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## OPEN AND DISTANCE LEARNING— ISSUES AND CHALLENGES

edited by  
**Ashit Baran Aich and Anirban Ghosh**

Open and distance learning is being adopted throughout the world as an important tool to ensure access, equity and quality in the realm of higher education. Institutions offering this system of education come across many problems that are typically absent in the conventional system of education. The real challenge in front of the open and distance learning at present is to develop as well as establish itself into an independent discipline, and not to remain a poor cousin to the conventional system of higher education.

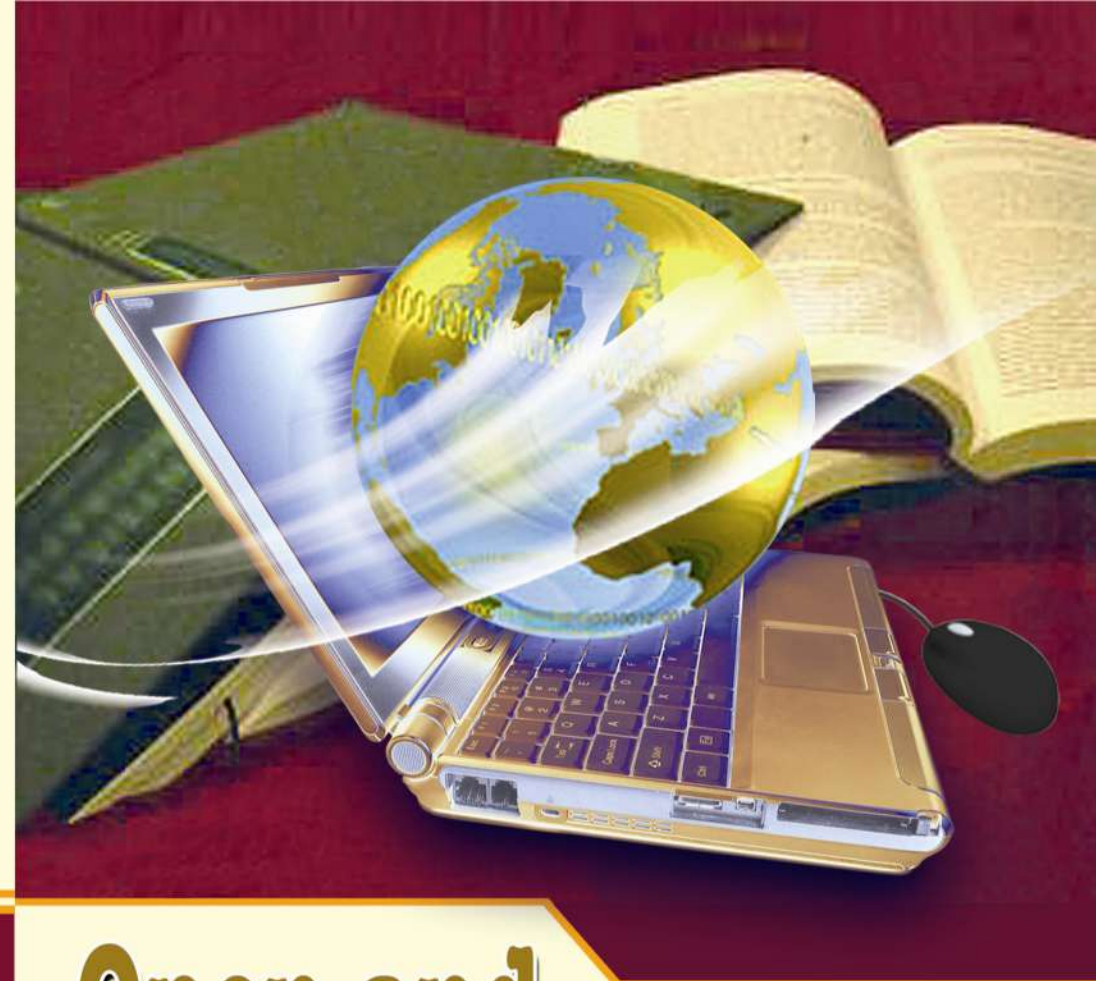
The articles in this volume are authored by established experts in open and distance learning. They include educational practitioners, academicians, academic administrators as well as policy makers of distance education. There are contributions from abroad as well. The articles capture different aspects of open and distance learning such as the role of teachers, applications of Information and Communication technology (ICT), student support services, issues relating to quality, and so on. The volume will be useful to a wide spectrum of general public who are interested in this emerging system of education, and specifically to the students, researchers, teachers and administrators.

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