

Essay on Internet and Its Impact on our Culture!

The advancements in InfoTech and communications technology have resulted in the advent of the Internet. Actually, the advent of the Internet has been one of the most exciting major events in the second half of the 20th century.

(The Internet took off in 1993 since then, its use has spread practically the world over and millions of people make use of it took off in 1993) since then, its use has spread practically the world over and millions of people make use of it.

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The Internet is the answer to the search for a global connectivity medium. Because of the Internet, the world has shrunk, cultures have evolved, changed, and now in the twenty-first century we are in the midst of a global upheaval.

The Internet is the network of computers all around the world, which store and exchange information. It started as a research project commissioned by the US Defense Department in the 1970s for linking its computers across different bases. As the research progressed, the Internet expanded beyond the control of the US Defense Department, linking many major universities.

Slowly, corporate organisations realised the value of Internet and participated in the building of Internet. The major breakthrough came when Tim Berners-Lee created the World Wide Web or WWW, a user-friendly interface using 'html'—a very easy language used to link web pages. The www was formulated to be a free medium for people to interact, gain and share information. The Internet as such refers to the interlinking of computers, but now the Web has become synonymous with the Internet due to its immense popularity.

With many developments in application software, hardware upgrades and networking technology, social interactions started the e-mails, chat rooms, etc. This created an Internet boom as never before.

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These technological advances have resulted in making the Internet an unprecedented phenomenon, heralding the concept of the 'Global Village': practically anyone at one end can be connected to the other end of the world in no time.

Why the Internet seems all-powerful is because of two characteristics it has which no other mechanisms possess: first, the Internet contains the biggest resource of information in the entire world; second, it enables people to obtain an interactive mechanism to instantly communicate with each other. Once connected with the Internet, everyone can enjoy the unparalleled richness of global information resources including textual, audio, and graphic information. Furthermore, the Internet information resources are constantly expanding at a great speed.

The types of information on the Internet are also wide-ranging, from scientific research, education, public policy, legal regulations to commerce, arts, entertainment etc. For all those connected with the Internet, they can quickly put onto the Internet all they want announced or all they think others should know about.

The Internet also has its interactive mechanisms—net-to-net, net-to-people, and people-to-people communications— that make the Internet seem able to take on any task: entertainment, interpersonal exchanges, education, health and medicine, information gathering, securities and investment, trade and settlement of commercial goods, or even online voting.

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The exchange and sharing of information among all peoples has ushered in an omnipotent status to the Internet. People develop certain desires and the information to satisfy such desires and continuously appear on the Internet and such information satisfies people's desires as well as demands.

With the knowledge economy gradually ascending to a dominant status and the gradual formation of an information society, Internet has become a dominant information and communication medium today.

Therefore as far as its impact on the society is concerned, the Internet is a massive force that is ushering in a mode of thinking, behaviour, lifestyle and hence a culture of its own. It has influenced societies and cultures across the world owing to the fact that it provides easy and very fast exchange of information. And this exchange of information is a vital part of the cultural development of societies.

However, due to its innate trans-national, decentralised, open and unregulated nature, the Internet as a free, open and anarchic device has brought various countries great risks as well as opportunities. While it provides enormous convenience and stimulates the economy to further develop, the Internet has also had a negative impact that cannot be ig