



Language and Culture Education for Migrant Children Born Abroad

Dear Readers,

Humans differ from other creatures with the ability to speak. This ability helps them to socialize. In today's world, a great number of people live another country where their ancestors weren't born. Children of those migrants should be educated specially because of their unique situation.

Many of the migrant families communicate with their children with their native language and even if they live in another country they try to live their own culture in small communities. Some children experience the language and culture of the country they live in. That causes a common dilemma for children.

The studies show that knowing the native language and culture well lies behind a successful school life. For that reason, host countries want citizens with good native language knowledge. Likewise, home countries attach special importance to language and culture education of their subjects living abroad.

As a country with many citizens living abroad, Turkey is one of the leading countries when it comes to language and culture education. The Ministry of Education has over 1500 qualified teachers working in West Europe, Central Asia, Caucasia, and the Middle East. Also, Presidency for Turks Abroad and Related Communities (YTB) has a lot of projects for improving language and culture knowledge of Turkish citizens abroad.

Teaching native language to the children of the citizens living abroad can be the same as neither teaching native language in the home country nor teaching a second or foreign language. For this reason, the Turkish Ministry of Education prepared a special curriculum and course books.

Turkey plays a leading role in native language and culture education in host countries, knowing the fact that well-educated children will be good members of their host nation, also they will be real ambassadors of their home countries.

Sincerely,

Seyithan Razi
Guest Editor

Counselor of Education

Embassy of Turkey in Switzerland, Switzerland

Email: seyithanr@gmail.com

