# Perceptions of Students and Faculties Regarding Online Learning during Covid-19

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*Abstract*

*Aim of the present study is to analyze the perception of faculty and students regarding online learning. The study tries to describe the effectiveness of the "online learning system". This study also discussed the faculty's insight of online learning and also the perception of student on online learning. The work tries to explain the impact of online learning to the student and faculty and also on the education system. There are many advantages and disadvantages of "online learning system" seen and the research also describe them. The research also focused on the challenges that will appear in the "online learning system"and also discussed the limitation of the online learning process. In the time of Covid-19 pandemic the world faces challenges and the education system is disrupted, the main aim of this study is to find the perception of the student on online learning systems and how they adopt the learning process by collaborating with the faculty. This study examines the "online learning system" during the pandemic time explains the effect of online education. The study also focused on the research background, methodology, discussion, and also on result of the research. This study is effective for people who want to use it as secondary data.*

*Keywords*

*Challenges of online learnin, Covid-19 pandemic, Online learning, student and faculty perception, the efficacy of online learning.*

## INTRODUCTION

### Background of the research

Online learning is a concept of the advanced education system where students learn in a virtual environment. Online learning is also called e-learning, bringing a revolution in the education system. In the technology advance world, education systems are rapidly evaluating their system by bringing new thoughts into the education system. Online learning crate a great scope and opportunities for students and faculties. The covid-19 pandemic disrupted the traditional education system held in different institutions [1]. Due to the pandemic student and faculty did not run the education process physically and at that time many educational institutions proposed the online learning process in their education system. Online education turns the education system to be student-centered. The world faces many challenges during the Covid-19 pandemic and at that time people are forced for staying at home [2]. During the pandemic time, there was no interaction between students and faculties. However online learning helps students to communicate with faculties and also access online learning material whenever they want.

### Aim and Objectives

The aim of the present research is to describe the perceptions of students and faculties regarding online learning during the time of the Covid-19 pandemic. The research also aimed to find the positive and negative perceptions of faculty and student. The research also has many objectives and which are

- To Identify the perception of students regarding online learning during the pandemic
- To understand the perception of faculties regarding online learning during the pandemic
- To determine the Challenges Faced by the students during the Covid-19 Pandemic

### Purpose of the research

The determination of this research is to analyze the "online learning process" and the effect of this process during the pandemic time. The research also focused on "information and communication technology" and its role in e-learning. The purpose of the research is to find the issues related to online learning. Online learning takes place in the education system because of Covid-19 pandemic and brings changes in the education system. This system also brings many challenges and opportunities for students as well as for faculties. The online learning process rapidly increasing because it has many advantages. Both faculty and students have a perception on this online learning process.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

### Research design

Research design is an integrated part of research methodology that is used by researchers to maintain the effectiveness of a research study. Research design is also an important part of a research study which could enhance the overall effectiveness of a research study. It forms or develops the outline of a research study that can improve the relevance

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of the study [3]. There are different types of research designs that are widely used by researchers to perform research studies effectively. The exploratory research design is followed here through a secondary qualitative data collection method. Exploratory research study helps to determine the perception of students and their faculties regarding the online learning process during the Covid-19 pandemic.

### Research type

Research type is a crucial part of the research study that helps to improve the significance of the study. An effective research type helps to improve the productivity of researchers and makes research study time efficient. Qualitative and quantitative research types are more popular research types that are widely used by different researchers to perform research in a strategic way [4]. The qualitative research type is adopted here in this research to improve the effectiveness and significance of the study. Qualitative research type used here to understand the issue more prominently and that is important for a successful research study.

### Research philosophy

Research philosophy is an inseparable part of research that is important to improve the overall understanding of the research topic. It is important to analyse every aspect of the research that helps to improve the relevance of the study. The interpretivism research philosophy adopted in this study makes research more authentic and relevant [5]. The interpretivism research philosophy provides insight and knowledge about the perception of students and teachers regarding online learning during the Covid-19 pandemic. This research philosophy is beneficial for the study to perform an in-depth analysis of small data samples and helps to investigate the main objectives of the study.

### Inclusion and exclusion criteria

Inclusion and exclusion criteria are a crucial part of selecting journals, articles and newspapers during the data collection process. It improves the authenticity of the research study.

Inclusion criteria
- Authentic sources are used in this study to collect data from Journals, articles and newspaper articles.
- Sources that are published on and after 2018 are included in this study for data collection
- Journals and articles that are written in the English language that is selected in this study to collect data.

Exclusion criteria
- Blog and personal articles are avoided for data collection.
- Journals and articles that are written in other than the English language are excluded for data collection.

### Data collection and data analysis

Data collection and analysis is the most important part of a research study. It helps to make decisions about the research. An effective data collection process helps to improve the authenticity of the research. The secondary qualitative data collection and analysis process is adopted here in this study. The secondary qualitative data collection process makes the research process more time efficient and effective [6]. It gives an insight view about students' and faculties' perceptions of online learning during the Covid-19 pandemic. Thematic analysis of the topic also gives an adequate understanding and improves the overall effectiveness of the study.

## RESULTS

### Identifying the effectiveness of online learning and teaching during the covid-19 pandemic

The covid-19 pandemic brings challenges to the education system in the world and due to the pandemic, the education system shifted into a techno-economic culture. Most of the faculty are the first to experience online teaching during the pandemic but some of the faculty previously experience this process. The response of faculty enhances the possibility of taking online courses with directly connected with the students. Faculty and student found that online learning is useful during the pandemic time and it is also cost-effective. During the pandemic time, nearly about 186 countries implement nationwide closure, and this process affect 73.8% of the total enrolled learners [7]. The closure of educational institutions is affecting many students. However, online learning creates an atmosphere where students easily collaborate with the students in the online platform and ask their doubts to the faculty and also find the solution. The report on the effectiveness of online learning shows that students are provided an efficient online platform by their educational institution to attend the lecture properly. That report shows that technology skill requirements by the participant such as faculty and students are necessary to successfully collaborate and attend the lecture.

Students get training for how to attend online classes and on the other hand, faculty also get trained for use of online classes. The Microsoft team disclose that in October 2020, there are significantly increased in the number of active users who was daily participated in the online platform reach to 115 million [8]. Faculty and students are gaining new experiences while they attend online classes. Online learning allowed flexible time for participating in the course. Students are satisfied with online learning and they will continue with this process. Students are clearing their doubts easily by interacting with the faculty easily. Student-teacher interaction creat satisfaction in them and it affects the education system highly. On the other hand, students are distracted when they attend online classes but their family members. However, online learning creates a great impact on the education system and both faculty and students are benefited from the process.

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## Analysis of the perception of students and faculties of online learning during the pandemic

Information technology in the education field rapidly increasing and online learning is a great example of this. People adopt the process largely during the time of covid-19 pandemic but in the post covid period, the faculty and students also prefer online education largely because it is easy to collaborate between students and faculty on the online platform. The majority of the respondents agreed that they are capable for conduct online classes and also they have enough skills for conducting the class. Students' and faculty's perception is positive about online learning and it creates a beneficial impact on them. There are many types of research held about online learning perception and describe that online learning is less costly, easy to access, and convenient [9]. Online learning is more successful than traditional classroom learning. On the behalf of student perception, a degree certificate that is given from online learning is less valid than an offline learning certificate.

Online learning changes the education system and brings a new era in the global education system and mitigates the issue that is affecting the learning system. Many issues such as effective learning, lack of time management, and the difficulty in clearing doubts from faculty occurs in the traditional offline education system. Online learning systems mitigate the time taking education process. On the behalf of Faculty perception, online learning is an advance and easy process of teaching. Many faculties are capable of adapting to the online learning process and they are also flexible to do their work on the digital platform [10]. Faculty also manage their time easily and they are able to conduct the class at their time whenever they want. The process creates a good impression on the faculty and also improves their ability for interacting with the students and solves their doubt with minimum effort. The online learning process has been attributed self-regulated learning system and enhanced self-efficiency of learning performance.

## Understanding the advantages and drawbacks of online learning during the pandemic

Covid-19 is a pandemic disease and it was declared by the world health organization on march 11, 2020. The mode of offline education turned online due to the closure of the educational institution. The process brings a big change in the education system. The students and faculty in the world are impacted by online learning and this process has also impacted the people who are related to the education system. The online platform has different tools and facilities that help to improve the "online learning system". There are many advantages to "online learning system" and on the other hand, it has many disadvantages and limitation. Both advantages and disadvantages are significant in this "online learning process".

One of the advantages of online learning is it becomes a tool for preventing the outbreak of Covid-19 pandemic and also ensures social distancing. Due to the lockdown, the physically attend in the educational institution had stopped and online learning create an opportunity for students to collaborate with teachers and with faculty in the virtual form. Online education is a very useful learning tool that grants students and faculties 24/7 access to the education platform at their time preference [11]. It also brings flexibility to the education system and helps to gain the ability to accrue new knowledge about learning. Online learning is a time-consuming process and it also regardless of place. This process encourages the students to take part in the learning process and inline learning helps the student to acquire new skills and experiences. This also reduces the cost of traveling to the educational institution and also reduces related expenses. If students miss their online classes, then they will be able to do their classes by the use of recording classes. The institution which offers "online learning" provides the student unlimited access to the Lectures. It also allows to access outside resources for learning that can help the students to gain more information about the lectures.

There are also many advantages of online learning and these affected the learning and education system. One of the main advantages of a traditional offline learning system is the instant feedback of teachers or faculties to their students but in the "online learning" process there is some level of feedback that cannot be personalized feedback and it demotivated the students. There are many students and faculty whose primary source of social interaction is school and during the "online learning" process most of the time students and teachers are spending their time online and this creates social isolation. Another big disadvantage of the "online learning system" is proper monitoring and cheating during assessments. Online learning gives opportunities to the student to cheat. E-learning is inaccessible for digitally illiterate people and there are many people who are unable to join the online learning process [12]. This process creates a lack of development in communication skills and due to this process, many students are demotivated about their communication skills. The modern world is hugely dependent on the internet and "online learning" also depends on the internet. But many times there is connectivity issue of internet seen. In smaller cities and towns, people face internet connectivity issues, and due to this reason, many students and faculty cannot get part of online learning.

## DISCUSSION

Faculty and students both are directly related to the "online learning" system. Under the faculty's perception "online learning" system is a burden of face-to-face interaction with the students and this can reduce the effectiveness of the students. Faculty also shows that lack of interaction with the students brings low performance to the instructors. However, online courses help the faculty to achieve learning outcomes and academic syllabi [13]. Some of the faculty faced problems to organize the online classes, on the other hand, many of them are able to conduct the "online learning process" and they describe that it is easy for them to educate

students on the online platforms. The finding shows that many times online learning is effective but on the other hand it is ineffective for the student. Many faculties agreed that they agreed to make the online session short. However, preparation for online classes is longer than for offline classes. Faculty agreed that students do more assessments in the online learning systems than in the traditional offline learning system. Remote teaching systems required more students to do more tasks than the other offline conventional courses [14]. It is also seen by the faculty that, if the online class is long, the students get bored and are also distracted from their studies.

According to the students, the "online learning system" is the more productive and relaxed source of knowledge and they also agreed that it also helps them to access the study material twenty-four hour and whenever they want. This process also encourages the students to improve their self learning. In the online learning process, the student plays a big role in the learning process. The research study shows that the online learning process reduces education costs and also reduces the traveling cost because students stay at home. On the basis of student perception, it is shown that students learned many new experiences and also learn about time management and self-discipline. Covid- 19 pandemic brings many challenges in the world and also in the education system but the "online learning system" brings opportunities for the students and it also helps to maintain sustainability in the education system [15]. It is a great challenge for the world education system to bring innovative solutions during the pandemic time but online learning systems help educational institutions improve their learning process.

The impact of Covid-19 pandemic has changed the perception of the education system among students as well as the educators around the world. The study shows that the online education process has changed the daily monotonous routine especially among students [16]. The students felt that the time is being better utilized in this way. The online method has also made the study materials easily available among the students. The satisfaction of both teacher and student with the learning outcome and process is essential. Effective interaction between the students and teacher has a vital impact on the satisfaction level of both the counterparts of a classroom [17]. The results of this study indicate that the online method has been highly appreciated by the students for the clarity and organization of the process.

Teachers are another pillar of the classroom process. For the effectiveness of any class attended by a student, the satisfaction of the teacher on the mode of teaching is crucial. On the part of the teacher, the satisfaction level of the online teaching process has been found comparatively low [18]. The opinion of the effectiveness of the online classes has been however affected by the background and training of the teachers. The result shows a combination of both positive and negative perceptions of the teacher regarding the online classes. The group of teachers with negative reviews on the online process of taking classes has shown their own reason

for their dislike of the same. Some of the teachers agreed that the online teaching process does have effectiveness among the students. The teacher who is dissatisfied with the online mode of classes has given the reason that it does not provide the emotional attachment between the student and faculties the same way an offline class does.

From the result mentioned above, it is clear that there is a mixed perception among the faculties and the students regarding the online method of learning. The students and teachers have identified a number of advantages as well as disadvantages of online learning. The most common advantage of online education as identified is the comfortable environment during the process [19]. The process has cost-effectiveness as the traveling expense has been considerably reduced in the process. Another advantage that has come up in the research is the flexibility that the process offers. The students can access the study material at any point of time during the day. The students can use the chat function of any online teaching platform to freely ask questions to the teachers. 5the students can have more time to revise their studies in the free time that have been extended due to the reduction of the travelling time. Hence the online mode has been advantageous in multiple ways especially to the students.

The dissatisfaction among the students and teachers, particularly about the online mode of learning, has pointed out a number of disadvantages in the learning method. The major drawback of the online learning method is the long exposure to the screens of devices [20] The online mode of learning has also proved to create a sense of isolation, especially among the students because of lack of interaction among the peers. Discipline is one of the most important parts of the learning process. In the online mode, self-discipline is required which sometimes lacks among the students. Another crucial issue regarding the conduct of the online education system as identified in this paper is the frequent occurrence of technological issues on both ends of the process. One of the concerns that are raised about the online education method is the difficulties faced by students or teachers with seeing or hearing disabilities.

## CONCLUSION

The research study describes the perception of faculty and students for online learning and in this study, the advantages and disadvantages are also disclosed. The covid-19 pandemic brings challenges to the world and the education system is also affected by the pandemic but online learning brings revolution to the education system. From the perception of faculty, online learning brings opportunities but on the other hand, it creates a lack of responsibility for the student. The students who are related to online learning face many challenges and also show a lack of adapting quality in accepting the e-learning system. With this lack of adaption in the e-learning system, there is a lack of interaction between students and faculties. Faculty perception of the "online learning system" is different from the student's perception

and both the perception can help to understand the advantage and disadvantages of the research.

The online learning process motivates students and reduces the covid 19 outbreak and helps to maintain social distancing. The educational institution needs to provide training for students and faculty for using the "online learning system" for improving the effectiveness of the learning. However, online learning systems had many disadvantages and limitations that also bring bad effects on students' life and also in the education system. Internet issue is a barrier for the students and faculties to attend the online learning process. Many advantages can help the student to motivate himself and it creates opportunities for self-motivation. Online learning systems enhance the capacity of the student to adopt more knowledge and it is helpful for them to save time.

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