

ESSAY - 2019

تاريخ

Expanding IT: a curse or blessing?

Thesis Statement:

Job displacement, limitation of human creativity, privacy encroachment and many others are the causes which classify expanding information technology as a curse.

OUTLINE:

1- Introduction:

2- Expanding IT is a curse because it is:

1- Dehumanizing human relations because of availability of easy communication tools.

2. cause of job displacement which lead towards economic disparity among human beings.

3- used as a tool for digital warfare through spread of misinformation and hacking.

4- a helping hand for criminals for performing cybercrimes.

5. Creating digital divide in society by classifying human among classes
6. Leading towards the emergence of technological monopolies which results in concentration of power and wealth in the hands of few people.
7. Affects environment negatively because of carbon emissions and electronic waste by production and use of digital technologies.
8. Rich in information but poor in attention by decreasing the attention span of human beings.
9. Source of multiple diseases in human beings.
10. Homogenizing cultures and ending diversity from the world.
11. Results in privacy encroachment of individuals.
12. Limiting human creativity through the use of software for doing multiple tasks.
13. Spreading materialism around society.
14. Cause of depression and psychological unrest among individuals.

15- Spreading obscenity and nudity which curbs the innocence of children.

3- **Expanding IT: is a blessing because it:**

1- Has made communication easier and accessible

2- Helps save time of individuals through online app usage.

4- **Conclusions**

World is becoming modernize day by day. It is bringing universe together into a single community. This phenomenon is source of multiple troubles in the live of inhabitants.

The phenomena of modernization is termed as expanding information technology. As, its ^{title} ~~name~~ suggests its is the use of technology. This use have impact on society negatively.

Expanding Information technology serves as a curse for society as it dehumanizes human relations and

emotions and ~~increases~~ increases job disparity.

It also aids into spread of misinformation and is a helping hand for criminals in performing cyber crimes. Expanding Information Technology has also led the control of whole world under hands of few elites. In addition, ^{its} emergence has impact environment negatively through e-wastes and multiple diseases.

It limits human mind and curbs creativity.

~~On other hand, Spreading IT has also positive contribution towards accessible~~

~~communication. It has saved time and money of people through online apps.~~

Therefore, it can be pronounced that job displacement, limitation of human creativity, privacy encroachment and many others are the causes which

classify Expanding IT as a curse.

Expanding IT is a curse because it dehumanizes human relations. Information Technology has provided easy communication tools to people because of which the real feelings and emotions of humans are being degraded. The physical contact among humans is decreased. Texas university research claims that humans are dependent on technology and ^{has} left physical meetup far away. Technology has replaced human sensations and feelings with emojis. This has declined the true sense of relations. ~~This~~ and created distant relations. Thus presenting expanding IT as a curse.

Job displacement is another reason which defines expanding IT as a curse. Multiple tasks traditionally performed by humans are now

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automated. Many low skilled jobs are becoming obsolete, while demand of tech savvy workers, rise. According to World Economic Forum, around 85 million jobs are displaced by a shift in labor between humans and machines, while 97 million new roles could emerge requiring different skills. This indicates that expanding IT has cause significant decrease in job market taking human position into trouble. Thus, creating an environment of less employment facilities for human beings.

Another curse of expanding IT is its contribution to digital warfare, particularly through spread of misinformation and hacking. These tactics are use to manipulate opinions and destabilize governments. In 2022, a deepfake of Ukrainian president was circulated online,

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falsely showing him calling on Ukrainian soldiers to surrender. This fake news was generated to create confusion among Ukrainian soldiers and common people. The expanding IT misleads and deceives people without any fear of retribution. This contributes to digital warfare.

Expansion of IT ~~has played a~~ is playing a key role in development of cybercrimes, creating a helping hand for criminals. It has made execution of crimes easier ~~and~~ generating a trouble-free environment for criminals.

In 2017, Wannacry Ransomware Attack encrypted files on the victims computer rendering them inaccessible until a ransom was paid. This attack created trouble for various organizations. However, it benefit criminals to

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achieve their goals. Thereby, cybercrimes are executed by criminals easily through expanding IT.

Disparity in society is another malediction of Expanding IT. It divides society into two halves; one with easy access to expanding technology and other with no or limited access. According to UNDP report about Pakistan, over half the country still has no access to internet. Richest have 15 times greater digital access and development as compared to poorest quintile. This shows that Pakistani society have unequal opportunities. This inequality creates disbalance and disparity in Pakistani society.

Information Technology expansion leads to concentration of power.

and wealth in-hand under few hands.

Rapid spread of IT has given lives and choices of individuals under in few elites

custody. Social media platforms like

Facebook, Twitter, Youtube use algorithms

to prioritize content. These platforms

shape public discourses by determining

which information is seen by users worldwide.

Discourses are shaped by leading powerful

personalities. These discourses control

decision making of people. Therefore,

IT expansion is a curse because it

has provided privilege to powerful elite

to control lives of masses.

IT expansion grants negative

effects on environment. Its rapid

advancement leads to frequent

updates and ~~pro~~ obsolescence of

devices. As new devices are introduced

the users ~~also~~ increase and ~~or~~ e-waste of previous devices also rise. Increase usage of devices escalates carbon emission on earth. A report mentioned that watching one hour of video streaming on platforms like Netflix is estimated to generate about 36 grams of CO₂ emissions. This means that as much as scrolling and using digital devices increase the carbon dioxide emission will multiply. Carbon dioxide ~~em~~ release destroy the healthy environment thus creating trouble for inhabitants of earth.

Information technology provides rich information but decreases attention span of human beings. Expansion of IT adversely affects human attention thus increasing

attention deficit disorders. Iowa State University followed over a thousand children for thirteen months and examined television and video game habits. Study showed that children who engage in more than two hours of daily screen time were at higher risk of developing attention problems. Action on screen contributes to attention deficit as well as decreased concentration. So, IT creates trouble in human lives from an early age proving itself to be a curse.

Expanding IT is a source of multiple diseases in human beings. Various new maladies are discovered initiated by expanding IT. According to Dr Rowan's report screen time has introduced a new condition called Electronic Screen Syndrome (ESS).

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This causes sleep deprivation, social isolation, behaviour problems and a hyper aroused nervous system.

The society has undergone new challenge in form of new syndromes, ~~with~~ bringing curse to human life.

Expanding IT is a curse because it has terminated the diversity of culture. The extended information technology has homogenize all the culture. It has made world a global village where people have access to whole world eradicating the differences between local and indigenous cultures. Research from International journal of communication highlights that online gaming fosters a shared culture among players worldwide, with standardized games leading to similar social norms and

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interactions. The homogeneity has decreased the local cultures and diversity of world. is declining. In this way expanding IT becomes a curse.

Expanding IT has intereene into private lifes of individuals. As IT is ethhaneing its abilities it is making life of individuals difficult by interfeeling in their life. In 2018 Cambridge Analytica scandal was reported. It revealed that data of millions of users was harveested without consent for political adveertising.

This raises concerns about data privacy and its manipulation:

Information technology enroch individual's data without consent.

Therefore, it is a curse.

Expanding IT limits human creativity. It hinders human abilities

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from doing multiple tasks. ChatGPT, DALL-E and Deep dream are the tools that provide readymade content to individuals. The tools risks the original human thoughts and their ability of productivity declines. The creative abilities of humans are disturbed by the expanding IT leading humans towards its dependency.

Rapid acceleration of IT has spread materialism around society. Social media platforms such as Youtube and Instagram celebrates those who have gained material pursuits. A youtuber Rajab Butt resident of Lahore shows his luxury his lifestyle and fame received due to vlogging. He is a less educated man but ~~has~~ enjoys all material pursuits. This instigates

a lust for materialism than morals.

Expansion of IT is condensing moralities. Therefore, it is validated that expanding IT is a curse.

Expanding IT is a curse because it is reason ~~for~~ of depression and psychological unrest among individuals.

People try to solve real life problems with virtual life solutions and when unable to do, it ^{creates} unrest ~~results~~ in

life. American Psychological Association (APA) study show a correlation between social media use and increase

levels of anxiety, depression and

loneliness. Social media makes one

feel inferior and spurs depression.

Increase use of social media

increases unrest in life becoming

a curse for individuals.

Expanding IT is spreading nudity and obscenity among children.

The ~~rise~~ internet provides explicit content under one click which ^{gives} makes easy access to children. Researches have shown that many children encounter inappropriate material before the age of 12. The access to inappropriate content at early age becomes dangerous. Children lack morality and innocence in their personality.

Therefore, expanding information technology is a curse for human life.

Every entity have positive and negative side, expanding IT also have a few benefits along with curses.

Foremost, blessing of Information technology is that it has made communication easy and accessible.

It has decreased distance among people. WhatsApp and Zoom have made communication process easier and faster. One can contact distant relatives very easily. Through video conferences enable face-to-face communications over long distance making expanding IT a blessing.

Expanding IT is a blessing because it saves time of individuals by providing online apps to accomplish tasks. Everyday tasks are easily performed using multiple apps: online shopping ^{apps} and online grocery apps have reduced the burden and ~~time~~ saves time.

These apps minimize the need of physical travel, saving significant amount of time of individuals.

In a nutshell, the restriction on innovation power of human mind, conflicts in human society, unrest in personal life and many more reasons demonstrates the curse of expanding IT. To start with, the psychological distress and anxiety is a major curse provided by IT expansion. In addition, the decay of human relations and moralities in society are the dark sides of IT. Increase of evils such as cybercrimes and spread of misinformation fake information is another negative shade of expanding IT. However; there is also a ray of blessing displayed by expanding IT is the decrease of communication gap problems. IT has made connections stronger among people.