LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The Information and Communication Technology (ICT) during the COVID-19 Pandemic

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Dear Editor

The novel coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) has become a serious global challenge that has tremendously impacted socio-economic, cultural, and educational lives over the past few months. It has led to a worldwide recession, a stoppage in all fields of life (Muhammad, 2020a). This disease is caused by a respiratory virus that spreads primarily through droplets of saliva or discharge from the nose and droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes (Ho et al., 2020). The typical respiratory disease caused by coronavirus includes; Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) and Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS), to mention but a few. The condition indicates the following signs, complications in breathing, coughing, and other problems in the pulmonary system. This infection can cause kidney failure, pneumonia, and even death in more severe cases (Sabino-Silva et al., 2020). As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, many countries have implemented social distancing measures to reduce the rapid spread of the COVID-19 virus (Muhammad, 2020b). The lockdown measures were imposed in most countries worldwide to curb the spread of the novel coronavirus (Muhammad, 2020b).

The one thing that sustains people’s lives during the current pandemic is Information and Communication Technology (ICT), such as social media, virtual learning, broadcasting, marketing, etc. Technologies such as mobile phones and computers have significantly impacted our lives during the COVID-19 pandemic (Iyengar et al., 2020). The communication, marketing, learning, teaching, and general operations of our industries and government were carried out using either one or more technology.

In a layman’s language, ICT is nothing but...
computers, smartphones, or any digital device used to send and receive messages. One of the effects of ICT during the pandemic is that it promotes and increases communications between different regions and populations around the globe virtually. It has transformed society during the lockdown, where almost everything had taken place online. ICT allows direct online commercial and business transactions instantly, affecting people’s lives, boosting the economy, and preventing the further spread of the virus. These applications are all used to communicate and give instructions to manipulate data for business, educational and managerial purposes and other governmental and nongovernmental duties during the pandemic. It affects every aspect of education, from teaching-learning to assessment and evaluation, and facilitates mobile learning and inclusive education, research, and scholarly communication. Social Media (such as Twitter, Facebook, WhatsApp, Instagram, etc.) kept people company while living at home; smartphones, televisions, tabloids, and other technologies were solely used for entertainment, broadcasting, and exchanging goods and services. We want to conclude by emphasizing the need for more use and development of information technologies for the post-corona period.

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**REFERENCES**


