



ISSN: 2456-0057
 IJPNPE 2019; 4(1): 1282-1284
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 www.journalofsports.com
 Received: 10-11-2018
 Accepted: 11-12-2018

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A comparative study on selected psychological variable between Toto and Munda tribe community

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Abstract

Psychology is the scientific study of human and animal behaviour with the object of understanding why living beings behave as they do. The purpose of the study was to compare the selected psychological variable between Toto and Munda tribe community. As subject 50 only male students ages ranging from 12 to 15 were randomly selected from two different schools for this study. The selected psychological variable was intelligence. To analyse the data were converted to T scale. After that mean, standard deviation and 't' test has been calculated for drawing conclusions. The significant level of difference was set at 0.05 level of confidence. As per statistical analysis no significant difference between Munda and Toto community was found.

Keywords: Toto, munda, intelligence

Introduction

It is believed that the caste system began with the arrival of the Aryans in India around 1500 BC (Daniel). With the exchange of culture and education many cultures in India flourished. The Indian Caste System is historically one of the main dimensions where people are socially differentiated through class, religion, region, tribe, gender, language and economically. Social culture has a great influence of the cultural system. Social culture differs from society to society. India is a vast country with a population of hundreds of different communities. Some of these communities are advanced and some of them are still backward and leading their life in a primitive style. Some of these backward communities under Schedule Tribes are Toto, Munda, Santal, Tamang, Lepcha, Lodha, etc. located mainly over the North East India. Among these communities many already have entered into the main stream, but many still leading primitive life specially Toto situated in Toto para of Jalpaiguri District, West Bengal, India.

The Toto is an isolated tribal group residing only in a small enclave called Toto para, a tiny Himalayan hamlet located in Madarihat police station under Alipurduar Sub-division of Jalpaiguri district of West Bengal, India. The total population of Totos according to 1951 census was 321 living in 69 different houses at Toto para. In 1991 census, the Toto population had increased to 926 who lived in 180 different houses. In the 2001 census, their number had increased to 1184 - all living in Toto para and according to 2011 census the total population is 1386 among which number of female are 649 and male are 737.

Toto language belongs to Tibeto-Burman family under sub-himalayan group, as classified by Hodgson and Grierson. They do not have any script. Most of the young members can speak Bengali and Nepali language which are the mediums of instruction in the local schools. Though they make their main food from marua (a kind of millet), the staple food of the Totos now include rice, chura (parched rice), milk and curd. They also eat meat, generally goat, pork, venison, poultry and fish of all kinds. Women eat the same food as of men and there are no restrictions of any kind on the widows.

On the other hand, Munda also is the tribal community from South East Asia. They were in the Pre- British times. Munda tribes mainly inhabit the region of Jharkhand. They populated in the various corners of the states like West Bengal, Chhatisgarh, Orisha and Bihar. In the district of Jalpaiguri of West Bengal Munda community is also found. The Munda Tribes are highly respected people since pre Independence of India. Birsa is the most respected Munda person who turned into a Prophet and was a freedom fighter of the Indian Independence struggle was

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born on on Thursday the 15th November, 1875 and died on 9th June 1900. Mundas speak Mundari and Sadri language which belongs to the family of Austro-Asiatic. They have a typical Indian tribal personality with darkish complexion and curly hairs. The Munda tribe celebrates several festivals like Mage, Phagu, Karam, Sarhul, Sohrai, etc. Sarhul is the important festival of Mundas which is celebrated in the month of March-April.

Psychology plays an important role as psychology is the scientific study of human and animal behaviour with the object of understanding why living beings behave as they do. In other word it is the mental characteristics or attitude of a person or group.

Purpose of the study

The purpose of the study was to compare the selected

psychological variable (Intelligence) between Toto and Munda tribes.

Methodology

For the purpose of the study 50 male tribale school going children were taken randomly, twenty five (25) from Munda tribale community and twenty five (25) from Toto tribale community, age ranged from twelve to fifteen years from Mairar Danga Goppu Memorial High School and Dhanapati Toto Memorial High School of Jalpaiguri District in West Bengal, India. To measure intelligence a standardized questionnaire prepared by Late Prof. Durgadas Bhattacharyya, Department of Education, Kalyani University was used.

The mean value along with standard deviation of intelligence of the Munda and Toto tribes have been presented in Table-I.

Table 1: Representing the Difference between Mean Score and Standard Deviation of Munda and Toto in Respect of Intelligence

Variable	Subjects	Number of Subjects (N)	Mean \pm S.D	't' ratio
Intelligence	Munda	25	49.73 \pm 2.10	0.13 ^{NS}
	Toto	25	50.00 \pm 1.99	

N.B: $t_{0.05(2,48)} = 2.0$, NS indicating not significant.

The mean values along with S.D. of Intelligence of the two types of subjects have been presented graphically in fig.: 1. numerically the mean values were nearly equal.

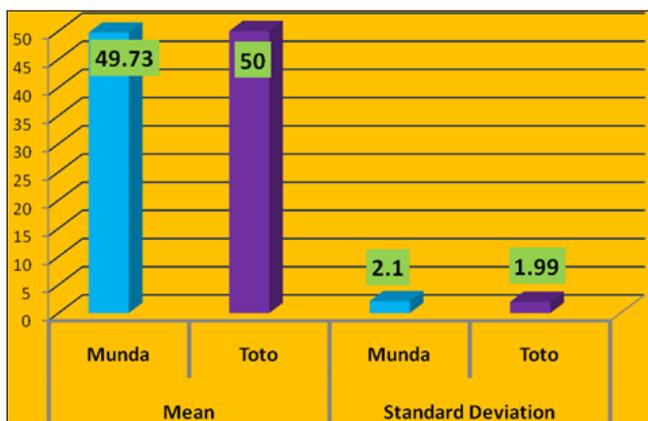


Fig 1: Representing mean & standard deviation on intelligence of munda & toto community

Discussion and Findings

The 't' ratio (0.13) in respect of general intelligence revealed that there was no real difference in between Munda and Toto tribe communities. The two types of communities were homogeneous in nature. They possess same type of characteristics. The two communities possess equivalent intelligence and did not differ each other.

In general intelligence also the two types of subjects did not differ between each other. The subjects were brought up in the same environment and same culture may be the reason for manifestation of intelligence. The findings of the research conducted by Balgir (2011) [10] and S. Nandwana *et al.* (2010) [11] contradict the findings of the present study. The other reason behind the non significance of the mean difference may be of small size (25+25 = 50) of sample.

The study of Bose *et al.* (2007) [6], found significant differences among the Santals. But Singh's study found no significant relationship among the tribal boys of age group 6 to 9 years. Result of one study contradicts the present study and the result of another study indirectly supported the present study. Subjects belonging to same age group may play

a vital role for non-significance of differences of between means. Apart from that the work culture and food habit of the two types of tribes were more or less same. These results may be also for their hereditary factors.

Conclusion

The following conclusions have been drawn after statistical calculation and analysis:

1. No difference in mean between Munda and Toto on general intelligence was found. General intelligence level of the Munda and Toto were same.

Recommendations

Considering various aspects of the present study the following recommendations have been drawn:

1. An elaborated study with large number of subjects may be conducted.
2. An experimental research work may be conducted in future.
3. A study may be carried out with other variables which are closely related to them.
4. A longitudinal study may be conducted with such type of samples.

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