

“Attitude of Government and Private School Students towards Geography Education in Calicut District of Kerala – A Comparative Study”

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Abstract

The study compares the attitude of Government and Private school students towards Geography Education in Calicut district of Kerala State. There are five objectives for the present study. 1-To compare the attitude of Government and Private school students towards Geography Education in Calicut district of Kerala State. 2-To compare the attitude of male and female students towards Geography Education at Government schools in Calicut district of Kerala State.3-To compare the attitude of male and female students towards Geography Education at Private schools in Calicut district of Kerala State.4-To compare the attitude of male students of Government and Private schools towards Geography Education in Calicut district of Kerala State.5-To compare the attitude of female students of Government and Private schools towards Geography Education in Calicut district of Kerala State. The investigator followed Normative survey method for the present study. For the purpose of data collection, an attitude scale (Attitude towards geography education scale-ATGES) constructed and validated by Abdul Gafoor.K and Sumesh.PM (2012)). The Researcher collected data from five government and four private schools in Calicut district of Kerala state, India. Total 510 students (257 male and 253 female) were selected as the sample for the present study. For the analysis of the collected data, investigator used the mean, standard Deviation and ‘t’ test as statistical techniques. The study reveals that the students of government and private schools significantly differ in respect of their attitude towards Geography Education. Government school students have better attitude towards Geography Education in Secondary schools of Calicut district when compared to private school students of same district.

Key words: Attitude, Government schools, Private Schools, Geography Education.

Introduction

Geography education is an essential part of arts education. Modern studies related to education reveals that the Socio-Economic status, civilization, attitude, aptitude, interest, etc. totally differs from Government and private school students. On the basis of Psychological studies, attitude is one of the most important factors of the Learning Process.

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The problem of the present study entitled as “Attitude of Government and Private School students towards Geography Education in Calicut district of Kerala - A comparative study”. Male and female students of the above schools significantly differ in their attitude towards arts education especially Geography and History education.

Santhosh Kumar (2006) studied “Attitude of secondary school students towards English as a medium of instruction in Keonjhar district of Orissa”- A comparative study. The study reveals that there is a close relationship between the attitude and achievement in English learning. As a personal experience of the researcher for the last ten years, Government school students have positive attitude towards both Arts and Science education. At the same time private school students have better attitude towards science education than arts education.

Objectives of the Study

1. To compare the attitude of Government and Private school students towards Geography Education in Calicut district of Kerala State.
2. To compare the attitude of male and female students towards Geography Education at Government schools in Calicut district of Kerala State.
3. To compare the attitude of male and female students towards Geography Education at Private schools in Calicut district of Kerala State.
4. To compare the attitude of male students of Government and Private schools towards Geography Education in Calicut district of Kerala State.
5. To compare the attitude of female students of Government and Private school towards Geography Education in Calicut district of Kerala State.

Hypotheses

Hypotheses of the present study are as follows:-

1. There is no significant difference between the attitude of students towards Geography Education at Government and Private schools in Calicut district of Kerala State.
2. There is no significant difference between the attitude of male and female students of Government schools towards Geography Education in Calicut district of Kerala State.
3. There is no significant difference between the attitude of male and female students of Private schools towards Geography Education in Calicut district of Kerala State.
4. There is no significant difference between the attitude of male students of Government and Private schools towards Geography Education in Calicut district of Kerala State.
5. There is no significant difference between attitude of female students of Government and Private schools towards Geography Education in Calicut district of Kerala State.

Method of the Study

The investigator followed the Normative survey method for the present study.

Sample of the Study

The researcher used simple random sampling technique for data collection. Researcher collected data from the five Government schools (Three from Urban and two from Rural) and four Private schools (Two from Urban and two from Rural) in Calicut district of Kerala State.

Here collected data regarding the attitude of Government and Private school students towards Geography Education in Calicut district of Kerala State. 250 students from Government schools (125 male and 125 female) and 260 students from Private schools (132 male and 128 female) in Calicut district of Kerala state, India were selected for the present study.

Thus, a total of 510 students (257 male and 253 female) were selected as the sample for the present study.

Tool Used For the Study

Attitude towards geography education scale (ATGES) constructed and validated by Abdul Gafoor.K and Sumesh.PM (2012) has been used in this present study. This scale is a five point scale, which consist of 45 statements (25 positive and 20 negative statements). Each statement has the options namely 'Strongly Agree,' 'Agree', 'Undecided', 'Disagree', and 'Strongly Disagree'. The response of the subjects was scored by using the numerical values to the items. The statements were having the scoring as 5,4,3,2 and 1 for the responses 'Strongly Agree,' 'Agree', 'Undecided', 'Disagree', and 'Strongly Disagree' respectively for the positive statements and the scoring procedure is reversed for the negative statements. An individual score ranges from 45 to 225.

Statistical Techniques Used

The investigator used the mean, standard Deviation and 't' test as statistical techniques.

Analysis and Interpretation of Data

The investigator used both Critical Ratio and 't' test to analyze the collected data and verify the hypotheses.

Hypothesis- 1

There is no significant difference between the attitude of students towards Geography Education at Government and Private schools in Calicut district of Kerala State.

Table No 1: Significance of difference in the attitude means scores between the total students of Government schools and the total students of Private schools.

Group	N	Maximum	Mean	SD	't'	Critical value of 't' at 0.05 level	Remark
Government school students	250	225	151.24	32.11	2.60	1.96	Significant at 0.05 level
Private school students	260	225	143.47	34.62			

This hypothesis was tested by using 't' test. The 't' value was computed to find out the significance of difference in the attitude mean scores between the total government school students and the total private schools students. The table No-1 gives the details.

The calculated 't' value 2.60 is greater than the critical value 1.96 corresponding to the 0.05 level of significance. This implies that the differences in the attitude mean scores under consideration is statistically significant. Hence the Ho is rejected.

Hypothesis- 2

There is no significant difference between the attitude of male and female students of Government schools towards Geography Education in Calicut district of Kerala State.

Table No 2: Significance of difference in the attitude means scores between the male students of Government schools.

Group	N	Maximum	Mean	SD	't'	Critical value of 't' at 0.05 level	Remark
Male students of Government schools	125	225	170.21	24.72	2.54	1.96	Significant at 0.05 level
Female students of Government schools	125	225	161.21	31.01			

This hypothesis was tested by 't' test. The 't' value was computed to find out the significant of difference in the attitude mean scores between male and female students of government schools. The table No-2 gives the details.

The calculated 't' value 2.54 is greater than the critical value 1.96 corresponding to the 0.05 level of significance. It implies that the differences in the attitude mean scores under consideration is statistically significant. Hence the Ho is rejected.

Hypothesis- 3

There is no significant difference between the attitude of male and female students of Private schools towards Geography Education in Calicut district of Kerala State.

Table No 3: Significance of difference in the attitude means scores between the male and female students of Private schools.

Group	N	Maximum	Mean	SD	't'	Critical value of 't' at 0.05 level	Remark
Male students of private schools	132	225	147.00	31.42	2.08	1.96	Significant at 0.05 level
Female students of Private schools	128	225	138.21	36.33			

This hypothesis was tested by 't' test. The 't' value was computed to find out the significance of difference in the attitude mean scores between male and female students of private schools. The table No-3 gives the details.

The calculated 't' value 2.08 is greater than the critical value of 1.96 corresponding to the 0.05 level of significance. It reveals that the differences in the attitude mean scores under consideration is statistically significant. Hence the Ho is rejected.

Hypothesis- 4

There is no significant difference between the attitude of male students of Government and Private schools towards Geography Education in Calicut district of Kerala State.

Table No 4: Significance of difference in the attitude means scores between the male students of Government and Private schools

Group	N	Maximum	Mean	SD	't'	Critical value of 't' at 0.05 level	Remark
Male students of Government schools	125	225	170.21	24.72	6.61	1.96	Significant at 0.05 level
Male students of Private schools	132	225	147.00	31.42			

This hypothesis was tested by 't' test. The 't' value was computed to find out the significance of difference in the attitude mean scores between male students of Government and Private schools. The table No-4 gives the details.

The calculated 't' value 6.61 is greater than the critical value of 1.96 at 0.05 level. It implies that the differences lies in the attitude mean scores under consideration is statistically significant. Here test result reveals that, there is a great difference in between the attitude of male students of government schools and male students of private schools. Hence the Ho is rejected.

Hypothesis- 5

There is no significant difference between attitude of female students of Government and Private schools towards Geography Education in Calicut district of Kerala State.

Table No 5: Significance of difference in the attitude means scores between the Female students of Government and Private schools.

Group	N	Maximum	Mean	SD	't'	Critical value of 't' at 0.05 level	Remark
Female students of Government schools	125	225	161.21	31.01	5.38	1.96	Significant at 0.05 level
Female students of Private schools	128	225	138.21	36.33			

This hypothesis was tested by using 't' test. The 't' value was computed to find out the significance of difference in the attitude mean scores between Female students of government schools and Female students of private schools. The table No-5 gave the details.

The calculated 't' value 5.38 is greater than the critical value of 1.96 corresponding to the 0.05 level of significance. It implies that the differences in the attitude mean scores under consideration is statistically significance. Hence the Ho is rejected.

Findings of the Study

- The students of Government and Private schools significantly differ in respect of their attitude towards Geography Education. Here Government school students have better attitude towards Geography Education than Private school students.

- There is a great difference between the attitude of male and female students of Government schools. Male students of government schools have better attitude towards Geography Education than female students of government schools.
- There is a difference between the attitude of male and female students of private schools towards Geography Education. Here Male students have better attitude towards Geography Education than female students of private schools.
- This study reveals that male students of government schools have better attitude towards Geography Education than the attitude of male students of private schools.
- There is a variation between the attitude of female students of government schools and female students of private schools. Here the study reveals that female students of government schools have better attitude towards Geography Education than the attitude of female students of private schools.

Suggestions for Further Research

1. Attitude of Secondary school teachers and Higher Secondary School teachers towards Geography Education may be conducted.
2. A comparative study of Government and Private schools students of different states of India towards Geography Education may be conducted.
3. A comparative study of Government and Private school students of different districts of Kerala may be conducted.
4. The attitude of Government and Private school students towards geography Education in to the different socio-economic status may be conducted.
5. Attitude of Geography based teachers and Non Geography based teachers towards teaching Geography may be conducted.

Conclusion

The present study entitled as “Attitude of Government and Private School students towards Geography Education in Calicut district of Kerala - A comparative study” is very helpful in the field geography education especially for teachers, subject experts, teacher educators and curriculum framers of secondary schools of kerala state. The study reveals that the students of Government and Private school significantly differ in respect of their attitude towards Geography Education. Here Government school students have better attitude towards Geography Education than Private school students.

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