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FACTORS THAT AFFECT INTENTION TO USE MOBILE LEARNING IN YEMENI PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES

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ABSTRACT

Despite an enormous number of researches of the mobile learning in developed nations, there are a few researches in the Arab world especially the Republic of Yemen. Furthermore, the recent statistics have shown high-level mobile phone and Internet penetration but the concept of deploy mobile phones in the institutions of higher education in the Republic of Yemen still infant. The objective of this study is to identify the factors that influence the intention to use mobile learning based on the Technology Acceptance Model (TAM). TAM is extended to include three factors (subjective norms, self-efficacy and organizational supports). The research framework consists of six variables (three independents, two mediating and one dependent). Using self-administered survey, 33 items with 7-point Likert scale is used to collect data. Out of the 400 samples, 343 responses (85.75 % response rate) were collected; eventually, 320 responses were usable. Structural Equation Modeling is applied to analyze the data. The findings of this study revealed that subjective norms have a direct effect on both perceived usefulness and perceived ease of use. While self-efficacy and organization support significantly affect perceived ease of use. Furthermore, the empirical evidence indicated that perceived ease of use has a direct effect on perceived usefulness also intention to use determined by both perceived ease of use and perceived usefulness. Finally, the variance explained by the new model for intention to use mobile learning is 74 %. Based on the results obtained, the study proposes a model of intention to use mobile learning based on TAM. A comprehensive understanding of this model will assist decision makers to enhance and support the future planning to implement mobile learning system among students in Yemeni higher educational institutions.

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CHAPTER ONE
INTRODUCTION

1.1 INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents an overview of the whole thesis. This includes the background of the study, the problem statement and the research objectives. This chapter also introduces the reader to the research questions, the scope of the study and the importance of the research, and subsequently, the organization of the dissertation.

1.2   BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY

The aspiring of Mobile learning is being perceived in the educational context all over the worldwide and there are many researchers have been explored the benefit of mobile learning and realize its ability to promote teaching and learning in higher education (Cavus, 2011; Keane & Crews, 2007; M. Lee & Chan, 2007; Rekkedal & Dye, 2007). Most of the learners and lecturers aware of the benefits of the mobile learning, which take into account flexibility, portability and approachability (Rekkedal & Dye, 2007; Yordanova, 2007). Mobile learning use gadgets like Personal Data Assistant (PDA), tablet and touch mobile phones as the main tool in the learning process, this tool facilitate the task for the student and by providing an opportunity to use them where and when it is required without any constraints as learning tools and that made the mobile learning expands its boundaries' (A. Trifonova & Ronchetti, 2007).Mobile learning characteristics' incredibly supported by the advancements in the networking and communication solutions (Martin, 2011).

Mobile learning is considered as a new era of distance and personal computer support learning (Georgieva & Trifonova, 2006). In addition, some research mentions mobile learning perceived as the subsequent of distance learning and electronic learning systems, as well improving education in every time and Ubiquitous (Milrad, 2003; Motiwalla, 2007; Salmon, 2004). There are few researchers who provoked that Mobile learning will not replace conventional classroom or electronic learning for