

## Success Story of Nazan INAN KOYUNCAL from ANADOLU

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When I was born on 5 th November, 1980 in Mahmudiye, Eskisehir, my family who had two sons, especially my father was very happy. My mother could not understand that she was pregnant until the 5th month. My father who learnt that they would have a daughter has always been with me since I was born. My mother also supports me everytime. My parents are graduates of primary school and my bothers are graduates of high school and our economic situation has not been good.



I am the only person who attended university in my family. Some difficulties, my brother's 2 accidents, having some financial problems affected my education. I started to study in a private high school but I had to attend a government school and buy new books. I graduated from high school thanks to my mother's knitted works. I wanted to attend university but we had financial difficulties. I could not stop my love for education. I had to fulfill my dreams. On the other hand, I had to earn money for my education. I decided to attend university and work at the same time with my mother's supports. I enrolled Anadolu University Open Education Faculty. Completing its 30th year in Turkish Higher Education System, Anadolu University Open Education Faculty does not only provide higher education to 1 million 700 thousand students and graduates but it also has a an important role in solving educational problems in Turkey.



Open and Distance Learning was restructured considering the educational needs of the day in 1993. Economy and Administration programs were developed into 4 year Administration and Economy Faculties. According to this delegated legislation, Open Education Faculty was required to provide services such as books, TV and radio programs, academic counselling, organization, exams and every types of student affairs and two-year degrees, four-year degrees, and every type of certificate programs.

Academic Programs of Administration and Economy Faculties was reorganized in 1998. Contents of the lessons were reviewed. All the books were redesigned, rewritten and published according to the contemporary developments of distance education. TV programs were renewed in accordance with the books, CD-Roms were made. Open and Distance Education Education System consists of Administration, Economy and Open Education Faculties.



Later on, I started to work as a student-worker at Anadolu University Hospital as the secretary of the head doctor. I became a worker because of my hard work and resolve. I graduated from Anadolu University Faculty of Economics on 6th September, 2010.



I still work at Anadolu University Hospital. I have always wanted to be a pilot since my childhood but I decided to be a hospital manager.



With my family and my husband's supports, I won Administration of Health Institutions master without thesis program of Zirve University. I enrolled there in 2012 Fall Term.

Zirve University Administration of Health Institutions department started to accept students in 2011 and it has had over 400 students so far. Recognizing the need for professional managers in health services, Zirve University has founded Distance Administration of Health Institutions master without thesis program in order to supply demand in the field and international collaboration among the teaching staff that has experience in Health Economy, Methods of Health Services, Health Policy.

This distance program provides education to students everywhere without time, travel and place limitations. I have to be in my workplace during day time so it is difficult for me to attend formal education. I can participate in the lessons online by Zirve University Distance Education Program or follow the lessons later. We follow the lessons online in virtual classes in the evenings. We can see and hear our teachers. Teachers share some files and implemented practices with us. Lessons last for 45 minutes so we can not get enough information, reach teachers whenever we want, ask questions and we have some problems stemming from the Internet disconnection, voice problems.



It is difficult to explain how happy I am to approach my dreams. It is inevitable to have some problems of being a student when you are a married woman. During day time I work at the hospital, I study in the evenings. I cannot spend time with my family and husband, I do not have a social life. When friends want to visit us, I postpone their visits and they have to come on holidays.



I have always been happy and managed to be happy in my life. I have never given up. I have always thought that I am alive and with my family. I have never looked at the past. I have tried to do my best. I thank my mother, father, elder



**brothers, my husband and my teachers who are always with me and to Anadolu University and Zirve University.**

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