



Distance Education

JULIYAS MECKWAN
Ph.D. Scholar

1. Introduction

Education is an integral part of human. How to fulfill the hunger of education of busy people? A question. So there is a distance education is not only blessing but also it plays a vital role for the growth of knowledge. So; Distance Education is a one of the important education system for the recent era.

2. Definition

Some of the experts explain distance education in their words like these.

Dohmen defines, "Distance education as a systematically organized form of self-study in which student counseling, the presentation of learning material and securing and supervising of students' success is carried out by a team of teachers, each of whom has responsibilities. It is made possible at a distance by means of media which can cover long distance."

Peters defines, "A method of imparting knowledge, skills and attitudes which is rationalized by the application of division of labor and organizational principles as well as by the extensive use of technical media, specially for the purpose of reproducing high quality teaching materials which makes it possible to interest great numbers of students at the sometime wherever they live. It is an Industrialized form of teaching and learning."

Holmberg defines, "The various forms of study at all levels which are not under continuous, immediate supervision of tutors present with their students in lecture rooms on the same premises, but which, nevertheless, benefit from the planning, guidance and tuition of a tutorial organization."

Wedemeyer explains, "Independent study consists of various forms of teaching-learning arrangements in which teachers and learners carry

out their essential tasks and responsibilities apart from one another, communicating in a variety of ways. Its purposes are to free on-campus or external learners with the opportunity to continue learning in their own environment, and developing in all learners the capacity to carry on self - directed learning, the ultimate maturity required of the educational person."

According to Moore, "Distance teaching is as the family of instructional methods in which the teaching behaviors are performed apart from learning, learning behaviors, including those that in a contiguous situation would be performed in the learner's presence, so that communication between the teacher and the learner must be facilitated by print, electronic, mechanical or other devices."

The above definitions explains the Distance education in the different ways but overall the concept is same we may find.

Here the independent study is considered as a part of a distance education. It also explains the various ways for the communication for distance education. The learner has to learn in his/her own environment and to develop the capacity to self-directed learning. It has various forms of teaching learning arrangements. In it, learner may not be attend during classroom regularly and only attend in an exam. The learner may communicate; if he/she wants to get the information or guidance in his/her study. In it the learner has to study self-based and she/he may use available media for educational communication. It may based on technologies too. So; we may say that distance education is as an organized well-planned programme.

3. Objectives

The objectives of the distance education may be like these:

1. To grow distance education as a learning activity.

2. To develop the education as structuring the system of distance education.
3. To provide education to the remote areas from official campus.
4. To provide an equal chance to a young and older learners.
5. To provide an opportunity to an individual to programme his/her course of study.
6. To avail the education for socially and economically poor people
7. The purpose to education for social welfare.
8. The ultimate purpose as education for all.

4. Merits of Distance Education

As per the requirement of education, we may define the advantages of education like these:

- It may provide an equal chance to people, who are unable to learn at specific time of learning.
- It may useful for the remote area, where the learner cannot get an opportunity.
- The main intense of distance education is the education for the needy people.
- The learner may use the media for his/her study at his/her busy schedule.
- This is an individualized system of learning; so, the learner learns at his/her level and time of learning.
- The learner who wants to learn but not learnt because of social or economic or etc. problems that they may be learn from this method of education.

5. Difference Between Traditional and Distance Education

Distance education	Traditional education
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Learner as a main figure. •Self-control must require for the learner. •Material is specially created for learner. •Isolation is a major part of this education. •It is democratized to large population. •The advantage of this education is for the groups such as living in rural area, remote area, working people women etc. •An opportunity to upgrade at any age of life. (Each level different age). •Education as a lifelong activity. •Acquire knowledge in new area. •It is a non-conventional kind of education. •Individual form of learning. •Mostly media based education. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Teacher as a main figure. •Control may be by an institute. •Material is already composed, used for learner. •Group and union is a major part of this education. •It is only democratized only for the one specific age group. •The advantage of the traditional education is only for learner of a specific institute. •No opportunity to upgrade after age as a learner.(Each age each group). •It is time oriented activity. •No chance to acquire knowledge in new area. •It is a conventional kind of education. •Face to face education & Group learning.

- The distance education is a democratic process, so it may provide freedom for learning too.
- The distance education is based on the trial-error approach, so a learner learns at each stage.
- It is cheaper than traditional education.
- The distance education reaches to learner.
- This is an education at a convenient place and time and is self-paced learning for learner.
- The numerous members of socially takes part in distance education in comparison to traditional education.
- The most important profit is that distance education removes the limitation of an age.
- A learner may learn different field during his/her whole life.

6. Limitations

The limitations of distance education may be defines as:

- Isolation is an essential problem in distance education.
- Lack of discipline fir study is also a problem for distance education.
- Some courses are take more or less time schedule (period) for course,. So, the assimilation of the syllabus is become more difficult.
- If sometimes it is in convenient for learner that some complex concept may be difficult for learner to understand it.

7. Some Open Universities of the World**Africa**

- National Open University of Nigeria
- Open University of Mauritius
- Open University of Sudan
- Open University of Tanzania
- Open University of West Africa
- Zambian Open University
- Zimbabwe Open University
- Islamic. Online University

Asia

- Bangladesh Open University
- Al-Quds Open University
- Allama Iqbal Open University
- Virtual University of Pakistan
- Andhra Pradesh Open University (India)
- Arab Open University
- Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Open University
- Global Open University
- Hochi Minh City Open University
- Indira Gandhi National Open University
- Karnataka State Open University
- Korea National Open University
- Krishna Kanta Handiqui State Open University
- Madhya Pradesh Bhoj Open University
- Nalanda Open University
- National Open University
- Nepal Open University
- Netaji Subhas Open University
- Odisha State Open University
- Open Cyber University
- Open University Malaysia
- Open University of China
- Open University of Hong kong
- Open University of Kaohsiung
- Open University of Israel
- Open University of Srilanka
- Open Orthodox University
- Pandit Sundarlal Sharma Open University
- Polytechnic University of the Philippines (Open University)
- Shanghai Open University
- Sukhothai Thammathirat Open University
- Tamilnadu Open University
- The Open University of Japan
- Universities Terbuka

- University of the City of Manila Open University
- University of Philippines Open University
- Uttar Pradesh Rajarshi Tandon Open University
- Uttarakhand Open University
- Vardhman Mahaveer Open University
- Venkateshwara Open University
- Wawasan Open University
- Yashwantrao Chavan Maharastra Open University

Australia

- Open Universities Australia

Europe

- Hellenic Open University
- Taras Shevchenko National University (KNU) Open University
- International Open University Foundation
- Novi Sad Open University
- Open International University of Human Development
- Open University of the Netherlands
- Open University of Cyprus
- The Open University
- Universidade Aberta

North America

- Athabasca University
- Intercultural Open University Foundation
- Thompson Rivers University, Open Learning
- Cushite Hebrew Yeshiva Open International University

South America

- International Open University
- Universidad National Abirta

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