

# Using of Communication Technology and the Future Role of the State of Qatar in the Distance Education

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*The study aimed to identify the developmental and future role that Qatar plays in the field of distance education and communication technology, highlighting the scientific and research capabilities that the State of Qatar provides to the public, and ways to develop the scientific and educational aspects for the advancement of the state and study the problems that constitute an obstacle to the maximum benefit from communication and education technology. From distance and to identify the extent to which educational and research institutions in the State of Qatar benefit from communication technology. The study relied on the survey method. The study used an electronic questionnaire form and relied on a sample consisting of (400) single people. The study concluded that 59% of the study sample are highly satisfied with the efforts of the State of Qatar in The field of distance education, while (27%) of them were satisfied with a medium degree, while (14%) of them came with a low degree, and it was found that (36%) of the study sample use educational content provided through modern communication technology, and a percentage (20%) of them are sometimes What are they looking for on those contents.*

*Keywords: distance education, distance learning, open education, communication technology, e-learning, educational technology, information and communication revolution, qatari citizens*

## **INTRODUCTION**

Distance Education is a process of separating the Learner, Teacher and Writers in the Educational Environment, and transferring the traditional Environment of Education from a University or School and others to a multi-geographically separate Environment, and it is a modern Phenomenon of Education that has developed with the rapid technological development in the World, and the aim of it is to give an educational opportunity and provide it to Students who cannot Obtaining it in traditional conditions and almost daily.

The Idea of Distance Education began in the late seventies by European and American Universities that sent various educational Materials to Students by mail, including Books, Recording Tapes, and Video Tapes to explain and teach the Materials, and in the same manner the Student used to deal with assignments and Lectures, with these Universities requiring students to they only come to the University for the final Exam date, for which the mark is calculated.

The Matter developed in the late eighties to become Communication between the Teacher and his Students through Television and Radio Stations, then with the advent of the Internet, at first E-mail became the means of Communication between the Student and the Teacher until the beginning of the new Century. And learning, discussion panels and direct Communication provided through specialized Websites and Programs.

And part of the Distance Education Open University Education, which is Education that promotes the Student in educating himself and pursuing his University Studies, either with the aim of obtaining a University degree or with the aim of obtaining a training Certificate in a Skill, which is an Education that is not bound by Walls, Chairs, fixed Buildings or Classrooms that require that In it, the Student is Face to Face with the Teacher as in traditional Universities, and the Learners bear the responsibility for their learning, and through the materials and educational means, and then the learning process is positive and active through the Learner at the rate that suits him and at times that suit him. In traditional University Education, the Teacher is the main point of contact with Students, and he is the predominant and decisive factor in their success or failure, and students must attend lessons within the educational Institution, and other restrictions that traditional University Education suffers from. Whereas, the Philosophy of Distance Education is mainly based on the principle of flexibility to increase enrollment and equality in Education, and for the service provider to find a set of Methods to provide opportunities for enrollment in Education.

In contrast to Distance Education, equality in Education and Rights is one of the Goals of Sustainable development that all Countries pursue in 2030 and Qatar has a reputation in this field, as Qatar supports distinguished people in the field of scientific Research from academic Researchers, graduate Students, Teachers and School Administrators, with the aim of promoting Research and producing To support the educational process and educational Research, hoping that all groups of Researchers from all over the Arab World and from various Arab Universities and scientific Research Institutions participate to enrich scientific Research in the educational field.

Despite the difficulties and obstacles with the Corona / Covid-19 pandemic, the Ministry of Education in the State of Qatar, and with His Excellency Sheikh Faisal bin Qasim Al-Thani were keen to implement their various programs in Electronic digital transformation and implement them remotely to encourage Researchers and Students from all countries of the Arab world in general and our beloved Country Qatar in particular to complete the path that Qatar started it.

## **THE STUDY PROBLEM:**

Qatar has played a significant and tangible Role in supporting the educational process in general and Distance Education in particular, and despite the unjustified Gulf blockade, Qatar has become the first Arab and fourth in the World according to the quality index of University Education, thus registering an unprecedented number for any Arab Country in the Global, regional and Arab Ranking for Education in order to distinguish it. In the quality of Education and one of the most important reasons for Qatar's success and progress in the educational process is its optimal use of Communication Technology. Hence the problem of the study, which is what are the criteria for its use of Communication Technology and Qatar's Future Role in Distance Education?

## **PREVIOUS STUDIES:**

### **Chapter I**

*Studies Dealing With Issues of Distance Education:*

**1. Reem Abdullah (2020) study<sup>1</sup> entitled "The Effectiveness of Blended Learning in the Development of Research Writing Skills for Female Students of the E-Learning Diploma at Princess Noura Bint Abdul Rahman University and the Level of Satisfaction Toward it"**. The study aimed to verify the effectiveness of the Blended Learning strategy in developing Research Writing Skills among Female Students of the Electronic Education diploma at Princess Noura Bint Abdul Rahman University and the level of Satisfaction towards the strategy, as an experimental Study was conducted that lasted for one Semester, the second Semester of the academic year 1440 AH, and the study sample was 22 Students The observation card was applied to them before the start of the Blended Learning, and after completing the learning process, the observation card and a measure of Satisfaction with the strategy used in the experiment were applied. The results demonstrated the effectiveness of the strategy used in developing Research writing skills to a very large degree, and the study sample is highly satisfied with it, as the Blended

Learning according to the experiment strategy contributed to increasing Communication and interaction and reducing pressures in the course.

**2. Reem Naguib Zenati (2018) Study<sup>2</sup> “The Use of Social Media By High School Students And Its Reflection On Their Perception Of Education Issues In Egypt.”** In defining the study problem, the Researcher relied on the results of previous Studies, and based on her scientific observation of the increasing official and societal interest in Educational Issues, whether University Education, as strategic issues affecting the future of the state and its national security, as well as in light of current events related to the problems of Secondary Education sites, and what is related to the role of social Communication Their different types and methods of coverage of educational events and issues and their impact on Students’ perception of them.

The Research problem is determined in monitoring and studying the Relationship between High School Students’ use of Social Media and Students’s perception of Education Issues and current events on the other hand. the study proved that the vast majority of Students rely on Social Media sites to follow up on Education Issues, among the most important of these sites in order (Google-Facebook-YouTube) and forms of interaction and participation for Students are concentrated through these Websites. To express their opinions and enter into discussions with friends about the Education Issues at hand.

**3. The study of Khalil Ibrahim Al-Saadat (2018)<sup>3</sup> "The possibility of Using Distance Education In The Programs Of The Faculty Of Applied Studies And Community Service At King Faisal University in Al-Ahsa."** This Study aimed to survey the Opinions of a sample of Male and Female Students of the College of Applied Studies and Community Service at King Faisal University in Al-Ahsa about the possibility of using Distance Education in the college’s Programs. The Sample of the study consisted of (105) Students at the College of Applied Studies and Community Service. The study tool was a Questionnaire, consisting of four paragraphs, and each paragraph consisted of ten Questions. Results showed The possibility of using Distance Education in the programs of the College of Applied. The results of the study did not reveal the existence of statistically significant differences in the total score of each axis between members of the study sample according to age, social status, presence of Children, Employment status, educational level, and Gender. The Researcher suggested the use of Distance Education in the Programs of the College of Applied.

**4. Alya Reda Abdel-Azim (2018) study<sup>4</sup> “Application of Distance Learning In Document And Archive Programs: The Electronic Archive Program With Open Learning”** The study aims to conceptualize the Mechanisms for preparing Distance Education Programs and withdraw these Mechanisms on the Document and archive specialization in order to know the extent of applying Distance Education to the Electronic Archive Program with Open Education, and then draw a proposal for the Application of Distance Education on the Electronic Archive Program in Open Education at Cairo University. The descriptive and analytical approach will be followed in describing and analyzing the Electronic Archive Program with Open Education, with the aim of applying Distance Education to the Electronic Archive Program with Open Education.

**5. The Study of Abdul Wahab Farid's Hamsa (2017)<sup>5</sup> “Cloud Computing and E-learning - an Analytical Study”** After the development of the Infrastructure of the Internet and the Emergence of various versions of the Web - such as Web 2.0 and Web 3.0, there has been a great development in the Services provided over the Networks. Its features have emerged in the availability of large storage space and tremendous speeds for the Internet, in addition to the availability of a large number of Software that the Learner can use without the need to be running Programs Prepared on the device that the Learner uses, and this development has led to the emergence of what is known as cloud Computing, Cloud Computing as a practical and ideal solution after providing the Infrastructure for the Internet in various parts of the World, and the connection matter became not an obstacle to touching the cloud, and the Cloud Computing Service in the field of Education will be a major tributary for E-learning, to give Students the opportunity to quickly

access various Applications, Systems and Resources through the Internet, share files and Documents, exchange assignments and Projects among Students, and Perhaps the only challenge.

**6. The study of Heba Muhammad Abdullatif (2017)<sup>6</sup> “The Interaction between an Electronic Course and a Multimedia Forum and its Impact on the Development of Learning Outcomes for Students of the General Diploma in Education Division of Distance Education”** The aim of the current Research is to develop the learning outcomes of Students of the General Diploma in Education Division of Distance Education through the production of a Multimedia forum in the Environment of Electronic Courses. The Quasi-experimental approach was used, and the Research sample consisted of (60) Students of the General Diploma in Education Division of Distance Education, and the Research Tools represented in the product Evaluation Card, cognitive Test, and trend scale were applied, and the results of the Research showed a positive impact of the forum Multimedia in the development of learning outcomes for Students of the General Diploma in Education Division of Distance Education.

### **The Second Unit**

*Studies that Dealt With Communication Technology:*

**1. Huda Kamel (2019)<sup>7</sup> study Entitled "The Role of E-Learning in Classroom Management".**

The current Research aims to identify the Techniques and forms of E-learning and to identify the concept of Classroom management and to know the Role of E-learning in Classroom management. The study used social Theory, which confirms that the Teacher will not succeed in his Classroom management unless his relationship with the School principal improves. The study also uses Parsons's Theory, which emphasizes on The functions of the educational Institution and also used the Theory of Decision-Making. The results of the study concluded with the achievement of the two aforementioned goals.

**2. The Study of Emotions Ibrahim Mohamed (2019)<sup>8</sup> Entitled "The Use of Information Technology in Distance Education: a Case Study of the University of Khartoum, the Mechanism of Distance Study."**

The study aims to identify the extent of the use of Technologies in distance education, what are the negatives and positives, and to Identify the Role that Information Technology can play in the field of Distance Education, to highlight the Educational capabilities that can be provided to large numbers of individuals, and to study the problems that constitute an obstacle to The maximum benefit from Information Technology and the study relied on the descriptive and analytical approach and the case study approach, and the study concluded that the third millennium is called the component of modern Information and Communication.

**3 - Sally Ahmed (2018) study<sup>9</sup> Entitled "The Role of Social Media Sites in Educating University Alkartom to use Modern Technology in Education."**

The study aimed to identify the effectiveness of Social Media sites in directing university youth to use modern means of Technology in Learning, and to identify the extent of Satisfaction that these means achieve for them in the educational process and use a sample that shows the high rate of use of the study sample for Social Media sites, and it was 100% distributed between ( 88.5%) on a Regular basis, (11.5%) Irregularly, and the Facebook site was occupied, and the study concluded that the perceived benefit: These young people believe that those means are those that meet their needs and facilitate some tasks for them, such as Learning about news or following events For example) and external Motivation: that these young people have external motives for self-development, learning new things, or engaging in political and social life, which gave them the drive to fulfill these needs.

**4 - Alya Reda Abdel-Azim (2018) study<sup>10</sup> entitled "Application of Distance Learning in Document and Archive Programs: Electronic Archive Program with Open Education"**

The study aims to conceptualize the Mechanisms for preparing Distance Education programs and withdraw these Mechanisms on the document and Archive Specialization in order to know the extent of



applying Distance Education to the Electronic Archive Program with Open Education, and then draw a proposal for the Application of Distance Education on the Electronic Archive Program in Open Education at Cairo University, and will be followed by the descriptive and analytical approach in describing and analyzing the Electronic Archive Program in open Education with the aim of applying Distance Education to the Electronic Archive Program in Open Education.

#### **The Goals of the Study:**

1. Identify the uses of Communication technology to develop and activate the field of Distance Education in Qatar.
2. Learn about the development and future role that Qatar plays in the field of Distance Education and Communication technology.
3. Studying the problems that constitute an obstacle to the maximum benefit from Communication technology and distance education.
4. The extent to which educational and research institutions in the State of Qatar benefit from Communication technology.

#### **The Importance of Studying:**

1. The importance of this study lies in Identifying the extent to which modern technological Techniques are being used in Distance Education and what are the negatives and positives.
2. Utilizing the results of the study on Research in the integration of Communication Technology and Distance Education to become the nucleus for Researchers to continue Research work on this topic, which can be developed and utilized in Research.
3. This study is one of the few studies in which Communication Technology has been combined with Distance Education, so it can be relied upon by other Researchers in developing Research that deepens and develops the fields of Education in general and the field of Distance Education in particular.

#### **Procedural and Methodological Framework of the Study:**

##### **1. Type of study:**

The current study belongs to the field of descriptive Studies, which aims to Monitor, describe and analyze Qatar's future Role in developing Distance Education using Communication Technology, as evidenced by its practical applications, in what it publishes from a field sample; This includes delving into field Procedures, and Identifying the relationships between the parties to the Media Phenomenon under study.

##### **2. Methodology of the studying:**

The study is based on the survey method, which is defined as an organized scientific effort to obtain information about the phenomenon under study.<sup>11</sup> The survey method is the most appropriate scientific method for collecting field data on a particular phenomenon, explaining it, explaining it and explaining the correlation relationships between its variables. It also allows the generalization of scientific phenomena, which allows By making scientific generalizations and conclusions that can be re-tested and verified.<sup>12</sup>

##### **3. Data Collection Tools:**

The study is based on an Electronic Questionnaire form that is distributed to the field study sample to Question the respondents' opinion on the Phenomenon under study.

###### **1. Study population:**

The Qatari Public in all its groups, whether Economic, political, and Social, and with all its demographic Factors

###### **2. Study sample:**

All Segments of Citizens living in Cities in the State of Qatar. The sample consisted of (400) Individuals aged 20 years and over.

## **Study Concepts:**

### **1. Communication Technology:**

The group of different techniques, tools, means, or systems that are employed to process the content or content that is intended to be communicated through the mass, personal, or organizational Communication process, through which the audio, written, pictorial, graphic, or audio information and data are collected.<sup>13</sup>

### **2. Distance education:**

It is the process of separating the Learner, the Teacher and the Book in the educational environment, and the transfer of the traditional environment of Education from a University or School and others to a multi-geographically separate environment, which is a modern Phenomenon of Education that has developed with the rapid technological development in the world, and the aim is to give the opportunity for Education and provide it to Students who cannot get it in Traditional conditions and almost daily work.<sup>14</sup>

## **Chapter II**

### *The Relationship Between Communication Technology and Distance Education Smoothing the Reality of Distance Education*

#### **Introduction:**

International Transformations are clearly reflected in Societal Variables (Political, Social, Economic, Educational, and Cultural), as there is a close Connection between these Variables, as these Variables represent an interconnected and interacting Community System that affects and is affected by each other, especially educational, as they represent Part of the Societal System, as it is affected by the direction in which the Community believes and practices; It is worth noting the importance of Communication Technology and its impact on educational Conditions during the current era, especially with the Emergence of the Corona pandemic, as there were a number of educational terms, including (Active Learning, Blended Learning, Distance Learning, Teaching Methods), all of which are terms that Teachers are encouraged (Professors). Universities - School Teachers) for their use in teaching, whose methods extend from the traditional to the use of PowerPoint slides, to the mixed teaching methods.

Distance Education is an alternative choice that is used in exceptional Circumstances such as the Circumstances of the spread of the Corona pandemic, as in those Circumstances it uses advanced and modern educational Methodologies, which include tools and strategies that mix between typical learning methods and active learning Techniques, and this type of Education can have many advantages And benefits to the Teaching System in general.

Therefore, the Issue of Distance Education and investing in it is no longer a local or regional Phenomenon only, but has become a global one, because of its prominent and Distinct Role in supporting the process of effective Education and sustainable development in its holistic and integrated concept.<sup>15</sup>

#### **The First Topic**

##### *The Reality of Distance Education*

Education is one of the main pillars in the relationship of information technology with society as a whole and its relationship with this technology is getting more and more reliable day by day, whether in terms of being a means of Education, an educational material, or a tool to support School and educational Administration.<sup>16</sup>

Distance Learning is noted; it has revealed many facts, including the shortcomings of the current teaching and learning methods the Distance Learning System, has its advantages and disadvantages.<sup>17</sup>

Accordingly, what is called educational Globalization has emerged, which means the possibility of transcending regionalism and Nationalism, using Information and Communication Technology. Which led to the possibility of delivering Information to anyone anywhere in the world at a tremendous speed while preserving its quality.<sup>18</sup>

It has a broad concept with three dimensions: Economic Freedom, the Tendency to more scientific and technological, the existing overlap of these Dimensions.

### **First: The Concept of Distance Education:**

Distance Education is based on a Philosophy that affirms the right of individuals to access available educational Opportunities, that is, Education is open to all people and is not restricted to a time or Class of Learners and is not limited to a level or type of Education, it is commensurate with the Nature of the needs and aspirations of Society and its Members, and the development of their professions, as it does not depend The confrontation between the Teacher and the Learner, but rather the transfer of Knowledge to the Learner through multiple educational means wherever it is found, and this was reinforced by the rapid technical developments that facilitated Communication between Students on the one hand and their Teachers on the other.<sup>19</sup>

Distance Education - which can be accessed all over the world using the Internet - enables Students who have the ability to own a Computer and connect to the Internet to obtain an online degree, as well as the ability to choose between a set of models and educational Programs that fit their lifestyle. For Distance Education to be synchronous or asynchronous, and in many cases, Distance Education is available in an asynchronous fashion, which makes it flexible and the ideal alternative to face-to-face Education, especially for Professionals and Workers.<sup>20</sup>

The concept of Distance Education refers to the fact that it "is based on the principle of not requiring the simultaneous existence of the Learner with the Teacher in the same place, and thus both the Teacher and the Learner will not have to deal with the other party, and then the necessity arises for a mediator between the Teacher and the Learner, and this Mediation has technical, Human and organizational Aspects".<sup>21</sup>

He also refers - that is, Distance Education - to "that education in which the Teacher and the Student are not in the same Classroom, but are separated spatially by the Distance Factor, which may extend for thousands of Miles, and thus this type of Education gives the Learner the Freedom to choose the place and time he wants to learn."<sup>22</sup>

It can also be defined - that is, Distance Education - as "Courses offered outside the University campus by using live or recorded Television broadcasts, Video Films, Radio broadcasts, CDs, or Computer-based Systems such as the Internet".<sup>23</sup>

The concept of Distance Education also refers to "all the different forms of study at all levels, which are not under the direct and continuous supervision of Teachers in the Lecture Room, and this study is based on School planning, Guidance and Organization".<sup>24</sup>

Distance Education also indicates that it is a type of Electronic or Virtual Education, which is the type of Education that depends on the use of Electronic Media in Communication between Teachers and Learners and between Learners and the educational Institution as a whole.<sup>25</sup>

It is also referred to as "the use of the Multimedia that is included in the Electronic medium from the international Information network, the Internet, Astelaide, Radio, Video Films, Television, CD-ROM, Videoconferencing, E-mail, or a conversation between two parties via the international Information network in the educational process".<sup>26</sup>

In general, the concept of Distance Education refers to being a Teaching System or strategy, which appeared in the nineteenth Century under the name of correspondence Education, and then developed into E-Learning, which is a modern concept of Education that separates the Teacher from the Learner, and thus is geographically and temporally independent, and more flexible Taking into account the Circumstances of Students,<sup>27</sup> and it appeared in several forms and types, which can be explained as follows ():

1. Evening education: It is provided as a solution for Students Employed in the morning shift, and they are allowed to Continue their Education in the form of evening Classes.
2. Education by correspondence: as it is based on sending Lessons and tests through post Offices.
3. Teaching through audio: It is an ancient Education System that relied on the Radio to spread Lessons.

4. Teaching through audio-visual means: which is done by presenting the Lessons on Television, in Sound and Image.
5. Interactive, simultaneous remote learning: which allows the Learner to receive the Lesson and interact with the Teacher, thus allowing him to ask Questions and answer the Teacher's Applications.
6. Distance E-Learning: It is the latest type of Distance Education, as it depends on the Computer and the Internet for teaching.

Distance Education is an active process, and thus the task of Education is no longer in the first place to acquire the educational material, but rather to develop the Skills of obtaining and employing it, generating new knowledge, and linking it to what preceded it<sup>28</sup>

It is noteworthy that many developed Countries, whether in the European Union or the United States of America, have already started building Information Technology Facilities that join the Classroom, with the aim of modernizing the Teaching and Learning process.<sup>29</sup>

### **Second: E-Learning Styles:**

The diversification of the development of Distance Education, under different names, such as Correspondence Education and Open Education. The Communication Technologies used in that type of Education have evolved, as the first Generation relied on publications and mail systems to send them to Students, while the second Generation clearly relied on the means Technology, beginning with Radio and Television, and ending with the Internet era, which, according to many people, is an extension of the third generation of Distance Education.<sup>30</sup>

In the same regard, reference can be made to the Open Learning style, which indicates the possibility of studying in a flexible learning environment, in which the Learner has the Freedom to choose the goals of his learning, determine the time and place of study, and program that study, meaning that the Learner gives the opportunity to adjust his studies and is responsible for them. Open Education platforms have spread as one of these technologies with the dawn of the Internet era, and have met with great success.<sup>31</sup>

Thus, the types of e-learning can be classified into two main types, and this can be explained as follows:<sup>32</sup>

1. Synchronous Education: In this type, the two parties to the educational process, "the Teacher and the Learner", are required to be present at the same time, so that the interaction is available and it is called direct education. An example of this type is Conversation or Video Conferencing.
2. Asynchronous Education: It does not require the presence of the Teacher and the Learner at the same time, and it is called Indirect Education, and in this type of Education the Learner relies on himself and progresses according to his individual capabilities, through the technologies provided by E-learning, such as: E-mail and research. And unlike the two previous styles; There is also a directed enrollment pattern, and this pattern is considered one of the patterns of Teacher numbers that are limited in spread across the world.<sup>33</sup>

In addition to these patterns, the pattern of Education by correspondence is also added.<sup>34</sup>

### **Third: E-Learning Objectives:**

Distance Education is one of the forms of Non-traditional Education, which is any type of Education that differs from Teacher-dependent Education, or direct face-to-face Education<sup>35</sup>, and therefore these goals vary greatly, and can be referred to, as follows:

1. Raising the quality of Courses, Educational Resources and Programs.
2. Improving the quality of Learning and its outcomes, through the application of principles of active and effective Learning.
3. Achieving equality and equal educational Opportunities for all; Because anyone can access E-learning without Conditions.
4. Liberating Learners from the constraints of the traditional Education System, such as: Attendance.

5. Achieving fun and activity for the Learner through exciting Presentations, which include Sound, Image, Video.
6. Developing the Academic and professional performance of professors and Teachers, through rich Information and Resources.
7. Reducing the Burdens of Teachers, such as: Adherence to Attendance, preparation of lessons, registration of attendance.
8. Saving time, increasing the speed of learning, through the permanent availability of scientific material, the ability to communicate with teachers and colleagues at any time.
9. Reducing costs and reducing expenditures in the long run, by eliminating some of the necessary work in traditional Education.
10. The Universality of learning and the dissemination of quality Education, as the increase in numbers does not impede the quality of Education.<sup>36</sup>

These goals impose attempts to apply Distance Education as an option to increase availability and improve quality in Education.<sup>37</sup>

#### **Fourth: The Advantages and Characteristics of Distance Learning:**

E-learning is characterized by many characteristics, but they differ according to the method used to provide this education, some of which are more widespread, and some of them give the space to interact more, while others are more suitable for individual abilities and achieve students' preferences.

The most important characteristics of e-learning are:

1. Creating an interactive environment during the learning process through the multiplicity of technologies used.
2. Not being restricted to a time or place, as it can be used anywhere in the world on all days of the week.
3. Teaching large numbers in a short time, and compensating for the shortage of academic staff.
4. Expanding the scope of education for the different groups of society, regardless of age, social and economic level, or health status.
5. Multiple sources of knowledge; As a result of communicating with various internet sites, and dealing with thousands of websites.
6. Communication, dialogue, and exchange of information between students and each other, and between students and teachers.
7. Diversity in evaluation methods (pre, post, formative), in addition to accurate, immediate and rapid evaluation with correcting errors.
8. Improving the use of technological skills and developing knowledge and research skills.
9. Providing support services in the educational process, such as schedules, Registration, and examination Organization.
10. It helps professional growth through the opportunities it provides for in-service training and continuing Education.<sup>38</sup>

Compared to the previous features of distance education, the Arab world suffers from several problems that hinder its progress, and its beginning is the lack of financial resources allocated to finance it.<sup>39</sup>

#### **The Second Topic:**

##### *Communication Technology and Distance Education*

Information Technology is based on the collaboration between three scientific areas: Electronics, Communication and Electronic Computers. If in the past centuries technology was devoted to the development of the machine necessary for the development of production, then in modern times Technology has developed the machine for Mental Operations, and this requires not only receiving and transmitting Information, but also processing them so that many problems can be solved. Hence, the convergence of Computer Technology and Communication Technology to pave the way for Information Technology, in other words, Information Technology was a product of the fusion or combination of

Electronics, Communications and Computers that showed humanity what we can call the Information Technology Industry.<sup>40</sup>

### **First: Definition of Communication Technology:**

The Definitions of Technology varied, as it is defined as: “The group of Technologies, means, tools, or different systems that are employed to address the content or content that is to be communicated through the Communication process (personal, collective, or public), by which Information is collected. And Audio, written, Printed, or Digital data (through Electronic Computers), then storing this data and Information and returning it at the appropriate time, then the process of publishing these Communication materials, Messages, or Audio-visual or Digital Printed content, transferring it from one place to another and exchanging it, and these Technologies may be Manual, automatic or Electronic, depending on the stage of the historical development of the means of Communication<sup>41</sup>.

With the multiplicity of the Definitions presented for the concept of Communication technology, technology represents the medium used in the exchange and transfer of Information and ideas between individuals and Organizations in society.<sup>42</sup>

In recent years, Research has developed that dealt with Communication technology in the context of its importance to Institutions and Organizations, especially in the field of Information development, which contributed to increasing competition between Organizations in providing a specific product at a lower cost and high quality, as well as the efficiency of procedures that were translated into the form of experience and knowledge in presenting Service to the public.<sup>43</sup>

### **Second: Technological Advances and the Information and Communication Revolution:**

The global and societal transformations represent evidence of the information age of the new world order, as they are the most important Characteristic of the Information and Communication revolution.<sup>44</sup>

Communication is one of the modern Technologies, and dealing with information has become part of the process of change, so the person who is able to live in this century is able to deal with the vast amount of Information.<sup>45</sup>

The possession of Information is one of the most important Characteristics of the outputs of power and wealth in this century, so controlling knowledge is the decisive Element of the struggle for power at the global level.<sup>46</sup>

The digital transformation of information brought about a profound revolution in the world of Communication. It is characterized by the emergence of Multi-media Systems and the tremendous expansion of remote data and Information processing networks, for example the Internet; It doubles every year, and this indicates that it is a necessary revolution that allows acceptance of an increasing amount of Information in a very short time.<sup>47</sup>

The knowledge Society is based on integration and aggregation, so Information is produced and accumulated greatly, and Information production is the main driving and driving force in the knowledge society, as the integration between Information and Communication Technology is evident in the development of Computers. The Technology It provides great potential in the field of knowledge and learning.

Education and access to Information, and knowledge are the basis of social mobility, and the majority of the workforce in this Society works in the information industry and related mental professions and services based on Information.<sup>48</sup>

New Technology is a real revolution in work-related activities, production and activities related to education and training. It is noteworthy that education policies in the world at all levels of education are witnessing many changes, was distinguished by its speed, movement and management, as well as contributing to obtaining Information, achieving the objectives of the Institution as required, and reaching the institution to the level of aspirations of those it serves.<sup>49</sup>

The World is increasingly affected by these transformations represented by the scientific and technological revolutions, creating new forms of Socialization, and the expansion of Information and Communication Technology. Lead to facilitating Communication with others Worldwide.<sup>50</sup>

### **Third: Characteristics of Modern Communication Technology:**

The Information revolution is considered one of the most important features of the current era, and it represents a challenge to developing societies. As developing countries, it is imperative that they work hard to keep pace with global progress in the field of Science and Technology, and to find formulas to access the Information available from developed countries.<sup>51</sup>

The widespread spread of modern Communication technology and the exchange of information is one of the most important features of contemporary societies.

There are some features of Communication technology, which can be explained, as follows:

1. **Interactivity:** This feature is given to the degree in which the participants in the Communication process have an influence on the roles of others, and they can exchange them, and their practice is called reciprocal or interactive practice, and it is interactive because the individual can perform communicative actions, the Sender and the Receiver, and the communicators are called the term Participants instead of sources, and thus new terms entered into the Communication process such as bilateral Practice, Exchange, Control, and Participation.<sup>52</sup>
2. **Non-publicity:** It means that the Communication message may be directed to one individual or a specific group, not to huge Audiences as it was in the past, and it also means the degree of control over the Communication System so that the message reaches directly from the message Producer to its Consumer.
3. **Mobility or mobility:** it means that it allows individuals to use it at anytime and anywhere, and that is considered flexible Communication Networks.
4. **Transferability:** It is the ability of the means of Communication to transfer Information from one medium to another, with the possibility of displacing previous technological alternatives, and then the juvenile Communication Technology.
5. **Internationalization or globalization:** The rapid development in Communication Technology and its trend towards shortening the factor of time and Distance greatly help in the transmission and exchange of Information between different parts of the world in the least possible time, and this development has reached so important that the globe has been called the Global Village description.<sup>53</sup>

The development of Audio-Visual and print Communication Technology, and this trend has resulted in new Communication methods that have their own implications, of the information field.

### **This Development is Based on Two Bases:**

The first is related to developments in Information Technology, which were linked to the emergence of Computers during the seventies of this century, and their use led to amazing developments in information storage, retrieval, systems, exchange and spread systems, and the second related to developments in remote Communication technology using satellites as an alternative to terrestrial and marine cables, in addition to developing Communication networks, by taking advantage of the Revolution in Communications and Information Technology.

In addition to this, there is another set of features and characteristics that characterize Communication and information technology, including: The Communication and Information have formed a feature of post-industrial Societies, as this sector related to the production, management, transmission, and distribution of information in its various forms constituted one of the most vital sectors in those Societies, and the international expansion of Information activities as part of two processes that are closely linked together, namely the process of commercial transcendence of national borders, and its axis in the activities of transcontinental or multinational companies, and the process of information overcoming national borders, which includes radical changes in the means of storage and processing Information retrieval,<sup>54</sup>

The development in Communication and Information Technology has led to a review of government performance and its educational functions, Therefore, Communication and Information Technology constitutes a new sector that is added to the restructuring of the modern national Economies of developed and developing Countries alike.<sup>55</sup>

#### **Fourth: The Relationship Between Communication and Education:**

The means of Communication Technology developed clearly. Making it able to enter all areas of life, including the processes of learning and Education in particular, and this is why it has spread clearly in schools, colleges and universities.<sup>56</sup>

The child, since his inception, is surrounded by different means of Communication and media from every Aspect, and as a result of that the child comes to School and has extensive experience with these means, it has become necessary for the School to amend its teaching methods and make use of modern means. Despite the development of modern means of Communication, and their ability to serve the educational process in general, they have created new challenges for that process, which can be monitored, as follows:<sup>57</sup>

1. The School cannot be kept away from the means of Communication
2. The School creates areas for cooperation between it and what these means offer within the framework of a system that allows it to contribute to the achievement of some Educational Goals, by providing programs that contribute to enriching educational curricula.
3. Educational Institutions can participate in conducting Studies about these means, and their educational and psychological effects, in order to improve the Methods of using them.
4. Preparing Students with the necessary expertise to choose the best among these means.<sup>58</sup>

#### **The results of field studies and research have shown that the different means of Communication (print, audio and visual) are:**

#### **It provided clear support for the educational process in general, and for School curricula and teaching methods in particular, as it clearly contributed to:**

Improving the level of the educational process and its results, raising the level of achievement among the Learners, and addressing many educational problems and Education problems, increasing the Learners 'outcome of Vocabulary and Terminology, and raising the level of culture Public among the educated. It is noted that in the last ten years, the increasing role of Communication and its means has increased in the process of creating and developing an appropriate educational environment for the success of the educational process, and to gain advanced and positive results through it. The multiple roles of the means of Communication in general, and the means of mass Communication in particular in raising the level of the teaching and learning process can be referred to in the following points:<sup>59</sup>

1. Providing appropriate solutions to the problems facing the development of Education, namely:
  - The tremendous increase in knowledge and the Humanities. Population inflation.
  - Illiteracy is widespread.
  - The inability of developing Countries to keep pace with scientific developments.
2. Treating the problem of the small number of educated Teachers, and making use of the distinguished groups of them in teaching larger numbers of learners in a faster time through radio and television programs and others.
3. Teaching the increasing numbers of Students in School Classes, addressing the problem of individual teams among students, and providing faster Education with less effort and a greater number of Learners at a cheaper cost, with the availability of excitement and suspense Elements.
4. Providing a lot of real experiences to the Learner.
5. Using advanced Technology to overcome the conditions of the disabled that prevent their learning.
6. Effective diarrhea in adult Education programs and literacy through Distance Learning.
7. Enriching the Learner's environment with the perceptions that help him in forming realistic perceptions and experiences related to the environment and work life.



### **Fifth: Educational Communication Skills:**

The means, Channels and technology of Communication in all its forms are used in the educational process, especially in the Teaching and Learning processes, and the means of Communication used in the educational process are classified into three main types:

visual aids, and include all means that depend on the sense of sight alone, including Pictures, models, samples, in addition to Audio, and includes all means that depend on the sense of Hearing to receive it, and includes various Audio recordings and School Radio, as well as Audio-Visual Aids, and includes all means that depend on receiving them on the two senses of Hearing and Sight, and includes: Educational television, And educational talking films and slides accompanied by audio recordings. The educational Communication process, in its various levels and circumstances, requires four basic skills that the sender and the receiver, whether a Teacher or a Learner, These skills can be summarized in (Reading Skill - Writing Skill - Speaking Skill - Listening Skill), in addition to these basic general Communication Skills in the field of Education , adds integrity of special Skills.<sup>60</sup>

These means and Channels provide a lot of benefit to the Teacher, and they also help improve his educational performance through: Helping to raise the level of his professional competence and readiness, and changing his role from conveyor and informer of information to a planner, implementer and evaluator of learning, and enable him to Better use of available time, save time and effort spent by the Teacher, and help him overcome the limits of time and space in the classroom. The benefit and positive response to the learner from Communication Technology can be indicated through: developing his curiosity and his desire to learn, strengthening the relationship between him and the teacher and the learners themselves if used adequately, expanding the range of experiences that the learner goes through, and also contributing to the formation of desired positive trends In it among the learner,

### **Sixth: Educational Technology Means:**

The educational Aids related to Communication Technology can be referred to as the Tools and Methods that are used to improve the teaching and learning process, and which contribute to providing students with Skills.<sup>61</sup>

The concept of Technology Education is referred to here, as it is intended to teach Students about Technology, as Technology Education Aims to develop ideas and innovation and organize information to solve problems and collaborative work.<sup>62</sup>

The means and Technology of education are considered an essential Element of the educational curriculum. Rather, they are an integral part of the comprehensive integrated Education System.<sup>63</sup> The stages of development of educational means can be referred to under different names, according to their historical development, as follows.<sup>64</sup>

1. **Hearing Aids:** so named as they speak to the sense of Hearing, and examples are: the teacher's Voice, the Radio, the Voice Recorder, the Recorders.
2. **Visual Aids:** so named as the learner learns from them depending on the sense of vision, and examples of them are: Blackboards, Maps, Floats, Pictures, and a Transparencies Display.
3. **Audiovisual aids:** so named because these means provide the Learner, both Audio and Visual, with what he Learns through them.
4. **Assisted Aids, Teaching Aids:** This designation follows the Role that the method plays in helping both the Teacher and the Learner in facilitating the teaching and learning process.
5. **The Means of Clarification:** This term indicates the role that the method plays in clarifying what is ambiguous in the Lesson.
6. **Teaching Aids:** the introduction of a huge group of teaching and learning Methods and as a result of the Emergence of modern Theories in curricula.
7. **Education Technology:** This term follows from the complex Nature of the Technology that consists of these Methods, and is used in later Education.

### **The Third Topic**

#### *The Role of Qatar in Supporting the Educational Process and Distance Education*

The Decision-Makers in Qatar have realized the importance of Education and that it is the most essential Element for achieving progress at all levels, whether Economic, Social and Military, and for this, the State of Qatar allocates a special budget for learning to improve the educational system and has pushed towards establishing Schools and Universities to private and international Schools for Qatari Students.<sup>65</sup> Within a few years, Education in Qatar reached an incomparable level in the Arab world, and its educational system became one of the five best education systems in the entire world, Rather, European and American international curricula and teaching methods were used with the injection of a lot of money in the educational aspect, until it surpassed the Countries from which these experiences were taken and Education became in Qatar It is classified as one of the best Education Systems in the World, beginning roughly from 2001 when Prince Hamad Bin Khalifa Al Thani decided to advance the state's Education, as he realized that Education is the basis of success in everything in life, and if Qatar continues its old educational system, it will never achieve any success. Therefore, it is faster to change the education system and accelerate the pace of its advancement.

#### **The Reality of Education in Qatar:<sup>66</sup>**

Education appeared in Qatar systematically in 1952 and began to develop at a slow steps until 2001. During that period, Education, like other Arab Countries, especially the Gulf States, did not make significant progress or change in Policies and curricula, and this is what made Emir Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani accelerate The development of Education as soon as he assumed power, as he saw that Education is not developed at all and suffers from severe centralization that restricted it and made it steady, and then he contacted the American RAND Corporation for the Research and Development of Education in Qatar, and I offered him a set of options, one of which he chose to work within the State of Qatar Then independent Schools appeared that are supported by the government but operate without a government system, but rather operate in an independent system with independent bodies, and this is what made the wheel of development, excellence and innovation go very quickly, due to the intense competition between all independent Schools. It is worth noting that Qatar has an educational Vision called 2030, that vision in 2013 aimed at the rapid and strong advancement of Qatari education so that it becomes the best in the world.

#### **Reasons for Distinguishing Education in Qatar:<sup>67</sup>**

There are a set of reasons and factors that led to the Distinction of Education in Qatar, and the first is the use of the foreign curriculum.

##### 1. Using foreign curricula:

The Rand Corporation for Research and Development is the secret behind all this progress in Education in Qatar. it has articulated a systematic plan for Education in Qatar adapted from the United States of America for Qatari Education to follow Indeed, this is what happened in 2001 when Prince Hamad bin Khalifa established independent schools, These Schools used foreign curricula and left the old traditional curricula that were used before In 2001, and the situation changed a lot due to those foreign curricula until Education in Qatar became the first in the Arab World and the fourth in the World.

#### *Assign Global Capabilities and Competencies:*

Among the reasons and factors that have led to the Distinction of Education in Qatar is the appointment of people with Global capabilities and competencies in the Qatari Education System. and this is what The State of Qatar implemented it in its educational system, as it appointed teachers worthy of that job and gave them very large sums of money compared to the rest of the Arab and non-Arab Countries. It also appointed managers, supervisors and officials in the educational sector who could change Education for the better quickly, and therefore from 2001 to the present day it is developing Qatari Education very quickly until it became the best Arab.

2. Using modern and technological methods.<sup>68</sup>

We come here to talk about another reason for the progress and development of Education in Qatar, which is the use of modern and technological methods, as teaching and learning in modern methods inevitably leads to the development of Education and the graduation of very good models of it, and this is what the State of Qatar has already done in its modern education as it has It introduced computers and smart screens to its schools.

*Spending a Lot of Money on Education:*

The State of Qatar has never been skeptical in spending on Education in Qatar, as it has allocated a very large part of its money for the benefit of Education.<sup>69</sup>

A report by the Alpine Capital Corporation said that investment incentives and facilitating the establishment of businesses attracted the interest of private sector investors. The growth of the Education sector in Qatar is driven by four main factors, namely, population growth, the increase in the number of School-age population, the increase in the income rate, and the increase in the private sector's contribution to Education, in addition to the government support provided by the state to the Education sector in the general budget. The report, entitled (Education Industry in the Gulf Cooperation Council Countries 2018), said that Qatar has introduced many reforms and made many investments in the Education sector, starting with the Qatar National Vision 2030, which Considers Education as a basis for the advancement of Society.<sup>70</sup>

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