

## From the Editor

### Dear Readers of TOJDE;

Three months are over since the 1st July 2002. Now again I am pleased to inform you that Vol.:3, Number:4 issue of The Turkish Online Journal of Distance Education-TOJDE has been issued on the web site <http://tojde.anadolu.edu.tr> TOJDE is meeting with its readers for the 8th time, since 2000 January.

In this issue place has been given to seven articles, notes for editor, two book reviews, six news, information about one institution and one journal and three links deal with Anadolu University take place. This issue's articles came from India, Israel, Saudi Arabia, and Turkey and according to alphabetical order.

In this issue of TOJDE "Notes for Editor" section includes Prof. Edna APHEK's article, titled as "Children, Computers And Reading Skills" from Jerusalem, Israel. In his note, he states that "While a fierce scholarly debate is going on in Israel between the followers of The Whole Language method and the great believers in the phonetic system as the panacea for all the illnesses connected with reading acquisition, a group of fourth graders tutored another group of first graders, in reading, in an intuitive manner and not using or being aware of any specific method in particular. They did it, though, with a lot of love, individual attention and using the computer. Though the tutors worked with relatively top students, some of whom were already readers, one could draw conclusions from the described case study which could be applied to the advancing of the reading acquisition process in general, and to other learning areas as well".

The first article is dealt with "Australia Online; Borderless University", written by Zeynep ERDINC, Ph.D. Assist. Prof, from Anadolu University, Eskisehir, TURKEY. In her article it is mentioned that "Distance education has been available in Australia for many years. More than 30 higher education institutions within the country now use the program. The purpose of the development of distance education is to increase the education level of the population and to provide a service to the international market. Macquarie University, which is one of the top three leading universities of Australia, is currently involved in the development of international online education.

The project consists of international teaching and learning, including flexible access to learning resources and effective use of information and educational delivery and support aiming towards a borderless university.

The second article is join study from SAUDI ARABIA and written by Salah. JUNaidu and Jaralla. AL-GHAMDI. Both of them are from King Fahd University of Petroleum & Minerals Dhahran. Their article is entitled as "Tips for Developing Media-rich Online Courses". Their article points out that the salient features of online courses are necessary for effective learning. And it focuses on the major milestones encountered when developing media-rich online courses. Issues of concern and their implications are highlighted at each development milestone. Tips are provided based on the practical experience of the authors in online course development. The paper includes a case study to help developers estimate the time investment required for developing multimedia-intensive course contents.

The third article which is about Comparative Study of Current Trends in Distance Education in Canada and India using online education environment and written by Dr. Manjulika SRIVASTAVA, Associate Professor of Distance Education STRIDE, IGNOU, New Delhi,

**INDIA.** In her their paper investigates a brief description of the Distance educators' have always been adept at selecting appropriate technology for imparting instruction and promoting teacher-learner interaction over distances. Even emergence of DE in Canada coincides with the rise of the mail service in 1889, whereas in India it was introduced in the 1960s to meet the demand for higher education. However the movement gathered strength in both Canada and India at the same time, in the 1970s and 1980s. Currently all major DE institutions in both countries are engaged in providing flexible and accessible learning opportunities to their learners. The present paper discusses the existing practices and major issues confronting DE in these countries.

The fourth article belongs to Gülsün KURUBACAK, Ed.D. Assistant Professor, from Anadolu University Open Education Faculty Eskisehir, TURKEY. Her article is entitled as "Accomplishing Access & Equity in Education: Using the Web to Design and Deliver Courses Online". Her paper investigates how the explosive popularity of World Wide Web, commonly know as the Web, has been growing for the last two decades. The Web has the potential to reinforce and enhance university teaching and learning environments. It is having an enormous impact on faculty and learners on many college campuses. With the rapid growth and increasing accessibility of the Web, many universities in the World are now offering different kinds of web-based courses to their learners. Not only are most of online classes using the Web as delivery medium of instruction, but also web-based instruction is integrated for many learning activities in the traditional classes which include the use of electronic mail, Listservs, electronic conferencing, electronic bulletin board, etc. Many professors, who are embracing the Web as an instructional tool to bring new ways of accessing, using and discussing information to their learners, have been integrating the Web technology into their curriculum.

The fifth article is from Israel. Professor APHEK sent his opinions to me as note for editor for this issue of TOJDE. His article is entitled as "Children Of The Information Age: A Reversal Of Roles". His paper attempts at understanding the unique characteristics of the children of the Information Age. The paper maintains that the new means of information and communications have caused a radical shift in the role and status of children and that a "New Child" is emerging. Who are these "new children" and in what way do they differ from children of previous generations, these questions and others are dealt with in this paper.

The sixth article on television in distance education is a join study. Written by Professor R V VYAS, Director (Regional Services Division), Kota Open University, Kota, Rajasthan, Dr R C. SHARMA, Regional Director, Indira Gandhi National Open University and Ashwini KUMAR, Assistant Regional Director, IGNOU Regional Centre, Lucknow. Titled as "Educational Television in India". All authors are from INDIA. According to authors, television is a strong visual medium, which has been found to be very useful in education. Portraying movements, showing visual effects, using language or required audio effects, constitute the delivery of content through TV. In case of educational television, more emphasis is on learning and educational development, that's why it has been heavily used in education all over the globe. Owing to the great presentational power of television, it has been used in India also, as an educational resource, assisting in the process of learning, in different manners. This paper describes various educational television projects adopted in India.

The last article is from INDIA too. Written by Hemant LATA SHARMA Directorate of Distance Education, Maharshi Dayanand University, Rohtak. It is on "Student Support Services In Distance Learning System A Case Of DDE, Maharshi Dayanand University". Accordings to her thoughts Open & Distance Learning (ODL) System is innovative in nature. It relaxes entry qualifications, uses specially designed learning materials and modern educational technologies, provides Student Support Services (SSS) and applies advanced method of evaluation. If the learners are not fully aware of this system before joining, they may find themselves in an infamiliar situation. Thus, an attempt has been made in this paper to make students aware of the distance education programmes and student support

services available at DDE of MDU. After reading this, distance learner can get pre-admission guidance and counselling for proper selection of the programme.

In this issue's "Reviews" section contains two books reviews. The first book which is reviewed by Ashok SHARMA Lecturer in Psychology, Vaish PG College, (Haryana) from INDIA. The book is entitled as "Distance and Campus Universities: Tensions and Interactions A Comparative Study of Five Countries" written by Sara Guri-Rosenblit and published for the International Association of Universities (IAU) Pres by Pergamon ISBN 0-08-043066-X. According to the reviewer this book might give an idea to the readers that this volume is mainly a comparative, in-depth case-study of five distance teaching universities that highlights the higher education system in distance learning mode. Overall, this book is very well researched, a marvelous product, worth reading and possessing. The content is to the point, of very high quality, and authenticated by the quotations of relevant references. The print quality of this book is worth appreciating, and especially, I would like to mention the eye catching 'pink' colour of the jacket, which forces one to pick up this book from the shelf. In sum, this book shall be useful for guidance to those who wish to gain deep knowledge of different distance teaching universities and particularly for the policy-makers and administrators who wish to establish a new distance teaching university.

The second book review is sent by Sterling, VA: Stylus Publishing Inc. to the TOJDE. It reviewed by Gülsün KURUBACAK, Ed.D. Assistant Professor Anadolu University Open Education Faculty Eskisehir, TURKEY. Gilly SALMON's book which is entitled "E-tivities; The Key to Achieve Online Learning". She mentioned in her review that the book, E-tivities, published in 2002 by Kogan Page Limited in London UK and Stylus Publishing Inc. in USA, is Salmon's second book Dr. about online activities on the Web. Dr. Salmon, moreover, with this book introduce us "E-tivities, which refers educational online activities, as a new term in online learning. Dr. Salmon highlights that the E-tivities book can help academics, teachers, course managers, teaching assistants, instructors, trainers, e-moderators, and online developers and trainers in corporate training and professional associations as well as staff developers and teacher trainers from many disciplines and any level of education. This book is not about online technology. It is about customizing online learning and teaching in any topic and subject area. E-tivities book is based on action research providing us a practical guide for online learning. Dr. Salmon strongly emphasis that "...you will be online or wish to 'move online'..." after reading this book.

Some columns in the News section of TOJDE are still available in this issue. For example, "some statistical data and figures" are kept dealing with the past issues and (Vol.:3 No.:2) for visitors or readers of TOJDE. Another subject is dealing with some Tojde dealers and readers' feelings and their expressions which had been sent to the editor-in-chief about TOJDE's perception, also has been kept. This Column will be carried on the following issues due. Since your feelings and expressions are always welcomed to the TOJDE's Editorial, we believe that you will do your best expression on your feelings and opinions about TOJDE in due course. Columns which are entitled "Advertising in the TOJDE", "Anadolu University's Articles" and "TOJDE's Links Are Getting More" still kept in this issue. As a new subject, TOJDE's links are increasing day by day in the electronic medium. Some journals, printed journals and university libraries are added into the addresses of TOJDE to their database. In this issue you will see the "New" sign on some of these added links. I hope it will be so interesting to see TOJDE's link under your institution in this column.

This Issue's Featured Journal is; new two e-journals from USA and TURKEY. First of them is Journal of Information Technology Education (JITE). The academically peer refereed Journal of Information Technology Education (JITE) endeavors to improve IT Education around the world. JITE is published in print by subscription and its articles also appear

online free of charge. This arrangement provides authors with the widest possible readership while ensuring that their papers are fully accepted as bona fide. JITE is seeking original unpublished research articles describing recent advances in the use of Information Technology in the Assessment Process of Student Learning.

Second Journal is an online journal from TURKEY for the educational technology field. Its name is "The Turkish Online Journal of Educational Technology: TOJET" . This online journal aims to diffuse new developments of educational technology into educational societies. TOJET is a new academically peer refereed online journal publishing by Sakarya University and other Turkish and American Universities. TOJET issued on September 2002. It will be published quarterly. The main topic of this journal is to present educators' research articles which relate to instructional technology in education.

Dear readers, you can reach us online either directly at <http://tojde.anadolu.edu.tr> or by visiting Anadolu University homepage at <http://www.anadolu.edu.tr> and go to the 'index' page To receive further information and to send your recommendations and remarks, or to submit articles for consideration, please contact TOJDE Secretariat at the below address or e-mail us to [tojde@anadolu.edu.tr](mailto:tojde@anadolu.edu.tr)

Happy reading and hope to stay in touch and meet in next issue on June 2003.

Cordially Yours,

**Prof. Dr. Ugur Demiray**

**Editor-in-Chief**

**Anadolu University Yunusemre Campus 26470-Eskisehir TURKEY**

**Tel:+90 222 335 0581 ext. 2521 or Direct: +90 222 249 0576**

**GSM:+90 542 232 21 167**

**Voice and Video number:+90 222 249 1094**

**Fax: +90 222 320 4520 or+90 222 249 0576**

**E-mails: [udemiray@anadolu.edu.tr](mailto:udemiray@anadolu.edu.tr) or [ugdemiray@hotmail.com](mailto:ugdemiray@hotmail.com)**

**URL: <http://home.anadolu.edu.tr/~udemiray>**

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