



## **Psychology**

**Explore—Journal of Research for UG and PG Students**

**ISSN 2278 – 0297 (Print)**

**ISSN 2278 – 6414 (Online)**

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<http://www.patnawomenscollege.in/journal>

# **A comparative study of teaching aptitude among male and female elementary school teachers of Patna District**

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Received : December 2010  
Accepted : February 2011  
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**Abstract :** *The present project aims to make a comparative study of teaching aptitude among male and female elementary school teachers of Patna district. For this four hypotheses were formulated - I. Female elementary school teachers will have high teaching aptitude in comparison to male elementary school teachers. II. Female elementary*

*school teachers will have a positive attitude towards children in comparison to male elementary school teachers. III. Female elementary school teachers will have better interest in profession than male elementary school teachers. IV. There will be a positive correlation between teaching aptitude and interest in profession. The research was conducted on 100 samples consisting of 50 male (Group "A") and 50 female (Group "B") elementary school teachers. The sample was collected by Incidental-cum-Purposive sampling method. The data was collected from Notre Dame Academy, St. John's Academy, Prakash Vidyalaya, Loyola High School, Navdeepti Academy and St. Michael's High School of Patna District. The age of the sample ranged from 30-40 years. The test used to measure the teaching aptitude was Teaching Aptitude Test Battery (T.A.T.B) developed by R.P. Singh and Dr. D.N. Sharma. The result was analysed by computing mean, standard deviation, t-ratio, product moment coefficient of correlation and percentile.*

*The first hypothesis which was measuring teaching aptitude among male and female teachers was proved on the basis of t-ratio and it was found that female teachers possessed higher teaching aptitude than male teachers.*

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*The second hypothesis which measured teacher's attitude towards children was not proved on the basis of t-ratio. The third hypothesis which was about interest in profession among male and female teachers was not proved on the basis of t-ratio.*

*Significant positive correlation was found between teaching aptitude and interest in profession which is going in favour of hypothesis no. IV.*

*A comparative analysis of percentile in male and female teachers on teaching aptitude, attitude towards children and interest in profession was also done for analysis and interpretation of the hypotheses.*

*Seminars, workshops on teaching professions were suggested by the researchers for developing healthy and positive attitude towards their profession. As the elementary school teachers are taking care of the growing buds and the future of the country, the researchers have felt the need for the topic to be studied on a large sample.*

**Key words:** *Teaching Aptitude, Attitude, Interest in profession.*

## **Introduction :**

To the thoughtful young person who desires to invest his/her life in something really important in a profession where he/she can make real contributions to the lives of the people, 'teaching' offers an unequalled opportunity and a supreme challenge. No other profession can provide such a person with deeper personal satisfaction. On the other hand, persons who have not yet matured

beyond the childish stage in which they still want to acquire everything for themselves should not consider teaching as their profession.

The main aim of teaching is to bring about socially desirable behavioural changes in the students and can be achieved only if teaching is effective and based on certain values or principles. A good teacher thus gains the sincere respect from those who know them and their work. They may gain much recognition by inspiring and guiding the development of other people rather than seeking power or material advantages for themselves.

The most important factor in aptitude is the capacity to acquire proficiency. On the other hand, if an individual has no aptitude for a particular type of task, he will not be skilled or proficient in the task, inspite of training given to him. Aptitude refers to an individual's inborn capacity to acquire proficiency in a given area of human endeavour, if put under proper environment & training.

## **Objectives :**

Keeping in mind the importance of role of elementary teachers in shaping the personality of children the researchers selected this topic with the following objectives-

- To find out teaching aptitude among the male and female elementary school teachers of Patna District.
- To measure the attitude towards children among the male and female elementary school teachers of Patna District.
- To measure the interest in profession among the male and female elementary school teachers of Patna District.

### **Hypothesis :**

The hypothesis formulated were:-

1. Female elementary school teachers will have high teaching aptitude in comparison to male elementary school teachers.
2. Female elementary school teachers will have a positive attitude towards children in comparison to male elementary school teachers.
3. Female elementary school teachers will have better interest in profession than male elementary school teachers.
4. There will be a positive correlation between teaching aptitude and interest in profession.

### **Methodology:**

#### **Sample**

The sample consisted of 100 elementary school teachers, age ranging from 30 to 40 years. The sample was further divided into two categories.

- a) Male elementary school teachers (N=50)
- b) Female elementary school teachers (N=50)

The selection of sample was done by incidental cum- purposive sampling method.

#### **Research area :**

The areas visited for the collection of the data were:-

- Notre Dame Academy, Patliputra Colony, Patna.
- St.John's Academy, Digha Ghat, Patna.
- Prakash Vidyalaya, Maner, Patna.
- Loyola High school, Kurji, Patna.
- Navdeepti Academy, Patliputra Colony, Patna.
- St.Michael's High School, Digha Ghat, Patna.

All these schools are located in Patna District.

#### **Research tool :**

The research tool used for testing the hypotheses was Teaching Aptitude Test Battery

(T.A.T.B.) developed by R.P. Singh and Dr. D.N. Sharma. The researchers found this test to be more appropriate for the objectives of the study. It consisted of 120 items and the time limit for completion was 90 minutes.

#### **Procedure of data collection :**

The researchers visited following schools and took 25 days to complete the data collection. The name of the schools, number of days in each school and number of teachers in each school are given below.

Name of the schools	Number of teachers		Number of days
	Male	Female	
St. John's Academy	19	11	7
Prakash Vidyalaya	7	10	4
Loyola High School	4	8	3
Navdeepti Academy	3	5	2
St. Michael's High School	14	11	7
Notre Dame Academy	3	5	2
	<b>N=50</b>	<b>N=50</b>	<b>25</b>

The teachers answered the questionnaire and returned to the researchers.

#### **Result and Interpretation :**

The mean, standard deviation (S.D), t-ratio, coefficient of correlation and percentile were computed for the analysis of the data.

**Table No – 1**

**Total obtained score, Mean, SD and t-ratio of Teaching Aptitude in Male and Female Elementary school teachers**

Group	N	Total obtained score	Mean	SD	t-value	df	P
Male	50	3860	77.2	13.42	2.694	98	<0.01*
Female	50	4186	83.72	10.62			

\*Significant at 0.01 level

Table–1 shows that mean value of female elementary school teachers is 83.72 and of male elementary school teachers is 77.2. Mean value of female teachers is greater than male elementary

school teachers. Thus the obtained mean value of male and female elementary school teachers is going in the favour of the first hypothesis.

The standard deviation of female elementary school teachers is 10.624 and that of male elementary school teachers is 13.42. These are quite less to their means which shows internal consistency in their responses. Hence the responses are quite dependable.

As there was difference between the means of teaching aptitude of male and female elementary school teachers so to test the significance of difference between the two means t-ratio was computed. The obtained t-value is 2.694 (df=98). Table value at 0.01 level is 2.63. Thus the obtained t -value (2.694) is significant at 0.01 level of confidence which shows that there is significant difference between the means of teaching aptitude of male and female elementary school teachers and the difference between the means is real and has not occurred due to chance factor. Hence, the first hypothesis that "female elementary school teachers will have high teaching aptitude in comparison to male teachers" is proved.

**Table No – 2**

**Total obtained score, Mean, SD and critical ratio of Attitude towards children of Male and Female Elementary school teachers**

Group	N	Total obtained score	Mean	SD	t-value	df	P
Male	50	645	12.9	3.50	0.911	98	>0.05*
Female	50	677	13.54	3.53			

\*Not significant at 0.05 level

The means (13.54, 12.9) in table no.2 are clearly showing the difference in the attitude towards children of female and male elementary school teachers. Slightly high mean value of female teachers indicate that the attitude towards children of female elementary school teachers is more

positive as compared to that of the male elementary school teachers. Thus the obtained mean value is going in favour of the second hypothesis.

The difference in the SD value (3.53, 3.50) of attitude towards children of male and female teachers is just 0.03 which is quite negligible, hence variability in their responses is negligible. Thus their responses are quite dependable.

Since the difference between the mean of male and female elementary school teachers is less so to arrive at a concrete conclusion and for further verification critical ratio (t-ratio) was computed. The obtained t-ratio is 0.911 which is not significant at 0.05 level (df=98), P-value at 0.05 level is 1.98 which is higher than the obtained t value. Not significant difference between the means indicate that there is no actual difference between the attitude of male and female elementary school teachers towards children. Thus t- value (0.911) is not going in favour of second hypothesis.

**Table No – 3**

**Total obtained score, Mean, SD and t-ratio of Interest in Profession of male and female elementary school teachers**

Group	N	Total obtained score	Mean	SD	t-value	df	P
Male	50	352	7.04	2.31	1.746	98	>.05*
Female	50	392	7.84	2.27			

\*Not significant at 0.05 level

The total obtained score of female elementary school teachers is 392 and that of male elementary school teachers is 352. According to the manual of T.A.T.B test high score indicates high interest in profession. So on the basis of the total obtained score the hypothesis no: III is proved.

It also shows that the mean value of scores obtained by female elementary school teachers is

7.84 and of male teachers is 7.04. Slightly high value of female is indicating that the interest in the profession of female elementary school teachers is higher than male elementary school teachers. Hence, the mean value also supports hypothesis no: III.

The difference in SD value (2.278, 2.31) of interest in profession of female and male elementary school teachers is just 0.032 which is almost negligible. So the variability in their responses on questions related to interest in profession is negligible.

As the difference between the total obtained score and means of interest in profession of male and female elementary school teachers is less so for further verification t-ratio was computed. The obtained t-value is 1.746 (df=98). P value at 0.05 level is 1.98. Though the result indicated that there was difference between the means of male and female elementary school teachers on interest in profession, yet the difference between the two means is not significant. This shows that the difference between the mean is not actual and has occurred due to chance factor. Interest in profession is not influenced by the gender of the sample.

**Table No. – 4**

**Coefficient of Correlation between the teaching aptitude and interest in profession of elementary school teachers**

Variables	Mean	SD	r	df	Level of Significance
Teaching Aptitude	80.46	12.54	0.4766	98	<0.01*
Interest in profession	7.44	2.312			

\*Significant at 0.01 level

Table No. 4 is showing co-efficient correlation between the teaching aptitude and interest in profession of elementary school teachers. The obtained r value is 0.4766 (df=98). The table value at df = 98 is 0.254 at 0.01 level. Thus the obtained r value is greater than the table value on 0.01 level. So there is a significant positive correlation between the teaching aptitude and interest in profession of elementary school teachers. Thus, the significant positive correlation ( $r = 0.4766 < 0.01$ ) is going in favour of the fourth hypothesis.

**Table No. – 5**

**A comparative presentation of Mean and Percentile of Teaching Aptitude, Attitude towards children and Interest in Profession of male and female elementary school teachers**

Variables	Mean		Percentile	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
Teaching Aptitude	77.2	83.72	P <sub>80</sub>	P <sub>90</sub>
Attitude towards children	12.9	13.54	P <sub>50</sub>	P <sub>60</sub>
Interest in profession	7.04	7.84	P <sub>60</sub>	P <sub>70</sub>

Table No. 5 is showing the mean and percentile of teaching aptitude, attitude towards children and interest in profession in respect of male and female teachers of elementary schools. On the basis of manual male teaching aptitude is in P<sub>80</sub> whereas female teaching aptitude is in P<sub>90</sub> which is clearly indicating high teaching aptitude in female elementary teachers. This result is also supported by the result in Table no. 1.

Researchers compared the mean value of attitude towards children on the basis of the percentile norms given in the manual. The male teachers fall in the category of P<sub>50</sub> and female teachers came in the category of P<sub>60</sub> which means that female teachers have more positive attitude towards children than male teachers. The finding is in favour of hypothesis no: II.

The mean value of interest in profession of male and female teachers was compared with the percentile obtained from the manual. The male teachers fall in the category of  $P_{60}$  and female teachers fall in the category of  $P_{70}$ . This result concludes that female teachers have better interest in profession than male teachers of elementary schools. This result is going in favour of hypothesis No. 3 which states that female elementary school teachers will have better interest in profession than male elementary school teachers.

### Conclusion :

In the light of findings of the present study following conclusions were drawn:-

- Teaching aptitude test of the male and female elementary school teachers revealed that the teaching aptitude of female teachers was higher than that of the male teachers. T-value supports the first hypothesis.
- Internal consistency was observed in the responses of male and female teachers.
- The second hypothesis was supported by the means of attitude towards children of male and female elementary school teachers but t-value is not significant.
- Elementary female school teachers exhibited high interest in profession of teaching compared to their male counterparts.
- Though internal consistency was observed in the responses, no significant difference was found on the basis of t-ratio, which rejects the third hypothesis.
- There was significant positive correlation between the teaching aptitude and interest in profession of elementary school teachers which supports the fourth hypothesis.

- Teaching aptitude, attitude towards children and interest in profession was found greater in female teachers than the male teachers.

### Suggestions :

On the basis of the obtained results and interpretation the researchers have given certain suggestions:-

- Workshops and Seminars should be organized on teaching profession in school which will help the teachers to develop a healthy and positive attitude towards their profession.
- Teachers, when they are doing their teacher's training course should identify their aptitude and interest so they can manage a job of his/her own interest and aptitude which will help them to excel in their profession.
- Elementary school teachers are contributing much to the society. The future of the country is in their hand. So their salaries and facilities should be at par with any other job and thus frustration will not develop in them as elementary school teachers are taking care of growing buds so if they do not avoid frustration and irritation, then they will block the creativity of the young children.
- The teachers should be encouraged to take their job as respectable. For this social and psychological support is necessary.
- There is a need for proper and suitable selection of people as elementary school teachers. Hence a large and extensive study is needed in this area. There is need for study on larger samples and in broader areas.

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