Abstract

The researcher being a practicing teacher has been in contact with the students through social media Apps like Face book and Whatsapp etc. The researcher tried to find out the lessons learnt by students and people during the lockdown of COVID-19. The fundamental aim of this study was to find out about the responses of people and students regarding their learning during the COVID-19 lockdown. The data were collected online by asking a simple question, "what did you learn/have learnt during this lockdown of COVID-19?". As the data are descriptive ones so there are no numbers involved. The study recommends that the free time offered by lockdown maybe utilized in self-accountability. To kill the boredom of isolation and social distancing, people must go for doing something special and profitable.

Keywords: Lockdown, COVID-19, Isolation, Social media

1 | INTRODUCTION

Lockdown is a requirement for saving the people from those risks and dangers which they can face for sure if moving freely. Stay-at-home or shelter-in-place are the terminologies used for lockdown. The lockdown is always imposed or initiated by the authorities i.e. government etc. Full lockdown means the complete ban on entry or exit of people in or from a particular area. There is also a drill lockdown which means a practical exercise in the pre-threatening condition just for familiarizing the people with the upcoming threat or with the will-be threat.
the intensity of the coming threat and danger. The ultimate aim of this lockdown is the safety of the people and to keep them away from the horrible results of the threats and dangers i.e. the pandemic etc. In this lockdown, the intensity of the threat is tried to be mitigated to the lowest level of damage and loss.

2.2 Emergency Lockdown

This lockdown is implemented when the threat to the lives of the people is imminent and obvious and does not afford any negligence and carelessness on the part of both the people and authorities. But to keep the procedure of lockdown simple and easy, it needs proper drills at different appropriate occasions with appropriate intervals.

2.3 Epidemics

During epidemics the mobility of the people faces restrictions, limitations, and confinements while other organizations are allowed to be in proper functioning condition under the issued SOPs and guidelines from the authorities. The basic needs and commodities are ensured to be supplied without any hindrance and fail. Similarly the normal functioning of state agencies and other organizations remains undisturbed.

COVID-19 Pandemic:

In COVID-19 pandemic, the word lockdown was used for quarantining the masses on large scale and they were asked for staying home and social distancing and by early April 2020, more than half of the world population was under lockdown. By the end of April 2020, 300 and 200 million people were under lockdown in Europe and Latin America respectively. Similarly 90% American and 1.3 billion Indians were under lockdown.

In Pakistan the term ‘smart lockdown’ was introduced. Smart lockdown means selective and precise lockdown of the selected areas within a large community.

Lockdown is imposed and initiated in typical scenarios. Generally lockdown means to close and shut the entry and exit points and the people are confined to their own locations from where they move. The SOPS for lockdown keep on changing, sometimes the SOPS urge for quick and active response and sometimes for quiet and subtle response for curbing the danger and threat.

Lockdown is observed most of the times in prisons for the prevention of prison riots and scuffles. In this lockdown, the mobility of the insiders is checked and controlled to avoid damage to life and property.

In hospitals lockdown is imposed due to catastrophic situation and human malicious designs like earth quake, flood and terrorism. Too many other damaging things are controlled in lockdowns like outward pollution, civil unrest and kidnapping of infants and children.

3 Prominent Events of Lockdown

1. A three-day lockdown was imposed on ACA (American Civilian Air Space) due to 9/11 attacks in 2001.

2. At (UBC) university of British Columbia was kept under lock down for six hours because of an unknown threat of terrorism. This lockdown was imposed by The Royal Canadian Mounted Police. During this lockdown the whole area was fully cordoned off.

3. In April 2008, due to the suspected firearms threat, two Canadian Secondary schools were locked down.

4. In April 2013, the city of Boston was fully locked down because of terrorists’ hunt and search.

5. In 2015, Brussels the Belgian capital was locked down for days to search and arrest the terrorists allegedly involved in November 2015 Paris attacks.

Los Angles was also locked down because of a terror threat.

1. In Indian held and occupied Kashmir, a lockdown has been imposed by Indian government
THE SOCIAL IMPACTS OF LOCKDOWN IN PAKISTAN IN THE COVID-19 SCENARIO

after the abrogation of the special status of the state. The lock down has been imposed for stopping the expected agitation, uproar and reaction from the Kashmiries21,22.

• RESEARCH METHODOLOGY:
Methodology of the study is stated below.

• Objectives of the study:
1. To find out the transformation of the self in the people during lockdown.
2. To know about the learnt lessons of people during lockdown

• RESEARCH DESIGN:
This study was descriptive and qualitative in nature.
The area of the study:
The data were collected with the help of i.e. social media (face Book) etc.

• Sample of the study:
The sample was randomly selected as the question regarding ‘lockdown’ was posted on Face book. So, everyone could have responded to the question in the friend list of the researcher.

• Research Tool:
An open ended question was the research tool of this study .The question was,” What did you learn/have learnt in this lockdown?”

• Data Collection:
The data were collected by the researcher himself with the help of on line contact with the respondents.

• Data Analysis:
The data were analyzed in the light of the stated objectives of the study. The respondents were students, teachers and other professionals from different walks of life. So under specific headings the data were analyzed.

4 | ANALYSIS

4.1 | Students

The responses of the students were closely viewed and qualitatively analyzed one by one.

1. One of the students responded that during this lock down, he started more and more rituals to get close to the Al-mighty Allah (God) and he started reading and learning the holy Quran by consulting The Maarefulquran.

2. The second student responded that in this lock down, the political leaders of Pakistan did nothing and they were only for point scoring against each other in this plight and misery of the nation and he came to know that the politicians were simply cheaters and liars.

3. The third student responded that he tried his best to quit the bad habits and adapt himself to the good ones.

4. The fourth student responded that he started positive thinking because positive thinking brings an end to the negative perceptions regarding life and other entities in the surroundings.

5. The fifth student responded that he came to know about the value of free roaming and freedom in this lock down.

6. The sixth student responded that educational institutes might be opened immediately so that mixing with people might minimize the horrors of isolation.

7. The seventh student was of the view that he sought shelter from loneliness of lock down in watching historical and classical dramas and movies.

5 | TEACHERS / PROFESSIONALS

1. One of the teachers responded that he learnt patience and tolerance during this lock down.
2. Another teacher was of the view that in this lock down, he for the first time observed the compliance and allegiance to law as people used to shut their businesses without any resistance.

3. Another teacher responded that he felt that poverty was the bitter truth of life as he came across with many people who fell prey to poverty in its worst shape in this lock down of COVID-19.

4. Another teacher responded that he became more confident and felt safety because of his ultra care regarding his personal hygiene.

5. A medical doctor was of the view that during this lock down, it dawned at him that most of the things, we do or buy are not necessary and one can easily live without these unnecessary things. According to him, this lock down created the economical sense in him.

6. A motivational speaker responded that he had started gardening and other such chores just to kill the sense of being lonely and isolated.

7. A civil servant responded that he came to know for the first time that freedom and moving without restriction was the great blessing of Allah (God).

8. A recovered patient of the COVID-19 responded that during lock down and isolation, he got very close to the Al-mighty Allah because of his constant prayers.

9. A senior teacher responded that he had learnt in this lock down “how to remain relaxed and tension free.”

10. A business man responded that he had learnt how to be humane with those who suffered a lot during lock down.

11. A banker responded that the lock down taught him about the Supreme Being i.e. Allah (God).

12. An English lecturer responded that he was still under the spell and awe of pandemic and was in the reflective process of this novelty in the life of humans.

13. A senior citizen responded that the early days of lock down brought the actual scenes of the Day of Judgment where everyone will strive for his own safety and he said that he had seen the same in the early days of lock down i.e. the same scene and stage of the Day of Judgment.

14. A PH.D doctor responded that he had tried to improve his research skills in the field more and more during this lock down.

15. Some of the respondents did not respond.

16. One of the respondents was too much worried because of the COVID-19.

17. Some of the respondents repented about their sins and sought the forgiveness of the Al-mighty.

18. One of the respondents started digital and online business.

19. Some of the respondents became empathetic and they tried to help in the miseries of the victims of the COVID-19.

20. Some of the respondents were very worried about the education of their children.

21. Some of the respondents felt suffocation because of the prevailing monotony due to the lock down of the COVID-19.

5.1 | FINDINGS

1. There was increase in the religious rituals because of the growing belief regarding the instability of life.

2. The insincerity of the political mafia came to the surface.

3. The loss of education was felt and improvement was sought in different academic fields and the purchase of superfluous things was stopped or minimized.

4. The sense of compliance of law and tolerance increased.
5. The boosting level of confidence was felt because of the increase in sympathetic feelings, personal hygiene and other healthy activities.

6. The sense of increasing in the strength of mental health to curb the negative feelings of isolation, suffocation, loneliness and displeasure.

6 | RESULTS

The responses of the respondents were obtained with the help of social media, then, the responses were interpreted one by one under the light of the objectives of the study. The results are very positive as the people (students + other professionals) learnt a good deal of positivity during lock down. The results indicated that most of the respondents wanted to get rid of the monotony of lock down by doing positive things. The people became more cautious and careful about their day to day activities for the first time the people came to know about the importance of both the physical as well as mental health. Philanthropic conditions and thinking got impetus and vigor. Such humane feelings were on the rise.

7 | DISCUSSION

The responses of all the respondents were analyzed and the findings were presented in the proper sequence in the light of the asked question. All the respondents were objective and they did not conceal their inner selves and spoke straight from their hearts. In this trying and disturbing situation of lock down, all of the respondents had the opportunity to go for self accountability and ponder over the realities of life behind the hazy pictures presented, made and developed by their materialistic attitude and aptitude. The responses actually proved that the respondents had re-achieved the actual lesson of their life and existence i.e. humane aptitude and attitude. Superfluous things lacked their luster and the respondents were under the pressing need and demand of their reappearance with new vigor, energy, and positivity in the normal business of society and community in the near future.

8 | CONCLUSION

The lock down has some grave and serious concerns and questions but the researcher reached to the conclusion that in spite of all the concerns of lock down, it has some basic benefits for society as it has also provided an opportunity to the people for becoming retrospective and retroactive and this is a good omen for the society as a whole as they tried hard to mend their ways and come back with full sympathy and love for their fellow beings’ welfare.

9 | RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations were suggested in the light of the objectives of the article.

1. Allah (God) fearing attitude may be propagated more and more in the society by all the responsible i.e. teachers, religious clerics and all the stack holders in different walks of life.

2. At different levels, in curriculum, chapters regarding lock down and pandemics may be included by all the Text Book Boards, so that the future generation may not be confused regarding such conditions, if, there are some in the future.

3. The physical and personal hygiene may be given the top priority in our daily life and this may be taught easily through media (Print + Social media).

4. The government may provide authentic data regarding pandemic for making the lock down more and more effective and result oriented.

5. The government and other stakeholders may bring a substantial change in the health and social sector so that the will-be situation like this may be dealt easily, dexterously, and wisely.

6. People in lockdown may use this special time for self-accountability to make their remaining stay in this world more peaceful and positive result oriented.