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## ABSTRACT OF Ph.D. THESIS

Title:

Impact of Digitalization in Education on Development of Life

Skills, Learning Skills, and Digital Literacy among

SecondarySchool Student

Researcher:

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The adoption of digital technologies is at new heights in the present times. This adoption is giving way to digitalization in every sector including education. The application of digitalization in the education sector is affecting the learning environment and contributing to the replacement of the old school system with a new school system. In the digital world, the acquirement of basic knowledge alone is not sufficient. What was considered a good education and a well-qualified individual 50 years ago is no longer enough for success in career, life as well as citizenship in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Thus, today's students must be prepared to face real-life challenges effectively and efficiently. So, one of the greatest needs before the education system is to equip adolescents with essential skills to survive happily, successfully, and productively in this digital world.

A review of the literature suggests that the most essential skills to be acquired by the students of the digital age are life skills, learning skills, and digital literacy skills. Following these hints, the researcher has decided to conduct a Ph.D. study entitled "Impact of Digitalization in Education on Development of Life Skills, Learning Skills, and Digital Literacy among Secondary School Students". The study mainly focused on assessing the impact of digitalization in education on the development of life skills, learning skills, and digital literacy among secondary school students. For this purpose, the researcher selected a representative sample of 540 secondary school students having varied digital education experiences. The sample was selected using multistage sampling. The data was collected with the help of three self-developed standardized tools. The tools are Life Skills Assessment Scale (LSAS), Learning Skills Assessment Test (LCAT), and Digital Literacy Assessment Test (DLAT). The data obtained from this process was analyzed with the help of statistical techniques e.g., percentages, mean, standard deviation, ANOVA, and partial correlation using SPSS 17.0.

The findings of the study reflected that digitalization in education has the potential to impact the life skills, learning skills, and, digital skills of secondary school students. Significant variation in the life skills, learning skills, and digital literacy of the secondary school students under different digital education experiences was revealed. Girls outperformed boys regarding their life skills and learning skills under varied digital

education experiences. However, boys outperformed girls concerning their digital literacy under varied digital education experiences. A significant relationship among life skills, learning skills, and digital literacy implies that focus on one area will create a ripple effect in other areas too. However, the study also highlighted that instead of overemphasizing the utilization of digital technologies the right blend with appropriate teaching methods will prove beneficial for the learners. The researcher hopes that findings and discussions from the study will be helpful for various stakeholders in the education system for using technologies sustainably and effectively for the all-round development of school students.

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