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Informal

TO RISE ABOVE THE TIDE

EDUCATIONAL MAGAZINE

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O Level OR Matric

Balancing the Facts

E-LEARNING
Never Exhaust A Mind!

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Tell Me Why
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TRAINED OVER 800 FEMALE TEACHERS AS PART
OF ITS SMART SCHOOLS PROGRAM

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Editorial NOTE

Research is important for the students because it helps them to have a detailed analysis of everything. When you have proper in-depth analysis on any topic, the result comes out to be fruitful and also the knowledge is enhanced. When you do research on any topic, you get to know detailed information about that topic. The more the knowledge of the topic, the more successful is the research. So, in order to get good output, the student needs to do maximum research.

The research helps in clarifying the complicated facts and figures. If the student has any doubt on the subject, the student must research and study on it in detail so as to remove all sorts of confusion and get the proper understanding of the content. To understand the subject, one needs to go in depth of the lines. The scanning of the content will never do any good for the students. The students also get to know their area of interest. Sometimes, the students aspire to become researchers only in their near future which is quite helpful.

In order to learn the subject and to know the unknown facts, research, detail study and full analysis are the must - Proper reading, the finding is the only way by which you can learn about the methods and the current issues. Not just the current issues, rather the previous past issues can also be learned in detail through the research. The research includes various methods by which it can be done.

Research is done through the work already published. The experts and the researchers had already done some of the research and the students are asked to go through that published material to know the idea and the vision of those researchers. When the students do research, they get to learn how to create a balance between the collaborative and the individual work. Individual work in which the student has to do, while the collaborative work means that work which has already been done by the previous researchers.

Farooq Ahmad Malik
(Editor-In-Chief)

O Level or Matric Balancing the Facts



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Letter to the editor



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Your magazine propelled a very positive image of the Education system of Pakistan in the cover story of last month. It is a wonderful experience to read your magazine, it is perfect for students. From the first page to the last page, everything is so good. You are doing a good job.

Salman Khalid (Punjab College)

Your magazine is an educational magazine and offers a wide range of topics. I have read your many issues so far and I must say; your selection of topics is very sensible. You promote education and information by making it interesting for the youngsters - every story has a lesson to learn. This magazine has all what a student or an education seeker needs.

Fatimah Maqsood (Beaconhouse School)

I read your magazine very frequent to get myself amazed. I would like to see my letter in your magazine. Your magazine way too educating, I have never seen any magazine carrying such level of information. Your cover story was very informative. You give us information on many topics that are commonly related education. Keep up the good work.

Umar Farooq (Allied School)

It's been a sparkling experience to read your last month's magazine as your magazine was able to highlight some of the most important updates which were important to be told to people belonging to the field of education. Moreover, diversification in the topics of your magazine just makes it a gem!

Faraz Ahmad (Punjab College)

I would like to advice every single parent to subscribe "Informal Magazine" and make sure your children are reading it, as it is the best mean to give and outside of the box education to students. I have seen a great improvement in me and my siblings. This magazine has all what a student or an education seeker needs.

Emman Zai (Lahore Grammar School)

I've been reading your magazine from 4 months and I must say that I liked it a lot! All the stories are unique and interesting and I really liked the selections of the topics in this issue. Just do the same as you are going and Keep it going!

Zohaib Habib (Forman Christian College)

I just want to say that your magazine is very informative yet interesting! It assists me in learning and getting some outside the box information at the same time. Your cover story of last month was an eye opener for us and for the many people out there. Your last issue was full of exciting new stories, and information.

Arslan Ali (University of Lahore)

You are doing a marvelous job! I liked stories such as; the cover story, invention stories, and wise advice. Your magazine is always eye-catching and the interesting content of the magazine pushes us to read the whole of it.

Hamza Mukhtar (FCC)

Write us at informal.pk@gmail.com

We recived too many letters from our valued readers every month through mail and e-mail, however, due to shortage of space we are publishing only few selected letters.

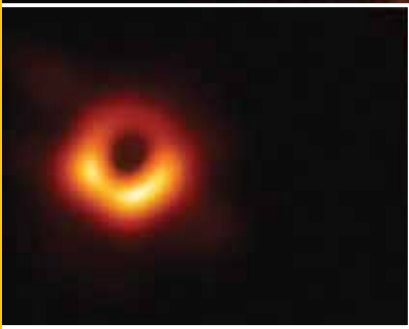


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ASTRONOMERS DELIVER FIRST REAL IMAGE OF BLACK HOLE

Astronomers unveiled the first photo of a black hole, one of the star-devouring monsters scattered throughout the Universe and obscured by impenetrable shields of gravity. The image of a dark core encircled by a flame-orange halo of white-hot gas and plasma looks like any number of artists' renderings over the last 30 years. But this time, it's the real deal.

Over the past few years, there have been groundbreaking discoveries about the universe and following that trend, a few days ago we captured the first image of a black hole. The news was everywhere because while much has been said about them, this was the first time we saw a captured image of a black hole. It even got our President to tweet about it.

While you have seen the image of the black hole floating around on social media, not many are aware that it is a zoomed in picture and here you can see it zoomed out. It looks utterly mesmerizing and surreal; a phoenix rising from

the ashes. Katie Bouman, the lead on the team that developed the algorithm used to capture the image standing next to hard drives containing data that was used to capture it – 5 petabytes (5 million GB).

The supermassive black hole now immortalised by a far-flung network of radio telescopes is 50 million light years away in a galaxy known as M87. Over several days in April 2017, eight radio telescopes in Hawaii, Arizona, Spain, Mexico, Chile, and the South Pole zeroed in on Sag A* and M87. Knit together "like fragments of a giant mirror," in Bremer's words, they formed a virtual observatory some 12,000 kilometres across – roughly the diameter of Earth.

According to the laws of general relativity, published a century ago by Albert Einstein, the gravitational pull of black hole is so strong that no object can escape if it comes too close. That includes stars and the electromagnetic waves -- no matter how long or short -- they give off, including visible light. Black holes, in other words, are invisible.





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Tell Me Why Antibiotics are Hazardous for Immunity?

course. Antibiotics do not work against viruses.

Taking antibiotics for colds and other viral illnesses not only won't work, but it can also have dangerous side effects — over time, this practice actually helps create bacteria that are harder to kill. Frequent and inappropriate use of antibiotics can cause bacteria or other microbes to change so antibiotics don't work against them. This is called bacterial resistance or antibiotic resistance. Treating these resistant bacteria requires higher doses of medicine or stronger antibiotics. Because of antibiotic overuse, certain bacteria have become resistant to even the most powerful antibiotics available today.

Antibiotic resistance is a widespread problem, and one that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) calls "one of the world's most pressing public health problems." Bacteria that were once highly responsive to antibiotics have become more and more resistant. Among those that are becoming harder to treat are pneumococcal infections (which cause pneumonia, ear infections, sinus infections, and meningitis), skin infections, and tuberculosis. In addition to antibiotic resistance, overusing antibiotics can lead to other problems. Antibiotics kill many different bacteria; even the good ones that help keep the body healthy.



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Antibiotics, first used in the 1940s, are certainly one of the great advances in medicine. But overprescribing them has resulted in the development of resistant bacteria, that don't respond to antibiotics that may have worked in the past. Plus, whenever anyone take antibiotics they run the risk of side-effects, such as stomach upset and diarrhea or even an allergic reaction.

To understand how antibiotics work, it helps to know about the two major types of germs that can make people sick: bacteria and viruses. Although certain bacteria and viruses cause diseases with similar symptoms, the ways these two organisms multiply and spread illness are different: Bacteria are living organisms existing as single cells. Bacteria are everywhere and most don't cause any harm, and in some cases may be beneficial. Antibiotics are effective against bacteria because they work to kill these living organisms by stopping their growth and reproduction.

Viruses, on the other hand, are not alive and cannot exist on their own — they are particles containing genetic material wrapped in a protein coat. The body's immune system can fight off some viruses before they cause illness, but others (colds, for example) must simply run their

INVENTION STORY OF GPS

GPS has its origins in the Sputnik era when scientists were able to track the satellite with shifts in its radio signal known as the "Doppler Effect." The United States Navy conducted satellite navigation experiments in the mid 1960's to track US submarines carrying nuclear missiles. With six satellites orbiting the poles, submarines were able to observe the satellite changes in Doppler and pinpoint the submarine's location within a matter of minutes. In the early 1970's, the Department of Defense (DoD) wanted to ensure a robust, stable satellite navigation system would be available. Embracing previous ideas from Navy scientists, the DoD decided to use satellites to support their proposed navigation system. DoD then followed through and launched its first Navigation System with Timing and Ranging (NAVSTAR) satellite in 1978. The 24 satellite system became fully operational in 1993. Today, GPS is a multi-use, space-based navigation system and

meets national defense, homeland security, civil, commercial, and scientific needs. GPS currently provides two levels of service: Standard Positioning Service (SPS) and Precise Positioning Service (PPS).

Invention Story of Universal Serial Bus (USB)

USB flash drives are small drives (usually about a half inch wide by 3 inches long) that can store very large amounts of information. As of 2009, high-end flash drives can hold 128 gigabytes, and smaller ones (2 to 8 GB) are inexpensive and commonly available. That has allowed quite large amounts of data to be stored very easily and portably – and, due to the prevalence of USB (Universal Serial Bus) sockets, with near-universal accessibility. USB 1.0 was introduced in 1995 by a working group of computer companies including Intel,

Compaq, Microsoft and IBM. Their intent was to standardize the numerous specialized connectors PCs had at the time and to develop a basic device-connection protocol. The first USB product was released in 1996, and by 1998 the standard had been widely adopted. In 2000 the USB 2.0 standard was released. The second generation of USB had a much faster data-transfer speed. USB flash drives had already been increasing steadily in capacity. Faster transfer speeds only encouraged that expansion. The first 1-gigabyte USB flash drives became available in 2004.



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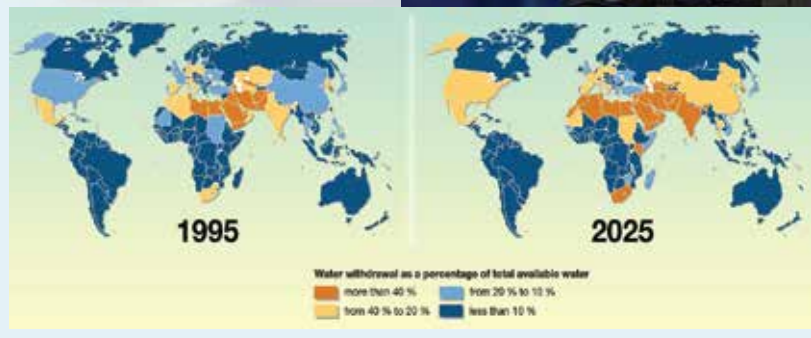
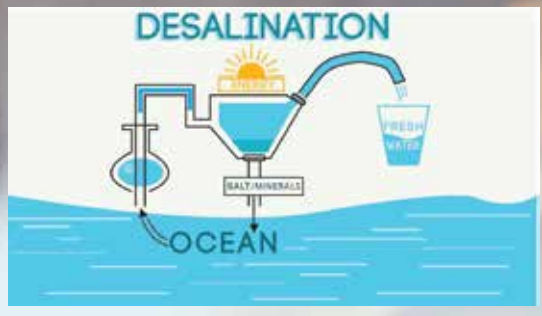
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RESEARCHERS FOUND A ROUTE TO FIGHT GLOBAL FRESH WATER SCARCITY



About a billion people around the world lack access to safe drinking water. Desalinating salty water into drinkable water can help to fill this dangerous gap. But traditional desalination systems are far too expensive to install and operate in many locations, especially in low-income countries and remote areas.

Now researchers at the University of Maryland's A. James Clark School of Engineering have demonstrated a successful prototype of one critical component for affordable small-scale desalination: an inexpensive solar evaporator made of wood. The evaporator generates steam with high efficiency and minimal need for maintenance, says Liangbing Hu, associate professor of materials science and engineering and affiliate of the Maryland Energy Innovation Institute.

The design employs a technique known as interfacial evaporation, "which shows great potential in response to global water scarcity because of its high solar-to-vapor efficiency, low environmental impact, and portable device design with low cost," Hu says. "These features make it suitable for off-grid water generation and purification, especially for low-income

countries."

Interfacial evaporators are made of thin materials that float on saline water. Absorbing solar heat on top, the evaporators continuously pull up the saline water from below and convert it to steam on their top surface, leaving behind the salt, explains Hu, who is senior author on a paper describing the work in *Advanced Materials*. However, over time salt can build up on this evaporative surface, gradually degrading performance until it is removed, he says.

The researchers supplement these natural channels by drilling a second array of millimeter-wide channels through a thin cross-section of the wood, says Yudi Kuang, a visiting scholar and lead author on the paper. The investigators then briefly expose the top surface to high heat, which carbonizes the surface for greater solar absorption. In operation, as the device absorbs solar energy, it draws up salty water through the wood's natural micron-wide channels. Salt is spontaneously exchanged from these tiny channels through natural openings along their sides to the vastly wider drilled channels, and then easily dissolves back into the water below.

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TRAINED OVER 800 FEMALE TEACHERS AS PART OF ITS SMART SCHOOLS PROGRAM

To celebrate the success of Jazz Smart Schools, a ceremony was held, where Shafqat Mahmood, Federal Minister for Education, Ursula Burns, VEON's CEO, and Chairman and Saif Chi, Huawei's CEO graced the occasion to commend the team behind the program and encourage its adoption in all middle schools of Islamabad.

The ceremony was also a way to recognize top performers from amongst the program. 100 students received tablets and certificates by Ursula Burns and Mr. Shafqat Mahmood for their exceptional performance during mid-term examinations.

In Pakistan, where 38% school going students hardly know how to string a sentence in any language or do basic math, the program has successfully taught 28,000+ middle school girls blended learning in 75 public schools of Islamabad. Also, 800+ female teachers have been trained to use tech to teach using smart learning solutions based on the existing curriculum. Since the program, both the assessments of students and the training capacity of teachers have improved considerably.

Talking about the need for similar digitally enabled educational initiatives, the Federal Minister for Education Shafqat Mahmood stated, "Digital skills are a priority for us because they enable learning on a larger and more effective scale. We will be able to bridge the digital literacy divide in Pakistan with programs like the Jazz Smart Schools." Launched as a two-year pilot with Knowledge Platform, the Jazz Smart Schools program has recorded significant improvement in five areas: student learning outcomes; teaching quality; student engagement, expanded use of technology, and improved accountability and monitoring of results.

A digital sustainability initiative under VEON's 'Make Your Mark' program, Jazz Smart Schools are designed to increase student-learning outcomes and improve teaching methodology by a smart learning solution deployed through a digital blended learning platform. Pre-tests were organized for all 20,000 female students in the

program to evaluate their current learning levels based on subjects they studied in previous grades. The internal mid-term evaluation results recorded a remarkable improvement in student learning outcomes. The formal results of the program will be measured once these students appear for their external board examinations scheduled in April 2019.



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ELearning has completely transformed the way in which learning is imparted to students. Unlike traditional chalk and board method of teaching, eLearning makes learning simpler, easier, and more effective.



Web-based learning is commonly referred to as eLearning or online learning. It essentially includes learning online through the courses that are offered on the net. Emails, live lectures, and videoconferencing are all possible through the net. This enables all the participants to give their views on a particular topic and then discuss them further. They also offer static pages like course materials that are printed for the benefit of all the participants. One of the main advantages of accessing pages on the web is that most of the web pages have hyperlinks that will lead you to another page and thus opens up a vast amount of information on the net.

Today's learners want relevant, mobile, self-paced, and personalized content. This need is fulfilled with the online mode of learning; here, students can learn at their own comfort and requirement. The online method of learning is best suited for everyone. This digital revolution has led to remarkable changes in how the content is accessed, consumed, discussed, and shared. Online educational courses can be taken up by office goers and housewives too, at the time that suits them. Depending on their availability and comfort, many people choose to learn at weekends or evenings.

Unlike classroom teaching, with online learning you can access the content an unlimited number of times. This is especially required at the time of revision when preparing for an exam. In



traditional form of learning, if you cannot attend the lecture, then you have to prepare for that topic on your own; in eLearning, you can attend the lectures whenever you want with ease. ELearning is a way to provide quick delivery of lessons. As compared to traditional classroom teaching method, this mode has relatively quick delivery cycles. This indicates that the time required to learn is reduced to 25%-60% of what is required in traditional learning.

Well, there are also some disadvantages of eLearning as well, the main one being that you get knowledge only on a theoretical basis and when it comes to putting to use whatever you have learnt, it may be a little different. The face-to-face learning experience is missing, which may matter to some of students. Most of the online assessments are limited to questions that are only objective in nature. The authenticity of a particular student's work is also a problem as online just about anyone can do a project rather than the actual student itself. But if academic institutes coordinate with each other to build-up an effective model of elearning - one that would be applicable in our country, then this is going to be a big leap to transform the education sector of Pakistan.





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O level **OR** Matric

O Level or Matric

Balancing the Facts

Matric/FSC is a lot cheaper compared to O/A'levels, so you end up saving ton of money without actually endangering your chances at university. The swindle is that good Matric/FSC schools are missing in Pakistan, and if they are good, then mostly lower middle class students study Matric/FSC. So anyone coming from an upper middle class background would be a social misfit.





Primarily, professional universities really do not care whether you've done O'levels or A'levels or Matric or FSC. Different countries have very different schooling systems and boards. All they look at are your school grades, recommendation and reports and extracurricular.

The debate regarding the two different educational frameworks, O'levels and Matriculation, in Pakistan is endless. With these two major educational systems in Pakistan, it becomes difficult for students to decide whether O'levels is better or Matric or if Matric is equal to O'levels. This situation mainly arises due to lack of information and knowledge. One of the major differences is that Matric system education is a local framework of the country, whereas O'levels is a British Educational System. CIE (Cambridge International Education) UK conducts O'levels examinations all over the world and this system is globally recognized. On the other hand, secondary school education examinations are held by the Secondary and Higher Education Board of Pakistan.

Another noteworthy difference between the two systems is the level of education. O'levels syllabus is comprehensive and concept-based. The courses are tough, quality standards are high and students are prepared for the practical world. Whereas, the Matric syllabus is the same as it was years ago, courses haven't been

changed since long and the examination system focuses on rote learning rather than concept building. O'levels, being a UK based system, is expensive as compared to the local educational system of Pakistan. The examination and monthly fee of O'levels education is pretty high as it costs approximately £65 per subject, totaling to £500 for all subjects. Thus, due to financial constraints, it becomes difficult for a middle class student to opt for O'levels.

CIE aims to build logical thinking, problem solving and practical skills in students, thus there are 2 to 3 papers of a single subject, while Matric students take a single exam per subject. The medium of examinations in O'levels is only English, whereas in the matriculation system, students can opt for taking their exams in Urdu language. Thus, an O'levels student is well versed in English which helps him in future and on the other hand Matriculation mainly tests the memory of the students. O/A'levels students are better than those of FSC & Matric. The schools & colleges offering FSC/Matric do not focus on student learning abilities but rather they force them to start cramming. The Ratta System of FSC/Matric is ruining the life of many talented students.

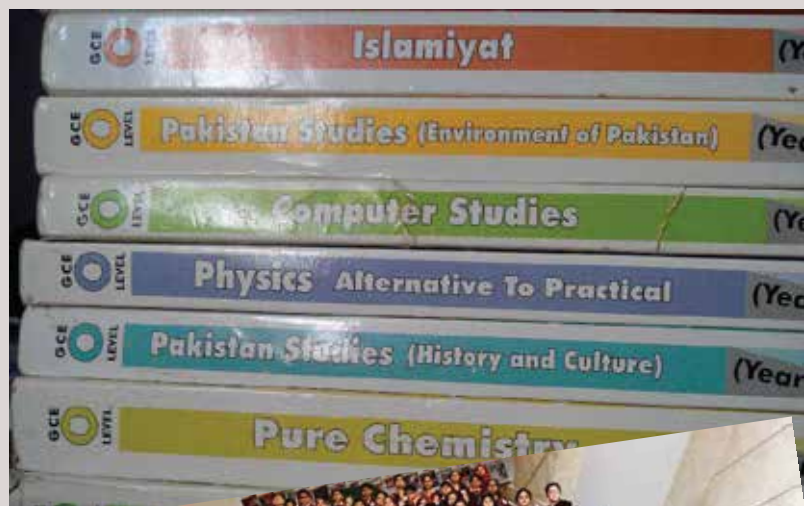
Matric/FSC is a lot cheaper compared to O/A'levels, so you end up saving tons of money without actually endangering your chances at university. The swindle is that good Matric/FSC schools are missing in Pakistan, and if they are



good, then mostly lower middle class students study Matric/FSC. So anyone coming from an upper middle class background would be a social misfit. The class difference is confounding; Matric class would have completely different backgrounds compared to an O'levels class. So your personality is going to be better groomed by doing O/A'levels. Grooming would also mean that you might turn into a spoilt brat by doing O/A'levels. But O/A'levels gives you more exposure, and you would be confident enough to figure out how to get into good international universities. Good O/A'levels schools have plenty of students that end up studying abroad and this creates a network that allows you to access their insights. O/A'level schools have plenty of university fairs where you get to meet-ups with international university admissions. O/A'levels schools are generally a very happening place.

Matric/FSC involves rote learning. Most teachers teaching Matric/FSC are not good but since even the examination is based on rote learning, so it really doesn't matter if you understand something or not, just memories the stuff and you'll get through. For example, Matric/FSC math requires a huge chunk of memorization which is unheard of in O/A'levels. Even the questions for examination can be memorized. Any question from outside the selected set of questions is considered out of syllabus. This rote learning ability actually proves useful in a Pakistani university as the same teaching methodology is present in universities. On the contrary, rote learning does not risk your ability to think critically as is often claimed.

On the other hand, O'levels has a plenty of disadvantages as well which might prove to be difficult for the students. For medical, FSC is still considered as better class, as the entry test of MD-CAT is based on the syllabus of FSC. Even if getting admissions, after A levels, outside Pakistan becomes easier, it is still very hard since no university offers scholarships (especially in 1st semester). Therefore, learning and intellectuality matters the most, even more than whether you opt O'levels or Matric.





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Mr. Riza-ur-Rahman (Managing Director – Native School)

Q. Introduce yourself to our readers and enlighten us with your early field experience?

Ans. I am the Managing Director of Native School System, and I am also associated with several other departments of Native School. Digging the memory, I started my business in 1994 and it's been 24-25 years that I am in field. Primarily, I got chance to work with various well-reputed institutions and I learnt a lot from them as well. Whatever I am today is because of the blessings of Allah Almighty!

Q. What is the prime focus of "Native School" and how it is different than others?

Ans. In contemporary time, everyone claims their institute is different, but a legitimate standard to prove how good or different any school is by examining; what kind of result they produce and how many positions they hold. Since, Native School has been producing marvelous result with top positions; therefore, our school stands different in real sense. There are three main things about which I'm always

concerned and ought to develop these in my students. These three things are; Creativity, Confidence and Character Building – or as I so likes to call it "The Ultimate 3 C's of Success".

Unfortunately, in our current Education System, students who get good grades are considered smart as compare to students who are creative, confident and have ability to do all things by themselves. That's why; we work on creativity, confidence and character building of students. And, students who develop these 3 C's are considered as "toppers".

Q. How do you see the superlative service of Native School in the field of Education?

Ans. It is a magnificent blessing of Allah Almighty that Native School System has always been a trend setter to bring new trends in education sector of Pakistan. We did a sort of survey and we found out that 80% of our students said they will do jobs, but then, we started a campaign to



Unfortunately, in our current Education System, students who get good grades are considered smart as compare to students who are creative, confident and have ability to do all things by themselves.

highlight Entrepreneurship among students and to convince the parents of students to make their children entrepreneur rather than some 9-5 job holders.

There is saying of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), **“Wisdom is the lost property of the Believer”** - It is a part of our custom and we tell this to people very happily that; what we are doing, they should do it too.

Q. Do you think we have made any progress with the existing Education System of Pakistan?

Ans. No, we haven't made progress, this system is given by British, it is a very old system and we are still following it. InshaAllah system will be changed, as I mentioned three C's, we are also engaging Quality Circles; a concept originated from Japan and later on spread to other countries. With the help of Quality Circles Native School is going to implement case-study based learning for the first time in Pakistan.

Q. Do you think current courses in academic institutions of Pakistan need any change?

Ans. Current courses are totally based on repetition and are only concerned with

cramming. Entire syllabus of schools must be re-designed while focusing on the intellectuality of students.

Holy Quran is a complete code of life, it teaches all the aspects of life. But, mostly here we read Holy Quran in Arabic and don't understand it. Tariq Aziz use to host a show “NeelamGhar” and in that he always said, “the important thing is to understand the Holy Quran”. After listening to him, I also focused on understanding Quran rather than just reading it. That's why, at Native school we teach Quran with translation to our students. Even, prayer is also taught with translation from 6th class to onwards.

Q. It use to be decided by parents that whether their child is going to be a doctor, engineer, pilot, etc., but now students are taking this gear to decide their fate. What is your opinion on this?

Ans. I must say, it is a very good question! My personal opinion is that; our upcoming students who are in 4th, 5th, 6th, 1st year, 2nd year and even in graduation - they are blessed with knowledge and they have a broad vision and credit for this goes to educationists, media and gadgets.

Starts Today, Tomorrow and Forever!



The Country School staff (Associated project of BHS) attended the interactive international training session the subjects focused were Science, English and Math. Which was held by Marshall Cavendish, Paramount, Scholastic in Singapore.



Environmental Awareness Day Held at SISA



Allied School Students holding their position trophies at Alhamara Hall.



NGS" in collaboration with "R&R The Premier Dental " conducted a dental check up for the students of Upper Mall Main Campus. Certificates were distributed among the students after the oral examination.



Inter-Branch Spelling Bee Competition At American Lycetuff School System.



Annual Sports Gala 2019 At Jinnah Basic School & College Mansehra Pakistan.



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New York English Academy Scholarships

Manhattan-based New York English Academy is expanding the refugee scholarship program it launched in 2017 as a response to the "travel ban" executive order. In 2019 the institution will be awarding up to 40 scholarships, each covering a month of tuition to students with refugee or asylum seeker status. Depending on the program, the value of the scholarship will be worth around \$2,500. Established in 2017 after the signing of the executive order restricting entry to the US for citizens of certain countries, the scheme was a gesture of solidarity with international students. It represented the spirit of the openness New York City and the US has historically been defined by, NYEA executive director David Maxon explained in a statement.



Online Red Cross Refugee Training Launched



Online learning platform FutureLearn has teamed up with 16 international humanitarian agencies and children's rights organisations to host a course focusing on the needs of unaccompanied and separated refugee children. The six-week online course will teach participants what the vulnerable groups require and best practice, from how separation is prevented to when alternative care is suitable. "Unaccompanied and separated children are especially vulnerable to violence, abuse and exploitation, yet struggle to find or access the assistance they need," Elhadj As Sy, secretary general of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies noted.

US Higher Education on Top as Competitors Strengthen, U21 Report

The United States has continued its dominance of Universitas 21's ranking of national higher education systems, extending its reign of the overall top spot for an eighth consecutive year. But competition is increasing as other countries strengthen their offerings. Released in April, the 2019 rankings saw the US remain the only country to take the top spot in the list's history. But with increased connectivity, more international students globally, and business links strengthening elsewhere, the gap to competitor countries is beginning to close. "There has been some convergence both at the aggregate level and segregated levels," said lead author Ross Williams.



China Opening Education to World, Policy Document



The Chinese Ministry of Education has unveiled its policy points with regards to "opening education to the outside world" for 2019. In a document released online, the ministry outlined 34 aims, with "six major aspects". Central to the 34 points is the aim to "accelerate and expand the opening up of education", the document explained. This includes education in China and the continued flow of outbound students. While the document didn't specifically create a policy for an increasing foreign student numbers at Chinese HEIs, the 'Belt and Road' and 'Silk Road' initiatives do denote a focus on the promotion of "student mobility and mutual recognition of academic degrees".

New Scientific Device creates Electricity from Snowfall

Scientists have developed a first-of-its-kind device that generates electricity from the natural phenomenon of snowfall. Based on the principles of the triboelectric effect, in which electrical charge is generated after two materials come into contact with one another, the new technology exploits the fact that snow particles carry a positive electrical charge. Because of that, snowflakes give up electrons, provided they get a chance to interact with the right, negatively charged substance. "Snow is already charged, so we thought, why not bring another material with the opposite charge and extract the charge to create electricity?" explains chemist Maher El-Kady from UCLA, and also CTO of a research company called Nanotech Energy.





Big Bad Wolf Book Sale organised at Expo Center Lahore

The World's Biggest Book Sale, the Big Bad Wolf Book Sale launched its very first sale in Pakistan at Lahore Expo Centre. It was the first chance for Pakistanis to experience a 24-hour book fair which ended on April 29. This book sale was the largest event of its kind in the world, successfully attracting hundreds of thousands of book lovers, occasional readers, students, families and avid shoppers from around the globe. The event was officiated by the Provincial Minister for Higher Education and Tourism, Mr. Raja Yasir Humayun alongside the Founder of the Big Bad Wolf Book Sale, Mr. Andrew Yap.



South Korea to Establish Pakistan Global Institute in Pakistan

South Korea is planning to set up 'Pakistan Global Institute' in the country and awaiting Pakistan government's approval of its law. This was disclosed by South Korean Ambassador to Pakistan Kwak Sung-Kyu during a meeting with Chairman Higher Education Commission (HEC) at the Commission Secretariat, said a press release. During the meeting, the two sides discussed the ways to enhance collaboration in higher education and research fields. "Pakistan Global Institute is being established wherein two disciplines, Information Technology and Business Administration, will initially be started after approval of its law by the Government of Pakistan," the ambassador informed Chairman HEC Pakistan.



Sindh Bars Private Schools from Selling 'Overpriced' Uniforms & Stationery



The Sindh Education and Literacy Department has stopped private schools from selling uniforms, stationery, notebooks, and other related products to the students at exorbitant prices. The Directorate of Inspection and Registration of Private Institutions – a subordinate department of the Sindh Education department – issued a circular to all private schools across the province in this regard. The notification declared selling of overpriced stationery, course books, notebooks, and uniforms illegal. The Education Department has formed monitoring, complaint and inspection teams and has instructed them to take action against schools that violate the directives.

Private Schools Should Not Increase Fees More Than 5% Annually: Apex Court



The Supreme Court has said that private schools cannot increase fees by more than five percent without prior approval. A three-member bench headed by Chief Justice Asif Saeed Khosa heard a case in this regard. The private school counsel Makhdoom Ali Khan responded that the inflation rate was also shooting to new heights and it isn't right to stop schools from increasing fees. To this, the CJP remarked that the salaries of parents did not raise parallel to the inflation; hence, allowing a fee hike will mean over-burdening them. Justice Ijaz remarked that the schools should not be allowed to turn into "profit earning" factories.

Karachi Board HSSC Exam Papers Goes Viral on Social Media

After Zoology and four other papers, the question paper for the Mathematics exam of the Intermediate Part-II of Board of Intermediate Education Karachi (BIEK) has been leaked. The solved question paper of Maths was easily available on social media before it reached the examination hall. It seems that the authorities have failed to counter the elements involved in this activity, as almost all of the intermediate exams reached the students' hands before they made it to the hands of the invigilators. Along with the leaked papers, cheating at exam centers and in board exams have made the headlines many a time, but the practice still continues uncontrolled.



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CCP Imposes Heavy Penalty of Rs. 22.5 Million on Three Medical Colleges

The Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) has passed an order imposing a total penalty of PKR 22.5 million on three medical and dental colleges for violating Section 10 of the Competition Act, 2010 by fraudulently claiming recognition by the Pakistan Medical & Dental Council (PMDC) and offering admissions to students for 2013-2014 sessions. CCP conducted an inquiry into the allegations of deceptive marketing practices, after the PMDC, in its press release, named twenty-two private medical and dental colleges, which had failed to meet its registration criteria for 2013-2014 and were therefore either not recognized.



Government Restarts National Internship Program for Fresh Graduates

Prime Minister Youth Affairs Program has decided to start the National Internship Program (NIP) for fresh graduates. The internship program aims to create optimal employment opportunities for youth. After completing their internship, the participating youth will also be offered jobs in the public and private sector on the basis of their performance. This program will help reduce the unemployment ratio along with bridging the gap between the human resource pool and those who are looking for it. NIP was stalled after the regime change in 2018 and no new batch was announced after the completion of the last one. NIP is now expected to enhance skill development of freshly graduated students.



Govt. Doubles Quota for Students from Tribal Areas



The quota for students hailing from the erstwhile Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) has been doubled in numerous educational institutions in other provinces of Pakistan. The total quota has doubled from 222 to 444 for a period of 10 years. The quota for Baha-ud-Din Zakariya University, Multan has increased from 188 to 376. The quota for tribal areas students has been increased from 7 to 14 in Pakistan Institute of Fashion & Design, Lahore. In National Textile University, Faisalabad and the Pir Mehar Ali Shah University of Arid Agriculture, the quota for FATA students has increased from 9 to 10 and 10 to 20 respectively.

Pakistan Ranks Third in Foreign Students in China



Pakistan is ranked third for the number of international students studying in China. Currently, there are 28,023 Pakistani students in the world's most populated country. China's Ministry of Education issued a statement saying that South Korea ranks first with 50,600 students. Thailand ranks second with 28,608 students. The number of international students attending academic education in China has increased by 6.86 percent year-on-year to 258,122. Presently, 6,156 Pakistani students are enrolled in Ph.D. programs, 3,600 in Masters Degrees, 11,100 in Bachelor's degrees while 3000 students are pursuing Short Term Exchange Programs across China. Pakistani students are studying engineering, medical, computer science, Chinese language, and several other fields.

Pakistani Students Win Singing & Photography Competitions in China

Pakistani students swept music speech and photography competitions in an international youth exchange gala in China. Over 30 young Pakistani students from educational institutions in China and Pakistan participated in the Second Silk Road and Young Dreams program and showcased their skills in an elegant manner. As many as 300 contestants from 70 countries of the five continents including Europe, Asia, Africa, America, and Oceania participated in the event. The event was organized to welcome the forthcoming Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation, scheduled to be held later this month. The students of Pakistan Embassy College Beijing (PECB) won five positions in speech, photography and music categories of the competitions.





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PRODUCT REVIEW PAGE



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KISHWAR MUNEEER*

Mirpur to Kinderdorf International via SOS Children's Village Pakistan



In early September 1991, Kishwar Muneeer* was born in an SOS Children's Village Pakistan to SOS Village House Mother Basheeran*. For many, it was a similar tale of yet another less privileged child coming into this world with only a mother to look up to. Basheeran* had joined the SOS Children's Village Pakistan as a House Mother upon her separation from her husband and Kishwar's* biological father Abdullah*. Kishwar's* father was a laborer by profession and hailed from Mirpur, Azad Kashmir. Basheeran* was already expecting Kishwar* when she joined the SOS Children's Village Pakistan. Assigned SOS ID - 57*, not many people had high hopes for the little girl but the heavens had planned something else.

From the very onset, Kishwar* proved herself to be an intelligent person. She started her academic career from SOS Herman Geminer School and continued there till she passed her Matriculation which she did with flying colors and obtained good grades. She subsequently enrolled at a renowned college from where she completed her ICS. Post ICS, Kishwar* obtained admission at another great institute, graduating with a degree in Bachelors of Commerce (B. Com). On account of her strong academic background, Kishwar* secured admission in the MS Program at Fatima Jinnah University. She continued to perform well academically and graduated with a good GPA. She was subsequently offered an internship in Germany by SOS Kinderdorf which lasted for three months from February 2018 till April 2018. Upon her return to Pakistan, Kishwar* joined the Finance Department

of "Metropolitan".

A few months later Kishwar* applied for and was able to secure a job at a regional office of SOS Kinderdorf International where she has been executing her duties since 2018. On the request of her mother and in view of her standing as a proud, independent and professional woman, she was released from SOS Children's Village Pakistan. Not many people would have given Kishwar* even a chance to succeed and to achieve what she has been able to achieve considering her socio-economic situation. However, it was destiny that brought Kishwar* to SOS where she was nurtured and developed into the person that she has become today. None of this would have been possible without the support of the countless good Samaritans who continue to hope and help change lives. The journey from Mirpur to Dubai via SOS Children's Village Pakistan is just the start. The best is yet to come!



*Names changed due to privacy

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Bloomfield Hall School organised a Splendid Graduation Ceremony

Bloomfield Hall Gulberg Branch Pre-School organised a Graduation Ceremony for Prep 2 and Parents' Day Concert for the year 2018 - 2019, on 27th April 2019. The little ones surprised everyone with their outstanding talent and fantastic performances. The young graduates were super excited to take a leap jump into the next class. As for the concert, there were a variety of performances from a blend of fairytale drama, to the epic tale of Heer Ranjha which left all the parents awestruck. The program successfully concluded with an appreciation note by Ms Williams the chief guest of the ceremony.



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Incubated in LUMS NIC LAHORE



To:

The head office

WAPDA (water and power development Authority)

WAPDA House,

Mall Road,

Lahore

Dear Sir/ Madam,

We, the students of LGS, Phase V DHA Lahore want to bring a very crucial issue to your notice. For our PYP school exhibition project we recently conducted a research on the grave issue of "water scarcity" in Pakistan. We discovered that water demand globally is projected to increase by 55% between 2000-2050. In the light of this knowledge we are predicting that Pakistan is going to face an acute shortage of fresh water in the coming years. According to a NASA led study many of world`s fresh water sources are draining faster than they are being replenished. If we want to become a water efficient society we have to endeavor to overcome this "invisible epidemic". The agriculture sector accounts for 69% whereas industry sector accounts for 23 % and the domestic sector accounts for 8% usage of water. Based upon the above mentioned consumption pattern of water resources in Pakistan following set of solutions have been drafted by us.

- Agriculture Use
 1. The convenient way to solve this issue in agriculture sector is lining of canals and the optimal use of water for agriculture.
 2. Drip irrigation methods can help to minimize water wastage at farm level.
 - Drip irrigation is a type of micro-irrigation system that has the potential to save water and nutrients by allowing water to drip slowly to the roots of plants to minimize evaporation. This method can decrease evaporation and save up to 80 percent more water.
 3. Sprinklers can be used to water the plants a sprinkler washes the leaves of plants and increases the photosynthesis. It is believed that in the near future 47% of the world's population is likely to live in "areas of high water stress" by 2030!
 4. Plant Moisture Detector
 - Plant moisture detectors should be used intensively in fields as a moisture detector will give a visual indication to show whether the plant is in need of water or not thus preventing unnecessary water wastage.
 5. Rain Water Harvesting techniques
 - An estimated 64% of the country's population lives in rural areas and earns a living from agricultural activities such as crop cultivation and livestock rearing, According to the agricultural census carried out by Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, There are 50,588 villages in Pakistan and the Potohar Plateau is believed to be the most suitable area in the country for natural rainwater harvesting and experts have identified 74 sites. Rainwater harvesting techniques could help irrigate more land, improve the groundwater table, provide drinking water and increase income of subsistence farmers.
- Domestic Use
 - Rain water harvesting techniques mentioned above can also be installed in each

household around the country to save water. It is basically done through a rain barrel linked to a pipe fitted to collect rainwater from the rooftop of the house.

- Industrial Use
- 1. The sea water of Karachi is considered to be the worst affected part of the country because of the discharge of industrial waste from Korangi, Landhi, and Karachi Export Processing Zone. In the Korangi industrial area; 2,500 industrial units including 170 tanneries dispose untreated waste into the sea.

The following steps can be adopted by the government to cater to this issue.

1. Water resources should be free from suspended solids or other substances that enter the waters as a result of industrial activity.
2. Water resources should be free from floating debris, oil, scum, etc.
3. Government should set limitations on waste disposal discharges
4. Modern techniques should be adopted for the treatment of pollutants
5. Incentives should be given in form of subsidies and tax relaxation in favors of installation of waste water treatment plants.
6. Heavy fine should be imposed for any such negligence.

Regards,

Students of the Primary Years Programme LGS DefenePhase V.

ShifaAhmad, Mahnur, Khadeeja, Zaina, Taalea



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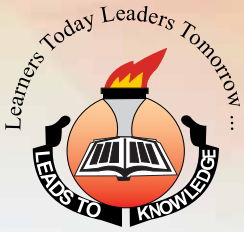
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