

Teacher Qualifications in a Changing Society

Değişmekte Olan Toplumda Öğretmen Nitelikleri

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Özet

Eğitim sistemi, farklı girdilerden oluşmakta ve değişimden etkilenmektedir. Eğitim sistemi içerisinde ki girdiler, öğrenci, öğretmen, veli, eğitim programları ve çevre şeklinde sıralanabilir. Belirtilen girdilerin nitelikleri, eğitim sistemi içerisinde ki çıktıların doğrudan etkilemesi şeklindedir. Sıralanan girdiler arasında öğretmenler önemli bir konumda yer almaktadır. Bu durum öğretmenlerin diğer girdileri etkileyebilecek gücünün olmasından kaynaklanmaktadır. Böylece eğitim sisteminin niteliğinin öğretmen niteliğiyle paralel yönde bir ilişkisi olduğu ifade edilebilir. Eğitim sistemi öğretmenin niteliğinin boyutuyla bağlantılı bir şekilde hizmet üretebilir. Öğretmenlerin nitelikleri ülkemizde ve dünya genelinde oluşacak olan toplumsal değişimleri dönüştürmekte ve etkilemektedir. Öğretmenlerin kendilerini doğru bir şekilde geliştirmesi sayesinde eğitime yönelik olumlu katkıları olması beklenmektedir. Öğretmenler oluşturdukları etkilerin geniş bir alana yayılmasından dolayı mesleki niteliklerini güncel tutmak ve geliştirmek zorundadır.

Anahtar kelimeler: Eğitim, Öğretmen, Öğretmen Nitelikleri, Eğitimin Girdileri

ABSTRACT

The education system consists of different inputs and is affected by change. Inputs in the education system can be listed as students, teachers, parents, education programs and environment. The qualifications of the specified inputs are in the form of a direct effect on the outputs in the education system. Among the listed inputs, teachers occupy an important position. This is due to the fact that teachers have the power to influence other inputs. Thus, it can be stated that the quality of the education system has a parallel relationship with the quality of the teacher. The education system can produce services in relation to the extent of the teacher's quality. The qualifications of teachers transform and affect the social changes that will occur in our country and around the world. It is expected that teachers will have positive contributions to education thanks to their correct self-development. Teachers have to keep their professional qualifications up-to-date and improve because their influence spreads over a wide area.

Keywords: Education, Teacher, Teacher Qualifications, Education Inputs

Giriş

Rapidly advancing change processes in the world have led to changes in the education system, schools and the roles of teachers. Teachers are seen as the most important element of educational processes. Therefore, it is important that teachers receive continuous training to adapt to changing conditions and to improve their qualifications (Karaçay, 2005). In order to increase the qualifications of teachers and to train them at the desired level, it is necessary to examine and evaluate the conditions of our country and the world in a multidimensional way. Careful analysis of social changes is an important step in this process. In order to reach contemporary standards in education, many factors such as the determination and implementation of educational policies, the training and development of teachers, the strengthening of schools and the effective use of resources need to come together. In this process, it is also important to examine international best practices, follow research and collaborate with education experts. Only in this way can quality and success in education be ensured, contributing to the development of our country and reaching the level of contemporary civilization.

Society

Society has a dynamic structure that is not static and constantly changing. Societies are shaped by historical, social, cultural and economic processes over time. Societies formed by people coming together function with a system of values, norms, institutions and relationships. Within societies, individuals come together in various groups and cooperate around certain interests.

Changes in Society

Societies have undergone great changes and transformations over time. In the history of mankind, there has been a process of evolution from primitive society to agricultural society, from agricultural society to industrial society and currently to information society (Aktan and Tunç, 1998). These transitions are periods of great changes in the social, economic, cultural and technological structure of societies. Primitive societies are societies that maintain a hunter-gatherer lifestyle. These societies lived with a livelihood based on natural resources and their social structures were generally organized at the level of family and tribe. Agricultural societies emerged with the development of agriculture. The fact that people

started to produce food through agricultural activities led them to settle down and make societies more complex (Arklan & Taşdemir, 2008).

Primitive society is the oldest social structure in human history. In periods when agriculture had not yet been discovered, people made a living through hunting, gathering and nomadic lifestyle. Primitive societies were usually organized in tribes or clans. The productivity of the society was limited and they focused on meeting their basic needs. Economic life in primitive societies was mostly based on barter or mutual exchange relations. In periods when money or monetary values were not used, people directly exchanged the goods they needed. In this way, the value and use of goods were evaluated in a specific social context and in line with needs. In primitive societies, the means of production were limited and mainly manpower and simple natural tools and equipment were used.

The lifestyle of primitive societies is dependent on the natural environment. With the nomadic lifestyle, activities such as monitoring and utilizing resources and following hunting areas were carried out. People survived by using the resources offered by nature and passed these resources from generation to generation. However, the lifestyle of primitive societies underwent a radical change with the agricultural revolution. With agricultural societies, people settled down and started to produce food through agricultural activities. This led to major transformations in the social, economic and cultural structure of society. Therefore, although primitive societies were an important social structure that existed in the early periods of human history, social changes were experienced with agricultural societies.

The Industrial Revolution is a period of revolutionary changes in industrial production processes. During this period, the use of mechanical power and machines transformed production processes to a great extent. The Industrial Revolution started especially in England and then spread to other countries (Tonta & Küçük, 2005). One of the most important features of the Industrial Revolution is the use of machine power instead of manual labor. The invention and development of machines increased the efficiency of production processes and greatly increased the amount of production. This led to mass production and mass production opportunities. The Industrial Revolution symbolizes the transition from an agricultural society to an industrial society. While production in agricultural societies was largely based on agricultural activities, mass production in factories and industrial production methods became widespread in industrial society (Sarigöz, 2012). In this period, with the emergence of factories, it became widespread for workers to switch to a settled working order and work in factories in return for wages. The Industrial Revolution also transformed the social, economic

and political structure of society. Industrialization and the factory system caused a great wave of migration in the cities and led to the formation of the working class. In this period, the differences between social classes also became clearer. The effects of the Industrial Revolution extend to the present day. Industrial society has preserved its basic features such as industrial production, factory systems and mechanization. However, with the rapid development of information and communication technologies, new social structures such as information society or digital age have emerged (Gültan, 2003).

Information society refers to a social structure in which the production, distribution and use of information is a fundamental value. In this society, information processing, communication and technological development are at the forefront. Information has become a resource with economic, social and cultural value. In the information society, business processes and economic activities are based on information. Information technologies and communication tools are the main tools of these processes. In the knowledge society, the workforce is based on knowledge and skills. Knowledge workers are those who process and analyze information, think creatively and produce innovative solutions. Technological developments play an important role in shaping the knowledge society. Technologies such as the internet, mobile devices, artificial intelligence and big data have facilitated access to information and strengthened communication and collaboration. This has increased information sharing and enabled the emergence of innovative projects and business models. The information society emphasizes the importance of continuous learning and professional development. In a period when information is changing rapidly, individuals need to constantly update themselves and acquire new skills (Çötük, 2006). It is important that education systems are transformed to respond to these needs. Cultural structure is an important factor in the formation and sustainability of the knowledge society. The production, sharing and use of knowledge is shaped by the values, norms and institutions of society. Therefore, it is important to protect cultural richness, respect diversity and ensure everyone's right to access information (Karabulut, 2015).

Changing Schools

Today, the understanding of education and the structure of schools are changing. The requirements of the information society and the digital age require schools to provide a more flexible, student-centered and interactive environment. It is important for students to develop skills such as critical thinking, problem solving, communication and collaboration rather than

simply memorizing information. Student-centered education, a new educational approach, aims to provide individualized learning experiences according to the student's interests, needs and abilities. In this approach, students actively participate, manage their own learning process and are encouraged to understand and relate learning content. At the same time, emphasis is placed on inter-student collaboration and problem-solving skills. The role of technology in education is also increasing. Digital tools and resources facilitate students' access to information, enrich learning experiences and diversify teaching methods. Providing students with online learning provides opportunities for flexibility and distance learning. The transformation of schools also affects the role of the teacher. Teachers are seen as guides, mentors and supporters of students rather than as authority figures imparting knowledge (Özdemir, 2011). Teachers use a variety of teaching strategies to provide content relevant to students' interests, to guide learning processes and to meet students' individual needs. In this process of change, it is important that schools and the education system adapt to societal and contemporary needs. Educational policies, curricula and teaching methods should focus on students' needs and future work and life skills. At the same time, cooperation and communication between school management and stakeholders should be ensured (Parlar, 2012).

Change of Students

In the information society, the understanding of education has undergone a significant change and a student-centered approach has been adopted. The main reason for this approach is the primacy and uniqueness of the individual in the learning process. Each individual's learning speed, capacity and learning style are different and the learning process is shaped by taking these differences into consideration. It determines its own learning style, strengths and weaknesses and prefers appropriate teaching methods. The student researches, inquires and knows the areas and methods of using knowledge. Rather than being a passive recipient, the student plays an active role by using the opportunities and resources around him/her through interaction and communication. Teachers organize course content and methods in accordance with the needs of students. Different learning materials and activities are offered according to students' interests and abilities. Students gain skills to manage their own learning processes and actively experience learning. As a result, a student-centered understanding of education is dominant in the knowledge society. This approach takes into account students' individual differences, favors authentic learning methods and encourages students' active participation.

Thus, students are enabled to learn more effectively and meaningfully and a strong foundation is created for their future success (Yaşar, 1998).

Teachers' Qualifications in a Changing Society

Today, changing social structure and educational understanding also affect the qualifications that teachers should have (İlhan, 2004). In a changing society and educational environment, it is important for teachers to be flexible and adapt to change. Teachers should be open to learning and adopting new approaches (Şişman & Acat, 2003). Teachers should have the ability to communicate and cooperate effectively with students. It is important to organize course content and teaching methods according to students' interests, abilities and needs, encourage students' active participation and take into account students' individual differences. Technology plays an important role in education. Teachers' competence to use technology effectively and to provide students with digital skills is important. Teachers should continuously develop themselves and acquire new knowledge and skills in a changing educational environment. Teachers should have the ability to understand, empathize and support students' emotional needs.

Being tolerant, patient and understanding

It is important for teachers to be tolerant, patient and understanding. Tolerance allows the teacher to be open to students with different cultural, social and intellectual characteristics. Each student has a different background, way of thinking and pace of learning. An understanding teacher tries to understand students' emotional needs. Students may sometimes face problems, struggle with difficulties or have special needs. A patient teacher provides motivation for students to discover their potential and achieve success. Each student may have a different pace of learning and some may need more guidance. A tolerant and patient teacher creates a safe classroom environment among students. Students do not hesitate to express their different opinions and can discuss freely. A tolerant teacher encourages cooperation among students. Students may have different abilities and can support each other.

Being open-minded and flexible

An open-minded and flexible teacher can work more effectively in a changing society and educational environment. Changing society and educational trends require teachers to be flexible. New technologies, learning methods and curricula can change constantly. An open-minded teacher is able to consider different thoughts and perspectives of students. An open-minded and flexible teacher can adopt a student-centered approach. It is important to organize

course content and teaching methods according to students' interests, abilities and needs. An open-minded teacher encourages innovative and creative thinking. The teacher can offer students the opportunity to explore new ideas, problem solve and develop critical thinking skills. An open-minded teacher should be willing to continuously improve and stay in the learning process.

Being affectionate and humorous

The characteristics of caring and humor enable teachers to communicate effectively with their students and create a positive learning environment (Gouros, 2016). A caring teacher establishes a positive relationship with his/her students. He/she makes students feel comfortable and creates an emotionally supportive environment. A humorous teacher can make lessons more interesting and fun. Students are more motivated and focus their attention better in a humorous environment. A caring teacher can communicate better with students. Students take more risks and are not afraid to try new things when they feel loved and accepted. The teacher's caring approach builds students' self-confidence and creates a necessary foundation for their success. In a safe and supportive environment, students are more comfortable sharing, cooperating and helping each other.

Focusing on success/having high expectations of success

A teacher's focus on success and high expectations of success encourage students to succeed. The teacher should recognize the potential of each student and believe that they can succeed. The teacher should recognize students' strengths and support these strengths. A teacher with high expectations of success increases students' self-confidence and helps them realize their potential. The teacher should approach students with high expectations and a belief that every student can succeed. A teacher who focuses on success helps students discover their own talents and interests. The teacher should understand that each student's success is unique to them and that success is not limited to academic results. Success can vary according to the student's interests, abilities and efforts.

Being motivating, encouraging and supportive

A motivating, encouraging and supportive teacher facilitates students' learning process and supports their individual development. A motivating teacher increases students' motivation. It encourages students to set goals, make efforts and achieve success in the learning process. An encouraging teacher gives students confidence. A supportive teacher enables students to believe in their own potential. A motivating, encouraging and supportive

teacher helps students develop independent learning skills. A supportive teacher encourages students to discover their own talents and develop their interests. He/she provides students with various opportunities, directs them to various activities and helps them discover their own potential (Erden, 2005).

Planning teaching activities

Teachers should take into account students' individual characteristics, interests and needs when planning instructional activities. Teachers should plan activities by assessing students' interests, learning styles, prior knowledge and skills. When planning activities, the teacher should take into account the set teaching objectives. The teacher should encourage diversity and interaction in activities. They can increase the diversity of learning by providing students with different learning methods, materials and resources. The teacher should use time effectively when planning activities. When planning activities, appropriate methods and tools for monitoring and assessing students' progress should also be considered.

Effective communication

Effective communication enables teachers to establish a healthy and positive relationship with their students. Effective communication promotes mutual understanding. The teacher tries to understand students by respecting their different thoughts, feelings and needs. Effective communication increases students' motivation. The teacher communicates effectively with students, keeping them interested and engaged. Effective communication enables the teacher to empathize with his/her students. The teacher understands the emotional needs of students and provides them with support. Effective communication enables the teacher to provide effective feedback to students. Effective communication creates a positive classroom climate and supports discipline.

Classroom management

Good classroom management involves creating a positive classroom climate. The teacher builds a positive relationship with students, creates an atmosphere of trust and support. They promote values such as respect, cooperation and empathy in the classroom. It is important to set clear rules and expectations for classroom management. Maintaining discipline in the classroom is an important part of effective classroom management. Good classroom management encourages effective communication and cooperation. Classroom management should be differentiated to suit the different needs and characteristics of students.

Providing guidance

Guidance by teachers is important to support students' academic, social and emotional development. As teachers guide students in academic, social and career matters, they strengthen their self-esteem and self-confidence. Teachers' understanding and support for students' individual needs ensures that they have a successful and satisfying learning experience.

Learning and using new technologies

Teachers should adopt, learn and teach changing and developing technology. Teachers who adopt technology are expected to prepare faster learning environments for their students and increase their participation rates. As one of the 21st century's most important phenomena, technology can change, differentiate and attract attention to educational environments. Thanks to teachers' technology awareness, they should clearly feel the educational part of technology. Teachers who use technology well and correctly can create environments that meet the basic needs of their students.

Being innovative

Innovation is a sine qua non of education. This is linked to the constantly evolving world order. Teachers should not only adopt the changes but also be able to implement innovations over time. Teachers who are open to innovations show a correct development and can transfer this situation to their students (Jan, 2017). Having innovative qualities will ensure that new methods are preferred and different techniques are used during education. Thanks to the innovative quality adopted by teachers, it can be aimed to increase the success rates of students by expanding the repertoire of tools and materials. The innovative teacher may prefer to differentiate and use different resources instead of relying on a single module or system. Such a situation will have a positive effect for students (Palmer, 2015).

Conclusion

Today, societies have a dynamic structure that causes certain transformations and changes at different points in time. It is possible for the changes to be short or long term. The structures of societies are also affected at a certain level due to the changes that occur. Therefore, it will be possible to have innovations in the social order and to ensure social integrity. From this perspective, it has been found that knowledge creates innovations in societies, transformations in social structure and creates different structures within societies. The change in societies affects many elements. Education changes in a changing society and the most important element of education is the teacher. Teachers, who feel that they are

important in every field of education, are affected by the changes that occur. Education, which is subject to change in changing societies, progresses depending on the success of teachers.

As society changes, the qualifications of teachers also change. In particular, the fact that the main purpose is to provide a qualified education for students reveals that teachers should be prepared for the future in the right way. Being ready for the future is to move out of a certain point of view or a fixed idea. At the point of being ready for the future, it is necessary to learn new technologies, to think globally, to have knowledge about digitalization, to cooperate when necessary, to take different views on the same subject, and to be innovative. Therefore, care should be taken to ensure that teachers acquire the necessary skills and the continuity of education should be ensured. It will be possible for teachers to provide the right education as well as developing themselves in the right way thanks to their readiness for the future.

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