



Research Paper

A Study on the Awareness of Human Rights Education among Higher Secondary Students

Dr. Neeta Baglari

Assistant Professor, Deptt. of Education
Cotton University, Guwahati

ABSTRACT

Human Rights' is one of the most 'talk' of an hour in today's society. The existence of that right as an "inalienable," universal, right of all people was asserted in the UN General Assembly's Declaration of December 1986.' Unfortunately, that instrument is hardly a model of clarity, and it has generated a large amount of scholarly comment, some of it confusing or skeptical, on whether such a right exists - and if so, what it means. It is of immense concern whether every human being (male and female) have equal rights or not? Human Right is the right that every human being possessed just because he/she is being born as a human; irrespective of caste, creed, religion, sex, race, nationality or region. Being born as a human being is the only criteria to possess human rights. So one can say that human are the most gifted creature of the entire universe who possess all different kinds of rights as soon as one is born; whether he/she is being aware of it or not. We have all kinds of rights and responsibilities as being enshrined in the constitutional provision as well as in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. But to get justice and to be sure whether one is living a dignified life, one should be aware of human rights concept first and then all kinds of rights that we possess. Human Rights Education is that education; which enable one to know and understand the concept of human rights and its need and importance and to be aware of the Human Rights. The present study focused on the awareness of the Human Rights Education among Higher Secondary School Students.

KEY WORDS: Awareness, Human Rights, Human Rights Education

Received 06 July, 2021; Revised: 18 July, 2021; Accepted 20 July, 2021 © The author(s) 2021.

Published with open access at www.questjournals.org

I. INTRODUCTION:

Education is seen as a way to empower people, improve their quality of life and their capacity to participate in the decision-making processes leading to social, cultural and economic policies. Human Rights education implies the learning and practice of human rights or in other words it is said to be educating the people to understand about their birth right. Human rights education in fact is a comprehensive term which includes a lot more than just learning about human rights. Education for human rights help people feel the importance of human rights, internalize human rights values and integrate them into the way they live. Education for human rights also gives people a sense of responsibility for respecting and defending human rights and empowers them, through learned skills, to take appropriate action.

We know that right to education is a fundamental right of every citizen. The Article 26 of UN Declaration of Human Rights states that, "Everyone has the right to education....Education should be directed to the full development of human personality and to be strengthening of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. It shall promote understanding tolerance and friendship among all nations, racial or religious groups, and shall further the activities of the United Nations for the maintenance of peace".

In the words of *NeelotpalDeka*, ' Human rights education is not only about imparting knowledge and skills, it is also about creating attitudes and behavior allowing people to participate in their communities and society in a constructive and respectful way for themselves and others". Human rights education promotes democratic principles. It examines human rights issues without bias and from diverse perspectives through a variety of education practices. It asserts the responsibility to respect, protect and promote the rights of all people.

Statement of the Problem: The present study is stated as, "A Study on the awareness of Human Rights Education among Higher Secondary Students"

Operational Definitions:

Awareness: Know about a concept or fact

Human Right Education: Education which enables students to know about Human Rights

Higher Secondary Students: Students studying in Class XI and XII

Objectives of the Study:

1. To know about the awareness of students' towards Human Rights Education
2. To Know the awareness of Human Rights Education among Male and Female Students
3. To Know students' Perception of Need and Importance towards Human Rights Education
4. To Focus on the role of Educational Institutions to promote Human Rights Education

Hypothesis of the Study:

H₀₂: There exist no significant difference among Male and Female Students in awareness towards Human Rights Education.

Methodology of the Study: The present study follows descriptive survey method.

Population and Sample of the Study: The Higher Secondary Students of Pandu College, Pandu, Guwahati comprises the population of the study and the investigator had selected 45 students as sample for the present study by following Purposive Sampling Procedure.

Tools Used: The investigator had used self-structured questionnaires keeping in mind the objectives of the study

Statistical Analysis: The investigator had used simple percentage, frequency and t-test for statistical analysis of the study.

Analysis and Discussions:

Objective 1: To know about awareness of student towards Human Rights Education

Item No.	Statements	Yes	No	% of Yes
1	Knowledge about Human Rights	42	03	93%
2	Knowledge about Human Rights Education	42	03	93%
3	Knowledge about Universal Declaration of Human Rights	10	35	22%
4	Knowledge about the 3 forms of Human Rights acc. To UDHR	04	41	9%
5	Knowledge about Right to Peace	39	06	87%
6	Knowledge about objectives of HRE	22	23	49%
7	Know about the importance of Human Rights Education	39	06	87%
8	Know about International Human Rights Day	20	25	44%
9	Know about the 1 st Generation Human Rights	10	40	22%
10	Have the right to Liberty	40	06	89%

Interpretation: The table above shows that 93% of the Higher Secondary School Students have responded that they have the knowledge about Human Rights. Again 93% of them have the knowledge of Human Rights Education. 22% of the students know about Universal Declaration of Human Rights; only 9% of them know about the 3 forms of Human Rights according to UDHR. 87% of the students have knowledge about Right to Peace; 49% of the students have the knowledge about objective of Human Rights Education. 87% of the students responded that they know about the importance of Human Rights Education. 44% of the students responded that they know about International Human Rights Day; 11% of the students responded that they have the right to liberty.

Thus it shows that students are aware of the concept Human Rights but they do not have the in-depth knowledge of Human Rights and its areas and its applicability.

Objective 2: To Know the awareness of Human Rights Education among Male and Female Students

Item No.	Statements	Male			Female		
		Yes	No	% of Yes	Yes	No	% of Yes
1	Knowledge about Human Rights	19		45%	23	03	55%
2	Knowledge about Human Rights Education	18	01	43%	22	02	52%
3	Knowledge about Universal Declaration of Human Rights	02	17	20%	08	18	80%
4	Knowledge about the 3 forms of Human Rights acc. To UDHR	01	18	25%	03	23	75%
5	Knowledge about Right to Peace	02	17	5%	37	11	95%
6	Knowledge about objectives of HRE	12	07	55%	10	16	45%
7	Know about the importance of Human Rights Education	17	02	43%	22	04	56%
8	Know about International Human Rights Day	08	11	40%	12	14	60%
9	Know about the 1 st Generation Human Rights	02	17	20%	08	23	80%
10	Have the right to Liberty	16	03	40%	24	03	60%

Interpretation: 45% of the male students and 55% of the female students have responded that they have the knowledge about Human Rights. 43% of the male students and 52% of the female students have the knowledge about Human Rights Education. 20% of the male students and 80% of the female students have responded that they have the knowledge about Universal Declaration of Human Rights. 25% of the male students and 75% of the female students have the knowledge about the three forms of Human Rights according to Universal Declaration of Human Rights. 5% of the male students and 95% of the female students have responded that they have the knowledge about Right to Peace. 55% of the male students and 45% of the female students have knowledge about objectives of Human Rights Education. 43% of the male students and 56% of the female students have responded that they know about the importance of Human Rights Education. 40% of the male students and 60% of the female students have responded that they know about International Human Rights Day. 20% of the male students and 80% of the female students have responded that they know about the First Generation Human Rights. 40% of the male students and 60% of the female students have responded that they have the right to liberty.

H₀₂: There exists no significant difference among male and female students in awareness towards Human Rights Education

Gender	Scores	No. of Students	Chi square Value	df	Significance level
Male	97	19	26.03	9df	Significant at both the levels
Female	169	26			

Interpretation: Our calculated Chi square value is 26.03 which is greater than 16.919 at .01% level of significance and 21.666 at .05% level of significance. Thus we can reject the hypothesis and say that there exists significant differences among male and female students in awareness towards Human Rights Education.

Objective 3: To Know students' Perception of Need and Importance towards Human Rights Education

Item No.	Statement	Response		% of Yes
		Yes	No	
11	Think that Human Rights Education is important	44	01	98%
12	Feel it necessary to share about the knowledge of Human Rights with others	43	02	96%
13	Feel secured while going & coming to the college	35	10	78%
14	Feel deprived of their rights	16	29	36%
15	Feel secured in your city/place/society	31	14	69%
16	Feel free to express opinions	37	08	82%
17	Feel that one have the right of living their life	43	02	96%
18	Feel torture in everyday life	09	36	20%
19	HRE produce changes in values & attitude in us.	41	04	91%

Interpretation:98% of the students responded that they think that Human Rights Education is important. 96% of the students responded that they feel it necessary to share about the knowledge of Human Rights with others. 78% of the students responded that they feel secured while going and coming to the college. 36% of the students have responded that they feel deprived of their rights. 69% of the students have responded that they feel secured in their city/ place/ society. 82% of the students have responded that they feel free to express opinions. 96% of the students have responded that they feel that one have the right of living their life. 20% of the students have responded that they feel torture in everyday life. 91% of the students have responded that Human Rights Education produce changes in values and attitude in them.

Objective 4: To Focus on the role of Educational Institutions to promote Human Rights Education

Item	Statement	Response		% of Yes
		Yes	No	
20	Have Human Rights Education as a subject	18	27	40%
21	Have Human Rights Education in Syllabus	23	22	51%
22	Feel that the Educational Institutions have great role to play to promote Human Rights	30	15	67%

Interpretation: 40% of the students have responded that Human Right Education as a subject. 51% of the students have responded that they have Human Rights Education in syllabus and 67% of the students feel that the educational institutions have great role to play to promote Human Rights.

II. FINDINGS OF THE STUDY:

- It is being known that students are aware of the concept of Human Rights but they do not have the indepth knowledge of Human Rights and its broad areas as well as its applicability.
- It is found that there exist significant differences among male and female students in awareness towards Human Rights Education which is proved with calculated value of chi square.
- It is being found that students think that Human Rights Education is important and feel it necessary to share knowledge about Human Rights with others and 91% of the students shared that Human Rights Education produce changes in values and attitudes in us.
- It is also found that students have responded that educational institutions have great role to play to promote Human Rights Education. 40% of the students have Human Rights as a subject and 51% of the students have Human Rights Education in Syllabus.

III. SUGGESTIONS:

- Human Rights Education should be made a compulsory subject for all the students in colleges.
- Basics of Human Rights concept should be introduced in the school education itself.
- Seminars, Discussions, workshops should be conducted frequently to popularize the concept.

IV. CONCLUSIONS:

Human Rights Education is an important concept where all the individuals should be aware of their own rights and responsibility. Human Rights Education produces changes in attitude and values in all the individuals. Thus all the young generation should be aware of what is Human Rights and- Human Rights Education and its areas as well as its applicability.

REFERENCES:

- [1]. Agarwal, S. (2012); Emerging Issues and Education; Bookland
- [2]. Brindhamani, M. &Manichander, T., (2015); Peace and Value Education; Discovery Publishing House Pvt. Ltd.
- [3]. Charles, K. &Selvi, V.A., (2014); Peace and Value Education; Neelkamal Publications Pvt. Ltd. Educational Publishers
- [4]. Das Sharma, P.&Sahidullah, F.T., (2013); Emerging Issues and Education; Tushar Publishing House
- [5]. Kumar, U.A, (2011); Human Rights Education; Himalaya Publishing House pvt. Ltd.
- [6]. Shukla, R.P., (2004); Value Education and Human Rights; Sarup& Sons, New Delhi