

LEADERSHIP QUALITY AND ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT OF COLLEGE STUDENTS COIMBATORE DISTRICT

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Abstract

*This present study was undertaken to investigate the Leadership Quality and academic achievement of college students in Coimbatore District. A sample of 80 students was selected. Investigator used Dr.Muthumanicham Leadership qualities scale and The Academic achievement the investigator obtained annual examination marks of XII STD. The marks were pooled together, added and then percentages found in order to obtain academic achievement index scores of boys and girls. The significant difference between the means of each pair of group is computed using Standard Deviations' *t*' test, and Pearson's Co-efficient Correlation. The findings are established and tabulated from the analyzed data. The finding shows that there is no significant difference between the problem solving ability and academic achievement of higher secondary school students. Finally, Interpretations, Recommendations are given by the investigator based on the findings.*

Key words: *Leadership Quality, academic achievement, college students*

Introduction

Good leaders are made, not born. Leadership is a process by which a person influences others to accomplish an objective and directs the organisation in a way that makes it more cohesive and coherent. Leadership implies not only willingness to work with zeal and confidence.

There are certain basic qualities or characteristics that most people associate with leadership. Some of these include self-reliant, independent, assertive, risk taker, dominant, ambitious, and self sufficient. Most Leadership Quality and academic achievement of college students in Coimbatore District. A sample of 80 students was people would agree that people who possess these attributes are often labelled as "leaders". Effective leadership can be categorized in the following way. An effective leader is someone who motivates a person or a group to accomplish more than they would have otherwise accomplished without that leader's involvement. We can liken this to the sporting arena where a team is comprised of individual players; each with certain skills, but the team is honed into a finely tuned instrument by virtue of the coach orchestrating them into a cohesive unit. In this manner, and only with the proper motivation and care, will this

group of individuals get into a team and accomplish more together than they ever could on their own merits.

Dwelling on the qualities of leadership. Dr. A.P.J. Abdulkalam the former Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India and now the President of India, says "it does not matter whether you are a manager, a teacher, or a nation builder, you must possess leadership qualities.' He continues to comment on the topic that 'a true leader takes the blame for failure while attributing success to his team". According to him, an inevitable trait that must be possessed by any leader is 'integrity'. About this trait he had this to say - "if you have integrity nothing else matters, if you don't have integrity nothing else matters" According to Major General Virendra singhlz2 the basic essential characteristics of a leader are: professional knowledge, organising and influencing ability and moral courage. The most popular methods used in identification of leadership characteristics are written examinations.

Psychological tests and personal interviews. Leadership qualities should be developed in individuals, right from infancy through school and college to on the job training in later life. (Empirical)

Academic Achievement means knowledge, understanding or skill acquired after instructions and training in courses or subjects of study. It is generally measured by means of total marks of the students obtained by them in a particular class. Academic achievement depends upon different factors which directly or indirectly influence it. In the past a strange notion possessed in the minds of a great as well as common people was that academic achievement is only dependent upon intelligence. But with the exploration of new knowledge, it has been noticed that there are other factors, which are as important as intelligence. Academic Achievement is of paramount importance particularly in the present socio-economic and cultural contexts. Obviously, in the school, great emphasis is placed on achievement right from the beginning of formal education. The school has its own systematic hierarchy which is largely based on achievement and performance rather than ascription or quality. Thus, the school tends to emphasize achievement which facilitates, among other things, the process of role allocation for the social system. The school performs the function of selection and differentiation among students on the basis of their scholastic and other attainments and opens out avenues for advancement, again, primarily in terms of achievement.

Need for the Study

In the hands of man, education is a useful weapon. It can work wonders if used rightly. Mazzine says, "True democracy refers to the progress of all under the leadership of the wisest and the best". A democracy cannot function successfully unless all the people-not merely a particular section are trained for discharging their responsibilities and this

involves training in discipline as well as leadership. There is no more dangerous maxim in the world of today than “My country, right or wrong”. The whole world is now so intimately interconnected that no nation can or dare live alone and the development of a sense of world citizenship has become just as important as that national citizenship. This means that the educational system must make its contribution to the development of habits, attitudes and qualities of character, which will enable its citizens to develop democratic values so as to counteract all those fissiparous tendencies which hinder the emergence of a broad, national and secular outlook. Hence, research in these areas can be tremendous help to the students for developing leadership qualities. Keeping in view the present scenario of a higher education and status of the field as a whole, one need to take a realistic view about the future direction in which higher education programme must move. In the past decade many studies of academic achievement and leadership have been conducted using different constructs of academic achievement and of leadership effectiveness.

Statement of the Problem

Present study is entitled as “Leadership Quality and Academic Achievement of College Students Coimbatore District.”

Definition of the key term

Leadership

The process by which a person influences others to accomplish an objective. Leadership defined in terms of qualities interaction or an aspect of organization, where the scope of action from individual is defined in making decisions, in carrying out duties and shouldering responsibilities in a co-operative way. Leadership is the behaviour of an individual who is involved in directing activities

Academic Achievement

Academic achievement is defined as the level of actual accomplishment or proficiency one has achieved in an academic area, as opposed to one's potential in the educational goals measured by examinations.

Academic achievement is defined by Crow and Crow (1969) as the extent to which a learner is profiting from instructions in a given area of learning i.e., achievement is reflected by the extent to which skill and knowledge has been imparted to him.

Academic achievement of boys and girls Undergraduate students refers to knowledge attained and skills developed in the school subjects. So, academic achievement means the achievement of students in academic subjects. For this purpose, the aggregate marks obtained by the subjects in previous two examinations i.e., XII std served as measures of academic achievement.

Undergraduate students are the students who are studying in college.
Coimbatore district is a district in Tamil Nadu State of India.

Objectives of the Study

The following objectives were formulated for the present study work:

1. To study the Leadership qualities of Undergraduate college students.
2. To study the academic achievement of Undergraduate college students
3. To compare boys and girl students on Leadership qualities and academic achievement.
4. To find the relationship between Leadership qualities and academic achievement of Undergraduate college (U.G) students.

Hypotheses

The following hypotheses have been formulated for the present research work:

1. There is no significant difference between male and female in their Leadership qualities and academic achievement.
2. There is no significant difference between leadership qualities and academic achievement in their locality.
3. There is relationship between Leadership qualities and academic achievement of Undergraduate (U.G.) college students.
4. There is no significant difference between Bharathiar University and other university students Leadership qualities and academic achievement of Undergraduate (U.G) college students.

Methodology

Sampling- In the present study, a sample of 80 U.G.College students. College students was randomly picked up in Coimbatore district.

Tools Employed

Leadership quality scale: In the present study, the tool employed for the collection of data was Leadership quality scale prepared and standardized by Dr.Muthumanicham Professor in the Department of Psychology, University of kamarajar, Madurai District. The statement is in English and contains 40 statements. The scale consists of 5 points such as strongly agree, agree, undecided, disagree and strongly disagree which provides score 1,2,3,4,5 for positive statements.

Academic Achievement: Regarding the academic achievement, the investigator consulted the examination incharge of each selected college and enquired about the marks obtained by Undergraduate students in previous annual examinations (XII class). The examination incharge teacher was kind enough to assist the investigator and in this way,

the investigator obtained annual examination marks of XII STD. The marks were pooled together, added and then percentages found in order to obtain academic achievement index scores of boys and girls.

Statistical Technique Employed

Mean, SD and 't' test were computed to know the significant difference between the means of the different sub-groups in terms of Gender, Locality and Bharathiar University and Other university Student. Correlation study was done to find out the significant relationship between leadership qualities and academic achievement college students.

Analysis and Interpretation

Table 1 Distribution of the Sample

Total Sample = 80			
Distribution of Sample by Variables			
Variable	Sex	Male	40
		Female	40
	Locality	Rural	50
		Urban	30
	Students	Bharathiar university	54
		Other university	26

Table 2: Significant difference between male and female in their Leadership qualities and academic achievement

variable	sex	N	mean	SD	't'	Level of significance at 0.05 level
Leadership qualities	Male	40	82.85	8.82	2.89	significance at 0.05 level
	Female	40	76.4	10.50		
Academic achievement	Male	40	82.85	8.82	2.98	
	Female	40	76.4	10.50		

The calculated t' value 2.89 is greater than the table value 2.00 for df 78 at 0.05 level. Hence the null hypothesis is rejected. There is significant difference between Male and Female Student in their leadership qualities.

The calculated t' value 2.98 is greater than the table value 2.00 for df 78 at 0.05 level. Hence the null hypothesis is rejected. There is significant difference between Male and Female Student in their Academic achievement.

Male students were found more leadership qualities and academic achievement than female Undergraduate (U.G) college students.

Table 3: Significant difference between leadership qualities and academic achievement in their locality

variable	locality	N	mean	SD	't'	Level of significance at 0.05 level
Leadership qualities	Rural	50	130.02	20.17	3.24	Significance at 0.05 level
	Urban	30	144.33	18.28		
Academic achievement	Rural	50	76.9	9.88	3.14	
	Urban	30	83.7	9.05		

The calculated t' value 3.24 is greater than the table value 2.00 for df 78 at 0.05 level.

Hence the null hypothesis is rejected. There is significant difference between Rural and Urban Student in their leadership qualities

The calculated t' value 3.14 is greater than the table value 2.00 for df 78 at 0.05 level. Hence the null hypothesis is rejected There is significant difference between Rural and Urban Student in their Academic achievement.

Urban students were found more leadership qualities and academic achievement than Rural Undergraduate (U.G) college students.

Table 4: Relationship between Leadership Qualities and Academic Achievement of Undergraduate (U.G.) College Students

S. No	variables	N	Correlation co-efficient	Level of Significance at 0.05 level
1.	Leadership qualities	80	0.75	Positive and significant
2.	Academic achievement	80		

The calculated t' value 0.54 is greater than the table value 0.217 for df 78 at 0.05 level. Hence the null hypothesis is rejected. It is found Relationship between Leadership qualities and academic achievement of Undergraduate (U.G) college students is positive and significant.

Table 5 Significant Difference between Bharathiar University and other University Students Leadership Qualities and Academic Achievement of Undergraduate (U.G) College Students

variable	students	N	mean	SD	't'	Level of significance at 0.05 level
Leadership qualities	Bharathiar university	54	136.2	19.31	0.54	No significance at 0.05 level
	Other university	26	133.6	23.36		
Academic achievement	Bharathiar university	54	80.14	9.74	0.78	
	Other university	26	78.26	10.22		

The calculated t' value 0.54 is less than the table value 2.00 for df 78 at 0.05 level. Hence the null hypothesis is accepted. There is no significant difference between Bharathiar University and Other university Student in their leadership qualities

The calculated t' value 0.78 is less than the table value 2.00 for df 78 at 0.05 level. Hence the null hypothesis is accepted. There is no significant difference between Bharathiar University and Other university Student in their Academic achievement.

Findings

1. There is significant difference between Male and Female Student in their leadership qualities.
2. There is significant difference between Male and Female Student in their Academic achievement.
3. Male students were found more leadership qualities and academic achievement than female Undergraduate (U.G) college students.
4. There is significant difference between Rural and Urban Student in their leadership qualities
5. There is significant difference between Rural and Urban Student in Academic achievement.
6. Urban students were found more leadership qualities and academic achievement than Rural Undergraduate (U.G) college students.
7. There is no significant difference between Leadership qualities and Academic achievement of Undergraduate (U.G) college students.
8. There is no significant difference between Bharathiar University and Other university Student in their leadership qualities.
9. There is no significant difference between Bharathiar University and Other university Student in their Academic achievement.

Limitation

1. This study is confined to college students only.
2. This study is limited to 80 students of 6 colleges
3. This study is limited to certain aspects of the leadership quality and academic achievement only.
4. This study is limited to Coimbatore district only.

Conclusion

The present study reveals that there exists a significant relationship between the leadership quality and academic achievement of Undergraduate (U.G) college students. Hence the hypothesis 1 and 2 is accepted .Most of the college students possess average level of leadership qualities. The study reveals that leadership quality and academic achievement of Undergraduate (U.G) college students differ significantly with respect of gender and locality. Male students were found more leadership qualities and academic achievement than female Undergraduate (U.G) college students. Similarly students from urban area college were found to be more leadership qualities and academic achievement than Rural area college students. Thorough this study, it is revealed that There is no significant difference between Bharathiar University and Other university Student in their Academic achievement. This implies that there should be provision for more creation of effective leadership qualities in students. The study implies the generation of a sustainable academic achievement which prepare learner for the development of leadership capacity.

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