

PERSONAL EXPERIENCE OF LECTURING EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT IN THE SAFETY AND SECURITY HIGHER EDUCATION SPHERE

Abbas Abu Shama Abdel Mahmoud

Freelance Lecturer and Professional in Emergency Management¹

Abbasabushama@yahoo.com

Abstract – Practitioner talk.

This abstract describes my experience as lecturer in NAIF Security University in emergency, crises and disaster management. For more than 20 years, I used to lecture some emergency subjects for students, mainly for police officers from different Arab World countries (around 22 countries). My teaching was centred around the tradition classification of the emergency management, crises and disaster obstacles in management of such situations in Arab countries and worldwide. Therefore, my teaching activities were broadly divided into the following major topics: 1- Definition; 2- Difficulty in generalization to all situations; 3- Shortage of practical and environmental management; 4- Unexpected event where there is aid shortage at the needed time; 5- Political misunderstanding under the situation and 6- Administrative problems. The teaching activities and the curriculum coverage were then executed in 3 main stages of management: 1- Preparedness; 2- Response and 3- Recovery. This is to resemble the execution of the activities in emergency management practice. The relevant sub-topics in this context, that I taught, included collective stress, scope of impact, effect of duration, the surprise of the emergency and the unexpected nature of the onset, emergency, and the nature of it as a process, the common theme, speed of the event and the need to operate under shortage of information. The second set of topics I taught fall under the umbrella term of preparedness. The relevant subtopics I taught and cover here include emergency management planning and assessment of the situation, flexibility of the plan and planning for multiple scenarios such as having a plan A and plan B, Hazards and risks assessment, precipitation and logistics. In the courses I cover, I taught my students to plan to manage and to focus on the following subtopics in this context: good and clear instructions, needs estimation, the prioritization of work tasks, to create plans that should be flexible and adaptive to various situations, assessment of risks and hazards, work and coordination with support agencies, the aspects of leadership in emergency management, the development of the intervention, communication and rescue plans, collection of information at the scene for data and evaluation purposes, expectation of health problems and outcomes of emergencies and disasters, involvement and coordination with international stakeholders as needed. I engage with my students on the execution and properties of mock drills. The curricular subtopic of response I taught the principles and execution of activities in the operation room, the use and application of matrix systems, the flexibility of response according to the situation specifics and the need for adaptive management and approach to individual situations, the use of modern communication systems in emergency management and response operations/activities related to it. 5- Use of modern technology 6- Remote control system 7- Search and resuscitation – Robots 8- Specialized teams for logistics- hazards 9- Thermal imaging camera, smart sprays, smart suits 10-Disaster medicine system - medical management for emergency cases at the scene. First aid transportation of cases needed to be available. 11-Fema (FEMA) experience 12-6 scenarios in international commercial towers failed 13-Less human intervention but technology modern equipment.

¹ Khartoum, Sudan

Keywords: emergency management, higher education, police sciences.