



**BLOSSOMS**  
BLENDED LEARNING OPEN SOURCE SCIENCE OR MATH STUDIES

# BLOSSOMS – mini

A BLOSSOMS Experiment for public and private schools  
in Pakistan

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# Education in Pakistan

- Adult literacy rate of 57%.
- A literate is someone who can read, write and understand 3 lines of text in national or a regional language.
- Budgetary allocation for education is just 2% of GDP.



# Education in Pakistan

- Education Structure:
  - Ages 4-5
    - pre-primary
  - Ages 6-10
    - primary school
  - Ages 11-13
    - middle school
  - Ages 14-15
    - high school



# Education in Pakistan - Inequality

- Public Schools:
  - Matriculate System
  - For those who can't afford
  - Shortage and absence of teachers
  - Lack of infrastructure
  - Local course material



# Education in Pakistan - Inequality

- Private Schools
  - O and A levels
  - For the upper class
  - Qualified teachers
  - Well equipped classrooms
  - Imported learning materials



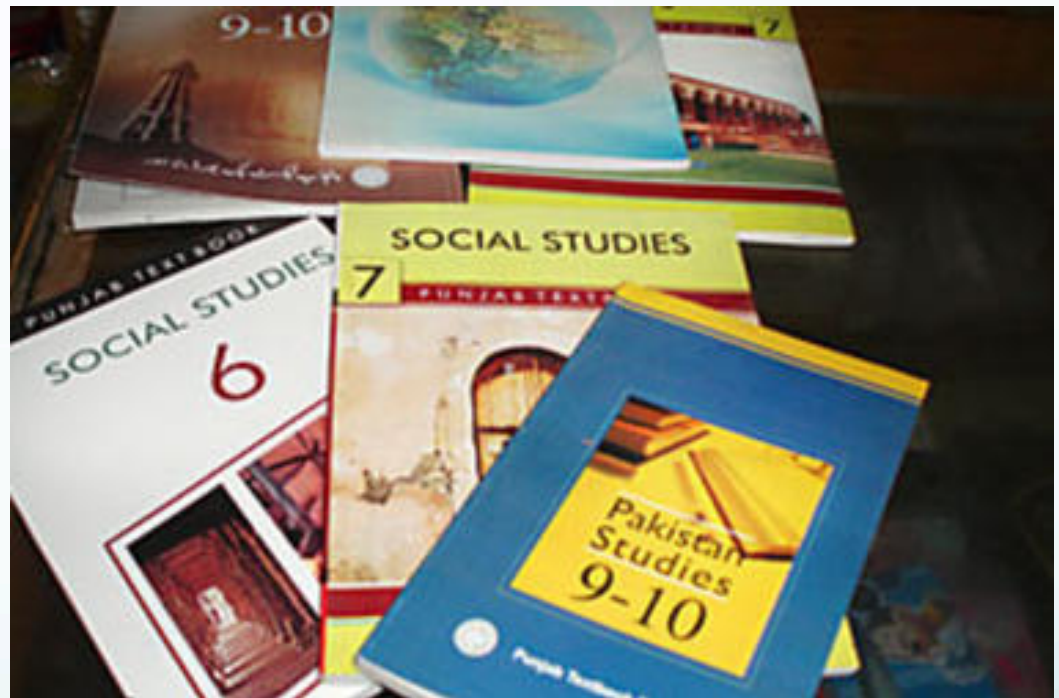
# Two Major Issues

- Unsatisfactory Quality of Teachers
  - Outdated pre-service training system
  - No focus on in-service training
  - Low remuneration



# Two Major Issues

- Unsatisfactory Teaching Methodologies
  - Use of a single textbook instead of curriculum
  - Orthodox teaching style
  - No interest generation in class



# Effects of the Issues

- A study conducted in 2001 covered over 6000 students in 196 schools in rural areas of Sindh province.
- Learning achievements for Mathematics, Science, English and Social Studies were tested. Only 17% students passed in their tests.
- 44% students did not attend school regularly.
- 70% teachers taught for less than half of the allocated class time.





# The Murga!!!



# Training of Teachers

- The issues can be partially addressed by focusing on training of teachers.
- Only 184 teacher training institutes in the country.
- 99% teachers studying at these institutes are from government sector.



# BLOSSOMS enters...

- BLOSSOMS enters the picture, but with some issues:
  - Videos related to practical subjects e.g. Physics, Maths, Biology. No theoretical subjects such as, Language, ethics, Religion, Social Sciences. This is where students lack interest.
  - Long Duration of videos.



## ...and becomes BLOSSOMS-*mini*

- C.M. School
- Consulted teachers to select subjects and chapters
- Development of script through the textbooks
- Videography
- Test on students



# SUCCESS!!!

- Good Interesting Start
- See what is being taught
- Increases retention
- Teacher's refer to the video between lecture
- Student participation increases



# SUCCESS!!!

- Teachers learn during video creation
- The difficult part of the lecture can be converted into videos
- Make once, use repetitively
- Can reach in slums and villages
- Videos can be constantly improved



# Thank you



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