ASSESSMENT OF GLOBAL EDUCATION PERSPECTIVES IN THE CURRICULUM OF ASSOCIATE DEGREE OF EDUCATION IN PAKISTAN

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Abstract

The paper investigates the integration of global component in the curriculum of Associate Degree of Education (ADE) In-Service Program and looks into its contribution in preparing globally competent teachers. The overall strategy for the study is based on quantitative research paradigm. Curriculum of ADE (In-service) developed by Higher Education Commission was chosen for the study. The major global themes were categorized and analyzed through quantitative content analysis. From the evaluation of ADE, it was derived that the curriculum is competent and offers global mindedness and global competency. It offers practical approach with theoretical integration in few of the courses. All the compulsory, professional and foundation courses are global, except few, which are local as well as global in nature. Most of the subjects are enriched with diverse array of global themes; however, concepts of global issues are not integrated in most of the subjects. The study recommends inclusion of global issues in the curriculum for better comprehension and implementation of practical solutions in their realistic lives. Teaching approaches should be revised for few identified courses. It is also suggested to initiate teacher training (ADE) at more educational institutions in Sindh to meet the required demand of educational institutions.

Keywords: Global Education Perspectives, Curriculum, Associate Degree of Education

Introduction

Curriculum is the pillar of establishing sound education system. It is designed, keeping in view the philosophy and ideology of a country. Globalization has stratified education systems, where some has adapted dynamic, while other preferred to acclimatize traditional curriculum.

The movement of global education is greatly influenced by globalization. It emerged to provide global dimension and foster global mindedness to cope up with the demands of 21^{st} century. It contributes in improving the world through intellectual openness. From the national to the globalist, global education identified common need to modify curriculum at all the levels (Kirkwood-Tucker, 2009). This modern approach aim at promoting global awareness, appreciating cultural diversity, building bridges between global culture, endorsing interdependencies and spreading global values (Osler & Vincent, 2002). The global education perspectives in the curriculum include central basement of global issues, global human rights, global values, equity, etc. All these have become are promising to promote global thinking among learners.

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In this technocratic era, curriculum demands dynamic modifications as per need of time. It should be reviewed on a regular basis to ensure that it meet the needs of students. In Pakistan, this responsibility comes under the umbrella of Federal Ministry of Education, who designs curriculum, sets policy and education standards. At higher education level, federal government is liable for curriculum development. The revision of curriculum lies under the shelter of Higher Education Commission.

Education seems a contradictory and controversial subject matter in Pakistan. Looking back at the process of curriculum development in Pakistan, it has always been slow and subjected to political interference. The social sphere is lightly addressed, and the democratic as well as civic values are not keeping pace with the global transformation (Mason, 2008). Tabassum *et al.*, (2011) evaluated the efficacy of the curriculum at secondary level in Pakistan and disclosed that it is not designed according to the needs of students and has limited scope in sharing human values. Another study was conducted by a group of scholars who found that the objectives and the organization of contents in the curriculum has several loop holes, where the inclusion of learning activities are limited, whereas concepts, which can develop positive attitude is not well incorporated (Hussain *et al.*, 2011). A similar issue is highlighted at all the levels (Rehman & Sewani, 2013; Memon, 2007; Vazir, 2003), but most of the researches consider it as a problem than opportunity. In the views of Bland (2000) productive transformation in curriculum is correlated to the efforts of innovative leaders. Unless we think from the broader perspective, global curriculum goals cannot be reaped.

Teachers are the key players in sharing global values. Their professional development is central to improve the overall structure of education (Government of Pakistan, 1998). Up-to-date knowledge and global awareness is critically important to amalgamate the concept of global education through their teaching. The national and international documents (Dilshad, 2010; UNESCO, 2008; Aly, 2006; Government of Pakistan, 1998) highlighted countless challenges in teacher training program and also suggested for the reformation of curriculum. One of the studies evaluated the overall curriculum of teacher education in Pakistan (Huma, 2013). The researcher identified challenges related to planning and implementation process. In addition, authoritative pressures restrict teachers to teach within the set framework, which also hinder the progressive implementation of curriculum. Currently, the professional programs run in Pakistan include B.Ed (Bachelors of Education) and M.Ed (Masters of Education). All these programs prepare teachers to meet academic challenges.

ADE (Associate Degree of Education) was recently launched for practising teachers to enhance their teaching skills. The efficacy of this program is studied by limited researchers. One of the studies was conducted to find the motivation level of prospective teachers pursuing ADE in one of the areas of Pakistan (Ramzan, *et al.*, 2013). Prospective teachers are highly influenced and motivated towards teaching due to social and financial benefits. They perceive this course useful, however a small number of respondents also explored challenges related to policies. Another study (Munshi, et.al. 2012) identified the challenges which include but not limited to lack of followup mechanism and lack of quality mechanism. No research has so far been undertaken to highlight the integration of global competency content in ADE curriculum. In the light

of the current global demand, the present research evaluate ADE curriculum the level of global competency it offers.

Methodology

The current study has adopted thematic content analysis method. Through quantitative content analysis, the following areas are analyzed in ADE curriculum: Global Content, Global Themes, Nature of Teaching Approaches, Global Mindedness and Global Competency Skills.

Tables

Analysis

Table 1. Nature and Credits Division

Nature of Course	Credit Hours
Compulsory Courses	16 Credits with 6 Courses
Content Courses	8 Credits with 3 Courses
Professional Courses	10 Credits with 8 Courses
Foundation Courses	4 Credits with 5 Courses
Teaching Practices	No Credit with 2 Courses

Table 2. List of Compulsory Courses

Table 2. List of Computatory Courses		
Compulsory Courses (16 Credit Hours)		
Subject	Credit	
English I	3	
English II	3	
Islamic Studies/Ethics	2	
Computer literacy	3	
General math	3	
Pakistan Studies	2	

Table 3. *List of Content Courses*

Content Courses (08 Credit Hours)		
Subject	Credit	
General Science	3	
Arts, Crafts, Calligraphy	3	
Urdu/Regional Language	2	

Table 4. List of Professional Courses

Professional Courses (10 Credit Hours)		
Subject	Credit	
Methods of Islamic Studies	1	
Teaching Literacy	2	
Teaching Urdu/Regional Language	1	
Teaching General Science	1	
Inst & Como Tech in Education	2	
Teaching English	1	
Teaching Math	1	
Teaching Social Studies	1	

Table 4. List of Foundation Courses

Foundation Courses (4 Credit Hours)	
Subject	Credit
Child Development	-
General Methods	-
Classroom Management	1
Classroom Assessment	2
School, Community, Teaching	1

Table 5. List of Teaching Practice

Teaching Practice (0 Credit Hours)		
Subject	Credit	
Teaching Practice (Short Term)	-	
Teaching Practice	-	

Subject by Subject Analysis

(a) Compulsory Courses

Table 6. Showing the Analysis of Functional English

Course: English I (Functional English)	
Global Content	Nature Teaching Approaches
Global Language Learning: Basic Skills to Read, Write, Understand in English Social Interaction: Developing Interpersonal Skills for Global Interaction	Integrated Approach

Units	Themes	Nature	Overall
1-5	Global Language	Global	☐Global Mindedness
	Global Issues	$\overline{}$	■ Global Competency Skills

	Citizenship Multiculturalism Gender Equality Global Events Life Skills	Global			
	howing the Analysis of Commun				
Global Co	ontent	Nature Tead	ching Approaches		
Communion Persuading	nguage Learning: Emphasize cation Skills g Audience/ Global Interaction a	on English Com Integrated A	nmunication Environm pproach le Resources	ent	
	e Building Skills	Assessment			
Units	Themes	Nature	Overall		
1-5	Global Language	Global	Global Mind	edness	
	Global Issues		Global Com		
	Citizenship			-	
	Multiculturalism				
	Gender Equality				
	Global Events				
	Life Skills	Global			
Table 8. Si	howing the Analysis of Islamic S	Studies			
	slamic Studies				
Global Th				Nature Approaches	Teaching
	arning ethics in the light of Holy			Missing	
	sonality: learn lessons from the	• 1	net (SAW)		
	alture and Civilization: learn abo				
	rn about contemporary issues re				
Giobai illu	eraction: finding relationship of	Science with Islan	11		
Units	Themes	Nature	r verall		
1-5		Global	Global Mindednes	9	
1-3	Global Language Global Issues	Local/Global	Global Competend		
	Citizenship	Global	- Global Competent	cy Skins	
	Multiculturalism	Global			
	Gender Equality	Global			
	Global Events				
	Life Skills				

Table 9. Showing the Analysis of Computer Literacy

	Computer Literacy	· ·	
Global '	Themes		Nature Teaching Approaches
required software instructi Global interact	ons, etc Interaction: Learning how globally through internet Learn about computer ethi	internet skills, computer vare, computer aided to communicate abd	Practical Demonstration Interactive Exploration Approach
Units	Themes	Nature	Overall
1-5	Global Language Global Issues Citizenship Multiculturalism Gender Equality Global Events Life Skills	Global	Global Mindedness Global Competency Skills
). Showing the Analysis of M	1athematics	
Course	Mathematics		
Global '	Themes	Nature Teach	ing Approaches
-		Assignments Experience Ap Problem Solvi	
Units	Themes	■ Nature	Overall
1-5	Global Language Global Issues Citizenship Multiculturalism Gender Equality Global Events Life Skills		☐Global Mindedness ■Global Competency Skills

Table 11. Showing the Analysis of Pakistan Studies

Course: Pakistan Studies

Global Themes History of Pakistan: helps understand local history of

Pakistan through global context

Issues: learn about the challenges face by Pakistan at the time of independence; learn about the current problems such as of environment, population, social, cultural, ethnic and sectarian issues

Global Economy: learn about the resources and economic development of Pakistan

Global Politics: learn about political phases of Pakistan Role and Responsibility: Learn about the role of citizens

and civil society

Nature Teaching Approaches
Problem Solving
Critical Thinking Skills
Lecturing
D 4 W/ 1 .

Project Work
Cooperative Learning
Assignments

Units	Themes		Nature	Overall
1-5	Global Language		Global	■ Global Mindedness
	Global Issues		Global	■ Global Competency Skills
	Citizenship		Global	
	Multiculturalism		Global	
	Gender Equality	一		
	Global Events		Global	
	Life Skills		Global	

(b) Content Courses

Table 12. Showing the Analysis of Science 2

Course: Science 2
Global Themes
Nature Teaching Approaches

Global Language Learning: Basic Skills to Read,
Write, Understand and Communicate in English
Social Interaction: Developing Interpersonal Skills for
Global Interaction
Sharing Experiences: Sharing ideas through narrations

Units	Themes	Nature	Overall
1-6	Global Language Global Issues Citizenship Multiculturalism Gender Equality Global Events Life Skills	Global Global	☐Global Mindedness ■Global Competency Skills

Table 13. Showing the Analysis of Arts Crafts and Calligraphy Course: Arts Crafts and Calligraphy **Global Themes Nature Teaching Approaches** History and Culture: Learn about history and culture of Assignments Pakistan with special reference to art and architecture in Visits Islam and Pakistan Group Work Global Personality: Learn about local personality in arts from global lens Global Skills: learn painting, drawing, sketching Units Overall Themes Nature 1-4 Global Language Global ■ Global Mindedness ■ Global Competency Global Issues Skills Citizenship Multiculturalism Gender Equality Global Events Life Skills Global Table 14. Showing the Analysis of Urdu Course: Urdu **Global Themes Nature Teaching Approaches** Global Language Learning: Basic Skills to Read, Write, Integrated Approach Understand and Communicate in English Use of Online Resources Social Interaction: Developing Interpersonal Skills for Group Work Global Interaction Assessment Tasks Sharing Experiences: Sharing ideas through narrations Units **Themes** Nature Overall 1-5 Global Language Global Mindedness Global Global Issues ■ Global Competency Skills Citizenship Multiculturalism

Global

Gender Equality Global Events Life Skills

Table 15. Showing the Analysis of Teaching of Islamic Studies

Course: Teaching of Islamic Studies

Global Themes

Islamic values: learn about tolerance, honesty, kindness
Culture and System: learn about Islamic culture and civilization
Issues: learn about contemporary issues

Units	Themes	Nature	Overall
1-5	Global Language Global Issues Citizenship	Global	■ Global Mindedness ■ Global Competency Skills
	Multiculturalism Gender Equality Global Events Life Skills	Global Global	

Table 16. Showing the Analysis of Teaching Literacy

Course:	Teaching Literacy				
Global Themes			Nature Teach	ing Approaches	
None		Group work, assignments, lecture, video presentation			
Units	Themes		Nature	Overall	
1-5	Global Language		Global	Global Mindedness	
	Global Issues			■ Global Competency Skills	
	Citizenship				
	Gender Equality				
	Global Events				
	Life Skills		Global		

Table 17. Showing the Analysis of Teaching of Urdu Course: Teaching Urdu **Global Themes Nature Teaching Approaches** None Evaluation Group Work Units **Themes** Nature Overall 1-5 Global Language Global Global Mindedness Global Issues Global Competency Skills Citizenship Multiculturalism Gender Equality Global Events Life Skills Table 18. Showing the Analysis of Teaching Science Course: Teaching Science **Global Themes Nature Teaching Approaches** None Inquire based Approach Discussion Units Themes Nature Overall 1-5 Global Language Global Mindedness Global Competency Skills Global Issues Citizenship Multiculturalism Gender Equality Global Events Life Skills

Table 19. Showing the Analysis of ICT in Education

Course: ICT in Education	
Global Themes	Nature Teaching Approaches
Power of audio/radio in education; global	Collaborative approach, peer teaching, discussion.,
skills- using movies, radio, video, internet	lecture
Concept f globalization/ global teacher	
community	
Interactive online applications	
Language development, improving	
communication skills, collaborative learning in	
Pakistan studies, civic, English	
Emerging Trends in Education	

Units	Themes	Nature	Overall
1-5	Global Language		Global Mindedness
	Global Issues		■ Global Competency Skills
	Citizenship		_
	Multiculturalism		
	Gender Equality		
	Global Events		
	Life Skills	Global	

Table 20. Showing the Analysis of Teaching English						
Course:	Teaching English					
Global T	hemes		Nature Teach	ing Approaches		
			Inquire based	Approach		
			Discussion			
Units	Themes		Nature	Overall		
1-5	Global Language		Global	Global Mindedness		
	Global Issues			■ Global Competency Skills		
	Citizenship			_		
	Multiculturalism					
	Gender Equality					
	Global Events					
	Life Skills	_	Global			

Table 21. Showing the Analysis of Teaching Mathematics

Course: 7	Teaching Mathematics			
Global Tl	hemes Nature Teaching Approaches			ching Approaches
			solving, lear	, class participation, discussion, problem rning mathematics with available tec- ing, learning mathematics with available
Units	Themes		Nature	Overall
1-5	Global Language			Global Mindedness
	Global Issues			Global Competency Skills
	Citizenship			
	Multiculturalism			
	Gender Equality			
	Global Events			
	Life Skills			

Table 22. Showing the Analysis of Teaching Social Studies

Course: Teaching Social Studies	
Global Themes	Nature Teaching Approaches
Culture and diversity Citizenship and HRE, Women Rights Social, economic, political and cultural rights Human and environmental issues Global warming, cultural diversity	Assignments, class participation, discussion, problem solving, learning mathematics with available tec problem solving, learning mathematics with available technology
Multiculturalism, cultural adaptation Interdependence, peace education, civil society Skills: opportunity cost, supply demand Positive attitudes and skills	

Units	Themes	Nature	Overall
1-5	Global Language Global Issues Citizenship Multiculturalism Gender Equality Global Events Life Skills	Global Global Global Global Global Global Global	Global Mindedness Global Competency Skills

(c) Foundation Course
Table 23. Showing the Analysis of Classroom Management

Course: Classroom Management	
Global Themes	Nature Teaching Approaches
To equip teachers with knowledge and	Peer discussion
strategies to become effective managers	lectures
To learn managing lesson and effectively	
engaged in constructing knowledge	
Time management, class management	
Promoting multiculturalism (creating shared	
values and community)	

Units	Themes		Nature	Overall
1-5	Global Language Global Issues Citizenship		Global	■ Global Mindedness ■ Global Competency Skills
	Multiculturalism Gender Equality Global Events	-	Global	
	Life Skills		Global	

Table 24. Showing the Analysis of Classroom Assessment

Global Themes

To provide teachers to integrate assessment activities in lesson plan to improve learning

To learn diverse array of methods to assess learning

To learn about different assessment methods

To learn how to construct test and integrate it into lesson plans

Units	Themes	Nature	Overall
1-5	Global Language		Global Mindedness
	Global Issues		Global Competency Skills
	Citizenship		
	Multiculturalism		
	Gender Equality		
	Global Events		
	Life Skills		

Analysis:

Associate Degree of Education (ADE) is a unique program launched in Pakistan by Higher Education Commission through the support of USAID. The program is designed to provide professional skills to the practicing teachers at elementary level. This program is significantly important for the career development of practicing teachers. The program is functional in several public and private sector universities and affiliated colleges. The entry requirement is 12 years of formal education. The duration of the regular program is 12-18 credit hours per semester.

The course of English is global in nature. It emphasizes on grammar and communication skills to an extent rather theoretical; however, global issues and emerging areas are not integrated in it. The course adopts global teaching approaches, which certainly support global competency skills.

English II course emphasize on developing communication skills. Global teaching approaches are transformative in nature. It is predicted that thorough this course, teachers can overcome communication barriers. However, global issues and emerging areas are not included in the course, which could have been an additional support for sharing global values.

Islamic Studies emphasizes understanding about Islamic Civilization, and issues related to faith. The nature of teaching approaches is missing; however, local issues and global areas are focused. Issues, other than bounded by Islam could have been offered global mindedness. The course is comprehensive and crucial to prepare global competency skills in teachers.

The course "Computer Literacy" emphasizes application of technical skills in educational settings. It shares global skills its best. The nature of teaching approach is highly global in nature. However, the course fails to prepare global mindedness.

Mathematics course emphasizes strengthening mathematics skills and knowledge. Teaching approaches are modern, but the course has no scope for global issues and global competency skills.

Overall, the objective of the course "Pakistan Studies" is to enhance content knowledge about history of Pakistan, developing sense of responsibilities, inculcating life skills, learning about local and global skills, identifying controversial issues. The nature of teaching approach is global. The course offers global skills and also highlights global issues, which makes this course productive for reaping global minded teachers.

Overall, Science II course aims at deepening knowledge of content, teaching strategies to teach science effectively. The course has no scope for global content. Additionally, the nature of teaching approaches is very limited. The course fails to share global mindedness; however, it shares life skills.

The course "Arts Crafts and Calligraphy" develops critical and creative thinking skills. It promotes multiculturalism through the medium of arts. The nature of teaching approach is limited, but shares global-mindedness and global competency skills.

Urdu emphasizes prose and poetry. The course fails to prepare global mindedness. The nature of teaching approaches is global. Life skills are also integrated in the course, but have limited scope to share global issues and other developmental areas.

Teaching of Islamic Studies is a significant course for the students as it covers most of the global areas; however, the nature of teaching approaches is not appropriate. Over all, the course has potential to develop global competency and global mindedness.

The course "Teaching Literacy" does not support global issues, however, it is highly supportive towards global competency skills. The nature of teaching approaches is balanced, but no global themes are attached to the course.

Teaching Urdu mainly touches the theoretical aspects. The nature of teaching approaches is outdated. Moreover, it has no prospect of developing global mindedness and shares no global competency skills.

The course "Teaching Science" is designed with more theoretical and least practical aspects. It does not address modern teaching approaches, global issues and global competency skills.

The course "ICT in Education" is crucial to connect teachers to the global community. The nature of teaching approach is global. It provides global competency skills such as critical thinking, decision making, but do not address other themes.

The course "Teaching English" is supportive in developing global competency skills among students. The teaching approaches are supportive, but the course does not develop global mindedness.

The course "Teaching Mathematics" helps to deepen understanding of mathematical concepts and pedagogical skills. It adopts global teaching approaches, but has no scope for global mindedness and global competency skills.

The course "Teaching Social Studies" is enriched with all the aspects of global competency and global mindedness. The course helps to develop skills, values and attitudes for democratic citizenship. It offers varieties of teaching approaches. Overall, the course is well-designed and highly supportive for global competitiveness.

The course "Classroom Management" designed to broaden pedagogical strategies. The nature of teaching approaches is theoretical. It highlights several global competency skills and has great potential to develop global mindedness.

The overall course "Classroom Assessment" is weak and does not support any practical skills. Although global themes are highly competitive but the nature of teaching approach and course is theoretical and outdated. Moreover, global mindedness is not taken into consideration.

Conclusion and Recommendations

Most of the subjects offer global competency skills and global mindedness. Global issues are not integrated in most of the courses. Course of Islamic Studies should be revised and nature of teaching approaches must be defined. It must also cover content other than of Islamic civilization. Science II and Teaching Science are potential subjects, which must be revised. Global content should involve global teaching approaches. Global issues such as pollution, global warming, nuclear bomb affects, etc., should be included. The course "Teaching Literacy" has a lot of scope towards global competency but fails. Therefore, the curriculum must be re-drafted. The researcher suggests revision of the curriculum to develop global competencies through all the subjects through the inclusion of global skills and areas of global issues in all the potential subjects.

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