

Effect of Covid-19 Pandemic on Students Academic Achievements at University Level in AJ&K

Nazir Haider Shah¹ , Nadia Nazir² , Mahek Arshad³ 

¹Assistant Professor, Department of Education, University of Kotli, AJ&K

²Lecturer, Department of Education, Mohi-ud-Din Islamic University, Nerian Sharif, AJ&K

³Controller of Examination, Bilquis Postgraduate College for Women, PAF, Rawalpindi

Email: nazirshah786@gmail.com¹

ABSTRACT

Aim of the Study: The purpose of this research was to measure the effect of the covid-19 epidemic on students' academic achievement at university level in Azad Jammu and Kashmir.

Methodology: The study was descriptive in nature and survey method was applied for the conduction of research. The study's population consisted of 4234 students from the University of Kotli. The sample was drawn from the study's population using convenient sampling technique. The study sample was made up of n=352 students. A self-prepared questionnaire prepared as a research tool in this research. The questionnaire was administered online using a Google form due to the lockdown.

Findings/Conclusion: It was found that the students liked the online system of education and commented that this is very attractive system in the modern world. They participated in class discussion and different activities which are made by the teacher during the online class. Moreover, some students faced some problems related to internet, universities websites and problems related to the use of modern technologies.

Suggestions: It is suggested that instructors enhance their teaching methods to motivate pupils to learn and to entice them to study online. They may also make available online materials for practical learning, such as e-books and instructive videos.

Keywords: COVID-19 Pandemic, Academic Achievement, University Level.

Introduction

The corona virus is a member of a viral family that may cause pneumonia, symptoms include fever, breathing difficulties, and a lung infection, among others. These viruses are found in animals all throughout the world, but only a few human cases have been reported. The World Health Organization (WHO) coined the term "2019 new corona virus" to characterize a corona virus that infected the lower respiratory tract of pneumonia patients in Wuhan, China, on December 29, 2019. The corona virus illness (COVID-2019) was identified as the causative infection by Chinese officials in January. The R&D

Article History

Received:
September 29, 2022

Revised:
November 28, 2022

Accepted:
November 29, 2022

Published:
December 01, 2022

Blueprint for this novel corona virus has been activated, allowing diagnostics, vaccines, and therapies to be developed more quickly (Tariq et al., 2021). COVID-19 has been identified as the cause of a respiratory illness outbreak that started in Wuhan, China. COVID-19 is spread by respiratory droplets when an infected person coughs, sneezes, or talks (Mishra, 2020).

COVID-19 resurgence has an impact on all aspects of human life, including education, research, sports, distraction, transportation, love, partying/connections, economy, organizations, and governmental difficulties. To be sure, the entire globe was in peril due to the hazards of COVID-19, the truth was difficult to bear, and the training region remained one of the worst impacted by the Corona infection outbreak (Huang, 2020).

In only couple of months, the COVID-19 pandemic, brought about by the original Covid, has profoundly changed the existences of individuals all over the planet, including advanced education understudies. Aside from the staggering wellbeing results on individuals straightforwardly impacted by the infection, the COVID-19 pandemic has had significant ramifications for the manner in which advanced education understudies live and work, influencing their physical and mental prosperity in a significant manner (Banerjee, 2020)).

Due to the spread of COVID-19 the government shut down most of the schools, colleges and Universities. The eruption of Coronavirus was first distinguished in Wuhan city of China during December 2019. It is clear that pandemic has supplanted the exceptionally old chalk and talk strategy for instructing to web-based educating. There are numerous instructive stage accessible today to arrive at the understudies through online however to utilize those stage the two educators and understudies barely need specific things like PC/versatile with web access, agreeable seat, separate work area, essential programming, headphones and so on, Even however there are different techno driven items accessible to instructors and understudies to instruct and concentrate on online yet the fundamental things which are not really expected to get to those stages are not appropriated similarly to all. Drop-out rates across the globe are probably going to rise in light of this gigantic disturbance to instruction access (Saradhamani R. , 2020).

To decrease the spread of COVID-19 the Government shut down educational institutions like schools, colleges and universities. There are numerous e-learning and e-showing applications, for example, microsoft team, zoom, easy class, go to meeting, remind, slack and so forth. Showing organization has the test of picking one great secure e-learning system which consumes less information during live streaming. To empower live streaming of class students ought to approach PC/portable with web availability (Raju, 2020).

Online teaching replaces customary teaching aid with white board, audio video display and digital boards. The quantity of PCs possessed by the family particularly in the country regions are lower than half, it adversely influences the entire internet-based training however for some degree smart phone with versatile programming fill in to those students' requirements (Meng, 2020).

Going to class is not just about having a great time however it helps in expanding a kid's capacity to turn out to be socially dynamic. Most importantly, it develops their capacities, and the kid acquires the fundamental abilities which he utilizes in his regular routine. In Pakistan, first instance of COVID-19 was analyzed in the long stretch of February 2020 and in the start of March more than 300,000 educational institutions including schools, colleges and universities had been shut down with the goal that the students and children could be safeguarded from the irritation (Mehreen, 2020). As students have endured all through the pandemic, so too has their learning. In the fall of 2020, as per a few evaluations, numerous students seemed to have made gains from the earlier year, however much of the time, fundamentally more modest ones than in earlier year-over-year examinations including a five to ten percentile point drop in numerical accomplishment on new's map growth appraisals. This and other early reports recommend that patterns might differ by subject, with math abilities by and large slipping more than in perusing, maybe considerably so. Information at the state and region level the previous fall additionally arranged a blended

picture, for certain reports observing that students had made scholarly gains by fall 2020 however in sums that were not exactly in earlier years and lopsided across subjects (Bech, 2020).

The COVID-19 has impacted around the world, to contain the spread of Covid - 19 most government shut down the schools, colleges and Universities. The explosion of Coronavirus was first distinguished in Wuhan city of China during December 2019. UNESCO deliveries universally 290 million school students impacted because of avoid school. It is obvious that pandemic has supplanted the exceptionally old chalk and talk technique for instructing to online teaching. There are numerous instructive stage accessible today to arrive at the students through online however to utilize those stage the two teachers and students barely need specific things like PC/portable with web access, agreeable seat, separate work area, important programming, headphones and so on, however there are different techno driven items accessible to teachers and students to educate and concentrate on online yet the essential things which are not really expected to get to those stages are not dispersed similarly to all (Saradhamani, 2020).

Aims of the Study

1. To identify the effects of COVID-19 pandemic on student's academic achievement at University Level.
2. To measure the effects of COVID-19 pandemic on student's academic achievement at University Level

Review of Related Literature

Origin of COVID-19

COVID-19 is a respiratory illness that causes gentle to direct infection (80%), serious sickness (15%), and basic ailment (5%), with a case casualty pace of 0.5-2.8 percent by and large and a lot higher rates (3.7-14.8 percent) among the old. The serious and basic sickness classifications (which represent around 20% of all contaminations) have over-burden wellbeing frameworks across the world (Balkhair, 2020).

A flare-up of obscure reason pneumonia was at first announced in late 2019 in Wuhan, Hubei Province, China. Coronavirus, another Covid, was found as the causative specialist following seven days of request. The infection was a freak type of the Corona viridian family, which, in the same way as other respiratory infections, took care of a RNA part by viral cased protein, however had acquired another hereditary change that delivered it impervious to normal medicines (Webster, 2020).

The infection, which is profoundly irresistible by means of beads and contact transmission, can go undetected for 2.4-15.5 days prior to causing influenza like side effects, non-steady hacks, fever, looseness of the bowels, myalgia, or even anosmia. More than 100 patients are impacted. As the second line of countries tormented by COVID-19, the first reports in quite a while came from Thailand, Japan, and South Korea, which were totally tainted by transmission from affirmed instances of COVID-19 from China. While China was battling a desperate fight with the COVID-19 episode, the remainder of the world was essentially settled until the second piece of February. Shockingly, the beginning of the upswing in different countries agreed almost precisely with the beginning of the decrease in China. This can be made sense of further by the significance of the hatching time in ascertaining the genuine occurrence of this sickness, as large numbers of the patients were asymptomatic transporters during the brooding time frame and could quietly taint numerous others. At the point when the primary brooding time frames were finished, the precarious slant of the bends was produced (Hanaei, 2020).

Scholastic achievement alludes to an understudy's correspondence (oral, perusing, and composing), arithmetic, logical, sociology, and mental capacities and capabilities that empower the person in question to succeed in school and in the public eye. Since different sorts of achievement are hard to assess, most investigations have depended on a more prohibitive definition that is for the most part restricted to normalized accomplishment test discoveries. Scholastic achievement is characterized in this part as happy region accomplishment as estimated in English math (Rivkin, 2015).

Effects of COVID-19

COVID-19 has affected daily existence and is toning down the Global economy. This pandemic has affected an enormous number of social classes, who are either cleared out or are being killed in light of the spread of this sickness. The most notable symptoms of this viral Infection are fever, cold, cough, bone torture and breathing issues, and ultimately inciting new well known ailment affecting individuals curiously, vaccinations are not yet available. ID of the disorder at a starting stage is vital for control the spread of the virus since it rapidly spreads starting with one individual then into the next. Most of the countries have down their gathering of the things. The various organizations and regions are affected by the justification behind this affliction; these consolidate the medications business, sun arranged power region, tourism, information, and equipment industry. This contamination has enormous bang on effects on daily presence of occupants, as well as about the overall economy (Haleem, 2020).

As at now, no nation or race across the world is immune from the COVID-19 pandemic, and the entire world gives off an impression of being overwhelmed by the speed of the spread and the staggering effects of COVID-19. It has profoundly impacted the lifestyles of the entire world with billions of people being constrained to 'stay at home', 'notice self-isolations', and work and gain from home. It has limited the chance of people to move, trade or more than 2000 COVID-19 passing in a single day no matter what the country's strong commitment to the fight against the infection. The quantity of corona infection passing was taking off while focusing on no prompt arrangements. The infection made it clear that things are not pulling back across the globe (Eucheria, 2020).

Social Effects of COVID-19

Pandemic has struck each nation; some are better situated to help their economies and populaces. Nonetheless, supporting streams not been coordinated to nations with the best Covid-19induced destitution impacts (Center for Disaster Protection, 2020). The nations that have gotten more financing will quite often have elevated degrees of per capita GDP, and intense pay misfortunes are probably not going to drive expansions in destitution levels. Along these lines, dealing with the worldwide monetary aftermath needs to likewise address expansions in destitution levels. Contending assets and restricted financial space suggests focusing on reactions. Diverting assets for enacting the economy is important, yet this frequently implies that individuals who were at that point in circumstances of weakness will be hit the hardest and are the ones in more prominent need (Wang G. Z., 2020).

The spread of COVID-19-versatility declines after a consistent expansion in day to day passings, as well as the other way around even subsequent to controlling for government lockdowns. This suggests that the pandemic influences the economy past the force of a lockdown, an example that was assessed and revealed in the IMF's WEO (2020) by decaying varieties in versatility into a part made sense of by true limitations (once more, intermediaries by the Stringency Index) and a leftover, and afterward demonstrating changes in monetary movement because of every one of the two parts (Zhang, 2020).

Medical Effects of COVID-19

Beyond its health impacts, the Covid-19 pandemic has featured genuine difficulties in individual vocations. A portion of the financial impacts are now obvious, and experience can help in expecting further impacts, regardless of whether proof on the degree of the pandemic's effect is as yet being gathered and investigated. As soon as June 2020, the World Bank cautioned that the pandemic would set off the most profound worldwide downturn since the Second World War (World Bank, 2020).

This crisis will affect the size of economies and will negatively affect their ability to develop after the shock has passed. The disparities that will result from this shock ought to likewise be an essential focal point of the investigation and reaction, as they incredibly communicate with, and as a rule fuel, the weaknesses of certain gatherings more than others. 'Individuals in the casual business sectors, little and miniature business people, ladies in problematic work conditions, generally prohibited gatherings, for example, native and afro-relatives, should be at the focal point of the reaction (Zhong, 2020).

Despite the fact that actions to substitute school learning and advancing a more computerized stage are exemplary during the pandemic, there are concerning factors included connecting with the psychological and actual strength of millions of understudies out of school. These connect with the way that delayed repression of kids inside the home because of the conclusion of schools could have moderating negative secondary effects (Jiang, 2020).

The mental effect of COVID-19 on youngsters with inabilities, both physical and mental, has been viewed as more prominent than the non-incapacitated kids. A significant number of the cutting-edge advancements are not useful for kids with visual or hearing impedance. For youngsters who are truly debilitated, being totally confined from the rest of the world and just learning through contraptions, become incredibly testing. Same can be said for the Autistic youngsters as the need might arise to be socially dynamic yet COVID-19 has confined their social turn of events (Wang, 2020).

Effects of COVID-19 on Education

A solitary million school going children have standard permission to the high-level devices or bandwidth. But public region shipped off just a brief time after schools were closed on thirteenth April. This channel was worked by state-asserted PTV House and around 54 million people were their watchers. It conveyed programming for grades 1-12 with no charge from four Pakistani end-tech relationship for instance SABAQ, Orinda Project, Knowledge Platform and Sabaq Foundation. Moreover, an instant message framework with 250,000 clients was added toward the finish of May to empower guardians and understudies to speak with dedicated educators (Malik, 2020).

Assuming a youngster passes up a major opportunity even a day, he has a great deal to get up to speed with to be at standard with his companions. As of now, it's not necessary to focus on missing a couple of days however about missing a long time of up close and personal learning on the grounds that the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic are presently being felt in the realm of training. Because of the COVID-19 flare-up, nations all over the planet requested school terminations to forestall the spread of the contamination. The overall lockdown of instructive foundations caused an unanticipated and conflicting break in schooling where study hall learning, tests and different assessments have taken a rearward sitting arrangement, being dropped forever, or being snubbed by online other options. As of current information examined by UNESCO's worldwide observing of school terminations brought about by COVID-19, around 900 million understudies are impacted overall while 46,803,407 students have been impacted by the conclusion of instructive organizations in Pakistan which incorporate pre-essential, essential, optional and tertiary degrees of training (Balkhair, 2020).

The entire world has gradually dealt with this fundamental confinement and overall self-teaching has come into training. The overall thought here is that youngsters are not at home to play but rather that they proceed to study and advance at home. This parental instructing and self-teach thought at first appear to be conceivable, viable and inclined to progress however while guardians can direct a youngster while they learn at school, being the sole wellspring of training to their kids is a major weight to put upon guardians even with adequate web-based materials accessible. While self-teaching appears to be a decent choice and for the most part feasible, it seems, by all accounts, to be impossible that it can substitute going to class particularly assuming various elements are thought of. There will presumably be varieties between families in how much they can empower their children to learn, how much open materials to show the kids, the inclination of the actual guardians and the accessibility of on the web and different assets (Eucheria, 2020).

Cognitive Effects

The Coronavirus pandemic influences mental working notwithstanding passionate reactions. There is developing proof that people with extreme COVID-19 infection can have side effects that persevere past the underlying ailment, including through the sub-intense and into the early ongoing stage. Frequently alluded to as 'Long COVID' there are everyday reports of 'cerebrum mist' with self-detailed wide mental

side effects including low energy, issues concentrating, bewilderment and trouble tracking down the right words. In equal, contextual investigations have given proof that COVID-19 patients can foster a scope of neurological entanglements including those emerging from stroke, encephalopathy, provocative disorder, miniature drains and immune system reactions (Meng, 2020).

Mental issues in the people who have required a lengthy clinical facility stay or intubation are ordinary. Long-term mental shortcoming after extreme respiratory difficulty condition: a review of clinical impact and way physiological parts. What is less clear is whether milder cases who have not been hospitalized moreover can persevere through fairly quantifiable mental inadequacies. Estimating such affiliations is attempting. Longitudinal mental data from pre-to post-COVID-19 sickness are meager because defilement is unpredictable. This issue is exacerbated by the cost of running standard eye to eye mental evaluations in gigantic enough masses to catch such change, or to address perhaps astounding people factors that associate with mental execution. Additionally, it is basic to integrate key minority sub-peoples, for example, more prepared adults, racial-ethnic social occasions, and people with earlier afflictions. Racial prosperity varieties and COVID-19-watchfulness and setting (Huang, 2020).

This convinced us to take on a colossal degree system, by which individuals who have recovered from COVID-19 pollution were stood out from at the same time obtained controls while addressing the disproportionate sociodemographic assignment of contamination transcendence and any connected people change in discernment (Jiang, 2020).

Effects of Covid-19 on Students

Comparable past crises, like the SARS flare-up, were emphatically exhibited as spreading pressure and inciting mental illness regarding gloom, tension yet in addition fits of anxiety, and, surprisingly, maniacal side effects, wooziness, and expanded paces of self-destructive (Xiang et al., 2020). These outcomes have been as of late confirmed as for the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, especially with regards to elevated degrees of mental pain, dread and frenzy ways of behaving (Rivkin, 2015).

The COVID-19-related regulation estimates forced gigantic work and school terminations, isolation, and social separating, profoundly affecting on private and social life and presenting individuals to encounter vulnerability, sensations of segregation, and feeling of "misfortunes" regarding inspiration, importance, and self-esteem (Vaishya, 2020).

Different investigations investigating factors related to COVID-19 episode among college understudies featured elevated degrees of nervousness and stresses over scholarly deferrals and brashness of the pestilence on day-to-day existence, because of the interruption in understudies' day to day daily schedule, regarding exercises, targets and social connections. Without a doubt, the quarantine thwarted the likelihood to encounter the college life, affecting on scholastic concentrating yet in addition weakening the likelihood to Benet from the connections that might address anchor in understudies' life, like those with companions, associates, and teachers (Meng, 2020).

Academic Achievements

Academic achievement alludes to a students's correspondence (oral, perusing, and composing), arithmetic, logical, sociology, and mental capacities and skills that empower the person in question to succeed in school and society. Since different kinds of achievement are challenging to assess, most examinations have depended on a more prohibitive definition that is generally restricted to normalized accomplishment test results (Banerjee, 2020)).

Schooling is a powerful interaction including information, the development of interest and energy, the instillation of uplifting outlooks and values and the production of abilities that are fundamental for autonomous learning. Insightful achievement was once made sure to be the primary aftereffect of formal informational experiences and remembering that there is little vulnerability concerning the fundamental work such achievements play in student life and later (Webster, 2020). To request to evaluate the

circumstances and logical results of students' scholastic execution, researchers consider these school factors as the necessary resources to change their outcomes. The factors are the size, sort of school, school format, spot of review and responsibility for school, which are viewed as pertinent to the scholastic exhibition of students (Alabi, 2019).

There is no qualm that understudy's excellent scholarly presentation and results is associated with the idea of learning climate and the accessible valuable offices. Different experiential examinations have laid out that learning climate is a basic need for understudy's scholastic accomplishment in Kotli AJ&K (Mudassir, 2015).

High scholarly accomplishing students are probably going to have been presented to educational plan content under an optimal learning climate. Thus the attestation of the assessment of Shamaki, (2015) that "instructive accomplishment/accomplishment is probably going still up in the air by the advantageousness of the learning climate Shamaki, (2015) led a review to decide the impact of learning climate on understudies' scholarly accomplishment at optional school level in AJ&K and observed a tremendous distinction between the mean execution of students educated in an ideal learning climate and that of students instructed in a dull learning climate (Ahmed, 2014).

Academic achievement alludes to execution results in scholarly areas educated at school, school, and college. As a sign of scholarly schooling, scholastic accomplishment is the main essential for individual and cultural thriving. This makes scholastic accomplishment an imperative issue both for governmental issues and for mental examination. This article sums up focal issues of mental examination on scholarly accomplishment. Beginning with the topic of how to gauge scholarly accomplishment, observational discoveries on what predicts scholastic execution are introduced. The article closes with a gander at equivalent open doors in schooling about orientation and financial status (Bech, 2020).

Effects of COVID-19 on Students' Academic Achievements

The impacts of COVID-19 on the scholastic execution of college understudies and their degree of fulfillment with web-based instructing. It additionally investigated the huge contrast in scholarly execution of understudies alongside their fulfillment level with web-based educating across orientation (Eucheria, 2020). To lessen the spread of COVID-19 instructive organizations are briefly shut yet schooling isn't shut to understudies and educators. There are numerous e-learning and e-showing applications, for example, Microsoft groups, zoom, Easy class, go to meeting, Remind, Slack and so on. Showing clique has the test of picking one great secure e-learning stages which consumes less information during live streaming. To empower live spilling of class understudies ought to approach PC/portable with web availability (Raju, 2020).

COVID-19 pandemic has affected all levels of the tutoring framework. Enlightening associations all around the planet have either momentarily closed or execute localized closures affecting about 1.7 billion of student population all over the planet. Various schools all around the planet either postponed or dropped all grounds activities to restrict social affairs and from now on decline the transmission of contamination. Regardless, these activities lead to higher reasonable, clinical, and social repercussions on both undergrad and postgraduate organizations (Malik, 2020).

Coronavirus, as a worldwide general wellbeing emergency, has been ruthless on the economy, instruction, and food security of individuals from one side of the planet to the other, paying little mind to public limits. Impacted areas incorporate tertiary training, highlighting one of the most terrible interruptions during the lockdown time frames given that most nations have attempted to keep their fundamental monetary exercises running. In any case, such exercises didn't reach out to advanced education foundations (HEIs), which were shut totally after the suspension of up close and personal exercises with an end goal to keep away from the infection spreading among their understudies and staff and, thus, everybody (Alabi, 2019).

Internet educating replaces conventional showing help with white board, sound showcase and advanced sheets. The quantity of PCs possessed by the family particularly in the rustic regions are lower than half, it adversely influences the entire internet-based training however for some degree current advanced cell with dynamic programming fill in to those understudies (Eucheria, 2020).

Methodology

Research Design

The study aimed to investigate the impact of COVID-19 on the academic achievement of the students. Keeping in view the nature of the study, quantitative research approach was used to plan the overall research. Furthermore, descriptive research method was used to conduct the study. In this method, the researcher conducted survey by using questionnaire to collect the data from the respondents.

Population

All the students of University of Kotli, Azad Jammu and Kashmir were the population of the study. The population of the study was consisted of 4234 students of University of Kotli AJ&K.

Sample and Sampling Technique

Simple random sampling technique was used to draw the sample from the population of the study. 352 students were selected as a sample of the study.

Instrument

Self-prepared questionnaire was prepared for students to check the effect of COVID-19 on their academic achievement. The validity of the questionnaire was validated from two (2) experts of the Department of Education, University of Kotli, AJ&K. The reliability of the questionnaire was measured through cronbach's alpha statistical technique. The value of reliability was found .83 which was appropriate for conducting the final survey. Due to the lockdown, the questionnaire will administer online using Google form. Data were analyzed by using Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS). Researcher used frequency, percentage, and mean score for analysis of data.

Results

Table 1: *I enjoyed completing online courses*

Group			SA	A	UD	DA	SDA	Mean
Students	N	f	128	120	34	46	24	3.80
	352	%	36	34	10	13	7	

Table 1 show 70% (36% SA+34% A) of students enjoyed completing online courses. Furthermore, mean score (M=3.80) of students showed that they agreed with the statement.

Table 2: *Online education was a good course to advance my studies*

Group			SA	A	UD	DA	SDA	Mean
Students	N	f	69	101	46	75	61	3.11
	352	%	20	29	13	21	17	

Table 2 shows that 49% (20% SA+29% A) of students think that online education was a good course to advance their studies. Furthermore, mean score (M=3.11) of students showed that they undecided with the statement.

Table 3: *I did all my activities successfully online*

Group			SA	A	UD	DA	SDA	Mean
Students	N	f	116	108	22	60	46	3.53
	352	%	33	31	6	17	13	

Table 3 indicates that 64% (33% SA+31% A) of students did all their activities online. Furthermore, mean score (M=3.53) of students showed that they agreed with the statement.

Table 4: *Students organized time to do everything*

Group			SA	A	UD	DA	SDA	Mean
Students	N	f	145	97	75	20	15	3.95
	352	%	41	28	21	6	4	

Table 4 indicates that 69% (41% SA+28% A) of students organized their time to do everything. Furthermore, mean score (M=3.95) of students showed that they agreed with the statement.

Table 5: *I get more knowledge by taking online classes*

Group			SA	A	UD	DA	SDA	Mean
Students	N	f	168	90	61	28	5	4.10
	352	%	48	26	17	8	1	

Table 5 indicates that 74% (48% SA+26% A) of students had more knowledge by taking online classes. Furthermore, mean score (M=4.10) of students showed that they agreed with the statement.

Table 6: *I improved my communication skills*

Group			SA	A	UD	DA	SDA	Mean
Students	N	f	103	76	83	52	38	3.43
	352	%	29	22	24	15	10	

Table 6 indicates that 51% (29% SA+22% A) of students had improved their communication skills. Furthermore, mean score (M=3.43) of students showed that they undecided with the statement.

Table 7: *I improved my creativity skills*

Group			SA	A	UD	DA	SDA	Mean
Students	N	f	158	106	44	26	18	4.02
	352	%	45	30	12	7	6	

Table 7 indicates that 75% (45% SA+30% A) of students improved their creativity skills during COVID-19 outbreak. Furthermore, mean score (M=4.02) of students showed that they agreed with the statement.

Table 8: *Functions of the online teaching platform can meet the learning needs*

Group			SA	A	UD	DA	SDA	Mean
Students	N	f	153	85	34	53	27	3.80
	352	%	43	24	10	15	8	

Table 8 showed that 67% (43% SA+24% A) of students think that functions of the online teaching platform can meet the learning needs. Furthermore, mean score (M=3.80) of students showed that they agreed with the statement.

Table 9: *I actively answered the teachers' questions*

Group			SA	A	UD	DA	SDA	Mean
	N	f	109	113	35	57	38	
Students	352	%	31	32	10	16	11	3.56

Table 9 indicates that 63% (31% SA+32% A) of students actively answered the teachers' questions during the COVID-19 outbreak. Furthermore, mean score (M=3.56) of students showed that they agreed with the statement.

Table 10: *I completed the online study assignment assigned by the teacher on time*

Group			SA	A	UD	DA	SDA	Mean
	N	f	167	72	60	36	17	
Students	352	%	47	20	17	10	6	3.95

Table 10 indicates that 67% (47% SA+20% A) of students agreed with the statement that they completed the online study assignment assigned by the teacher on time during COVID-19 outbreak. Furthermore, mean score (M=3.95) of students showed that they agreed with the statement.

Table 11: *Fear affected my study plan*

Group			SA	A	UD	DA	SDA	Mean
	N	f	130	110	46	56	10	
Students	352	%	37	31	13	16	3	3.83

Table 11 indicates that 68% (37% SA+31% A) of students' fear affected their study plan. Furthermore, mean score (M=3.83) of students showed that they agreed with the statement.

Table 12: *I have had trouble communicating with my teachers*

Group			SA	A	UD	DA	SDA	Mean
	N	f	62	75	91	54	70	
Students	352	%	18	21	26	15	20	3.01

Table 12 indicates that 39% (18% SA+21% A) of students had had trouble communicating with their teachers. Furthermore, mean score (M=3.01) of students showed that they undecided with the statement.

Table 13: *I faced technical problems browsing the university website*

Group			SA	A	UD	DA	SDA	Mean
	N	f	85	78	57	29	103	
Students	352	%	24	22	16	8	30	3.03

Table 13 indicates that 46% (24% SA+22% A) of students had faced technical problems browsing the university website. Furthermore, mean score (M=3.03) of students showed that they undecided with the statement.

Table 14: *It was dramatic changes in my academic performance*

Group			SA	A	UD	DA	SDA	Mean
	N	f	124	89	79	37	23	
Students	352	%	35	25	22	11	7	3.72

Table 14 indicates that 60% (35% SA+25% A) of students think there were dramatic changes in their academic performance. Furthermore, mean score (M=3.72) of students showed that they agreed with the statement.

Table 15: *I hold completely negative attitude towards the study*

Group	N	f	SA	A	UD	DA	SDA	Mean
Students	352	%	107	42	89	37	77	3.18
			30	12	25	11	22	

Table 15 indicates that 42% (30% SA+12% A) of students hold completely negative attitude towards the study. Furthermore, mean score (M=3.18) of students showed that they undecided with the statement.

Discussion

The aim of this study was to measure the effect of COVID-19 pandemic on the academic achievement of the students in the universities of Azad Jammu and Kashmir. The result of the study showed that the students liked the online system of education and commented that this is very attractive system in the modern world. Furthermore, they completed all the tasks assigned the teachers during the classes. They participated in class discussion and different activities which are made by the teacher during the online class. Moreover, some students faced some problems related to internet, universities websites and problems related to the use of modern technologies. A study conducted by Andersen *et al.* (2022) found that during the COVID-19 pandemic, medical students at Kirk Kerkorian School of Medicine at UNLV have demonstrated decreased exam performance, study more at home, and have poorer relationships with their peers and faculty. Another study conducted by Mahdy (2020) concluded that COVID-19 pandemic lockdown affected the academic performance of most participants 96.7% with varying degrees. This agrees with previous studies, which reported that COVID-19 has a profound impact on medical students, dental medical students, and radiology trainee (15–20). Taking online courses has a negative effect on students; reduction of students' progress and success has been reported to be associated with taking online college courses, instead of traditional in-person courses. Habiba *et al.* (2022) found that the slogan of education for all completely deteriorate by the negative effects of corona. Stress and mental disorder phenomenon have become the great social problem in modern era. The inadequate mental condition does not occur automatically. Stress due to isolation among the students undoubtedly directly affects the teaching pedagogies and teaching behavior during teaching process.

Conclusions

Students loved online courses during the COVID-19 epidemic and thought that they performed well in all of them, therefore they completed all of the online study assignments set by the instructor on time. They felt good about themselves since they did well in their classes. Students considered online education to be a beneficial course that helped them develop in their academics. Furthermore, finishing the course brought them closer to achieving their professional objectives.

Students arranged time to complete all of the tasks assigned to them by their professors. As a result, they completed all of their tasks effectively online. Their academic performance increased dramatically as well, with grades, communication, and creative abilities all improving. It has been established that students who took online lessons during the COVID-19 epidemic gained greater information. They actively participated in classroom learning and responded to queries from the professors. Students believed that the online teaching platform's present features might suit their educational requirements. Fear had an impact on some students' study plans, according to the findings. Some students had trouble interacting with their lecturers and had technical difficulties viewing the university website during the COVID-19 epidemic, which is why they have a bad attitude about the study.

Recommendations

1. It is suggested that instructors enhance their teaching methods in order to motivate pupils to learn and to entice them to study online. They may also make available online materials for practical learning, such as e-books and instructive videos.
2. Teachers should offer dynamic and comprehensive online services, as well as helpful assistance and critical comments, to increase students' happiness with online instruction.
3. Practical learning with interactive technologies such as movies and 3D animation is far more successful than text resources such as power point and pdf, and voice recordings should be offered alongside the lecture's text.

It is also suggested that the institution offer online learning platforms with quick access to study materials by giving students with electronic devices to access the internet, such as PCs and tablets

Acknowledgments

None

Conflict of Interest

Authors have no conflict of interest.

Funding Source

The authors received no funding to conduct this study.

ORCID iDs

Nazir Haider Shah¹  <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-6901-5804>

Nadia Nazir²  <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-1001-4700>

Mahek Arshad³  <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-7133-7397>

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