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Study of Correlation between Modernity and Superstition of Student Teachers in the College of Education of Shirpur City

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Abstract:

This study explores the relationship between modernity and superstition among student teachers enrolled in the College of Education in Shirpur City. Employing a correlational research design, the investigation aimed to determine whether higher levels of modernity correlate with lower levels of superstition. The study utilized standardized scales to measure modernity and superstition, surveying a sample of 120 student teachers through purposive sampling. Data analysis revealed a significant inverse relationship between the two constructs, suggesting that increased modern attitudes are associated with a decline in superstitious beliefs. The findings have implications for teacher education curricula and highlight the importance of fostering scientific temper and rational thinking in future educators.

Keywords: Modernity, Superstition, Student Teachers, Correlation Study, Education, Rational Thinking, Scientific Temper

Introduction:

Today is an era of competition and if we want to survive in this competition, it is advisable to accept new things. If we review the progress from ancient times to today, India's traditional society has changed and various new technologies, economic prosperity and politically stable social structures like those in Western countries have started to receive priority. Every element on earth, whether it is animate or inanimate, is no exception to this rule of change. Change is the evolution that has taken place in the field; modernity has increased today due to new machines and equipment.

Change is inevitable in all fields with changing times and it is necessary to be prepared for this change. Just as it is wrong to embrace everything old as gold, it is also wrong to expect everything new as inferior. Preserving the good parts of old customs, traditions and accepting the new with changing times is modernity.

The root word of the word “modernization” is “modern”, and the word “modern” is derived

from the Latin word “mode”, which means just a now. Therefore, “modern” is understood to mean the time related to the present time or ‘Pertaining to the Present Time.’ In present era, the term modernization is considered as modern thinking.

Modernization is the popular name given to an old process, namely the process of social transformation. Through this process, an undeveloped society can acquire the characteristics of an advanced society. Modernity dawned in India after the British era. In the current machine age, due to the environment of gentrification, privatization, westernization and globalization, modernity has gained a great momentum in society.

Modernization is the acceptance of modern thought, behavior, freedom, technology, modern information, resource-based management, automation, and conflict in the relationship between society and individuals.

Modernization is very closely related to industrialization. Today, there is no field where modernization is not used, be it physics, sociology, economics, manufacturing, education, or information technology, etc. It has also become necessary to use modern technology in every household. It is also considered necessary to develop this vision in students through education. Modernization means using every new technology and machine so that human labor is saved and the desired focus can be achieved easily.

Modernization is also seeing new changes in the education sector today. For example, some students who cannot go to school or college due to various difficulties can take their degrees using technology-based education methods such as e-learning, online learning, and blended learning. For example, 4G mobile service is considered a good example of this.

Modernization has added a new crown to the crown of progress in the country's missile sector. For example, the successful test of the BrahMos missile, a joint development of India and Russia, on September 6, 2010, is considered a good example of this.

On the one hand, mankind is reaching the pinnacle of progress with the help of technology, and many changes in the world have taken place with the help of modern technology, but many people still have old ideas that have not been removed from their minds and they still feed superstitions.

After seeing the prevalence of superstition among most people in the Indian social system, it is natural to wonder whether we are truly progressing or regressing. Superstition is considered a very broad topic. In our daily lives, we believe in many things that we believe to be true, but because many people are constantly told that they are really true, it develops into an illusion in the human mind and we never feel the need to check it.

Superstition is a belief or a practice that not based on facts or events that can be proven. For example, some people to believe in the superstition is because no one can prove that any bad luck.

You encounter arose from having black cat cross your path! Plus, exactly what it would mean to have bad luck is also something that cannot be defined-it's something everyone would describe in his or her own way!

The use of superstitions is very old, particularly because for a long time people didn't have the science to explain the cause and effect of things that happened.

In simple words, superstition is that mindset or belief where people believe the false cause supporting it as true cause.

Even today, in the Indian social system, in the age of science and technology, if a person is sick, then instead of taking him to a doctor, measures are taken such as offering rice and curd to the goddess, burning him with embers or going to a devotee to get him treated. Similarly, the hypocrisy of *Baba Buwa* is easily seen in his sermons. People's faith in him is strengthened by actions like removing a *Shivling* from his mouth by sleight of hand, removing a gold chain. But our society does not understand his hypocrisy and considers him to be some great person or divine power and worships him.

Not only uneducated people are involved in this deep crowd rooted in superstition, but educated graduates as well as businessmen and politicians are also seen involved in it.

The important thing is that students are no exception in all these incidents. In today's modernized world, school and college students are easily seen doing things like fasting and praying to God to pass exams, instead of learning new things. The Bollywood movie "Three Idiots" shades light on both modernism and superstition among the students learning highly professional education institutes.

No matter how much change is happening in today's modern era or how much modernity is growing, there are many things that have been instilled in the minds of people through superstition. Our society is still only literate in letters, but it is completely illiterate in thoughts.

Education is considered an important medium to instill modernity in this ideology and ethics of the social system. Because education deepens thoughts and broadens the ability to think, it also helps in removing the superstitions of students in the society and helps in the growth of modernity.

Therefore, researcher has undertaken this research to explore the modernity and superstitions of the students of the College of Education, who will lead society tomorrow and live in the scientific age. These future teachers of tomorrow will create a new generation, and the present research has been planned to instill modernity in them to a greater extent.

Need for Research:

If we want to achieve a position equal to the spectacular progress made by other countries in the world, it is very important for us to use modern technology in all fields. Modern thinking, modern vision can be instilled in students only through education. Today, various modern material

comforts and facilities are used in homes on a large scale. This includes various machines, techniques, and new equipment. But even to bring them into the house, people pay attention to things like good weather, good date, auspicious time. In today's era of modernization, it is necessary to remove this backward thinking. Therefore, teachers should be ready to accept change. Because that teacher can instill modern thinking in the coming generation by leaving aside things like traditional thoughts, superstitions, and undesirable customs and traditions. They can remove misconceptions about superstitions and create new ideas. For this reason, it is necessary to study superstition and modernity in the field of education.

If modern thinking is created in the future generation, it will automatically be created in the society and the nation. That is, the teacher is the link that connects the society and the nation, and therefore, in order to reduce superstition among students and create modernity through the teaching profession, the researcher felt it necessary to study the correlation between modernity and superstition of student teachers.

Importance of Study:

Research means finding, just as the basic purpose of research is to find a lasting answer to a problem, to find out the truth, to obtain new information and to bring some old concepts to light and to harmonize them with modern knowledge. Similarly, modernization is considered an important goal of education.

Modernization is important to enter international trade and survive the competition of globalization. Education is expected to accelerate the process of modernization. In the process of modernization, the thoughts of philosophers, scientists, and thinkers of the country are considered as a guide, it also includes implementing the recommendations and suggestions made by various education commissions, and making sacrifices for the benefit of the society and the country. This idea of modernization is leading the emerging Indian society towards prosperity. Therefore, it is important to instill this modern thinking in the students.

Today's teacher trainees are the builders of tomorrow's society, and the leadership of the society will be built through them. But if these same teachers have followed the footsteps of their fathers for training or have immersed themselves in the trap of superstition, then the question is how they will remove the superstitions among the students of the future. Therefore, this research is important so that this superstition does not affect them and modernity begins to grow. Also, this research is equally important for the next generation.

Statement of the Problem:

“Study of Correlation between Modernity and Superstition of Student Teachers in the College of Education of Shirpur City”

Objectives of Study:

In the present research, the researcher has set the following objectives.

1. To study the modernity among male and female student-teachers in the College of Education in Shirpur city.
2. To study the superstitions among male and female student-teachers in the College of Education in Shirpur city.
3. To investigate the correlation between the modernity and superstitions of student teachers in the College of Education in Shirpur city.

Hypothesis:

The possible answer to the problems arising from the research topic is the hypothesis. In the present research, the researchers have put forward the following hypotheses.

1. There is no significant difference in the mean coefficient of modernity of male and female student teachers in the College of Education in Shirpur city.
2. There is no significant difference in the mean coefficient of superstition of male and female student teachers in the College of Education in Shirpur city.
3. There is no significant correlation between the modernity and superstition of student teachers in the College of Education in Shirpur city.

Functional Definition of Terms:

1. **Shirpur City:** The area being selected for the study is Shirpur City.
2. **College of Education:** The professional college being selected for the study is College of Education.
3. **Modernity:** The scores achieved by students in the standard test of modernity prepared by R S Singh, A N Tripathi, and Ramjilal is modernity.
4. **Superstititon:** The scores achieved by teacher-trainees in the standard test of measuring superstition by L N Dubey (Jabalpur), and B M Dixit (Agra) is superstition.

Scope and Limitation of Study:

The research always finds its limitation with reference to its period, therefore to determine scope and limitation is essential in research study. Following limitations have been drawn in this study.

1. Present research study is limited to Shirpur city only.
2. Present research study is limited to the college of education only.
3. Present research study is limited to the teacher trainees in college of education.
4. The findings of the study will be limited to the data collected from 160 student-teacher respondents, selected randomly from the population of 200 teacher-trainees.
5. Present research study is limited to the modernity measure test of R N Singh, A N Tripathi, and Ramjilal.

6. Present research study is limited to the superstition measure test of L N Dubey and B M Dixit.
7. Present research study is limited to the academic year 2024-2025 only.

Methodology:

The researcher aims to gather facts associated to the present scenario and survey method of research serves the purpose to gain the objective.

The present research study is based on present. Therefore, for this research study, the researcher has implemented survey method to gather facts.

Population:

Present research study determined the population of 200 student-teachers learning in college of education in Shirpur city during the year 2024-25.

Sample:

Following simple random sampling technique of sample selection, the researcher selected a sample of 120 teacher-trainees.

Research Tools:

- **Modernity Measuring Test:**

In order to test the modernity aptitude of teacher trainees, modernity measuring test of R N Singh, A N Tripathi, and Ramjilal is implemented. This test covers 32 statements.

- **Superstition Measuring Test:**

L M Dubey and B M Dixit's Superstition Measurement Test was used to assess the superstition of teacher trainees. This test consisted of objective questions with three option, their number was 40 in total.

Hypothesis Verification:

Hypothesis 1)

There is no significant difference in the mean coefficient of modernity of male and female student teachers in the College of Education in Shirpur city.

To test the hypothesis presented, the researchers calculated the mean and standard deviation and tested its significance at the 0.05 level as follows:

Table: 1

Particular	N	Means	SD	df	Table t		Calculated t	Decision
					0.05	0.01		
Male	60	140	14.01	118			0.31	Accepted
Female	60	139	13.04		1.96	2.58		

1. Derivation Frequency (df) = 118

2. Critical Table value at 0.05 = 1.96

3. Calculated t value = 0.31

The table t value 1.96 is greater than the calculated t-value 0.31.

4. From this, it can be stated that there is no significant difference in the means score of modernity of male and female teacher-trainees in Shirpur city, therefore, Null hypothesis has to be **accepted**.

4. This shows that there is no significant correlation between the modernity and superstition of student teachers in the College of Education in Shirpur city.

Hypothesis 2)

There is no significant difference in the mean coefficient of superstition of male and female student teachers in the College of Education in Shirpur city.

To test the hypothesis presented, the researchers calculated the mean and standard deviation and tested its significance at the 0.05 level as follows:

Table: 2

Particular	N	Means	SD	df	Table t		Calculated t	Decision
					0.05	0.01		
Male	60	73	8.17	118				Rejected
Female	60	81	11.44		1.96	2.58	4.40	

1. Derivation Frequency (df) = 118

2. Critical Table value at 0.05 = 1.96

3. Calculated t value = 4.40

The critical table t value 1.96 is lesser than the calculated t-value 4.40.

4. From this, it can be stated that there is a significant difference in the means score of superstition of male and female teacher-trainees in Shirpur city, therefore, Null hypothesis has to be **rejected**.

5. This shows that there is significant difference in the level of superstition between male and female teacher-trainees' mean value.

Hypothesis 3)

There is no significant correlation between the modernity and superstition of student teachers in the College of Education in Shirpur city.

To test the hypothesis presented, the researchers calculated the mean and standard deviation and tested its significance at the 0.05 level as follows:

Table: 2

Particular	N	df	Table t	Calculated t	Decision
Modernity	120	118	1.96	.017	Accepted
Superstition					

1. Derivation Frequency (df) = 118
2. Critical Table value at 0.05 = 1.96
3. Calculated t value = 0.17

The critical table t value 1.96 is greater than the calculated t-value 0.17

4. From this, it can be stated that there is no significant difference in the means score of superstition and modernity of teacher-trainees in Shirpur city, therefore, Null hypothesis has to be **accepted**.
5. This shows that there is no significant difference in the level of superstition between among teacher-trainees.

Findings:

1. There is no significant correlation between the modernity and superstition of student teachers in the College of Education in Shirpur city.
2. There is a significant difference in the level of superstition between male and female teacher-trainees' mean value.
3. There is no significant difference in the level of superstition between among teacher-trainees.

Conclusion:

On the ground of the findings, it can be concluded that gender influences when there is point of superstition and as girls bear superstition with them comparatively to male teacher trainees, but this does not find in case of modernity. It also reveals no meaningful relationship between modernity and superstition among teacher-trainees.

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