

PalArch's Journal of Archaeology of Egypt / Egyptology

A Study on Vocational Maturity among High School Students of Sonitpur District of Assam

Rituparna Choudhury¹, Dr. Tribeni Saikia².

Research Scholar, Department of Education, Mahapurusha Srimanta Sankaradeva Viswavidyalaya. Haladhar Bhuyan Path, Kalangpar, Nagaon. Assam, India¹

Associate Professor, Department of Education, Mahapurusha Srimanta Sankaradeva Viswavidyalaya. Haladhar Bhuyan Path, Kalangpar, Nagaon. Assam, India²

Rituparna Choudhury¹, Dr. Tribeni Saikia², A Study on Vocational Maturity among High School Students of Sonitpur District of Assam– Palarch's Journal Of Archaeology Of Egypt/Egyptology 17(7). ISSN 1567-214x

Key words : Vocational maturity, High school students.

ABSTRACT

This present study is titled as “A Study on Vocational Maturity among High School Students of Sonitpur District of Assam”. The purpose of the study is to find out the level of vocational maturity among high school students. The investigator has selected Sonitpur district for the area of study. The objectives of the research are to study and compare the level of vocational maturity. In this study, the investigator has used Descriptive Survey Method and the samples have been selected by using stratified random sampling technique. A sample of 5 secondary schools consisting of 100 students have been taken for the present study. Vocational Attitude Maturity Scale by Dr. Manju Mehta was used to collect data and these data were analysed by using appropriate statistical techniques as mean, percentage and ‘t’-test. From this study, the investigator found that majority of the students are found to have an average vocational maturity. It was also found that there is no significant difference between vocational maturity of male and female high school students. There is needed more vocational awareness and vocational guidance for the improvement of the level of vocational maturity of the students.

1.0 Introduction

Vocational maturity is one of the new and primary construct in the field of vocational psychology, which enables to assess both rate and level of an individual's development with respect to vocational choice. The problem of facilitation of vocational maturity can be said as one of the main problem in a developing country like India.

Vocational maturity is the ability to make appropriate vocational or occupational choices that fit the subjects abilities, vocational or occupational interests and preferences. But making proper and suitable vocational choice is not an easy task. Individual should have knowledge about himself/herself and the

world of work. He/she can have many problems in this regard. Whatever problem an individual is facing, it is closely related to his/her vocational maturity. Individual having problems would have lesser degree of vocational maturity. Vocational maturity and appropriateness of vocational choice have been found very closely connected to each other.

1.1 Concept of Vocation

A vocation is a particular occupation, business or profession to which a person is specially drawn or for which they are suited, trained or qualified. It is a person's usual or principal work, especially as a means of earning a living. According to Deighton (1971), the word vocation might best be reserved for the occupations chosen and engaged in for a substantial period of time because it is appropriate to the individual's abilities, interests, values, desires, personality and achievement motivation.

1.2 Concept of Vocational Maturity

The word maturity refers to a significant phase in the growth of a living organism. Maturity is achieved when individual growth is finished and the organism is fit for propagation. Maturity is the act of winning personal responsibility for all aspects of human life.

Vocational maturity is in question when we go to assess the vocational choice that he has made and the adjustment he is making in that vocation. Vocational maturity means the level of vocational development of the individual.

Vocational maturity is the ability to cope with the vocational or career development tasks with which one is confronted. It plays a very important role in deciding the future life of an individual. The concept of vocational maturity was introduced by Super (1955) who defined as "the place reached in cognitive, emotional and other psychological factors whereby one acquires the capacity of making realistic and mature career choices." The concept of vocational maturity first assumed significance in the study of vocational development in early adolescence. The vocationally mature individual is one who is coping with tasks appropriate to his life stage in ways which are likely to make desired outcomes.

Philips and Paienza (1988) defined vocational maturity conceptually as the extent to which an individual has progressed through the vocational development sequence and can be view as an index of developmental preparedness.

1.3 Significance of the Study

Selection of a vocation is a very important task that provides satisfaction to an individual. In today's competitive world, selecting a vocation or career is a very difficult task. There are so many vocations before the individual and it becomes essential to take a right decision to select a proper vocation. Right decision can become a turning point to make individual's life beautiful while wrong decision can also affect his whole life. Vocational maturity also helps in executing maximum utilization of nation's human resources.

This study will look into the vocational maturity of the adolescent students in Sonitpur district. This study will throw light on the level of vocational maturity of male and female students coming from government high school.

On the whole, the study will enable us to understand the vocational maturity level of students from Sonitpur district of Assam in relation to their gender.

1.4 Statement of the Problem

The present study has been stated as “A Study on Vocational Maturity among High School Students of Sonitpur District of Assam.”

1.5 Delimitation of the Study

The study undertaken by the investigator has the following delimitations –

1. The study is confined to the high school students.
2. The study is confined to the Dhekiajuli educational block of Sonitpur District only.

1.6 Objectives

1. To study the level of vocational maturity of high school students.
2. To compare the level of vocational maturity of high school students in relation to their gender.

1.7 Hypotheses

1. The level of vocational maturity of high school students are high.
2. There are no significant difference between the level of vocational maturity of high school students in relation to their gender.

1.8 Operational Definitions

Vocational Maturity: Vocational maturity is the ability to cope with the vocational or career development tasks with which one is confronted.

High School: A high school is a secondary school, where teenagers are educated before starting college or getting jobs.

Student: A person who is learning at a school or college or university.

Sonitpur District: Sonitpur is an administrative district in the State of Assam in India. The area of the district spans 5324 km².

Assam: Assam is a state in Northeast India, situated south of the eastern Himalayas along the Brahmaputra and Barak River valleys. Assam covers the area of 78,438 km².

2.0 REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

Review of related literature is the base determining the research problems, selecting objectives and formulating hypothesis. A researcher cannot execute without review the work already done in the field concerned. Review helps the researcher to understand what has been done and what remain to be done. It helps the researcher to the conclusion. Considering this significance, the following literature has been reviewed-

Parlikar, R K. (1972) conducted a study on the title “An Investigation to Study Vocational Maturity of High School Students”. The main objective of this study was to compare the vocational maturity of male and female students. The researcher used random sampling technique for data collection and found that more and more girls are becoming career oriented than boys in recent times in our country.

Kaur, T. P. (1983) made a study on the title “Differential effect of career guidance strategies on vocational maturity patterns in relation to sex intelligence and need achievement”. The main objectives of the study were to investigate the effect of career guidance and study the differences in vocational maturity patterns arising due to the variable of sex. The researcher used random sampling technique for data collection and found that girls and boys of ninth grade did not show variation in their level of vocational maturity.

Kaul, N. (2015) conducted a study on the title “Vocational Identity Emotional Intelligence and Decision Making Self Efficacy in Relation to Career Maturity of Adolescents”. The main objective of this study was to compare several factors namely vocational identity, emotional intelligence and decision making self efficacy in relation to career maturity of high school students. In this study the researcher found that the middle school student’s career maturity has notable grade differences, and the higher grade has more career maturity.

Kumar, M. (2015) conducted a study on the title “Study of Vocational Maturity in relation to the Level of Aspiration Scholastic Achievement and Parental Support among Senior Secondary Students”. The main objective of this study was to compare the vocational maturity of male and female senior secondary students. The researcher used random sampling technique for collecting data and found that there was a significant difference between vocational maturity of male and female senior secondary students.

Earlitha, M. Sangma. (2017) conducted a study on the title “A Study on Social and Vocational Maturity in Relation to Academic Achievement of Secondary School Students in Garo Hills of Meghalaya”. The main objectives of this study were to study the social maturity, vocational maturity and academic achievement of class X students in Garo hills. The researcher used stratified random sampling technique for collecting data and found that majority of students have an average social maturity, vocational maturity and academic achievement.

Extensive research has been carried out the level of social maturity, vocational maturity, academic achievement, career guidance and to compare the vocational maturity of girls and boys in different scenarios. Research revealed different outcomes where in some research studies, it was found that gender differences have no effect on vocational maturity, while in some researches it was revealed that the level of vocational maturity of the girls were little high than the boys.

3.0 Methodology

Research methods are very essential in a research process. A pre planned and skilfully described method will provide the researcher a suitable and scientific plan for attacking and solving the problem under investigation.

Method of the study

The descriptive survey method is used to conduct the study of vocational maturity among high school students.

3.1 Population

The population for the study was all the students of government, private and aided high schools of Sonitpur District of Assam.

3.2 Sample

The investigator has used stratified random sampling technique for selecting the sample. A sample of 5 secondary schools consisting of 100 students have been taken for the present study.

3.3 Tool Used

The investigator has used Vocational Attitude Maturity Scale by Dr. Manju Mehta. The scale consists of 20 items.

3.4 Sources of data

I. Primary source: Primary data were collected from the students of Government high schools of Sonitpur District, Assam.

II. Secondary source: Secondary data were collected from various books, journals, theses, website etc.

3.5 Statistical techniques used

Percentage, Mean, SD and 't'-test were used to obtain the result.

4.0 Analysis and Interpretation of Data

The analysis and interpretation of data represent the application of inductive and deductive logic to the research process in order to find out the facts and interpretation in the critical examination results. The data classified by division into subdivision into sub groups and then analyzed and synthesized in such a way that hypothesis may be accepted or rejected.

The researcher calculated the raw score and analysed and interprets the data objective wise.

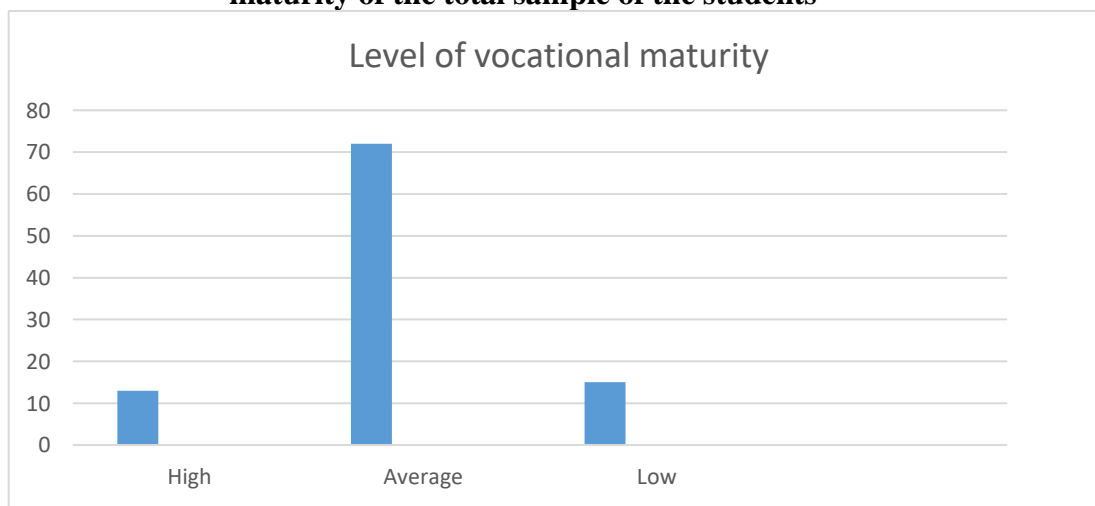
Objective no.1: To study the level of vocational maturity of high school students.

In order to find out the level of vocational maturity of high school students, the total score obtained were classified into 3 categories: high level (above 13), average level (between 7-13) and low level (below 7) on the basis of the formula $M+SD$, $M+SD$ where Mean=10 and SD=3.01. The findings of the objective no 1 has been discussed in the following table and graph.

Table 4.1: percentage of vocational maturity level of total sample of high school students

Range of scores	Level of vocational maturity	Number of student	Percentage
Above 13	High	13	13%
Between 7-13	Average	72	72%
Below 7	Low	15	15%
Total		100	100%

Figure 4.1 showing graphical representation of the level of vocational maturity of the total sample of the students



On the basis of above table 4.1, it is found that only 13% of high school students exhibit high level of vocational maturity, 72% of high school students exhibit average level of vocational maturity and remaining 15% of high school students have low level of vocational maturity. This indicates that majority of high school students have an average level of vocational maturity but there are still few students who are found to have low level towards their vocational maturity. Only a few students have high vocational maturity. In this situation, the hypothesis H1 “The level of vocational maturity of high school students are high,” is rejected. Therefore the focus should be laid on to raise the vocational attitude of the students.

Objective no.2: To compare the level of vocational maturity of high school students in relation to their gender.

Table 4.2: Mean, Standard Deviation and ‘t’ value for means scores of Vocational Maturity of male and female High School Students

Gender	No. of sample	Mean	S.D	df	Level of significance	t value	Critical t value	Remark
Male	50	9.9	3.29	98	0.05 and 0.01	0.6	1.98 and 2.63	Not significant
Female	50	10.26	3.41					

Figure 4.2 showing the Mean scores and SD of Vocational Maturity of male and female High School Students

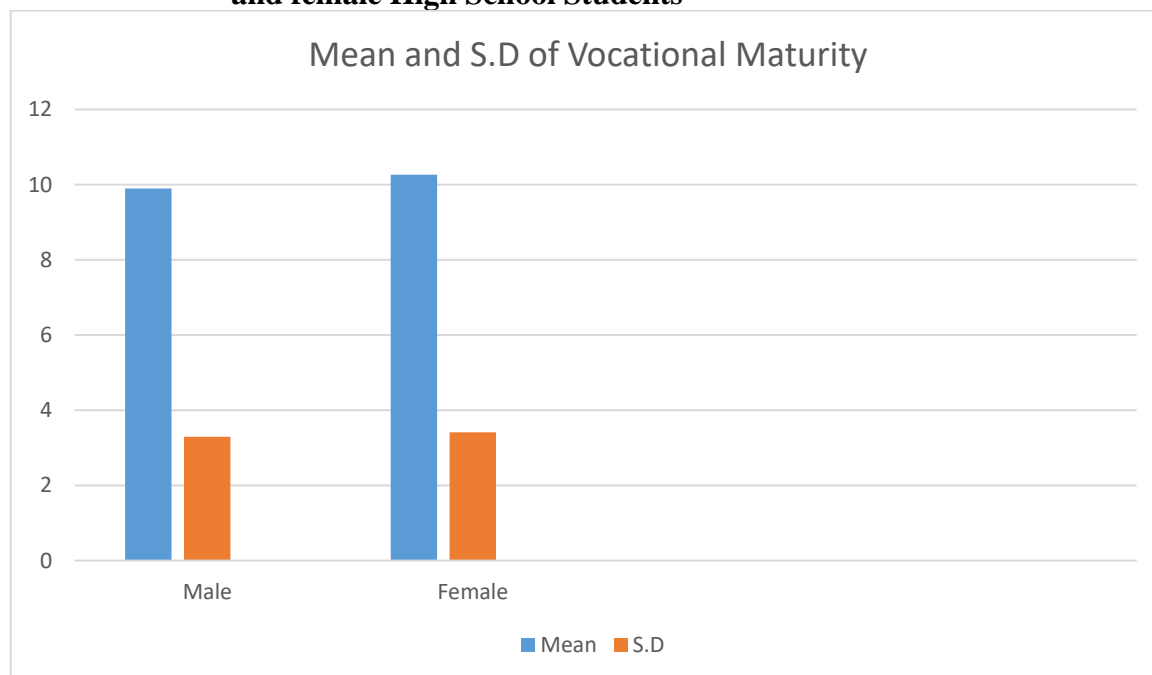


Table 4.2 presents mean, S.D and t-value of male and female students in

relation to their vocational maturity. Male students have the mean score of 9.9 with S.D 3.29 and female students have the mean score of 10.26 with S.D 3.41. The tabulated values of 't' with df 98 is 1.98 at 0.05 and 2.63 at 0.01 level of significance. The above table presents that the t-value 0.6 for the mean scores of vocational maturity between male and female high school students is less than the given table value at 0.05 and 0.01 level of significance for the df 98. Hence, it is not significant at 0.05 and 0.01 levels. In this situation, the null hypothesis H₂ "There are no significant difference between the level of vocational maturity of high school students in relation to their gender," is accepted both at 0.05 and 0.01 level of significance. So it was found that both male and female high school students have equal vocational maturity. The mean score of vocational maturity of male students (9.9) is slightly less than female students (10.26) but statistically there is no significant difference between male and female high school students.

5.0 Findings of the Hypotheses

The study is conducted to know the level of vocational maturity between male and female high school students of Dhekiajuli educational block. From the study, majority of the students with 72% are found to have an average vocational maturity 13% of students exhibited high vocational maturity. Though the finding had inclination towards positive aspect, we cannot ignore the fact that 15% of students exhibited low vocational maturity.

It was also found that there is no significant difference between vocational maturity of male and female high school students. Male and female students almost have the same approach.

6.0 Suggestions

After investigate the total sample, the following suggestions are given for the improvement of vocational maturity among high school students.

1. Awareness of the teacher is very important. It should be the duty of a teacher to teach the child to become vocationally mature.
2. For better improvement of vocational maturity among the students, vocational guidance is needed.
3. Awareness of the parents is very necessary. Parents should be realized that vocational maturity is a ongoing dynamic process and it is very important in our life.

7.0 Conclusion

According to Encyclopaedia Britannia (1985), Vocational Education is, "Instructions intended to equip persons for industrial or commercial occupation. It may be obtained either formally in trade, schools, technical secondary schools or in job training programmes or more informally by picking up the necessary skills on the job without actual supervision."

Today's students are facing a lot of problems when taking decisions regarding one's vocation. The vocation needs to match one's potentials, interest and personality. Therefore the decision the selection of the proper vocation becomes an utmost importance for the student's future. Vocational maturity helps the students to choose appropriate vocational choices.

REFERENCES

1. Aggarwal, J. C. (1998). *Major Recommendations of Educational Commission*. Vikas publishing house Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi.
2. Venkataian. (2000). *Vocational Education*. Anmol publication Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi.
3. Dayal, Brijkishore. (2012). *Development of Educational System in India*. Wisdom press, New Delhi.
4. Buhler, C. (1935). *From Birth to Maturity*. Routledge and Kegan Paul Ltd.
5. Williams, J. G. (1948). *The Psychology of Childhood to Maturity*. William Heinemann Medical Books Ltd. London.
6. Sharma, N. R. (2009). *Education and Vocational Guidance*. Vinod pustak mandir, Agra-2.
7. Koul, Lokesh. (1984). *Methodology of Educational Research*. Vikas publishing house Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi.
8. Siddhu, K. S. (2011). *Methodology of Research in Education*. Sterling publishers Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi.
9. Mohan, S. (1999). *Career Development in India: Theory Research and Development*. New Delhi-110014: Vikash publishing house pvt limited.
10. Sharma, R.N. and Sharma, R. (2004). *Guidance and Counselling in India*. Nice printing press, Delhi.
11. Parlikar, R K. (1972). An Investigation to Study Vocational Maturity of High School Students . (Ph.D., Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda). Retrieved from <https://shodhganga.inflibnet.ac.in>.
12. Kaur, T P. (1983). Differential effect of career guidance strategies on vocational maturity patterns in relation to sex intelligence and need achievement. (Ph.D., Panjab University). Retrieved from <https://shodhganga.inflibnet.ac.in>.
13. Kaul, N. (2015). Vocational Identity Emotional Intelligence and Decision Making Self Efficacy in Relation to Career Maturity of Adolescents. (Ph.D., The IIS University). Retrieved from <https://shodhganga.inflibnet.ac.in>.
14. Kumar, M. (2015). Study of Vocational Maturity in relation to the Level of Aspiration Schlastic Achievement and Parental Support among Senior Secondary Students. (Ph.D., Maharshi Dayanand University). Retrieved from <https://shodhganga.inflibnet.ac.in>.
15. Sangma, E M. (2017). A Study on Social and Vocational Maturity in Relation to Academic Achievement of Secondary School Students in Garo Hills of Meghalaya. (Ph.D., North Eastern Hill University). Retrieved from <https://shodhganga.inflibnet.ac.in>.
16. <https://psychology.wikia.org/wiki>
17. <https://en.m.wikipedia.org>
18. <https://en.oxforddictionaries.com>
19. <https://www.thefreedictionary.com>
20. <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com>

