

## Student Learning Outcomes

**After studying this chapter students will be able to:**

1. explain the concept of education in the light of Islam and 1973 constitution.
2. discuss the main features of the educational system in Pakistan highlighting primary, elementary, secondary, higher and professional education.
3. describe the recent developments in streamlining the professional, technical and vocational education in Pakistan.
4. discuss the steps taken for the promotion of special education in Pakistan.
5. describe the salient features of Madrassah system of Education in Pakistan and the need for its mainstreaming.
6. understand the importance of distance education in Pakistan.
7. describe means and sources of distance education in Pakistan.
8. develop an understanding of the concept of education in Pakistan and challenges faced by it.
9. various systems of Education in Pakistan.
10. establish relationship between system of general education in Pakistan with professional, vocational, special, madrassah and distance education systems in Pakistan.
11. different stratus of society based on education in Pakistan.
12. problems & issues of various educational systems in Pakistan.

## Concept of Education

The word 'Taleem' is used for "Education" in English, which means 'to train', 'to develop' 'to guide in a particular direction', or 'to enlighten the hidden abilities'. 'Taleem' is derived from Arabic word 'Ilm'. 'Ilm' means 'to know', 'to recognize' or 'to perceive some reality'. Thus education means 'to tell', to teach and to impart information repeatedly and excessively. Education is not only to impart the knowledge rather it also includes the social upbringing and the moral and character building. Therefore, it becomes clear from the concept of 'Taleem' or education that it is to help in utilization of visible or hidden abilities which nature has bestowed upon the human being. Different thinkers have declared education as the acquisition of divine reality, completion of self, obedience of commands of Allah Almighty and the source of conquest of the universe.

Terminologically, education is a process through which the training and development of the members of the society is carried out, which aims at to enable the individuals

to become successful members of the society.

Different educationists have defined education differently to make its concept clear. Some educationists have declared it as to process of searching the truth. Some educationists say that education makes a man a human being. According to some other educationists, education is the process of social adjustment. In the opinion of some educationists, education protects the cultural heritage of the nation, reforms it and transmits the national culture from generation to generation.

Different societies have different concepts about education. Every society has been desirous to preserve its ideology of life and culture and to transmit it from generation to generation. The next generation of human beings reforms and amends it according to their thought and need and this chain is continued since the birth of Hazrat Adam عليه السلام up till now. Preservation of civilization and culture and the training of future society accordingly, is one of the important duties of education. Every society establishes educational institutions to preserve its ideology of life and culture. In this way, the civilization and cultural heritage of every society is transmitted from generation to generation and this chain will be continued until the resurrection.

The social changes which occur in a society become a reason of change in educational objectives and system. The changes in education bring change in the society. The educational system shapes its society and in return society shapes its culture and civilization and the education objectives are set accordingly.

The Holy Rasool Hazrat Muhammad ﷺ reconstructed the Arabic culture through education and brought about such changes in different aspects of their social and economic life that the nation which was equal to nothing at the time of Hazrat Muhammad ﷺ birth, became the leader of the world in the fields of industry, craft, science, economics and sociology due to changes in education and culture.

## Goals of Education System of Pakistan

In Pakistan all educational policies clearly state this aspect that students should be able to have ideal thoughts and character as an educated and responsible citizen in the light of the golden principles of Islamic ideology of life. The objectives of the educational system have been described in the constitution of Pakistan of 1973. In which the preservation of ideology and Pakistan have special importance. The general objectives of education given in the most of the educational policies put forth in Pakistan, are summarized below.

- i. Creating an effective framework for training of teachers
- ii. To design the curriculum according to principles of the Holy Quran and Islam

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- iii. Using the computer for effective learning in the class
- iv. Redesigning the curriculum and text books
- v. Increasing literacy rate and focusing on women's education
- vi. To prepare student for vocational and technical education
- vii. To protect the ideology of Pakistan and to make it a code for individual and national life.
- viii. Encouraging the private sector to provide free education to the poor and needy students.
- ix. To provide maximum educational opportunities to every child equally, and to promote the growth and development of an individual and society and promotion of democracy.
- x. To bring higher education upto international standards through expansion in the field of research.
- xi. Improving the review system at all levels to raise the standard of education.



### **Main Features of Education System of Pakistan (Primary, Elementary, Secondary, Higher Secondary and Professional Education)**

The following are the major stages of education in Pakistan:

#### **Primary and Elementary Education**

In Pakistan, education from first to fifth grade is called primary education, while education from first to eighth grade is collectively called elementary education. It takes eight years after enrollment in the school to complete it. Elementary education is the foundation of education system of any country and is considered to be very important for increasing literacy rate. Elementary education is very important for national stability, national unity and social welfare. To achieve these goals, every country spends a lot of money on its children's elementary education.

#### **Secondary Education**

Ninth and tenth grade education is called secondary education. The importance of this education is enormous. It serves as a bridge between elementary and higher education. In this grade, arts, science, computer science and commerce education is

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delivered. From here the characteristics of future education begin to become clear. Secondary education acts as a launching pad for next stages of education.

### **Higher Secondary Education**

Eleventh and twelfth classes are included in higher secondary education. The schools run under this scheme have been named as Higher Secondary Schools. At this level, more subject groups are formed, so that students can get admission in vocational or higher education institutions. At present, students for 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> classes can also get admission in higher secondary schools or colleges. The Board of Intermediate and Secondary Education conducts examinations for classes IX to XII.

### **Professional Education**

After completing higher secondary education, students enroll in institutions of higher learning or vocational education. Graduation in ordinary colleges is completed in two years. Post-graduation requires further two years. Four-year graduation programs after intermediate education under the different universities are also being conducted. The colleges where two-year graduation programs (ADP) are conducted after intermediate are called associate colleges. The colleges where four year graduate program (BS) is conducted are called graduate colleges. Many faculties of universities offer education facilities up to doctoral level. People pursuing higher education or vocational education form the basis of development and prosperity of a country and can accelerate the scientific and economic development of their country.

## **Professional, Technical and Vocational Education in Pakistan**

Professional education refers to the education after which people are able to earn a living by taking up different professions. Special attention has been paid to vocational and technical education in all education policies. In this regard, some important areas are mentioned:-

### **Medical Education**

In order to maintain human health, it is necessary to have doctors and paramedical staff in any society. Much importance is given to human life and health in every society. Every human being needs treatment in his life. To meet this need, the government has set up high level medical colleges and universities in Pakistan where after F. Sc, students are admitted through entry test. Institutions have also been set up for the training of nurses and other staff working in hospitals.

### **Engineering Education**

Engineering education is of paramount importance for the industrial development of the country. The minimum educational qualification for admission in engineering education institutions in Pakistan is F.Sc. The minimum academic period for obtaining

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a degree is four years. Polytechnic institutes, engineering colleges and engineering universities are teaching in civil, mechanical, electrical, mining and other fields.

### **Law Education**

All countries of the world make laws for maintaining law and order and for justice and fairness among their citizens. For this, law education is essential. To become a judge and lawyer in Pakistan, it is necessary to have LLB. Graduate students are admitted to law schools. Now five-year LLB programs are also running, in which admission is taken after intermediate. In addition, LLM (M.Phil in Laws), LLD (Doctorate in Laws) and Sharia Law Education in Pakistani universities is also being given.

### **Agricultural Education**

Pakistan is basically an agricultural country. Most of the population of the country lives in villages whose occupation is agriculture. Very old methods of cultivation of crops and farming were used which resulted less production from the lands. The government has set up institutions and universities of various levels for the development of agriculture.

### **Education of Business and Commerce**

There is demand for BBA, B. Com, M. Com, MBA etc. in the fields of banking, office management, advertising, business management and textiles. Private and public sector institutes and commercial colleges are operating in every city for this purpose.

### **Education of Computer and Information Technology**

In the present era, the means of communication and transport have developed to such an extent that the world has become a global village. Computer and information technology are playing very important role in this field. Due to this, a lot of changes are occurring rapidly in every field of life. Computers and information technology are the sciences need of the hour. Computer literate people are earning a good living. Government and private institutions are arranging computer education everywhere.

### **Home Economics**

Women, like men, play an important role in the development of the country. The development of society and culture and the restructuring of culture is not possible without the cooperation of women. Thanks to home economics education, a housewife can better manage the household budget. Educated women can do housework and raise their children very well. Household subjects have been introduced in women's training institutes from school to university level. There are also separate colleges for this.

### **Teacher Training**

Teachers have central status to the education system of every country. The teacher is responsible for improving and uplifting the education system. The teacher is also

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responsible for the social structure and economic stability of the society. If we want our children to have a quality education, we have to make the education and training of teachers of high quality. Various training institutes and universities of different levels in Pakistan are organizing training of future teachers. Admission to these institutions is usually possible after graduation. Separate institutions for the promotion of sports and physical education have been set up.

#### **Know More !**

Quaid-e-Azam Academy for Educational Development is an institution in Punjab for the training of teachers.

### **Special Education in Pakistan**

Special persons are also a part of the society. They include blind, dumb, deaf and other special persons. Institutions for special education have been established in the country for their education and training. Government has allocated a big amount for the education and rehabilitation of the special children. A quota of 2% has also been reserved for the special persons in all government institutions and jobs.

### **Madrassah Education System in Pakistan**

There is an extensive system of madrassa of religious education parallel to the public and private educational institutions for general education. The purpose of the madrassah system is to disseminate Islamic knowledge and to promote the Arabic language. These madrassash are usually attached to Masjid. These madrassas provide free education from elementary to higher classes. Private educational institutions and madrassas are playing an important role in disseminating religious and general education. Co-curricular activities, vocational science and computer education are included in their curriculum. According to the current educational policy, the government is trying to provide them with religious education as well as modern sciences, so that the students after getting education from here can become useful citizens of the society. A directorate of madrassa education has been set up at the Punjab level to bring madrassa education into the national main stream.

### **Distance Education System in Pakistan**

For distance education, People's Open University was established in Islamabad which was later renamed as Allama Iqbal Open University. This university arranges distance education in the country. Its sub-regional offices are settled all over Pakistan where students are pursuing degrees from matriculation to M.Phil and Ph.D. staying at home. Virtual University and other universities based on the same model are providing educational facilities in science, arts, computer and other subjects through distance education system. They are also running many mechanical courses, B.Ed. and M.Ed Programms for teacher training. In addition to using radio and television to promote distance education, the internet and social media are also being used

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extensively. Distance education can be used by employed or selfemployed youth who are unable to attend regular educational institutions due to some reasons.

## **Education System of Pakistan with Reference to General Education**

General education refers to the education that is provided in schools, colleges and other educational institutes, but after receiving such education no one becomes an expert in any field. Besides science and vocational education, education in all fields is considered as general education. The level of education that is considered necessary to make the common people literate in general education. It includes the education from Matric, F.A, B.A (ADA) up to M.A level. Education at this level is considered essential for all the citizens of the country.

In Pakistan, all children do not attend school and even about 50% of those who do drop out before completing elementary education. Remembering that elementary education means education up to grade eight. Therefore, schools and madrassas should be established everywhere so that every citizen of Pakistan can have excess to education and illiteracy can be eradicated from the country. Because illiteracy is the major threat to the security and the welfare of the country, the major obstacle to the development and prosperity of the country and the nation, so education should be for all. Adult education centers should be set up to eradicate illiteracy. In this regard, help should also be sought from the media.

### **Modes of Education**

There are three modes of Education:

#### **i. Formal Education**

Formal education is what is taught in the educational institutes by the teachers assigned by the society through specific curriculum and co-curricular activities under clear and defined objectives using specific teaching methods. Through pre-determined educational goals, curricula and specific institutes, society determines the direction of its next generation. Schools, colleges and universities are examples of formal education.

#### **ii. Non-Formal Education**

This education is actually a part of formal education. Educational objectives and curriculum are also pre-determined, but formal educational institutes are not established. The classes of Allama Iqbal Open University Islamabad, adult education centers, tuition centers and academies for the preparation of different subjects for different classes are examples of non-formal education. For this education, different courses are arranged by involving part time teachers. Hence, regular recruitment does not take place.



**Allama Iqbal Open University, Islamabad**

### **iii. Informal Education**

Informal education neither obtained from formal institutes nor education goals are consciously considered. At home, in the street, playing with friends, in the bazaar, in the Masjid, one learns a lot. This is the way of informal education. There is no fix time, place or curriculum for informal education. The largest and foremost center of such education is the home. Man learns automatically many customs and norms from home and family. The son of a farmer learns farming with the help of his parents, the son of a blacksmith learns ironwork and the son of a carpenter learns woodwork from his father. There is no specific grading system for informal education. A man continuously seeks this kind of education throughout his life.

## **Concept of Education in Pakistan**

Different nations of the world have different ideologies and goals of life to other nations. Therefore, every society establishes its education system according to its culture and ideology. Therefore, the education system of each nation is different from other nations. Compared to the western nations and other systems of the world, the goals of life and ideology of Muslims are different. Therefore, Islamic concept of education and education system are also different from other nations. The aim of the Islamic education system is to make the individual virtuous servant who lives according to the will of Allah Almighty. In the educational curriculum of the Muslim society the Holy Quran, Sunnah and its allied body of knowledge have the central status.

The Greek philosopher Aristotle considered a man to be a social animal. According to him, the purpose of education was to make this animal a high class citizen. Today materialistic society declares man as a higher animal who is distinguished from lower

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animals due to its ability to speak and think. The highest goal of their education is to provide opportunities for the development for the human physical abilities and the satisfaction of their instinctive desires. For them, education is the source of training for fulfilling worldly needs. In their case, the education system is arranged accordingly. Educational and Curriculum goals are set on basis of societal, culture and ideology.

## **Challenges of Education in Pakistan**

The education system of Pakistan is suffering from many problems due to that we are not able to achieve the desired results. The main reason for the decline in literacy rate in the country is poor education system. Some challenges being faced by education system are as follows: -

### **1. Outdated Education System**

Pakistan's education system is more or less the same as that enacted by the British and was designed by Lord Macaulay. Its purpose was to enslave the local population. Despite gaining independence from the British we could not get rid of it completely.

### **2. Lack of Ideological Base**

Pakistan is an ideological country based on Islam but the education system is of western style. If some amendments are made in it with reference to Islam, then it is nothing more than grafting. Achieving the desired goals is not possible without changing the entire system.

### **3. Defective Examination System**

Our system of examinations forces the students to cram or cheat. Due to the race for higher marks in the society, the purpose of the students has become only a matter of getting higher marks by various means instead of getting education by understanding.

### **4. Limited Educational Resources**

A very little money allocated in our budget for the education sector. Educational institutes have inadequate buildings, lack of furniture and other facilities. This lack of resources hinders the attainment of quality education.

### **5. Aim of Education**

The purpose of getting education for the students is only to get a job and employment. Instead of getting a higher level of knowledge through education, the dream of a good job and higher salary in an institute does not allow the heart and mind to be enlightened. It is imperative that apart from gaining employment through education, the larger objective of acquiring knowledge should also be taken into consideration.

### **6. Shortage of Teachers**

The education sector in Pakistan is suffering from shortage of teachers. Crowded

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class rooms reduce the quality of teaching. The number of teachers and their capacity building in educational institutes should be increased.

### **7. Lack of Co-Curricular Activities**

Co-Curricular activities such as games, debates, poetry, speeches, talks and study tours prove to be helpful in moral training and personality building of the students. Our educational institutes do not make special arrangements for such activities. The teachers put their attention to make children memorize their lessons and get high marks.

## **Suggestions for Resolving Educational Problems**

The following are some suggestions for improving and developing the education system in Pakistan: -

1. Education at primary level should be made compulsory and free education should be provided to children without any discrimination.
2. Arrangements should be made for free provision of textbooks as well as stationery at school level.
3. Curriculum should be developed on modern lines keeping in view the national requirements.
4. Provide resources to the educational institutes so that they can focus on equipping the students with the ornaments of education.
5. Special attention should be paid to the training of teachers. Subject specialist teachers should be appointed and refresher courses should be arranged for the existing teachers.
6. Science and technology curriculum should be re-structured. The existing curriculum should be designed on modern lines.
7. Ensure facilities required for playground and other co-curriculum activities in educational institutes.

By taking the above mentioned steps we will be able to achieve the desired goals through education.

## **Questions**

### **1. Mark (✓) the correct one of the four answers given below.**

- (i). The English word Education means:  
(a) Developing (b) Learning (c) Examining (d) Moving Forward
- (ii). The levels of education in Pakistan are:  
(a) Two (b) Three (c) Four (d) Five
- (iii). The discipline of education holds the basic place in industrial development of a country?  
(a) Science education (b) Engineering Education  
(c) Business and Commerce education (d) Religious Education

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(iv). The duration of elementary education is:  
(a) Six years      (b) Seven years      (c) Eight years      (d) Nine years

(v). Another name for higher secondary education:  
(a) Graduation      (b) Intermediate      (c) Post- graduation      (d) Professional

(vi). Free education is provided from elementary to higher education is:  
(a) Govt. Institutes      (b) Private institutes  
(c) Religious Madrassas      (d) Industrial educational institutes

(vii). The duration of secondary education is:  
(a) Two years      (b) Three years      (c) Four years      (d) Five years

(viii). How many years does it take to do LLB after intermediate:  
(a) Two      (b) Three      (c) Four      (d) Five

(ix). Allama Iqbal Open University teaching method is:  
(a) Informal      (b) Distance      (c) Complex      (d) None of these

(x). Considered man a social animal:  
(a) Aristotle      (b) Socrates      (c) Hippocrates      (d) Plato

**2. Give short answers.**

- i. State any four objectives of education in Pakistan.
- ii. What is the difference between vocational and general education?
- iii. What is meant by informal education?
- iv. Write the concept of education.
- v. What is ninth and tenth grade education called?
- vi. What is meant by information technology?
- vii. What is the education of special persons?
- viii. Introduce distance education system?

**3. Answer in detail.**

- i. Describe the educational objectives of Pakistan.
- ii. Write in details four areas of vocational education.
- iii. Write the stages of education.
- iv. Write educational problems of Pakistan and at least eight suggestions
- v. for their solutions
- vi. Write a note on the following:
  - Education of special persons in Pakistan.
  - Distance Education in Pakistan
  - Madrassa Education System in Pakistan

**Activities**

- i. Conduct a dialogue between students in which they relate the general education system in Pakistan to professional, vocational, special, Madrassa and distance education.
- ii. Tell students about Early Childhood Care and Education.