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Initial Teacher Training for Early Childhood Education in Poland and Iraqi Kurdistan

A Comparative Study

**Doctoral Dissertation prepared on supervision**

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### **ABSTRACT**

This research is an educational comparative study between Poland and the Kurdistan Region, This is the first educational comparative study ever conducted in the field of teacher training in Kurdistan region of Iraq.

The objectives of this research study are to better know and understand the systems of teacher training and how to prepare teachers in the Faculty of Education/University of Warsaw and the College of Basic Education/ University of Salahaddin, and then analyzing the aspects related to the teacher education systems from both universities by comparing them to one another. Another goal of this work is to identify the strengths and weaknesses of both systems. Arriving at suitable suggestions for the development of the of teacher training system in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq.

The research is an attempt to reach the answer of these questions: what are the vision and mission of College of Basic Education and Faculty of Education of both universities? How teachers are trained in the departments of Kurdish, mathematics, and kindergarten at Colleges of Basic Education at the Salahaddin University and Early Childhood Education department at the Faculty of Education at the Warsaw University? Are the teacher education programs according to the teacher education standards? What courses are taught in their curricula? Which methods are followed for the instruction of the content knowledge? What types of classes are there? Who are the instructors who teach at both universities? What are strengths and weaknesses in the kindergarten and primary teacher education systems in both colleges of basic education and faculty of education? What are the differences and similarities in the systems of teacher training in both universities?

As a result of this comparative study, it has been discovered that there are so many differences between the teacher training systems of the Faculty of Education and College of Basic Education. From these differences, it appears that most of the aspects and components of teacher training system at the Faculty of Education, Warsaw University are better and more effective for 'Early Childhood Education' than those of teacher training system in College of Basic Education, Salahaddin University.

At the end of this study, there are certain suggestions made for improving the system of teacher training for kindergarten and primary education in the Kurdistan region of Iraq.

### **Key words**

Teacher, Teacher training in Poland and Iraqi Kurdistan, Early Childhood Education, College of Basic Education of Salahadin University, Faculty of Education of Warsaw University, Education System in Poland and Kurdistan region of Iraq, Comparative Research