



Spiritual Intelligence as a Predictor of Academic Excellence: A Review Study Among Senior Secondary Students

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ABSTRACT :

Spiritual intelligence forms the base of one's convictions and plays a vital role in various aspects of human life. By nurturing spiritual intelligence, teachers can assist in reshaping students evolve into balanced individuals who are not only intellectually enriched and proficient but also emotionally and socially intelligent. By linking an individual's inner well-being and personal growth to their overall capability and operation, it holds the potential to play a crucial role in student's educational experiences. This study aims to investigate the link between spiritual intelligence and academic excellence using a systematic review and meta-analysis. The results indicated a strong positive correlation between spiritual intelligence and student's academic achievement. The findings reveal that spiritual intelligence plays a crucial part in enhancing student's academic excellence. Further research is needed to determine whether a student's spiritual intelligence serves as an intrinsic drive that transform their drives or predicts their academic success.

Keywords- Spiritual Intelligence; Academic Excellence; Secondary School Students

1. Introduction :

Education is a process that influences and develops knowledge behavior and character young individuals. It is a transformative power that shapes a child's personality, guiding them on their life journey from mere physical existence to spiritual growth. It navigates through various stages of development, including social, intellectual and moral progression.

In general, intelligence encompasses three key aspects: the ability to adapt, the capacity to learn and the skill to engage in abstract thinking.

According to Zohar and Marshall, spiritual intelligence is not inherently tied to any specific religion. However, it closely aligns with the Indian concept of Dharma, which is deeply associated with righteousness.

Excellence is commonly associated with the scores achieved in annual examinations or the levels of success and proficiency attained in specific areas of scholastic or academic work. It reflects the knowledge acquired and the skills developed in various subjects throughout the academic year. Students receive feedback and encouragement to improve their efforts. While there are diverse perspectives on the aims of education, academic excellence remains a central focus and the most significant goal of education.

Intelligence And Education :

In 1983, Gardner described intelligence as a combination of various abilities that cater to an individual's requirements and learning styles. He suggested eight distinct forms of cognition : linguistic, logical-mathematical, spatial, bodily-kinesthetic, musical, interpersonal, intrapersonal and naturalist.

Gardner described musical intelligence as a auditory sensitivity, cadence and melodies in music, while visual-spatial intelligence involves strong discernment and spatial imagination through one's imagination or mental visualization. Individuals with high verbal-linguistic intelligence excel verbally and language, while those with logical-mathematical intelligence have strengths in logic, numbers, logic, abstraction and critical thinking. Bodily-kinesthetic intelligence is reflected in skill in physical activities such as sports, dance and hands-on creation. Interpersonal intelligence is characterized by empathy and emotional awareness along with the capacity to perform well in a group, while intrapersonal intelligence involves a profound self-comprehension. Lastly, people with elevated naturalistic intelligence possess extensive wisdom for identifying and categorizing different plant and animal species in the physical realm.

Spiritual intelligence and academic excellence are both essential factors of human growth and development. Spiritual intelligence involves cultivating a profound understanding of oneself, others and the surrounding world, fostering a sense of purpose and meaning in life and contributing to personal and social well-being. In contrast academic excellence refers to the level of achievement and performance within educational settings, reflecting the degree to which a student has meet their learning objectives. Numerous studies have demonstrated a significant positive relationship between spiritual intelligence and academic excellence.

2. Review of related literature :

Spiritual intelligence is increasingly recognized as essential for students, leading schools to incorporate spiritual education into their curriculum. This focus has also made spiritual intelligence an important area of study for researchers and scholars, aiming to understand its impact on students, their academic performance and their overall life experience.

Olson (2008) evidence suggests that spiritual intelligence plays a crucial part in improving students' quality of life.

Hanan (2013) found a strong positive correlation between spiritual intelligence and achievement motivation within students at the Institution of legitimacy science students in Oman.

Rachel George et al. (2013) A study was conducted to explore the correlation between spiritual intelligence, academic achievement and teacher effectiveness among elementary -level students- teachers. The results suggest that teachers with high spiritual intelligence possess the ability to reframe situations and view them within a broader context. This approach supports holistic thinking, engaging them fully and encourage students to think analytically and imaginatively.

Sabbal Patel et al. (2016) A study was conducted to examine the connection between emotional intelligence and spiritual intelligence among senior secondary students, with a focus on high and low academic achievers. The findings from this research can support education policy planners in evaluating and refining programs aimed at student development. Since education policy planners prioritize optimizing the input and output processes, these insights can be valuable for enhancing academic outcomes.

Gurubasappa (2009) A study was conducted to explore the correlation between intelligence, self-concept, and academic achievement among secondary school students. The findings revealed a strong correlation between academic achievement and both intelligence and self-concept. Significant differences were observed in the academic performance of students with varying degrees of intellect and self-awareness.

Singh (2014) A study examined the roles of spiritual intelligence, altruism and mental health in predicating academic achievement among 883 adolescents. The findings indicated significant connections: altruism was linked to spiritual intelligence, mental health was related to academic achievement, and spiritual intelligence was also associated with academic achievement.

Hannan (2008) carried out a study on the relationship between intelligence, emotional intelligence and spiritual intelligence in relation to academic achievement among adolescents. The study found a positive correlation among intelligence, emotional intelligence and spiritual intelligence in both adolescent boys and girls.

Endang et al.(2009) A study examined the impact of emotional and spiritual intelligence, as emphasized in the national education philosophy, on language skills among senior secondary school students. The findings indicated that emotional and spiritual intelligence play a crucial role in guiding individual achievement, especially for students. A person's intelligence is shaped not only by intellectual abilities but also by emotional and spiritual intelligence, which significantly impact a student's level of achievement.

Singh (2012) investigated the relationship between spiritual intelligence, emotional intelligence, cognitive intelligence and the role of gender in these relationships. The study sampled 471 students from the college of education affiliated with Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar. Findings revealed a positive and significant correlation between cognitive intelligence and spiritual intelligence among male students. However, the relationship between cognitive intelligence and emotional intelligence was low, negative, and not significant.

Shabani et al. (2012) A study examined the regulating role of gender on the correlation between spiritual and emotional intelligence and psychological well-being among adolescents. The research investigated whether spiritual and emotional intelligence could predict mental health outcomes and found that gender moderated the connection between these forms of intelligence and mental health in high school students. Results suggested that spiritual intelligence can have a positive influence on mental health and no significant relationship was found between emotional intelligence and mental health.

Rachel and Salini's (2013) found that spiritual intelligence contributed to academic excellence among Christian and Muslim students. Students with higher spiritual intelligence scores demonstrated greater openness and the ability to view things within a broader context, which enhanced their critical thinking, particularly in academic areas.

Reddy, Chandrasekar's (2020) investigated the connection between academic success and spiritual intelligence among Indian college students, finding a strong relationship between the two, with spiritual intelligence emerging as a reliable predictor of academic achievement.

Ahmed (2021) found that spiritual intelligence was a significant predictor of academic performance among Pakistani medical students.

3. Influence of spiritual intelligence on academic excellence :

The following points illustrate how spiritual intelligence can positively influence academic performance:

1. Motivation and goal setting : spiritual intelligence helps students develop a clear sense of purpose and meaning in life, which can serve as a powerful motivator for academic success.
2. Emotional well-being and Resilience: spiritual intelligence support students in cultivating emotional well-being and resilience. This enables them to handle stress, regulate emotions and maintain a positive outlook, all of which can positively impact their academic performance.
3. Coping with challenges: students with strong spiritual intelligence often have a deep sense of faith or belief in something greater than themselves, providing strength and resilience during difficult times.
4. Enhanced Emotional Intelligence: spiritual intelligence includes emotional intelligence, which includes identifying, comprehending and regulating one's own emotions as well as those of others. This skill set can boost academic excellence by fostering self- regulation, interpersonal skills and effective communication.
5. Cultivating a Growth Mindset: spiritual intelligence encourages a growth mindset, emphasizing belief in one's potential for development. Individuals with a growth mindset are more likely to embrace obstacles seek out learning and improvement opportunities.

4. Methodology :

Our review paper is based on secondary data gathered from a variety of journal sources. In our research, we have analyzed various papers as part of our evaluation.

5. Educational Significance :

This study emphasized the significance of academic achievement as a pathway to progress and success for high achievers. Educational institutions should strive to support and improve students' academic performance. Therefore, all factors that may impact academic achievement, including spiritual intelligence should be carefully considered and nurtured.

Students make up a significant portion of our society and represent its future leaders. Spiritual intelligence can serve as a powerful enhancer of academic achievement among school and university students. Through conducting workshops that develop various categories of intelligence and their real-world uses, it is possible to improve students' academic performance, social standing and the overall quality of education.

6. Conclusion :

This mini- review concludes that there is a positive and significant correlation between spiritual intelligence and academic excellence. It suggests that spiritual intelligence can play a crucial role in enhancing students' academic success. The findings may encourage teachers and administrators to explore ways to integrate spiritual intelligence in support of academic excellence among senior secondary school students.

7. Suggestions for future research :

Future research in this area should focus on exploring effective strategies and interventions for integrating spiritual intelligence into educational settings. Additionally studies should investigate the long-term impacts of spiritual intelligence on students' academic excellence, career success and overall well-being.

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