Promoting Quality Education by Digitally Transforming the Techniques: A Literature Review

Sagar Samy
MS Student, Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto Institute of Science and Technology (SZABIST), Karachi, Pakistan
sagarsamy1@gmail.com

Abstract: Education plays an important role in every society, in order to uplift any country education must be spread out to the masses. Hence, the right to education is documented as a Human Right. To make it sustainable, the United Nations is promoting Sustainable Development Goal i.e., Quality Education. The challenges and outcomes to overcome while achieving Quality Education in Pakistan has been discoursed in this study. Henceforward, education is the only tool that cannot only change the fate of 65% youth of the country but also can help Pakistan to boost up and benefit to be a developed nation. To promote quality education, the nation must adopt all the modern techniques of technology, as the entire paradigm is rapidly shifting or has already shifted after the COVID-19 pandemic. The west and the first world countries continued to rise because they are investing more and more in education, along with integrating all the modern and latest techniques of technology. In fact, the future is now, developed countries have started working on metaverse to transform the entire education system in the coming years. The study is a literature review and descriptive which is based on secondary sources like books, research articles, website content, and reports. Henceforth, the findings shows that the Quality education can act as a revolutionary tool to change the fate of Pakistan.

Keywords: Education, Quality Education, Modern Technologies in Education, Digital Transformation, Youth.

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Education is the most powerful weapon that can make all your dreams come true. No power on earth can stop you from achieving anything if you have an education. It’s a revolutionary gun that can change your life completely by providing you with endless opportunities. It's the same as if knowledge is the power, then education empowers it. Not only does it empower individuals to take control of their fate, but also it changes the whole lives of their future generations.

Quality Education is the United Nations' fourth Sustainable Development Goal, which aspires to encourage lifelong learning and achieve inclusive and equitable quality education for everyone (The Global Goals, 2015). The importance of Quality Education becomes significant because it’s the only way toward a civilized and peaceful society, boosting self-respect, self-confidence, and self-dependency, and promoting equality, which leads to economic growth, stability and long-term sustainability.

Talking about Pakistan, it is facing ample challenges in terms of education like school dropouts, gender-based education, poor infrastructure, basic facilities etc. According to (UNICEF, 2020), “Pakistan has the world's second-highest number of out-of-school children (OOSC), with an estimated 22.8 million children. Approximately 8.6 million girls and 10.7 million boys get enrolled in primary schools, which secondary level on drops to 3.6 million girls, and 2.8 million boys.”
It really seems hard to achieve a goal of quality education in a country where the goals related to basic education haven’t been completely attained yet. Though improvement has been observed over the years and decades, there is still a lot more to overcome. Now, here is the interesting part, if quality education will be promoted, then results will be more frequent and rapid. Indeed, it will actually bring a revolution to the country. According to UNDP, “Currently, 64 percent of the nation is younger than 30 and 29 percent of Pakistanis are between 15 and 29 (an age group which we define as the youth). Pakistan now has more young people than it has ever had, and this is forecasted to continue to increase until at least 2050 (Ahmad, 2018).” Pakistan's future is entirely dependent on its youth. It would be difficult to progress, develop, and thrive if they were not empowered.

There are so many challenges being faced by Pakistani youth like unemployment, literacy, inequality in education and workplaces, family pressure, old school thoughts, less freedom in choosing a career, stereotyping and so on. All of these can be overcome by quality education because it is the only key that can unlock the fate of the youth by changing everything completely.

Quality education is more than just education because it focuses on an individual’s overall physical, mental, emotional, and cognitive development, alongside making them able to contribute to communities to the greatest extent possible. No matter whatever background, race, gender, ethnicity, or socioeconomic class a student belongs to, it prepares them for life by skilling up, giving vocational training, STEM education, and keeping them UpToDate with all the latest trends, so they can stand out in any country of the world. It ensures the creation of a safer environment for every child physically as well as emotionally. It also provides resources and focuses more on practical work rather than history and theories. Most importantly, it generates the outcomes required for individuals, societies, and communities to prosper, along with promoting peace, tolerance, diversity, and human rights. Henceforth, quality education is strengthened by three key components: enabling access to high-quality educators; providing excellent learning resources and career development; and building positive and secure quality learning spaces (Rashid, 2019).

After reviewing all the points mentioned above, it gives a clear understanding of how quality education can bring a revolution in the society, why it is so important to Pakistan and how it can resolve many issues in the country. Unemployment is a major issue amongst the youth of Pakistan. Many people are getting degrees and rushing towards a job without even knowing about their goals. Here quality education plays a significant role, it promotes self-dependency. Giving vocational training and making them aware of the demanding skills and updated technological trends can help individuals to choose the right path with passion. The world has entirely moved towards digital and soon will be shifted to the metaverse, while building NFT's as digital assets will be more common. Unfortunately, everything comes late in the country, that's why Pakistan is left behind in all sectors, but with the promotion of the right education, this issue can be resolved.

Here, the role of quality education is very crucial. If the teachers are up to date with the moving trends, they can play the role of multiplier and prepare students for the future rather than telling stories of the past, which no longer exist now. The curriculum has to be updated. Good quality teachers are required to work on practical skills and send students to the fields and promote activities which help them to build problem-solving and cognitive skills.

A qualified teacher should create a learning environment, where he/she can teach on each student’s level. They should know how to localize the things and practices which are adopted internationally. An engaging teaching style is very important, along with a positive attitude and concern for every student's wellbeing. They shouldn’t only know how to promote peace and tolerance but also know how to make them multiplier in their communities. Above all, communication is the key to making it successful, they must be a good communicator to convey every message more effectively.
To promote quality education in the country, the proper training of the teachers is very important. The goal of quality education can never be achieved without first making a quality teacher. So, teachers must be taught about the best teaching practices to make them familiar with technology, and gadgets. They must know about the future of education and the world’s paradigm which is shifting towards the metaverse. Hence, this SDG goal can only be achieved by educating and reeducating the existing teachers.

The government of Pakistan should create online platforms like websites, apps, etc., where teachers can get enrolled to uplift their skills and it must be mandatory for all the teachers to achieve the UN SDG goal 4. Not only this but also physical training should also be held where trainers from the foreign countries will come to train Pakistani teachers, within 6 months a change will be practical. On one side they will be getting training. So, on the flip side, those teachers would be promoting quality education amongst primary, secondary and even university-level students.

The responsibility of the media becomes double that of the government. As the government has initiated the project, now its media work is to spread out to the masses via TV as well as social media like Facebook, Twitter, TikTok, Instagram etc. They will not only be promoting it but also, they will be working as a facilitator to execute the entire training session. Similarly, influencers and bloggers will also be engaged to not only promote it but also to conduct the training by sharing their experiences and keeping them updated. Likewise, industry leaders, business owners, marketing managers etc., will also be playing their part by leading sessions to let them know what’s happening in the industry. Once it will be concluded, then their work will kickstart to promote quality education on all levels.

Correspondingly, Private Organizations will also be collaborating with different NGOs nationally as well as internationally to promote Quality Education by conducting training, facilitating and educating different groups of students in slum areas. Not only this, but these private firms will also be organizing startup events in different universities, particularly in the light of SDG 4, where students would share their ideas, and the best idea will be funded by these organizations. Similarly, they will be doing customized packaging, giving discount offers, and running particular hashtag campaigns e.g., #ISupportQE, #RightToQE, #QualityEduForAll, etc., on social media which will help to spread out the message to the masses. It wouldn’t only promote the message but also will increase the sales. As a result, it will be a winning situation for the brand as well as the government in accomplishing the goal of quality education.

Slowly and gradually Pakistan will accomplish a UN SDG goal of Quality Education. This will change the fate of the whole country. As education is the only way to escape from poverty. Once poverty is eliminated, other issues like unemployment will also be ended. Now, there would be many educated people in the society who would be doing online business, or working in a private firm, which will eventually boost the economy and increase the GDP of the country.

Most importantly, students will be clearer about their path and passion, so, they all will be working accordingly. All kinds of violence will be ended in the society, because education promotes peace, and helps to eradicate the vicious thoughts of the individuals. More women will be independently working in a safer environment. They would also have the freedom to choose their career because education also promotes gender equality. All kinds of rights will be respected in society.

Last but not least, a peaceful, tolerant and diversified society will be witnessed where every individual will be more optimistic, accepting and positive towards work, friends, family and community. As a result, everyone will keep on contributing to making a better, bright and safer community for the prosperous future of Pakistan.
References


