

**CHRIST**(DEEMED TO BE UNIVERSITY)  
BANGALORE · INDIA

## Notice for the PhD Viva Voce Examination

Ms Priyanka Kaushik (Registration Number: 1950074), PhD scholar at the School of Social Sciences, CHRIST (Deemed to be University), Bangalore will defend her PhD thesis at the public viva-voce examination on Thursday, 13 June 2024 at 9.00 am in Room No. 044, Ground Floor, R & D Block, CHRIST (Deemed to be University), Bengaluru - 560029.

**Title of the Thesis** : **Online Higher Education: A Mixed Method Study of Delhi NCR, India**

**Discipline** : **Sociology**

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The members of the Research Advisory Committee of the Scholar, the faculty members of the Department and the School, interested experts and research scholars of all the branches of research are cordially invited to attend this open viva-voce examination.

Place: Bengaluru

Date: 04 June 2024

  
Registrar

## ABSTRACT

The education system in the new era displays extensive adaptability, as proven by present-day realities. In ancient India, the Gurukul system prevailed during the Vedic period, where Gurus guided students in an ashram or hermitage. This is quite different from the contemporary education system we have today. The modern education system involves structured classrooms, where teachers guide students in an institutional setting. The COVID-19 pandemic has brought about significant changes in the contemporary education system worldwide. This and the emergence of Digital India and the internet led to a structural change in the modern education system, from physical classrooms to online and remote classrooms. That means a paradigm shift happened in the educational system where Gurus are replaced by e-gadgets, books are being replaced by eBooks and traditional classrooms are being replaced by smart classrooms and online classes. The shift to remote learning has brought forth several challenges to the educational system which includes lack of meaningful teacher-student interaction, lack of motivation and engagement and its impact on mental health. This opens the scope for understanding the pros and cons of different modes of educational practices followed in the Indian online higher education system. Therefore, the present research captured experiences of teachers and students from Delhi NCR region about online higher education and the learning environment to understand the effectiveness of online learning.

This research also focuses on social and psychological behavior along with the perceptions of teachers and students about online learning. The study explored the challenges and problems faced by them in online learning. A mixed method approach was used for understanding the changing structure of the digital classroom. Along with the digital participatory approach, structured interviewing was used to have a better and in-depth understanding of online learning. Quantitative data is collected from 288 students from different backgrounds. Thematic analysis shows that students faced technology related challenges, learning challenges, discipline-wise challenges, sociocultural challenges. Teachers faced Technological challenges, Discipline wise challenges and Sociocultural challenges. The study also explained the different practices followed in the digital classroom, the behavior of teachers and students, and the digital divide based on geographical location. The study indicated that traditional learning cannot be replaced by online learning but with the emerging trends in the education sector and the market forces, universities can adapt hybrid models of education where they can implement both traditional and online supplement.

*Keywords: Online Learning, Teacher Perception, Student Perception, Higher Education, Mixed Method study.*

### Publications:

1. Kaushik P., Thomas P., (2022), Happiness Index Of Higher Education Students Toward Online Learning In India, *Journal of Psychology English* (2022) 230, (1), 1-21, ISSN. 2151-2604, <https://journalofpsychologyenglish.com/current-issue.php>
2. Kaushik P., Thomas P., (2022), Teachers' Perspective of The Higher "Online" Education In India: Challenges And Opportunities, *Tongji Daxue Xuebao/Journal Of Tongji University*, ISSN: 0253-374X, Vol: 50 Issue: 08, <https://doi.org/10.1080/08923647.2019.1663082>
3. Kaushik P., (2022), Rural-Urban perspectives of the teachers regarding online learning in India- Digital ethnographic study, Published in UGC care list, *Journal of Kavikulaguru Kalidas Sanskrit University, Ramtek ,Shodhsamhita: Journal of Fundamental &Comparative Research* Vol. IX, No. 5: 2022 ISSN: 2277-7067