Virtual Applications and Real Problems
Education and Higher Education in Iran

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Abstract- Internal problems of Education and Higher Education (Quality, Quantity, Equity, and Relevance) and external problems of (specifically) Higher Education (University-Industry-Government relations, National Development and Human Resources, Virtual Sphere, Access, and Innovation, Globalization, and Privatization, ...) are all subject to radical transformation as a result of substantial changes and new circumstances occurred and occurring with the introduction and application of information technologies (IT) in this realm.

The paper, after outlining the new expectations from and challenges in Education and Higher Education throughout the world and the rise of new perspectives for them, will focus on major developments in Education and Higher Education in Iran—with putting them within the framework of recent socio-economic demands and expectations.

Within this approach, therefore, the recent developments resulted from the introduction of IT in pre-university and university systems (as an important part of national TAKFA plan) would be reviewed, and the achievements and shortcomings during the last ten years would be analysed and discussed. One of the results of this analysis is that the practical expectations do not match with theoretical measures drawn for Virtual Learning plan in Iran. The experience of Iran in this field could be educative for other developing countries.

Remarks: The full paper may be found in www.elearningap.com