

Internet Usage among University Students in Pakistan

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ABSTRACT

The revolution of internet usage among different communities cannot be denied. The information and communication technologies have spread all over the world and people are getting advantages and latest information by use of Internet. Similarly universities students also spent lot of time in findings and their related information on internet. The survey research was conducted among 200 students of University of Sindh Jamshoro Pakistan, where result revealed that, 36.5% of the students use internet for entertainment with the mean value of $M= 2.73$, $SD= 1.35$. While 42.2% of the respondents use Facebook with the mean value of $M= 2.18$, $SD=1.41$. However, 65.5% use Google website for searching the articles, reports and other material for their class assignments the mean value was ($M= 1.86$, $SD= 1.38$). The use of Facebook result showed that 42.2% of the respondents use Facebook with the mean value of ($SD= 18$, $SD, 1.41$). The result revealed that most of the students use internet for entertainments and obtaining the information for making their assignments of the class.

KEYWORD Students Internet searching articles entertainment downloading and using social media.

INTRODUCTION

The rapid development of internet in recent years became so dominant in human life. The internet also increasingly boost the use of technology lies in education and it brings a new breath in the world information based education and communication. With the advent of technology, such information can be obtained easily with just one click of a mouse. Undeniably, the use of internet has grown rapidly in the country's education system especially up to the tertiary level. Internet use has become a way of life in higher education institutes and department students use internet around the world. Most of higher education universities have brought the development and implementation of new and innovative teaching strategies in higher education institutions (Bashir et al., 2008).

There are many problems were observed in the use of internet among university students most of the students have no facility of internet and access in their universities Internet practice that indicates the many issues such as everyone have no access of while some have Internet addiction, Internet misuse (Greenfield, 1999). In most of the universities of different developing countries have no proper internet centres, training courses and trend of workshop to facilitate students and guide them about right way of using internet for research and class assignments purpose. Most of the students have no knowledge of plagiarism just they copy and paste the material for making their class assignment, by use of the internet the trainers and teachers should organize such kind of programs to aware the students from such kind of things in university. University level there is needed to provide easy access to student of internet that they can do more research and work in academic level.

The most vital thing of the internet use among university students was also students search job opportunities and students do many other things without their university class assignments and making their slide presentation. Internet provides open access to students for getting the information and knowledge about their higher education where they can easy find within seconds on internet. One another importance of internet is most publication companies uploaded their work on internet and students find research material in their academic life. Internet is one of the most beneficial sources of reference for obtaining different information (Javed, 2012).

Most of student's attitudes towards use of Internet were positive for getting the information and learning new things and research all over the world. The study was conducted in University of Malaysia Sarawak. It was indicated that students supposed to learn in new environments about use of internet in university for collecting the information about latest research (Hong et al. 2003).

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Furthermore, it was revealed that student did not use Internet due to shortages of computer and access of Internet in their surrounding at university of Dar es Salam. It was also showed that most of students use Internet for entertainment not for research and class assignments. The study indicated that in three universities of Nigeria that most of the graduates and undergraduates students have no more access of internet in departments and in library for getting the information and find out new research and reports. It was indicated that how university students use the internet either internet have provided easy learning process in their study or still students suffer many problems in the use of internet in their universities, some results of the study showed that students have no proper place of use of internet in their libraries, departments and their home. In these circumstances students could not make their class work properly (Luambano & Nawe, 2004, Ani, 2010).

The internet provides space to students for finding the information, knowledge and skills for up to date information about the world activities and research. Internet also allows the students to think and write critically and prove their capabilities in front of society. Internet can be used for education, house information; communication with each other, online listening lectures and knowing the world. The student could get a benefit from internet and do more things for their academic purpose and utilize the knowledge for development purpose for their country and academic purposes

However, students spent many hours on internet therefore they should share the information among other students. This also enabled them to be self-directed, self-paced, and lifelong learners (Dryli & Kinnaman, 1996, Muniandy, 2010).

Several studies have been conducted in different places of the world the study about use of Internet for academic purpose conducted at the University of Carnegie Mellon in America where result indicated that more than 73% of the respondents go on Google for searching their academic information other study showed that most students use internet for academic as well as social connection George *et al.* 2006; Lubans, 1998; Matthew Ciolek 1998; Rena *et al.* 2007). The Internet is a worldwide phenomenon which has connected globe. Similarly if it compare in western context where most both male and female use Internet frequently compare to other developing countries. Mostly students use Internet such as checking their email conversations with their friends, online games and sharing their culture traditions and education. In the perspective of Pakistan first internet was launched in 1995 by Digicom in Karachi after one year 1996, the PakNet upgraded their network with the collaboration of Pakistan Telecommunication Company Limited (PTCL) and connect globally internet by a total 512 Kbps, slowly the internet service was provided ten cities of Pakistan (Anderson & Eickelman, 1999, Wolcott & Goodman, 2000).

Many studies were showed that internet among university students were positive and good for their research and information. Another study revealed that majority of students was found their good and better attitudes of using the Internet some of students were used for entertainment, research and making their class assignments (Asan & Koca 2006).

The Internet is one of the most advance technologies in the world which provided access and proved as useful tools for community and made as a global village. Internet has reduced the gap and provided big opportunities to world in connecting with each other and share dissemination information and knowledge of academic and general information without boundaries. The internet could elaborate as a computer networking system and connected with millions of people of world (Awais *et al.* 2008).

In the time of technologies growth all over the world internet one of the fast source of communication among each other thousands of million people are using internet nowadays in globe and this technologies have save the time, space, energy and money of people researchers communicate and share information among each other without any hesitation. Students and researchers are getting academic information within a seconds. The value of the Internet is one of the most powerful tools of telecommunications, which attract the online people such as buyers, business community students and professionals of the world (Stafford, Stafford, & Schkade, 2004, Roy, 2009).

MATERIAL AND METHOD

The quantitative approach was applied for data collection about the use of Internet among University students the data was collected from University of Sindh, Jamshoro, Pakistan regarding the main reason of using the internet, time spent on internet and most visiting websites similarly the respondents were also asked about use of social media. Total two hundred respondents participated in this study. The data was analyses by using SPSS version 21.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The result showed that 65% of the male and 35% of female respondents participated in the study. The respondent's age range was distributed from 20- to 35 years. The result indicated that 67.5% of the respondent's age was 20- 25 years, 31% of the respondents age was 26- 30 years while only 1.5% of the respondents' age was

31- 35 years old. The overall range of age mean value was $M= 1.35$, $SD= .505$. The respondents were also asked about their education 56% of the respondents were bachelor, 42.5% of the respondents education was Master however only 1.5% of the respondents were PhD with the mean value of $M=1.45$, $SD=.528$. Furthermore, the respondents inquired about their education level 32.5% of the respondents' level of education were second year, 26.5% of the respondents first year however 22.5% of the respondents education level was final year while 18.5% of the respondents were third year students of the university. The result showed that majority of the students in university were bachelor students Table 1

The respondents asked about the use of Facebook spent time on Facebook the result revealed that 42.2% of the respondents spent 1-3 hour in a day on Facebook, 26% of the respondents use 4- 7 hour on Facebook however 16.5% of the respondents use Facebook 8-10 hours, 6.5% of the respondents were duration of time on Facebook were 14- 17 hour 5% of the respondents 11- 13 hours, 2.5% of the respondents consumed 18- 12 hour while only one per cent spent 22- 24 hours on the Facebook the mean value was ($M= 2.18$ $SD= 1.41$). Most of the respondents use Facebook to communicate with their family and friends same time discuss about different assignment which provided by teachers and make different discussion forms for communicate with different people of community and share information with them such as political situation, social and political problems and education discussions. However, respondents result showed that 51% of the respondents use 5-7 days Facebook, 35.5% of the respondents use Facebook 3-4 days in a week however 13.5% of the respondents use Facebook 1-2 days. It showed that majority more than half of the respondents use almost whole week use Facebook and contact with their fellow and friends with the mean value of $M= 2.37$ $SD= .711$. (Table 2)

The respondents also use different websites to get the information about different issues, study, research and making their class work and assignments. The respondents were asked about Goggle search engine 65.5% of the respondents said that they use Google for obtaining the information about different articles reports and related information about their study furthermore, the students search recent research were held in different places. The study was conducted about using the most website which was found Google was famous among students where they search their class assignments, articles and other related studies while another popular website was yahoo.com (Burns, 2007, Brownlow, 2007).

However, the result about YouTube showed that 10% of the respondents listening the music and lectures about their related study similarly they download the songs, lectures and movies from YouTube. Furthermore, the result indicated that 8.5% of the respondents used yahoo.com for checking their email as well as read the news from that website, 5% of the respondents use Hotmail.com also for checking the email and communicate with their friends by using that email the students were also obtained information about Google scholar 11% of the respondents said that they use Google scholar website for research articles and most recent reports about different research which was conducted in various places of world. (Table 3)

The respondents were investigated about the main reason and purpose of use of Internet the result showed that 36.5% of the respondents used Internet for entertainment. It was showed that most of the new social media and other technologies have provided space and applications of entertainment to people and different kind of things for attraction to the people for using the internet and spent more time. 22% of the respondents use for research information and articles; however 16.5% use for their education purpose, while 12% of the respondents use for making their class work and assignments regarding the assignments respondents were asked about plagiarism most of the students have no information about this when they make the class assignments they only cut and paste material of other research and they not write reference in their assignments Properly 8.5% use Internet for reading online newspapers and only 4.5% use for downloading different things from Internet. (Table 4)

The result showed that 61.5% of the respondents used Internet at their home, 18.5% of the respondents sit in department and use internet over there however 17% of the respondent used Internet at library, 2% used at their friends home only one per cent use internet at café. (Table 5)

CONCLUSION

The study showed that most of students have many problems to use Internet in university because it was indicated that students have no facilities of internet at hostel there was no wifi system in university most departments have connection problems in their department and no proper access of internet available for students. Furthermore, result showed that 61.5% of the respondents use Internet at their home. It's clearly showed that in university there is inadequacy of infrastructure was main problem that is why students suffer a lot to use internet in university, 36.5% of the respondents use internet for entertainment purposes, 12% of the respondents use internet for making their assignments the students have no information about plagiarism and majority of them cut and paste the material and never write name of source or references where they obtained the information. There is need of awareness among students about proper use of Internet and university should provide facilities to students in departments as well as hostel where students can do work more for their future and development of the country.

Table 1 Demographic profile

Variables	Frequency	Percentage	Mean	SD
Gender				
Male	130	65.0	1.35	.478
Female	70	35.0	.	
Age				
20- 25	135	67.5	1.34	.505
26- 30	62	31		
31- 35	3	1.5		
Education				
Bachelor	112	56	1.45	.528
Master	86	42.5		
PhD	2	1.5		
Education level in university				
Second year	65	32.5	2.37	1.10
First year	53	26.5		
Third year	37	18.5		
Final year	45	22.5		

Table 2 Use of Facebook Time duration

Variables	Frequency	Percentage	Mean	SD
1- 3 hours	85	42.2	2.18	1.41
4- 7 hours	52	26		
8- 10 hour	33	16.5		
11- 13 hours	10	5		
14- 17 hours	13	6.5		
18- 21 hours	5	2.5		
22- 24 hours	2	1.0		
Days in week				
1-2 days	27	13.5	2.37	.711
3-4 days	71	35.5		
5- 7 days	102	51		

Table 3 Material, Articles and Reports search websites

Variables	Frequency	Percentage	Mean	SD
Google	131	65.5	1.86	1.38
You tube	20	10		
Yahoo.com	17	8.5		
Hotmail	10	5		
Google scholar	22	11		

Table 4 Main reason and purpose of use Internet

Variables	Frequency	Percentage	Mean	SD
Education	33	16.5	2.73	1.35
Entertainment	73	36.5		
Research	44	22		
Assignments	24	12		
Reading online newspaper	17	8.5		
Downloading	9	4.5		

Table 5 Access of Internet

Variables	Frequency	Percentage	Mean	SD
Home	123	61.5	1.65	.949
Library	35	17		
Department	36	18.5		
Café	2	1.0		
Friends home	4	2.0		

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