

**The Required Competency for Teachers: Then and Now – A  
Comparative Study Based on Secondary School Teachers**

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**Abstract**

All round development of a child is possible only through Education. General education is one of the basic indicators of a country's progress. Based on this, objectives of this study are as follows to understand the meaning of "Competency" in Teaching; to know the required competency for Secondary School Teachers-Then and Now; to analyze the differences if any, in the perception of the teachers in class level, sex wise, location wise and, educational level wise and to explore measures for the improvement and developments of the competency among the teachers now in service. This research is of survey type. Samples for this study are randomly selected from several secondary school teachers in service and retired teachers in Jaffna. To know the required competency for the teachers, a questionnaire has been designed. To collect the opinion about the required competency and to differentiate the perception of teachers based on variables, the percentage has been utilized. The quality of education depends on the quality of teachers. If the teachers do not have the essential competency required for teaching profession pupils learn very little. Poor school quality is one of the major problems which occur in Jaffna region. Therefore, sharpening and refining the competency of teachers is very essential. This study may help the teachers who are now in service to understand the most required competency for them while knowing the competency of the retired teachers then.

***Key words: Competency, Secondary School Teachers.***

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