

## *INTRODUCTION*

The general secondary stage is of great importance in the educational ladder in many countries as it is the gate to universities and higher institutes which provide the society with specialists in different fields. Many of the general secondary school graduates are also well prepared to work in many fields in the job market; thus forming the human base for the economic structure. The modifications newly applied to this stage and the system of examinations require great efforts on part of the central offices and this makes the system less related to local environments.

The system of education plays a vital part in education in general and in the general secondary stage in particular as this stage leads to the university and higher education.

Joining the university still depends on the total marks a student gets in one term (the old system) or in two terms (the new system) and marks is

This system disregards the individual differences among students.

Examinations is a means to recognize the scientific and professional future of students and their ability to face that future.

The present systems of examinations do not allow the students to take part in development plans in society. Consequently some problems arose such as the spread of private lessons. Also the university cannot absorb all the general secondary school graduates because of the systems

of examinations (That are closely related to the national educational plan and the central supervision: This necessitates.) developing the systems of examinations in the general secondary stage to satisfy the needs of this age.

The researcher studied the systems of examinations in the general secondary stage in the developed countries such as England, Japan and the United States of America to benefit from their experiences in this field.

The comparative study has shown that the systems of education in those countries are numerous, varied, and related to the local environment.

The systems of examinations in such countries are more related to the local environment as they are not central. Those who obtain the general secondary school certificate can easily find jobs or join the university. In addition to this, students are free to choose the kind of university education that suit their interests and abilities. There is also relationship between the system of examinations in the secondary stage and the job market. Consequently such examinations and evaluation produce people who are fit for the job and meet the requirements of the job market. The comparative study conducted by the researcher may help develop the systems of examinations in the secondary schools in Egypt.

### ***THE PROBLEM***

This research paper concentrates on the problem of "how to develop the systems of education in the general secondary schools in Egypt by benefiting from the experiences of some countries".

### ***IMPORTANCE OF THE STUDY***

The general secondary education in Egypt suffers from some problems such as the systems of examinations which are considered an end not a means to useful education. Depending mainly on examinations as a criterion for joining the university has its negative effect on the outcome of the general secondary education. Focusing on the general secondary school certificate examinations as the only way leading to the university has paved the way to illegal activities such as cheating and private tutoring and this phenomenon constitutes a big problem.

### ***LIMITATION OF THE RESEARCH***

This study is limited to the system of education in the general secondary school in Egypt in the following periods:

***(1882 - 1952)***

***(1953 - 1987)***

***(1988 - 95/1996)***

This study includes the system of enrollment in the secondary schools in England, Japan and the U.S.A to benefit from their experiences.

## ***METHODOLOGY***

The comparative method is used Egypt and the countries comparison.

## ***PREVIOUS STUDIES***

Some related studies have been reviewed specially concerning the general secondary education in Egypt and the foreign countries. As far as the researcher knows, no previous study dealt with such a problem in Egypt.

## ***SUGGESTED CHAPTERS***

***Chapter (1):*** The general framework including the introduction, the problem and its importance, the limitations, the methodology used, the previous studies review and the study procedures.

***Chapter(2):*** Deals with the systems of examinations in the general secondary schools in Egypt including the ministerial decrees and the effect of the political, economical and social changes on the educational policy.

***Chapter(3):*** The management of the general secondary school certificate examinations in Egypt to find out the main problems that face such systems. This chapter deals also with the organization of such examinations centrally.