

THE ROLE, MISSION, FUNCTION AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CLASS HEADMASTER (OR HOME-ROOM TEACHER) IN ALBANIA – A COMPARATIVE VIEW

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Abstract

The headmaster (or home-room teacher) is a teacher of the school, more specifically, one of the subject teachers of the class who is in charge to take care of an assigned class in order to help this class through the whole scholastic year in the teaching and educational work. The elementary teacher is the headmaster of his/her class. The headmaster has an important role from the first to the twelfth grade. In this paper the focus will be not only in the responsibilities of the teacher as a subject teacher but also on the responsibilities that are very closely related with the role and functions of the headmaster nowadays. The paper compares two periods: 1920-1934, 1934-1944, together with the relevant characteristics. The period 1920-1934 is characterized by a very active educational life in the direction of the democratization of the pedagogic thinking. The teacher was considered as the most important person who should contribute directly on laying the foundations of citizenship in society. He/she was responsible for the moral forming of children as decent man, good patriots with a solid character and personality. Until 1934, the role of the headmaster, concluding the secondary education, was merged inside the teacher's role. In the formulation of the education law in 1934, known with the name "Ivanaj Law", in the articles 361, 362, is defined for the first time the duties of the Head of the Class (Headmaster) for the secondary school. This law in general and the definition in particular of the role and responsibilities of the Head of the Class, express the trend for reformation of education in Albania and at the same time a new democratic and national spirit. There has been utilized a very rich literature for this paper, mainly found in the National Library, Official Bulletin, documents from the Ministry of Education, periodical educational journals, press materials of that period, etc.

Keywords: *teacher, Head of Class, students of the class, coordinator, contemporary.*