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Founder Editor : Intakhab Alam Khan
G-85, Abul Fazal Enclave,
Jamia Nagar, New Delhi - 25 (India)
Tel.: +91-11-26947032,
Mob. +9871467786, 9990443469
e-mail # intakhabakhan@yahoo.co.uk

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ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE
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Editorial

Education is immensely significant in every realm of life. It is rightly considered as a necessity for all kinds of human developments: economic, social, cultural, educational, political, psychological, philosophical, and an overall personality development.

Education has always been emphasized in all religions. In Islam in particular, it receives special focus as the Qur'an began to be revealed with a very first holy word of its first verse: '*Iqra*' that is, read. Reading as one of the activities of Education/Teaching is perhaps the most important means of acquiring the wealth of knowledge. Further, education is compared with light and illiteracy with darkness. The economic relevance of Islam can be well understood from the saying: *al-Ilm Kharum min al-Maal* (Education is better than wealth).

Many Islamic scholars have shown great respect towards the following *hadith* (one of the holy sayings of the last prophet (PBUH): the ink of the pen of a scholar is more precious than the blood of a martyr. The reason being that a martyr is engaged in the defense of his own or the nation whereas an *alim* (scholar) builds individuals as well as an ideal society. His voice is heard not only in the present generation but in the generation to come. It becomes immortal and keeps on shaping generation after generation endlessly. Thus, a scholar can play a greater role in restoring the values of an ideal society. A Muslim is born to perform different roles in a society: as a worshipper, a son, a brother, a father, a grandfather, a husband, a neighbor, a member of society, a citizen, and above all a human being.

In Hinduism as well, education is of great significance. The following stanza in Sanskrit conforms to the very relevance of each and every aspect of education:

*Yesham na vidya na tapo na danam
Gyanam na sheelam na gurho na dharma
Tey mrityu lokey bhui bhar bhuta
Manushya ruperh mrigyash charanti*

It is translated as:

The one who has neither knowledge (education), nor worship, nor charity, nor knowledge (depth in learning), nor character, nor religion, roams like a deer in search of *kastury* (a kind of fragrance) that is dispensed by its body only. It clearly indicates that there exists a difference between an educated and an uneducated man.

Thus, it is a shared responsibility of scholars, educationists and philosophers in general and religious scholars in particular, to shape a better world order in order to attain the ultimate peace: one of the pre-requisites for all sorts of development.

The Editor

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List of Contributors

Anjali Mittal is Research Scholar at Department of Educational Studies, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi-25

Ankur Yadav, is Lecturer, Dept. of Communication, NIHFV, New Delhi.

Dr. Ashok Singh Rao is Asstt. Professor & Head at Department of English, Mody Institute of Technology & Science (Deemed University) Lakshmangarh (Sikar) Rajasthan, E- Mail: asrao1975@rediffmail.com

Dr. Intakhab Alam Khan (M.A.in English, B.Ed., M.Ed, M.Phil. and Ph.D) was awarded a D.Lit. (H) by the International University of Contemporary University, Washington D.C.,USA, for his exempt contribution to the field of ELT. Dr Khan writes in the area of Education/ Pedagogy. He has scores of papers/article and more than a dozen books. At present, he is working at Jeddah Community College, Jeddah, KSA.

Dr. M. C. Garg is associated with Haryana School of Business, Guru Jambheshwar University of Sc. and Tech.,Hisar- 125 001 (Haryana)

Dr. Mohammad Fayez Shah is a Lecturer of English at King Saud University, Riyadh. He has several research papers and a book on Lawrence published to his credit. e-mail: mshah@ksu.edu.sa URL: <http://faculty.ksu.edu.sa/mfayez>

Dr. Ranjit Kaur is Lecturer at Ch. Devi Lal University, Sirsa

Dr. Sanjeet Kumar is Lecturer at Dept. of Business Administration, Ch. Devi Lal University, Sirsa (Haryana)

Dr. Shamshir Singh is Lecturer at M.M. College of Education, Fatehabad

Dr. Umed Singh is Reader and Chairperson at Dept. of English, Ch .Devi Lal University,Sirsa- 125055 (Haryana)

Dr. Zaid Ahmad Ansari is Ph.D from Aligarh Muslim University. His areas of interest are: Insurance and Islamic banking. He has conducted some valuable studies. He is assistant professor at Jeddah Community College, King Abdul Aziz University, Jeddah-KSA.

Harjeet Kaur Bhatia is Associate Professor at Department of Educational Studies, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi-25

Irfan Ahmed is a versatile faculty member. He has varied experiences in the field of teaching, and this makes him a distinguished teacher. He has earlier served Sultan Qaboos University, Oman, and earned many awards and certificates.

Moyna Chakravarty is Professor of Anthropology at Pt. R. S. University, Raipur (C.G.)

Mr Ahmed is currently working as a lecturer at Jeddah Community College, Jeddah, KSA. In addition, he is rendering the services as the recruitment co-coordinator and marketing manager.

Mrs Rehana Yasmine Awais is presently based at London, UK. She has been a researcher and a social worker in addition to her interest in studying and practising Law. She is equally interested in human rights and family affairs.

Mrs. Renu Bala is Vice-Principal, Rashoba College of Education, Sirsa, Haryana – 125055

Ms. Sonia Yadav is Lecturer, Rashoba College of Education, Sirsa, Haryana – 125055

Neelam is research scholar at Dept. of English, Mody Institute of Technology & Science, Lakshmanagarh, Rajasthan.

Pawan Kumar Sharma is research scholar at Dept. of English, Mody Institute of Technology & Science, Lakshmanagarh, Rajasthan.

Prateek Bhanti is research scholar at Dept. of English, Mody Institute of Technology & Science, Lakshmanagarh, Rajasthan.

Rajesh Kumar is Lecturer at Dept. of RBM, NIHF, New Delhi.

Sandeep Sharma is Epidemiologist (IDSP), DSU, CM & HO Office, Dist. – Jashpur (C.G.)

Surendra Kumar is working as Malaria Technical Supervisor (NVBDCP), CM & Ho Office, Dist. – Jashpur (C.G.)

Swati Patwari is a student of Faculty of Management Studies, Mody Institute Of Technology and Science, (A Deemed University), Lakshmanagarh –332311, Dist. – Sikar, Rajasthan. (swati.patwari12@gmail.com)

Yoosaph. A.K. is lecturer at King Saud University, Community College, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

Perceptions About Good Teachers and School Facilities: Voices of Elementary School Students

Harjeet Kaur Bhatia* and Anjali Mittal**

ABSTRACT

The students are at the pivotal position in the entire educational enterprise. Their opinions can provide relevant information and useful insight into the nature of the elementary school, consequently, are important source for reforming and improving the school conditions. Because the students occupy the focal point, they can provide much information and insight about the nature of the elementary school. In the present study, an attempt is made to investigate the perception of elementary school students regarding the adequacy of school infrastructure facilities and qualities of a good teacher. A questionnaire related to each of the above variable was administered on the students of class VIII. A total of 145 students constituted the sample. The study highlights the improper availability and utilization of the school facilities. Students have expressed the need for better and latest facilities in the school. The need that received priority was clean and hygienic toilets and healthy drinking water. They have also demanded for a more competent, understanding, friendly teacher who does not punish but reinforces positively, and achieves the conceived educational targets by teaching effectively. The present findings have its implications for both the school management authorities and also for those involved in training of elementary school teachers.

Introduction

Children's voices and experiences do not find expression in the classroom. Often the only voice heard is that of the teacher (National Curriculum Framework, 2005). James Ward (1926) has said "Surely one of the first steps towards the understanding of the young is to know how they regard us."

A school may symbolize opportunity, hope, stability and a safe haven to someone or to someone else, the school structure may symbolize failure and oppressive authority. Since students are the objective consumers of instructional process, their judgments should be the sole determinants in defining the significant variables related to the school. (Grusha and Costin, 1975)

India has made concerted efforts in the last four decades to realize the goal of Universalisation of Elementary Education (UEE). Over the years there has been a definite progress with an impressive increase in the number and spread of institutions as well

PBL and English Language Teaching

Intakhab A. Khan *

Problem-Based Learning (PBL) and English Language Teaching (ELT) are closely related especially in the second/foreign language teaching/learning situations. Each individual child faces some kind of problems in the process of pursuing any course. Therefore PBL is inevitable.

PBL is one of the latest advancements in the field of education. It may be an outcome many approaches, and not just limited to the learning process. It is one of the teaching tools that can be included in the teacher's tool-kit. However, other teaching methods can be employed as appropriate strategies for teaching of certain targets.

PBL was evolved by Borrows (1986) as an alternative strategy. It allows the students to solve problems rather than having them learn by teachers only.

PBL reverses the traditional approach to teaching and learning. It starts with individual examples or problem scenarios which stimulate student learning. In so doing, students arrive at general principles and concepts which they may generalize to other situations.

PBL is an approach to structuring the curriculum which involves confronting students with problems from practice which provides a stimulus for learning, says Boud (1997).

Engle (1991) defines PBL as '... the learning which results from the process working towards the understanding of, or resolution of, a problem'.

Problem based learning purposefully combines cognitive and meta cognitive teaching and learning. It is an approach that has been around since the late 1960s (Neufeld&Barrows, 1974), and engages language students in learning how to learn while they also learn language and content.

Many educationalist are of the opinion that the actual root of PBL lies in the John Dewey's project based pedagogy of the early 20th century.(e.g.Dewey,1929,1933,1938)

PBL has many advantages. It facilitates the acquisition of generic competences, encourages a deep approach to learning and prepares students for the adult learning approach they need for a life-time of learning. PBL helps in curriculum planning by defining, ensuring relevance of content, integrating student learning and providing prototype cases.

There are also drawbacks associated with PBL. Students may fail to develop an organized framework for their knowledge. The PBL process may inhibit good teachers sharing their enthusiasm for their topic with students and student identification with good teachers. Teachers may not have the skills to facilitate PBL.

Guidance and Counseling: A Challenge for Teachers

Dr. Shamshir Singh and Dr. Ranjit Kaur

Abstract

The most pertinent question that arises in the present scenario is that whether our students are well equipped to handle the pressures and challenges of this modern technological age. Guidance and counseling plays a significant role in this direction. The need of guidance is universal as all the human beings needs help at one or other interval of great crisis, to decide upon their future careers, education and other personal problems. Guidance is not the work of few specialists but rather a service in which entire school staff cooperate under the guidance of some person with special knowledge and skill in this direction. Counseling is the 'heart' of guidance service. It is the pivot or the centre of the guidance programme without which the guidance service will be meaningless. Counselor should be as sensitive to individual students need as the eye is sensitive to light. The counselor has faith in the individuals' ability to help him, to understand himself, to gain insight into the ways of facing problems and solving them.

Introduction :-

Today we are living in a world of liberalization privatization and globalization. Due to the recent advancements in science and technology. Our educational process and system is undergoing a revolutionary change. The most pertinent question that arises in the present scenario is that whether our students are well equipped to handle the pressures and challenges of this modern technological age. In this present context the concept of guidance and counseling assumes a significant proportion in the life of today's student.

Concept of guidance :-

Guidance is a word which means to help or to aid. According to Crow and Crow "Guidance is not direction. It is not the imposition of one's view upon another. It is not making a decision for an individual which he should make for himself.

Biodemographic Profile of Hill Korwa Women

* Sandeep Sharma ** Surendra Kumar *** Moyna Chakravarty

Abstract

The present study has been carried out with aim to ascertain the community health status of Hill Korwa women with demographic analysis. For this study 202 currently married women has been randomly selected and interviewed from Bagicha and Manora tribal development blocks of Jashpur district in state of Chhattisgarh. Anthropometry, hemoglobin, blood pressure, are also taken in account. Data concluded that Korwa women can be classified under normal range of Body Mass Index. Normal hemoglobin level was found among 6.44 percent Korwa women. Female literacy rate was found 4.95 percent only. Perinatal Mortality and Maternal mortality for the Hill Korwas were estimated to be 123.76/1000 birth and 14/1000 Live birth respectively. Jashpur is hilly district of state and it is increasingly being difficult to undertake welfare and development programmes. Placement of health services, lack of awareness about access to health and communication facilities has adversely affected the population of Hill Korwa women.

Introduction:

The tribes do not show any special preference for boys over the girls. The girls receive as much attention as the boys do in their childhood and infancy. As an economic participant in society as well as the home maker, a girl is trained in various chores from an early age. She helps her mother in domestic work, brings fuel from the forest and water from the well. She is expected to look after her younger siblings when her mother is busy in her work. A girl from her early childhood is conditioned by the society to share the responsibilities of her mother. A woman begins a new life when she is married. Her role and status becomes important on being a wife and the prospective mother of the children. Women's demographic and health – seeking behaviour is associated with several characteristics, including their age, marital status, religion and cast. Modernizing influences such as women's and men's education, exposure to mass media and women's work participation are also important catalysts for demographic and socioeconomic change, In addition, women's status and autonomy are critical in promoting change in reproductive attitudes and behaviour, especially in patriarchal societies (Basu 1996). Various biological and demographical factors are directly influencing the population structure of ethnic groups. Women are biosocially axis of the family they constitute complex reproductive physiology than the male. In India out of 573 tribal groups 75 ethnic groups have been identified as primitive tribal group on the basis of declining or stagnant population, low literacy and pre agriculture technology.

Consumer Awareness and Insurance buying Behaviour: A Case Study of Purvanchal Area of Utter Pradesh

Dr. Zaid Ahmad Ansari*

Abstract:

In the present economic scenario the role of insurance can't be overstated. Almost seven years have passed since the insurance industry has been liberalized. Though the insurance industry is growing by leaps and bounds still there is very huge untapped market of around 80%, which is ever growing. The growth rate for life insurance was as high as 95% for the year 2006 – 07, still the public at large is not aware about the true utility of the insurance. It is felt that the insurance industry again has confined itself to the urban areas leaving the vast rural population of around 73% either uninsured or under-insured. The awareness and knowledge about insurance is poor especially in rural areas. However, the study shows that other industries are doing very well in rural market. Thus this study aims to find out the awareness level about insurance keeping in view the education level and their income. The study aims at finding the awareness level and purchasing potential of the individuals in semi – urban and rural area such as Purvanchal in Uttar Pradesh state of India. The researcher attempts to establish the relationship of education and income of the respondents with their attitude, knowledge and buying behavior for insurance.

Key words: IRDA, Rural, Nationalization, Liberalization

Statement of Problem

Insurance industry is growing fast still the awareness level about insurance and its utility is very low. As per the international standards insurance penetration (%of GDP) and density (per capita premium) is very low. To benefit the masses with the use of insurance it is very important that they should be properly educated.

Significance

The study would help the insurers and the policy makers to assess the awareness level about insurance and make proper strategies for promoting insurance education specially in the semi urban and rural areas which constitutes more than 73% population of India so that insurance potential may be fully tapped.

Computational Lexicography

Neelam, Pawan Kumar Sharma*, A S Rao** and Prateek Bhanti***

Since the development of culture and society came in existence, vocabularies and languages expanded, later on, people started compiling dictionaries in their own language. Coming to an example, Samuel Johnson's Dictionary of the English Language compiled in 18th century is a candid illustration that contains best pieces of definitions and citations. The main aim of the present paper is to focus on the development of machine readable dictionaries and the challenges faced by the lexicographers.

Computer's invention brought machine readable lexicons and computational lexicography in use. Computational lexicography is an application of computers to the study of the lexicon. It includes:

1. Design and development of human dictionary for computational purposes.
2. Development of dictionary with the aid of computational techniques.

The only reason one can have to compile a dictionary was to create an artifact for other human beings to use. Earlier, dictionaries were either bilingual tool used by translators, interpreters and travelers or by scholars. Vocabularies expanded and people began to compile dictionaries of 'hard words' in their own language. Till nineteenth century, Johnson's was the standard dictionary of English. There are certain deficiencies that nineteenth century dictionaries faced:

Omissions and oversights: Everyday new words are created but due to their unavailability, they are discarded also. It is almost impossible to know that the word newly created is available or not.

Coverage of Names: There are certain names (brand names or place) which are having their own reputation and popularity due to its respective cultural, regional and business relevance. No dictionary has made any attempt to include almost all the names found in newspapers or which are regionally important.

Ghosts: The third deficiency which affects lexicography is the use of ghost words and ghost senses (words that have never been used outside the dictionaries in which they appear).

Different Meaning: The next problem for the lexicographers is that there is no specific criteria to distinguish one meaning from another. Sometimes the dictionary does not include synonyms and antonyms and it makes the word vague for comprehending comparisons.

Child Labour in Pakistan

Rehana Awais(rehanaawais@hotmail.com)*

There is unanimous agreement that education is power and there can be nothing more powerful if it is used effectively for positive causes. Going back to the history of education we can look at Martin Luther as far as 1524, who sent a letter to German Municipalities insisting it was their duty to provide schools and the duty of parents to educate their children. In Sweden, a royal decree in 1723 instructed parents and guardians to diligently see to it that their children applied themselves to book reading. In Europe, one country after another, Scotland, Prussia (1817), Austria (1869), France, United Kingdom (1880) and Italy made education compulsory. In 1872, Japan became the first non-Western country to make elementary school education compulsory with the declaration by the Meiji Govt. K□

God has blessed human beings with wisdom and maturity to think about the universe, and to draw conclusions by knowledge, however, we seek help from insight and experience as well. That is the reason why we made remarkable progress in many walks of life. Children are the most innocent but gifted creation of God. They are the flowers in the garden of society. They are the most beautiful and purest thing in the world. Early in the morning when the children put on different kinds of clothes and begin to go to schools for the sake of knowledge and education we feel a specific kind of joy through their innocent gestures but a determined commitment and promise for the future.

There are also many other children who cannot go to schools due to financial problems, they only watch others go to schools, and can just wish to seek knowledge and education. It is due to the difficulties and desperate conditions they face in life. They are being forced to kill their aspirations, dreams and other wishes. They are pressed or forced to earn a living for themselves and their families. It is also a fact that there are many children who play a key role in helping their family by engaging themselves in different economic activities without which, their families would not perhaps be able to survive. Thus, such children sacrifice their pleasures and enjoyments of life for the happiness of their families. When a child is deprived of gaining education due to a responsibility which is not taken willingly. But, a child can't even avoid for various reasons. This act of earning a livelihood falls under the concept of child labour. The concept of child labour got much attention during the 1990s when European countries and the United States announced a ban on the goods from the under developed countries due to child labour.

Crisis of Values in Modern Society: A Literary Perspective

Umed Singh*

Man is a social animal. He always desires to live in a humane society which can protect him from abuse and exploitation by the oppressive forces which operate in human society. The practice of abuse of human beings by their fellow beings is as old as human civilization. The abuse starts when the character and conduct of human beings is not governed by human values. A healthy and harmonious relationship between the individual and society is possible when human values are held in high esteem by one and all. Human values not only play an important role in the formation of a meaningful society but also enrich the quality of life being lived by the people. These values are — love (universal brotherhood), hope, charity, compassion (*karuna*) faith (in fellow human beings and God), recognition of the dignity of labour, truthfulness, etc.. They should flow spontaneously from the heart of one human being to another. Walter G. Everett in his book '*Moral Values*' classifies human values in the following eight categories:

- i. Economic Values. (ii) Recreation Values (iii) Bodily Values (iv) Values of Association (v) Character Values (vi) Aesthetic Values (vii) Intellectual Values (viii) Religious Values

There are various sources wherefrom an individual can learn and imbibe these values. These sources are: religion, philosophy, literature, social customs science etc.

There are certain values which are preached by all the religions of the world:

- i) Dignity of Labour (ii) Tolerance (iii) Purity and Simple living (iv) Universal Brotherhood (v) Pursuit of Truth (vi) Altruism (vii) Belief in God or Supernatural Divine Power

It is evident that human values not only bring about cohesion in the society but also impart dignity to human life. An individual whose conduct is governed by human values can contribute to the growth of society because such individuals can establish a meaningful relationship with his fellow beings. It is an established fact that individual good and social good go together. In fact, individual and society are not two different categories. There is an urgent need to see and stress the reciprocity and interrelationship between the two. Man forms and is formed by the society of which he is a member. He is influenced by the society but society is also influenced by him. In this context Raymond Williams rightly observes:

D.H. Lawrence's *Sons and Lovers* and *A Collier's Friday Night* : A Comparative Study

S. Mohammad Fayez*

D.H. Lawrence (1885-1930) is considered to be one of the most versatile and multifaceted writers of the twentieth century. The versatility and multidimensional nature of his genius can be gauged from the fact that his corpus consists of novels, plays, poetry, literary criticism, short fiction and travelogues.

Lawrence led his early life in a very disharmonious atmosphere with incompatible parents. Throughout his life he toiled for happiness but could not get it. As a result, he remained a restless soul and his restlessness is embodied in his works, making them autobiographical.

Lawrence's *Sons and Lovers* is considered to be the best example of the autobiographical mode of literary writing. It is taken as a landmark in the twentieth century literature. With the publications of *Sons and Lovers* a great change was marked. It, unlike other novels of that time, was autobiographical and psycho-analytical.

It was only after the death of Lawrence that the importance of Lawrence as a playwright was realized. *A Collier's Friday Night* is an autobiographical play based on the same theme as of *Sons and Lovers*. Lawrence brought novelty in the treatment of the subject with the implementation of the technique of naturalism.

Lawrence was autobiographical in whatever he wrote. The autobiographical element comprises the core of his major works, be it novels or plays. The spontaneity with which this element is incorporated in his works make the readers think that the artist was dictated by some inner compulsion.

Middleton Murry has written that Lawrence was a 'tortured soul' for full forty-five years of his life and his writings are an expression of his inner sufferings, frustrations and emotional complexes. Thus, the nature of his work is of personal revelations and an autobiographical note runs through all of them.

Sons and Lovers and *A Collier's Friday Night* are outstanding examples of the autobiographical element present in the works of Lawrence. Though belonging to two totally different genres of literature, both of them treat the same theme with equal expertise and urgency.

The ethical sensibility as reflected in Hemingway's *A Farewell to Arms*

Yoosaph. A.K.

Ernest Hemingway's colourful life as a big game hunter, and fisherman began in Oak Park in Illinois on July 21, 1899. Hemingway was the second of six children born to Dr. and Mrs. Clarence Ernest Hemingway. Though his mother desired to make him a musician he followed his father's enthusiasm - hunting and fishing. In school, Hemingway played football and boxing and it caused a permanent injury in his eyes that resulted in his rejection of entry in world war I. Boxing encouraged him in many ways and he could use many terms related to boxing in writing and thus he became an adventurous person.

Even when he was a student he started writing and edited school magazine. After graduation he was appointed as a news reporter on the Kansas City Star. Certainly Ernest Hemingway considered life to be an arena in which men used their courage, endurance and will as weapons. Sherwood Anderson gave Hemingway a letter of introduction to Gertrude Stein, who was living in Paris and it was this letter which gave Hemingway an entrance into the world of working authors and artists. While Hemingway was working as a correspondent in Paris he had watched the development of Spanish political situation under the reign of Alphonso XII. Looking back to his life, we can recognize that there were two Hemingways: one was the adventurer and the other was the skilful and sensitive writer.

With the appearance of the novel *The Sun Also Rises* in 1926 Hemingway became a byword for millions of readers. The phrase "The Lost Generation" became an epithet to denote the disillusioned young people at a time when the World War butchery came into focus and the moral, ethical and political values were shattered. This became a label that misled the young writers and critics who had been convinced of the hypocrisy and soullessness of western civilization. Yet this generation of the disillusioned people were not ready to meditate over the lost world. Instead the disappointment gave them further impetus and energy to face the destiny with greater spirit. *The Sun Also Rises* thus became a propagation of this boldness and a spiritual redemption to the young generation of the age. However, the personal life of Hemingway suffered several shocks including the death of his father.

Jeddah Community College: A Profile

Irfan Ahmed* Dr Intakhab.A. Khan**

Jeddah Community College (JCC) was established in 1423H (2003) under the Ministerial Decree No.10642 dt.25-02-1423H. It is presently located in Rehab District, near highway and Dallah Tower, Jeddah,KSA.

JCC was established with a vision to facilitate the secondary school pass outs with vocational education for different industries.

The mission of Jeddah Community College has always been to become the leading community college in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia by providing effective, responsive, and lifelong educational opportunities for all members of the community that result in gaining knowledge, skills, attitudes, and values essential to success in a highly complex and technological world. The major goals of Jeddah Community College is committed to the following:1.

Providing necessary services and resources to assist college students in achieving their educational career and personal goals. 2.

Educating students to think creatively and critically, communicate effectively, and perform quantitative and qualitative analysis. 3.

Offering associate degrees and certificates of training for employment in specialized fields. 4.

Involving the community as an active participant and resource to learning and the expansion of knowledge. 5.

Offering continuing education programs and courses to assist community members to retrain, upgrade skills and career advancement. 6.

Develop and maintain community partnerships. 7.

Offer services to business and industry designed to enhance economic development. 8.

Encourage all new managerial policies that enhance the college educational process. 9.

Improve the services of the college through continuous evaluation and revision of goals and objectives, instruction, programs, and administrative organization.

New Venture: King Abdul Aziz University has launched an evening program for the expatriates as well as working Saudis. Like the regular courses, the courses offered under the programme is self financed by the candidates. This is the first time that expatriated are being offered an educational opportunity by Jeddah Community College.

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