



# Analyzing the Role of Teachers in the Education of Illiterates in Society, a Case Study of Teachers of Shabankareh

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### ABSTRACT

Nowadays, literacy is one of the major challenges that society has been faced, especially in developing countries and on the other hand literacy and learning science are considered as important factors in social, economic, and cultural development of anyone. In this regard, the institution of education in the community can have an inevitable role in the education of the people. Teacher as an influential factor in education can play a unique role in the activities of the Literacy Movement. Therefore, the aim of this study is to investigate the role of teachers in the education of illiterates in community and the reason of their lack of participation in this process. The methodology of this study is functional based on the purpose and based on the nature, is descriptive - analytical. This study used documental and field studies to gather data. In order to achieve the objectives of this study in field studies a questionnaire has been used to gather data. The population of this study are teachers of Shabankareh (385 people). 193 teachers was selected based on Cochran formula and the random sampling method, for example, then the questionnaire was distributed among the target teachers and collected data were analyzed based on SPSS software (Spearman correlation coefficient was used to evaluate the hypothesis of the test) and finally recommendations and solutions have been presented to achieve the optimal level of educating the illiterate in society. The results of this study have showed that there is a significant relationship between the lack of proper planning and the participation of teachers in Literacy Movement activities. Given the importance of reducing illiteracy in the society and its role in the comprehensive development of society, the need for proper planning by relevant authorities strongly has been felt.

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### Introduction

Learning and teaching will always be from the earliest days of human life and intertwined with human life. Because without teaching we cannot live in the community and even survive. To the school of Islam, the greatest enemy is ignorance and reagents. With turn of the millennium the fourth wave of power sovereignty of science and technology took all areas of human life. But in less developed country, this wave brings great challenges. After which governments are forced to adjust policies and new targets. This policy revolves around science, education, literacy and increasingly the quality and quantity has formed among the people, in human societies the education system is of particular importance. This institution is the most important factors of economic society and educative growth in every society and is awareness raising and organizing the manpower for community development and education system. there are multiple factors that is effective in the forming , goals and quality. The teacher as one of the factors plays an important role and few people understand the importance of his work (role). On the other hand as regards literacy is in dispersible condition for development and improving the human condition of people who deprived of education. A research to improve the quality of literacy program is required. In general, education is important social institution quality of the other social institution largely depends on how education system works .education has vital role for development of individual and community. Identifying talent and create condition for them to flourish in various fields and harmonious and balanced development of the

human aspects of intellectual, Emotional, social and physical. These are heavy responsibilities that education system should carry. Perfection of man lies in his proper training. Education means to achieve the dignity of human person research shows that the problem of illiteracy of large amount of Iranian community is one of the problems due to its adverse effects on all political , economic and social society has been introduced primarily of Islamic revolution . Based on material presented and importance of education and literacy within each community and undeniable role of teacher in this process, the research planning to conduct a research of the role of teachers in teaching illiterate people and answers to the questions of this research and with the rejection or approval of relevant assumption finally by finding ways of attracting teachers provide guidelines and suggestions.

### Review of the Related Literature

#### Literacy and its Importance in Today's World

There are several definitions of literacy from 1910s and its definition is due to the different views. While some researchers have proposed skills including reading, writing and counting .others refer that literacy cannot be defined out of situation that is not used. One of these definitions id UNESCOs, a literate person id one who attended in all activities that literacy is necessary and act effectively in society and community. In other definition this organization says a literate person is one who attends in social activities after acquiring the basic skills and knowledge. To develop society use skills of reading, writing and counting.

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One of the conditions and development factors is promoting knowledge level and public awareness. Literacy and education of people play an important role in creating awareness. Ability to read and write associate communities to past, present and future and provide the cause of science and technology and human development. Today the main objective of literacy programs after acquiring reading, writing and counting skills is to use them in daily life. So they are able to solve their problems. Ability to analyze data the rapid growth of technology, the age of information shows that illiteracy risks are more serious than before. Those who are alliterate are excluded from knowledge-based services and gradually social distance is deepening due to this many politicians of counters and international organization eradication of illiteracy is regarded as a tool to solve social and economic problems. To cope with the effect of globalization without the intervention of innovation method and literacy program, the distances increased and illiterates will be away from the community. The education and literacy right is one of the fundamental human rights and not as a privilege right for a few. Literacy considered as one of the most important indicators of development in countries. For years, literacy is the subject of various programs in Iran. Government announced teaching illiterate people are our priorities.

#### **The Central Role of Education in Societies**

The role of education in society education is the main foundation of any society. Education is the key to the skills and ability and fulfills desire. To improve personal life and next generation education flourish people talent. It has been improved that if students of poor country acquire basic reading would get rid of poverty .this figure is equivalent to 171 million reducing world poverty by 12%.

#### **The Importance and the Role of Teacher in the Society**

In general, it can be acknowledge that teaching is not only a profession but an artistic talent that has its roots deep with hearts of impatient souls and a prophetic mission. Teaching is difficult job. a teacher take burden and responsibility of prophets and Gods great messengers. Resistance against injustice this is what he vowed to God. In other hand teacher do the work of God and he plays the role of prophet. The first surah was revealed was Al-Alagh averse that lord introducing himself as a teacher. If we know the getting people wise as the history of education so, the teachers have the important role in this evaluation. If we know the training as providing the developmental bases and balancing the person and consider its aim as actualize the potential skills of humans to perfection and divine revelation so the teachers and educators have the worthwhile and important role in realizing of this matter. If we seek effective factors that provide moral, physical, social development .If such features known as universe, self-awareness, perfectionism, creativity and finally selectivity. Teachers play an important role to fulfill basic human characteristics. If they could, they would help people to get rid of this prison. "Teachers are good model of citizenship can play an important role to develop educational and sexual equity and support people who are deprived of education"(Ban Ki Moon, 1392, 31)

#### **The History of the Literacy Movement**

##### **Before the Revaluation**

In general due to the lack of adequate information and documentation we cannot give right impression about literacy activities in Iran before the year1334, but what is certain, according to the historical documentation somehow we can say that. Literacy activities begun with formation of literacy classes in 1286, planning against illiteracy in 1341 began along with land reform program. Studies show that due to political and

social goals, this program is able to achieve much success in reducing illiteracy in the community. Because of the rural population (10% in 1335) and lack of proper infrastructure, there were high illiteracy rates in the community. Illiteracy rate of the population in the 1335/45/55 respectively was 10/15/25%. Suppose these figures are correct, again we see a poor literacy trend in these years.

##### **After Revolution**

Literacy movement was formed in 7<sup>th</sup> of 1358 by Imam Khomeini order. In those days there was indescribable enthusiasm away people and was an opportunity to eradicate illiteracy. Statistics shows that after glorious victory of Islamic revolution, numerous successful in reducing illiteracy was acquired. According to statistical organization and literacy movement organization there is about 937/837/9 uneducated, 861/658/3 male and 112/179/6 female .672/970/4 villages and 301/867/4 in cities .Between 10-29 there are 666/156/1 and 40/49 there are 449/150/4 uneducated people. It means that 46% under the age of 50 and 54% over 50 years old. In other numbers shows among 139 country .Iran level as 84 in aged 15 years old. Unfortunately part of this numbers relates to the children of 6-15 and number of these children is 3 million .13milion people in aged 45 remain uneducated and 10million with low literacy. It means that 23 million people are uneducated or with low literacy. It is predicated that 91% of people are literate.

##### **Background of the Study**

At first, it must be stressed that there is a little attention to the role of teachers in literacy activities .This issue has been raised as subheads and the author did not find many resources. In the following, researches and studies conducted in this field and are close to some of the recent researches have been provided.

Rajai pour and Akbari- Omarabadi (1386) in a study entitled urban and rural novice literates research needs of literacy campaign, have studied the issues related to the needs of urban and rural novice literates of Esfahan province in different fields and finally have concluded that the most needs of the target community is in the health and religious fields and the least need is in the areas of arts and culture. Mirhosseini and Arjmandnya (1387) in a study entitled the analysis of the contexts of learner literacy campaign's books in Tehran have studied the analysis of 11 books in the continuing education program of correspondence services of persistent group of literacy campaign in Tehran city and has concluded that the content of and the issues of these books are coordinated with objectives of the continuing education. Ban Ki Moon (1392) in general studies entitled education in the first place, has studied the literacy issues in the world and has concluded that to reduce public poverty in the world, there is immediate plan to reduce illiteracy among all classes of people.

##### **Method**

The methodology of this study is functional based on the purpose and based on the nature, is descriptive - analytical. This study used library, documental, and field studies to gather data, In order to achieve the objectives of this study, a questionnaire with closed questions using Likert spectrum was developed. In this regard, Cronbach Alfa was used to determine the reliability of the questionnaire that the obtained results indicate that alpha is equal to 0/795 showing the reliability of the questionnaire is acceptable. Finally, the collected questionnaire were analyzed based on the descriptive statistics, t-test single group, and Spearman correlation coefficients using SPSS software.

**Table 1. Frequency Distribution of Respondents Based on Gender**

Cumulative frequency	Frequency percentage	Frequency	Gender
36/26	36/26	70	Female teachers
100	63/73	123	Male teachers
	100	193	Total

Source: Based on Data from the Questionnaire

**Table 2. Descriptive Statistics of Respondents in the Field of their Interests in the Activities of Literacy Movement**

Options	Frequency	Interested	Disaffection
Male teachers	123	110	13
Female teachers	70	65	5

Source: Based on Data from the Questionnaire

**Table 3. Frequency Distribution of Respondents Regarding their Motivation for Participation in the Activities of the Literacy Movement**

Commitment and Sense of Responsibility		Earning Concession and Encouragement		Financial Benefits		Achieving More Social Dignity	
Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female teachers	Male teachers
51	70	10	25	3	21	6	7

Source: Based on Data from the Questionnaire

**Table 4. Measuring the Degree of Participation of Teachers and the Lack of Proper Planning in the Activities of Literacy Movement**

Measuring the Degree of Participation of Teachers and the Lack of Proper Planning in the Activities of Literacy Movement	Correlation Test
0.000	Significant Level
0.54	Correlation Coefficient

Source: Based on Data from the Questionnaire

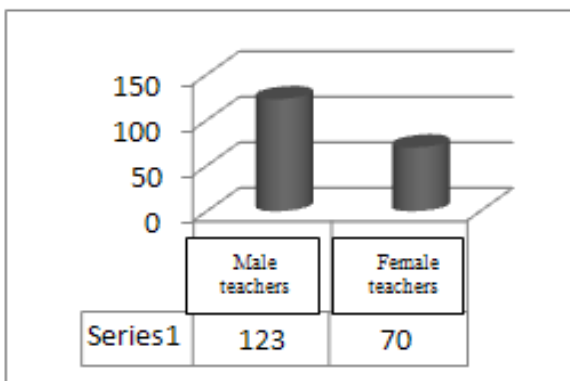
The population of the study were the teachers of Shabankareh Education Department in 1393 and to determine the target population, 193 people were randomly selected from a total of 385 people based on Cochran formula.

$$N=385 \quad t=1/96 \quad p=.05 \quad q=0/5 \quad d=0/2 \quad n=19$$

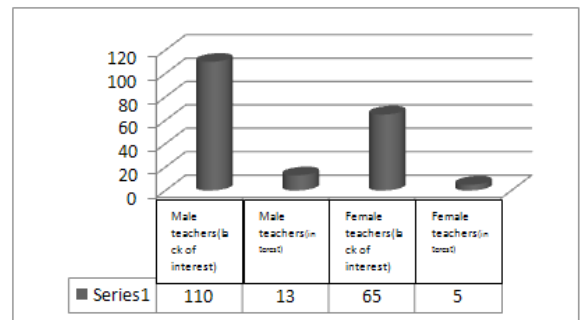
$$n = \frac{\frac{t^2 pq}{d^2}}{1 + \frac{1}{n} \left( \frac{t^2 pq}{d^2} - 1 \right)}$$

**Results**

In this section the results of the study will be analyzed. For this purpose, data from the questionnaires were coded and categorized then they have been analyzed using SPSS software and finally the hypothesis have been discussed.



**Chart 1. Frequency Distribution of Respondents Based on Gender**



**Chart 2. Descriptive Statistics of Respondents in the Field of their Interests in the Activities of Literacy Movement Testing the Hypothesis**

The aim of this section is to find the relationship between the variables using the results of the analysis of questionnaires and if there is a relationship, the degree of correlation between them will be determined based on Spearman correlation coefficient and finally the hypothesis will be tested to be rejected or to be accepted.

**"The Spearman Correlation Test"**

This study has been used when the data and the size of variables have been ordinal. In this method, the researcher must also calculate the degree of freedom and by choosing the desired level (5%) refer to the significant Spearman correlation coefficient table and Comparing the calculated correlation coefficient with it and if the number is equal or smaller than the number of the table the correlation coefficient is significant and its amount will be approved and the null hypothesis will be rejected.

**Hypothesis:** There is a significant relationship between the lack of proper planning and teacher participation in the activities of the Literacy Movement.

Based on the obtained data from the questionnaire, we confirm or reject this hypothesis. Since the answers of these questions follow Likert scale we can use Spearman correlation test to investigate this hypothesis.

It can be said based on the results of the above tests with significance level ( $\text{sig.} = 0.000$ ) which is less than the first type of error ( $\alpha = 0.05$ ) that there is a significant relationship between the lack of proper planning and the level of participation of teachers in literacy campaign activities.

### Conclusion

Knowledge is a divine dignity and God has given this gift to the prophets and apostles to teach the path of guiding to for human and that is why the teaching and learning is a good tradition of creation. So God has considered teaching and learning as the right of all people and has emphasized on it. On the other hand, human capital achieving through teaching the science is one of the most factor of economic growth in the new era. So teacher is an effective and undeniable element in social institution of education can have an important role in reducing illiteracy in the community. As the results of this study show there is a significant relationship between the lack of correct planning and teacher participation in literacy movement activities in order to reduce illiteracy in the society. So, regarding the importance of this matter, it is necessary that the related authorities plan to provide greater teacher participation in literacy movement activities. In this regard, according to the obtained results of this study, strategies have been offered to strengthen the participation of teachers in literacy movement activities.

### Strategies

1. Strengthen the sense of responsibility, commitment, pride, and national prejudice among teachers through showing the damages caused by illiteracy in the country
2. Holding conferences and workshops with subject of the importance of educating of illiterates in the society
3. Considering special privileges in evaluating teachers in education and training organization regarding their participation in literacy campaign activities

4. Encouraging participated teachers in literacy campaign activities (financially)

5. Smoothing administrative conditions to greater participation of teachers in the activities of Literacy Movement

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