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Umarova Saodat, assistant, Department of Clinical Laboratory Diagnostics,
Samarkand Medical Institute

Kudratova Zebo, assistant, Department of Clinical Laboratory Diagnostics,
Samarkand Medical Institute

ONLINE EDUCATION IN UZBEKISTAN

S. Umarova, Z. Kudratova

Annotation. The learning process is the interaction of the teacher, student and learning tools. The capabilities of modern computer tools and information technologies make it possible to assign part of the teacher's functions and part of the learner's functions adopted in the classical form of

training to teaching aids. The COVID-19 pandemic affected most countries of the world and almost all spheres of public life, and the education system was no exception. One of the ways to contain coronavirus infection is still social exclusion; its measures required the partial or complete closure of educational institutions and the associated infrastructure.

Keywords: e-learning, Online Education, higher educational institutions, in a pandemic and modular system.

According to UNESCO, currently more than 1.5 billion students, or 87% of the total number of students, have been left without schools as part of efforts to combat the spread of the new coronavirus. In world practice, e-learning has become an integral part of modern education - it's just now that it has turned from optional to necessary [1]. Online education has two main forms. The first is the courses offered by universities for obtaining an educational degree, where students undergo training regardless of their place of stay. Among these, [MIT OpenCourseWare](#) courses and [Harvard University online learning](#) courses are known.

The second form of online education consists of vocational training, which results in a certificate of completion. Such online training is usually intended for professionals or students who want to take special training or prepare for certification exams.

The world practice of spreading the practice of online education and the latest trends in the field of personnel training indicate the potential role of this trend in solving a large number of acute socio-economic problems of developing countries, including Uzbekistan.

Pros and Cons of Online Education

Consider the benefits of online learning, which are as follows:

- the ability to provide video lectures with built-in presentations, interactive tasks and the use of other modern educational technologies;
- multimedia short videos with built-in questions and simultaneous semantic analysis of answers to questions;
- easily contact the teacher via chat, mail, forum or audio / video communications on the platform for distance learning [2];
- the impossibility of ramified corruption schemes;
- filling the shortage of teachers in those areas that are poorly developed in individual educational institutions;
- Online training makes it easy to choose a convenient time and place for training, as well as your own pace of classes;
- flexibility in terms of task performance in compliance with a certain time frame;

- the ability to access a massive open online course (MOOC) in any environment where there is the possibility of connecting to the Internet;
- rapid completion of the course depending on the time devoted to the study of the course;
- training takes place in a more informal setting;
- a chance for students from developing countries to gain access to advanced education from teachers of leading world educational institutions;
- Student portfolio data is stored in the system, which makes it possible to further hire students by interested companies;
- the ability to learn a course in many languages at the same time;
- the ability to use any online tools;
- there is no need for a diploma to participate in the courses;
- the possibility of continuous improvement of lifelong skills necessary for career growth or for changing a profession in the event of structural changes in the economy;
- Many shy people, people with disabilities who find it difficult to physically advance, find it easier to study online courses.

At the same time, there are some disadvantages of online education, which should also be noted for the further search for their solutions:

- differences in the level of training, culture and language of students;
- incompatibility of small seminar classes and personalized feedback;
- the student may lack personal contact with the teacher or other students;
- It may take longer to understand materials and assignments during e-learning.
- some students cannot concentrate during lectures, as there is a temptation to visit social networks;
- There is a problem of fraud in the performance of tasks.

Introduction of online education in Uzbekistan

According to World Bank [studies](#), education is the strongest tool to address poverty, improve people's health, increase gender equality, and ensure peace and stability. A lot has been said about problems in the field of education, including higher education, and the quality of graduates in Uzbekistan. A large number of graduates working outside their specialty testifies to serious problems in the field of higher education.

In such circumstances, the introduction of online education practice with all the advantages listed above has great potential for solving these problems by expanding the access of more people to quality education, including women, people with disabilities, as well as children from poor families. This is evidenced by the experience of other developing countries, successfully promoting education based on online principles. On the other

hand, this can be viewed not only as an opportunity, but also as a necessity due to the global trends listed above.

Starting from the academic year 2020/2021, [distance learning](#) was planned at three higher educational institutions of Tashkent.

It was planned to introduce a new form of training by experiment at the Tashkent University of Information Technologies named after Muhammad al-Khwarizmi, Tashkent State Pedagogical University and Tashkent State Law University.

Because of the coronavirus pandemic, online education was implemented in a much bigger scale and long before the planned date. When the lockdown started, all the educational institutions starting from primary schools to higher educational institutions had to go online to guarantee the safety of the students and staff. School programs [run](#) on National Television, making it available for all the pupils all over the country to complete the school year.

At present, Samarkand Medical Institute also conducts online training in a modular system. In recent months, the system has been enriched with information using new modern textbooks, the rector of Samarkand Medical Institute has created an online library, an information database, and students can use the online library at any time.

In the case of schools we could see that online education can be not only through the internet, but also through television. Of course, it was done taking into consideration the fact that internet outreach is not complete in all the regions of the country. Since it was successfully organized, Ministry of Public Education took the [decision](#) to implement distance learning next academic year as well.

When it comes to the higher education institutions, all of them had to switch to the online education, because of the pandemic. So, all the universities had to finish the academic year online: exams, thesis defenses, lectures and seminars were taking place online, no matter what the conditions of the students or teachers was.

Some of the students [highlighted](#) that Uzbekistan still has to do a lot in order to advance towards online education. In one of the articles of the local media, that learnt the opinion of students about distance learning after coronavirus pandemic started, most of the respondents mentioned that country is not ready for the distance learning. "Even being in Tashkent, capital city, I feel that we are not ready for it. It is not about the problems with the network, it is just the distance learning programs are not well prepared".

Pandemic of coronavirus made the educational institutions to switch into online education almost overnight in Uzbekistan. Taking into consideration that we are not sure if the pandemic is going to be over soon,

the universities and schools should get prepared to launch online education for a new academic year, which starts in less than 3 months.

If the pandemic helps education in Uzbekistan to develop online education, it will also be detrimental to introduce new reforms in the educational system.

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