envisaged. As well as, issue about involvement of reserve officers in "Pre-conscription training of youth", is discussed.

It should be noted that, the meetings of the pupils with National Heroes of Azerbaijan Republic, war veterans, are performed, detailed information about martyrs' life, action and bright dreams, is given.

How is the level of collaboration of The Ministry of Education with other governmental bodies on this sphere?

Taking into account importance of education of the learners in patriotism and statehood spirit, as well as great impact of primary military skills, ability and habits to youth development, "Cəsurlar", "Şahin", "Sərhəd" military-sport and tourism republic contests, are held traditionally among the pupils of main and secondary schools functioning in all region and cities of republic. Also, "Young rescue and fire-extinguishers" republic contest and "Young rescue" international tournament, creative contest on the topic of "Emergency situations with children's eyes" serve to the children to be ready for any emergency situations. Pupils have a great interest to such events held jointly by The Ministry of Education with The Ministry of Youth and Sports, The Ministry of Defense, The Ministry of Emergency Situations, The State Border Service, Republic Council of Voluntary Military Patriotism Technical Sport Society and Republic Veterans Union.

What actions are envisaged in order to increase efficiency of pupils' patriotism education?

As intensive character of the works performed under pupils' patriotism education in the secondary schools, by purpose to ensure consistency of the actions held on this sphere, form sense of loyalty to active citizen position and native land, dedication of first lesson on the topic of "My homeland-native land" in V-XI grades of the secondary educational establishments since 2013-2014 academic year, has been made.

Also, visits of the pupils to military units are organized in order to ensure close acquaintance of the pupils with soldier life. Pupils are informed about modern weapons and military techniques, operation rules, also special clothes of soldier and the officers envisaged for different weather condition, are demonstrated. Also, the pupils have a great interest to soldiers' inauguration ceremonies, exemplary performances of special forces and joint lunch with personnel.

By purpose to organize effective and unforgettable summer rest of junior and youth, also explanation of patriotism spirit to the pupils, "Şahinlər" military patriotism camps been organized in Guba region under project implemented jointly by Baku Education Department, Internal Troops of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Baku city Executive Power. More than 9 th year that, the pupils are taught military lessons by the members of special forces within framework of this current project, pupils meet the militants, they are acquainted with soldier life, learn row training, obtain primary military habits and visit to military units.

Such next such event on the direction of consolidation of juniors' patriotism education, will be organized together with The Ministry of Defence in Gusar region. Teachers of sport and youth' pre-conscription training working at region's secondary schools will be engaged in training-education of the children in the camp. Along with them, group which consist of the officers, sergeant and the soldiers of Internal Troops, were assigned to the camp. They will closely participate in military-readiness, training-education works.

At the same time, relevant action plan is being compiled by purpose to explain the pupils primary military notions, ensure higher level of youth' pre-conscription training and explanation of patriotism spirit to the pupils.