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The Challenges of New Educations for University Students in Covid-19 Outbreak

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Abstract:

Introduction: Virtual or online education is one of the common methods in different countries of the world, something that can be more used in different and special situations or conditions such as, we are today confronting with, Covid-19 pandemic. It is faced today with different challenges mostly in education for higher education students. We surveyed the challenges of new educations for university students in covid-19 outbreak.

Methods: To conduct the survey research we studied the related text with the subject in the web and asked some students views and thoughts on new education, e-learning, online or virtual education conducted today to give the challenges a fast answer that may not completely satisfying the students. A semi-phenomenological like method was used to collect the needed data to be transliterated then for the tables provided.

Results: Increasing the facilities, familiarity, cost reduction, fast speed, and access to the Internet has an effective role in the development of this method. The only thought-provoking factor is the way students perform and their views due to the infancy of the method, which needs to be studied and followed up to be more developed and restructured well. Even if it has some different advantages for performing the job well in some areas, but some of the students have no a positive attitude toward it in education as a whole.

Conclusion: There are many different views and attitude toward new education performed today's in higher education fields and areas around the planet with positive and negative aspects and understanding. It is the duties of the men who are expert in the field and responsible to use them and pick up the best to present the way or methods that act well and has the most efficiency for all with low cost, fast speed, high accuracy to reach the goal.

Keywords: Covid-19, E-Learning, Information Technology, Online-Learning, Virtual-Education

Introduction: The world today is in a big problem for more than one year and it seems that there is no any end way for it now. All the sections and affairs are affected by the challenge we are faced with and the most concerns of the people around the world is that will they be alive and no problem will meet and hit them anyway!, by the novelty virus emerging out of far cities as it is said.

Covid-19 viral disease (Coronavirus 2019) was created in December 2019 in Wuhan of China, it quickly spread worldwide, and it is a serious issue for public sanitation and people health and all the societies on the planet (Dastani, 2020). The work places, factories, institutions, Jobs and the ruling systems, all have been somehow cancelled for sometimes or slowdown in their trying and acts and their running order has been changed, chaotic and or missed. Universities and colleges, as a part of the system on our planet have faced and experienced Covid-19 problems, fears, stresses, death and so many others as their concerns and the way they must continue their education based on the families sensitiveness and mostly for those who are far from their families in dormitories or in another cities and overseas.

Universities and college campuses are places where students live and study in close proximity to each other. They are also buzzing cultural hubs where students are brought together from other cities or nations around the world. Recently, the foundations of this unique ecosystem have been impacted significantly by the rapid spread of the coronavirus (Covid-19) outbreak, creating uncertainty regarding the implications for higher education (Keystone Academic Solutions, 2020). Over the past year, education officials around the world have been forced by their health ministries or Covid-19 higher control councils to cancel university classes and close the doors to campuses to prevent the risk of Covid-19 pandemic. They have switched classes to online learning and education and to use virtual space to do the task remotely after encouraging them to return home to complete their studies.

The whole educational system from elementary to tertiary level has been collapsed during the lockdown period of the novel coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) not only in India but across the globe. Approximately 264 million children and adolescents are not in school (UNESCO, 2017), and this pandemic made this situation further worst. As the COVID-19 pandemic spreads, there has been an increasing move towards teaching online because of shutting down of schools, colleges and universities for an indefinite time as the only option left (Lokanath, 2020).

Another problems being aware of that is to have or not to have the basement of the work to run the program for distance learning and education. The plan may need some hardware and softwares to conduct and run the task. At least an acceptable smartphone, computer, laptop and strong and fast internet line is even necessary, something that we know the most of the world and the poor countries in Africa, Latin America, Asia and some other parts is lost and not found anyway to run the task.

Considering 2 to 3 children in a family, and may more in most of the developing countries as school or college student, with a mother and father as a clerk in an office that need a ware to manage her or his job, you will feel the problems and concerns created followed by another crisis as Covid-19 in the orbiting planet we are living together. Think and consider that in these conditions and status what will happened after a time with lockdown at home for more than 1 year or more? Children are nervous, tired and bored after a time working online with wares and far from live and physical education in schools and universities, and this is much worse for those who

are the first year entering the colleges or schools waiting years to be accepted as university students.

Making distance learning work for all students is challenging. The best tools can be in place, but without equitable accessing by all students to the tools, adequate preparation time and training for faculty, and the adaption of existing curricula, or the development of brand-new course syllabi, it will be difficult to replicate the in-person learning experience, online. Consequently, some questions that have arisen with distance learning is whether it offers the same value as learning in a classroom, and whether it helps students to imbibe knowledge as they would if they were in a classroom? The disparity in access to technology and internet access is especially glaring among minority populations (Armstrong-Mensah, 2020).

Then, the world and the world learning and education is in a big problem, tired and board of continuing the same more. They are waiting for a way out of the challenges faced with by Corona virus outbreak. They are young and wish a better world, a better education, participation, mutual interaction, gathering, crowded scientific sittings, meeting and speaking around the university together, laughing and learning from their professors' behaviors and invisible schools affecting them in the environment. They need it and it is their right, of course, to have a better world, since they are yours, mine and of the globe, something that can be accepted and a wish for the men of wisdom and those who thinking wisely. Then, we aimed to survey the challenges of new educations for university students in covid-19 outbreak.

Methods: In the present study we aimed to analyze the perceptions and the experience of students and faculty members about the challenges of E-learning and virtual education and traditional one in higher education as well. Then, a semi-phenomenological like method was used to collect, identify and represent the depth of their sayings and claims. We used a purposive sampling and semi-structured interviews with 15 students in a virtual-online class and some faculty members involved of virtual courses. Some related text of articles and their results were also studied and surveyed around the world to know the messages and views of different students of the subject. To be more aware of the students' understandings of e-learning, online or virtual education and its challenges in higher education we asked some students directly some questions and reviewed some comments and their views from the results of other researchers studies conducted on the subject before. We had a look on traditional method advantages and disadvantages from the participants' point of view to know more about the views and transliterating them more and give more depth to the findings. The findings were brought together in the pictures and tables in the result section.

Results: The problems and challenges resulted from the crisis we observe at present with not an effective way out of it is expressed and claimed by the students and those who are involved in.

Larry Ferlazzo is an English and social studies teacher at Luther Burbank High School in Sacramento, Calif. He asked the student some questions to know how they think on online classes.

Lee Xiong is a junior at Luther Burbank High School, says:

“This has taught me that online learning will not be for me in the future! Maybe for one or two classes, but overall I plan for my school life to be set in a physical classroom for the most part. Although this has been a challenging time for school and out in the real world, remembering to stand tall will get us through this together.”

Evelynn Vang is another junior at Luther Burbank High School, claims that:

“Learning at school is best for me”

“The online learning experience as a student for me has been fine. I sometimes find myself not interested in doing my assignments and I feel like I’m lazy. I still do the assignments, but I sometimes end up turning in my assignments late. It’s like I’ll do the assignments whenever I feel like doing it...I do have to say that whenever I’m at school, I always feel nervous in class. Now that I’m at home learning, I don’t feel nervous. From my online learning experience right now, I would not choose more online learning in the future because in a school, a classroom is a learning environment. Also, I feel like it’s easier to communicate with my classmates/groups for projects, teachers, counselors, and principal. Learning at a school is best for me.”



The above protesting sayings are something that the students claimed about online learning presented by Larry Ferlazzo (Ferlazzo, 2020).

When I asked some of the students on virtual space and or online education, so many different view were found from its goodness and badness of the said period we are faced with forcibly today because of covid-19 outbreak in the world, something that was so good if would be used eagerly. The observation showed that some student were satisfied with it and found it useful and better than physical classes far from the area and living with family, its accessibility, being fast, and the ability of reviewing the offline files sent by teachers again and again.

Mehdi, one of the students said: “It is very fine to have the teaching files for ever and have a look on it whenever we have time without any teacher again and listen or watch it being lying down, alone and in silence, while a girl student disagree and claimed that “university atmosphere was something else and we could see each other, speak, present conference face to face, do some other activities with others of the same age of ours and ask physically teachers and learn from the other junior and senior students, as well...”.

Mohammad Reza also told: "I think they should eliminate this semester altogether. “Because online classes do not have the quality of face-to-face classes, or at least allow students more time or years to study."

Atefeh introduces herself as a communication student and believes: "Some of our courses are practical and require face-to-face work, practice and field research. These units are not taught with an online class. "I think that after the reopening of the universities, practical classes should be given priority" (atnanews, 2020).

Azizi and his colleagues in their research “The comparison of teaching virtual (electronic) method with lecture method on students' learning rate in oral and maxillofacial diseases and their satisfaction” found the following different results written in Table 1. The comparison was between two methods of traditional and online (virtual or electronic) method between 39 college students. The results were coming up through SPSS software and MANN-U-WHITNEY.

Table 1: The rate of students' learning and satisfaction according to the teaching method

Variable Teaching Method	Learning Rate	Satisfaction Rate					
		Very Well	Well	Average	Bad	Very bad	Total
Traditional N=39	11.97±2.18	n=8 20.5%	n=23 59%	n=8 20.5%	n=0 0%	n=0 0%	39 100%
Online (Virtual) N=39	12.98±3.17	n=7 17.9%	n=20 51%	n=9 23.5%	n=3 7.6%	n=0 0%	39 100%
Result Test	p<0.2	p<0.7					

Table 1 showed that there was a different between the two methods of teaching even if they were not significant. They concluded that there was not a significant difference in some other research results such as Nourian, but there was a significant difference in the result of Zarifsanaiy and his colleagues between two Traditional and Electronically methods in teaching (Azizi et al, 2018). Another study conducted by Prasetya et.al concluded that E-learning gives students the freedom to access learning content, determine the order of learning, determine the pace of learning, and

choose appropriate learning media to meet learning outcomes. Online learning using e-learning requires students' active role during the learning process; students' active role during the learning process will be able to improve student learning outcomes. Some of the results of their research are as the following:

Table 2. Satisfaction level evaluation results

Indicator	Value	Satisfaction criteria
Content	4.0300	Satisfied
Accuracy	4.0200	Satisfied
Format	4.2550	Very satisfied
Easy to use	4.0288	Satisfied
Timeliness	4.0900	Satisfied

The results of the evaluation level of e-learning user satisfaction based on table 2 can be concluded that students who used e-learning were satisfied with the content, accuracy, format, easy to use, and timeliness of e-learning course (Prasetya et. al, 2020).

Considering different understandings, "One of the disadvantages of virtual classes is that the professor is not sure about the student's awareness and presence, and he repeatedly asks that if you have my voice, announce your presence," This means that you can connect to the master, but do something else, and there is no tool to control this process."

"Holding these classes is a new experience and the result of a crisis," said Dr. Vahid Shalchi, a professor of sociology at the School of Social Sciences. So we should not expect it to be error-free and challenging. "The best thing to do is to constantly follow up on its challenges and problems, and to find solutions to address them."

Dr. Mohammad Reza Rahbarpour, a faculty member of Allameh Tabatabai University, also wrote on his social media page: "Fairly commendable and great work was done in a short time; "Many of the world's higher education institutions have either shut down classes altogether or are using software such as Skype or Adobe Connect (Atna, 2020).

In spite of being available some platforms, but it was a challenge for universities to map their educational activities in an online space in Covid-19 pandemic and professors and students also faced a wide range of logistic, technical, financial, and social problems and challenges during online education (Peters et al., 2020).

However there is some problems and challenges as Dhawan claimed that E-learning has certain weaknesses in the form that it can hamper the communication between the learner and the educator, that is, direct communication and human touch are lost. Dhawan said also that users could face many technical difficulties that hinder and slow-down the teaching–learning process. But as they resulted again that online learning generally has a lot of opportunities available but this time of crisis will allow online learning to boom as most academic institutions have switched to this model. Online Learning, Remote Working, and e-collaborations exploded during the outbreak of Corona Virus crisis (Dhawan, 2020). These were the good and bad of online, virtual and E-learning education during the pandemic the world is experiencing today.

Conclusion: Some observations and documents of the researches approved that there is good and bad of online and virtual learning and education that some are good as higher quality of education based on technology used, easily access, huge size of information being available, fast speed, the ability of mutual interaction, accessing to a good cyber space and web environment with a good flexibility and good for most of the students to work with it in some areas and fields. But, there are unlike some challenges as well in this case such as technical problems, not being face to face and in close physical contact between the professors and students, security and skill problems, poor familiarity of some teachers with virtual space from information literacy point of view, evaluating the students with difficulties and controlling their presentation, some sensitivities to traditional methods of education and its priority to modern space in some teachers, students and the families, less speed in some cases or status, and at last but not the least, ethical and cultural problems are of the so many items that can be discussed (Ghorbankhani, 2017).

Virtual education requires prerequisites and special teaching method that the conditions are not provided in many parts of the world. In contrast, some considered coronas an golden time that it has created really an opportunity that could serve in a review and opening a new horizons in structures and processes that has gone away education system and higher education of its original nature. Education system looks at corona as an aggressive one in repelling and not approaching to their structures, but Corona's view to the education system of the countries is a corrective look and benevolent that seeks to lead the available education weaknesses to be restructured with a new and fresh rethinking to the present needs of the era (Salimi, 2020).

We conclude, from the sayings and the results of the researches done, that there are different views and understandings of the available status that need to be reviewed and modified.

Regardless of some differences in the comments and students views of the online learning and education imposed by the Covid-19 pandemic, it seems that technology presence today as a great finding for the human, if used well and in its place, can be more useful and helpful. Some Jobs and tasks cannot accept and receive only online services as a whole in their part and are not able to fulfil it completely and to play their role enough when there are some practical classes, laboratory work, face-to-face things, role-playing, and direct observation needed. An overall look on the findings and results show that most of the students around the world are in anger, force, unhappy, tired, board, depressed, lethargy, woozy and missed their education environment, hastily waiting and expecting to be reopen again for ever to put away the masks and have a close contact with each other. In spite of the fact that technology and virtual space and this kind of education can be helpful and positive in most of the aspects, but they prefer to be in the physical place and use new and modern methods of teaching, resulted by new wares, as a complementary tool and method.

It is now so early to give some exact comments strongly on online advantages and disadvantages to be accepted, even if it has and will have some effects on the next learning and education methods in the university programs in the future, and it seems that online and virtual education proved itself in a big and long run by shaking traditional methods of learning and mostly for those who were against and the traditionalists. Now, it is and can be a warning to those who are responsible to think more to put more budgets in the field to develop the online systems, fast and wide internet programs since they felt the problem and knew needs as today they were suddenly faced with a novelty virus such as the ruling one. The needed bases and the structures should be made for both users and the universities and all education systems to help them be aware, hopeful, strong, eager

and not to be afraid of the crisis coming time to time. We should consider and not forget that technology and online equipments and tools are a help, complementary and not all, physical, face-to-face and educational environment and atmosphere is something else and may unique.

It is the responsible and ruling systems duty to wipe out all the concerns and the problems that can be made for the students in the universities and make all the conditions well and enough proper to provide the best status for learning and education in this way, provide cooperation of any type, participation, mutual contraction, fast accessing to the globe internet, stop the wars and develop the useful wares, make peace and do their best for positive and global education with a good and beneficial look to different races, cultures and colors to put the small planet, we are living in, as a peaceful place with all kinds of different and positive learning and education for a better living for all based on modern technology and research results. It may so a day.

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