## Introduction

In this book, the author firstly has been trying to discuss the issues and general features related to international and comparative education in order to better understanding the nature of this new academic discipline. Secondly, in the other part of this book, effort has been focused upon a comparative and analytical approach to explain some of major present aspects of educational systems in different developed countries like Germany, Japan and South Korea. In order to clarify the process of this kinds of studies and research works, especially as a sample in the field of international and comparative education, this book has broadly divided into 13 units and the issues which have been evaluated through these sections are focused under the following titles:

- Unit 1: History and Background of International and Comparative Education
- Unit 2: Methodological Framework of International and Comparative Education
- Unit 3: Higher Education Trends in Iran
- Unit 4: Women Participation in Iranian Higher Education Institutions
- Unit 5: Education in Germany
- Unit 6: Vocational Training in Germany
- Unit 7: Higher Education in Germany
- Unit 8: Education in Japan
- Unit 9: Social Education in Japan
- Unit 10: Quantitative Development of Education in Japan

- Unit 11: Educational Development in South Korea
- Unit 12: Higher Education and Other Kinds of Education in South Korea
- Unit 13: Teacher Education in South Korea

This book as mentioned before, cover the broad subjects and issues related to international and comparative education while highlighting the similarities and differences of major trends in various educational systems. It has been organized as a textbook for doctorate and master level as well as graduate studies of universities in the field of educational sciences, especially in the area of international and comparative education.

The author therefore, expresses the hope that besides his students, the book will find readers among teachers, educational administrators and those researchers who want to conduct any comparative studies and research works.

I hope that this book may at least provide its readers with food for thought and perhaps throw some lights on different aspects of the most highly advanced national educational systems throughout the world, as Germany, Japan and South Korea, as well as Iran.

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