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Expanding Information Technology: A Blessing or a Curse

1: Introduction:

Thesis statement: Information technology has been spread in our society so immensely that it has become a curse more than a blessing.

2: Expansion of Information Technology in our daily lives

- In social life.
- In domestic life.
- In academic life.
- In economic life.

AL-JAZEERA reports 4.6bn internet users in the world.

3: Expanding Information Technology a blessing for mankind:

3.1: Gaining Political and social information from social media.

3.2: Artificial Intelligence and Robotics making domestic life easier.

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3.3: Digitalization of Health (department) and other public departments.

3.4: Using Internet and Information Technology for Interaction and communication.

3.5: Employing Information Technology for economic purposes.

3.6: Enhancing the quality of education and making it more accessible through information technology.

3.7: Opening new horizons in Research and development

4: Expanding Information Technology
a curse more than blessing:

4.1: Spreading mis-information and creating political propaganda and campaigns.

4.2: Replacing Labour force through robots and gadgets.

4.3: Mis-using the digitalisation of health-care and other public departments.

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4.4: Spreading depression and anxiety and
aloofness from world.

4.5: Destroying Human resource capital
alternating economically the labour force.

4.6: Depending education system overly
on information technology leading to
interrupted studies.

4.7: Innovative developments leading to warfare.

5: Critical Analysis:

6: Conclusion:

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this word shows that cancer is negative

Information Technology
has spread like a cancer within
no time. It has effected our
daily lives and all its domain
so holistically that it has become
a curse more than a blessing. It
imposed positive and negative changes
in our social, domestic, political and
economic lives. It improved our
health, education, social interaction,
connectedness and political domain
of our lives simultaneously information
technology ruined our lives by
replacing labour workforce, spreading
misinformation and propaganda, cultivating
depression and anxiety in young
generation and overly depending
education system on information technology.
Its negative impacts are more than
its positive impacts so its more
like a curse than a blessing.

Information technology in the form of internet, artificial intelligence, AI based gadgets, social media apps and economic digitalization has been prevailed in the whole body of our society. Major portion of population has been employing information technology to make lives easier. **AL-JAZEERA** network reports that **4.6** billion internet users are present in this fast growing global village, which means almost **60 percent** population of earth is dependent on information technology.

Moving towards the positive impacts of information technology which are blessings for us in today's life, first of all we will discuss that information technology has become a source of social and political information. All types of news information is spreading through information technology - specially through social media apps.

The information of terrorists attack at world-trade centre — September, 2001 spread through internet and social media throughout the world. A research institute **Pew Research** published that nine out of ten Americans received political information through social media Apps.

Secondly, here comes the **domestic** domain — that is overly dependent on information technology. Overwhelmingly the information technology has made human lives easier by different gadgets and Artificial intelligence equipped robots and equipments. The use of vacuum cleaners, automobile vehicles, mobile phone, washing machines, air-conditioners, refrigerators, computers and live broadcasting of television and radio made human lives easier. **Ismat Tehseen** — a Pakistani writer says the increasing love for the ease has made humans overly dependent on information technology.

Thirdly, comes the information technology use in digitalisation of most of the public departments. Public institutes that are harnessing information technology to improve their efficiency and effectiveness, could be health, banking, education, political institutes. In Pakistan there are 70 million internet banking users, making online payment, transactions and bill payments. Educational institutes and political institutes have made their online web portals for online admission or public services making quicker access to all institutions. Mayo Hospital in Japan is totally equipped with artificial intelligence based robots doing ultra-sounds, surgeries and MRI. WHO reports that there is a tremendous increase in the use of online health apps to check their health conditions. Citizens Portal launched by Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf to lodge complaints against any public institution

was another good example of employment of information technology in digitalization of public departments.

Then another blessing of information technology is its use for communication, interconnectedness and global interaction. Now a days the ~~world~~ population has become a global village due to reduction of ~~social~~ distances through online audio and video calling apps, messenger apps — connecting the person in one continent to the other present in the ~~far~~est continent. Now one person is just at the distance of one click away from ~~any other person~~ of the ~~global~~. One can ~~hear the voice~~ of an American friend being here residing in Asia; more than that is the facility of visual calls — one can watch one's love ones at a click through information technology. PEW Research reports that 90 percent Americans use social media apps for

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communication and interaction.

Information technology has been employed for economic purposes. Online trading has made businesses more grown and vast. **Amazon** is the major example of online business using information technology—working in the whole world and delivering throughout the whole world. **E-commerce** is the most emerging field of information technology. **Bitcoin** and **Forex trading** are also good examples of use of information technology for economic purposes.

Now comes the vast and rigorous use of information technology in the education field. During the pandemic **COVID-19** the schools colleges were off so study mechanism was shifted towards online studies, which saved the students and their precious time. ~~Anyone can attend online seminars and debates and can also participate in learning. Virtual~~

online study programmes are offering many courses and degrees to the youth of distant and remote areas through which they can excel in their fields and their future goals.

CHAT GPT is another example of internet facility that helps in education department.

Information and technology has opened new horizons in research and development. Newly developed vaccines to prevent pandemics and contagious diseases are owed to information technology. The research and development and proliferation of nuclear weapons is mandatory in today's world of instability and insecurity. The space race, satellites and discovery of space is another field which employs information and technology to reach Mars and Moon. These aspects show the blessing of information technology that have been incorporated in ~~our~~ human lives.

Moving towards the aspects and domains of information technology which proved that information technology is bringing curse in daily lives.

First of all, moving towards the spread of mis-information and propaganda through social media its playing havoc in political and social lives. Deep-fakes

created by artificial intelligence are destroying the social and political image of many celebrities and political leaders. Syrian hackers hacked U.S institutional website and highlighted the attack on

white house and spread the mis-information of U.S President. NEW YORK TIMES Reports

that the banning of twitter and facebook accounts of President Donald Trum created

a political set-back for him. Another example is the spread of mis-information through mass media is that of

Ukraine; before Ukrainian elections the hackers hacked the billboards of Kyiv - the capital, and displayed the pictures of hatred leaders involved in war crimes.

Robots and artificial intelligence based equipments are replacing the human resource capital leading to severe social issue of unemployment and poverty. So unsustainable growth can also be imported through over dependence on information technology.

A hotel in Japan where no human worker is present - only operation through robots. All the functions of order taking, serving and billing are done by robots. U.K Labour Statistic Bureau says that robots are replacing human workforce rapidly. According to a research it is estimated that there will be ten robots in every home for the family of ten persons in 2050.

~~E-vehicles~~ is another emerging menace that is replacing human workforce.

California a state of U.S.A has introduced self-driving vehicles - no need of human drivers. Robots are replacing human beings in industrial sectors also.

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Information technology is a curse more than blessing can be proved through this argument. Online web portals provide quick access to information and public services but it has now playing as evil. The case-study here is the Health-care department of U.K; it has digitalised all its information, data and projects. Hackers hacked their website and capture the sensitive data of all patients, then patients were reluctant to be treated at that hospital resulting in much economic and social loss of a hospital.

Over dependence on information technology severely impacts the mental and psychological health of youngsters. Too much usage of mobile phones and other forms of information technology burdens heavily on nerves of central nervous system creating anxiety and depression in

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the user. **Coloumbia university** reports that excessive use of information technology produces anxiety and depression in the users. Another research of **London university** reports that excessive use of mobile phones and technology creates a fake outeworld around the user and one becomes ignorant to the real world around him. In today's fast growing world the humans are connected through social media but physically at much distance from each other. The spread of excessive use of information technology creates ambiguity, lack of peace and restlessness. The users become addict to mobilephone so much that they are in fear of far away from mobile phones. This condition is called nomophobia. **PEW Research** reports that **81 percent Americans** are suffering from nomophobia.

Information technology has effected seriously to the economy.

Along with the replacement of workforce it also destroying economies. **Wall Street Journal** says that it is replacing humans rapidly in every industry. Another example of economic destruction through information technology is **SWIFT** it is an online global banking system which handles all the global payments and transactions. When U.S.A imposed sanctions on Iran, **SWIFT** ceased the Iranian Banks and paralysed the Iranian economy.

Information technology also has worsen the dependency on online learning. In the era of technology though access to information and education has become easy but its menaces are dominant. Over dependence on internet and online classes creates interruption in studies when internet is in outage. **Malaysia** overly dependent on **virtual learning** many times reported educational interruption due to unavailability of internet.

Besides the fact that information technology leads towards the new developments and progresses in ~~nuclear programmes and space exploration~~ but it can also create a warfare zone by intercepting in one's territorial privacy through **GPS and GIS**. America is accused of spying the rivalries through satellite and global positioning system and imposes sanctions on rivalries such as Russia and Iran. Development leads to destruction and fear of third world war through proliferation of nuclear arms. Every country is spending more of its GDP budget in defence sector. **India** is ~~10 percent~~ spending the budget in defence sector to hold the hegemony in the south-asian region.

Critical evaluation of all these factors takes to the conclusion

that information technology is more like a curse for human beings due to destruction of economy, fear of warfare, interruption in virtual studies and data privacy issues.

The menaces of information technology are overshadowing the blessings of the information technology.

Hence, in a nutshell it is conveyed through arguments and counter arguments that information technology - prevailing in daily lives, effecting in a negative way more religiously than in a positive way. Here are many blessings of information technology such as communication, interaction, source of information and education, political campaigns and propaganda, access to information and public services but along with that there is a flood of curses that comes in form of physical dis-connectivity

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from family, privacy loss, warfare,
depress and anxiety, and most
evil is the replacement of workforce.

So, information technology is
expanding so fast that it is bringing
more curses than blessings.