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Book Review

Hanna David's Book: The Gifted Arab Child In Israel

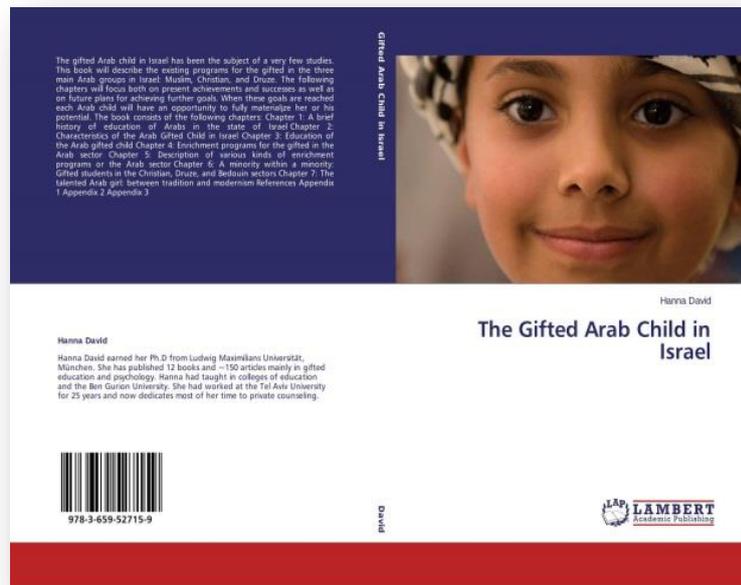
ABSTRACT: In this article, it was examined Hanna David's Book: The Gifted Arab Child in Israel. The book focuses on Arab gifted children living in Israel. In Israel three Arab groups are living: Muslim, Christian and Druze. This book contains 7 sections. First Section: A Brief History of Education of Arabs In The State of Israel, Second Section: Characteristics of the Arab Gifted Child in Israel, Third Section: Education of the Arab Gifted Child, Fourth Section: Enrichment Programs for the Gifted in the Arab Sector, Fifth section: Description of Various Kinds of Enrichment Program for the Arab Sector, Sixth section: A Minority within a Minority: Gifted Students in the Christian, Druze and Bedouin Sectors, Seventh Section: The talented Arab Girl: Between Tradition and Modernism. In this book, author gives some suggestions to reveal potential of Arab girls. Some of them are; family support, financial aid etc.

Key words: Arab child, gifted education, Israel.

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Book Review: The Gifted Arab Child In Israel



Tag of the book; Hanna David, 2014, Lambert Academic Publishing, p188.

The book focuses on Arab gifted children living in Israel. In Israel three Arab groups are living: Muslim, Christian and Druze. This book contains 7 sections:

First Section: A Brief History of Education of Arabs In The State of Israel

In this section, a general framework is given about education of Arabs in Israel. According to age and gender, 18 years and over, Arab and Jewish population's years of schooling is given, Arab students participating rate is given also.

Second Section: Characteristics of the Arab Gifted Child in Israel

In the section, structure of Arab family and society is examined. Arab society is inclined to cooperation against individuality. Arab families' children statistics are given. Adaptation to family and society is given for example; The gifted Arab child must know Arabic, Hebrew and English and emotional problems because of structure of family is mentioned.

Third Section: Education of the Arab Gifted Child

Until 2008 In Israel there isn't any university program about gifted education but this subject are solved giving differentiation and enrichment by Jewish qualified personnel whereas In the Arab society qualified personnel and gifted students teachers are insufficient, in

some region (especially South) there is no gifted program because of these reasons participating rate to gifted program is low.

Fourth Section: Enrichment Programs for the Gifted in the Arab Sector

In Israel gifted education started in 2008 formally. The section mentions after year. Number of gifted program according to grade level in 4 regions (North, Haifa, Jerusalem and Centre) is given. In these regions there isn't any gifted program on 10. and 12. level. Another statistic is that number of gifted students participating the gifted programs, rate and the region has gifted programs. We can see that the rate of participating gifted programs is very low.

Some enrichment programs (Reineh, Bu'eine, Nujeidat, Shefa-Amr, Tamra and Acre) are introduced. In these programs rate of participating, population of region, and grade level of gifted students is mentioned. Rate and number of leaving- because of different reason- the enrichment programs is given also. Jerusalem and Haifa have gifted programs but Tel-Aviv, Jaffa and Beer Sheva don't have any gifted programs. Location of the gifted programs is changed every year.

Fifth section: Description of Various Kinds of Enrichment Program for the Arab Sector

In the section some enrichment programs are introduced. Hugordon education centres that Arabs and Jewshs together is in

Haifa. 300 students participated the centre in 2005.

Programs Arabs participate only have 9 programs and 8 subjects. The most popular are Maths, computer, language (English, Arabic, Hebrew), science and medicine. Art, sport and creative thinking are unpopular subjects. Participating rate of in-service training of gifted students teachers is low (12 of 77).

Majority of the teachers in the program have bachelor's degree on physics, chemistry, biology and medicine, minority of them have master degree on these areas.

Interview about content of program, contribution to gifted students with the coordinator of Taibe enrichment program, Wagi Bal'um is given.

Some differences between Jewish and Arab gifted programs are given.

Sixth section: A Minority within a Minority: Gifted Students in the Christian, Druze and Bedouin Sectors

In the section Christian schools in Palestine and Israel is mentioned. Christian Arabs have facility in Israel so they have higher educational achievements. There is an statistical information comparison between Jewish and Christian Arabs' exam success. There is an interview and story of a Muslim girl, Shirin, is given.

Bedouin and Druze citizens live in Israel is mentioned, Gholan hills, populations are mentioned also.

Seventh Section: The talented Arab Girl: Between Tradition and Modernism

In the section History of education of Muslim Girl Child is examined. Number and rate of Arab girls from primary school to higher education is given. Arab girls in teacher schools and participation of labor force are given. The

life and success story of Prof. Fadia Nasser-Abu Alhija and interview with her is given.

Finally author gives some suggestions to reveal potential of Arab girls. Some of them are; family support, financial aid etc.

Editor's Note:



Professor Hanna David has numerous books, articles about educational psychology and gifted education. She received many awards.

Academic Degrees

Ph.D. (magna cum laude), 1999-2003, Educational Psychology (major); Education and Didactics of mathematics (minors), Ludwig Maximilians Universität, München, Germany.

M.A., 1974-1975, Jewish Literature and Education, The Jewish Theological Seminary, New York, USA.

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