

## International Journal of Innovative Research in Science, Engineering and Technology

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# A Study on ‘Awareness of Human Rights among Teacher Trainees’

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**ABSTRACT:** Human rights are moral principles or norms that describe certain standards of human behaviour and are regularly protected as natural and legal rights in municipal and international law. They are commonly understood as inalienable, fundamental rights to which a person is inherently entitled simply because she or he is a human being and which are inherent in all human beings, regardless of their nation, location, language, religion, ethnic origin or any other status. All Human Rights documents give a prominent place to Rights to Education. They also stress the importance of education in promoting human rights. UNESCO has played a leading role in promoting education in human rights and issued comprehensive recommendations dealing with various aspects of education in human rights in 1974. A world plan of action on Education for Human Rights and Democracy was adopted in march 1998 by *international* congress on Education for Human Rights and Democracy in Montreal . It emphasized that human rights education much be viewed as an exercise in democracy and teaching of Human Rights and Democracy should be included in the curricula at all levels of the school system.

**KEYWORDS:** Human rights teacher trainees, awareness.

### I. NEED AND SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

Human rights education is an integral part of the right to education and is increasingly gaining recognition as a human right in itself. Knowledge of rights and freedom is considered a fundamental tool to guarantee respect for the rights of all. It is the Human Rights Education that creates awareness in the individual about the rights. It protects the concerned individual from all sorts of harassment. It keeps the dignity of the individual. It makes him aware that he is a citizen of this world. Human rights education, training and public information are, therefore, necessary and essential for the promotion and achievement of stable and harmonious relations among the communities and for fostering mutual understanding, tolerance and peace.

### STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

The area selected for the study was to find out awareness of teacher trainees towards human rights. Hence the problem under investigation was entitled as A SYUDY ON ‘AWARENESS OF HUMAN RIGHTS AMONG

### TEACHER TRAINEES, DEFINITION OF KEY TERMS

**Awareness:** Awareness refers to the state of being aware, consciousness of a situation or object, without direct attention to it or definite knowledge of its nature (Good, 1993).

**Human Rights :** Human rights can be generally defined as “those rights which are inherent in our nature without which we cannot live as human beings. Basic rights and freedom that all people are entitled to regardless of sex, race, ethnic, nationality or other status (Kapoor, 2009).

#### Teacher trainees

Teacher trainees are the students who have studying bachelor of education and master of education, (B.Ed. / M.Ed.) who are going to become teachers.

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## OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The following are the objectives of the present study are as under:

1. To find out whether there is any difference between female and male teacher trainees in their awareness towards human rights.
2. To find out whether there is any difference in their awareness towards human rights violation among arts and science teacher trainees.
3. To find out whether there is any difference between government, aided, and unaided teacher trainees in their awareness towards human rights

#### 4. HYPOTHESES OF THE STUDY

The following are the hypotheses of the present study.

1. There is no significant difference between female and male teacher trainees in their awareness towards human rights.
2. There is no significant difference between arts and science teacher trainees in their awareness towards human rights.
3. There is no significant difference between government, aided, and unaided teacher trainees in their awareness of human rights.

## METHODOLOGY IN BRIEF

Research methodology has many dimensions and research methods do constitute a part of the research methodology. In it we study the various steps that are generally adopted by a researcher in studying his research problem along with the logic behind them (Kothari, 2004). The scope of research methodology is wider than that of research methods. Thus, the methodology includes the details of the method adopted for the study, variables of the study, sample selected for the study, tools used for the study, and the statistical techniques used for the analysis of data.

### Method adopted for the study

The investigator adopted normative survey method for this investigation. Normative survey method is that method of investigation which attempts to describe and interpret what exists at present in the form of conditions, practices, processes, trends, effects, attitudes, beliefs and the like (Sidhu, 2010).

### Population of the study

Population of the study consists of teacher trainees (B.Ed./ M.Ed.) in Kerala.

### Sample of the study

A sample is a small proportion of a population selected for observation and analysis (Best, & Kahn 2012). Here, sample consists of 300 teacher trainees. Stratified sampling technique was used for collecting data giving due representation to factors such as gender (male and female), subject (arts and science) and type of management of college (government, aided, unaided).

### Variables of the study

The variables of the present study are the following:

Awareness of Human Rights

### Tools for the study

Human Rights Awareness questionnaire (Athira lekshmi k & Mini john2015)

### Statistical techniques

The statistical techniques (Garrett, 2007) used for the present investigation are:

1. The 't' test to determine whether there is any significant difference between two groups in a variable.
2. ANOVA (Analysis of variance).

Analysis of variance is essentially a procedure for testing the difference among different groups for data homogeneity (Kothari, 1990).

### Procedure of the study

After finalizing the sample and the tools to be used for the collection of the data, a purposeful planning was done for the administration of the tests. The investigator attained the permission from the college authorities for the

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collection of the data. Then the investigator administered the questionnaire and scale with the help of guide on the prescribed sample. Administration of each instrument or tool was preceded by clear and apt instructions regarding the mode of answering the responses on the tool and other details of the students also filled up by them on the personal information schedule given.

## SCOPE OF THE STUDY

The present study was intended to identify the awareness of human rights among teacher trainees. In this era lot of human rights violations are happening. The investigator hopes that the study would be helpful to parents, teachers, curriculum planners, educationalists and all those who are inculcating human rights with meaningful insight. The findings of the study may also helpful to the authority to improve the quality of human rights programmes.

## DELIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

A number of delimitations have into the study are as under:

1. In this study the investigator took only 300 teacher trainees
2. The present study was delimited to teacher trainees only. The sample was taken only from schools in Pathanamthitta, Kottayam and Alappuzha districts.

**TABLE 1**  
**Breakup of the Final Sample Selected for the Study**

Sl.No.	Category	Groups	Numbers	Total
1	Sex of teachers	Females / Males	55+45	100
2.	Subject	Arts / Science	152+148	300
3	Type of College	Govt./Aided/Unaided	100+100+100	300

## STATISTICAL ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF DATA

Statistical analysis is the process of gathering, organizing, analyzing and discussing data. Analysis involves preparing data for analysis, running the analysis, reporting results, and discussing them (Cresswell, 2011).

Analysis is an extensive and comprehensive process intended to study the underlying relationship among various factors. It is a critical step in any research programmes for it is obtained through this process, which leads the investigator to arrive at proper conclusion.

The results of the present study were discussed mainly by noting the level of significance. Towards the end of the discussion the tenability of the concerned hypothesis was tested.

### 1.1 Comparison of male and female teacher trainees in their awareness towards human rights

The awareness of human rights among females and males were compared on the basis of their values of mean, standard deviation and t. The respective values are given in Table 2.

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**TABLE 2**  
**Data and Results of t test for comparing females  
 and males with Regard to Variable Awareness of Human Rights**

Category	N	Mean	SD	T	Level of Significance
<b>Females</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>69.07</b>	<b>15.07</b>	<b>0.096</b>	<b>Not significant</b>
<b>Males</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>68.80</b>	<b>13.16</b>		

The data and result in table 2 indicates that the mean obtained by females was 69.07 and those for males its values was 68.80. The corresponding standard deviations were 15.07 and 13.16 respectively. The calculated t was 0.096 which is less than the table value 1.96 at 0.05 level of significance. This shows that there is no significant difference between the mean scores of females and males in their awareness of human rights. This shows that there existed no significant difference between females and male teacher trainees in their awareness towards human rights.

### Test of Tenability of Hypothesis 1

Hypothesis 1 which stated that “There is no significant difference between female and male teacher trainees in their awareness towards human rights” was accepted.

### 1.2 Comparison of arts and science teacher trainees in their awareness towards human rights.

The awareness of human rights among Arts and Science were compared on the basis of their values of mean, standard deviation and t. The respective values are given in Table 3.

**TABLE 3**  
**Data and Results of t test for comparing Arts  
 and Science with Regard to Variable Awareness of Human Rights**

Category	N	Mean	SD	T	Level of Significance
<b>Arts</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>84.45</b>	<b>11.79</b>	<b>2.72</b>	<b>Significant at 0.01</b>
<b>Science</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>80.78</b>	<b>11.59</b>		

The data and result in table 3 indicates that the mean obtained by arts was **84.45** and those for science its values was 80.78. The corresponding standard deviations were 11.79 and 11.59 respectively. The calculated t was 2.72 which is greater than the table value 2.59 at 0.01 level of significance. This shows that there is significant difference between the mean scores of arts and science in their awareness of human rights. This shows that there existed significant difference between arts and science teacher trainees in their awareness towards human rights.

### Test of Tenability of Hypothesis 2

Hypothesis 2 which stated that “There is no significant difference between arts and science teacher trainees in their awareness towards human rights” was rejected.

## II. ANALYSIS OF VARIANCE (ANOVA)

Analysis of variance (ANOVA) was done to compare the differences among three groups obtained on the basis of management of college (Government, Aided and Unaided). The F ratio was calculated by using the procedure explained by Garrett (1969).

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### 2.1 Comparison of Government, Aided, and Unaided teacher trainees with Respect to Awareness of Human Rights.

**TABLE 4**  
**Mean and Standard Deviation of the Scores of Government, Aided, and Unaided Teacher trainees with regard to their Awareness of Human Rights**

Sl.No.	Group	N	Mean	S D
1	Govt.	100	90.41	11.240
2	Aided	100	88.99	11.307
3	Unaided	100	91.55	10.238

To test the significance of difference among the means of government, aided and unaided teacher trainees in their awareness of human rights 100 government, 100 aided, and 100 unaided teacher trainees were taken. It may be noted that the mean of government, aided, and unaided teacher trainees for the variable awareness of human rights were 90.41, 88.99, 91.55 and the corresponding standard deviations were 11.240, 11.307, and 10.238 respectively.

**TABLE 5**  
**Data and Results of Government, Aided, and Unaided Teacher trainees with Respect to Awareness towards Human Rights.**

Source of Variation	Df	Sum of squares	Mean square	F Ratio	Level of significance
Between groups	2	328.987	164.493	1.375	Not Significant
Within groups	297	35541.930	119.670		
Total	299	35870.917			

Data and result given in Table 5 indicate that F ratio obtained was 1.375. Table value of 'F' at 0.01 level of significance is 4.63 and 0.05 level of significance is 3.00. Since the obtained value is less than the table value, the difference is statistically not significant at 0.01 level as well as at 0.05 level. This shows that there is no significant difference among government, aided, and unaided teacher trainees in their awareness of human rights.

#### Test of Tenability of Hypothesis 3

Hypothesis 3 which states that: There is no significant difference between government, aided, and unaided teacher trainees in their awareness towards human rights were accepted.

### III. MAJOR FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

The findings of the present study were as follows:

1. The  $t$  obtained by comparing female and male teacher trainees on the variable awareness towards human rights was found to be 0.096, which is less than the table value 1.96 at 0.05 level of significance which was not significant statistically. This shows that there is no significant difference between the mean scores of females and males in their awareness towards human rights.
2. The  $t$  obtained by comparing arts and science teacher trainees on the variable awareness towards human rights was found to be 2.72, which is greater than the table value 2.59 at 0.01 level of significance which is statistically significant. This shows that there is significant difference between the mean scores of arts and

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- science in their awareness of human rights. This shows that there existed significant difference between arts and science teacher trainees in their awareness towards human rights.
3. The **F** ratio obtained by comparing government, aided, and unaided teacher trainees on the variable awareness towards human rights was 1.375 which was not significant statistically as the obtained ratio was 1.375 which is less than the table value 4.68 at 0.01 level.

## IV. CONCLUSIONS OF THE STUDY

The following are the conclusions of the present study are as under:

1. There existed no significant difference between female and male teacher trainees in their awareness towards human rights
2. There existed significant difference between arts and science teacher trainees in their awareness towards human rights.
3. There existed no significant difference between government, aided, and unaided teacher trainees in their awareness towards human rights

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