

ROLE AND IMPORTANCE OF DERSHANES IN OUR EDUCATION SYSTEM

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Abstract

The aim of this study is to elaborate the place of dershanes (private education centers) which prepares students to national exams within the education system through the views of students, teachers and parents. In this vein, the sample of this study consist of 31 teachers who work in a private dershane in Trabzon, 52 eighth grade students who attend to this organization and parents of those selected students. The descriptive survey model has been used in the study. Findings of the study are based on literature search and analysis of employed questionnaire. Data collection tool was developed on the basis of questionnaires used by Turkish Ministry of National Education and EARGED directorate's research in 1998 titled "The place and Future of Private Dershanes in Turkish Education System". Teacher, student and parent evaluation questionnaires which were used by the Ministry of National Education were adopted to this study. Some items of the questionnaire were removed or re-organized and final questionnaire were generated and used for data collection. The reason for attending to dershanes were examined in terms of teachers, students and parents' views. In general, findings of the study illustrates that overcrowded classrooms in state schools, being in a class where academic achievement level of students is too low; incompatibility between school exams and national exams and need for reorganization of school curricula according to central examinations were reported as the main reasons for students to attend dershanes. At the end of the study some recommendations were given about increasing the quality of teaching in state schools in order to decrease the students' dependency to dershanes.

Key Words: Dershane, examination system, views of teachers, students and parents.