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New Media Technology and Teaching in Digital Age¹

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New Media Technology and Teaching in Digital Age

We all notice that advancement in the world of information technology has taken the world by storm. Almost every country and every sector of our society seems to have adapted to the new means of the digital world. How has media technology improved over the years in wake of this digitalization? Almost every other day we hear of new software, surfacing of a new technology adding to the ease in our lives. Similar is the case with media technology which is progressing ahead day by day with the adoption of new media techniques which include user friendly interfaces, the apps which enhance the quality of communication and studies.

Sometimes, we feel that now we cannot imagine to live our lives without new technologies. Ponder for a while. Can we live without Internet? Can we imagine to live without face-book, twitter, snap-chat, I-Phone? etc etc. There is a long list of technology based gadgets and soft-wares, platforms, etc which have become integral part of our daily routine.

In this digital age, teaching has also been influenced by the technological advancements. Let's go back in time, its 2020 March everything seems to have come at a halt because of the invasion of COVID-19 into human colonies. Schools, colleges, universities, offices, and markets everything is shutting down till the date unknown. That was the time when new technology surfaced and changed the entire course of the conventional teaching style, working style in fact the whole lifestyle.

New media technology introduced multiple applications which could help students in learning. These included Microsoft Teams, ZOOM, and Learning Management Systems. Some of these apps did exist already but were not commonly used. The introduction and usage of the apps in academic sector brought to light a new successful teaching style.

Take the example of this ICONTE Congress. It is being held on virtual space. In the past, we used to travel to Turkey from Pakistan to attend the conference. Now these conferences, workshops, seminars and special lectures are being organized virtually through the use of new media technologies.

With the technological advancement one thing is very clear that conventional teaching style is gradually losing its demand and the students of this digital world are more interested in technology based learning. Books have been replaced by E-Books and that is somehow beneficial too saving the cost of books as everything is available online now and is quite up to date as well. Huge digital and online libraries are there which are of great importance for students and teachers. But one thing needs to be

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remembered over here technology can't replace a teacher. History has made it evident that teachers are the back bone of the Education System. Teachers are essential for imparting certain skills in their students and it is well known that without teachers we cannot survive in this technologically fast world. But we cant say what happens in the future. In china, artificial intelligence based, robot anchors have replace human anchors. We cannot say may be in future robots be teaching in universities, colleges and schools.

Teaching in Digital Age with the help of new media technology has opened the minds of the students, showing them all the aspects of the topic through visual aid which compels them to think out of the box. With the advancement in technology even teachers are well equipped and well aware of the modern cheating methods therefore they are prepared beforehand to counter that breaching act.

One thing is important to remember that It is well known that the mind of a modern child is always attracted towards technology centered learning. These young students want to break the shackles of the conventional teaching and learning style and are attracted by the modern ones which give them the room as well as ground for imagination. This doesn't necessarily mean that teachers have lost their importance and are not needed any more in fact the technologically well equipped teachers are highly demanded.

Usage of new media technology has made teaching in digital age quite easy now teachers can teach and students can learn from the comfort of their own couch. The unconventional activities regarding the lecture grab more of a student's attention. It is essential that educators are aware of new educational changes, mainly those connected to technology, given the rapid changes in communication, culture, pedagogy, and developments in knowledge. Some teachers may resist change due to their fear of change. Teachers in developing countries, such as Algeria and Libya, might feel more frustrated because of the digital gap in their countries and because of the digital gap with the students. Teachers in Pakistan are not too keen on incorporating and integrating digital technologies to teach.

In light of the fact that there are already policies about integrating technology in education, it is clear that digital education is needed in all fields of education. To cope with the digital age, developed countries have already trained their teachers and made training centers for the digital age. In light of the fact that there are already policies about integrating technology in education, it is clear that digital education is needed in all fields of education. To cope with the digital age, developed countries have already trained their teachers and made training centers for the digital age.