

# Students' Attitude towards Higher Education in Basirhat Sub-Division of North 24 Parganas District

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**Abstract:** Higher education, often regarded as the pinnacle of academic pursuit, represents a transformative phase in the educational journey of individuals. Beyond elementary and secondary schooling, higher education encompasses specialized and advanced learning, nurturing intellect, critical thinking, and personal growth. Through a diverse array of disciplines and fields, higher education is a gateway to knowledge, expertise, and innovation, empowering students to become specialists in their chosen areas. As an integral part of societal progress, it fosters a culture of research and intellectual curiosity, shaping well-rounded individuals poised to make meaningful contributions to their communities and the world. At its core, higher education embodies the pursuit of excellence and self-discovery, preparing learners for future challenges while enriching their lives with the transformative power of education.

**Keywords:** Students , Attitude, Higher Education, Basirhat Sub-Division.

## 1. INTRODUCTION:

Higher education refers to the advanced level beyond the primary and secondary levels. It typically includes education provided by universities, colleges, professional schools, and other institutions that offer specialized academic and vocational programs. Higher education focuses on in-depth learning in specific fields of study, enabling individuals to develop expertise and advanced knowledge in their chosen areas.

At the higher education level, students pursue undergraduate and graduate degrees, such as Bachelor's, Master's, and Doctorate degrees, depending on their academic and career aspirations. The curriculum is more specialized and research-oriented than earlier education stages, encouraging critical thinking, analytical skills, and independent research.

## 2. Objectives of the Study:

1. To find out the significant difference towards higher education among UR vs Others caste of school students.
2. To study student's attitude towards future life.
3. To study the attitude of parents towards in higher education.
4. To study the interest of students' towards higher education.

## 3. Literature Review:

• **Tazien, W. (2022).** The researcher conducted the study on "Personality attitude towards higher education and Career aspiration among secondary school students". The method of the theory was descriptive survey research method. The main objective of the Study are, to study the nature of personality Attitude towards Higher Education and Career Aspiration among Secondary School Students, to study if exists in the Attitude towards Higher Education of the Secondary School Students across gender. The researcher found that among the secondary school students 50.10% of the students were found to have average career aspiration, while 24.90% were found to have low attitude towards higher education and 25% were found to have high Attitude towards higher education. Career Aspiration across Gender : Significant statistical difference was found in secondary school students 'Career Aspiration across gender . Null hypothesis, H04 was rejected. Female secondary school students were found to have higher Career Aspiration than their male counterparts; Among the secondary school students 49.59% of the students were found to have average attitude towards higher education, while 27.03% were found to have low attitude towards higher education and 23.37% were found to have high Attitude towards higher education.

• **Khan, T. (2015).** Studied on "Higher Education in Punjab An Evaluative Study". Historical method of the theory was developed by the researcher. The main objectives of the study are to identify the main problems being faced by higher education in the state. The researcher found that One of the major problem for higher education system in the state is weak school system in the state especially the rural areas where majority of our population resides. In rural areas the schools do not have adequate infrastructure. They do not have required number of teachers. If some of them have, they do not come to schools regularly. The students are very weak in studies. There is no proper arrangement for science stream in most of the rural schools. Most of the students of these areas opt for Punjabi medium. The dropout rate after post-elementary stage is very high.

• **Sarmah, A. (2013).** studied on "Inequality in access to higher education". The study was qualitative research study. The study was intended to find out the socio-economic background characteristics of boys and girls who, after passing out from Higher secondary school (+2 stage), go to college. It was also intended to compare the socio-economic characteristics of these persons with those who, after passing out from the Higher secondary stage, do not go to college. Research question of this study was Do members belonging to different social categories have equal access to higher education? The researcher found that of this study When the proportions of higher secondary school graduates from different social categories are compared to their respective proportions in the population it is found the weaker sections viz. OBC/MOBC and SC's are over represented while the ST's and General categories are underrepresented. But the proportions of these school graduates entering colleges and universities shows that the General category predominates followed by OBC/MOBC and ST's, while the SC categories sends the smallest proportion of its higher secondary school graduates to colleges and universities.

**Mehdipour, Y. &Balaramulu, D. (2013).** the researcher studied on "Students Attitude toward Teacher's Behavior in Hyderabad Universities". The study was qualitative research study. The method of the study was descriptive Study method. The research question of the study was What is the nature of students' attitude towards teacher's Behaviour? The researcher found that the majority of students pointed out that their teachers provided relevant information while explaining the points of subject matters to them. They also expressed that their teachers appreciated them with kind words about their good performance. Their teachers used reference books and prepared notes and they made the classroom environment conducive to learning by establishing a link between present and future learning, creating a sense of achievement. After all, this study showed that Attitude of students studying in post graduate course of Hyderabad Universities have been found favourable to the teacher's behaviour.

**Uprety, M. (2018).** the researcher conducted a study on "Student's Attitude towards Academic Quality of Higher Education Institutes of Indore: A Comparative study". The proposed study is empirical in nature based on survey research. The survey has been done in Indore city and the targeted population for this study was under graduate and post graduate students of Indore. Objective of the study are Quality of academic faculty of educational institutes between under graduate (UG) and post graduate (PG) students. Quality of course curriculum of educational institutes between under graduate and post graduate students. The researcher found that the objective of the study was to analyze the attitude of undergraduate and post graduate students towards the quality of academic faculty and course curriculum in higher education institutes of Indore. It was investigated that the overall academic quality offered to the undergraduate students in higher education institutes was more effective in building positive attitude whereas post graduate student were showing significantly less positive attitude in Indore. It is the increasing quality consciousness of students which makes them feel that academics quality always is a key factor in shaping their career. This academic quality includes the quality of class room teaching, faculty student interaction, course curriculum design, faculty's knowledge & skills, understanding of students etc. The higher education institutes of Indore should give more emphasis on the quality of post graduate courses so that it can increase the satisfaction level of PG students and it can attract more students nationally and internationally.

**Sarkar, S. (2022).** the researcher conducted the study on "Attitude of Higher Secondary School Students Towards Online Education In The District of Dakshin Dinajpur, West Bengal". Descriptive survey research methods have been used by the researchers for conducting this study. Simple random sampling technique is used by the researcher adopted in this study to select the sample from the population. Objective of the study are (1) to assess the level of attitude of higher secondary school students towards Online education in the district of Dakshin Dinajpur. (2) To find out the difference between male and female higher secondary school students regarding their attitude towards Online education in the district of Dakshin Dinajpur.(3) to find out the difference between rural and urban higher secondary school students regarding their attitude towards Online education in the district of Dakshin Dinajpur.(4) to find out the difference between arts and science higher secondary school students regarding their attitude towards Online education in the district of Dakshin Dinajpur. Finding are (1) it has seen that, most of the student's attitude in the Dakshin Dinajpur district, West Bengal towards online education is moderate level. (2) the attitude of male and female students of higher secondary level in Dakshin Dinajpur district did not differ from each other regarding their attitude towards online education. But it has found that female students have comparatively more favourable attitude towards online education

than the male students on the basis of their obtained mean scores. (3) the attitude of rural and urban students of higher secondary level in DakshinDinajpur district did not differ from each other regarding their attitude towards online education. But it has found that urban students have comparatively more favourable attitude towards online education than the rural students on the basis of their obtained mean scores. (4) the attitude of arts and science students of higher secondary level in DakshinDinajpur district did not differ from each other regarding their attitude towards online education. But it has found that arts students have comparatively more favourable attitude towards online education than the science students on the basis of their obtained mean scores.

**Abun, D., Jeremy, G., Alipio, C., Leonilo, R., & Ruadap-Macaspac, L. G. (2023).** the researcher studied on "Attitude toward Higher Education and Academic Engagement". In this study the researcher used descriptive type survey method. In the study the main objectives are (1) what is the cognitive attitude of students toward higher education in terms of 1.1 positive cognition 1.2 negative cognition. (2) What is the affective attitude of students toward higher education in terms: 2.1 affection (positive) 2.2 disaffection (negative). In this study the researcher found that students' positive cognitive attitude toward higher education was high (4.08), while their negative cognitive attitude was low (2.53). Their effective attitude showed a positive component of 3.98 and a negative component of 2.81

**Research Gap:** Analysis of the related literature shows that although there are several studies on students' attitudes towards higher education at national and international levels, no such research work has been found in Basirhat Sub-Division of North 24 Parganas district. As seen in the research done at national and international level, no research objective related to the future life of the students has been taken seriously. A few national studies have been found that have researched only undergraduate or postgraduate students. Also no such research has been done in North 24 Parganas district Basirhat Sub-Division which is useful in higher education.

#### 4. METHODOLOGY :

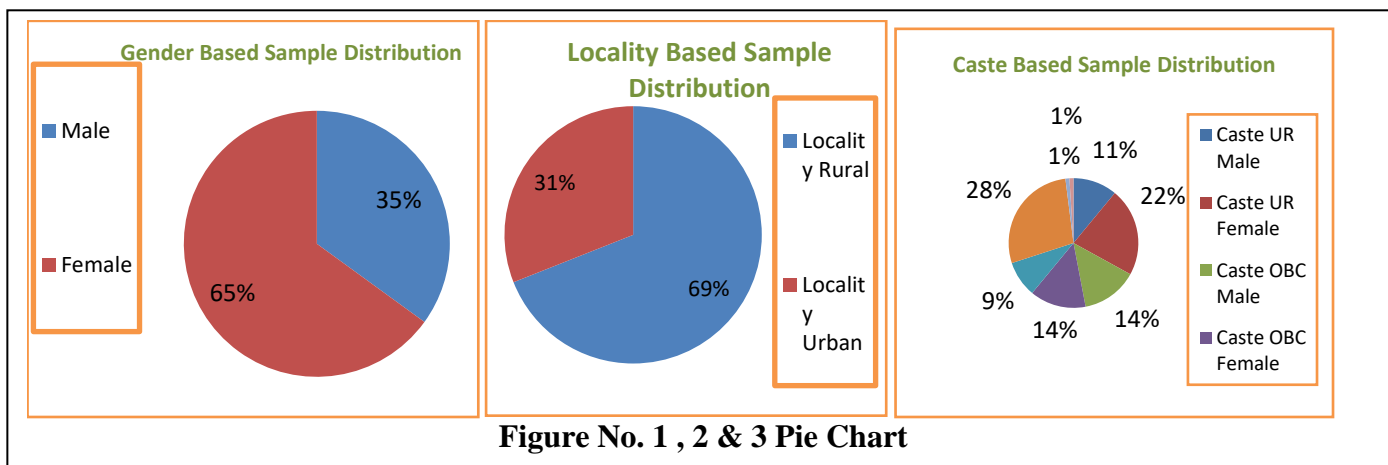
**Method and Procedure:** Depending on the situation, behavior, values, methods, partnerships or patterns, the study relates to current events. The purpose and approach of the research means that each analysis is different. A variety of methods have been developed. Each method follows a systematic approach. Descriptive survey methods have been used to conduct the present study and its Quantitative too because this method is Consider useful to collected data from a relatively large number of Cases at a time and Collected Phenomenon.

**Description of the tools in my Study:** In the present study the researcher had used a research tool for the purpose of collection of data from the sample. In this perspective the researcher develop self-made research tool (Questionnaire) as per the basis of research objectives under different dimension. Self-made questionnaire on "Students' Attitude Towards Higher Education in Basirhat Sub-Division of North 24 Parganas District".

**Data Collection:** After selecting the Higher Secondary level students' in Basirhat Sub-Division of North 24 Parganas District of West Bengal, the researcher used self-made questionnaire in the study. The researcher personally send the offline form many schools in research area for data collection.

**Population:** The population selected for the present research were all the students' in Basirhat Sub-Division of North 24 Parganas District. But it is not possible to take all the population as the sample of the study because time and limitations to conduct the study.

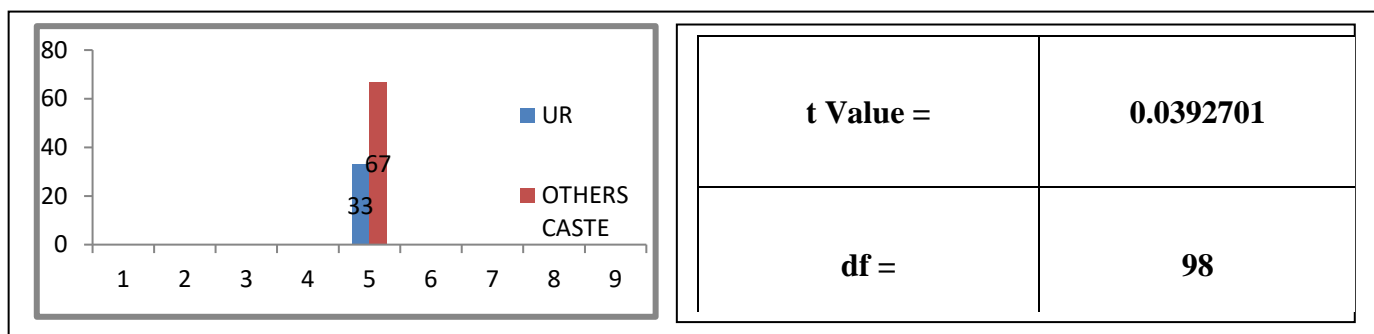
**Sample and Sampling Technique:** For the selection of adequate sample simple random sampling techniques has been followed by the researcher. Researcher was randomly selected 100 (Number of Sample) Higher Secondary Level Students' from some schools of Basirhat Sub-Division of North 24 Parganas District.



**Statistical Technique Used:** Statistical techniques that were used for interpretation of data is based on the design and objectives of the study. The analysis was done throughout the Excel. Descriptive statistics were used to analysis and interpretation of data (Mean, Median, Mode, SD, t-test).was employed to find out the significance difference of different variables under the study.

**Analysis & Interpretation:**

**Analysis of objective – I: Relationship between attitude towards higher education among UR vs Others caste of school students’.**



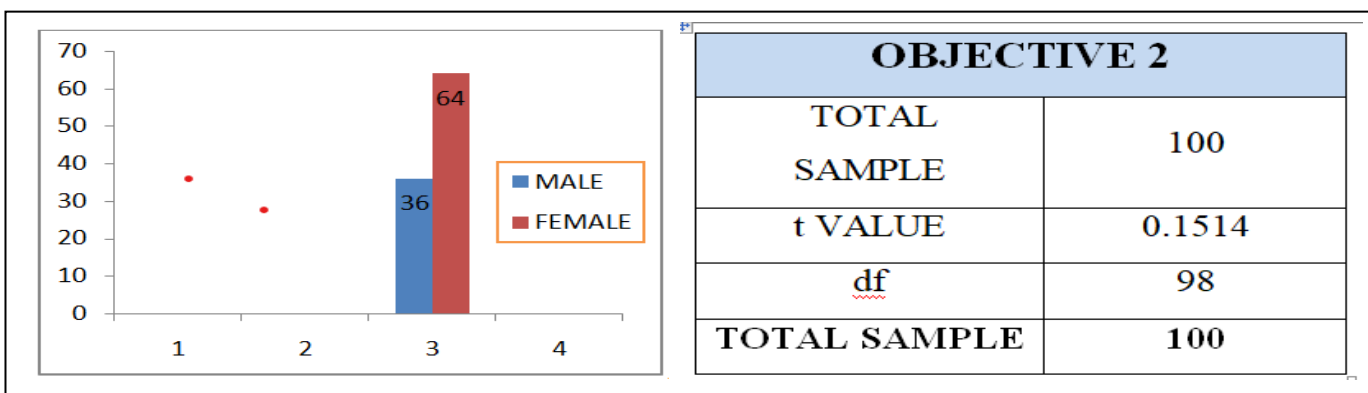
**Figure 1: Graphical representation of UR vs Others caste of school students’.**

In the above table shows that the result t test calculate value is 0.0392701 and significant value is 1.984. Hence can be said that 0.05 level (2 Tailed) Null Hypothesis is accepted.

❖ **Analysis of objective – II : To study student’s attitude towards future life.**

**H<sub>02</sub>:** There is no significant difference between Male and Female students’ attitude towards future life.

**Table :** Relationship between Male and Female students’ attitude towards future life.

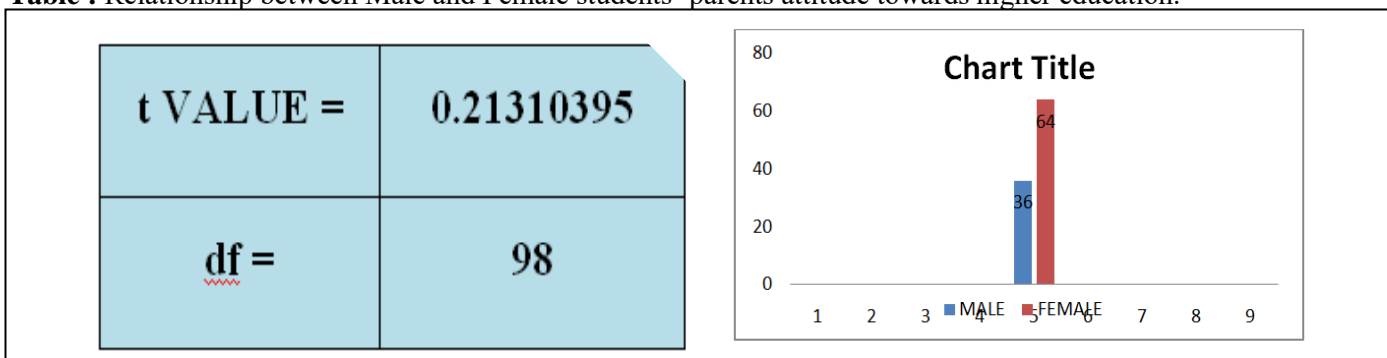


**Figure No. 2: Graphical representation of Male and Female students’ attitude towards future life.**

In the above table shows that the result t test calculate value is 0.1514 and significant value is 1.984. Hence can be said that 0.05 level (2 Tailed) Null Hypothesis is accepted.

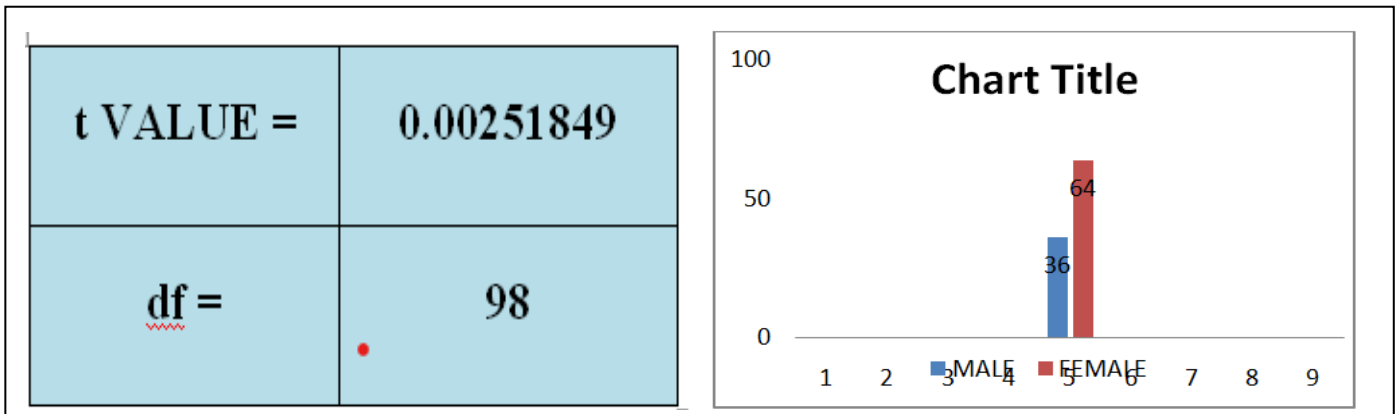
❖ **Analysis of objective – III : To study the attitude of parents towards in higher education.**

**Table :** Relationship between Male and Female students’ parents attitude towards higher education.



In the above table & figure shows that the result t test calculate value is **0.21310395** and significant value is 1.984. Hence can be said that 0.05 level (2 Tailed) Null Hypothesis is accepted.

**Figure 3: Graphical representation of Male and Female students' parents attitude towards higher education.**



❖ **Analysis of objective – IV:** To study the interest of students' towards higher education.

**Table:** Relationship difference between Rural and Urban students' interest towards higher education.

In the above table shows that the result t test calculate value is **0.00251849** and significant value is 1.984. Hence can be said that 0.05 level (2 Tailed) Null Hypothesis is accepted.

### 5. Major Findings of the Study:

The research problem (Students' Attitude Towards Higher Education in Basirhat Sub-Division of North 24 Parganas District) related objectives purpose on the basis of data analysis and interpretation (chapter - IV) the researcher presented the major findings of the study. The major findings as per the objectives are as follows:

- ❖ **From the table no. 1** it is found that Null Hypothesis accepted. The hypothesis "there is no significant difference between attitude towards higher education among UR Vs Other Castes of school students' " is accepted. So, we can be said that there is no significant difference between attitude towards higher education among UR Vs Other Castes of school students' in Basirhat Sub-Division of North 24 Parganas District. By analyzing the data of the questions as per objective number one we know that there is no difference in education between UR Vs Other Castes. However, the attitude towards higher education among STs and SCs is somewhat lower than that of OBCs.
- ❖ **From the table no. 2** it is found that Null Hypothesis accepted. The hypothesis "there is no significant difference between Male and Female students' attitude towards future life" is accepted. So, we can be said that there is no significant difference between Male and Female students' attitude towards future life in Basirhat Sub-Division of North 24 Parganas District. By analyzing the data of the questions according to objective number two, we can know that the students' have a positive attitude towards higher education. Students' ( Male and Female ) are cautious about their future life and they want to pursue higher education.
- ❖ **From the table no. 3** it is found that Null Hypothesis accepted. The hypothesis "there is no significant difference between Male and Female students' parents attitude towards higher education " is accepted. So, we can be said that there is no significant difference between Male and Female students' parents attitude towards higher education in Basirhat Sub-Division of North 24 Parganas District. According to objective number three, by analyzing the data of the questions, we can found that there is no difference between Male Students' and Female students' parents in their attitude towards higher education. Most of them took higher education seriously.
- ❖ **From the table no. 4** it is found that Null Hypothesis accepted. The hypothesis "there is no significant difference between Rural and Urban students' interest towards higher education" is accepted. So, we can be said that there is no significant difference between Rural and Urban students' interest towards higher education in Basirhat Sub-Division of North 24 Parganas District. By analyzing the data of the questions according to objective number four, we know that there is no significant difference in the attitude of students towards higher education in Rural and Urban areas in Basirhat Sub-Division. But some problems remain in rural areas like - distant colleges, cost of commuting etc. Few rural students showed less interest in higher education.
- ❖ The researcher first selects the research problem and formulates some research objectives according to that research problem. Then, according to the research objective, the researcher formed the Null Hypothesis. In the next chapter (chapter-II) we see what other researchers have been done earlier regarding this research, the details of those studies

are also given. From those details we can know what aspects can be highlighted in the present study. It can be said that the previous studies have improved the present study. In the next chapter i.e. chapter-III we see the details of research method, Tools, Data Collection Method, Sample and Sampling Technique. Current research cost issues are also discussed. In Chapter-IV we see the analysis of the Objectives and Hypotheses taken in the first chapter. The findings from the data analysis are discussed in chapter five. Educational implications, suggestions for future research are also discussed.

**6. Conclusion:** The research paper will play an important role in higher education. These research findings will help improve higher education. It will help to improve the infrastructure of higher education institutions so that students' develop positive attitude towards higher education. The results obtained from this research will help to increase the number of colleges, universities in Basirhat Sub-Division. Finally it can be said that this research paper will help in improving the quality of higher education as a result of which school students will show interest in higher education.

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