

A COMPARISON OF COMPULSORY AND PRIMARY EDUCATION SYSTEMS IN TURKEY AND IN TURKISH COUNTRIES

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ABSTRACT

After the dissolution of the USSR (25 December 1991), Turkish countries gain their liberty and constituted their education constitutions. The problem statement of this study can be expressed as: "When the compulsory education and the structures of primary education are compared what are the similarities and the differences in Turkey and in these 4 Turkish countries (Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan)?" Within the framework of a 12 year compulsory education 4 years, of primary, 8 years of secondary education (4 years of middle school (college) and 4 years of high school) were determined in Turkey. But in these 4 Turkish countries the compulsory education cover the primary and the secondary levels and it takes 11 years. When the the duration of primary education change in 3-4 years, it takes 4 years in Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan. Also, within this study, the structures of primary education systems in Turkey and in these 4 Turkish countries will analyze comparatively.

Key words: Turkey, Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, compulsory education, primary education.

INTRODUCTION

After the dissolution of the USSR (25 December 1991), Turkish countries gain their liberty and constituted their education constitutions. The liberty dates of 4 Turkish countries are cited in the table below:

Table 1: The Liberty Dates of 4 Turkish Countries

Liberty Dates of 4 Turkish Countries	
Turkish Countries	Their Liberty Dates
Azerbaijan	30/08/1991
Kyrgyzstan	31/08/1991
Uzbekistan	01/09/1991
Kazakhstan	16/12/1991

The articles'- about the right of education- constitutions of Turkish countries are demonstrated in the table below:

Table 2: Articles'- about the Right of Education- Constitutions of Turkish Countries

Articles'- about the Right of Education- Constitutions of Turkish Countries			
Azerbaijan (42 nd article)	Kyrgyzstan (45 th article)	Uzbekistan (41 st article)	Kazakhstan (30 th article)
1) Every citizen has the right for education.	1. Everyone shall have the right to education.	1. Every person has the right to education.	1. The citizens shall be guaranteed free secondary education in state educational establishments. Secondary education shall be obligatory.
2) The state guarantees free obligatory secondary education.	2. General basic education shall be compulsory. Everyone shall have the right to receive general basic and secondary basic education in state educational establishments free of charge.	2. The government guarantees free general education.	2. A citizen shall have the right to receive on a competitive basis a higher education in a state higher educational establishment.
3) The system of education is under the state control.	3. The State shall create conditions for teaching everyone in the state, official and one international language beginning from pre-school educational establishments until the general basic education.	3. School affairs are under the oversight of the government ³ .	3. The citizens shall have the right to pay and receive an education in private educational establishments on the basis and terms established by law.
4) The state guarantees continuation of education	4. The State shall create conditions for the development of public, municipal		4. The state shall set uniform compulsory

for most gifted persons and private educational establishments. irrespective of their financial position.

standards in education. The activity of any educational establishment must comply with these standards⁴.

5) The state establishes minimum educational standards¹

5. The State shall create conditions for the development of physical culture and sports².

Problem

The problem statement of this study can be expressed as: “When the compulsory education and the structures of primary education are compared what are the similarities and the differences in Turkey and in these 4 Turkish countries (Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan)?”

Aim

This study aims to demonstrate the similarities and the differences in compulsory education and primary level in Turkey and these 4 Turkish countries (Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan).

Method

The method of this study is literature method.

Compulsory Education in Turkey and 4 Turkish Countries (Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan)

The compulsory education in Turkey and 4 Turkish countries (Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan) are given in the table below:

Table 3: Compulsory Education in Turkey and 4 Turkish Countries (Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan)

Compulsory Education in Turkey and 4 Turkish Countries (Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan)				
Turkey	Azerbaijan	Kyrgyzstan	Uzbekistan	Kazakhstan
12 years: 4+4+4 ⁽⁵⁾	11 years: 4+4+3 ⁽⁶⁾	9 years: 3-4+5 ⁽⁷⁾	11: 4+4+3 ⁽⁸⁾	11: 4+4+3 ⁽⁹⁾

Primary Level in Turkey and 4 Turkish Countries (Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan)

In the table below, the duration of primary level in Turkey and Turkish countries (Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan) are compared

Table 4: Duration of Primary Level in Turkey and 4 Turkish Countries (Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan)

Duration of Primary Level in Turkey and 4 Turkish Countries (Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan)				
Turkey	Azerbaijan	Kyrgyzstan	Uzbekistan	Kazakhstan
4 years	4 years	3-4 years	4 years	4 years

As showed in the table 4, the durations of primary level in Turkey and Turkish countries such as Azerbaijan, Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan. But only in Kyrgyzstan, the duration of primary level takes 3-4 years.

Total population and population of primary teachers, population of primary pupils, net enrollment of primary level, weekly hours in primary level in Turkey and in Turkish countries

Table 5: Total population and population of primary teachers, population of primary pupils, net enrollment of primary level, weekly hours in primary level in Turkey and in Turkish countries (Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan)

	Turkey	Azerbaijan	Kyrgyzstan	Uzbekistan	Kazakhstan
Total population	75.622.384	9.300.000	5.213.898	29.559.100	16.91.000
Population of primary teachers	282.043	44.232	16.524	117.652	57.473
Population of primary pupils	5.593.910	490.242	399.833	2.071.317	956.019
Net enrollment of primary level	% 99	% 87	% 85,9	% 96	% 91 ⁽⁹⁾
Weekly hours in primary level	26-28-30	20-22	22-29	22-26	22-27 ⁽⁹⁾

(<http://www.tuik.gov.tr/UstMenu.do?metod=temelist>, <http://www.okulog.com/turkiyedeki-okul-ogretmen-ogrenci-sayisi.html>, <http://ikgm.meb.gov.tr/upload/TTK%C3%A7izelge.pdf>, Study on Teacher Education for primary and secondary education in six eastern partnership countries: Azerbaijan, World data on education 2010/2011: Azerbaijan, UIS Statistics in Brief Education all levels profile-Azerbaijan, Country Profile: Kyrgyzstan, January 2007, World data on education 2010/2011: Kyrgyz Republic, World data on education 2010/2011: Uzbekistan, Country Profile: Kazakhstan 2006, World development indicators 2012)

In Table 5, in Turkey, the total population is 75.622.384. The population of primary teachers is 282.043. The population of primary pupils is 5.593.910. The net enrollment of primary level is % 99. The weekly hours in primary is 26-28-30. In Azerbaijan, the total population is 9.300.000. The population of primary teachers is 44.232. The population of primary pupils is 490.242. The net enrollment of primary level is % 87. The weekly hours in primary is 20-22. In Kyrgyzstan, the total population is 5.213.888. The population of primary teachers is 16.524. The population of primary pupils is 399.833. The net enrollment of primary level is % 85,9. The weekly hours in primary is 22-29. In Uzbekistan, the total population is 29.559.100. The population of primary teachers is 117.652. The population of primary pupils is 2.071.317. The net enrollment of primary level is % 96. The weekly hours in primary is 22-26. In Kazakhstan, the total population is 16.91.000. The population of primary teachers is 57.473. The population of primary pupils is 956.019. The net enrollment of primary level is % 91. The weekly hours in primary is 22-27.

In Azerbaijan, the net enrollment ratio in primary education is 87 %. But in 2006, the gross enrollment ratio in primary education is 96.2 % (CE/CIS, 2006).

In Kyrgyzstan, in 2006, 1.106.000 children are attending general educational institutions, a coverage of 89.9 %, 90,5% of boys and 89,3% of girls. Official data of the National Statistical Committee show that 2512 school age pupils did not attend school in 2001, 1344 in 2003 and 1619 in 2005 (Ministry of Education Kyrgyz Republic, 2006). In Kyrgyzstan, in 2007, the net enrollment ratio in primary education is 84 %. But, the gross enrollment ratio in primary education is 95 % (USAID, 2007).

In Uzbekistan, in 1991, the net enrollment ratio in primary education is 78,2 %. In 1999, the proportion of pupils starting grade 1 who reach last grade of primary is 99,5 % (ADB, 2010). In 2006, net enrollment ratio in primary education is 91 %. But, the gross enrollment ratio in primary education is 95,5 % (USAID, 2006).

Discussions

Savaş (2010) wrote an article titled “Developments and Innovations in Education in the Turkic World.” In this article, he resumed the education systems included primary, secondary and university levels in Turkey, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan after the dissolution of USSR. But, in my

study, I compared the education systems included primary level in Turkey, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan after the dissolution of USSR.

Ergün (1997) prepared an article titled “Education System in Azerbaijan”. In this article, he analyzed the education systems included primary, secondary and university levels in Azerbaijan. But, in my study, I compared the education systems included primary level in Turkey, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan after the dissolution of USSR.

Polat (2011) prepared an article titled “A Research on Post-Independence of Kyrgyzstan’s education Policies and Practices.” In this article, he resumed the education systems included primary, secondary and university levels in Kyrgyzstan. But, in my study, I compared the education systems included primary level in Turkey, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan after the dissolution of USSR.

Şişman and Arı (2009) wrote an article titled “Fundamental Problems of Kyrgyz Education System and in Service Training Necessities of Teachers.” In this article, he resumed the problems of education system Kyrgyzstan and the necessities of education for teachers in service. But, in my study, I compared the education systems included primary level in Turkey, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan after the dissolution of USSR.

Results

The results of this study have shown below:

- 1) In Turkey, the compulsory education takes 12 years and the primary education takes 4 years.
- 2) In Turkish countries such as Azerbaijan, Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan, the compulsory education takes 11 years and the primary education takes 4 years.
- 3) In Kyrgyzstan, the compulsory education takes 9 years and the primary education takes 3-4 years.
- 4) In Turkey, the total population is 75.622.384. The population of primary teachers is 282.043. The population of primary pupils is 5.593.910. The net enrollment of primary level is % 99. The weekly hours in primary is 26-28-30.
- 5) In Azerbaijan, the total population is 9.300.000. The population of primary teachers is 44.232. The population of primary pupils is 490.242. The net enrollment of primary level is % 87. The weekly hours in primary is 20-22.
- 6) In Kyrgyzstan, the total population is 5.213.888. The population of primary teachers is 16.524. The population of primary pupils is 399.833. The net enrollment of primary level is % 85,9. The weekly hours in primary is 22-29.
- 7) In Uzbekistan, the total population is 29.559.100. The population of primary teachers is 117.652. The population of primary pupils is 2.071.317. The net enrollment of primary level is % 96. The weekly hours in primary is 22-26.
- 8) In Kazakhstan, the total population is 16.91.000. The population of primary teachers is 57.473. The population of primary pupils is 956.019. The net enrollment of primary level is % 91. The weekly hours in primary is 22-27.

Suggestions

The suggestions of this research have listed below:

- 1) The researchers should compare the secondary level in Turkey and in Turkish countries.
- 2) The researchers should compare the university education in Turkey and in Turkish countries.
- 3) The researchers should compare the undergraduate level in Turkey and in Turkish countries.

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