

# Spare Periods And The Effect Of Teacher's Absence On Student's Educational Attainments

Jamal Khalifa Mohammed Taleb Al Marboui

**Abstract:** This study, which was conducted in some of AL-Buraimi schools, aims to highlight the most important effects of spare periods on the teacher in general, or on the class in particular. The reason that made the researcher look into the problems that came along with it and effected directly on dropping students attainment level because of teachers absences. For this study the researcher chose the descriptive approach, being the appropriate approach for this kind of study, as it describes the reality accurately and helps to know the elements of the relationship between teachers' absence and its effect on students' attainment level, with what it resulted of outbreaks of this spare period phenomenon and executing it without any clear methods which often leads to the substitute teachers grumbling and its reflect on the future of the educational process. As well as absence is a grave obstacle in achieving the goals that the ministry of education has drawn in which it contributes in dropping students levels, motivation and productivity in work, and creates a chaos in the educational field. That is why the recommendations of this study focused on solving this phenomenon and to restrain it according to scientifically studied systematic methods.

**Index Terms:** Absence, Spare periods, student's educational attainments, Teacher.

## 1 INTRODUCTION

SPARE periods are one of the oldest methods followed by schools administrations to solve the problem of teachers absence, not a single day passes without a spare period which caused a nonstop complication by the substitute teacher that replaces the original teacher. After the visits that we paid to some of the schools in the region, we found that different people are involved in distributing these spare periods between the school administration, senior teachers, and some others that were assigned to be in charge of this difficult issue. The substitute teacher feels discontent and annoyed of a load of this period – he finds that it had chained his liberty when he could have a sip of tea or get some rest- and this feeling might reach to the absent teacher. He could be blamed without considering his circumstances, and often the one who's in charge of managing these periods is also blamed. These are the reasons that made us study this phenomenon from both sides (the reality of spare periods- teachers absence reasons) from what the case is in AL- Buraimi region schools, and focus on the highlights of the problems that we must interfere to resolve according to the available possibilities, and study the most prominent proposals and recommendations by which we can improve the work and overcome this problem.

## 2 STUDY QUESTIONS

- 1 What is the way that is used to manage spare periods in regional schools?
- 2 What is the benefit of these spare periods in education?
- 3 What are the suggestions and recommendations to improve the workflow of spare periods in a perfect way?
- 4 How does teacher's absence effect on the educational process?
- 5 What are the most prominent reasons that lead to teacher's absence?

- 6 What are the suggestions and recommendations that contribute to eliminating the phenomenon of teacher's absence?

## 3 OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

1. Identify the ways of distributing the spare periods in regional schools.
2. Study the level of the benefaction of the spare periods through activating it in the class.
3. Monitoring the most prominent suggestions and recommendations to improve the workflow of spare periods in a perfect way.
4. Identify the effect of teacher's absence phenomenon on the educational process.
5. Analysis the elements and the causes that lead to teacher's absence phenomenon.
6. Monitoring the suggestions and recommendations that contribute to eliminating this phenomenon.

## 4 IMPORTANCE OF THE STUDY

We are well aware of the magnitude of the effect caused by teacher's absence and it's reflection on the students' educational attainments. Especially, that the teacher is the cornerstone of the educational process. The spare period was the best solution to cover this problem of absence in the school, which our schools carried out since the seventies of last century and took it as a regular way to cover the absent teacher. Unfortunately, we are facing this problem until today, which has become a phenomenon that disturbs the educators and the specialists in the educational field, and we are convinced that there is a defect in dealing with this problem, it has formed a real concern in the matter of wasting time and the student isn't getting any benefits from it most of the time. We hope that the educational institutions benefit from this study.

## 5 STUDY HYPOTHESES

1. The greater the problem of absent teaches become, the lower the educational attainments of students will be.
2. The greater the number of absent teachers is, the more likely it will increase the schools spare periods

- *The Author was born in 19/4/1973, he obtained BA in Education from Kingdom of Jordan, and he received his MA in Educational Management from Sohar University and currently he's completing his final dissertation for PhD degree in Malaysia in Educational Leadership.*

## 6 TIME LIMITS

The second semester of the academic year 2017/2018.

## 7 LOCATION LIMITS

Some of AL-Buraimi regions schools.

## 8 OBJECTIVITY LIMITS

This study is limited to the reality of the spare periods and the impact of teacher's absence on the educational attainments of the students

## 9 STUDY APPROACHES

For this study the descriptive approach is appropriate, being one of the most used methods in scientific researches, as it describes the reality accurately and it defines the relationship between the elements to reach an understanding of the phenomenon in a correct scientific way.

### 9.1 THE DEFINITION OF SPARE PERIODS:

We can say it's a part of time occupied by the absence of a teacher under any circumstances, and causes with it a crisis of filling this emptiness between the school's administration and the rest of the teachers, usually someone is asked to manage the spare periods and distribute them to the administrative and teaching faculty, and the way these classes are conducted are different from a school to another according to the intensity of the classes and the numbers of the teachers. We agree on the importance of these periods and the necessity of using it in a proper way that it benefits the students from different educational levels.

### 9.2 SCHOOLS EFFORTS AND APPLIED STRATEGIES FOR ACTIVATING THE SPARE PERIODS:

1. Solving the cases of frequent absent teachers by the school's administration and defeating the obstacles to reduce the continuation of their absence.
2. Increasing awareness of absence among the teachers through the meeting, periodic bulletins, and different educational meetings.
3. Providing a healthy and an appropriate workplace for learning and teaching to decline the absence of teachers.
4. Paying attention to the student's behaviors and working on reducing bad behaviors that ensures a welcoming environment for teachers.
5. Activating the role of a senior teacher in distributing the spare periods among his fellow teachers in order to achieve the desired goals and compensate the educational losses.
6. We can benefit from spare periods as awareness lessons presented by, Psychologist, and religious intellectuals.
7. Preparing the library and the computer hall to be used in some events and compactions that might compensate the losses from spare periods.
8. Distributing the spare periods equally among students to avoid favoritism and misconception

## 10 THE IMPACT OF TEACHER'S ABSENCE ON THE DECREASE OF THE ATTAINMENT:

The phenomenon of teachers absence is considered one of the most important educational problems the school faces, in consideration of the huge negativity that effect on the educational process in general and on the educational

attainment level in particular. The cause of absence varies from a teacher to another. Some resort to sick-leave, because it's easily obtained clinics and misused. Also, there is a group of teachers who are bored of the schools daily routine, o they make up ridiculous excuses to the administration to get an emergency leave because of boredom.

## 11 WE CAN IDENTIFY THE NEGATIVE IMPACTS OF THE PHENOMENON AS FOLLOWED:

- 1- The absence of teacher causes a baffle in education.
- 2- Contributing in heaping up the lessons on the students.
- 3- It effects negatively on students educational attainments
- 4- Increases the possibilities of flunking in school subjects.
- 5- Forbids the students from getting a good education.
- 6- Effects negatively on the curriculum schedule.
- 7- Decreases mental and psychological contact between the teacher and the student.
- 8- It distracts student's attention in understanding the subject.
- 9- It frustrates and averse students
- 10- It pressurizes a colleague and increases the number of his classes.
- 11- Burdens countries budget especially that in some cases it requires arranging teacher with daily wags to cover the situation.

## 12 PROPOSALS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1- Conceding spare period teacher with functional advantages like being compensated with cash, given a day off, or a gift for his hard work according to the times he's given the job.
- 2- Honoring spare period teacher in the morning assembly.
- 3- Honoring them on teacher's day, and assign the top student to spare period under the supervision of the substitute teacher.
- 4- Making a special dag for this period containing booklets questions and educational videos to be used in spare periods.
- 5- Create a new job position as an assistant teacher that takes the original teacher's place in class.
- 6- The absent teacher should make it up to his collogues after coming back.
- 7- Authorities should investigate how true the medical reports are given by clinics.
- 8- Organizing Seminars and educational programs that might help in decreasing the absence problem and finding a solution.

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