

## **ODL as an enabler for empowering women**

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### **Abstract:**

In today's time, distance does not matter for learning. Everyone can get the chance to learn for what they are interesting in and to create their own study schedule by Open Distance Learning (ODL). Objective of the study; 1. To study the new way of learning an ODL, 2. To understand the importance of ODL as an enabler for learning. 3. To empowerment of women for keep learning life-long. The new way to learning an ODL; in distance learning when the women who wants to learning, don't need to attend daily lectures. Mostly, they connect to the college or university via the internet. They are fully responsible for their own learning experience and environment. The importance of ODL as an enabler for learning; the women who are not able to join colleges or universities but they wants to learn some study course. In this time, women can learn anything that they are interesting in and every place they can be comfortable to learn. Some women wants to learn more things but they cannot do it, because of they have many responsibilities at home and work. ODL an empowerment of women to keep leaning lifelong; an education supports women to be a confident in themselves, to developing the ability, to decision making and actions, to take care of their children and family well. Conclusion; ODL is an important for continuing life-long learning. This time women have opportunities to learn new things for develop themselves. They can manage their time to learning at home or anywhere. It depends on them to open the door to take a chance to learn new thing or not, ODL is their choice.

**Keyword:** ODL, enabler, empowering women

## **Introduction**

Since last two decades it has been accepted that ODL is the most significant tool in the field of education development. In today's time, distance does not matter for learning. Everyone can get the chance to learn for what they are interesting in and to create their own study schedule by Open Distance Learning (ODL). For women it is important to get education to develop themselves, their family and countries, but many women cannot go to study in class at college and don't have chance to learning. Some women never study in school, some women married very early in their life, have responsibility at home and they don't have freedom. Now in transferring such technology to education and learning will impact on women's empowerment. They can have knowledge and learning whatever they are interesting in. Time for women to improve themselves in our modern society.

## **Definition of ODL**

Open and Distance Learning (ODL) is a general term for the use of telecommunication to provide or enhance learning. Around the world, the academic community is discovering and exploring the Internet, teleconferencing, and related means to achieve an extended classroom or learning experience.

## **Objective of the study**

1. To study the new way of learning an ODL.
2. To understand the importance of ODL as an enabler for learning.
3. To empowerment of women for keep learning life-long.

## **The new way to learning an ODL**

ODL is changing the way of people learning and give an opportunity to everyone for improve themselves. The forms of leaning are quite different; teacher and students are not speaking and listening in face to face situation in classroom. In Open Distance Learning the ability to study from country to country in most parts of the world. When the women who wants to learn, don't need to attend daily lectures. Mostly, they connect to the colleges or universities via internet. They are fully responsible for their own learning experience and environment.

### **The 3 freedom factor of ODL helps women**

1. **Freedom of Time:** teacher and learner separation in time. The women can study whenever they want. However, some ODL course do require (online) presence during group and project work, assignments, and exam.
2. **Freedom of Place:** the women do not leave their home to study. This is not required to go to college or university. They can be a student's of university around the world and have freedom to learning anyplace.
3. **Freedom of Pace:** some time women cannot continue their study every day; they can learning at their own way and make their path about learning that is to be followed for their program.

### **The importance of ODL as an enabler for learning**

The women who are not able to join colleges or universities but they wants to learn some study course. In this time, women can learn anything that they are interesting in and every place they can be comfortable to learn. Some women wants to learn more things but they cannot do it, because of they have many responsibilities at home and work. ODL be a vital enabler for women empowerment and equality.

### **The importance of ODL learning**

1. **Women get benefit:** From the flexibility that comes with distance learning and for women who don't have the time or money to attend the colleges or universities, distance learning can be a choice for them to study.
2. **Flexibility of place:** Distance learning can increase opportunities for the women to access to education. They can study with colleges or universities far from their place or their countries because they don't need to go to class.
3. **Less expensive:** Online learning is comparative low cost because women aren't going to learning at colleges or universities, they don't need to pay cost for expensive universities, teachers and learner have more flexibility with scheduling.

4. **Time flexibility:** Women can choose when they have free time to study, they are able to study via videotaped lectures and study online. The women have more flexibility to take classes in terms of how and when they are convenient.
5. **Style of student:** The students in colleges or universities are diverse in nature. For some women who are not comfortable to go to study at colleges, some women may even feel anxious while learning with large groups. Distance learning enables women to learn; they can decide their own required style.

### **ODL an empowerment of women to keep learning lifelong**

ODL is a tool to improve empowerment of women. The key of an education supports women to be confident in themselves, to develop the ability, to decision making and actions, to take care of their children and family well.

### **How to make women empowerment by learning**

1. **Support women:** People around them should support and allow the women to learn. They need support, willpower and their time to study.
2. **Give freedom:** Many women do not have independence, when they want to do something they need to ask for father or husband to get their permission to do something. That is why some women cannot learn by their own decision.
3. **Decision-making power:** Women should have their own power to decide their daily life requirements; they can decide on their own for what they want to do and how they do.
4. **Importance of knowledge:** Education for women is very important to have a better quality of family and society. Develop the country by educating the women power.
5. **Self-esteem and confidence:** If women do everything by themselves, it will increase their self-confidence and self-esteem. They can understand about themselves.
6. **Power of money:** Some women don't have own income of money, they can't decide what they want to do, but if they have power of money in their hand they can decide what they want.

7. **Work life balance:** The women should manage work and home or personal life to do both things in the same time. They can happy with their life and enjoy learning new things.

## **Conclusion**

ODL is attractive to the women because it gives them more freedom to learning and gives new opportunities to them. It means the women have more approach, more flexibility and have more choice of content as well as more personal organization of learning program. ODL is convenient to women who cannot afford to leave their home/work in order to study; they can combine home/work with distance learning. ODL is an important for continuing life-long learning. This time women have opportunities to learn new things for develop themselves. They can manage their time to learning at home or anywhere. It depends on them to open the door to take a chance to learn new thing or not, ODL is their choice.

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