

EDUCATIONAL ASPIRATIONS AMONG UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS IN LAKHIMPUR DISTRICT, ASSAM

Tusharjit Tamuli

Department of Education
North Lakhimpur College (Autonomous)

Dr. Ishmirekha Handique Konwar

Assistant Professor
Department of Education
North Lakhimpur College (Autonomous)

Abstract:

Education is the path to excellence. Education, no doubt, remains the most outstanding development priority area in the world today. An educational aspiration acts most powerful tool in students success. The present study intends to measure the educational aspiration level among undergraduate level students. The sample of the study was 300 from undergraduate students. Educational Aspiration was assessed by using Educational Aspiration Scale (EAS) developed by Dr.V.P. Sharma and Dr. Anuradha Gupta, (2006). The analysis and interpretation of the data was done by computing Mean, SD and t-test.

Keywords: Educational Aspiration, Undergraduate Level Students.

Introduction:

The term ‘aspiration’ means that ‘a strong desire to achieve something high or great’. Aspiration means a longing for and striving for some goal higher than oneself or one’s present status, which differs from ambition, which is the eagerness or an ardent desire to achieve a particular honour or power. (Bashir, L., & Bashir, H. 2016). Educational aspiration has long been considered as an important psychological aspect of students’ propensity of attaining a high level of education which significantly impacts adolescents’ future life. (Shahidul, S. M., Karim, et al. 2015). The socio- economic and physical limitations, different psychological aspects like intelligence, memory, anxiety, interest, attitudes, adjustment, aspiration, self-concept, motivation are expected to be the major influential determinants of academic progress.(Behera, J., & Samal, R. M. 2015). Aspirations begin to be shaped early in child’s life, but are modified by experience and the environment.

Aspirations tend to decline as children mature in response to their growing understanding of the world and constraints imposed by previous choices and achievements. The aspirations during student period influence their behaviour. The term educational aspiration or vocational choice is based on knowledge of traits. The aspirations level of an individual is an important motivating factor reference involving self-esteem or alternatively experiences that is the feeling of failure or success. (Chawla, M. 2018).

Review of related literature:

Mishra, S. (2013) conducted a study on “Science attitude as a determinant to educational aspiration in students.” In this study researcher used the descriptive survey method and 100 sample was collected from senior secondary level students. The study was found that there is no significant difference in educational aspiration in male and female students.

Bashir, L., & Bashir, H. (2016) conducted a study on “Educational aspiration of secondary school students in relation to parental encouragement.” The study found that there exists no significant difference between male and female secondary school students in their educational aspiration and parental encouragement and it is also found that there exists a positive significant relationship between educational aspiration of secondary school students with parental encouragement.

Chawla, M. (2018) conducted a study on “A Study of Educational Aspirations of Secondary School Students in relation to their Achievement Scores”. For this study 200 sample was selected by the researcher. The result was found that the moderate degree positive correlation between Educational Aspirations and Academic Scores of secondary school students studied.

Objectives of the study:

1. To study and compare the educational aspirations among undergraduate students in relation to gender.
2. To study and compare the educational aspiration among undergraduate students in relation to stream.

Hypotheses of the study:

1. There is no significant difference of educational aspiration among undergraduate students in relation to gender.
2. There is no significant difference of educational aspiration among undergraduate students in relation to stream.

Methodology:

In the present study the researcher has adopted a descriptive survey method to carryout the study. Descriptive survey research is an approach of descriptive research that blends quantitative and qualitative data to provide you with relevant and accurate information.

Population and Sample:

The present study involved 300 of undergraduate level students. The investigator has selected sample into two categories i.e. gender and stream. The study involved 150 arts students and 150 science stream students. The students were selected by adopting Simple Random Sampling technique.

Tools for data collection:

Educational Aspiration Scale (EAS) developed by Dr. V.P. Sharma and Dr. Anuradha Gupta, (2006) was used in the study to assess the educational aspiration of undergraduate students.

Analysis and Interpretation of the Data:

In order to study the educational aspiration among undergraduate students using appropriate statistical techniques such as mean, S.D, t-test were used for analysis and interpretation of data.

- **To study and compare the educational aspirations among undergraduate students in relation to gender.**

Table:1.1

Classification of Educational Aspiration among undergraduate students in relation to gender:

Serial No.	Level of Educational Aspirations	Male	Percentage	Female	Percentage
1.	High Achievers (HA)	100	66.67%	96	64%
2.	Low Achievers (LA)	50	33.33%	54	36%
	Total	150	100%	150	100%

Fig.1.1

Bar graph showing the classification of Educational Aspiration among undergraduate students in relation to gender:

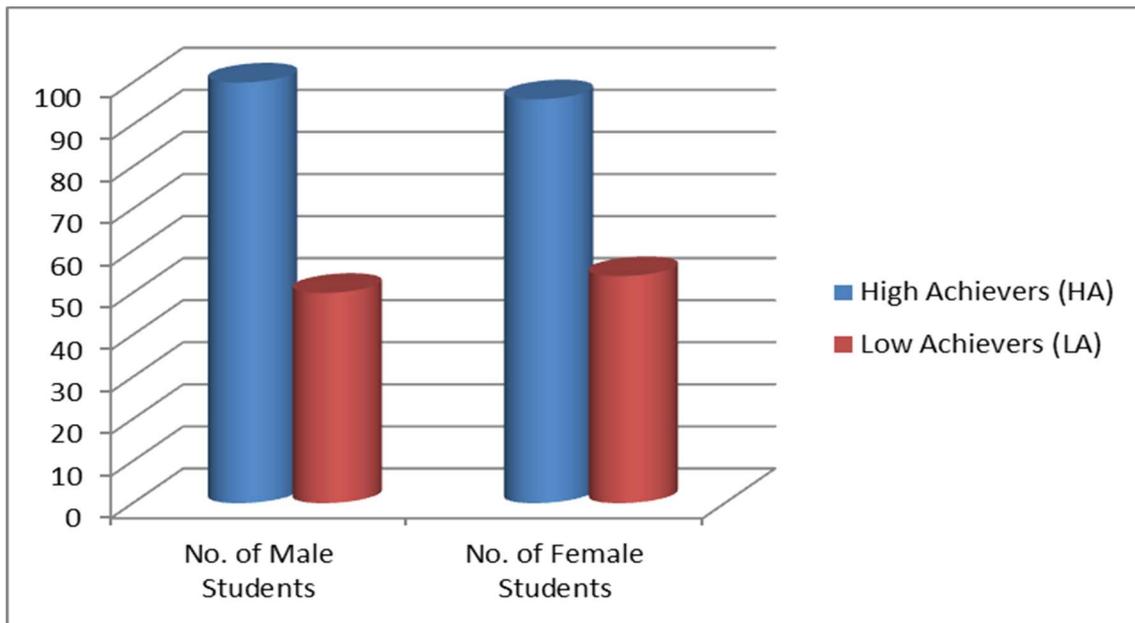


Table 1.1 and Fig.1.1 shows that the total number of male and female students is 300. Among them 150 male and 150 are female students. From the 150 male

students, 100 students was High Achievers i.e. 66.67% and 50 students was Low Achievers i.e. 33.33%. And also from the 150 female students 96 students was High Achievers i.e. 64% and 54 students was Low Achievers i.e. 36%.

Table: 1.2

Classification of Educational Aspiration among undergraduate students in relation to stream:

Serial No.	Level of Educational Aspirations	Arts	Percentage	Science	Percentage
1.	High Achievers (HA)	90	60%	95	63.33%
2.	Low Achievers (LA)	60	40%	55	36.67%
	Total	150	100%	150	100%

Fig.1.2

Bar graph showing the classification of Educational Aspiration among undergraduate students in relation to stream:

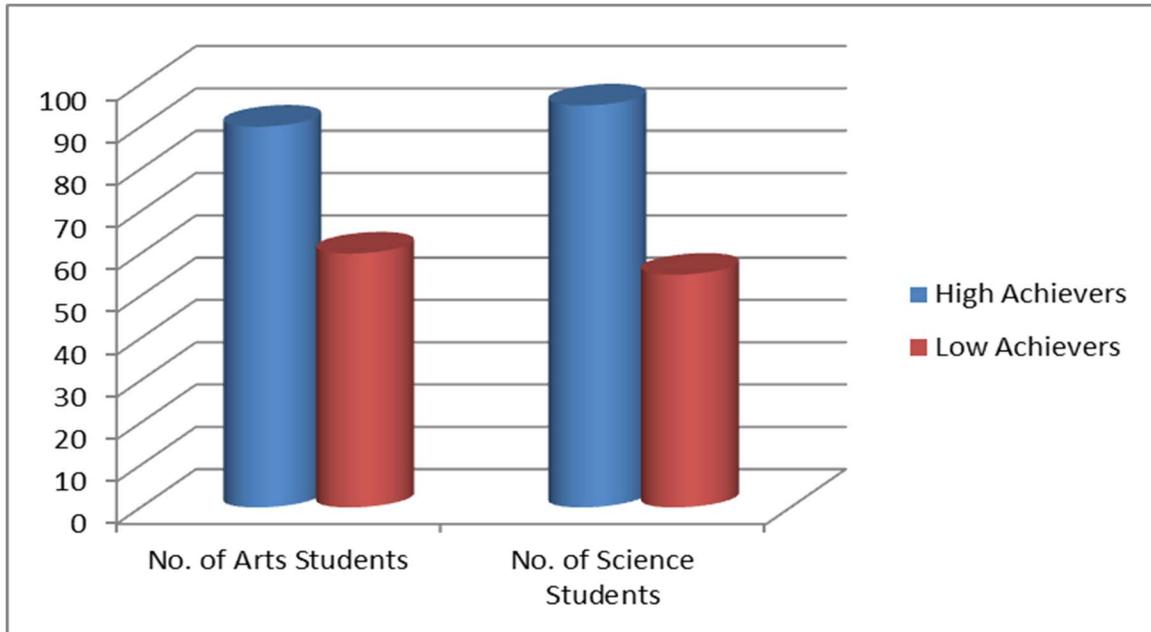


Table 1.2 and Fig.1.2 shows that the total number of arts and science students is 300. Among them 150 arts and 150 students are science students. From the 150 arts students 90 students was High Achievers i.e. 60% and 60 students was Low Achievers i.e. 40%. And also from 150 science students 95 students was High Achievers i.e. 63.33% and 55 students was Low Achievers i.e. 36.67%.

- **To study and compare the educational aspirations among undergraduate students in relation to gender.**

Table:1.3

Compare the educational aspirations among undergraduate students in relation to gender:

Sl. No.	Variable	Students Category	N	M	S.D.	df	t-value	Remarks
1.	Educational Aspiration	Male	150	45.57	13.62	298	1.66	Not significant
		Female	150	43.23	11.58			

Interpretation: Table: 1.3 shows that the mean score of male and female students on educational aspiration were 45.57 and 43.23, standard deviation of the two groups were 13.62 and 11.58 respectively. This shows that the educational aspiration of male students was higher as compared to the female students. The calculated t-value is 1.66 which is smaller than the table value is 1.97 at 0.05 level and 2.60 at 0.01 level of significance, so the hypothesis is accepted. This was found to be not significant. Thus it can be concluded that, there is no significant difference in educational aspiration among male and female students.

- **To study and compare the educational aspiration among undergraduate students in relation to stream.**

Table: 1.4

Compare the educational aspirations among undergraduate students in relation to stream:

Sl. No.	Variable	Students Category	N	M	S.D.	df	t-value	Remarks
1.	Educational Aspiration	Arts	150	38.17	11.99	298	1.44	Not significant
		Science	150	40.1	12.08			

Interpretation: Table: 1.4 shows that the mean score of arts and science students on educational aspiration were 38.17 and 40.1, standard deviation of the two groups were 11.99 and 12.08 respectively. This shows that the educational aspiration of science students was higher as compared to the arts students. The calculated t-value is 1.44 which is smaller than the table value is 1.97 at 0.05 level and 2.60 at 0.01 level of significance, so the hypothesis is accepted. This was found to be not significant. Thus it can be concluded that, there is no significant difference in educational aspiration among arts and science students.

Major Findings of the Study:

1. The study revealed that there is significant difference of educational aspiration among undergraduate students in relation to gender and stream.

2. The findings of the study showed that the male students are high educational aspiration than the female students.
3. The findings of the study showed that from the 150 male students 100 students was High Achievers i.e. 66.67% and 50 students was Low Achievers i.e. 33.33%. And also from the 150 female students 96 students was High Achievers i.e. 64% and 54 was Low Achievers i.e. 36%.
4. The findings of the study showed that the science stream students are high educational aspiration than the arts undergraduate students.
5. The study revealed that from the 150 arts students 90 students was High Achievers i.e. 60% and 60 students was Low Achievers i.e. 40%. And also from 150 science students 95 students was High Achievers i.e. 63.33% and 55 students was Low Achievers i.e. 36.67%.

Conclusion:

The present study reveals that the educational aspirations of male students was higher rather than the girls students among undergraduate students and educational aspiration of science students was higher than the arts students.

So, educational aspiration plays as a significant role that helps individuals towards setting academic goals and their future educational pathways.

References:

- Bashir, L., & Bashir, H. (2016). Educational aspiration of secondary school students in relation to parental encouragement. *Indian Journal of Positive Psychology*, 7(1), 141.
- Behera, J., & Samal, R. M. (2015). Category (Tribe and Non-Tribe) as a factor in educational aspiration of secondary school students: An Investigation. *Journal of Research & Method in education*, 5 (4), 1, 11.

Chawla, M. (2018). A study of educational aspirations of secondary school students in relation to their achievement scores. *International Journal of Research in Social Sciences*, 8(4), 872-880.

Koul, Lokesh.(2006).Methodology of Educational Research. New Delhi: *Vikas publishing house pvt ltd.*

Mishra, S. (2013). Science attitude as a determinant to educational aspiration in students. *International Journal of Engineering Inventions*, 2(9), 29-33.

Shahidul, S. M., & Karim, A. H. (2015). Intergenerational bonding in family and school contexts: which does impact more on degree aspiration of students. *Asian Social Science*, 11(27), 63-70.