

NATURALISTIC INTELLIGENCE AND AWARENESS ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AMONG TRIBAL STUDENTS AT SECONDARY LEVEL

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ABSTRACT

The present study was conducted on secondary level students with rural backgrounds. The aim of the study was to find out the relationship between naturalistic intelligence and awareness on sustainable development of rural students of secondary level. Today we face several environmental issues. Environmental issues are the problems faced by environment due to the influence of external forces, which affects the life, nature, behavior, growth, development and maturity of living organisms. For the future of our nature we should ensure an environmentally literate citizens. So one of the important aspects of the study is the environmentally literate students will have the knowledge, tools and sensitivity to properly address environmental problems in their professional capacity and to routinely include the environment as one of the considerations in their work and daily living. Sustainable development aims at creating chains of mutual, social, economic and environmental benefits at local and global level. The world summit on sustainable development recommended the united nation general assembly to adopt a decade of education for sustainable development starting in 2005.

INTRODUCTION

NEED AND SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

"All that is needed for us is in nature .But nature cannot satisfy our greed".These words of Gandhiji are very relevant at this time when nature is undergoing terrible exploitation. The question 'who will protect nature ' arouses great concern on each environment day.

All humancivilisations have sprung from the lap of nature. The primitive human society loved and worshiped nature as their mother and goddess who provided them with everything they needed. Ancient sculptures and cave paintings are its solid evidences.

Today human society is suffering from the scarcity of resources. Drought, scarcity of water , deforestation, depletion of bio diversity, global warming , climate change, pollution and vanishing of water sources and waste management are all challenges that stare at the world. To overcome this naturalistic intelligence has to develop in each of us. Howard gardner classified intelligence into eight and with the help of the eighth one, naturalistic intelligence , gardner points out that" some are blessed with the ability to love and understand nature, to grasp the chemistry of its actions and above all, to live in

harmony with the nature." For the protection of nature we have to pursue naturalistic intelligence. In this context the tribes,,who live in better harmony with nature, have to be taken for a study.

From the time of their emergence , tribes have given special care in protecting earth, water, hills and forests. The modern society, proud of their technological development, have to learn from these tribes the ways to protect nature.

Study of sustainable development can be done parallel to the course of human development as well as parallel to the course of evolution of science itself. awareness on sustainable development is essential for school students. They should develop an attitude to conserve the natural resources to identify the local environmental problems to make their systematic study. Students should be trained to fight against environmental problems and to develop ecological way of thinking and environmentally responsible behavior.

The present study aimed at finding out the relationship between naturalistic intelligence and awareness on sustainable development among tribal students at secondary level.

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OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

1. To find out the level of naturalistic intelligence of tribal students at secondary level.
2. To find out the level of awareness on sustainable development of tribal students at secondary level.
3. To find out the significant difference in naturalistic intelligence of tribal students at secondary level.
4. To find out the significant difference in the awareness on sustainable development of tribal students at secondary level.
5. To find out the relationship between naturalistic intelligence and awareness on sustainable development of tribal students at secondary level.

METHODOLOGY

SAMPLE FOR THE STUDY

The present study was conducted on 466 tribal students in the secondary schools of wynad, malappuram, palakkad, trissur, idukki and pathanamthitta districts of kerala state.

TOOLS USED

The following tools developed and standardized were used for measuring the variables of the study.

1. Naturalistic intelligence inventory
2. Test of awareness on sustainable development

STATISTICAL TECHNIQUES

1. Percentage analysis
2. t-test
3. ANOVA

DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

The data collected after the administration of the tools, were analysed.

Data and results of the total sample on the basis of the scores on naturalistic intelligence

Levels of naturalistic intelligence	Range	No. of students	Percentage (%)
High naturalistic intelligence	>91	82	17.6
Moderate naturalistic intelligence	91-75	317	68.01
Low naturalistic intelligence	<75	67	14.4
Total		466	100

From the table, the investigator observes that 67 tribal students scored below the score 75. they constitute 14.4% of the sample. They possess low naturalistic intelligence. 82 students scored above 91, constituting 17.6% of the total sample. 317 tribal students scored between 75 and 91 constituting 68.01%. they possess moderate naturalistic intelligence.

Data and results of the total sample on the basis of the scores on sustainable development

Levels of sustainable development	Range	No. of students	Percentage (%)
High sustainable development	>18	112	24.03
Moderate sustainable development	18-9	287	61.6
Low sustainable development	<9	67	14.37
Total		466	100

From the table the investigator observes that 67 tribal students scored below the score 9. they constitute 14.37% of the total sample. They possess low sustainable development. 112 students scored above 18 constituting 24.03% of the total sample. 287 tribal students scored between 18 and 9 constituting 68.01%. they possess moderate sustainable development.

The extent of relation between naturalistic intelligence and awareness on sustainable development has been found out through this part of the analysis. Pearson's product-moment coefficient of correlation was used for the analysis.

Correlation of Naturalistic Intelligence and Sustainable Development of the total sample

Variables	
Naturalistic intelligence	$r = 0.0465$
Awareness on sustainable development	

Results revealed that the coefficient of correlation ($r = 0.0465$) is very low. The magnitude of 'r' indicates the relationship between naturalistic intelligence and awareness on sustainable development is positive and negligible.

Comparison of Sustainable Development on Naturalistic Intelligence

Variable	Source of variance	Sum of squares	Degrees of freedom	Mean square	F-ratio	Level of significance
	Between group	9.19	2	9.895	0.1368	Not significant at 0.01 level
Sustainable development	Within group	324.0354	463	0.1133		

Table reveals that f-ratio was 0.1368, the table value of f at degrees of freedom (2,463) is 4.65 at 0.01 level of significance. So it is not significant at 0.01 level of significance. From this it is clear that there is no significant effect of sustainable development on naturalistic intelligence.

CONCLUSION

The study aimed to find out the relation between naturalistic intelligence and awareness on sustainable development among tribal students at secondary level. Findings of this study revealed that there is no significant relationship between naturalistic intelligence and awareness on sustainable development among tribal students at secondary level. By generating

awareness programmes on sustainable development will be helpful to enhance naturalistic intelligence among tribal students who live in accordance with the harmony of nature. There must be provision for the enhancement of awareness on sustainable development and thereby naturalistic intelligence in the curriculum for moulding new generation who loves, saves nature.

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