

## Impact of Facebook on Students' Academic Activities

S.L. Fathima Ruksana<sup>1\*</sup>, M.N. Ruhana Banu<sup>2</sup> & M.S. Mohammed Ismath<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1,2</sup>*Department of Information Technology, Faculty of Arts and Culture, South Eastern University of Sri Lanka, Sri Lanka*

<sup>3</sup>*Department of Political science, Faculty of Arts and Culture, South Eastern University of Sri Lanka, Sri Lanka*

<sup>1\*</sup>fathimaruksanasl@gmail.com, <sup>2</sup>riznazweety@gmail.com, <sup>3</sup>ismathm95@gmail.com

**Abstract-** Facebook is one of the trending social media to spread information all over the world. Facebook is an online platform, where users can create the content and share them to public or particular ones. It is one of the communication tools which used to communicate with friends and society academically and otherwise. Facebook can spread the news very speedily all over the world with the help of the network. Facebook has revolutionized the mode of communication, where university students use it for many reasons such as for study purposes, information sharing purposes, and for the purpose of spreading news, etc. Moreover, Facebook is used by many university students to fulfill their needs in academic activities. This research has mainly assessed the impact of Facebook on students' academic performance especially those who are studying ICT special in faculty of arts and culture in the South Eastern University of Sri Lanka.

**Keywords:** Academic, students, performance, Facebook, social media

### I. INTRODUCTION

The internet has created a big platform for millions of computers at numerous sites in many countries, it belongs to thousands of businesses, governments, research institution, educational institutions, and other organizations to make the interaction with one another. Really, it provides a very rich medium for information spreading, exchange and collaborative interaction among individuals and computers, and also it does not require the geographical limitation of space. We all heard very deeply about the social networking which has become a general worldwide trend, using this social networking in every corner of the world we can use to spread information. Over the last few decades, Facebook has been used among the young men and women to exchange ideas, feelings, personal information, and videos at an amazing rate. The Facebook has changed the life of people in a fantastic way all over the world. Among the Facebook users most of them are teenagers and young adults who are highly using

the Facebook to communicate with all peers around the world and they sharing the information, showing their personalities, and conveying their daily routines through the status. According to these pros the Facebook became very famous in our society. And also a huge platform among the students and mainly we want to consider about the undergraduate students that how this Facebook affects their academic activities.

### II. LITERATURE REVIEW

According to Fawsi. Altanny, and A Jassim (2013), There are many social media available in the world, among them, Facebook is the one which connected more people in the world for the communication and in the universities. Facebook is used to make the relationship, friendship, social networking among the students. Mostly the students are involved in the Facebook to do their academic activities effectively. And they pointed out that the Facebook was implemented in 2004\_for the students but nowadays it became in other social sites also.

According to Thuseenthan and Kuhanesan (2014), Facebook is the electronic communication and it became very friendly among all the people. Facebook is a social media which became benefit for the advanced level and university students.

According to El Badawy and Hashem, (2015), The technology is growing rapidly the most affected are the students. They defined that social media are so interacted with the life of people and among the students. And most of the students are spending more time with the Facebook.

According to Siddiqui and Singh, (2016), The social media nowadays are interacting in all the activities of the human's day to day activities such as in business, education, etc... Social media are making easy to interact with more number of people to form the connection through Twitter, Facebook etc. The advantage of the social media on education easily communicates and shares the information quickly through the Facebook and

some of other social media sites. And they indicated not only the positive impact, but also they indicated the negative impact also such as if the people spend more time to use the Facebook they will be addicted to Facebook, by these reasons studies and works will be spoiled. And the social media affect the kids, it means unwanted images and videos will be watched by the students mean, by these they will be affected badly. So, there are positive and negative effects having by using social media.

Akram and Kumar, (2018) reported that, Facebook is the largest social media network on the internet. And this Facebook becomes a very famous and best medium for connecting the people. In addition, Facebook used to build the business and it is providing a good platform for it.

### III. STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

Students are using digital devices mostly and new technology devices for their studies. So Facebook is one of the social media used in the educational activities. For our study, we identified following problems.

- Students have difficulty in studies when they have no communication with their friends and college groups.
- There is a problem to discuss the academic matters and share the ideas among them without using social media.
- There is a problem to solve the doubts in their studies.
- There are some students who are not social or shy to interact with their friends

### IV. METHODOLOGY

This study to identify the impact of the Facebook on the student’s academic activities.

The sample study was conducted with population 80 students from first, second, third year students from ICT special students attached to the Faculty of Arts and Culture South Eastern University of Sri Lanka. First, we conducted an interview individually and in group. There are around 350 students in faculty of arts and culture, in that 80 are studying ICT as a special study. We have used semi- structured questionnaires and we have used qualitative research techniques for our research. A questionnaire was designed with 25 questions and the data was collected through a questionnaire and analyzed.

The questionnaire consists of 4 parts. The first part of questionnaire consists of different types of social media used by the students. Second part consists questions on of the purpose of using Facebook, third part asks on how the Facebook impact students’ performance and academic activities and while fourth part of the questionnaire consists of the misuse of the Facebook for many reasons. Related information was collected from the respondents.

These questionnaires were distributed among the students who are studying ICT special at faculty of arts and culture south eastern university of Sri Lanka. The main reason for selecting ICT special students for this study is that, they are mostly related to Facebook. And highly use to works effectively and efficiently. Analysis of Different types of social media used by the student from questionnaires. Analysis Different types of Social media were used by the students. The data obtained through the questionnaire has been analyzed and given in Table 1.

Table 1: Different types of social media used by the students

Year	No of students Using Facebook	No of students Using Whats App	No of students Using Twitter	No of students Using Linked In	No of students Using nothing
1 <sup>st</sup> year	19	16	10	5	1
2 <sup>nd</sup> year	20	19	1	2	03
3 <sup>rd</sup> year	20	20	0	1	0
4 <sup>th</sup> year	20	17	1	3	0

Table 2: Misuse of Facebook

Ways of Facebook in academic activities	Percentage of students misusing Facebook
Use for chatting	75%
Use fake Facebook ids	65%
Use for watching films	30%
Use as a video conference tool to communicate unwanted ones	20%
Playing games	10%

Table 3: Uses of Facebook for many purposes

Uses of Facebook	Percentage of always use
Prepare for lesson	85%
Collect resources	70%
Online discussion	47%
Communicate purpose	60%
Watch video clips related to the academic activities	60%

### V. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The survey results were analyzed and presented in Table 1, Table 2 and Table 3. We have selected the students who are studying in the Faculty of Arts and culture of South Eastern University of Sri Lanka as ICT special students. Nowadays, most of the students are using social media, among that Facebook is one of the very important and trending one among that. The ratio of Facebook usage among female vs male is 54:6. They can communicate with friends from different geographical areas using network technology through Facebook.

According to the analysis, of the impact of Facebook on students’ performance is high, more than 95% of the students used social media and to get benefit in their learning activities and Facebook was misused by the students by nearly 45% of the students. Most students use Facebook for many learning purposes. So, the use of Facebook, can increase the progress of the students in studying and not only in studying but also they can become a social students in the world.

Some analyzed charts show the number of students using the social media and percentage of misusing Facebook.

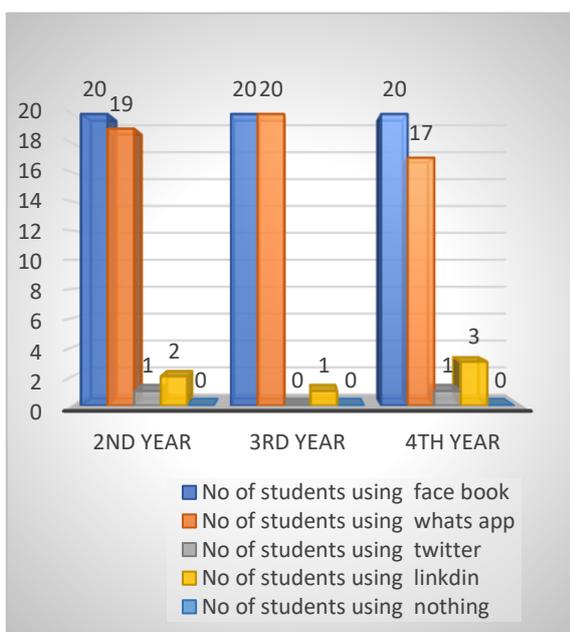


Figure 01: Number of students using Facebook for their academic activities

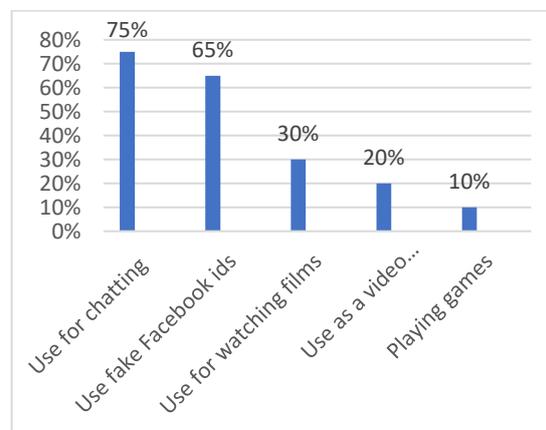


Figure 02: Percentage of students misusing Facebook

At the end of the study, we found the following impact of using Facebook in academic activities.

- Facebook is generally available to most students in their digital devices.
- Most of the students are using mobile phones and digital devices for their academic activities.
- Found that if the students use their mobile and digital devices for their learning and academic activities, they are very eager to engage in studies.

- The knowledge about the Facebook such as how to use that, how to get advantages for academic activities, how we want to spend time with Facebook needs to be given to enhance the knowledge on Facebook among the students.
- According to the analysis most of the students will use the Facebook for their academic activities in future.

Some poor students may not have the digital devices to use the Facebook for their academic activities. This challenges the poor students to get digital equipment.

## VI. RECOMMENDATION

There are some recommendations to fulfill the issues related Facebook. So, it's better to provide Facebook related knowledge to the students, which can be used in the positive way for students to get the advantages for learning process. Digital devices, free Wi-Fi facilities for students to use Facebook, and arrange online guidance programs to use the Facebook for the academic purpose to get a good advantage for their academic activities.

## VII. CONCLUSION

The use of the Facebook has become very vital and famous around the globe due to the vast and wide development of technology. Facebook is very useful for not only in everyone's life, but also it is very helpful for the academic activities of the students. According to the study, Students use Facebook very effectively for their academic activities. And also Facebook can negatively affect on the students' academic activities. Students are the vital resources. According to that, we suggest that, if they use the Facebook, it can impact in their academic activities at the same time it can give a negative effect for their studies at the same time we need to minimize the time to waste on using Facebook and some students misusing this Facebook. It can be very helpful for their academic purposes too and helps to enhance the performance of the students and also the by the use of the Facebook the students can become a social ones and forwarded ones in the society by communicating with each other and they can also maintain a lifelong relationship with the peer groups and can easily solve the problems among the groups.

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