

# APPLICATION OF MOBILE LEARNING IN LIBRARIES

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**Abstract** Mobile learning is a advancement of class room teaching, In this paper describe the introduction and uses of Mobile learning, explanation of using mobile learning in the field of library. Describe the advantages, challenges, barriers encounter when use such Mobile devices like Mobile, Tablet, MP3 Player, ipad, Smartphone in education.

**Keyword:** M-Education, M-Library, M-Learning, Teaching with Mobile Device, M-class

## INTRODUCTION

This the age of computer, Computers and information technology (IT) touch nearly every aspect of modern life. Mobile learning, or “m-learning”, offers modern ways to support learning process through mobile devices, such as handheld and tablet computers, MP3 players, smartphones and mobile phones. it emphasizes “just-in-time-learning” as instruction can be delivered anywhere and at anytime through it. Mobile learning enormous potential to transform the delivery of education and training. Definition of mobile learning “any sort of learning that happens when the learner is not at a fixed, predetermined location, or learning that happens when the learner takes advantage of the learning opportunities offered by mobile technologies” and in other words the use of mobile devices, learners can learn anywhere and at any time. M-Learning focuses on the mobility of the learner, interacting with portable technologies, and learning that reflects a focus on how society and its institutions can accommodate and support an increasingly mobile population. Mobile technologies are an attractive and easy means to maintain literacy skills and gain constant access to information. They are affordable, can be easily distributed and thus hold great potential for reaching marginalized groups and providing them with access to further learning . (Diagram-1)

Diagram 1



Now a day there are many uses of wired learning with the help of Internet like smart class room virtual class etc. (diagram-2) and other hand wireless technology is also help to serve the learner on their mobile device (diagram-3)

Diagram 2

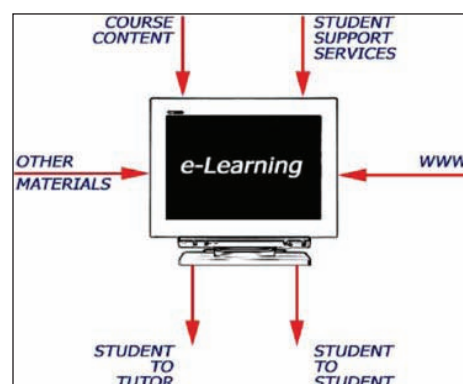
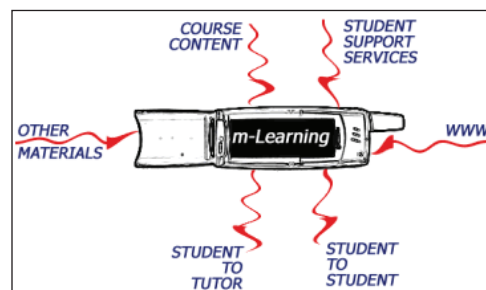


Diagram 3



## E-learning and Mobile Learning

There are many difference in the E-learning and Mobile Learning

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Property	E-learning	Mobile Learning
Place	In Internet labs or class room	Anywhere, availability of mobile device
Time	Delay(if internet/web-site is not open)	Instant delivery of SMS or email on device
Paper	Less use of paper	No or rare use of paper

### Advantages of Mobile Learning

- (i) **Multimedia-** Maximum use of text, audio video and animation to teach hard or complicated topic.
- (ii) **Any Where Teaching-** Mobile learning is independent from the place. Any where teaching is possible with help of mobile devices.
- (iii) **Time-** This system work 24X7, there are no time bound system like class room teaching .
- (iv) **Multiple Collaboration-** In M-learning there emerge multiple collaboration i.e. teacher-student; student-student; as well as teacher-teacher.
- (v) **Learners Active Participation-** M-learning is impossible without active participation from the learners. So increasing the self motivation of learner.
- (vi) **Easy to Use-** M-learning is very easy to use and operate so no special training required for learners.

### Tools in Mobile Learning

There are number of tools which made easy to mobile learning. The following tools allow specific creation of learning modules for mobile devices and/or allow output to HTML and/or provide delivery of mobile learning.

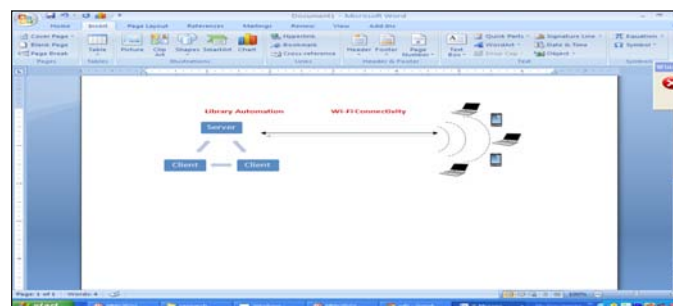
- (i) **Content management System(CMS)-** It is also known as virtual learning system, learning management system etc. this tool helps in creation, and management of education content. Most CMS are available free and open source .
- (ii) **Blog-** Blog is a discussion or informational site published on the World Wide Web and consisting of discrete entries. It is used to specific topic/group. Mobile learning also used for library science .
- (iii) **Email-** Electronic mail is the transmission of messages over communications networks. Messages distributed by electronic means from one M-device user to one or more recipients via a network .
- (iv) **Online Discussion-** Online discussion is a relatively new form of communication, facilitated usually by Mobile networks. Mobile learners can chat/discussion with teacher /student to the subject matter.

### Mobile Learning in Library

The following steps may be followed in designing and implementing a Mobile-learning in the library.

- (i) First library should automated i.e. library automation system is used to track items owned, orders made, bills paid, and patrons who have borrowed. The module like acquisitions (ordering, receiving, and invoicing materials), cataloging (classifying and indexing materials), circulation (lending materials to patrons and receiving them back) serials (tracking magazine and newspaper holdings) and the OPAC (public interface for users) working on intranet.
- (ii) Library and associated area where we provide the access of library services need the Wi-Fi technology for connectivity.
- (iii) After the above establish the server which serve the services on the mobile device. When Mobile enter in the range of library automation, connect through the server with help of username and password and access the library services. Each mobile device has a unique ID in the database that allows the Library Service to track its activity. (Diagram-4)
- (iii) If library automation is web based than mobile devices access it from anywhere

Diagram 4



### Advantages of Mobile Learning

- (i) Relatively inexpensive, mobile devices are cheap and light weight than the Desktop and laptop.
- (ii) The use of mobile learning reduce the cost of educational Training.
- (iii) Mobile Learning is independent from area and place
- (iv) Multimedia content like text, audio, video and animation delivery to enrich the teaching.
- (v) Mobile learning can be a useful add-on tool for students with special needs .
- (vi) Mobile learning supports the learning process rather than being integral to it.

## Challenges of Mobile Learning

- (i) Connectivity and battery life is a major issue in Mobile learning.
- (ii) Different Mobile Devices have different Operating System and features so Number of file/asset formats supported by a specific device is a big challenge.
- (iii) Mobile Devices have Limited memory.
- (iv) Reworking existing E-Learning materials for mobile platforms.
- (v) Meeting required bandwidth for nonstop/fast streaming of content.
- (vi) Some learning environments require state of the art devices and the most up to date software.
- (vii) Developing an appropriate theory of learning for the mobile age.

## CONCLUSION

ICT is a powerful vehicle for enhancing learning, and mobile devices form an essential part of that vehicle. In the present age of information highway, mobile learning opens a new hope and aspiration in Library and education. Mobile Learning will be an important part of higher education and after some time would eventually be dropped as technology is just a tool or enabler to accomplish the goal of teaching and learning. Library services are essential components of the quality online learning environment. The development

of these new services and activities is often associated with changes in the organizational structure of the library ICT and expansion of the information service to include educational development and training. Library professionals have to accept the challenge they face in the new millennium.

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