Iran's Policy of Teaching Foreign Language and Turkey Turkish Language Teaching

Kayhan Inan

Gazi University/ Ankara, Turkey

Key words: Iran, Foreign Language Planning, Turkish as a Foreign Language

ABSTRACT

States develop policies based on the short-and long-term goals and they make their future plans of their country according to these policies. In addition to this, the plan of education is not excluded of this procedure. In other words, in the determination of educational policies of the Islamic Republic of Iran, politicians became dominant at all times.

Systematically organized and taught foreign languages in Iran are Arabic, French and English. Although French is taught in schools as a foreign language in a very short period, the teaching of Western languages and Arabic language policies has different purposes like French. Keeping in the forefront of Islamic standards, political authorities desire that Arabic should be basic foreign language or a second language. According to them, budget allocation for the teaching of languages such as English, French, Italian and German is nothing but a waste of resources. In western languages teaching (especially English), the only reason can be considered that English-speaking generations can serve Anti-American purposes. Nevertheless, Iranian officials think that English is a language that must be learned in order to follow the innovations in the world of science and to show itself in the international arena in the planning of foreign language. In Iran, however, in the face of teaching English as a foreign language from period to period, changes in the attitudes of managers, sometimes against the spread of the English language appearing in the views cannot be denied.

Although the teaching of Turkish language has not a long history in Iran, various dialects of Turkish language are spoken. Turkish is a foreign language which is heavily favored by the Iranians after the major European languages. However, Turkey Turkish as a foreign language in Iran encountered many problems in teaching. Some of them are originated from Iran's situation which is a closed country and the other reason is that Turkey Turkish is a relatively new field as a foreign language.

In this study, foreign language teaching policies of the Islamic Republic of Iran will be mentioned and the effects of these policies on teaching Turkey Turkish will be discussed. The study will be supported by the opinions of Iranian officials and Iranians of Turkey Turkish learners.