

## Relationship of “Education System” with “Information Age”

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The “Information Age” officially began in the United States in 1956, when the country, first had more “white collar” office, IT workers, managerial workers and service providers than the “blue collar” agriculture and manufacturing workers. The educational systems of technologically developed countries are struggling to appropriately accommodate the rapid progress in Information and Communication Technology (ICT). Our educational systems are facing a wide range of challenges such as inadequate budgets, growing poverty, and growing public pressures for higher educational performance outcomes. We are facing challenging problems, individually and collectively. The most important problems concern preserving and improving the sustainability and quality of life.

The human brain is naturally curious, and is always involved in a lifelong learning. All people, intentionally or not, teach themselves and others, and All our lives, we learn and teach. The Information Age is bringing us powerful aids for learning, communicating and processing information. It is also bringing us a rapid increase in the totality of information that one might want to learn and use. We are facing an information overload and an environment of rapid change.

Historically, educational systems have been quite conservative and slow to change, world over. Our real challenge is to reform our educational systems in an appropriate manner to meet future needs of our stu-

dents in rapidly changing world. ICT is producing major changes in the way people interact, conduct business, get their education, and entertain them. Further-more, our increasing understanding of learning domains (cognitive, psychomotor skills and attitudes), medicine, genomes, computer technology, nanotechnology, and other disciplines are powerful, ongoing agents of change. Informal and formal education plays a major role in our dealing with such challenges.

The task of improving education systems is huge, and there are many plausible approaches to accomplish this task. The problem is not one of having enough good ideas. The problem is one of having the resources and the will to adequately research the available ideas and widely implement the good ones.

Sooner or later, Pakistan will enter into information age where white collar workers will be more than the blue collar workers. To be a successful society in the information age, the appropriate skills of information and communication technology (ICT) must be included in all levels and curriculum of education, both at school and university levels. Research and development in science and technology is providing us with a rapid increase in the capabilities of tools that boost our physical and mental capabilities. Highly Intelligent Computer-Assisted Learning (HIICAL) must be offered to the students for faster learning.



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