

## VOCATIONAL INTERESTS OF SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS IN RELATION TO THEIR LEVEL OF ASPIRATION

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### **Abstract:**

It is the simple reality that every people in the world have to choose any profession or work in their respective fields for sustaining their livelihoods. If the chosen profession is of their own choice and interest, then they can excel in their field of work and the productivity will be greater. Now-a-days students and their family are more concern about their future. In this regard a study has been conducted to know the vocational interests in relation to level of aspiration. The main objectives of the study were, 1) to find the relationship between Vocational Interests and Level of Aspiration of the secondary school students. 2) to find the relationship between vocational interests and level of aspiration of the male secondary school students. 3) to find the relationship between vocational interests and level of aspiration of the female secondary school students. For this study a sample of 100 secondary school students (50 males and 50 females) have been selected. The tools used for this study were i) 'Vocational Interest Scale' by Dr. Parveen Begum and ii) Level of Aspiration Test (LOA) developed by Dr. V.P. Bhargava. The data were analyzed with the help of Mean, Standard Deviation and correlation. The study revealed that there was no significant relationship between vocational interests and level of aspiration of the secondary level students. Another finding was that there was no significant relationship between vocational interests and level of aspiration of the male secondary school students. The researcher has not found any significant relationship between the vocational interests and level of aspiration of the female secondary school students. This study will be helpful for the teachers, parents, counsellor,

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head master, administration and policy makers to guide the students for the selection of appropriate vocation of their own choice.

**Key Words: Vocational Interests, Level of Aspiration, Secondary School Students.**

### **1. Introduction:**

Education is the only means for the sustainable growth and development of a country, especially economic development. 21<sup>st</sup> century is the age of globalization, liberalization and privatization. As the globalization took off in the year of 1991 and free economic policies have been adopted, since then education become job oriented or market oriented. Today's education takes the approach to supply huge numbers of specific and skilled business personnel to make them fit for the particular industrial jobs in the market. This leads to specialization of professional or vocational education. People do not prefer general courses today; rather they take diversion at the certain point of study life. They decide to move for particular job oriented courses; like, MBBS, B.Tech, LLB, ITI, Nursing, MBA, teachers' training courses, different types of games and sports, acting, modelling, architect etc to build their careers. Now-a-days, students are more conscious about their future and aware of different types of professions. Family education, diversification of information, use of technology, wide advertisement helps them in collecting information regarding the professions. They prefer their career according to their interest, capability, aptitude and family status.

To engage in a vocation or profession according to the needs and interests of a person is very crucial for any person and his work environment. Its effect doesn't stop here. It has also great social and further more national importance. For example, if a person has interest in sports he cannot excel in engineering work or medical. If he becomes an engineer, there may be chance of collapse of building prepared by him. Lots of casualty will be there. If a person is interest in medical or performing arts and does not have interest in teaching, he will not be a good teacher. In every year he will produce at least 30 bad students and it will hamper the whole nation and its development. Large number of people could not get jobs according to their interest and it is due to their inability to identify their interests at the earlier time. People started working in job without interest means; he got imprisoned for the whole lifetime period. May be he will be

expert in doing his business by experience, but he will not be internally happy by doing that job. A vocation of one's interest may mean happiness and prosperity. So people should check his interest and follow their interests in the career building. In this regard the family members specially the parents can play a pivotal role to judge their vocation interests and accordingly help their children to build their future.

As the boys and girls enters in the adolescent period, we can say at the secondary or higher secondary level, they expose varieties of interests in different situations in different field such as social, cultural, mathematical, business, technological, interpersonal, linguistic, artistic and in many more field of life. At the mean time different stakeholders such as parents, teachers, elders and others have to identify their interests in such specific, diversified and multi-interested areas. At this period self concept begins to take a definite form. For these reasons, interest patterns begins to crystallize by early adolescence and the positive exploratory experience of adolescent years, in most cases, merely classify and elaborate upon what has already begun to take shape.

### **Vocational Interest: Concept and Meaning**

Vocational interest is defined as one's own pattern of preference, aptitude, like, dislikes, preferred in any manner, wisely or unwisely by self or by others source for a given vocation area or vocation. Vocational interest is defined by Hollande (1977), as the expression of an individual's personality in work, in school subject, hobbies, recreational activities or preference. According to *Strong*, "Vocational Interest is not only a single choice but the sum total of many interests that bear in any way upon an occupational career."

Vocational interest, vocational aspiration, occupational choice — all such terms are now interchangeably used (Herman J. Peters, 1968). Vocational interests for the present purpose will mean a measurable inclination of some person towards a particular vocation. This may speak of the selectiveness of an individual to show or express his or her choice.

### **Level of Aspiration: Concept and Meaning**

The term "aspirations" is one which is often used synonymously with goals, ambitions, objectives, purposes, dreams, plans, designs, intentions, desires, longings, wishes, yearnings,

cravings or aims. Aspirations are what drive individuals to do more and be more than they presently are. We may know what we are, but we cannot know for certain what we can be!

*Frank* (1935) provided a definition of Level of Aspiration which is generally acceptable. For him Level of Aspiration is, "the level of future performance in a familiar task which an individual, knowing his level of past performance in that task, explicitly undertakes to reach". According to *Hoppe* (1930) "Level of Aspiration is the degree of difficulty of that task chosen as a goal for the next action"

Gardner (1940) defined as, "level of aspiration is a truly quantitative concept, which has two requirements that the subjects make some public indication of his aims and that, he makes this in quantitative terms." Hurlock (1967) defined it as "a longing for what is above one's achieved level with advancement on it as it send. In other words, aspiration means the goal an individual sets for himself in a task, which has intense personal significance for him or in which his ego-involved."

## **2. Need and Significance of the Study:**

The problem of unemployment in our country is one of the serious problems. One of the important reason of unemployment in our country is the mismatch between, 'what is available' and 'what is needed' or what is demanded by the students.

Our education system is not guiding students about their career. There is no provision in the system to formally guide students about the most suitable career path for them. The parents forcefully admit the students according to their own wishes and aspiration. They never thought about the 'vocational interest' and 'aspiration' of their children. This leads to the widespread frustration among the learners. Thus the student face huge problem in due course of working life. They do not develop their career though they will be provided good educational institute and environment.

This is a burning issue in time present time. Though large numbers of work has done already related to the topic, but the investigator takes a new dimension with '*Vocational Interest*' and '*Level of Aspiration*' as there is research gap in this field.

### **3. Objectives of the Study:**

1. To find the relationship between **Vocational Interests** and **Level of Aspiration** of the secondary school students.
2. To find the relationship between vocational interests and level of aspiration of the male secondary school students.
3. To find the relationship between vocational interests and level of aspiration of the female secondary school students.

### **4. Hypotheses:**

The hypotheses of the present study are as follows-

**H<sub>01</sub>**. There will be no significant relationship between vocational interests and level of aspiration of the secondary school students.

**H<sub>02</sub>**. There will be no significant relationship between vocational interests and level of aspiration of the male secondary school students.

**H<sub>03</sub>**. There will be no significant relationship between vocational interests and level of aspiration of the female secondary school students.

## **6. Research Methodology**

### **i. Research Method:**

The researcher has used survey and descriptive method of the research for the present study.

### **ii. Population:**

The students of the secondary schools of Aligarh districts have been considered as the population,

### **iii. Sample of the Study:**

The present study is an attempt to study the vocational interest of the secondary level students in relation to their level of aspiration. The sample of the present study has been collected from two

schools. Total 100 sample is taken out of which 50 is from A.M.U. Girls High School and remaining 50 from A.B.K. Boys School.

Table: 1 Total Sample of the Study

Name of School	Sample
A.M.U. Girls High School	50 Girls
A.B.K. Boys School	50 boys
Total	100 Students

#### iv. Tools Used in the Study:

The following tools have been used for the collection of data for the study.

1. 'Vocational Interest Scale' by Parveen Begum.
2. The Level of Aspiration Test (LOA) was developed by Dr. V.P. Bhargava
- 3.

#### v. Statistical Techniques Used For Data Analysis:

In the Present Study the descriptive and inferential statistics will be used after data collection for analysis and interpretation of results. SPSS package will also be used for analysis of data with the use of the following statistical technique.

The researcher has used mean, standard deviation, Pearson's Product Moment Correlation for the appropriate analysis and interpretation of findings of the present study.

### 7. Analysis and Interpretation of the Study:

#### Objectives No-1

To find the relationship between vocational interests and level of aspiration of the secondary school students.

**H<sub>01</sub>.** There will be no significance relationship between vocational interests and level of aspiration of the secondary school students.

Table: 2, Relationship between vocational interest and level of aspiration of secondary school students

Variable	No of Students	Mean	S.D.	Df	Calculated 'r'	Hypothesis
Vocational Interests	100	246	46.74	98	.086	Accepted
Level of Aspiration	100	130	13.59			

**Interpretation 1:**

The above table show that at the calculated value of 'r' is 0.086 is very less than the tabulated value or critical value of 'r'. Hence it is not significant at any level. Thus the null hypothesis is accepted. So it can be interpreted as there is no significant relationship between vocational interests and the level of aspiration of the secondary level students.

**Objectives No. 2**

To find the relationship between vocational interests and level of aspiration of the male secondary school students.

**H<sub>02</sub>**. There will be no significance relationship between vocational interests and level of aspiration of the male secondary school students.

Table: 3 Relationship between vocational interest and level of aspiration of the of male secondary school students

Variable	No of Students	Mean	S.D.	Df	Calculated 'r'	Hypothesis
Vocational Interests	50	249	51.10753	49	.137	Accepted
Level of Aspiration	50	132	10.85656			

**Interpretation 2:**

From the above table it is revealed that the calculated value of 'r' is 0.137 and degree of freedom is 49. Keeping in mind this value it is found that the critical vale of 'r' at 49 degree of freedom is

0.275 at 0.05 levels and 0.355 at the 0.01 level. Hence it is very low than the tabulated value. Thus the null hypothesis is accepted. Therefore, it can be concluded that there is no such significant relationship between vocational interests and the level of aspiration of the male students at the secondary level.

### Objectives No. 3

To find the relationship between vocational interests and level of aspiration of the female secondary school students.

**H<sub>0.3</sub>.** There will be no significance relationship between vocational interests and level of aspiration of the female secondary school students.

Table: 4. Relationship between vocational interest and level of aspiration of the Female secondary school students

Variable	No of Students	Mean	S.D.	Df	Calculated 'r'	Hypothesis
Vocational Interests	50	244	42.30550	49	.041	Accepted
Level of Aspiration	50	129	15.86305			

### Interpretation 3:

The above table shows the degree of relationship between vocational interest and level of aspiration. Here the calculated value of 'r' is 0.041 and the degree of freedom is 49. The tabulated value of 'r' or the critical value is of 'r' is 0.275 at 0.05 levels and 0.355 at 0.01 levels at the degree of freedom of 49. Hence it is found that the calculated value of 'r' is very less than critical. So, the null hypothesis is accepted. Therefore, it can be concluded that there is no significant relationship between the vocational interest and level of aspiration of the Female secondary school students.

### 8. Findings:

The researcher has tried to investigate the vocational interests of the secondary school students in relation to their level of aspiration. In this study the researcher has set different objectives and



framed different hypotheses and used various statistical techniques. The findings of the study are as follows:

1. The researcher has found that there was no significant relationship between vocational interests and level of aspiration of the secondary level students.
2. There was no significant relationship between vocational interests and level of aspiration of the male secondary school students.
3. The researcher has not found any significant relationship between the vocational interests and level of aspiration of the female secondary school students.

### **9. Suggestions for Further Study:**

No research is a complete research. It is also true that when one problem is solved, another problem springs up. We know that no research can be proved to be true forever as the world is the result of continuous process of change and so every area needs more and more continuous study. The researcher had conducted the study within a very short time and has some limitation. Therefore, there is a possibility of many things that needed to be studied, have been skipped.

Therefore, further researches may be done in the related to the present study, such as:

1. Vocational interested of the government and private schools students.
2. Vocational choice of the urban and rural students at secondary or higher secondary level.
3. Level of aspiration of the rural and urban areas.
4. Study of level of aspiration of the low and high socio-economic status.
5. Vocational Interests of Gifted and Retarded children.
6. Effect of the mother's education and profession on the vocational interest of the student.
7. Effect of father's profession on the Vocational choice of the children.
8. Study of Vocational Interests of boys and girls at district level, state level especially in rural areas.
9. Parent education and its effect on vocational choice of the adolescents.
10. Effect of different Universities and Boards on the Vocational Interests of their students,

### **10. Conclusion:**

Vocational choice is one of the most important tasks for every student. Right decision at the correct moment can change the whole life of a person and his professional environment.

At the conclusion of the study it can be said that, the students of Secondary schools of AMU are enough aware about their vocational choice and the world of work. The study shows differences in the level of aspiration and vocational interest but one is not depended on another. It is found that vocational interests of the students are not related with the level of aspiration. A person may have higher degree of level of aspiration but it is not necessary that he has the vocational interest of higher order or higher degree of profession. Hence there is no significant relationship between vocational interest of the secondary school students and their level of aspiration.

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