

**DETERMINING THE ATTITUDES OF MATHEMATICS TEACHERS IN
BULGARIA AND IN TURKEY TOWARDS HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS**

Güler Çavuşoğlu

Abstract:

Aim: The aim of the present study is to determine the attitudes of the mathematics teachers working at high school education in Bulgaria and in Turkey towards homework assignments. In agreement with the aim of the study, the answer to the question of whether the frequency of the behaviors towards homework assignments in different subjects vary according to countries has also been sought in the present study.

Method: The Review Method, which is one of the quantitative research methods, has been used in this study. Questionnaires were used as data collection tool. The questionnaire was applied to 277 mathematics teachers in Turkey and 201 mathematics teachers in Bulgaria. The teachers were selected with simple random sampling method between the years 2007 and 2009. The population of the study consisted of all the high school education mathematics teachers in Bulgaria and in Turkey.

The sampling of the study in Bulgaria consisted of:

- The mathematics teachers for whom permission was received for the participation in the study working at 12 high schools in Sofia.
- The mathematics teachers who participated in the Bulgarian Mathematicians Union XXXVI Spring Conference organized in the city of Varna in Bulgaria from all the cities of Bulgaria between the dates April 2-6, 2007.
- The mathematics teachers who participated in the Mathematics Teachers Meeting organized in Sofia for teachers working at secondary education schools on September 14, 2007.

The sampling of the study in Turkey consisted of:

- The mathematics teachers for whom permission was received to participate in the study working at 12 high school in Balıkesir.
- The mathematics teachers who participated in the “Introduction Seminar for Geometry and Analytic Geometry Teaching Programs” from all cities of Turkey held between 21.07.2008-25.07.2008.

- The mathematics teachers who participated in the courses and seminars organized for high school education mathematics teachers in 2007-2008 Academic Year.

The dataset that was obtained to assess the attitudes of the homework assignments of the mathematics teachers who participated in the study was analyzed in the SPSS 15.0 Package Program.

Findings: As a result of the t-test, differences were detected between the countries on the following topics:

- Checking whether the homework assignment is done or not.
- Correction of homework assignment by students in classes.
- Using homework assignments as the basis of debates in classes.

In terms of showing the behaviors, there is a significant difference between the teachers working in Turkey and in Bulgaria. When the average values are assessed, it is observed that the frequency of showing the abovementioned behaviors is more in the teachers working in Bulgaria.

Result: As a conclusion, there is a difference between the attitudes of the mathematics teachers towards homework assignments in Bulgaria and in Turkey.

Asst. Prof. Dr. **Güler Çavuşoğlu**

Artvin Çoruh University

Faculty of Education

Department of Education

Artvin Turkey

E-mail: gulersa2002@yahoo.com